Admiral robber caught

The man who robbed the Cedar Springs Admiral gas station and a string of other businesses here in Michigan and Ohio (including two banks) is now in custody at the Kent County Correctional Facility.

According to the Kent County Sheriff Department, Jacob Abraham Savickas, 33, was arrested without incident on Wednesday, August 9, at a local hotel, by the FBI Fugitive Task Force. He was lodged at the jail on several warrants, including bank robbery, larceny from a person, fleeing and eluding a police officer, parole absconder, and being a habitual offender.

Savickas started his crime spree Wednesday, July 26, when he is suspected of an unarmed robbery of the J&H Mobil gas station at 4404 Clyde Park Ave., Wyoming. He then robbed the Admiral gas station on the corner of Main and Muskegon Street in Cedar Springs the next day, Thursday, July 27. According to the Kent County Sheriff Department, the robbery occurred about 9:22 a.m. The clerk told police that a white male in his late 20s came in and demanded money. He was described as wearing a white shirt, blue baseball cap, and having facial hair.

Police found him at the rest stop on US-131 near 10 Mile Rd., but after a brief foot chase, he got back into his car and sped away. Police pursued him, but terminated the chase on 10 Mile Rd. The Admiral clerk had reportedly told police that he had a small child with him.

Savickas drove to Indiana later that day, and is suspected of robbing two more gas stations that day in South Bend—the Marathon gas station on W. Western Ave, and Low Bob’s, 4505 N. Ameritech Dr.

The next day, Friday, July 28, Savickas is suspected of committing an unarmed bank robbery at the Beacon Credit Union, 820 North Broadway, in Peru, Indiana. According to the Kent County Sheriff’s Department, the robbery occurred about 9:22 a.m. and Savickas was back in Michigan, and is suspected of robbing the Next Door Food Store at 4616 Alpine Ave., N.W., where he struck the clerk with his vehicle. He is also suspected of robbing the Independent Bank, 3090 Plainfield Av NE on Wednesday morning August 2.

Savickas was previously convicted in 2015 of retail fraud, first degree. He was arrested after he tried to steal plasma cutters from Family Farm and Home in Cedar Springs. Employees recognized him at the time as someone who previously stole welders and interrupted the theft of the plasma cutters. He fled but was arrested and held on six charges, several for retail fraud at other locations. He was sentenced to a minimum of one year and a maximum of five years in prison. His record on the Michigan Corrections website shows him listed as a parole absconder as of July 6.

A 23-year-old Sparta man was charged Tuesday, August 15, with open murder in the death of his 85-year-old grandmother.

According to police, Matthew Malleaux lived with his grandmother, Anne Parker, on Clark Street, north of 12 Mile, in Sparta. Police and medical personnel responded to the home at about 5 a.m. August 7, after her medical alarm went off. Malleaux, who had reportedly been drinking heavily, would not let the first responders inside. Sparta police officer Mark Wawrzynek said Malleaux swore at them, told them to leave, and threw a large cement lawn statue at one of the Rockford Ambulance paramedics and hit him in the head. He then barricaded himself inside the home. Police then called for backup.

Police saw Parker lying on the floor with obvious injuries. Due to her injuries, an emergency entry was made into the residence by officers from the Sparta PD, Rockford PD and Troopers from the Rockford MSP Post. Officers had to use Mallexaus to subdue him. He was then arrested and lodged in the Kent County Correctional Facility on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, and assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer.

Parker was transported to Spectrum Hospital where she was treated for multiple blunt force injuries. She died the following day, August 8. Her injuries included a collapsed lung, dislocated shoulder, fractured left cheekbone, fractured left orbital bone, an injury to the back of her head, and bruising to her spleen and kidney.

On Tuesday, Parker’s grandson was charged with open murder in 63rd District Court.

Court records state that Malleaux told police he was upset about his grandmother’s medical alarm going off and that they had argued.

F.L. Chris McIntyre, with the Michigan State Police, said in a televised interview that Parker did speak with police on scene, though he did not disclose what she told them.

“It’s one of the most troubling homicides I’ve seen,” said McIntyre. Sparta Police Andrew Milanowski agreed. “I’ve never seen one like this either. It’s troubling,” he said. A joint investigation with the Sparta Police Department and the Michigan State Police is ongoing. Units from the Michigan State Police, Sparta Police Department, Rockford Police Department, Kent County Sheriff Department, Sparta Fire Department and Rockford Ambulance all assisted at the scene.

The last murder that occurred in Sparta was in 2004, when 23-year-old Julia Dawson was murdered by her husband Timothy Dawson. He then dumped her body in Pinson. He is serving life in prison for the crime.
West Nile Virus Found in Kent County

As a result of a massive mosquito surveillance project conducted by the environmental health division at the Kent County Health Department (KCHD), this season’s first positive specimen of West Nile Virus (WNV) has been discovered. This is NOT A HUMAN CASE.

The positive sample was found in a pool of tested mosquitoes from the ZIP code 49507 in the city of Grand Rapids. The sample that yielded the positive result was collected between Tuesday, August 8 and Thursday, August 10, 2017. The Kent County Health Department has been capturing and testing mosquitoes in 11 traps strategically placed throughout the county since early June. The traps, known as a Gravid trap, were placed in the 49503, 49504, 49507 and 49519 zip codes. There are also 4 traps set in the county that are designed to attract Aedes Egypti and Aedes Albopictus mosquitoes, two species known to carry the Zika virus. So far, KCHD has not found a specimen of either species. The project will continue until Labor Day.

“The fact that we have found West Nile in only one area does not mean that it is confined to that ZIP code,” says Adam London, Administrative Health Officer with KCHD. “We expect West Nile to be present to some degree until the first frost. We want people to be aware that they can greatly reduce their own risks by taking some simple precautions. This finding is significant because this is our first alert to the presence of West Nile as it begins to surface throughout the county since early June. The traps, known as a Gravid trap, were placed in the 49503, 49504, 49507 and 49519 zip codes. There are also 4 traps set in the county that are designed to attract Aedes Egypti and Aedes Albopictus mosquitoes, two species known to carry the Zika virus. So far, KCHD has not found a specimen of either species. The project will continue until Labor Day.

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Fall sports have kicked off, and one of the new items greeting athletes, the high school marching band, and fans, is the new sports turf at Red Hawk Stadium.

“We are excited to kick off the 2017-18 school year with a beautiful new Red Hawk Stadium turf,” said Cedar Springs Superintendent Dr. Laura VanDyken. “As our Cedar Springs Public Schools campus is the center point of this great community, it is our honor to shine for all to see our Cedar Springs pride with this new look.”

Replacement of the turf was identified as one of the needs in a 2011 bond issue study for the sinking fund millage. The cost at that time was estimated at $750,000. However, Shaw Sports Turf came in with a cost of $406,990. The turf was replaced this summer, in time for the marching band to hold their annual band camp.

“We are grateful for the research, experience and work our Athletic Director, Mr. John Norton, and our Director of Operations, Mr. Ken Simon did to prepare and oversee this project,” said VanDyken. “We are also grateful for our Board of Education supporting the purchase and installation of our new turf as well as for our principals, maintenance department, coaches and music directors for their input.”

VanDyken said she hopes the community will come out to various events to see the new turf, such as at soccer and football games, the CSPS fundraiser walk-a-thon, the Red Flannel Festival Marching Band Invitational and the annual Powder Puff football game.

She also thanked the community for their part in making it happen. “On behalf of our Board of Education, Administration, staff and students, thank you Cedar Springs residents for investing in our schools, by providing for a sinking fund that made this beautiful new stadium turf possible.”

The Pellerito family traveled to Disney World, in Orlando, Florida, the first week of August, and had a great time. Dominic, 12, Kate, 10, and Deno, 8, made sure to take the Post with them, and sent us their photo. Thanks so much for taking us with you on your trip!

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 for yours!
Solar eclipse on August 21

By Judy Reed

People across the nation are getting ready to witness the second solar eclipse of the year on August 21. According to the National Weather Service in Grand Rapids, this happens when the moon passes between the sun and the earth, and blocks our view of either part of the sun. This is a rarer event to observe compared to a lunar eclipse, which is when the earth’s shadow falls on a full moon.

Only a narrow path across the United States from Oregon to southern Illinois will witness a total eclipse. West Michigan is not in the path of totality, so will only see a partial eclipse. The time will be about 2:10 to 2:30, depending on where you are in West Michigan. As much as 70 to 85 percent of the sun will be covered by the moon. But just because it will only be a partial eclipse, it will be bright enough to allow you to see it without protective eyewear—and sunglasses are not safe.

“Even though a big chunk of the sun will be covered in West Michigan during the eclipse, there will still be enough sunlight to cause major eye problems if you risk anything more than a glimpse unprotected. Sunglasses are not safe,” said WOODTV-8 meteorologist Ellen Bacca. “Eye problems may not be apparent immediately after staring at the sun. Experts say blindness or vision problems may not appear for hours or even a day after the damage has been done.”

Shannon Murphy, the instructional support and outreach coordinator for the U-M Department of Astronomy, hopes people will not write off this celestial event, even if we don’t get to see it in its totality.

“Although the eclipse is only partial here in Michigan, it’s still totally worth watching,” she said. “Just don’t look at the sun directly. There are plenty of ways to safely watch it. If you’re using eclipse glasses or solar filters to look at the sun, make sure the only thing you can see through it is the sun. If you can see other things, it’s not good enough. If you’re using a projection, like a pinhole projector, remember you are supposed to look at the image of the sun, not through the pinhole.”

The NWS said that to prevent serious eye damage, you should only look directly at the sun through solar filters that are ISO 12312-2 compliant. There have been reports of some fake and unsafe eclipse glasses being sold, so the American Astronomical Society has created a list of reputable vendors at https://eclipse.aas.org/resources/solar-filters.

You can use indirect methods of viewing the eclipse, such as a pinhole projector. Crescent patterns in the shadows of trees will also be apparent if there are no clouds. More information can be found at eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety.

And if you are thinking about recording the event with your phone, you might want to reconsider that. Bacca said that pictures of the sun during the eclipse should be fine with your phone, but extended use during the solar eclipse could permanently damage it.

The NWS said that the only total solar eclipse in Michigan will be April 8, 2024, when a small sliver of southeast Michigan will see a total eclipse, though the duration of totality will last longer in Ohio (a 75 to 99 percent partial eclipse will be seen from the rest of Michigan on this day). South west Michigan will see a total solar eclipse on September 14, 2099. There will be annular (ring of fire) eclipses over northern Michigan in 2048 and 2057.

To learn more about the eclipse, visit https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/

There are a couple of area events going on that day if you’d like to spend time with others for a solar eclipse party.

The Grand Rapids Public Museum will be holding a special Eclipse Part from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. that will include hands-on activities, safe eclipse viewing and more.

ECLIPSE—continues on page 4

Drunken boater arrested

Montcalm County Sheriff’s deputies arrested a Stanton man for operating a boat while intoxicated on Sunday, August 13, 2017 at approximately 5:41 PM. According to police, they were dispatched to a possible intoxicated boater who had anchored his boat near the public beach. As the marine patrol approached, the operator attempted to leave the area but was stopped by deputies. Deputies believe that the man, Aaron Russell Pallick, 37, of Stanton, was intoxicated. He was lodged at the jail on a charge of operating a boat while intoxicated, and subsequently released on a $500.00 bond.

“Even though the summer has quickly coming to an end, we remind everyone that the Sheriff’s Office would like to remind everyone that excessive alcohol use combined with normal summer activities can have tragic results. Everyone is encouraged to use good judgement and be respectful of others,” said a Sheriff Department spokesperson.

Winners of tree-planting grants announced

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, DTE Energy Foundation and ReLeaf Michigan announced the award of $70,110 to 29 organizations in Michigan to plant 750 trees along community streets, in parks and other public spaces.

In our area, both the Village of Sparta and the City of Rockford were among the winners for a total of $3,000.

This tree-planting grant program is sponsored by the DTE Energy Foundation in partnership with the DNRC and ReLeaf Michigan as part of a long-standing commitment to improving communities and the environment throughout the state.

“These trees will help improve community quality of life and the environment through beautification, cleaning the air, increasing tree canopy to produce cooling shade, and providing habitat for wildlife,” said Kevin Sayers, DNRC Urban and Community Forestry program coordinator.

The tree-planting grants are part of a long-term initiative by partners with communities, schools and nonprofits on programs that take care of the environment, noted Faye Nelson, vice president of DTE Energy and board chair and president of the DTE Energy Foundation.”

“The DTE Energy Foundation has always believed it is our responsibility to support Michigan’s legacy—from its cultural institutions to its beautiful natural environment—and to help build its future,” Nelson said. “As good environmental stewards, we are proud to support the 2017 tree-planting program and partner with the DNR to invest in the future. We hope these spaces are enjoyed for generations to come.”

Grants awarded under this program will be used to help purchase trees of various species and sizes to be

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Make a lifelong friend from abroad.

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RUTH MAE COOPER
11/1/26 - 8/18/11

Wife of Royal Cooper, mother of Ken & (Deb) Cooper, Nancy Samsel and Dale Cooper. Plus lots of grandkids, great-grandkids & great-great-grandkids. It’s been six years since we last saw your smiling face. We all miss you so much.

MAX EDWIN HOVEN, 87, passed away July 18, 2017 in California. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Lois (Lee); his 6 children, Max (Bobbi) Hoven, Marcia Chase, Dan (Gayle) Hoven, Cindy (John) Karafa, Terry Hoven, Michael (Kelly) Hoven; 3 step-children, Sheri, Gustain, Rick (Tina); 2 grandchildren, Roel, Julie (Heinz) Strahl; 28 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great-grandchildren; sister Margene Swanson; brother Hugh (Connie) Hoven. A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 26, at Cedar Springs United Methodist Church, 140 S. Main St. at 4:00 p.m. (616) 696-3631.

CHRISTOPHER DAVID COX

Christopher David Cox age 45 passed away Sunday, August 13, 2017 at his home in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Chris was born July 21, 1972 in Manchester, New Hampshire but grew up in Sand Lake, Michigan. Chris always had a smile on his face. He loved the outdoors and spent a lot of time hunting and fishing. He also loved playing the guitar. He loved all children but especially his sons, nieces and nephews. Chris was the oldest son, dad, brother and grandfather you could ever ask for and will be deeply missed by his family. Chris is survived by his sons, Christopher and Kevin; mother, Susan (Ken) Whitney; father, Bruce (Maureen) Cox; sister, Michelle (Joe) Mundsch; brother, Paul Cox; step sister, Leslie (Josh) Lille-Whitney; granddaughters, Carol Coats, Rachel Coats; step-grandsons, Michael and Cole Cox; brother-in-law, Todd Green; grandmother, Arlene Eiden; great-grandmother, Evelyn Cox; nieces, Haley. The family will meet with friends Friday 11 a.m. until the time of service at 1:00 p.m. at the Bliss, Winters-Pike Funeral Home, Cedar Springs. Memorial contributions may be made to his sons for their education at any Independent Bank.

JENNIE MAE RINGER-HOLTON

Jennie Mae Ringer-Holton, 97, of Morley, passed away August 16, 2017 in Cedar Springs, Michigan. She was born on January 4, 1920 to Henry and Marcella (Craigmyle) Wilson in Woodville, Michigan. On November 13, 1937 she married Floyd Ringer in Kalamazoo, Michigan and was a loving homemaker. Jennie was survived by two daughters, Wanda Carlson of Janison, Leatha Francis of Dor; two sons: Hal (Karen) Ringer of Cedar Springs, Dale (Cheryl) Ringer of Morley; son-in-law Keith Sharron; daughter-in-law, Marilyn; many great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Floyd Wesley Ringer, daughter Joyce Sharron, and son Lyle Ringer and his wife Patsy. Visitation will be held Friday, August 18, 2017, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, funeral services on Saturday, August 19, 2017, 11:00 am at the Fields-McKinley Funeral and Cremation Services Newaygo Chapel. Burial will take place in the Big Prairie-Evart Cemetery. Please share your memories of Jennie online at www.fieldsmckinley.com.

Thanks to everyone that participated and attended the annual Joel C. Stone Memorial Golf Outing The money made goes to a deserving Cedar Springs High School Senior to continue their education. Also, a BIG thanks goes to Nick Pope, Duke Sabatino and Tom C. Cox, Betty Futs and Earl Futs; niece and nephews, Brittany, Beth, Jodi, Emily, and Bethany; special friend Sharon Kahn; the Taylor family; so many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his dear wife, Virginia Cox and Ted Green; grandmother, Arlene Eiden; great-grandmother, Evelyn Cox; nieces, Haley. The family will meet with friends Friday 11 a.m. until the time of service at 1:00 p.m. at the Bliss, Winters-Pike Funeral Home, Cedar Springs. Memorial contributions may be made to his sons for their education at any Independent Bank.

Arrangements by Bliss-Witters & Pike Funeral Home, Cedar Springs.

Bliss-Witters & Pike

Bliss-Witters & Pike Funeral Home is family owned and operated by Kevin and Janet Pike. Our barrier free chapel is located one-half mile south of downtown on Northland Drive. We are available to serve you 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
Winners

One reason I consider myself fortunate is that over that time, I've had a chance to work with nine presidents. From Lyndon Johnson through Barack Obama, I've talked policy, politics and, sometimes, the trivial details of life with them. I met JFK twice for brief conversations. I don't know our current President, but I've gained valuable perspective from his predecessors.

Johnson was a deal-maker—always trying to figure out how to get your vote. He came into office with a clear vision of what he wanted to do, and on the domestic side notched accomplishments that have not been equaled. Yet, he was brought down by the Vietnam War—a war he could neither win nor quit.

Richard Nixon, one of the more complex personalities to inhabit the office, often spoke to me about his mother and her home in Indiana. Highly intelligent, brimming with energy, extremely ambitious, he was also uneasy in social settings and could be vindictive. He focused intently on policy, especially foreign policy—and yet had a flawed moral compass.

Few people were nicer in politics than Gerald Ford. His great contribution was to help the country heal after Watergate and Nixon's resignation. He was not an especially productive presidency, but that wasn't what the country wanted. Instead, people wanted the stability and reassurance that Ford provided in turbulent times.

Jimmy Carter was a marvelous, down-to-earth campaigner, whose engineer's mind led him to seek comprehensive solutions to the problems of the day. But his outsider approach led to difficulties, even with a Democratic Congress. Carter served in extraordinarily complex times—through the Iran hostage crisis and rampant inflation. Yet no American soldier died in combat while he was in office, a remarkable achievement, and Carter has set the gold standard for the post-presidency.

Ronald Reagan's sunny optimism contrasted sharply with Jimmy Carter. He was a great communicator and a skilled politician, but his approach was often incoherent. Reagan was a dealmaker—always trying to figure out how to get his way. He had a great contribution was to help the country heal after Watergate and rampaging inflation. Yet no American soldier died in combat while he was in office, a remarkable achievement, and Carter has set the gold standard for the post-presidency.

Barack Obama was deliberate, rational, smart, and took a conciliatory, compromise-ready approach. He learned quickly and mastered complex issues. He inherited a tough economy and got it moving again. But he changed in the face of impeachable Republican opposition and his own reluctance to engage fully with Congress, arriving with great optimism and expansive goals and leaving with a far shorter, more incremental horizon. These men were not demigods. Presidents are human, with qualities both fine and troubling. Each was different, and at least one tested our democracy. Yet our system of government showed considerable resilience, in part because Congress often played a crucial role as counterbalance, a role much needed with our current president.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.
**Free Outdoor Family Concert**
Aug. 19: The Community Building Development Team is hosting a Free Outdoor Family Concert on Saturday, August 19th from 3 to 7 pm. It will be held in the “Heart of Cedar Springs” (park near the new Library). Two bands will be performing: Barn Cuts and Whiskey Bound. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy! #31-33p

**Open Mic at the CS Library**
Aug. 19: You are invited to join local and regional writers in a night of reading original prose and poetry from 6 pm to 8 pm at the new Library in Cedar Springs, 107 N. Main Street. Readers will be initially scheduled for 5 minutes, but may be allowed more time depending on attendance. For more information on reading, email event master of ceremonies Ken at kdn13@hotmail.com. You may reach the Library at 616-901-7173. Feel free just to come to listen. Families welcome! #33

**Dinner at the Legion**
Aug. 21: American Legion, 80 S. Main St. Cedar Springs, is hosting a Pork Chop dinner on Monday, August 21st, from 5 – 7 pm. Included will be mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing, and corn on the cob. Take out is available. 616-696-9160. #33p

**CSUMC August Rummage Sale**
Aug. 30,31: Cedar Springs United Methodist Women will hold our annual rummage sale in the fellowship hall of United Methodist Church at the corner of Main and Church Streets. Wednesday, August 30th, 9 am to 7 pm & Thursday, August 31st, 9 am to 2 pm. There will be a $3.00/bag sale all day Thursday on clothing and linens. #33,34b

**Red Flannel Day Talent Show Tryouts**
Sept. 13,20,28: Looking for talented kids of all ages. The Red Flannel Day Talent Show is searching for singers, vocal groups, dancers, instrumentalists and variety acts for the Red Flannel Day Talent Show on October 7th. Come in and show us what you got. Tryouts on Wednesday, September 13th and 20th, Thursday September 28th at 7:00 pm at the Kent Theatre, 8 N. Main St. Cedar Springs. Dress rehearsal will be Thursday, October 5th. So, get together with friends and family and plan your act now. If you have any questions, or can’t make it on tryout day, please contact Len by email, len@laphtami.com or 231-750-2337. #33,34p

**Correction on Stratford pricing**
Last week we ran information on a one-day bus trip to Stratford, Ontario, to see “Romeo and Juliet” on Oct. 6. The college sent us an email this week saying the pricing they gave was incorrect. The correct prices are $32.49 for students, and $69.24 for non-students. For more info and to register, go to www.montclair.edu/stratford by Oct. 4. Tickets are limited.

**Impressive Dinner**
A young man called his mother and announced excitedly that he had just met the woman of his dreams. Now what should he do?

His mother had an idea. “Why don’t you send her flowers, and on the card invite her to your apartment for a home-cooked meal?”

He thought this was a great strategy, and a week later, the woman came to dinner. His mother called the next day to see how things had gone.

“I was totally humiliated,” he moaned. “She insisted on washing the dishes.”

“What’s wrong with that?” asked his mother.

“We hadn’t started eating yet.”

**This Joke of the Week is brought to you by**
CLASSIC KELLY’S
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356 North Main St, Cedar Springs
(616) 696-0620

**Library Directory**

**Kent Theatre**
8 S. Main St. • Cedar Springs
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**Library Directory**

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8 S. Main St. • Cedar Springs
616-696-0620
Two new businesses hold grand openings

State Farm

Ryanne Donahue State Farm Agency, located at 60 N. Main Street, held their grand opening and ribbon cutting on July 15. Donahue believes in the “good old days” approach to business. “In the world of 15-minute insurance quotes, we want to take the time to get to know the people we serve,” Donahue told the Post earlier this summer. “We try to always remember that people need our insurance agent most when something bad or scary has happened, we don’t want to be a stranger in those times; we want to be a trusted friend.”

Ryanne and her employees are all local residents from Cedar Springs, to Kent City, to Sand Lake. “We know the community and have the same worries, goals, dreams, and fears as our clients. We offer a wide range of services to help cover every day risks, all backed by State Farm!” she said.

They are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. You can check them out at ryannedonahueinsurance.com or give them a call at 616-696-1329.

My Community Dental Center

The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) and My Community Dental Centers (MCDC) partnered to open a new dental facility at 14111 White Creek Avenue in Cedar Springs earlier this summer. They held their grand opening on July 20, with a ribbon cutting.

According to the Kent County Health Department, gaining access to dental care is an issue for nearly 72 million children and adults who rely on Medicaid or other public insurance. The issue disproportionately affects seniors, minorities, people who are economically disadvantaged and those who live in rural locations. The new dental facility is the second MCDC office in Kent County. In 2014, MCDC opened a dental center at the KCHD South Clinic in Kentwood. More than 15,000 patients have made nearly 32,000 visits since. “Many of those patients tell us that they are from northern Kent County and have been forced to travel to find affordable dental care,” says Adam London, Administrative Health Officer at KCHD. “Studies have found that people often list income and transportation barriers as factors that inhibit their ability to see a dentist. This new MCDC facility in Cedar Springs will help address both of these issues for many people.”

“When dental health is ignored or neglected a person’s overall health suffers” says Dr. Zachary Brian DMD, MCDC, Cedar Springs. “With the pain comes societal costs. People who lost their job opportunities have been limited and many times they have gone to emergency rooms when the pain has become too intense. Emergency rooms are unable to do anything for the underlying causes but carry a high price tag for individuals and tax payers through increased healthcare costs.”

My Community Dental Center provides an array of services, and can provide care to the entire community. They are accepting new patients, and accept most insurance, including Medicaid, HMP, Delta Kids, and most private insurance.

“Our mission is to improve the lives of our patients and enhance community health by setting the highest standard of oral care,” said a MCDC spokesperson.

The center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To register as a new patient, call 877.313.6232 or visit mycdental.org and fill out a form.

ASK SCORE – SCORE, Counselors to America’s Small Business

Both long-term and short-term goals will shape what your business becomes. Therefore, they should govern every component of your business’s operations, structure and vision. Capturing them in writing, with timetables, gives you a working blueprint, even with the frequent adjustments you may choose to make to remain flexible in the early stages.

First, consider your long-range goals. Do you want to be an industry leader or simply a dominant player in your local community? Are you content to make a stable living for you and your family, or do you aspire to earn enough to retire by a certain age? Be honest with yourself. These goals will help you set the overall direction and identify, with two or three viable short-term objectives for your business under each goal.

To further clarify your goals and objectives, develop criteria for measuring your performance against reasonable targets within your industry or service area. Measurement is essential to keeping an objective eye on your progress. Each performance point should have an action plan and timetable, including milestones and contingencies.

Whether you are opening a business for the first time or have operated a successful company for years, consider getting an objective evaluation from an expert source. A great place to start is SCORE “Counselors to America’s Small Business.” SCORE is a nonprofit, volunteer service organization dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small business. For the SCORE chapter nearest you, call 1-800/634-0305, or find a counselor online at www.score.org.

These ASK SCORE articles are written by the Grand Rapids Chapter of SCORE where there are 35 counselors ready to serve you and your business needs. Call the Grand Rapids SCORE office at 616-771-4305, or find a counselor online at www.score.org. Free and Confidential Counseling.

SCORE, 111 Pearl Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 771-4305 www.score.org E-mail: score@grandrapids.org

Welcome to downtown Cedar Springs, your new Local State Farm Team

Ryanne Donahue – Agent

60 N Main
Cedar Springs, MI 49319
Bus 616-696-1329
Fax 616-696-1956
ryanne@ryannedonahueinsurance.com
ryannedonahueinsurance.com
Licensed: Michigan
Find us on Facebook

How Can You Leave the Legacy You Desire?

You may not see it in the greeting card section of your local drugstore, but August is "What Will Be Your Legacy Month." So it’s a good time to think about the type of legacy you’d like to leave.

Of course, “legacy” can mean many things. In the broadest sense, your legacy is how you will be remembered by your loved ones, friends and the communities to which you belong. On a practical level, establishing your legacy means providing for your family and the charitable organizations you support with the resources you’d like them to have.

And that means you need to take the following actions: create your plans, communicate your wishes and review and update your documents.

Let’s take a quick look at all these steps:

- **Create your plans.** You want to work with your legal professional, and possibly your tax and financial professionals, too, to draft the plans needed to fulfill your legacy wishes. These plans may include drafting a will, living trust, healthcare directive, powers of attorney and other documents. Ideally, you want these plans to do more than just convey where you want your money to go – you want to impart, to the next generation, a sense of the effort that went into building the wealth they receive. Without such an appreciation, your heirs may be less than rigorous in retaining the tangible legacies you’ve left them.

- **Communicate your wishes.** It’s important to communicate your legacy-related wishes to your family members as early as possible. By doing so, you can hopefully avoid unpleasant surprises and hurt feelings when it’s time for your estate to be settled – and you’ll also let people know what tasks, if any, they need to perform. For example, if you’re choosing a family member to be the executor of your estate, or you’re giving someone power of attorney over your financial or health-related matters, they should be prepared.

- **Update your documents.** During your life, you may well experience any number of changes – new marriage, new children, opening a family business, and so on. You need to make sure your legal documents and financial accounts reflect these changes. For example, if you’ve remarried, you may want to change the beneficiary designations on your IRA, 401(k) and other retirement accounts – if left untouched, these designations may even supersede the instructions conveyed in your will. And the directions in life chosen by your grown children may also dictate changes in your will or living trust. In any case, it’s a good idea to review all your legacy-related documents periodically, and update them as needed.

In addition to taking the above steps, you also need to protect the financial resources you’ve built into your legacy. So, when you retire and begin taking funds from your IRA, 401(k) and other retirement accounts, make sure your withdrawal rate is sufficient for your living expenses, but not so high that it eventually jeopardizes the amounts you planned to leave to your family or to your preferred charities. A financial professional can help you determine the withdrawal rate appropriate for your situation.

With careful planning, and by making the right moves, you can create the type of legacy you desire – one that can benefit your loved ones far into the future.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
by Melinda Myers

You spent the summer weeding, watering and tending to your vegetable garden. Now all your effort has paid off with a bountiful harvest. Maximize the flavor and nutritional value of your homegrown vegetables with proper harvesting and storage.

For the freshest flavor, always prepare and serve vegetables immediately after harvest. But let’s face it, most of us are living busy lives and lucky to get the vegetables picked and eventually cooked. Plus, all the extras will need to be shared, preserved or stored for future enjoyment. Here are a few tips you can do to keep the flavor fresh.

1. Handle produce with care. Nicking, breaking and bruising the vegetables during harvest decreases storage life and quality. Harvest leafy crops such as lettuce, kale, and collards last as they quickly wilt after harvest. And with the wilt going the ascorbic acid (Vitamin C).

2. Ideally, vegetables you plan to prepare immediately should be cleaned outdoors. You’ll keep garden soil out of the kitchen sink and in the garden where it belongs. Collect your veggies in an open weave wire or plastic harvest basket like the Mod Hod. Its fold-out legs allow the produce to dry before bringing it indoors. Rinse off the soil with the hose, drain excess water and carry your veggies into the kitchen to prepare.

3. Clean your counters and cutting boards before you start slicing, cutting and dicing your vegetables. Trim stems, remove damaged leaves and compost these in the garden or worm bin. They will have a second life as compost in next year’s garden.

4. Wait to wash, trim, and clean the vegetables you plan to store or prepare later. The scraping, cutting and slicing process increases the loss of vitamins and flavor and reduces storage quality. Increase storage longevity by matching vegetables with their preferred storage conditions. The closer you come to this, the longer your produce will last.

5. Store roots crops like beets, turnips and radishes as well as cabbage and Brussels sprouts in a cold, moist condition. A spare refrigerator works great for these. Those in colder climates can store their carrots and parsnips right in the garden. Once the soil gets a bit crunchy, cover them with straw or evergreen boughs for easier digging in winter. Then dig as needed or harvest during the first winter thaw.

6. Keep potatoes in a cool, humid and dark location like a cool corner in the basement. Sunlight causes the exposed portions to produce green chlorophyll and solanine, a glycoalkaloid toxin. The solanine gives the potatoes a bitter flavor and can cause vomiting and diarrhea if enough green potatoes are eaten. Just cut away any green portions before using.

7. Store winter squash in a cool location as well. They can tolerate a bit lower humidity and last for four months or more when properly harvested and stored. Use slatted crates or other vegetable storage solutions (gardener.com) to maximize storage space and increase storage longevity.

8. The closer you store your vegetables to the refrigerator, the better. Store onions, garlic, potatoes and other vegetables at room temperature to prevent green sprouts from developing. The browning and sprouting of potatoes are eaten. Just cut off any green portion before preparing.

9. Fruit and vegetables that ripen on the vine are best when picked at their peak ripeness. Keep a log of harvest dates in your garden journal or computer.
Report fish and wildlife observations

Use the Eyes in the Field app

The Department of Natural Resources invites Michigan residents to contribute to conservation efforts by reporting their fish and wildlife observations with the new Eyes in the Field application. Available at michigan.gov/eyesinthefield, the application replaces 15 separate observation forms the DNR had been using to gather important information about the state’s fish and wildlife populations.

"Observation is a key part of managing Michigan’s diverse natural resources, and we rely on the public as additional eyes in the field to help in our monitoring efforts," said Tom Weston, the DNR’s chief technology officer. "This new application is a one-stop shop where citizen scientists can report what they observe while spending time outdoors."

Eyes in the Field includes forms for reporting observations of diseased wildlife, tagged fish, mammals such as cougars and feral swine, fish such as sturgeon, birds such as wild turkeys, and reptiles and amphibians such as eastern massasauga rattlesnakes. Additional observation forms will be added in the future.

The application is mobile-friendly, so it will work well on any device – smartphone, tablet or desktop computer – and is compliant with federal Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines.

To report their data, users select an observation location point on a map and submit other details, including habitat type and appearance of the animal, depending on the type of observation. Observers also can submit photos, videos and audio files through the application.

"It’s important to note that Eyes in the Field does not replace the DNR’s Report All Pouching (RAP) hotline (800-292-7800). The RAP hotline is now accepting text messages, which may include photos, in addition to telephone calls – it’s a toll-free, 24-hour, seven-days-a-week number that enables the public to report violations of fish and game laws, as well as other natural resource-related laws. The DNR also offers a web-based RAP form, which is available via a link from Eyes in the Field."

Knee deep death trap

Enjoying the big waves has always been fun but poses life-threatening challenges for many species. If you happen to be a duck you are probably safe. Big waves were rolling on shore at Traverse City State Park shortly after mallard ducklings hatched from eggs. The hen led fledglings to water. People concerned for the safety of the little ones approached and offered the mother a place to move away from young and shore.

She disappeared among the tall waves with most of the ducklings but a couple lost sight of her and became separated. The people that frightened the mother picked up two ducklings and brought them to me at the ranger station.

All was going well until one time when I rode high on the wave and came back down, the undertow of water down when it passed to stand on the bottom again. It was going well until one time when I rode high on the wave and came back down, the undertow of water returning along the bottom knocked my feet from under me. I thought no big deal and stood up. It happened that I stood up in middle of a tall wave. Almost immediately the undertow knocked my feet from under me again. Quickly I stood and found myself in the middle of another wave. This repeated.

By now I was out of air, frightened, and desperate to inhale. A breath would flood my lungs with water and begin the drowning process. My folks had no idea I was in danger in knee high water. They hadn’t even noticed me. I had been underwater a short time. It seemed impossible to stand up between waves and I could not get my head into the air. Finally, I managed to get my head out of water but was knocked down by the undertow. A push off the bottom allowed me to ride up and down on a big wave. I discovered the danger of knee deep water between large waves and survived.

Many people do not and several times each year, families lose a member to the power of water. It is not just people whose lives get threatened by water. Fall bird migration season has arrived. Massive avian numbers from songbirds to hawks encounter the Great Lakes migration water barrier. They pile up on the north end of the lakes on their southbound journey and move along the shoreline searching for safe crossing sites. I’ve watched hundreds of Broad-winged Hawks move west along northern Lake Michigan to go around the lake. Others moved east towards Mackinaw Bridge where crossing the straits is shorter. Once there, they wait for proper weather and wind conditions to venture safely over water.

Migration over water is one of many life-threatening challenges for species in nature niches. Not all survive. I have found small birds washed dead to shore after being knocked into the water by storms or winds. People and wildlife lives depend on respect for the power of water. Have fun in turbulent water but remain safety conscious.

Consider a trip to Whitefish Point Bird Observatory north of Paradise on Lake Superior to witness bird migration from Canada to the US this fall. Michigan Audubon staff can assist with species identification.

Natural history questions or topic suggestions can be directed to Ranger Steve (Mueller) at audcmueller47@gmail.com.
Back 2 School
Study tips for busy college students

(StatePoint) With seemingly endless reading, lengthy term papers and make-or-break exams, the academic life of a college student can be nothing short of demanding. What’s more, most students hold down part-time jobs and participate in extracurricular during the semester.

While there are only so many hours in a day, students can make more of the time they do have by studying smarter, not harder. Here are a few tips to keep your head above water.

• Take smarter notes.

Gone are the days of taking furiously notes in class by hand. However, merely typing up class notes is also an antiquated notion for today’s tech-savvy students.

There are many note-taking apps on the market that can help you organize, sort questions and answers. Each app has its own set of features, all of this tech can make the lecture hall a friendlier place and make study time more convenient.

• Find your sweet spot.

Whether it’s a study carrel in the library, the student lounge of your dormitory or a study spot in the quad, finding locations that inspire you to buckle down is crucial. Knowing your own study habits and needs can help you situate yourself wisely.

• Leverage campus assistance.

Most colleges offer a wealth of student resources that can help you make the grade, from tutors to writing centers that offer helpful feedback on papers. At the very least, students should visit advisors and professors during their office hours, as well as be sure to visit the reference librarian’s desk when lost or overwhelmed in the stacks.

• Use new resources.

New resources are helping students succeed in their courses. For example, every student who takes out a Sallie Mae Smart Option Student Loan or Graduate Student Loan gets free, exclusive access to Study Starter, an online tutoring and studying portal from the experts at Chegg, a leading provider of textbooks and student services. Available 24/7, it can quickly provide help to students when they need it most, whether it’s 2 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Students can select between 120 minutes of free online access to tutors or four months of free online access to step-by-step solutions to problems and study questions and answers. There is also a combination option as well. The results are proven -- 88 percent of students who use Chegg Tutors say it helps them feel less stressed about schoolwork and 94 percent of Chegg Study users say it helped them get homework done with less stress.

• Making college affordable so students can enroll is only the first step. Upfront, in-school benefits can help them succeed in class and graduate on time, says Martha Holler, senior vice president at Sallie Mae.

For more information, visit SallieMae.com/StudyStarter.

If academic performance weighs heavily on your mind, use all the available resources you have at your disposal, from on-campus advisors to online tutors and study aids, and add them to your own resolve to succeed.

Tidy back-to-school transitioning

According to a survey conducted by ClosetMaid, 92 percent of parents describe their kids as messy. Among those same parents, 80 percent give their kids chores and about half of them end up doing the work themselves to ensure it’s done properly. Two out of three of the parents surveyed said their children’s messiness often leaves them in bad moods. Considering one of the hardest things about back-to-school season is creating an organized routine, the time to start is now.

When every room in the house can use some reorganization, decluttering in preparation for busy school days can be overwhelming. A smart place to start is in the room you and your kids waste the most time looking for things. These other useful tips can help you take it from there:

• Tackle your child’s closet and take inventory of what’s in it. Before you buy anything new, go through and get rid of worn clothes and items that no longer fit. It can help you see what is needed and ultimately make it easier for them to get dressed in the morning.

• Get your command center in tip top shape. Set up a system for storing important paperwork and create a centralized family calendar to help coordinate everyone’s schedules.

• Create a drop zone. Contain clutter before it spreads too far around the house with ClosetMaid’s KidSpace, a line of juvenile storage furniture featuring a storage locker that is perfect for backpacks, coats, sports equipment and supplies. Since it’s kid-sized, children can be responsible for making sure their belongings are put neatly away.

• Create a comfy homework station. Designate a special place to do homework that’s quiet, with all supplies. Since it’s kid-sized, children can be responsible for making sure their belongings are put neatly away.

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PHOTO SOURCE: (c) cristovao31 - Fotolia.com

(Tuesday Feature) With shopping that needs to be done and supplies that need to be gathered for busy days ahead, preparing for the back-to-school season can descend into near chaos for many parents. When long school days leave little time for organization and decluttering, any home can quickly become a mess.

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Dear Cedar Springs Community:

We are excited to kick off the 2017-18 school year by unveiling our new Red Hawk Stadium turf. As our Cedar Springs Public Schools campus is the center point of this great community, it is our honor to “shine” for all to see our Cedar Springs pride with this new look.

We are grateful for the research, experience and work our Athletic Director, Mr. John Norton, and our Director of Operations, Mr. Kim Simon did to prepare and oversee this project. We are also grateful for our Board of Education supporting the purchase and installation of our new turf, as well as for our principals, maintenance department, coaches and music directors for their input.

At CSPS, we have many points of pride. Paramount to all others is our commitment and passion to serve our students well. The enhancement to our Red Hawk Stadium illustrates the value we place upon providing for our students as they explore and enjoy extracurricular and community-building events and activities. It will be our pleasure to see our students, staff, families and community gather around our new turf this school year!

Please take an opportunity to see our new turf (pictured on page 2) at upcoming events such as soccer and football games, the CSPS fundraiser walk-a-thon, the Red Flannel Festival Marching Band Invitational and the annual Powder Puff football game.

ON BEHALF OF OUR BOARD OF EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION, STAFF AND STUDENTS, THANK YOU CEDAR SPRINGS RESIDENTS FOR INVESTING IN OUR SCHOOLS, BY PROVIDING FOR A SINKING FUND THAT MADE THIS BEAUTIFUL NEW STADIUM TURF POSSIBLE.

It’s going to be another fantastic year at CSPS!

Dr. Laura VanDuyk, Superintendent of Schools

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**Open House & Orientation Information**

August 28, Monday
High School Orientation
9th Grade 12:00 pm
10th Grade 8:00 am
11th Grade 9:15 am
12th Grade 10:30 am

August 29, Tuesday
Middle School - 7th & 8th Grades 5:00 - 6:30 pm
New Beginnings Alternative HS 5:00 - 6:00 pm

August 30, Wednesday
Cedar Trails - K & 1st Grades 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Beach Elementary 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Cedar View - 4th & 5th Grades 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Red Hawk Elementary Team A - 5:30 pm Team B - 7:00 pm

**Bus Information**

Bus Information Letters will be sent home to families the week of 8/21. Contact transportation services with any questions 616-696-1450

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**2017 - 2018 District School Year Calendar**

September 5 1st Day for Students
September 15 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
September 29 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
October 13 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
October 27 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
November 3 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
November 3 End of Quarter
November 17 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
November 21 End of Trimester 1
November 22 No School for Students and Staff
November 23-24 Thanksgiving Break
November 27 No School for Students
December 15 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
December 25 - Jan 5 Winter Break
January 12 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
January 19 End of Quarter 2; End of Semester 1
January 26 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
February 2 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
February 16 No School for Students
February 19-20 Mid-Winter Break
March 9 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
March 19 End of Trimester 2
March 23 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
March 23 End of Quarter 3
March 30 No School for Students and Staff
April 2 - April 6 Spring Break
April 13 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
April 27 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
May 11 Student Early Release Day (2 hrs)
May 25 No School for Students and Staff
May 28 Memorial Day Break
June 6 Last Day for Students
June 6 End of Semester 2; Trimester 3
June 8, 11, 12, 13, 14 Snow Day Make Up if needed

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**2017 - 2018 Food Service Information**

Elementary Breakfast — $1.40
Elementary Lunch — $2.35
Secondary Breakfast - $1.50

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**Cedar Springs Health Center NOW OPEN!**

8 am - 3:30 pm Monday through Friday
For students ages 3 - 21
Located in the Red Hawk Elementary building - south entrance
616.696.3470 or visit www.cherryhealth.org

**ATHLETIC BOOSTERS**

Cedar Springs Athletic Boosters exists as an organization of parents and community members dedicated to supporting, encouraging, and advancing the athletic program.

**MEETING DATES FOR 2017 – 2018**

August 28, October 2, November 6, December 4, January 8, February 5, March 5, April 16, May 1, June 4 All Meetings start at 6:30pm. The meetings are held in the High School Media Center.
Our Mission
Creative Technologies Academy is a K-12 community of learners committed to changing our world by developing stu-
dents in character, scholarship, and leadership.

Bullying Policy
The Board believes that a safe and nurturing educational
environment in school is necessary for students to learn and
achieve high academic standards. Therefore, it is the policy
of the school to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all
of its students. Appropriate behavior, treating others civility
and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is
expected of students, as well as administrators, faculty, staff,
visitors, and volunteers.
Please read the complete Bullying Policy online at http://

Anti-Discrimination
Statement
CTA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color,
national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and trans-
gender identity), disability/handicap, age, religion, marital/
parental/family status, military status, ancestry, genetic infor-
mation, or any other legally protected characteristic in its pro-
grams, activities, or employment opportunities. The Acade-
my complies with all applicable law with respect to equitable
treatment of students, employees, and applicants for employ-
ment opportunities.

PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW
The Creative Technologies Academy’s Board Policy Manu-
al contains the following policy which is applicable to all Title
I schools. CTA does NOT receive Title I funds, nevertheless it
adheres to the following policy:
In accordance with the requirement of Section 1111 of Title I,
each school receiving Title I funds, the School Leader shall
make sure that all parents of students in that school are
notified that they may request, and the Academy will provide
shall make sure that all parents of students in that school are
notified that they may request, and the Academy will provide

INSTRUCTIONS MATERIALS -- RIGHT TO INSPECT
Parents have the right to inspect any instructional materials
used as part of the educational curriculum for their student.
Instructional material means instructional content, regardless
of format, that is provided to the student, including printed or
representational materials, audio visual materials, and materi-
als available in electronic or digital formats (such as materials
accessible through the Internet.) Instructional material does
not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Integrated Pest Management Policy and Plan
In accordance with Michigan Regulation 637, the follow-
ing policy and plan has been adopted at:
Creative Technologies Academy
350 Pine Street
Cedar Springs, Michigan 49319
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) requires that the Acad-
emy use the least hazardous methods first (fly swatters, vac-
uuming, housekeeping practices, elimination of insect/rodent
food, harborage of entry points, etc.) to remove pests from the
school environment before resorting to chemical treatment.
Only professional licenses individuals shall be allowed to
apply commercial grade pesticides or herbicides and prop-
or advance notification of application(s) shall be given. No
area(s) shall be treated while occupied by staff or students
Notice of this service shall be published to all parents,
guardians or students, and staff. In case of emergency, lim-
ited use of pesticides or her-
bicides is permitted without
advance notice.
This universal sign shall be posted for 48 hours after com-
mercial application of pesti-
cides or herbicides is made,
or for an appropriate period
time as recommended by the
licensed professional.

Pesticides In Use
Rodent or pest sightings shall be reported to the school
office and shall be recorded in the IPM Log Book. The
licensed person providing the pest control service shall
review this list prior to pro-
viding treatment within or
outside the building.
Board Adopted: August 9, 2001
Board Recorder: Lexie K. Coxon

F. timely notice if the student is assigned to a teacher who
is not "highly qualified" as required, or if the student is
taught for more than four (4) weeks by a teacher who is not
highly qualified.
The notices and information shall be provided in an under-
standable format, and to the extent possible, in a language the
parent(s) understand.

Creative Technologies Academy
SCHOOL CALENDAR
SCHOOL HOURS
Grades K-5: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Grades 6-12: 7:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
FlexTrac Grades 9-12: (7:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. including 2 self-scheduled hours)
August
22 Open House (K-12) - 5:30 – 8:00 PM
28 First Day of School
31 Early Release Day (12:45 and 1:00 pm)
September
1-4 No School - Labor Day Break
6 XC #1 Conference Meet
@Riverside Park
9 Hill & Bale XC Invitational
@Fremont Middle School
12 School Picture Day
13 Mobile Dental
15 Early Release Day
16 XC MSU Spartan Invitational @
Forest Aker’s Golf Course
29 Early Release Day

*Early Release Dismissal Schedule
● K-5 Dismissal at 1:00 p.m.
● 6-12 Dismissal at 12:45 p.m.

Important First Dates!
K-12 Orientation and Open House
Tuesday, Aug. 22, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
MONDAY, AUGUST 28

Creative Technologies Academy
Affirmed by the Board of Directors, August 9, 2017

Asbestos Management Plan
The Asbestos Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires
all schools to have an “Asbestos Management Plan” and to
make that plan available to all concerned parties. Creative
Technologies Academy, an asbestos free school, hereby noti-
tifies all parents, building occupants, and the parent association
that the Asbestos Management Plan for all buildings under
the jurisdiction of this local education agency is available in the
principal’s office of Creative Technologies Academy located
at 350 Pine Street in Cedar Springs Michigan.
This notification is to advise all concerned parties that the
Asbestos Management Plan required under the AHERA is
available for review upon request. The plans can be viewed by
any person during normal business hours. Those interested in
reviewing the Asbestos Management Plan can inquire about
the hours and times that the plans are available by contacting
Mr. Dan Clark, Director of Energy and Maintenance, or the
School Leader at 616-696-4905.
Creative Technologies Academy has followed all of the
laws pertaining to asbestos in schools for the state of Mich-
igan. Based on the findings, there is no asbestos on the CTA
campus. Steps have been taken for a permanent exemption because there is no asbestos to monitor or remove.

Affirmed by the Board of Directors, August 9, 2017
PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council has approved an ordinance 197 to amend The City Code by Adding a New Article Which Shall Be Designated as Chapter 14, Article VIII, Sections 14-450 through 14-455 Of The Code.

This ordinance prohibits smoking within any Public Park, except within specifically designated areas. This ordinance also states that smoking is permitted only in specifically designated areas. There shall be posted or marked as permitted smoking areas and shall include a trash receptacle for the disposal of cigarette butts. This Ordinance is effective August 17, 2017. Complete copy of the ordinance is available in the office of the City Clerk.

Dated: August 17, 2017
Rebecca Newland
City Clerk

Visit The POST online at
www.cedarspringspost.com
HUMANE SOCIETY OF WEST MICHIGAN'S
PETS OF THE WEEK

Marcel – Male Shepherd/Hound Mix

I'm a 3 year old goofy boy looking for my forever home! I'm an outgoing and social dog who was transferred to HSVMS from another shelter making much of my history a mystery, however, do you know that I have lived successfully with children in the past. I love to fetch and play around!

I'm looking for a home that could give me the attention and love I deserve! Please come meet me at Humane Society of West Michigan and see if we are the right fit!

Fluff – Female Domestic Medium Hair

I'm a 5 year old cat looking for my forever home! I would do best in a home with no small children where I would have my own space. I'm a relaxed cat that enjoys pets, but prefers to approach people for affection. I have a sweet personality and would love to see you!

HUMANE SOCIETY

For more information on the Humane Society of West Michigan, call (616) 453-8900 or visit them at 3077 Wilson NW, just ½ mile north of Three Mile Road during adoption hours or www.bwesmi.org.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate of
George C. Allington
Date of Birth 6-22-25,
who lived at 1461 18 Mile Rd., Cedar Springs, Michigan, 49319 died on July 9, 2016. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom notice of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the deceased are notified that all claims against the George C. Allington Protection Trust dated 3-20-2013, as amended, will forever be banned unless presented to Mary E. Coonen, Trustee, within four months after the date of publication. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Rose A. Coonen (P6156)
Attorney for Trustee
Mary E. Coonen
1275 18 Mile Road
Cedar Springs, Michigan 49319
(616) 696-1012

DATED: August 17, 2017

Cedarfield Self Storage
Next to Meijer
696-6110

1275 18 Mile Road
Cedar Springs, Michigan 49319

 Please do not leave your pet in your car while shopping! Show your love for them by leaving them safely in the comfort and cool of home. Cars can get dangerous fast in just a few minutes even with the windows cracked.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Garden Help Wanted. Includes weeding, moving, transplanting and miscellaneous through October. 616-581-4034. #32, #33.

Apartment for rent - downtown Cedar Springs.
Call 616-618-6430. #30.

The Kent County Sheriff Department will auction a 2005 Chevy Impala, 2006 Dodge Caravan, and 2002 Chevy TrailBlazer, 10am on August 23, 2017 at 13899 West St. #33b.

Benefit Auction for Howard Christian Nature Center.
Auctioning surplus inventory, raffle, bake sale, food/drink.
Auction starts at 3 pm, 16160 Red Pine Drive, Kent City. Pekarson Auction Services. #33, #34.

CLASSIFIED AD FORM
Deadline is 5:00 PM MONDAY

Cost of Ad $ ___________
Box ___________
Bold ___________
Ad Total $ ___________

Times to run X

Amount Due $ ___________

Starts Date (Thurs.) ___________

Cost of Ad $ ___________
Box (add $2.00) $ ________
Bold (add $2.00) $ ________

Type of Payment Cash ___________
Check ___________

Credit Card Number ____________________

Please note that the following fees apply to all ads:

1-25 words $12.00
26-50 words $12.20
51-75 words $12.40
76-100 words $12.60

Each additional word is 20¢. Place one word in each space. Be sure to include phone number and/or address in ad copy.

CLASSIFIEDS
Deadline: Monday by 5:00 p.m. • No Billing • All Classifieds Must be Pre-Paid!

Classifieds are now on our website. Check them out at www.cedarspringspost.com.

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Wednesday, August 17, 2017

The Cedar Springs Post
36 E. Maple St., P.O. Box 370
Cedar Springs, MI 49319
696-3655
Fire

...continued from front page

of Algoma, Cannon, Courtland and Plainfield. “We are lucky Rockford is in the center of those four townships,” Jones noted. Unlike the fire of 1898, the firefighters were able to limit the fire damage to just one structure, although neighboring businesses, closed for the duration.

Jones said first responders put millions of gallons of water on the structure as DTE Energy tried to locate a shutoff for the gas. “It was like a blow torch,” Jones said of the blaze. Firefighters were unable to shut off gas to the building through the meter, which was the epicenter of the fire, and crews from the energy company were unable to locate a remote shutoff that ran to the building. Eventually, after three hours of gas fed fire, a fuel line under Courtland Street was located and DTE was able to crimp the line and shut down the gas.

“For three hours gas fed that fire, it was like a big blow torch up in all that timber. We were fortunate no one was hurt.” Jones also described to reporters how close together all the downtown buildings are, with some connected to each other. He said the efforts of the departments contained the fire.

Owner of The Corner Bar business, Jeff Wolfe, said the building will be rebuilt and Jones repeated that at City Council that evening. He called the loss of the building devastating and the business the heart of Rockford.

Owner of the building Andy Tidey, who currently resides in Colorado, was flying in Tuesday to see the damage himself and collaborate with Wolfe on a game plan moving forward. He said the building was insured, but he is surprised by the extent of the damage.

“I never imagined it could all go,” he said, “It’s only a half block from the fire department.” He said he has good insurance on the structure and it is his intent to rebuild and reopen The Corner Bar, which reports say dates back to the 1930s. The business is best known for its chili dogs and its chili dog eating contest, with the record of 43 dogs in four hours.

The restaurant featured Hotdog Hall of Fame names engraved with customers who were successful in eating twelve chili dogs in four hours. According to Mark Bivins of Creative Concepts, who engraves the names, there are records of the people on the plaques and how many dogs they ate.

Tidey said it was his expectation that he and Jeff will put their heads together and plan how to rebuild. “There are a lot of questions and a lot of numbers. I hope that is something we are going to work out.” He said part of what made the restaurant the icon it is the ambiance, the names on the wall and the wooded interior. “That’s what we want to recreate.”

Tidey said he received a phone call from his mother in the early hours of Monday morning and she told him the building was on fire. He was afraid to go outside and instead sent a text to Jeff, who told him the whole building was in danger. “He said it’s burning up and they can’t stop it, they can’t stop the gas.” Tidey said it is shocking to think how different things would have turned out if the meter had not blown. “It would have been just a little fire, it would have been easy to repair.”

Rockford firefighters said the same thing. Ken Phillips Jr. said first responders were thrilled when they put the smaller fire out. “We’re going to look like heroes because we saved the Corner Bar,” he said. Then the explosion happened. “It was just like in the movies, the windows all blew out.”

He said his fellow fire fighters were on the scene for over 20 hours and were grateful for the assistance of the other departments, who worked well with each other and were very professional. Phillips said the outpouring from the community was overwhelming. Throughout the day over 5,000 people went to the scene and many thanked the firefighters for their efforts. He reported that restaurants brought them food and water throughout the day and night as the structure continued to smoke and smolder.

“That’s Rockford, that’s why people come back or stay in the first place.”

That sentiment was repeated at City Council with members of the public thanking Chief Jones for the hard work of his team and Jamie Davies’ crew, along with the other departments.

The building was purchased from Donald Blegy by Corner Bar LLC on March 16, 2001 for $435,000. In 2017 its taxable value was $295,700, according to the Rockford assessors office.

Phillips said he heard there was speculation about preserving the front facade of the structure and that restoration companies can number the bricks of historic buildings and recreate them. Tidey said it was too early to even estimate a timeline for rebuilding the structure, “I’m still reeling like everybody else he said the day of the fire.” He did seem confident the business and building would survive even this. “You know it would be great to come back even bigger and more successful.”

On Tuesday evening Jones said that it would be five to seven days before streets surrounding the burned out Corner Bar can safely reopen.

The door to your new career is open!

Compass Coach is an 18 year old family run motorcoach business that recently purchased 7 new vehicles and needs to expand our staff with professional drivers, bus washers, diesel mechanics and dispatch personnel to support our growing business.

CAREER PROFESSIONAL MOTORCOACH DRIVERS NEEDED

- TWO LOCATIONS - CEDAR SPRINGS and MT. PLEASANT
- Full time drivers earn a living wage starting at $32,000 plus tips and benefit package
- You can raise a family and drive full time with our flexible schedules!
- Enjoy driving and meeting new people every day • Clean new and modern equipment
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- It’s just FUN!

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Dispatcher: Please call for qualifications
Please bring your completed resume and apply in person at:

Compass Coach Inc.
13550 White Creek Ave NE; Suite A, Cedar Springs, MI 49319
(1/2 mile south of Big Boy)
M-F: 9am-4:00pm
616.696.0022
www.compasscoach.com

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MHSAA announces concussion report findings

16-17 school year

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has completed its second year of collecting head injury reports from member schools and continues to build data that will assist in identifying trends and progress being made to reduce the incidence of head injuries in school sports.

As with the first year of reporting, the MHSAA concussion data include reports from its member high schools after the fall, winter and spring seasons and continued to track each injury report through its conclusion this summer. Members of the MHSAA staff were allowed, although not mandated, to report their potential head injuries; and those findings are not part of the published report.

The 2016-17 concussion report found an 11-percent decrease in the number of confirmed concussions from the previous year. Student-athletes at MHSAA member high schools encountered during 2016-17 a total of 3,958 head injuries—or 5.2 per member school, similar but lower than the 2015-16 average of 5.9.

Total participants in MHSAA sports for 2016-17 was 283,625, with students counted once for each sport they participated in during the fall, winter and spring seasons and continued to track each injury report through its conclusion this summer. Members of the MHSAA staff were allowed, although not mandated, to report their potential head injuries; and those findings are not part of the published report.

Although the total number of confirmed concussions was significantly lower in 2016-17, a number of findings detailing those injuries fell in line with results of the 2015-16 survey.

Boys experienced 2,607—or 66 percent—of those injuries, nearly the same ratio as 2015-16 and an increase from the previous year. Contact sports, remained higher than girls. More than half of head injuries—55 percent—were experienced by varsity athletes, which also fell within the Upper Peninsula's last year’s findings.

A total of 2,973 head injuries—or 65 percent—came in competition as opposed to practice. More than half took place during either the middle of practice or middle of competition as opposed to the start or end, and 52 percent of injuries were a result of person-to-person contact. The largest percentage of athletes—27 percent—returned to activity after 6 to 10 days, while 23 percent of those who suffered head injuries returned after 11-15 days of rest. All of those findings were within one 4 percent of those discovered from the 2015-16 data.

Contact sports again revealed the most head injuries. Ranking first was football, 11- and 8-player combined, with 44 head injuries per 1,000 participants—a decrease of five head injuries per 1,000 participants from 2015-16. Ice hockey reported the second-most injuries per 1,000, with 36 (down two injuries per 1,000 from 2015-16), and girls soccer was again third with 28 head injuries per 1,000 participants (also down two from the previous year).

In fact, after football and hockey, the next four sports to show the highest incidences of head injuries were girls sports—girls soccer followed by girls basketball (23 per 1,000), girls competitive cheer (22) and girls lacrosse (20). Although girls basketball moved up from fifth to fourth for highest ratio, it did see a decline of six injuries per 1,000 participants from 2015-16.

Startling indications of another potential trend were seen again in the number of reported head injuries suffered by girls and boys playing the same sports. Soccer, basketball and baseball/softball are played under identical or nearly identical rules. Yet in 2015-16, females in those sports reported significantly more concussions than males playing the same or similar sport.

Female soccer players reported double the concussions of their male counterparts as male soccer players, while female basketball players reported nearly triple the number of concussions per 1,000 participants (23 vs. 8). Softball players reported 11 concussions per 1,000 participants, and baseball players reported four per 1,000. The numbers from all three comparisons returned consistent from what the survey found in 2015-16.

It is the hope that Michigan’s universities, health care systems and the National Federation of State High School Associations will take part in analyzing the data and questions that have arisen during the past two years. Michigan State University’s Institute for the Study of Youth Sports submitted a paper titled “Gender Differences in Youth Sports Concussion” based on the 2015-16 results, and that subject will remain closely monitored in 2017-18 and beyond.

“The Institute’s research concluded that there is merit for believing females may be more susceptible than males to having concussions because of structural differences to the neck and head, and also due to neurological differences in the brains of females and males. But the findings also show merit for believing females may be more vulnerable in reporting concussions,” said MHSAA Executive Director John E. “Jack” Roberts.

“We need to find out why. Are girls just more willing to report the injury? Are boys hiding it? These are some of our most important questions moving forward, and they will be critical in our efforts to educate athletes, their parents and coaches on the importance of reporting and receiving care for these injuries immediately.”

Roberts said that while it’s significant to note the similarity in statistics over the first two years of injury report collection, the lower percentages in 2016-17 don’t necessarily represent a trend; that conclusion can only be made after more data is collected in years to come. Some differences in data from the first year to the second could be the result of schools increased familiarity with the reporting system, the refinement of the follow-up reporting procedure and other survey error that is expected to decrease with future surveys.

“Our first survey in 2015-16 raised some initial themes, and the data we collected this past year will and continue to collect will help us identify the trends that will guide our next steps,” Roberts said. “However, the necessity for more data to determine these trends should not delay our efforts to experiment with more head protection and modified play and practice rules in contact sports like ice hockey, soccer, wrestling and, yes, and baseball. That same mandate be top 10 sports for numbers of head injuries per thousand participants.

“We will continue to look for ways to make our good games better and our healthy games safer, and the collection of this data will continue to prove key as we work toward those goals.”

Schools report possible concussions online via the MHSAA Website. Reports are then examined by members of the MHSAA staff, who follow up with school administrators as those students continue to return to practice and eventually return to play. Student privacy is protected.

The reporting of possible concussions is part of a three-pronged approach by the MHSAA in concussion care began during the 2015-16 school year. The MHSAA completed this past spring (2017) the largest-ever state high school sports association sideline concussion testing pilot program, with a sample of schools from across the state over the last two years using one of two screening tests designed to detect concussions. The second year of the pilot program (2016-17) allowed participating schools to use the sideline detection tests only if mandated they be used in sports (11 total over three seasons) showing the highest prevalence of concussions.

The MHSAA also was the first state association to provide all participants at every member high school and junior high/middle school with insurance intended to pay accident medical expense benefits—covering deductibles and co-pay’s left unpaid by other policies—resulting from head injuries sustained during school practices or competitions and at no cost to either schools or families. During 2015-16, a total of 139 claims were made—20 fewer than in 2015-16—with (44) and girls basketball (27) the sports most cited in those claims for the second straight year.

Previously, the MHSAA also was among the first state associations to adopt a return-to-play protocol that keeps an athlete out of activity until at least the next day after a suspected concussion, and allows that athlete to return to play only after he or she has been cleared unconditionally for activity by a doctor (M.D. or D.O.), physician’s assistant or nurse practitioner.

In addition, the MHSAA’s Coaches Achievement Program, which includes courses that must be completed by all varsity head coaches hired for the first time at a member school, has augmented for this fall its already substantial in-struction on concussion care. Separately, rules meetings that are required viewing for all varsity and subvarsity head and assistant coaches at the start of each season include detailed training on caring for athletes with possible head injuries.