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Hamilton
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**2024
CALENDAR
OF EVENTS
SCHEDULE**
INSIDE ON PAGE 2

Chelsea Outfitters Has Moved



Story and more photos on page 8.

SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY
AUGUST 18
Gordon Hall in Dexter

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Daniel and the dog that inspired his foster, Mikey. Photos By Aimee Bingham

Mikey and Me, Local Dog Foster Celebrates 300 Adopted Dogs

By Aimee Bingham
anbingham@gmail.com

A while back, someone shared photos of a cute dog on Facebook. I am a dog lover, so I took note. I realized the dog rescue, as I thought it was, was located in Chelsea. Through this story I learned that Mikey and Me is

not a dog rescue, it's a dog foster. This past weekend, I had the opportunity to visit and meet Daniel DePew, the, "and me," part of Mikey and me. Mikey was the little furry bestie who inspired all this work to create a safe, happy in-between for dogs before getting continued on page 5

SAVE THE DATE
MIDWEST LITERARY WALK
SATURDAY, APRIL 20 | 1-5PM
DOWNTOWN CHELSEA

Meet Acclaimed Authors:
Roz Chast
Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
Wade Rouse (Viola Shipman)

For event details, visit:
MidwestLiteraryWalk.org

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SOUNDS & SIGHTS

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CHELSEA, MICHIGAN

PHOTOS BY LIFEINMICHIGAN.COM



Story and more photos on page 7.

Chelsea
AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
www.chelseahistory.org

2024 Events!

50/100 Centennial Series
Jan 8 ~ Merkel Furniture
with Tim and George Merkel
Mar 4 ~ Cole Funeral Chapel
with Allen Cole
May 6 ~ Chelsea Milling Company
with Howdy Holmes

Aug 5 ~ Chelsea State Bank
with John Mann
Sep 9 ~ Chelsea Lumber Company
with John Daniels
Oct 7 ~ Lane Animal Hospital
with Chan Lane
Nov 4 ~ CAHS 50th Anniversary
with CAHS Board

2024 Tours & Gatherings
Spring & Summer ~ To be
Announced!

Fall ~ Haunted Chelsea
December 7 ~ Holiday
Home Tour
December ~ Holiday
Potluck

Ballet Chelsea PRESENTS CINDERELLA April 20 & 21



D&B Strategic Marketing
doris@dandbmarketing.com
Ballet Chelsea
jean@balletchelsea.org

Prepare to be swept away into a world of magic and elegance as Ballet Chelsea proudly presents its enchanting performance of Cinderella. The performances will occur on April 20 at 7 pm and April 21 at 2 pm at Chelsea High School. Tickets go on sale March 11, 2024.

In addition to the captivating performances, Ballet Chelsea is excited to offer the opportunity to experience the magic of Cinderella up close with Cinderella Teas at the Ballet Chelsea Studio on April 6 and 7 at 2 pm both days. Open company rehearsals will be happening concurrently with the tea party. Everyone is invited. Tickets for the Cinderella Tea also go on sale on March 11, 2024.

This classic fairytale comes to life through

the artistry and skill of Ballet Chelsea's talented Artistic Director, Michelle Quenon, and dancers. Audiences of all ages will enjoy a spellbinding journey through the beloved story of Cinderella, where dreams really do come true. With stunning choreography, dazzling costumes, and an enchanting musical score, this production promises to captivate hearts and inspire imaginations.

Cinderella, a timeless tale of hope, kindness, and the triumph of love over adversity follows the story of a young girl who, despite facing hardship and mistreatment, remains resilient and true to herself. With the help of a fairy godmother, Cinderella's ordinary world transforms into a realm of magic and possibility.

"We are thrilled to bring the enchanting story of Cinderella to life on stage," said Michelle Quenon, Artistic Director of

Ballet Chelsea. "This timeless tale resonates with audiences of all ages, reminding us of the power of kindness, courage, and the belief that anything is possible. With our talented dancers and creative team, we have crafted a production that is sure to delight and inspire."

Don't miss your chance to experience the magic of Ballet Chelsea's Cinderella. Performance dates April 20 at 7 pm and April 21 at 2 pm at the Chelsea High School. And Cinderella Tea April 5 and 6, 2 pm both days, at Ballet Chelsea Studio. Tickets will be available online on March 11 at www.balletchelsea.org/tickets/.

For more information about Ballet Chelsea and its upcoming performances and classes, visit Ballet Chelsea's website, www.balletchelsea.org.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, Ballet Chelsea's mission transcends the stage, aiming to shape resilient individuals through impeccable training and performance artistry while giving back to the community through the transformative power of arts education and outreach. visit www.balletchelsea.org.



Photo courtesy of Bessom Photography

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Business Breakfasts
Jan 11th | 7-9am
April 11th | 7-9am
July 11th | 7-9am
Oct 10th | 7-9am

Wellness After Hours
Jan 17th | 5-6:30pm

Chocolate Extravaganza
Feb 10th

Curling Fest
Feb 24th | 8-11pm

Annual Meeting
March 6th | 6-8pm

Sounds & Sight on Thursday Nights
June 6th-July 25th & Oct 24th
6:30-8:30pm

Sounds & Sight Festival
July 26th-27th

Community Picnic
Aug 10 | Noon to 2pm

Golf Outing
Sept 4th | 7:30am-3pm

Backyard Beer Garden
Oct 12th | 3-10pm

Hometown Halloween
October | All Month

Wine, Women, & Shopping
Nov 8th & 9th

Hometown Holiday
December | All Month

Sculpture Walk
All Year

Chelsea Trail Challenge
Feb 1st-Nov 30th

Scan the QR Code or visit
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to view a full calendar of events.



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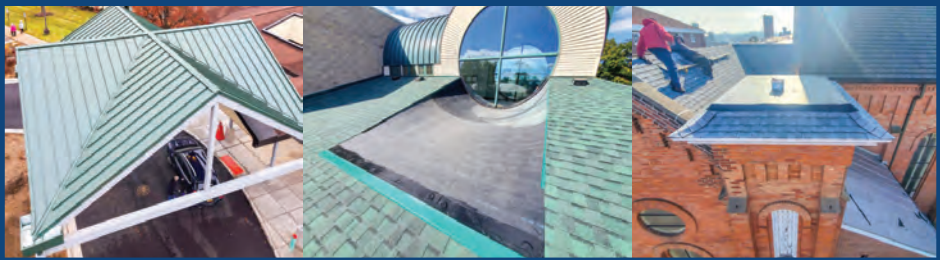
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H&H Sugarbush Maple Open House



Photos By Aimee Bingham

By Aimee Bingham
anbingham@gmail.com

Just beyond the proving grounds is a long driveway, a tent sat just to the right of the driveway. I was unsure what to expect. I know it's maple syrup season in Michigan, my one tree is tapped in the back-yard and I've attended the Old Time Maple Sugar Festival at Waterloo. But, H&H sells syrup everywhere, so I expected their process did not include stirring sap over an open fire until it finally boils down. I imagined the process was more factory like,

so I was unsure what I would see on the tour. The tour started with the wife. I either did not catch her name as I joined after introductions were made or I missed it during the stream of questions from a precocious seven-year-old on the tour. I later learned her name is Michelle and she is a teacher, which made her role as tour guide with such an enthusiastic learner, perfect. His curiosity made it so I did not have to ask a single question and learned more about maple syrup than I ever have, in spite of mak-



ing my own each year. She walked us out to the tapped trees. H&H tapped about 600 this year. They've done more in the past but she explained that this is a family business and more was overwhelming. The property and farm has been in the family for over 100 years, but the family turned to syrup about 17 years ago, when their oldest child was just a toddler. H&H taps sugar maples, red maples and silver maples. The natural forest where the trees are tapped has plastic or silicone tubing running

throughout, but the sap flows underground these days to a little pump house. We learn that the sap is considered the blood of the tree and as long as we don't drill our taps too deep, the wound will close and heal. Much to the chagrin of the young curious person, we don't tap seven year-old trees, just as we don't allow seven-year-olds to donate blood. At the little pump shed, we learned that there's an app to ensure lines have not been nibbled by squirrels and that technology does play a role in



larger productions. A daughter, somewhere in her teens, showed me early on that much like the farming children I grew up with, she did not share her parents enthusiasm for the family business but she still did her part to make it successful. Things change, but they also stay the same. H&H tapped their first and started boiling sap around the tenth.

After multiple seventy degree days, Michelle explained that the sap traveled up the tree to feed what would soon be leaves and had stopped running. H&H collected about half its usual syrup for the year. El Ninio or climate change caused a dip in syrup collection. We headed to the Sugar House for the final leg of the tour. Michelle's husband Kirk

continued on page 10

Savings in Chelsea

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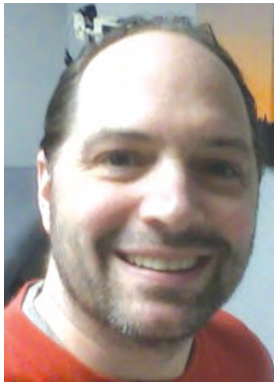
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CHELSEA ATHLETICS



ON THE SIDELINE: TV ANTENNAS, BASEBALL, TIME CLOCKS AND RETIREMENT



By Don Richter
drichter101@comcast.net

I'm not that old, am I?
No, seriously, am I?
Go ahead, you can tell me, you won't hurt my feelings. I stopped having "feelings" years ago. Dang, maybe I just answered my own question.
Anyhow, I hadn't really considered myself old until a recent slew of age-questioning-events took place.
Now, just so you know, I grew up in an era where I had to physically remove my rear end from the couch to change

the TV channel or turn the volume up or down. And yes I also grew up having to fiddle with and sometimes fight with TV "rabbit ears" antenna that purportedly helped sharpen and better focus a TV screen channel that might have been slightly askew.
I also grew up having only five TV channels or so to watch. I remember when the National Anthem played signifying the TV station you were watching was going off the air for the night. I remember being in bed as a youngster and hearing the TV play the National Anthem followed by constant static or a loud ringing noise. It was at that point I knew my Dad must've fallen asleep in front of the TV.
Anyhow, man did

I go off topic, I'm that old. But am I really THAT old? I don't know. I'm starting to really ponder that question.
A guy I grew up playing baseball with — he was the All-Star catcher and I was the All-Star pitcher (yeah, that's how I rolled back then) — last month retired after 35 years as an airline mechanic. I saw a photo of him punching the clock for the final time on his Facebook page. He lives in Tennessee just outside Nashville. He was the first person I saw and talked to at our high school's 25th reunion (maybe that means I'm old?). I don't know why, but the thought of him as "retired" hit me differently.
How could the kid I played baseball with all those years be an older "retired guy" now? Growing

up, my friend Kenny had long hair that oftentimes reached his shoulders. He was a loud-mouth, crazy dude — he was voted "Most Talkative" in our high school's Mock Elections back in the day. I was voted "Most Shyest." Though I tell people I was the most popular quiet guy. Despite our different personalities, Kenny and I always got along. Maybe because he marveled at the wicked curveball I threw and he caught after we struck out batter after batter during our pitcher-catcher playing days. Or maybe because I was amazed with his rifle arm that bailed me out time after time gunning down opposing runners trying to steal a base. Whatever it was, we always made a good pitcher-catcher combo on the field

and good friends off of it.
So seeing him retired after all those years as a mechanic threw me for a loop. "Dang, Kenny's retired," I said to myself looking at his picture clocking out for the final time. "Where has the time gone?" With short, cropped graying hair, Kenny's long flowing locks are long gone now. Sadly, so is our youth. Until seeing his photo, I just never realized it.
Dang.
My "little" nephew is 34 years-old, owns a house and got married last year.
Dang, dang.
Our family celebrated my other "little" nephew's 31st birthday two weeks ago. He's now a 6-foot-3, 245-pound former Marine.
Dang, dang, dang.
My brother-in-law retired last year

after 35 years as a chiropractor.
My sister retired two weeks ago after almost 50 years working only two jobs.
Dang, dang, dang, dang.
I'm getting, err, I mean, I AM old. There, I admitted it. I guess I did indeed answer my own question. I don't feel old. I really don't. I might look old though. I'm practically bald and lose my breath bending over and tying my shoes, but I can still do three sets of 25 push-ups. It might take me 40 minutes, but hey I can still do it.
I'm old.
Dang.
Where's my phone book, you know, the yellow pages? I need to call someone on my rotary phone. Help, I need a life.
Or maybe I should just retire...

Harmony, balance and walking your dog

By Michael Patterson.
LMSW
I have a border collie named Lucky. He insists on getting my full attention. He will whine, push his head under my hand as I lay on the couch, smile at me or use puppy dog eyes to elicit sympathy. Oh, he gets a lot of attention. But I guess if you were to ask him he would surely say "it's not enough." To be honest he really does not ask for much. Good dog food and occasional human food. A soft bed or couch to lay on. Lots of hugs and petting. And he loves to go out on adventures. How does he pay for this? Well, He does let us know when someone is at the front door. He listens. He gives unconditional love. He models how to be calm and be in harmony with his world. It is so easy for him. As

long as a family member is with him, he is happy.
A friend of mine had a health scare about a year ago. He has taken up hiking in the woods with an almost obsessive passion. He had to retire from his business due to his health condition. At first, this was very difficult for him as he felt a loss of purpose in life. Hiking the trails around his home has brought back a sense of accomplishment and vitality to his life. Not to mention it helped him to drop 70 plus pounds. About two months ago he was down in South Carolina. He just took off by himself to try a section to the Appellation Trail. He texted me a picture when he reached the top of a small mountain. I called him when I received the picture. I heard in his

voice something that I had lost. Pure joy and reverence for the beauty that surrounds us if we just go looking for it. Later on, he talked me into training to hike a five-day section of the Appellation trail in late summer or early fall. So we meet about once per week to hike together (he kicks my butt right now). On other days I go out alone on the trails that surround my home or are close by. I am blessed in living near two state recreation areas that have a good trail system. Some days, when I can have Lucky off his leash, I take him with me. As with any exercise regimen, the first fifteen to twenty minutes are the most difficult. My mind goes through this ritual of identifying every ache and pain, questioning why I am doing this at my age. And how

comfortable cozy my couch is. Once I finish this mind ritual I get into the rhythm of the trail and the harmony of the forest. I have noticed that Lucky does not suffer from the agonies of the mind. He goes right into harmony mode. He will smell every smell, see every tree, hear every bird or squirrel, and of course let all the other animals know he has been there by marking his passing. How does one bladder hold so much pee is beyond me?
Many years ago I saw a book titled Chop Wood, Carry Water. I never read the book but I always remember that title. For me, it tells how to find joy in simple activities. I found this to be true when I scrape paint off of wood. Most find this work tedious. I found it calming. I loved to be outside

up on a ladder leaning against the side of my century-old house, scraping the multiple layers of paint off of the old wood. With music playing or just the rustle of leaves dancing to the rhythm of the breeze, the sun peeking through the shadows onto the surface of the wood. I found peace. I found simple joy.
Making an effort to do the simple things

in life can bring a sense of harmony and peace when you are feeling overwhelmed or just plain stressed out. It is easy to make excuses to not go outside, meet up with close friends, scrape and paint wood, or go for a walk with your dog. But then you miss out on simple joy, harmony, and the balance of a life well lived.

Chelsea Guardian

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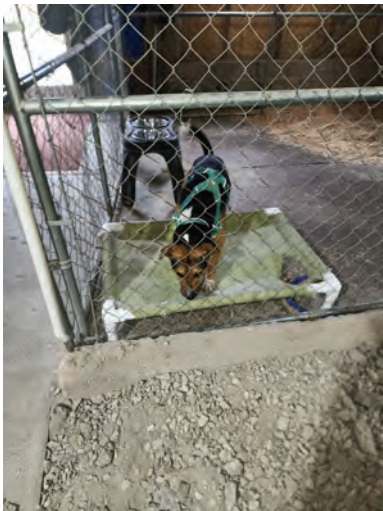
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Adult Learners Institute (ALI Michigan) has an immediate opening for a contractor to serve as office manager. Duties involve coordinating with ALI's Board to track income, expenses and class attendance, working with instructors, class assistants and techs to insure a pleasant lifelong learning experience for our students. In addition, you will monitor and respond to email correspondence, prepare and distribute agendas and other information for the monthly Board meetings, and attend and take notes at those meetings. The ideal candidate will have strong database skills in order to understand and use the specialized software that ALI uses to register and track classes. Highly flexible hours, with remote access possible for much of the work.

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Mikey and Me, Local Dog Foster Celebrates 300 Adopted Dogs



► continued from page 1
a forever home.

In 1994 Daniel purchased a dairy farm on Freer Rd. He had a lot of land and a vacant crumbling dairy barn. He wanted to foster dogs about to lose their chance in shelters. The seed of an idea grew like crazy from there. His friends encouraged him to set up a Facebook page. Rather than simply ask the community for funding, he funded the remodel of the lower level of the empty dairy barn through donations of goods from the local community. He picked up items people were willing to part with. He organized and priced the items and held two enormous barn sales, each one taking about six months of work.

Using that money Daniel was able to close up the lower level of the barn to keep the elements out and spray insulation to keep the dogs safe and warm. Someone donated a fairly new furnace and the barn is now as cozy as a home. Daniel's love for dogs shines through in the interview. He did not want to cram dogs in small kennels like the kind they probably endured at rescues. He brought in seven spacious kennels, each the size of a small room.

He took me back from the front room, rebuilt by a twelve-year-old working on his Eagle Scout Badge. I was given a tour and the opportunity to meet the fosters. I warned him that my love for dogs

may make me want to adopt, but that I have two at home and am not in the position. He gave me a knowing smile. He'd heard this story before from his volunteer dog walkers, of which, had adopted about 9 dogs. Daniel is currently set on volunteers and has enough so that these little fosters get about 4 walks per day and some play, and snuggle time. He even has a heated play, and snuggle area inside the barn so that when Michigan weather is too unpleasant for walks the dogs are afforded snuggles and a place to get the zoomies out. These dogs also have an outside playground and walking paths through the vast property. Daniel has created the perfect foster spot for

dogs who have been lost from their families or up until this point, have had unfortunate lives. He's giving the sweet little pure-hearted babies a wonderful bit of hope.

Daniel teamed up with Happy Days Dog and Cat Rescue. The dogs come fully vetted and Daniel is careful to select dogs that are safe for his volunteers and for the public. The dogs are fixed and receive shots before adoption. Adoption fees go straight to Happy Days to cover the cost of vet care for the animals. Local pet stores donate bags of kibble which keeps costs down for Daniel. If you can't adopt at the moment, Daniel welcomes donations of canned dog food, which can be stored.

He also accepts donations of long-lasting treats, no raw-hide but other options such as No-Hide chews. Raw-hide can be a choking hazard for dogs and dogs need to be watched with rawhide, at all times, which is simply not feasible. Mikey and Me has hit the 300 dogs adopted milestone, including

the nine they nursed to health from heartworm. The average dog at Mikey and Me is 2-3 years old. Daniel is temperament but not breed-selective. As the owner of two bully breeds, who are two of the gentlest, nicest dogs, I've ever owned, this makes sense. Mikey and Me finds homes for 36-40 dogs per year and creates a happy place to stay for those in need of a home. If you're looking to adopt, check out Mikey and Me's Facebook page. It's a rotating slideshow of adorable sweet dogs looking to help you make your house a home.



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*Community welcome!

March Events

Strengthening Your Posture* (CHE)

Tuesday, February 27–April 2 • 12:00pm–1:00pm

Members \$84, Non-Members \$90

These 6-week sessions will focus on strengthening your back, shoulder, and core muscles, which are all essential to standing with proper posture and preventing lower back pain. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-214-0220.

Yoga for Parkinson's Disease* (CHE)

Thursday, March 7–28 • 2:00pm–3:00pm

Member \$84, Non-Member \$90

People with Parkinson's Disease have been shown to respond favorably to the practice of Yoga. This class is suitable for people with PD as well as their caregivers. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-214-0220.

St. Patrick's Day Indoor Triathlon (DEX)

Sunday, March 17

This fun, festive event is your chance to test your mettle in a 10-minute swim, 15-minute bike, and 15-minute run, all under one roof. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-580-2500.

Strengthen Your Core* (CHE)

February 27–April 2 • 1:00pm–2:00pm

Member \$84, Non-Member \$90

Participants will learn how to break down their movement to engage their muscles and then advance their core as they progress. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-214-0220.

Training Your Pelvic Floor* (DEX)

February 29–April 4 • 5:00pm–6:00pm

Member \$84, Non-Member \$90

This class improves the strength and mobility of the pelvic floor, effectively enhancing the function of multiple systems. Members learn to contract and relax pelvic floor muscles in relation to other muscles. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-580-2500.

Member Family Swim & Gym* (CHE/DEX)

CHE—March 3 (Register by March 1)

DEX—March 24 (Register by March 22)

COST: Parent member and KIM child FREE. Non-KIM child \$8, Additional parent \$10.

AGES: 6 months to 11 years. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-214-0220 (CHE) or 734-580-2500 (DEX).

National Nutrition Month® Food Drive* (CHE/DEX/STK)

March 1-15

Help support local food bank programs. We'll deliver the food items we collect at the Wellness Centers to the local food banks to help those in need in our community.

Gen Z Group Fitness Classes (CHE/DEX)

Elevate your workout experience and join a community that understands your unique needs. Our dynamic classes are designed to energize, motivate, and empower our Gen Z generation. Get ready to break a sweat, make friends, and embrace a healthier, happier you. Don't miss out! Check out the class schedules for the Gen Z classes!

Youth Spring Break Pass* (CHE/DEX)

March 24–31 • \$20/week

Chelsea and Dexter Wellness Centers are offering youth passes for member's children. Keep your kids active at the Wellness Center by enjoying all the amenities the Center has to offer. Ages: 12-17. For more information, visit the Member Service Desk or call 734-214-0220 (CHE) or 734-580-2500 (DEX).

Adult & Pediatric CPR & First Aid Training Course* (DEX)

March 25 • 4:00pm–8:00pm

Member \$35, Non-Member \$45

Join us in becoming a certified lifesaver! Gain the skills to respond confidently in emergencies. Participants will learn how to recognize and care for sudden illnesses, cardiac, and respiratory emergencies in adults, children, and infants. For more information or to register contact the Member Service Desk at 734-580-2500. This is a skill set class. If you would like to receive a CPR & First Aid Certificate it is an additional \$36.



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Chelsea High School: Annual Collage Concert Exemplifies Collaboration



Photo credit goes to Chris Hilgendorf

Chelsea Music Boosters
<https://chelseamusicboosters.org/>
740 North Freer Road
Chelsea, MI 48118
Contact:
Angela Menegay
menegay@yahoo.com
Prepared by:
Crystal Hayduk
cahayduk@gmail.com
734-834-6764

Student musicians performing at the annual Chelsea High School Collage Concert will fill the Ron Mead Auditorium with beautiful music on April 6.

The concert's program will include an eclectic array of musical styles performed in a continuous display, from one piece to another, unbroken by applause or the spoken

word for the length of the 90-minute program.

The music department's wind symphony, concert band, symphony orchestra, concert orchestra, Bella Voce Choir, and chamber choir will perform throughout the auditorium. The high school's extracurricular music groups, Chelsea House Orchestra and the jazz band, are also on the program. Company C, the historically popular show choir, is expected to return to the stage under the direction of the district's new choir director, Kenneth Davis. (The last time Company C performed was Feb. 29, 2020, just before

the COVID-19 shutdown.)

In addition to the large groups, a number of small ensembles who receive the highest marks at State Solo & Ensemble in March will also share their exceptional pieces.

All music students will gather on stage for the grand finale, "You'll Never Walk Alone" (from the 1945 musical "Carousel") with "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" (from the 1959 musical "The Sound of Music"), both composed by Richard Rodgers.

This will be the first Collage Concert in the high school's newly renovated auditorium. Rachel Slupe, the high school's au-



ditorium manager, said assistive hearing devices are part of the facility updates. "These are wireless packs with headsets programmed to pick up the microphones and provide enhanced sound for their user," she said. To borrow one of these headsets, patrons need to notify the organizer in advance with a ticket purchase. Upon arrival, the patron will check out the headset with their ID. Following the performance, the patron should return the headset to the same house team member, who will return the ID.

"The Collage Concert shows the strong value Chelsea School District and the community have placed on the arts and K-12 music education," said Nathan Peters, orchestra director at Beach Middle School.

Angela Menegay, president of Chelsea

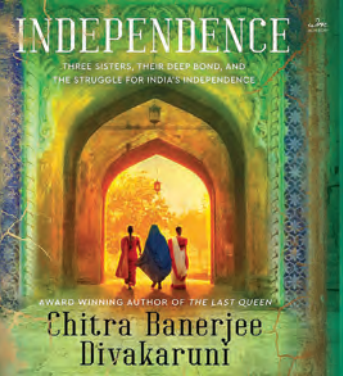
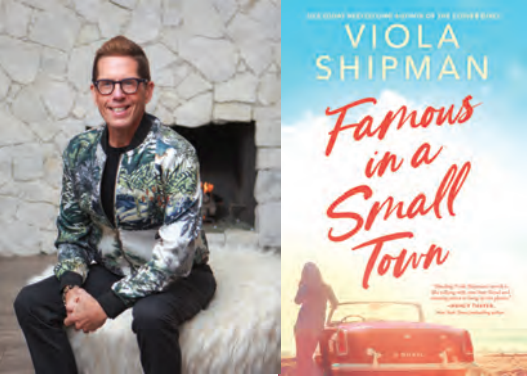
Music Boosters (CMB) and parent of three high school symphony orchestra students, said the "... immersion in an evening of musical talent ... has been one of the most popular music events ..." in the district since the inaugural concert in 2014. Because it is a CMB fundraiser, attendance helps support the district's music education program.

At a glance: The 2024 Collage Concert will be held at 7 p.m. on April 6 at the Ron Mead Auditorium, Chelsea High School, 740 North Freer Rd. Reserved seating tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students/seniors. Tickets can be purchased in advance online through the GoFan app or the GoFan website at <https://gofan.co/> by searching "Chelsea Bulldogs Music." Ticketing is also linked on the CMB website at <https://chelseamusicboosters.org/>.

chelseamusicboosters.org/. Tickets will be available at the door with cash, check, or credit card beginning at 6:30 p.m. Important note: To request an assisted hearing headset for this event, email info@chelseamusicboosters.org in advance.

About Chelsea Music Boosters: The Chelsea Music Boosters is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that advocates for and fundraises to help support and enhance music education programs in the Chelsea School District for Young 5s through 12th grade. Financial support provides program essentials and enhancements including music literature, instrument repairs, solo and ensemble coaching, music clinicians, and field trips. For more information, visit <https://chelseamusicboosters.org/>.

Nationally recognized, award-winning authors are coming to Chelsea!



AUTHOR: Laura Brown, ADult Services Librarian
CONTACT: Virginia Krueger, Head of Marketing
PHONE: 734-475-8732 x229
E-MAIL: vkruieger@chelseadistrictlibrary.org

Chelsea District Library (CDL) is thrilled to announce the 16th Annual Midwest Literary Walk lineup featuring Memoirist & New Yorker Cartoonist Roz Chast, American Book Award Author and Poet Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, and 2023 Michigan

Notable Book Award Author Wade Rouse (Viola Shipman). Each year, Chelsea's amazing literary event showcases award-winning authors from around the country at historic venues throughout downtown Chelsea. The Walk will take place from 1-5pm on Saturday, April 20. It includes author talks, book signings, and is free and open to the public.

At 1pm New York Times bestselling author Roz Chast opens the Walk at Main Street Church, 320 N. Main

St., Chelsea. Chast is perhaps most well known for her work for The New Yorker, including covers and cartoons published consistently from 1978 to today. She is also the author of more than a dozen books, including Can't We Talk about Something More Pleasant? and her latest, I Must Be Dreaming. Chast is a National Books Critic Circle Award winner, a National Book Award finalist, and a recipient of a Reuben Award and a Heinz Award among many others.

Dr. Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni continues the Walk at 2:30pm. at First Congregational Church of Chelsea, 121 E. Middle St., Chelsea. Divakaruni is the author of more than 20 books, including Mistress of Spices, Oleander Girl, Before We

Visit the Goddess, The Last Queen, and her most recent novel, Independence. With her novels and her poetry, Divakaruni captures contemporary life in America and India as well as history, and mythology. She has received an American Book Award, a PEN Josephine Miles award, a Premio Scanno (also known as the Italian Nobel) award, a Light of India award, and an Allen Ginsberg poetry among many others. Two of her novels, The Mistress of Spices and Ammar Maa, have been made into films.

The Walk concludes at 4pm at Chelsea First United Methodist Church, 128 Park St., Chelsea, with Wade Rouse, internationally bestselling author of fiction and memoir. Rouse writes under both his given

name, and under Viola Shipman, a pen name inspired by his grandmother and meant to honor poor Ozarks seamstress whose sacrifices changed his family's life and inspire his fiction. Rouse's books have been NBC's Today Show Must-Reads, Michigan Notable Books of the Year, featured in the Washington Post and USA Today, chosen three times as Indie Next Picks by the nation's independent booksellers, and selected as part of the American Library Association's inaugural "Rainbow List."

Books will be available for purchase at each location courtesy of Serendipity Books and time will be reserved for book signings following each author session. For more information about this year's Midwest Literary

Walk visit midwestliterarywalk.org.

This year's event is sponsored by the Friends of Chelsea District Library and in partnership with Chelsea Chamber of Commerce and Serendipity Books.

About Us: Chelsea District Library (CDL) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to engage, inspire, and equip through evolving services and resources. CDL currently serves 16,126 residents in the Chelsea library district—City of Chelsea, Lyndon and Sylvan Townships, and the portions of Lima and Dexter Townships within the Chelsea School District. For more information visit chelseadistrictlibrary.org.



➤ continued from page 1

The Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce has already begun planning for the summer’s best free community event, Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights! Live auditions were recently held at Ugly Dog Distillery and were open to the public for a summer fun, sneak peak.

Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights will run for eight weeks, every Thursday evening, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in June and July. There will be 11 stages this year, located all through historic downtown Chelsea, from Palmer Commons to the Rumpus Room. There will also be a special Hometown Halloween edition of Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights on Oct 24th, 2024.



Attendees can expect to experience an eclectic and exciting range of “Sounds” and “Sights.” This year will see music ranging from Classic Rock, Blues, Jazz, Singer Songwriters, Country, Hip Hop, and the return of the Alt-Rock Stage. Don’t forget to check out the Whoa Silent Disco happening at the Glazier Building, kid performers at CDL’s Katie’s Corner, chalk art at Palmer Commons, a new sculpture selfie contest, and cornhole on West Middle each week.

Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights is now a rain or shine event! With the help of our many great businesses, we have alternate locations for any performances that can be moved indoors when necessary due to weather. So don’t worry about any dark clouds, we’ll be here!

The Sounds & Sights Festival will close the season with a two-day event, happening July 26 and 27. Attendees can expect all their favorite festival events, such as the Classic

Car Show, Art Market, Chalk Art Contest, Kid-Zone, TeenZone, Farmers Market, and Sidewalk Sales.

This year’s social tent will be relocated and reinvigorated! Food and live music will move to the Palmer Commons – or Social Commons – for Festival weekend. And the musical lineup for the weekend follows a decades theme.

The Social Commons will open Friday at 6pm (\$10 cash entry) and music will begin at 7pm with Magic Bus - The Songs...the Look...the Feel of the Woodstock Era. And the Square Pegz will close the night, dancing away with the tunes of the 80s.

Saturday continues to rock with music throughout the afternoon (Noon-5pm FREE admission) featuring Fox&Hare, Scotty Karate, Bret Maynard, and Blaine Luis. Starting at 6pm, the Social Commons will reopen (\$10 cash cover) and music will continue on the main stage starting with the 90s musical styling



of Project 90. And the CRASHERZ return to close out the night with all your favorite dance tunes from 2k to current!

None of this would be possible without the support and generosity of so many, like our 2024 Presenting Sponsor Rick Taylor | Reinhart Realtors. A sponsor since the event’s inception, he became the presenting sponsor in 2018.

“He has been a huge supporter of Sounds & Sights for years, and we truly appreciate all he does. These events are not possible without people like Rick, and he is a constant reminder of how one person can make such a huge difference,” said Terris Ahrens, Executive Director of the Chamber.

“The Chelsea community benefits greatly from Sounds & Sights. Visitors from near and far get an opportunity to meet the residents, business owners, and experience the arts in many shapes and forms,” Taylor said, adding, “I only play a very small role in this beautiful thing we

call Sounds & Sights. I want to thank the Chelsea Chamber for their innovative thinking and passion, and for making Sounds & Sights a destination for its local residents and visitors alike.”

If you see him out and about his summer, make sure to tell him thanks for helping to make Sounds & Sights possible.

These events have a major impact on the economic development of Chelsea, and align perfectly with the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce’s mission to maintain Chelsea as the premier place to live, work, and recreate.

So, gather your friends and family, and join us this summer for what is always an inspiring, unique, and all around fun time!

View the following links or visit Chelsea-Mich.com for information regarding Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights, the Sounds & Sights Festival, and all things Chelsea!

Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce | 222 S. Main St. Suite B. Chelsea, MI 48118

terriss@chelseamich.com | info@chelseamich.com | hello@chelseamich.com

734-475-4618 | 734-475-1145



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Chelsea Outfitters Has Moved



► continued from page 1
By Aimee Bingham
anbingham@gmail.com

Chelsea Outfitters opened in Chelsea nearly a year ago. Situated in a small shop on Main St. just above Geek Brush studio, I stopped in last year with a freshly mended arm from a ski crash. I met Megan Trenary, who owns the shop with her husband. She was warm, outgoing and kind. She even offered advice on my arm explaining that she was educated in nursing. I loved everything about the store, the products, and especially the kind generous woman behind the name.

This week, I saw someone post on Facebook that the newly expanded shop opened

across the street in the old Kempf Commercial and Savings Bank. The person posting mentioned that much of the building's former character was intact. On track with the person I met nearly a year ago. So I made it a point to visit on Saturday. Mack, the owner's son was behind the counter as his mother scurried around the store. Saturday was the second day open, so Megan was organizing and greeting customers.

Upon entering the store, I noticed the tile floors. They are gorgeous and according to Megan were hidden beneath carpet and tile. The old beauty was revealed with a lot of hard work by both her and her husband Matt who

handles web design and operations of Chelsea Outfitters. Based on the art of the old tile, well worth it. They not only preserved a part of Chelsea's history but put it on display. Kempf merged with Farmers Merchants during the Great Depression and became what is now known as Chelsea State Bank. The old tile has some imperfections that come with age but the craftsmanship is magnificent. I also noted how nice the store smelled, and incidentally so did everyone else who walked in after I did. I turned to search for the cause of the smell and noticed a display of Castille soap and what I assume was Earth, human-friendly laundry soap. Because

I don't trust the chemicals found in soaps, I make my own body wash and laundry detergent, I assumed it was the bottles giving off the nice smell. I add fragrance through essential oils, so that's what I concluded. Megan later explained that she has a diffuser as I made my purchase.

The last time I visited with Megan, she had a small cramped sewing area with the hope that people might utilize it rather than toss clothing away. The North-East Recycling Council states: The next time you toss a shirt into the trash because it's time for a fresh one, consider this: the manufacture of clothes, shoes,

belts, and accessories – otherwise known as textiles – is the second largest polluting industry in the world after oil and gas. That's right. Pesticides used to grow cotton, toxics in dyes, and energy-intensive manufacturing create a whopping impact on the environment and public health.

The sewing area has grown, and Megan apologetically explained that it's not yet organized. No worries, most people have unorganized crafting areas too. But, if you want to patch jeans or repair garments, Chelsea Outfitters is happy to support your efforts. There are several craft projects in the corner if you're

interested in learning. She also offers healthier face paint options and Easter egg options.

On the other side of the store, I noticed a tent, which was a cool outdoorsy-themed changing room near the flannels and the Osprey backpacks. The newer shop seems to feature more options to encourage getting outside and enjoying the nature that many items in the shop are made with the hopes of preserving. As I walked around, I found a bee's wrap reusable food storage bag, which is great for anyone making their own sourdough bread as plastic encourages mold growth and is an endocrine disruptor. I did not look at price, but selected and purchased, as I like giving business to local community members. Much to my surprise, it was less expensive than Amazon! Quality products, great decor, prices and staff; Chelsea Outfitters is a wonderful newer addition to the community.

Chelsea Senior Center Giving Caregivers a Much-Needed Respite



The caregiver role is essential for the well-being and comfort of loved ones in need of extra support. Caring for loved ones requiring all-day companionship can be exhausting. The good news is that there is a program offered by Chelsea Senior Center that focuses on easing the day for caregivers. The program is now offering an additional day in the week for respite.

Launched in April 2023, Chelsea Senior Center's active Ease the Day: Caregiver Respite Support Program is a valuable community resource. Caregivers whose loved ones, called friends, meet the day-care requirements and screening process drop off their loved ones at Chelsea Senior Center. This gives caregivers time for their own self-care, appointments, or participation in an activity at the center.

Dedicated and enthusiastic employees and volunteers interact with Ease the Day friends in positive, fun, engaging ways. The structured program includes time for exercise, brain games, creative endeavors, and peer socialization. This change in environment is great for both caregiver and Ease the Day friend.

Ease the Day is expanding respite care hours to include Wednesday mornings

from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This is in addition to the Tuesday and Thursday hours of 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This new offering is for families in need of services who are not currently participating on Tuesday and Thursday.

Specifically, the new Wednesday offering is for those caregivers and loved ones who aren't quite ready to be separated for several hours, or who don't meet the requirements for an extended stay. The Wednesday hours give caregivers the opportunity to participate in one of Chelsea Senior Center's Wednesday morning activities, such as pickleball, stained glass art, or enhance fitness. In development is a new daytime Caregiver Support Group that will meet on Wednesdays during this time.

"Caregivers can tend to their personal needs, while their loved ones develop friendships, pursue interests, and learn new things. Overwhelmingly, volunteers, caregivers and our Ease the Day friends look forward to participating each week," says Katie Garvey, OTRL, CAPS, who programs the daily activities with Lisa Klinkman, RN, MSN.

Beyond caregiver respite at Chelsea Senior Center, in partnership with Catholic Social Services, volunteers are needed to provide short-term companion-

ship – two to four hours a week – in homes in Western Washtenaw County. To learn more about the joy of volunteering to provide in-home caregiver respite, please attend the March 13 Open House hosted by Catholic Social Services and Chelsea Senior Center at 525 Washington Street in Chelsea. Stop by between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m., ask questions, get inspired and learn how you can volunteer.

Ease the Day: Caregiver Support Respite Program is funded by Exhale, the Family Caregiver Initiative, the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, Health Foundation for Western & Central New York, Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, and managed by The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI).

For questions, please contact Katie Garvey or Lisa Klinkman at Chelsea Senior Center at (734) 475-9242 or caregiversupport@chelseaseniors.org.

Chelsea Senior Center (CSC) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization celebrating 60 years in Chelsea, Michigan. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life and well-being for area seniors and their families. Chelsea Senior Center is located at 512 Washington Street. Contact CSC at connected@chelseaseniors.org or (734) 475-9242.



New Home Community Heritage Farms Opening in Chelsea This Spring

First phase of development brings 48 new homesites to Washtenaw County

M/I Homes Detroit, one of the nation's leading homebuilders, will open the first phase of Heritage Farms, a new community located in Chelsea, just off Dexter-Chelsea Rd. this month. The new community is within walking distance of Downtown Chelsea, features wide sidewalks, tree-lined streets, and is located within the Chelsea School District.

The community offers five, 2-story single-family floor plans ranging from 1,858 to 2,733 sq. ft. The floor plans include 3 to 5 bedrooms and two and a half to three bathrooms. Structural add-ons include three car garages and morning rooms. Average homesites are 60 feet by 120 feet, and each home is supported by M/I Homes' quality promise and industry-leading 10-Year transferable structural warranty.

Homebuyers have the option of purchas-

ing an available quick move-in home or building from the ground up on a specific homesite.

"Heritage Farms offers residents an A-rated school district, accessibility to the major roadways, and provides walkability to the area's amenities," said Sascha Vallat, vice president of sales and marketing for M/I Homes Detroit. "Chelsea is a charming place with countless reasons why people would choose to live there, and we are looking forward to providing new housing for generations to come."

Heritage Farms is less than one mile outside downtown Chelsea and its thriving community-centered atmosphere. A short drive down North Main St., homebuyers will find local restaurants and shops, year-round community events, parks, and live entertainment. It's conveniently located between Ann Arbor and Jackson.

Sales begin on March 13 and the public grand opening celebration is from 1 to 5 p.m., on Saturday, March 23. Guests will enjoy tours of the brand-new Peyton model home, refreshments, and the opportunity to speak with the new home consultants to learn more about the available floor plans and homesites.

Heritage Farms will be completed in six phases. The first phase includes 48 homesites, and 231 homesites in total.

Heritage Farms is one of three new communities the division will open by May 2024. In addition to Heritage Farms, Creekside Park in Macomb County and Cobblestone Creek Woodlands in Wayne County, will add nearly 400 new homesites to southeast Michigan in four years.

To schedule an appointment, or to learn more, visit MHHomes.com/HeritageFarms.



Gary Munce, co-founder of the Jam Session at CSC, leads the group in a song at a recent Wednesday afternoon session.

Submitted by
Gretchen Zale

Following in the footsteps of its highly successful first musical undertaking, the Ukulele Group, the Chelsea Senior Center now offers a variety of musical opportunities to its members and friends.

One of them, The Jam Session, was formed by Gary Munce and Kelly Schmidt. Starting with a core group of four or five hearty souls, they envisioned a way to bring more music into the lives of their friends at the Senior Center. Meeting at CSC on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 12:30 pm, the group sees a growing number of

people looking for music in their lives, either by participating or by dropping in just to listen.

The musical group now has as many as 10 people who bring their favorite instruments, including violin, guitar, flute,

ukelele, harmonica, percussion, mandolin and bass. All ages and levels of musical talent are invited. Many others make up the lively and appreciative audience

Munce says, “The Jam Session is a great way to enjoy life by

SENIOR MOMENT: Jam Session

connecting with others around music. We have the opportunity to experience a variety of music and learn from others in a relaxed and welcoming setting.”

A number of recent surveys and studies have shown that music participation, especially in older people, is the ultimate way to connect and collaborate. Music also enlivens the day and helps trigger memory recall in those living with dementia. A recent feature article

in AARP Magazine highlighted the growing body of evidence that music plays an important part in the well-being of seniors, and provides a critical therapeutic avenue for those with brain injury and dysfunction.

CSC member Jim Hughes, who plays guitar and ukelele, has played mandolin at the Chelsea Farmers’ Market and at the Chelsea Retirement Home. He believes that playing with a group like Jam Session is supportive, encour-

aging, and a life-enriching experience that can be started at any age.

CSC membership is open to all ages. So come along and bring your friends to a Jam Session and plan your time for joy!

The Senior Moment feature highlights opportunities for older adults through the Chelsea Senior Center and related organizations. Call the CSC at (734)475-9242.



It’s no work and all play for the (mostly) amateur musicians who come to play twice a month at the Jam Sessions. Newcomers are welcome.

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The Purple Rose Theatre Company’s Spring Production is Devilishly Funny

A World Premiere comedy, by David MacGregor, “The Antichrist Cometh” opens in March

The Purple Rose Theatre Company (PRTC) announces the second production of their 33rd season, “The Antichrist Cometh” by beloved playwright, David MacGregor. Tickets are on sale now.

“The Antichrist Cometh” is a comedy about a happily married man who discovers that he might be the Antichrist. Will he be able to enjoy a small dinner party with his loving wife, former college roommate, and his roommate’s devoutly religious fiancée? Or will their home-cooked meal usher in the Apocalypse?

This production of “The Antichrist Cometh” contains adult content and may not be suitable for children under the age of 13.

“The Antichrist Cometh” playwright and PRTC Resident Artist, David MacGregor, to premiere his ninth play and tenth production at The Purple Rose. Previous plays include: “The Late Great Henry Boyle” (2006), “Vino Veritas” (2008), “Gravity” (2010), “Consider the Oyster” (2011), “Just Desserts” (2014), “Vino Veritas” (2017), “Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Elusive Ear” (2018), “Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Fallen Soufflé” (2019), and “Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Ghost Machine” (2022).

A Detroit native and Michigan State University graduate, David is an accomplished playwright, novelist and screenwriter. His work has been published by Dramatic Publishing, Playscripts, Smith & Kraus, Applause, Heuer Publishing, and Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW). For more information about David, visit david-macgregor.com.

Performances of “The Antichrist Cometh” at The Purple Rose run from Friday, March 22 through Saturday, May 25, 2024. Previews, with reduced-price tickets, are available through Thursday, March 28. The press opening is Friday, March 29 at 8:00pm.

Directed by Rhannon Ragland, the cast features Ryan Carlson* (Grass Lake), Hope Shangle* (Dexter), Ryan Patrick Welsh* (Okemos), and Ashley Wickett* (Bloomfield Hills). Set Design by Sarah Pearline, Properties Design by Dana Segrest, Costume Design by Marley Boone, Lighting Design by Matt Taylor, Sound Design by Matthew Tibbs, with Intimacy Direction and Fight Choreography by Alexis Black. Bill Carlton* is the Stage Manager.

*The asterisk denotes members of the actor and stage manager union, Actors’ Equity Association.

Production Sponsors for “The Antichrist Cometh” are The Charles Craves Family and Rick Taylor Real Estate. Underwriting support for the season comes from Michigan Arts and Culture Council, National Endowment for the Arts, The Shubert Foundation, and The Matilda R. Wilson Fund. Media sponsors include JTV and Michigan Radio.

Ticket Information

All performances will be held at The

Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park Street, Chelsea, Michigan 48118. The performance calendar can be found <https://www.purplerosetheatre.org/calendar/>.

Ticket prices start at \$30 with special discounts for seniors, patrons 30 years or younger, members of the military, teachers, and groups (12+). For more information or to make reservations call (734) 433-7673 or go to www.purplerosetheatre.org.

New to the 2023/2024 season, all PRTC productions will be staged in the round, with seating on 4 sides of the stage. This new configuration will add 40 seats to the theater space.

About The Purple Rose Theatre Company

Founded in 1991 by actor, director, playwright, musician, and Chelsea native Jeff Daniels, The Purple Rose Theatre Company is a creative home for original American plays. At the PRTC, patrons experience an intimate encounter with live theatre.

The Purple Rose also provides preview talk-backs, free play readings, and ticket donations to local fundraisers. It commissions new work from established and early-career playwrights. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit professional theatre, the PRTC operates under a Small Professional Theatre agreement with the Actors’ Equity Association.

For more information contact PRTC Managing Director, Katie Hubbard at (734) 433-7782 x 116, khubbard@purplerosetheatre.org.



Chelsea Police Department Weekly Summary

Incident #: 24-838

Date: March 12, 2024

Location: 1500 block of S. Main Street

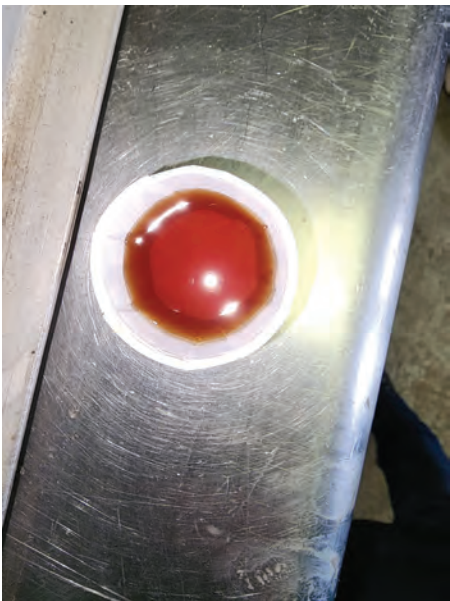
Time: 8:00 am

INFORMATION: While on routine patrol officers responded to the 1500 block of S. Main Street for the report of a forcible burglary to a business. Upon arrival the officers met with the complainant who stated that when they had arrived and opened the business, the employee

had found an exterior window that had been broken out. A check of the building was made and no one was found inside the building. A review of the building surveillance footage revealed that multiple suspects had entered the property through the broken window earlier in the morning,

no suspect information is available for release at this time. The complainant checked the property and at the time of the report could not confirm whether anything had been taken. The case remains open pending further investigation into the identity of the suspects.

H&H Sugarbush Maple Open House



continued from page 3

took over in the Sugar House. Unlike my one bucket boil process, the sap is pumped into the sugar house where it first undergoes a reverse osmosis process similar to what many homes have installed to take impurities out of water. But this takes water out of sap. Once that process is complete the sap is pumped into a big machine where more water is removed and the sap is cooked to the right temperature and consistency. The sap is first run through a filter so the maple sand,” can be removed, which is a crystallized sugar that is a part of the cooking process. The sap is then stored in large food safe barrels prior to the bottling process.

The seven-year-old, noticing the steam coming out of the top of the cooker, began to grill Kirk on his fire safety. He wanted to know where his extinguisher was and what he would do if there was a fire. I could see a pleased look

cross Kirk’s face as he showed off his extinguisher and seemed to relish in the fire safety concerns of the child. Kirk explained that if a fire broke out, he would leave and dial 911. He explained that he is a firefighter outside his syrup production and he would be safe first. I like to encourage people to shop local because local money spent is returned to the community. I learned first hand the truth in my words when do-

ing research for the article. Michelle and Kirk’s oldest daughter, who is away at college, was my daughter’s favorite dancer at Ballet Chelsea due to a shared scene in the Nutcracker. When you buy from H&H Sugarbush you are supporting your local community and neighbors. You can purchase maple syrup from H&H Sugarbush directly at <https://www.hhsugarbush.com/> or through local retailers.

THE ANTICHRIST COMETH

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DIRECTED BY RHIANNON RAGLAND

March 22 - May 25, 2024

PurpleRoseTheatre.org

734.433.7673

the PurpleRose theatre company

Collage Concert

April 6, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Chelsea High School

740 N. Free Rd., Chelsea, MI

Presented by the Chelsea Music Boosters & Chelsea High School Music Department

Chelsea High School’s annual Collage Concert showcases all the very best vocal and instrumental talent our school district has to offer, in a seamless collage of performances. All six curricular performance groups from band, orchestra, and choir, plus extracurricular ensembles, and select soloists and ensembles are represented. All proceeds benefit the Chelsea Music Boosters and its mission to enrich music education in the Chelsea School District.

BUY TICKETS ONLINE:

ChelseaMusicBoosters.org

and

via GoFan (search “Chelsea Bulldogs Music”)

or at the door

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