



Chelsea Guardian

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Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce

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Publishing

Celebrate Earth Day with the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce and be part of the Park Ranger Program launch!

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

When: April 22nd
Where: Lyndon Park North
Time: 5:30-7:30

Chelsea City Council Special Meeting

By Aimee Bingham Osinski
anbingham@gmail.com

On Monday March 31, 2025 the Chelsea City Council hosted a Special Meeting. The purpose was the adoption of resolution #2025. But the focus seemed to be the highly publicized comment by council member Bill Ruddock after public comments on March 17th. I became aware of said comments when a member of the Chelsea community posted a video clip of the comment on a Facebook page. The clip I saw only showed the comment, not before or after. Based on the clip

and the intonation in his speech, it sounded to me, as if his internal dialogue came right out of his mouth. I was going to refrain from judgment until I had a better understanding of the entire situation. I attended the special meeting to attempt a better understanding.

Chelsea Mayor Jane Pacheco opened the meeting with a civic reminder explaining how Chelsea's government works. She noted the multitude of codes, policy standards and ethics required of a person sitting on Council. She also reminded the public that we are

all bound by unwritten rules and societal norms. Within council chambers people are encouraged to be civil and respectful when addressing the council. Jane directly addressed the March 17 incident noting a council member had been repeatedly bated and responded. He admitted the mistake and apologized. She also explained the first Amendment: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the

people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Jane noted the few exceptions: no inciting violence or defamation. She also encouraged people frustrated with the way the government is run to volunteer, join committees or run for office.

Bill Ruddock also addressed the council. In his statement, Bill alluded to threats against council members. Bill apologized and took full responsibility for his actions but reasserted his conviction to justice, and equality. **continued on page 7**

Chelsea District Library Welcomes Three Award-Winning Authors

By: Virginia Krueger,
Head of Marketing & Outreach

Chelsea District Library (CDL) is thrilled to announce the 17th Annual Midwest Literary Walk lineup featuring *New York Times* best-selling authors Shelby Van Pelt, Angie Kim, and Sarah Vowell. Each year, Midwest Literary Walk showcases award-winning authors from around the country at historic venues throughout downtown

Chelsea. The authors will read from their works, share insights into their writing process, and be available for book signings. The Walk will take place from 11am-5pm on Saturday, April 12 and is open to the public without ticket costs or reservations.

Shelby Van Pelt, author of the smash hit novel *Remarkably Bright Creatures* will kick off the Walk at 11am at **continued on page 2**

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CHELSEA, MI

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Chelsea High School: Spring Celebration of Talent at CHS Collage Concert



Story on page 9.

SOUNDS & SIGHTS FESTIVAL
DOWNTOWN CHELSEA, MICHIGAN

ART MARKET
CAR SHOW
CHALKART
FOOD COURT

July 25-26, 2025
Presented by Rick Taylor | Rainwater Reaktor

FARMERS MARKET
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SIDEWALK SALES
TEENZONE

LIVE MUSIC @ THE SOCIAL TENT

Chelsea District Library Welcomes Three Award-Winning Authors

► continued from page 1
Main Street Church (320 N. Main St.). This book was one of the most circulated titles at the library in 2024 and remains on the *New York Times* best-seller list. *The Washington Post* said, "Remarkably Bright Creatures [is] an ultimately feel-good but deceptively sensitive debut. . . . Memorable and tender." Grab a bite to eat, a cup of coffee, or shop the downtown stores on your way to our second visiting author, Angie Kim. Be sure to stop by the Library before 1pm to peruse the Friends of the Chelsea District Library's monthly used book sale.

Kim is an Edgar Award-winning author of *Happiness Falls* and *Miracle Creek*. Edgar Allan Poe Awards are presented annually by The Mystery Writers of America honoring the best in mystery fiction,

nonfiction and television. *Publisher's Weekly* asserts that "Readers will be fascinated with how Kim bends the structure of a whodunit to serve a broader exploration of the dynamics of human relations and moved by her skill at wresting joy from tragedy." Kim will speak at First Congregational Church of Chelsea (121 E. Middle St.) at 1:30pm.

Midwest Literary Walk concludes at 3:30pm at the Chelsea First United Methodist Church (128 Park St.) with a talk with historian, author, journalist, and voice actor Sarah Vowell. Vowell is a *New York Times* best-selling author of seven works of nonfiction focusing on American history and culture. Vowell voiced the teen superhero Violet Parr in Academy-Award winning *The Incredibles* and *Incredibles 2*. Her book

Lafayette in the Somewhat United States is described by *Kirkus* as, "an enlightening and entertaining blend of history and edged attitude."

Books will be available for purchase and signing courtesy of local independent bookstore, Serendipity Books. Make sure to grab a Lit Walk brochure to enjoy discounts from local businesses between the author talks. Special thanks to our sponsors—the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce, Serendipity Books, and the Friends of Chelsea District Library—and to our local business partners: Agricole (10% off a café drink or Crust Bakery item), Dan's Chelsea Burger (10% discount with brochure), Jet's Pizza (15% discount with brochure), and K-Bueno (10% discount with brochure) for their support of the Midwest Literary Walk.

History Hounds: Chelsea Senior Center Seeks Early History



Chelsea Senior Center celebrates 60 years this spring. The activity-driven organization has blossomed from its humble beginnings into a weekday haven for socializing, support, education, movement, services, the arts, volunteering and a whole lot of fun for more than 1,300 seniors in the area.

Sixty years ago, seniors first started gathering at the Korner House to play euchre, celebrate birthdays, share potlucks and hold bake sales. Chelsea Senior Center is seeking information about the Korner House, its origins and any memorabilia from that first gathering spot. Over time, senior citizens gathered at various locations in Chelsea, in-

cluding at a second location on Middle Street and in the Faith in Action building.

Chelsea Senior Center has benefitted from creative leadership and steadfast community partners over the years, which has resulted in today's thriving destination at 512 Washington Street, a building owned by Chelsea School District. CSD is a longtime partner of Chelsea Senior Center, now intricately involved in multiple intergenerational programs. Other early known partners include Kiwanis, Chelsea Hospital, City of Chelsea and the Recreation Council.

"Our longevity is truly due to the seniors in our community who inspire us to think out-

side the box and offer an array of programming that meets their needs, which are constantly evolving," says Jennifer Smith, Executive Director, Chelsea Senior Center. "Together with community partners, we work hard to ensure our center is a safe, comfortable space for activities and resources that give seniors a reason to connect with others every day."

If you know of any early history, have a box of memorabilia or are interested in helping the "History Hounds" piece together CSC's history, please get in touch at connected@chelseaseniors.org with "History Hounds" in the subject line. In partnership with Silver Solutions, led by Maurine Nelson and Dave and Meg Gilbert, CSC is collecting and organizing historical information. Later this year, Chelsea Senior Center will unveil a history timeline. The planned reveal is at CSC's First Annual Sock Hop on October 4.

Chelsea Senior Center (CSC) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization in Chelsea, Michigan. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life and well-being for area seniors and their families. Chelsea Senior Center, celebrating 60 years in 2025, is located at 512 Washington Street.

Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce Prepares for Sounds & Sights!



The Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce is hard at work planning for the summer's best free community event, Sounds & Sights! For the first time ever, all areas of Sounds & Sights, including the Social Commons during the Festival weekend, are now FREE!

Live auditions were recently held for Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights at Ugly Dog Distillery and were open to the public for a summer fun sneak peak.

Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights will run for nine weeks, every Thursday evening, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in June and July. There will be 10 stages this year, located all through historic downtown Chelsea, from Palmer Commons to the Rumpus Room.

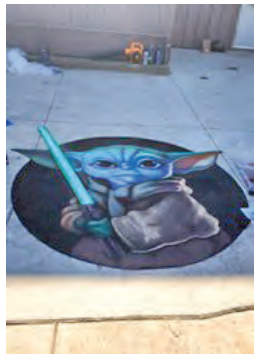
Attendees can expect to experience an eclectic and exciting range of "Sounds" and "Sights." This year will see music ranging from Classic Rock, Blues, Jazz, Singer Songwriters, Country, Hip Hop, and the return of the Alt-Rock Stage. Don't forget to check out the Whoa Silent Disco happening at the Glazier Building, kid perform-

ers at CDI'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 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 happen the last full weekend of July with a two-day event, happening July 25th and 26th. Attendees can expect all their favorite festival events, such as the Classic Car Show, Art Market, Chalk Art Contest, KidZone, TeenZone, Farmers Market, and Sidewalk Sales.

This year's music tent and food court will once again be located at Palmer Commons – or Social Commons – for Festival weekend. For the first time ever, attendance to the Social Commons will be free! So bring the whole family, and all your friends, for the best free nights



of music around!

The Social Commons will open Friday at 6pm 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, from 9 to 11pm.

Saturday continues to rock with music throughout the afternoon featuring Bret Maynard(noon), Blaine Luis(1:30), and Scotty Karate(3:00). The evening's entertainment will kick off with your local favorite, The Ben Daniels Band at 7pm, followed by The CRASHERZ from 9-11, who return to close out the weekend with a dance party like no other!

None of this would be possible without the support and generosity of so many, like our 2025 Presenting Sponsor Rick Taylor | Rein-

hart Realtors. A sponsor since the event's inception, he became the presenting sponsor in 2018.

"Rick has been a huge supporter of Sounds & Sights for years, and we truly appreciate all he does. We would not have been able to make the pivot to a completely free event without the support of so many great sponsors, like Rick," 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."

You will see the Sounds & Sights sponsors represented in many places throughout the season. If you see Rick, or another

Sponsor out and about, make sure to thank them for making Sounds & Sights possible!

er Sponsor out and about, make sure to thank them for making 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 ChelseaMich.com for information regarding Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights, the Sounds & Sights Festival, and all things Chelsea!

If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor for the 2025 Season reach out to Terris Ahrens at terris@ChelseaMich.com.

Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce | 222 S. Main St. Suite B. Chelsea, MI 48118
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Hard work, good work and creating
and fostering great relationships are
the keys to community success.

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Summer Registration is Open!

ballet chelsea

Ballet Chelsea offers students of all ages and levels a complete dance education in its beautiful, state-of-the-art facility. Its nationally recognized faculty has designed a varied and exciting curriculum in a nurturing and caring environment.

Ballet Chelsea offers 10+ years of Summer Dance Intensives that include

- Advanced Mini Ballet Intensive
- Advanced Performance Intensive
- Intermediate Mini Ballet Intensive
- Musical Theatre Dance Intensive (new)
- Summer Dance Intensive

Students from four surrounding counties, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, and Washtenaw, come to Ballet Chelsea to participate in its programming. "We have talented, engaged, well-rounded instructors whose love for dance shows in their classes and camps," shared Michelle Quenon, Artistic Director.

Ballet Chelsea provides Mini Class Sessions, during which students can determine if they enjoy the class and invest in a more extended version of the same class in the Fall. Ballet Chelsea also offers Free Trial Classes. Mini Sessions and Free Trial Classes allow you to put your

toe into dance!

It is time to sign up for Summer Camps. Ballet Chelsea has something to match a variety of interests and characters!

- Bluey Camp
- Swiftie Camp
- Defying Gravity Camp
- Play. Dance. Create. Camp
- Frozen Camp
- The Adaptive

Dance Program (ADP) brings movement classes to residents ages 3 - 102. Classes are designed with mental, physical, and/or cognitive limitations. Each class is tailor-made to the needs and the participants' abilities. The aim is to improve coordination and balance, endurance, flexibility, self-confidence, and teamwork for students.

Registration is open. To register and

learn more about class and camp schedules, visit <https://balletchelsea.org/classes/summer-programs/>

Ballet Chelsea can provide these programs and classes due to the community's support, including the National Endowment for the Arts, Michigan Arts & Culture Council, Chelsea Community Foundation, The Purple Rose Theatre, Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, and

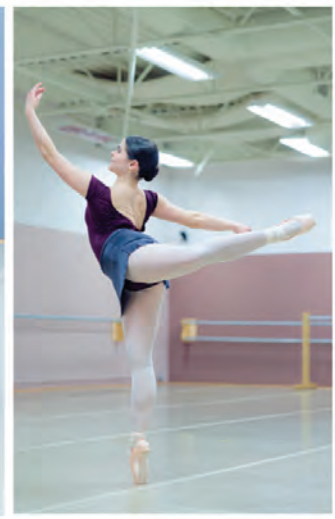
Klink and Associates Reinhart.

To learn more about class enrollment, visit their website, www.balletchelsea.org/classes/, or contact or call info@balletchelsea.org, 734-475-3070.

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



Photos courtesy Michael Bessom Photography



Step Into a World of Adventure: Experience Don Quixote with Ballet Chelsea!

For details and ticket information, visit Ballet Chelsea's website or contact them at www.balletchelsea.org, info@balletchelsea.org, or 734-475-3070.

Don't miss a night of artistry and adventure—your seats await!

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Ballet Chelsea's mission goes beyond the stage. It aims to cultivate resilient individuals through exceptional training and performance artistry while giving back to the community via the transformative power of arts education and outreach. Supporters of Ballet Chelsea include the National Endowment for the Arts, the Michigan Arts & Culture Council, the Chelsea Community Foundation, the Purple Rose Theatre, Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea State Bank, and Klink and Associates, Reinhart.

Ballet Chelsea invites you to embark on a whimsical journey this spring as they proudly present the beloved ballet Don Quixote on April 12 and 13 at Chelsea High School. Under the brilliant artistic direction of Michelle Quenon, this enchanting production

promises to transport you to a realm of passion, dreams, and the extraordinary power of imagination.

Prepare to be captivated by stunning performances, vibrant costumes, and the timeless story of Don Quixote as he sets off on his daring quests. This is more than just a ballet; it's an experience that celebrates the magic of dance and storytelling.

Mark Your Calendar:
Dates: April 12, 7 p.m. April 13, 2 p.m.
Location: Chelsea High School Auditorium, 740 N. Freer Road
Tickets: Ballet Chelsea www.balletchelsea.org/tickets/

Tickets are selling fast, so secure your seats for this unforgettable performance!

Tickets are selling fast, so secure your seats for this unforgettable performance!



Photos courtesy Michael Bessom Photography



CHELSEA ATHLETICS



CHELSEA BULLDOGS GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

2025 CHELSEA GIRLS TRACK WRITE-UP (3/21 @ EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY HURON RELAYS)

On Friday, March 21, the Chelsea High School Girls Track & Field team started their season by traveling to EMU for the Huron Relays indoor meet. Although their entries were limited, the team had a powerful showing and performed beyond expectations against the thirty-seven other teams there. The squad of eleven athletes

brought home an astonishing sixteen medals for their efforts.

In the field, Senior Kennedy Anderson set a new personal best (PB) of 5'0" in the high jump, earning her third place and a medal. Juniors Karlie VanRmortel and Lissa Kruger took first and third place, respectively, in the pole vault. Karlie cleared 9'0" and Lissa

cleared 8'6" and both took home medals as well.

On the track, there were several stellar performances. Junior Ceci Bayer led the way, winning three first place medals. She won the 800 meter run with a strong time of 2:27.54 and set a new PB in the 400 meter run, winning with a time of 1:02.73. Ceci was also

part of the winning 4 x 400 meter relay team that raced a respectable 4:20.94 and included Brinna Wenzel (Junior), Natalia DeMea (Senior Captain), and Jikke Kerstens (Senior). Brinna and Jikke were joined by freshmen Eve Wager and Melina King in the 4 x 200 meter relay, where they earned sixth place medals with a time of 1:58.36.

Melina also competed in the 60 meter dash, making the finals and running an impressive 8.37 to take home the fourth place medal. Junior India Barney set a new PB in the 60 meter hurdle finals of 10.20 while earning a fourth place medal for herself. Senior Captain Natalia DeMea had impressive back to back performances in the 1600

meter run and the 4 x 400 meter relay. She raced to second place and a medal in the 1600 meter run with an aggressive time of 5:43.17, right before helping her teammates to win the 4 x 400 meter relay.

The athletes and coaches were very pleased with both the individual and overall performance in this early season meet. They are hopeful that this is a sneak peek into what will be an outstanding season.

CHELSEA BULLDOGS GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

2025 CHELSEA BOYS TRACK WRITE-UP (3/21 @ EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY HURON RELAYS)

The Chelsea Boys track team traveled to historical Bowen Field House at Eastern Michigan University to compete in an indoor showdown. 38 teams competed at the meet and the dogs performed admirably. The top 6 in each event medaled and there was no team score. Highlights of the day include:

•Wyeth Angus was the sole champion of the day for the boys team, winning the 1600 meter run with a blistering 4:46. Henry Fredenberg took 6th in that race with a 4:56 time.

•Bryce Woody, a sophomore who competed in his first ever high school track meet, took 6th in the high

jump with a leap of 5 feet, 8 inches.

•The pole vault crew showed up to compete! Eli Bennett took 4th in the event, jumping 11 feet, 6 inches. Chala Campbell took 5th in the pole vault with a jump of 11 feet.

•The dogs ran several relays that placed in the meet. The 4x800

team of Fredenberg, Angus, Owen Thorburn, and Leo Alafita took 6th with a time of 9:15.59. The 4x200 team of AJ Smith, Drew Weinberg, Ethan Collins, and Gibson Ichesco took 6th with a time of 1:39.48. The 4x400 team of Smith, Thorburn, Avrion Barnes-Gnass, and Beckett Boos took 6th with a

time of 3:48.32.

Coach Slusser's comments: It was a long, but electric day. We wanted to see some great competition and get some decent reps in before break. We came out healthy and with a little hardware, so it was a successful day. With almost 70 guys on the roster, there are bound to be a few surprises

this season. We are in an elite track conference and one of the toughest regions in the state, and we are right there to make a run at a championship. That being said, we need to consistently improve and control what we can control from here. I'm very excited and optimistic about our season. When we get back from break, we will host Dexter in a scrimmage, which should be a great time!

Adult Learners Institute Announces its April Classes



April brings showers...and butterflies, native plants, heroes, music and so much more.

April also brings Easter, and a fitting way to prepare for that most solemn of feasts is with Reverend Daniel Pez-zica's third and final **In-Person and Zoom** class on the **History of Church Music** on April 1 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Chelsea.

Given the impact of recent Supreme Court decisions, not only on our culture but sometimes even on our personal lives, Peter Van Hoek's **In-Person and Zoom** class exploring **Significant United States Supreme Court Opinions** at the Cedars of Dexter on April 3, will be of particular interest.

With the arrival of spring, you may want to learn how to **Attract Butterflies to Your Garden** from Carol Brodbeck on April 7 at the Chelsea Senior Center. In her **In-Person and Zoom** class, you will learn what flower colors and shapes attract butterflies and what items they need in order to pollinate your plants. And, their courting behaviors may leave you surprised and delighted.

The four towns in western Washtenaw County, Dexter, Manchester, Saline, and Chelsea are all within about twelve miles of each other. Yet, as Grace Shackman has shown in previous classes, they each have unique histories. In her **In-Person** classes on April 9 and 16, she will compare the history of **Dexter and Saline**, including a look at their original Native American inhabitants as well as the different aims and of the two men who founded the two cities.

Eddie Rickenback-

er and Wendy Zielen's own grandfather are the inspiration for her **In-Person and Zoom** class on **Bravery and Innovation: Early Aviation Heroes** on April 11 at the Chelsea Retirement Community. Her thrilling stories of these intrepid World War I aviators, many of whom came from Michigan, will fascinate and awe us.

Mike and Cathy Muha's trip to Scotland a few years ago generated a love for the New Scotland, that is, Nova Scotia, of North America. Their **In-Person** class, **Adventures in Nova Scotia** at the Chelsea Senior Center on April 25, will include insights into the history as well as a look at the natural beauty of Nova Scotia. Preceded by a visit to Campobello in Maine, the Muhas will provide a tour of the Cabot Trail of Cape Breton Island, as well as visits to Quebec and Montreal on the way home.

If you had "A Hard Day's Night" with "Sargent Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band",

you will want to "Let it Be" in Bill O'Reilly's class, **The Beatles - Everything You Never Knew** at the Chelsea Senior Center on April 21. You and "Eleanor Rigby" are going to enjoy this **In-Person and Zoom** walk down "Penny Lane".

Barbara Gregorson's **In-Person** class at the Chelsea District Library on April 29 comes just in

time for you to learn about **Native Plants**... what to plant, where to plant and how to find native plants for your own garden. She has a special interest in teaching adults with special needs how to garden and has also coordinated a children's gardening program. To register for this **FREE** class, you need to call the Library at 734-475-8732 x 219.

In addition to ALI catalogs at various locations in the area, more information can be accessed at ALI's

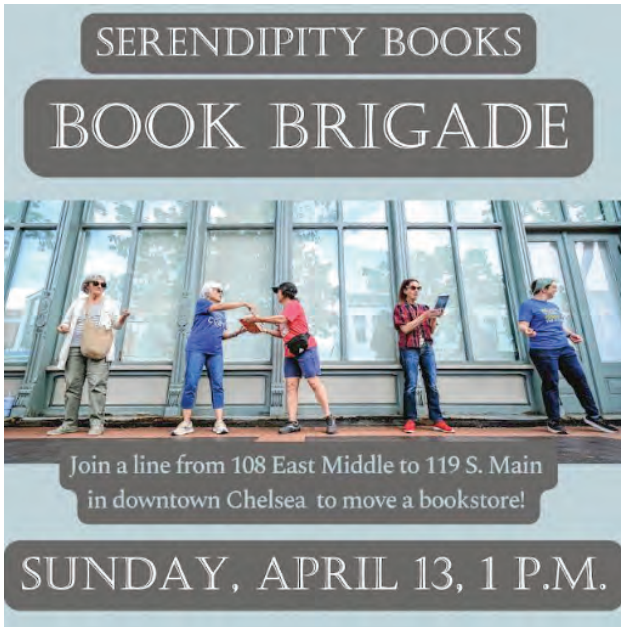
website at info@ALI-Michigan.org or using the QR code below. You may also call (734) 292-5540 and leave a message.

Also, if your organization would like to be a site for ALI classes and has Wi-Fi access, please contact the office and leave a message



Wednesday, March 26th
5PM - 7PM at Robin Hills Farm
20390 M-52
Chelsea, MI 48118

Book Brigade to pass books down Main Street, Chelsea as Serendipity Books relocates



Serendipity Books is relocating from Middle Street to Main Street and inviting the

community to join in the fun with a human chain, or 'book brigade' as part of the move on Sunday afternoon, April 13.

Saturday, April 12th will be the last day Serendipity Books is open for business on Middle Street before moving to Main Street.

On Sunday, April 13th at 1p.m., a 'Book Brigade' will gather between the old location at 108 E. Middle Street and the new location at 119 S. Main

Street (across from the Common Grill, and between Chelsea Bakery and Smokehouse 52 BBQ) to pass books.

Once the Book Brigade is finished, the community is invited for celebratory cookies and lemonade along with a sneak peek at the new location.

Michelle Tuplin, Serendipity Books' owner says, "Since announcing our plans to relocate to Main Street, the outpouring of offers to help

been extraordinary. A book brigade with our friends and neighbors feels perfect; we'll move the bookstore, throw a fun, unique community event, and create memories. It's not every day people are part of a Book Brigade to move their community bookstore!"

After the Book Brigade, Serendipity Books will re-open on Main Street by April 24th to welcome author Viola Shipman to Chelsea for an evening event (see details on the website at www.serendipity-books.com)

No sign-up is needed to participate in Serendipity's Book

Brigade: just show up at either store location or along the East Middle - South Main Street block on Sunday at 1 p.m. with a sense of fun and love of reading and our community.

For questions, please call Serendipity Books at (734) 475-7148

Event Address: A Book Brigade line between: 108 E. Middle Street and 119 S. Main Street, Chelsea, MI 48118

Event Date and Time: Sunday, April 13th, 1 p.m.

Contact: Michelle Tuplin: Michelle@serendipity-books.com

WISD Students Learn Life Skills at Chelsea Senior Center



Youth Adult Program. At any given time, students may represent Chelsea, Manchester or St. Louis Center. The age range is from 18 to 26 years of age. The goal of the program is to "assist individuals to be as successful and independent as possible in their adult roles as literate, healthy and fit individuals, involved citizens, self-directed lifelong learners and as productive workers/volunteers." Students learn to communicate "wants, needs and feeling" in an effective way.

"We see this new partnership with WISD as just the beginning," says Jon Van Hoek, Assistant Director, Chelsea Senior Center. "We would love to create a multigenerational program for WISD students to interact with our seniors in additional meaningful ways."

This is exactly what King hopes for his students. "We hope to branch out at Chelsea Senior Center beyond the work responsibilities. We want our students to experience the

social and leisure benefits of the center as well."

Chelsea Senior Center's environment is a unique opportunity for students who may have to work around members or interact with members as they clean. This offers more learning, as opposed to

working in an office or industrial environment where the work is done without interaction. The interactions at CSC are invaluable.

"Making connections, becoming familiar with Chelsea's seniors and learning names are all great life skills," says King. "When our students see seniors out and about in the community, it is a positive connection."

The mission of WISD's Special Education Young Adult Out-Center Program is to "successfully transition students to post-school activities," including training in real life community experiences like developing work skills, sustaining healthy nutrition and fitness habits, and effective communication and problem solving.



When Jasen King, a teacher for Washington Intermediate School District's Young Adult Program, reached out to Chelsea Senior Center to inquire about work training for his students, CSC jumped at the opportunity.

Every Tuesday, two WISD students practice job skills at Chelsea Senior Center, including wiping surfaces clean and vacuuming. This immersive training develops self-assurance, sense of responsibility,

safety skills and connection in the community.

King explains that it is more than "just vacuuming." Students learn how to plug in the cord into outlets, how to empty vacuum bags, how to ensure there are no fingerprints left on tables and more. "Quality of work is just as key as getting the work done," says King. "The goal is to teach independence."

Currently, there are 12 students in the WISD

Chelsea City Council Special Meeting

continued from page 1 councilmember Ruddock gave his statement there was an opportunity for public comment.

Aside from two comments, the public took the time to speak in support of the council. The first commenter cited a book and tried to make the case that Councilman Ruddock only cares about constituents who voted for him and is immature, disrespectful and unfit. The second person who spoke, honestly confused me. I think she has a point to make but I'm not certain what it has to do with the Chelsea government. She implied that Councilman Ruddock might have early onset dementia, which is not funny

and incidentally not civil. She called him a communist, fascist. She told us about her family's military service and provided the council with a book. She then discussed how we are being watched and listened to and said something about the CIA getting rid of incandescent lights. She ended by saying she is praying for councilman Ruddock. I have no idea what she wanted to convey in her message. I was lost and to be honest baffled. After everyone who wanted to speak had the opportunity, most very happy with the work council was doing, it was on to the business of the night.

Resolution #2025. The city was asking for

council support to apply for a Michigan Department of Natural resources grant for the amount of 150,000.00 to update the playset at Peirce Park. The money would also be used to make certain the park is ADA compliant and make all spaces accessible. In order to be eligible for the grant the council had to agree to commit 52,000.00 to the project. The current play structure is over 30 years old and the company that made it will no longer service it. The Council unanimously agreed to pass the resolution. The meeting adjourned with a councilmember noting that March 31st is Transgender Visibility Day.

Chelsea Senior Center is Hiring



Chelsea Senior Center seeks to fill an open position for Outreach and Connections Coordinator, starting in mid-May. This person will report to the Executive Director and work 20 to 25 hours a week. The ideal person is very personable, friendly, creative and able to pivot directions as needed.

The key responsibility is to create and maintain excellent communication programs within CSC and beyond in the community to reach and engage isolated seniors and encourage connection to CSC's activities, services and programs.

For a full job description, please visit www.chelseaseniors.org

TO APPLY: Submit cover letter and resume to Jennifer Smith, Chelsea Senior Center, 512 Washington Street, Chelsea, MI 48118 or to jsmith@chelseaseniors.org by April 11, 2025. No calls please.

Chelsea Senior Center is a 501c3 nonprofit organization in Chelsea, Michigan. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life and well-being for area seniors and their families. Chelsea Senior Center, celebrating 60 years in 2025, is located at 512 Washington Street.



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One World One Family Hosts an Educational Opportunity

By Aimee Bingham Osinski
anbingham@gmail.com

Chelsea One World One Family hosted a community discussion with the theme of Autocracy at 2:30pm on March 23, in the McKune room of the Chelsea Library. The discussion was led by Renee Heberle, a professor of Political Science at the University of Toledo. It focused on several articles offered free of charge on the One World One Family website.

The three articles discussed were: Autocratic Legalism Kim Lane Scheppele, Path to American Authoritarianism What Comes After Democratic Breakdown Steven Levitsky and Lucan A. Way, and The Nature of Our Power: A Conversation with Political Scientist Erica Chenoweth, Rebecca Solnit. Renee Heberle offered what she took from the ar-

ticles, which was beneficial for me because I'm not accustomed to reading academic work being out of college for nearly 30 years. Rather than break the information down for you, I encourage you to read it for yourself. The articles are available here: <https://owofchelsea.org/resources/community-discussion/> People were invited to attend on zoom but due to technical difficulties, the zoom was difficult to hear.

My observation is that One World One Family is providing intellectual context for people concerned with the direction of the country through community discussions and various educational opportunities. This first session was titled What is Autocracy? According to the Oxford Dictionary, "A system of government by one person with absolute power." The

German government under Hitler was an autocracy, The Soviet Union was an autocracy. You get the point, the opposite of what our Founding Fathers believed made a great government. The next session is titled What is to be Done? and will take place April 23rd at the Washington St. Education Center. In a world of memes, social media warriors and the best, snarkiest, come back, One World One Family is offering high quality opportunities for community members to educate themselves on important topics in politics while providing exposure to people well versed on these topics.

If you're concerned with the direction our country is taking, I encourage you to utilize the valuable resources offered by Chelsea One World One Family.



2025 DATES

Mason, MI	March 23
Jackson, MI	April 13
Maumee, OH	May 4
Chelsea, MI	May 18
Belleville, MI	August 17
Maumee, OH	September 7
Chelsea, MI	September 21
Fowlerville, MI	September 28
Ionia, MI	October 12
Belleville, MI	October 19
Mason, MI	November 2
Jackson, MI	November 9
Toledo, OH	December 7

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Apply to be a vendor at:
WWW.FINDERSKEEPERSVINTAGEMARKET.COM

APRIL EVENTS

*COMMUNITY WELCOME!

Easter Hours

Sunday, April 20
CHE/DEX 7am-12pm
STK Closed

Love Your Brain Yoga (CHE)*

April 1-May 6 • 3pm-4pm

Love Your Brain (LYB) yoga is a six-week program for people recovering from a traumatic brain injury (TBI), concussion or head trauma. This program relies on neuroscientific evidence regarding what works for the TBI community and their caregivers.

Family Swim (CHE/DEX)

Sunday, April 6 (CHE) • 12:15pm-2:30pm
Sunday, April 27 (DEX) • 12:15pm-2:30pm
Registration required. See center for details.

Blood Drive (CHE)

Thursday, April 17 • 12:30pm-6:30pm
Join us for a blood drive at Chelsea Wellness Center! Help save lives and make a lasting impact on those in need.

Aqua Splash Event (DEX)*

Friday, April 25 • 5:30pm-6:30pm

Dive into a refreshing, low-impact workout that uses the natural resistance of water to help tone and strengthen muscles while helping improve cardiovascular fitness. Feel the burn as the water's resistance challenges your muscles in every movement, providing a full-body workout that is both gentle on the joints and incredibly effective. Free to the community.

Nervous System Reset Yoga and Journaling for Chronic Stress (DEX)

Part 1: Wednesday, April 30 • 6pm-7:30pm
Part 2: Tuesday, May 13 • 6pm-7:30pm

Led by Holly Makimaa, Yoga and Trauma-Informed Journaling Teacher and Somatic Life Coach. Feeling Stressed? Tend toward a Type A or driven personality? Through a combination of yoga, somatic practices, and journaling, this class will help you learn how to regulate your nervous system, reduce stress, and cultivate mindfulness by offering effective tools to manage tension and restore balance.

COMING IN MAY

- Fall into Balance (DEX) May 6-June 26
- Women on Weights (DEX) May 6-29
- TRX (DEX) May 14- June 18
- Rowing Classes (DEX) May 5-June 9
- Aqua Board (DEX) May 5-June 22
- Powerlifting (CHE) May 5-June 2
- Kids Swim Classes (CHE/DEX)

See center for details and registration.

For more information or to register, please visit the Member Service Desk or call 734-214-0220 (CHE), 734-580-2500 (DEX), or 517-851-4486 (STK).

CHE-3279050_0325



Chelsea High School: Spring Celebration of Talent at CHS Collage Concert



► continued from page 1
From: Crystal Hayduk

For a grand musical experience, make plans to attend the annual Collage Concert, to be held April 5 in the Ron Mead Auditorium at Chelsea High School (CHS).

The concert will include a wide variety of musical styles performed continuously from one piece to another, unbroken by applause or the spoken word for the length of the program.

The music department's academic groups, including the wind symphony, concert band, symphony orchestra, concert orchestra, full orchestra, and chorale, will perform; as well as the high school's extracurricular music groups—Jazz Band, Chelsea House Orchestra, and Company C.

Small groups of musicians chosen by CHS teachers based on high performance standards will also play in various spots around the auditorium. Nathan Peters, director of orchestras at Beach Middle School (BMS) and co-coordinator of this year's Collage Concert, said senior students are highlighted as much as possible to honor their final Collage performance opportunity.

This year's grand finale, incorporating all music students, will be the emotional "Homebound," written by Marta Keen; arranged by Jay Althouse and Brant Karrick.

The Collage Concert

has become a Chelsea favorite and a display of the strong support of music education in the Chelsea School District," said Peters. "Each of the music teachers—from Dawn Schell (elementary), to Katy Steklac and I (BMS), to Ken Davis, Alison Roberts, and Phillip Sylvester (CHS)—contribute to the success of this concert and the music programs."

This year, there will be a special surprise to recognize the Chelsea Music Boosters (CMB), graduating seniors, and the businesses that have supported the music program.

The Collage Concert has been the music department's most important fundraiser since its inception in 2014. Tom Brooks, who recently retired from his long-time position as CMB's treasurer, said money raised is crucial to supporting the needs of the district's music students. Specific items CMB has helped to fund in the last year include: a BMS field trip to a Detroit Symphony Concert, assistance with registration for orchestra solo & ensemble, coaching and clinicians for solo & ensemble, the Hometown Holidays concerts, repair of djembe drum and cellos, MASTA Chamber Festival registration, MSVMA All State registration, coaching and clinicians for CHS festival, and a clinic for eighth grade music students with Dr. Michael Hopkins (University of

Michigan music professor).

Angela Menegay, president of CMB, said, "At each Collage Concert, the breadth of talent among Chelsea's student musicians astonishes me. As a parent with three children in the orchestra program over the years and through my work with the Chelsea Music Boosters, I've witnessed how the time and effort invested by both the student musicians and the music directors create this spectacular concert experience for the community to enjoy. [Money] raised by ticket sales goes back into the K-12 Chelsea music programs, funding more opportunities for future student musicians."

At a glance: The 2025 Collage Concert will be held at 7 p.m. on April 5 at the Ron Mead Auditorium, Chelsea High School, 740 North Freer Rd. General admission 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/>. Tickets will be available at the door with cash, check, credit card, or electronically (Apple Pay/Google Pay) beginning at 6:30 p.m. **Important note:** Assistive hearing devices will be available upon request at the ticket table prior to the concert.

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. For more information, visit <https://chelseamusicboosters.org/>.



Chelsea Police Department Weekly Summary

Incident #: 25-966

Date: March 24, 2025

Location: 6000 block of Werkner Rd.

Time: 12:49 am

INFORMATION: While on routine patrol officers were dispatched to the 6000 block of Werkner Road for the report of multiple 911 hang-ups where yelling could be heard in the background. Officers arrived on scene and made contact with the parties involved. All of the parties involved were separated and interviewed about what had taken

place. While conducting the interviews one of the complainants stated that he had been assaulted earlier in the evening by the suspect, identified as a 28-year-old Flint woman. The complainant stated that earlier in the evening the complainant and suspect had been engaged in a verbal argument and at one point the suspect struck him with

a closed hand three times in his stomach. The complainant refused any medical evaluation or treatment and there was no visible injury at the time of the report. The case was submitted to the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office for review and criminal charges were denied. The case was closed with the issuance of the denial.

Incident #: 25-1003

Date: March 26, 2025

Location: 800 block of W. Middle St.

Time: 1:47 pm

INFORMATION: Officers were dispatched to the 800 block of W. Middle Street to make contact with the complainant regarding a larceny complaint. Upon arrival the officer made contact with the complainant who stated that they sus-

pected an employee had been signing out narcotic medications and not administering them appropriately. The complainant stated that the theft of medication had been discovered on March 20th and the suspect had been confronted at that time about

their suspicions. The complainant identified the suspect as a 40-year-old Michigan Center woman, she was not on scene at the time of the report. The case remains open pending receipt of additional evidence and further investigation by the investigator.



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Chelsea Guardian

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Director, Football Information needed in Allen Park, Michigan to lead the Football Information team in evaluating league-wide trends and player-specific metrics via computer science, data engineering, statistical software, machine learning and data visualization, and manage other analysts performing similar roles.

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