



Chelsea Guardian

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Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce

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Chelsea Guardian


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Hamilton
Publishing



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

The Purple Rose Presents: The Antichrist Cometh



Story and more photos on page 7. Photos By Aimee Bingham.

SAVE THE
DATE
SUNDAY
AUGUST 18
Gordon Hall in Dexter



Celebrate!
Farm to Table
A benefit dinner for the 5 Healthy Towns' Farmers Markets
A FABULOUS FEAST!



Pennies and Pickets for TimberTown Help Reimagine Chelsea's Largest Park



Story and more photos on page 6

new moon *neuro*
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SATURDAY, APRIL 20 | 1-5PM
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Meet Acclaimed Authors:
Roz Chast
Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
Wade Rouse (Viola Shipman)

For event details, visit:
MidwestLiteraryWalk.org



Ayurveda with Susan Whitmarsh



Photos By Aimee Bingham

By Aimee Bingham
anbingham@gmail.com

Susan Whitmarsh, known throughout Chelsea as a co-founder and teacher at Breathe Yoga, is offering learning outside of Yoga. Saturday, April 13th, Susan offered a lesson in Ayurveda. According to Syama Allard, "Ayurveda, a Sanskrit term meaning "the science of life," stems from the Vedas — the vast col-

continued on page 9

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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

Jordan Braman Inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Jordan Braman of Chelsea, Michigan, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Braman was initiated at University of Lynchburg.

Braman is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires

nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus

L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."



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You're Invited to a Musical Celebration



Chelsea Hospital is proud to present Americana Music
Featuring Chelsea's own
The MacDonald Brothers
Sunday, April 21, 2024
2 to 3 p.m.
Chelsea Hospital Main Entrance Atrium

All community members – especially our neighbors at the Chelsea Senior Center – are invited to join us for this **FREE** event. The performance will celebrate Chelsea Hospital's 50+ year history of partnership with our community, and will also bring comfort, hope and entertainment to all who join us.

*This is the first of a three-part Spring Music Series
Join us again on
Sunday, May 19 and Sunday, June 9, 2024
for more from local musicians*

ChelseaHospital.org



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

Sounds & Sights 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 chelseamich.com/calendar/ to view a full calendar of events.






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To learn how you can help, visit Foundation.UMRCPH.org or contact the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation at 734.433.1000 ext. 7502

"Duet in Many Colors" Showcases Vibrant Artistic Expressions at Gallery 100



D&B Strategic Marketing
doris@dandbmarketing.com
Gallery 100
gallery100atm@gmail.com

Gallery 100 proudly announces its upcoming exhibition, "Duet in Many Colors," featuring the captivating works of Lindsey Dahl and Nancy McKay. This

dynamic duo will grace Gallery 100 with their vivid interpretations of the natural world from May 4 to June 23.

Lindsey Dahl's art bursts with color and texture, evoking a sense of wonder. Her expressive brushstrokes bring to life the animals and landscapes of rural

Michigan, inspired by her profound interactions with wildlife. "Experience with animals, both wild and domestic, has a profound influence on the way I view my subjects. The beautiful yet brutal, hilarious, and heartbreaking ways of nature constantly inspire me," said

Lindsey. She primarily works with acrylic on canvas, infusing her pieces with the beauty and complexity of nature.

In contrast, Nancy McKay's art delves into the stories and possibilities inspired by protected landscapes. A Master's graduate in textiles from Eastern, Nancy found her passion in silk painting, drawn to its luminosity and brilliance of color. Her silk paintings, showcased alongside Lindsey's work, offer a unique perspective on the natural world.

The exhibition will

kick off with a public reception on May 19, from 2pm to 3:30pm, where art enthusiasts can meet Lindsey and immerse themselves in the vibrant atmosphere of her artwork. Additionally, on May 19, Lindsey will be present at the gallery reception, accompanied by some of her beloved silkie chickens, adding an extra layer of charm to the event.

Nancy McKay's extensive experience as an artist-in-residence at various national parks, including Grand Canyon, Acadia, Hot Springs, and Badlands, permeates her work with depth and insight, enriching the narrative of the exhibition.

"We are thrilled to host Lindsey Dahl and Nancy McKay's 'Duet in Many Colors' at Gallery 100," says Program Director, Winn Nichols. "Their unique perspectives on nature promise to captivate audiences

and provide a rich cultural experience for our community."

Gallery 100, located in Chelsea, Michigan, serves as a platform for local and regional artists to showcase their work, enriching the cultural landscape of the community. Open to the public, the gallery invites art enthusiasts to explore and appreciate the diverse forms of artistic expression.

For artists interested in exhibiting their work at Gallery 100, inquiries can be directed to gallery100atm@gmail.com.

Don't miss the opportunity to experience the vibrant fusion of color and storytelling in "Duet in Many Colors" at Gallery 100 from May 4 to June 23.

For more information, visit Gallery 100's website silvermaples.org/gallery100/, or email Winn Nichols gallery100atm@gmail.com.

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Savings in Chelsea

Laura Perkins
Animal Behavior

CPDT-KA, M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis

www.lauraperkinsanimalbehavior.com
lauraperkinsanimalbehavior@gmail.com
309-370-8233

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Mission Statement:
Hard work, good work and creating and fostering great relationships are the keys to community success.

SAVINGS IN CHELSEA
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2x3 for \$50 per week, 4 week run = \$200 total
2x2 for \$25 per week, 4 week run = \$100 total

Call: 734-636-3779 or email charlatchelseaguardian@gmail.com

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CHELSEA ATHLETICS



CHELSEA BULLDOGS BOYS TRACK & FIELD

CHELSEA BOYS TRACK AND FIELD GRASS LAKE WARRIOR INVITATIONAL SUMMERY

The Chelsea Boys Track and Field team took a small roster to the Grass Lake Warrior Invitational on Saturday, April 13th. Several JV athletes performed well and had lifetime bests.

Highlights include:

- The 4x800 relay team of Linus Helzerman, Leo Alafita, Alex Martin, and Miles Dell placed 3rd.
- Caleb Fitch and Vincent Guthrie

threw huge PR's in the discus.

- Josh Doyle jumped 10 feet in the pole vault and earned 5th place in the event.
- Sam Clifton and Easton Hodel ran PR's in the 1600.

- Jake Nelson raced in the 100, 200, and 400. He PR'd in the 400 with a time of 2:03.26, a new state record in the 400 M dash for wheelchair adaptive athletes!
- Coach Slusser's

Comments: It was a really nice day to develop some of our younger athletes and give them a "big meet" experience. I was impressed with some of the performances from the day,

especially the distance squad, who continues to improve. Our eyes are now on preparing for Pinckney and getting after it in our preparations this week.

CHELSEA BOYS VS ADRIAN

The Chelsea Boys track team hosted the defending regional champion Adrian Maples at Jerry Niehaus field on a beautiful early April evening. The Chelsea team was excited to compete in its first dual meet of the season and came out victorious, winning the meet by a final score of 86 to 51. The team's success came from a mixture of veteran upperclassmen and up and coming underclass ready to make a name for themselves. Highlights include:

- Connell Aflord won the 1600, 3200, and placed second in the 800. Running 3 distance events is a tough thing to do, but Connell proved why he is the tough leader of the squad.
- Chelsea won 3 out of 4 relays with times that match up

well in the league and regional.

- Jake Nelson competed in 4 events last night. He anchored a 4x100 relay team as the first wheelchair athlete in the state of Michigan to do so. A historic event!
- In the 400, Beckett Boos won the event while Gus Wehrly took second place. This was a big moment in the meet!
- Field events for Chelsea were tough and refused to get swept. JJ Turnbow took second in the long jump with a personal best of 20 feet, 5.5 inches. He also took second place in the high jump with another personal best of 5 feet, 6 inches.
- Freshman Quinton Carradine took second in the 110 hurdles and won the high jump.
- The sprint squad

for Chelsea had a banner day. Regan Plank won the 100 meter dash and freshman Gibby Ichesco took second in the event. They also ran in the winning 4x100 relay team along with Caden Steele and Ethan Collins. Kai Ziolkowski and AJ Smith took first and second place in the 200 meter dash and also ran on the winning 4x200 meter relay team along with Steele and Wehrly.

- The throwers fought hard with Chase Maihofer and Carl Peterson scoring in the discus and Auden Howard and Indiana Hurst scoring in the shot put.
- Nolan Fleszar and Chala Campbell took second and third in the pole vault, securing key points for the squad.
- Jackie Dell took third in the 800 and

anchored the winning 4x400 relay team. Coach Slusser's comments: Adrian is a tough opponent and every year our dual meet with them is very competitive. We have had some incredible meets with them in the past 15 years or so. I was pleased with the enthusiasm the team showed throughout the meet and how they were able to focus and turn in some great performances. Our strategy was to not get swept in any event in order to keep it as close as possible. We executed that and had a few guys really step up. We have lots to improve on if we want to accomplish our goals of winning the league and regional championships. I'm proud of how we performed at the meet.

CHELSEA BULLDOGS COLLEGE SIGNINGS



From: Tracie Stoffer
Carley Grabarczyk
Purdue Northwest
Track and Field
Parents: Rebecca and Justin Grabarczyk

CHELSEA BULLDOGS GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

2024 GIRL'S T&F GRASS LAKE WARRIOR INVITATIONAL SUMMARY

On Saturday (April 13th), the Chelsea Girl's Track and Field Team traveled to Grass Lake High School for their 50th Annual Warrior Invitational. We brought a limited group of athletes to compete against thirteen other schools. The Invitational had a traditional big meet format (i.e., preliminaries, finals, and flights in the throws), which was a good experience for our team. The top six school scores were the following: Ann Arbor

Father Gabriel Richard - 107pts, Homer 86 pts, Pontiac Notre Dame Preparatory - 81 pts, Hillsdale - 77 pts, Grass Lake - 66 pts, & Chelsea 50 pts.

We scored in seven events with ten top eight places. We collected four medals for our team. A number of athletes earned their first varsity points, which will go towards earning their varsity letter. We learned some good lessons during the meet, which will help our athletes prepare

better for each meet coming up. Also, it was nice to see some of our captains and upperclassmen come out to support those competing.

- Highlights:
- Kennedy Anderson took 3rd place in the high jump with a height of 4' 10". She was close to clearing 5' twice.
 - Karlie Van Remortel placed 3rd in the pole vault with a height of 7' 6".
 - Tessa Smith cleared 6' 0" to place 5th, earning her first

- varsity points.
- Amelia O'Rourke, a senior, placed 5th in the long jump with a distance of 13' 9". This was her first time competing in this event in high school.
- Cailyn Jbara placed 1st in the 100m high hurdles with a time of 19.39 seconds. She overcame clipping a hurdle and stumbling in preliminaries to make the finals.
- India Barney placed 1st in the 300m low hurdles

with a time of 54.16 seconds.
• Emma Smith had a big day placing 5th in both the 100m high hurdles (20.20 seconds) and 300m low hurdles (58.51 seconds). She is a senior who is splitting time with soccer and this is her first high track season.
• The 4x100m relay team composed of Abby Kotlarek, Charlie Bianchi, Ana de La Parte Soto, and Adri Yado placed 8th with a time of 58.22.
• The 4x200m re-

lay team composed of Elleri Maute, Abby Lokers, Avery Adams, and Addie Adams placed 7th overall with a time of 2:08.82. We will host Pinckney High School in a dual meet on Tuesday (April 16th) and April Showers Invitational held at Dexter on Saturday (April 20th). We are entering the main part of our season, so we will need to continue to prepare well.

Vintage Market Chelsea, MI

Finders KEEPERS
LOYAL TO LOCAL

Grand Finale Spring Market

Sunday May 19 • 10am-4pm
Chelsea Fairgrounds

Location: Chelsea Community Fairgrounds
20501 W Old US Hwy 12, Chelsea, MI 48118




Get Ready for our BIGGEST spring event of the year !! 175 vendors, live music, food trucks and snack vendors offering an amazing Shopping Experience on May 19th!

Event Details:

- Indoor + outdoor event
- Early Bird admission: (10am-11am) \$15
- General admission: (11-4pm) \$5 cash

Chelsea Senior Center: Spotlight on April Events



Ease the Day adult day program while building a support network. CSC Ease the Day program staff and volunteers will be on hand to engage and encourage loved ones for an hour or so in another room. There is no cost to participate in either program; however, donations are always welcome. Pre-registration is required for respite care. To register, please contact CSC by phone or email.



Chelsea Senior Center's calendar of activities, programs and services features more than 200 opportunities every month for members and the community at large to explore. In April? There are even more activities to experience.

The annual Chelsea Expo on April 13, a family-friendly, free community event for all ages, features local businesses, nonprofits, crafters and artisans. Arrive hungry to enjoy the "best-ever" bake sale, which is not to be missed. Homemade fresh-baked treats will be for sale to benefit Chelsea Senior Center (CSC). Chelsea School District will also offer

lunch and snack options for sale in the cafeteria. Expo hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

New in April is Chelsea Senior Center's "Moment for Me: A Caregiver Support Group. Starting April 10 at 11:00 a.m., Moment for Me will be every other Wednesday and facilitated by Ginnie Hartman, MA, Licensed Professional Counselor. The group is open to family caregivers who need a break and can benefit from the support of others with similar changes in their lives. Caregivers are welcome to bring their loved ones who will benefit from the safe and nurturing environment of CSC's

On April 17 at 1:00 p.m., you are invited to the "Show and Tell: Writing Memories" Open House to hear stories written by members of our monthly Writers Group. Enjoy listening and get inspired to join the group each month to work on your own stories.

A special theatrical performance called Solo Acts hits the stage at the Washington Street Education Center auditorium on April 18 at 1:00 p.m. This theatrical compilation and community conversation combines storytelling and theatre to illuminate the complexity, challenges, opportunities and vis-

continued on page 8



2024 PLEASANTREES 420 BINGO

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Pennies and Pickets for TimberTown

Help Reimagine Chelsea's Largest Park



Fence Picket Legacy Program

TimberTown reimagined

Your generous contribution of \$250 or more will allow you to have a customized fence picket at TimberTown this summer!

- ★ A great opportunity to recognize your child, parent, family, group, or organization; multiple pickets can be purchased.
- ★ These pickets aren't simple markers; they're symbols of **unity, generosity, and the spirit** of giving back.
- ★ Together, let's build a fence that stands as a testament to our collective commitment to TimberTown's enduring legacy.
- ★ Quantities are limited -- Reserve yours today!
- ★ Make checks payable to **Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative (HWPI)**
- ★ **Deadline is June 20, 2024**



continued from page 1

Two unique fundraising opportunities are now available to help support TimberTown, Chelsea's 25-year-old park that is in need of a rebuild.

South Meadows and North Creek Elementary School families will be looking in pockets, purses, piggy banks to find loose change to drop into collection jars in each classroom. The challenge runs April 15 to April 19. Coins will be counted at the end of the week and all funds raised will be matched by Chelsea State Bank and an anonymous donor!

All graduating

classes that collect over \$200 will win a picket engraved with "CHS Class of 20##" as a part of the permanent fence surrounding the park for generations to come.

"This is a fun way for your kids to take part in a grassroots, community-based volunteer effort that will improve the park's safety, sight-lines, and accessibility," said Casey Wescott, North Creek principal.

Speaking of pickets, everyone in the community has a chance to become a part of the park's legacy by sponsoring a picket with a generous donation of \$250. The pickets will become part of the per-

manent fencing in and around the play structure.

Pickets can be engraved with up to 22

characters to recognize your family, child, parent, group, or organization.

"Each picket represents a story, a memory, and a commitment to preserving the beauty and enhancing the accessibility and essence of our community space," said Jeff Hardcastle, co-chair of the TimberTown Reimagined project.

Picket forms will be available online at TimberTownChelsea.org, or at the TimberTown booths at the Chelsea Farmers Market, and at various stores around town, including Chelsea Hometown Pharmacy and The Treehouse.

TimberTown Reimagined project is a partnership between the City of Chelsea, Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative, Washtenaw County Parks & Rec. Support from local foundations, such as the Chelsea Community Foundation and the 5 Healthy Towns Foundation, has bolstered

support from many local businesses who have been sponsoring pieces of play equipment. A general donation campaign is providing an opportunity for supporters to make donations of any size. Chelsea State Bank will be donating \$50,000 as a matching funds initiative, and is joined by an anonymous donor to create the \$100,000 matching fund.

The project is made up of five components:

- Building a new trailhead for the B2B trail
- Refurbishing and adding to the TimberTown play structure
- Adding six pickleball courts
- Renewing and repairing the Pathway to Renewal mosaic
- Improving infrastructure (lighting, adding parking spaces via paving the lot, etc)

The work on TimberTown will take place from Aug. 6 to 11, 2024. Many volunteers are needed.

The schedule will be flexible to allow people to give a few hours or a few days.

Chelsea State Bank, Gestamp, and the Chelsea Hospital are allowing their staff to volunteer for the August 6-11 build.

"We're extremely excited about the community engagement the project is generating," said Hardcastle. "When the community built TimberTown in 1997, it was an amazing experience and we think the re-imagining of TimberTown this summer will not only result in a wonderful 'new' community park, but also create a highly memorable experience for the hundreds of area volunteers who we'll need to get it done."

To personalize your Legacy Picket, donate, sign-up to volunteer for build week, and to learn more about this community effort, visit www.TimberTownChelsea.org



Have Children Entering Preschool or Kindergarten?

Hearing and Vision Screening is Mandatory

Schedule for free at the Health Department



Washtenaw County Health Department

Beth Ann Hamilton
Communications
Coordinator
Washtenaw County
Health Department
734-294-4301
hamiltone@washtenaw.org

All children starting kindergarten or preschool must have their hearing and vision tested before starting school. The Washtenaw County Health Department offers free office appointments for hearing and vision screenings for children entering school in the fall. Appointments are currently available

from May until August 2024. Call 734-544-6786 to schedule.

"Young children and their parents may not realize if they have a hearing or vision problem," says Deborah Thompson, Lead Hearing & Vision Technician at the Washtenaw County Health Department.

"Undiagnosed hearing and vision problems can be serious barriers to learning and development. Our goal is to identify problems early to make sure kids have all the tools they need

to hear, see, and learn before school starts."

Hearing and vision screening is required by the Michigan Public Health Code. Parents will be asked for proof of screening before their children enter kindergarten or head start. Once a child is in school, the Washtenaw County Health Department continues free in-school screenings on a regular basis.

Vision screening includes testing for visual acuity, farsightedness, ability to use two eyes together and symptoms of eye prob-

lems. Hearing screenings are done with an audiometer and other equipment based on the child's needs.

In 2023, our team provided 40,746 hearing and vision screenings. Learn more about the Washtenaw County Health Department Hearing and Vision Program at bit.ly/WCHDseehear.

Washtenaw County Health Department The Washtenaw County Health Department promotes health and works to prevent disease and injury in our community. Our mission is to assure, in partnership with the community, the conditions necessary for people to live healthy lives through preven-



All children entering kindergarten or head start must complete hearing and vision tests.

Schedule FREE HEARING & VISION SCREENINGS

with the Washtenaw County Health Department Hearing & Vision Program

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Hearing and vision screening is required by the Michigan public health code. You will be asked for proof before entering school.

tion and protection programs.

Visit us at washtenaw.org/health or call 734-544-6700. The Health Department also provides

frequent social media updates (@wcpublihealth) and sends regular email updates; sign up at <http://bit.ly/WCHD555>.

The Purple Rose Presents: The Antichrist Cometh



By Aimee Bingham
anbingham@gmail.com

► continued from page 1

Friday, March 29, 8 pm, I had two tickets waiting for me at the box office at The Purple Rose Theater. As has become my tradition, I did not research what play I'd be watching. I enjoy not knowing the story ahead of time. When I grabbed the playbill, I snorted down a little laugh. It's Good Friday and my friends

have been posting scripture on Social Media all month. The AntiChrist Cometh, opening on Good Friday seemed like the sardonic humor I enjoy.

The set is still in the round as it was for Diva Royale. The set appeared to be a living room. Without giving away spoilers, John, played by Ryan Patrick Welsh, is excited about a visit from his college friend and his girl-



friend. John and his wife Lili appear to be a typical 30-something couple without children. His friend Duncan and his new fiance Fiona arrive at the door at an untimely, but funny moment. Fiona, a highly religious nurse tries to ease into a ready-made friendship with the group. The friction is there immediately, in a tale as old as time Fiona feels uncomfortable with her Fiance's friend from his old life. Everyone has grown and changed but John is the friend that gets your husband blackout

drunk and thinks that it might be good to skip the sports bar in favor of a seedy topless club off 8 Mile. I liked John as the play opened but as it continued, he started to make me nervous. The kind of guy you'd make sure never caught you anywhere alone.

Duncan, played by Ryan Carlson, a resident artist at the Purple Rose, gave the show the comedy it needed. He knows exactly when and how to utter a line. So, when an audience, a little nervous about laughing at a topic, that could potentially offend,

laughs so hard, the very sprayed hair in front of you moves in a puff with your breath. You, relax and realize even in this divided country nobody is going to be mad at you for laughing because they're laughing too. I was able to relax and be transported without fear into the story. All the actors did just that, transporting me into the story. I'd probably want to be friends with Lili and I'd accidentally drop an F-bomb around Fiona so we'd both cringe and I'd apologize ashamed.

When I read the playwright, David MacGregor also wrote the Sherlock Holmes series, I was not surprised. The Sherlock Holmes plays were smart in a way I enjoy. Lili says a line about Jesus being all-knowing and, therefore Judas Iscariot could not have betrayed him. I was not the only audience member to turn to someone and say, "ahh," as I thought, "Good point!" Lili is one of

those smart people who could win in court, even a settled, established case like Judas betrayed Jesus. I enjoy a different angle and perspective. The play is a funny way to navigate what feels like dangerous waters in this day and age and provides the levity we all need. It is superbly acted with a majority of newcomers taking the stage and is a great night out. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.purplerosetheatre.org/>. The Purple Rose is celebrating 33 years, founded in 1991! According to the Purple Rose, "The Purple Rose Theatre Company is a creative home for theatre artists to define our collective Midwestern voice." It is a place for emerging talent and seasoned professionals to learn more about and to practice their craft; a place for patrons of the arts to laugh, cry, and perhaps even learn something new." Having this level of talent in your backyard is a gift.

UNITED WAY FOR SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN ANNOUNCES WASHTENAW COUNTY IMPACT GRANTEES

Basic Needs and Racial Equity Fund dollars to significantly impact organizations across the area

United Way for Southeastern Michigan is proud to announce the Washtenaw County 2024 Racial Equity Fund and Basic Needs grant recipients. Both opportunities are designed to address immediate needs within the community at a time when many are struggling to make ends meet and grow their impact to create more equitable communities. The total amount of the awarded funds is \$225,000 to address Basic Needs and \$200,000 for the Racial Equity Fund.

These grants, along with other strategic investments, continue United Way's longstanding commitment to families in Washtenaw County in ways that help families become stable and ensure children have the support they need to thrive and succeed.

United Way for Southeastern Michigan's ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained, Employed) report tells us that 39 percent of households across the state struggle to meet their most basic needs, like childcare, utilities, and food. In Washtenaw County, the number is even higher at 39.6 percent. This is a 35 percent increase since the previous ALICE Report in 2021 and the largest percentage increase in Michigan.

2024 Washtenaw Responsive Basic Needs Grants

The Washtenaw Basic Needs grant was de-

signed to provide rapid flexible funding to help organizations meet the increased demand for emergency food, homeless services and Medicaid enrollment support following the end of pandemic-era relief programs and a spike in need during the winter months. Through a competitive process, non-profit organizations were invited to apply for funding ranging from \$15,000 to \$40,000 for a six-month grant period.

This investment in local services is more important than ever given the stark increase in the number of households in Washtenaw County living below the ALICE survival threshold and these targeted investments will enable core service organizations to help more individuals and families in Washtenaw County meet their immediate basic needs including food, housing, and health while building toward long-term stability.

"These grants demonstrate United Way's longstanding commitment to families in Washtenaw County and address the strain that rising costs and the end of many pandemic-era supports have put on household budgets," Emily Mueller, Basic needs director, United Way for Southeastern Michigan. "We are proud to support these organizations as they work to help individuals and families get out of crisis and stay

out."

Here is a list of Basic Needs grantees with links to their websites:

- Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County - Work to help people live safe, meaningful and independent lives, in a more just community.

- Faith in Action - Provide essential support to alleviate the effects of hunger and poverty for those in Dexter, Chelsea, and surrounding communities.

- Food Gatherers - Rescue local food and leverage state and national food resources for hunger relief.

- Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County, Inc. - Provide programs and services ranging from older adult caregiving to immigrant resettlement and career services.

- Shelter Association of Washtenaw County - Work with a diverse range of people struggling with homelessness, including first-time homelessness, veterans, domestic violence survivors, and people battling substance abuse and/or mental health issues.

- SOS Community Services - Provide integrated services to homeless families, children and youth working to move them from homelessness to self-sufficiency and permanent, stable housing.

- Washtenaw Health Plan dba Washtenaw Health Project - Work to ensure Washtenaw County residents

of all backgrounds and circumstances have the healthcare coverage they need.

"As the cost-of-living soars, we have seen a record number of households visiting our pantry in 2024 and families on the shelter waitlist continue to wait months for housing," said Rhonda Weathers, executive director, SOS Community Service. "We are so thankful for United Way's support for families in our community who are struggling."

Racial Equity Fund

The Racial Equity Fund looks to provide financial support and technical assistance to BIPOC-led organizations through operational unrestricted grants. The goal is to promote authentic inclusion and fair access to resources and opportunities for everyone, empowering individuals to flourish and reach their full potential. Funded projects strive to eliminate racial disparities and foster more equitable communities across Southeastern Michigan.

Racial Equity Fund grantees:

- A Servant's Heart - Faith-based organization working to bring people together not to just talk about our biggest problems — but to solve them.

- Care-Based Safety - Promotes life-affirming care, prevent conflict, collaborate with community partners, and establish a culture of safety in Washtenaw

County.

- Michigan Prison Doula Initiative - Provides childbirth education and birth doula support to incarcerated people.

- Survivors Speak - Works to give the voices back to those who have been unjustly silenced.

- Youth Arts Alliance - Provides healing centered arts workshops to young people across Michigan

- Our Village (The Regents of the University of Michigan as fiduciary

- Mexiquenses Unidos de Michigan - Actively looks beyond what can be accomplished not just for immigrant communities, but in all phases of decision-making affecting their health, educational, and community outcomes.

The Fund, developed by a diverse and inclusive team of community members during the Summer of 2021 and updated in Summer 2023 to include input from Washtenaw County, focuses on the real-life experiences of communities.

"We are so excited to expand our DEI efforts in Washtenaw County. The investments made through our Racial Equity Fund help to address systemic issues, strengthen the resilience and capacity of organizations disproportionately affected by social and economic disparities and in turn, help to build a future where everyone has

an equal opportunity to thrive," said Tonya Adair, chief development, diversity & engagement officer.

This winter, the fund has made \$200,000 available in grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 directly for organizations with BIPOC executive leadership. In total, 49 organizations across the region have been awarded grants since 2022.

A list of all 49 Racial Equity Fund Grantees can be found at <https://unitedwaysem.org/about-us/equity-and-inclusion/racial-equity-fund/racial-equity-fund-recipients/>.

"The United Way for Southeastern Michigan Racial Equity Fund has provided Michigan Prison Doula Initiatives an unprecedented and unbelievable opportunity to support those who support so many," says Tedda Hughes, executive director, Michigan Doula Initiative. "Because of this grant, MPDI will, at long last, be able to offer doula-centered and chosen self-care to caregivers who have worked in the field for decades, never expecting care in return. Thank you to everyone at United Way of Southeastern Michigan, from the bottom of our hearts".

For more information on the Racial Equity Fund, please visit our website UnitedWaySEM.org/RacialEquityFund

Adult Learners Institute Announces its April Schedule



April showers bring...more exciting ALI classes. During the pandemic, three talented musicians, Catherine Ellis, Bob Elkins and Alma Muxlow, came together to explore music that not only entertains but can also provide a soothing space for refreshing the mind and spirit. Their **In-Person and Zoom** class, **Relax and Restore** on April 8, will offer acoustic music that, combined with gentle breathing and relaxation tech-

niques, should restore a sense of calm to body and mind.

In his three **In Person** classes, **Change in American Art: Luminists and Tonalists: America's Search for Transcendental Paradise** on April 5, 12 and 19, Edwin Hoffman will argue that although the period following the Civil War was dark, it was not entirely pessimistic. American artists reflected a unique creativity that reflected acceptance not only of the wrenching burden of our heritage but also of our emergence as a global power. Painters such as John Frederick Kensett and Thomas Wilmer Dewing and sculptors such as Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson

created works that suggest what might be a typically American achievement – the unending search for a transcendental paradise.

No, Charlie Taylor's two **In Person and Zoom** classes on the **Art and Craft of Fly Fishing** on April 17 and 24 are not about catching flies. This is an ancient craft that has been highly refined over many generations. The class will look at all kinds of fly-fishing gear including the kinds of rods, lines, and reels that allow for long accurate casts, and playing with strong fish in such a way that they don't get away. A few casting techniques will be demonstrated

along with a look at Kirk Wallace Johnson's book, *The Feather Thief* on the craft of tying.

"He who sings, prays twice." From the chants of Buddhist monks, to the cantor of a Jewish rabbi, to the qazals of Muslim Sufis, and the hymns of medieval monks and Martin Luther, devotion to God has elicited some of the earliest and, arguably, most beautiful music in human history. In his first **ALI In Person and Zoom** classes, **Music from the Early Church** on April 11, 18 and 25, Pastor Pezzica of Chelsea's Our Savior Lutheran Church will describe the genealogies of many of the hymns we now sing in

church.

In her two **In Person** classes on April 22 and 29, Elizabeth Thoburn who has visited many of the archeological sites she discusses, will be **Looking Again at Ancient Monuments** as she explores the ancient palace of Knossos associated with Theseus and the Minotaur, and at the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem from which the Prophet Mohammed ascended into Heaven.

Prison is hard. For the one in three American adults who have a criminal record, getting free is often just as hard. Concerns about safety, housing, education, getting a job, dealing with criminal background checks,

trauma and simple safety – all these, and more hurdles impact their path forward. Kathie Gourlay and Carolyn Madden are passionate about criminal justice reform and in their **In Person and Zoom** classes on April 30 and May 7, they will discuss the perils of **Re-entering Society with a Criminal Record**.

Catalogs containing more information on these and ALI's other Winter/Spring classes, as well as the registration form are available at grocery stores, libraries, senior centers and several churches and businesses throughout the Five Health Towns area as well as at www.alimichigan.org.

Chelsea Senior Center: Spotlight on April Events

► continued from page 5 bility of solo agers. This is a free event. Register with CSC to reserve your seat.

As a prelude to the Midwest Literary Walk, on April 19 at 12:30 p.m., Author Roz Chast, a New Yorker cartoonist and memoirist, will be at Chelsea Senior Center for

a reading, Q&A, and book signing of her comic memoir, *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant*. Copies of the book will be available for sale onsite by Serendipity Books. All attendees will be entered into a drawing to win a free signed book courtesy of Chelsea District

Library. Register with CSC to reserve your seat.

Additionally, this month's Travel Trips include an overnight adventure to Kentucky for the Ark Encounter on April 23-24. Looking ahead, May's outing is to a Detroit Tigers game, followed by overnight getaways

in June to Mackinac Island for the Lilac Festival and Cornell's Turkeyville Dinner Theatre to see Escanaba in Da Moonlight. June's day trip is to the Kelsey Museum. Each travel outing has an associated cost.

These events are available to our members and the commu-

nity. For participation and access to Chelsea Senior Center's 200 activities every month, there is a \$25 annual membership fee. Please note that scholarships are always available to cover the membership fee.

Chelsea Senior Center (CSC) is a 501c3 nonprofit orga-

nization 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.

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Ayurveda with Susan Whitmarsh



type, which will help us customize our daily health routines and needs. We were also provided with basic information on Ayurveda. Susan also taught a morning movement called the Darsha Chalna, which is a way to get the joints lubed and ready for movement after you wake. It's not stretching but gently moving each of the major joints; neck, shoulders, hips and ankles. The movement releases synovial fluid in the joints. The synovial fluid reduces friction between cartilage and joints. There was a lot of popping and cracking during the process for me. Susan provided us with reading material to learn more about Ayurveda.

Susan was first introduced to Ayurveda years ago in her travels. She watched people

using Ayurvedic techniques and did her own investigation and study. Like any of us, when Covid hit and her life took a turn, she dedicated more time to the study and practice of Ayurveda. If all goes well Susan will complete her studies in May. In the West, Ayurveda is not considered medicine. But Susan will be able to provide lifestyle choices to keep your body in balance with the goal of longevity and enjoyable longevity.. It's one thing to live a long life and another to live it with continued mobility and brain acuity.

According to Susan, Ayurveda is beginning to emerge, like Yoga started to emerge in the West about 40 years ago. This makes logical sense because Ayurveda is the medicine behind the prac-



of Yoga. Overall, they seem to be sister sciences and aspects are being more and more accepted by Western Medicine. I know for certain before pharmaceuticals, my cardiologist prescribes lifestyle changes. If you would like

to learn more about Ayurveda and potentially work with Susan when she completes her studies you can follow her Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/truena-tureyogaandwellbeing>.

► continued from page 1
lection of knowledge that was passed down orally for thousands of years before being compiled in written form... It is an Eastern form of medicine that takes a holistic approach to health with a strong focus

on prevention and the individual. Ayurveda acknowledges that each body is different, therefore what works well for me may not work well for you.

During the class, we were provided a quiz to help us define our Ayurvedic body

"Duet in Many Colors" Showcases Vibrant Artistic Expressions at Gallery 100



McKay



McKay

► continued from page 3
com.

Event Details:

- Opening Reception: Sunday, May 19, 2024, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
- Exhibition Dates: May 4 - June 23, 2024
- Location: Gallery 100, Silver Maples of Chelsea

"Gallery 100 - Life is Art"

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Gallery 100 wel-

comes people of all ages and backgrounds to explore and experience art. Gallery 100 offers engaging exhibitions and community programming of all varieties: artist talks, a residency program, studio classes, and more. Artists who are interested in exhibiting their work at Gallery 100, email Winn Nichols, gallery-100atms@gmail.com.

Chelsea Senior Center's Read & Seed: Sow Much Fun



Chelsea Senior Center's annual two-day Read & Seed event with Chelsea Preschool was another memorable success for connecting generations. Many senior center volunteers look forward to participating each year.

"My favorite part was watching the kids pull radishes up and seeing the expressions on their faces," says Al-

lison Rullman, manager of the Trinh Pifer Intergenerational Garden. "It was like they discovered a treasure."

During Read & Seed, preschoolers and Chelsea Senior Center (CSC) volunteers participated in two activities. In the cafeteria, senior volunteers read garden books to the young ones.

"I had a blast," shares Jean Dunn, a longtime CSC volunteer. Dunn has volunteered for

Read and Seed since its inception. "The kids are so energetic, yet they listen so well. We talked about vegetables; which ones they love and which ones they don't. We talked about fussy eating. It was so much fun."

In the garden hoop house, preschoolers planted seeds of carrot, radish, kale, nasturtium and more in raised beds under the guidance of senior center volunteers. The preschoolers

also admired the verdant beds of strawberry vines and blossoms and experienced the joy of pulling up leaves to see the whole radish pop from the soil.

"I am always so thrilled to see the energy and excitement of the young folks scattering, covering and watering seeds," says longtime CSC volunteer Charlotte Wyche. "This year was especially exciting because they could touch, smell and

taste kale and radish."

Many of the children gave the "thumbs up" on flavor for these early-growing bitter garden vegetables, the seeds of which had been planted last fall and in February by garden volunteers. Rullman is already planning to plant more rows of radishes for next year's Read & Seed, since the "big radish reveal" was a clear hit with the preschoolers.

In just a few weeks,

the preschoolers will return to the hoop house to admire the seedling growth. Sharing the Washington Street Education Center's campus, the two organizations connecting for intergenerational experiences has been a favorite tradition. Volunteers are always welcome and needed in the Trinh Pifer Intergenerational Garden. Contact CSC to volunteer.

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 is located at 512 Washington Street. Contact CSC at connected@chelseaseniors.org or (734) 475-9242.

SOLAR ECLIPSE PROGRESSION IN PHOTOS: MICHIGAN 2024

SOLAR ECLIPSE
APRIL 8, 2024



Photo By: Chrissy Fitch

Humane Society of Huron Valley adopts groundbreaking treatment, Achieves 100% survival rate



Shelby, a 3-month-old puppy with parvo, was treated at HSHV, and adopted March 2024

Puppies who get Parvovirus have, on average, about a 9% survival rate. But at Ann Arbor's Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) right now, their survival rate is 100%.

The Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) recently implemented a groundbreaking advancement in the treatment of Parvovirus (parvo), a highly contagious viral illness that affects dogs, particularly puppies.

"Parvo is a deadly disease that sends animal shelters and families alike into terror. Having to euthanize baby dogs or watch them die from this devastating disease takes a toll on everyone," says Tanya Hilgendorf, HSHV's CEO. "So for years, we've been putting in the time and expense to treat them with round-the-clock, labor intensive care. And even that hasn't been 100% successful, sadly. So we are thrilled with what

we're experiencing with this new treatment by Elanco."

Elanco's Canine Parvovirus Monoclonal Antibody (CPMA) treatment received a conditional license by the USDA in May 2023, and HSHV ordered it in June. It's currently the only treatment available for parvo and can be given to dogs and puppies at least eight weeks old who test positive.

"Largely due to the implementation of this single-dose intravenous drug and treatment protocol," says Dr. Courtney White, Vice President of Veterinary Medicine at HSHV, "we are thrilled to report that we have a 100% survival rate for parvo cases in 2024. It's not inexpensive, but when one considers the cost of 24/7 care, with fluids, feedings, medications, and support—not to mention the emotional toll for an unpredictable outcome—the cost of this new treatment

seems worth it."

Parvovirus is a devastating disease that primarily targets the gastrointestinal tract of dogs, causing severe vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration, and in many cases, death, especially among unvaccinated adults and puppies. Parvo is highly contagious and remains a significant concern for animal shelters across the country, with outbreaks posing a substantial threat to dogs.

"This new treatment offers so much new hope; since this treatment began, we've helped 11 puppies who've had parvo, and they're all thankfully alive and well today," Hilgendorf says. "While 11 may not seem like a lot compared to the thousands we take in, we believe each individual is worth saving."

"We are so grateful to the donors, volunteers and staff who make this possible, keeping our shelter at the forefront of innovation in helping animals in their people," Hilgendorf adds. "The implementation of this groundbreaking treatment reflects our unwavering commitment to safeguard the well-being of animals in our care, mitigate infectious diseases, and improve overall outcomes for all."

For more information about the Humane Society of Huron Valley and its programs, please visit hshv.org.



Chelsea Police Department Weekly Summary

Incident #: 24-1142

Date: April 9, 2024

Location: 300 block of Railroad St.

Time: 3:53 pm

INFORMATION: A complainant came into the Chelsea Police Department to report that she had recently found fraudulent transactions that had occurred on her account. The complainant stated that a couple of weeks earlier she had received a call from her financial institution and they said that they suspected that some fraudulent

charges had been made on her account. The complainant stated that a few days later she had received another call from the same financial institution, stating that they had noticed additional suspicious activity on the account and had flagged a large charge that was suspected to have been fraudulent. The complainant then went

through her financial records and found that in fact two large transactions had occurred, one of the charges was flagged and pending and the second transaction had appeared to have gone through successfully earlier in the day. The case remains open pending further contact by the investigator with the financial institution.

Incident #: 24-1154

Date: April 10, 2024

Location: 1200 block of S. Main Street

Time: 3:03 pm

INFORMATION: While on routine patrol officers were dispatched to the 1200 block of S. Main Street for the report of a suspected check fraud that was in progress. Upon arrival the officers met with the complainant who stated that the suspect was still on scene and was attempting to deposit the check into his account. The complainant stated that the check was a United

States Treasury check and when they were presented the check, they could immediately tell that the check did not appear to be legitimate and asked the branch manager to contact the police. The officers located the suspect who had remained on scene and he was identified as a 20-year-old Jackson man. The suspect told the officers that he had received the check in the mail a few

days ago and was trying to deposit the check. The officers confirmed that there was enough probable cause to arrest the suspect and he was placed under arrest for Uttering & Publishing. The suspect was transported to the Chelsea Police Department where he was fingerprinted on the charges and eventually released pending review by the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office.

Incident #: 24-1156

Date: April 11, 2024

Location: 200 block of Harrison Street

Time: 8:28 am

INFORMATION: A complainant came into the Chelsea Police Department to report that he had two large packages delivered to his house on April 9th at approximately 8:00 pm. When the com-

plainant received a notification of the delivery he went outside and was unable to locate the delivered packages. The complainant stated that he contacted the company that he purchased the items from and the

company confirmed that they showed the items as being delivered. At the time of the report there was no suspect information available.

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