



SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

The RECORDER

Death Notices: (see page 3)
Ruth I. Mills, age 91, of Albion
Jeremiah R. Newsome, of Springport
Maxine, "Maggie" Konkle, age 94, of Albion
Carole Ann Riske, age 73, of Springport

AREA SPORTS IN THIS WEEK'S RECORDER

Concord High School
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Marshall High School
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Springport High School
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Jonesville runs past Concord in Big 8 football
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Albion Area Lifelong Learners celebrate 20 year anniversary
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Springport Farmer's Market Finishes Up the Summer
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Dow Center expansion under way
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Mayor hopes for a big turnout this first Community Unity Day and quick update on city manager

By SYLVIA BENAVIDEZ
Contributing Writer

For a few hours of help this Saturday morning, you can make a big difference in the City of Albion. Since the resolution passed on Aug. 5 to set aside the second Saturday in September annually as Community Unity Day in Albion, Mayor Dave Atchison has been busily working to prepare for the event. In a recent interview, Atchison reported that he has commitments for volunteers from Starr Commonwealth, Albion College fraternities, the scouts, and the cub scouts, Homestead Savings Bank, and various churches throughout the community. Some of the AmeriCorps

VISTA volunteers will be helping to coordinate the event handing out tasks with the mayor starting at 9 a.m. in McIntosh Park located on 791 Hoaglin Road. The park, named after Albion's first African American Councilman, is not too far from the old Crowell School. Its cross street is State Street. Look for the mayor and the AmeriCorps VISTA as they will assign your location. Unfortunately having Community T-shirts didn't work out this year, but the AmeriCorp VISTA volunteers will be recognizable in their burgundy shirts. Bringing work gloves and a broom is helpful, but not necessary. According to Atchison, some of the jobs include painting fire hydrants throughout the city, picking up

trash, planting, etc. Some work crews will go to Riverside Cemetery to clean off headstones and others will go to Victory Park to pick-up trash. More volunteers will be needed to paint an exposed wall where shrubs used to be at the train depot, and painting needs to be done at Stouffer's Plaza. There will be something for everyone to do and working in teams so you can get to know your neighbors is the whole point of the event. Mayor Atchison said that holding the clean-up effort a week or so before the Festival of Forks helps Albion look its best for all the visitors. Albion businesses have also stepped up to provide financial support. When asked why his business is involved

with Community Unity Day, Performance Auto Store Manager Chris Brenner said, "We want to help the community look better, and it's our way of giving back." At 11:30 a.m. in Victory Park, Mayor Atchison states that there will be food and music in the park to thank all the volunteers. On a side note, Mayor Atchison reported that the city council is awaiting the signature of the contract by the proposed City Manager Darwin McClary. Once received, the council will vote on Monday, Sept. 16 to approve the hire. It is Atchison's understanding that the new city manager hopes to be in town for the Festival of the Forks and begin work before Oct. 1.

Rockfest at Goose Lake: Music, Art and Good Times



Photo by Ken Wyatt

This was the scene at one point in the Saturday afternoon festival at the Wildwood Acres Campground.

By KEN WYATT
Contributing Writer

I missed the original 1970 Goose Lake Rock Festival by a year and a half, for we arrived in Jackson County in early 1972. Nearly half a century after that raucous event in Leoni Township's Goose Lake, Pulaski Township's Goose Lake gave me a second chance. But the crowd I was part of last Saturday was much smaller, far more tame, yet still a bit of a culture challenge for a retired journalist who never before had ventured to a rock festival. Last weekend's event was held at Wildwood Acres Campground in Pulaski Township, just north of the Hillsdale County Line. It began Friday afternoon and continued through the weekend with band after band on a stage next to a large red barn. As a journalist, I had a pass and could bring one guest with me. Knowing our township supervisor was interested, I asked Bob Jones along. And the pair of us wandered the acres talking with organizers, vendors, and those who showed up hoping for a taste of that old rock festival experience. See GOOSE LAKE on page 2



Photo Courtesy of Josh Sanderson / Three Ribbon Studios

Wesley and the Crushers and FWAR, two bands from outer space, battle it out on stage during a heavy rendition of "We Will Rock You"



Photo by Ken Wyatt

Casey Rowe of "Unknown Crowe" caught in a moment of rocker stage antics.

Local Horse Rescue Needs More Regular Volunteers as Winter Encroaches!

By SYLVIA BENAVIDEZ
Contributing Writer

Imagine having 50 to 60 hungry mouths to feed that on average weigh anywhere from 800 to over 2,000 pounds and all wanting to eat at once. Robin Walters and her husband Randy, who own and operate the non-profit Hoof & Heart, face this challenge on a daily basis. Their horse rescue is located on 2932 Eaton Rapids Road, in Albion just North of I 94. Hoof & Heart is an equine rescue and their intake can consist of all types of horses, mules, donkeys, and miniature horses. Their mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome unwanted and slaughter-bound horses. Usually, the owners have open houses on Sundays beginning at 1 p.m. for the public to discover what offering sanctuary means to horses. For the months of September and October, however, Walters explains that they are having project days to prepare for winter. Every week volunteers will focus on different needs on the grounds. Tasks include: mending fences, cutting lumber, painting, watering the animals, feeding, grooming, raking, etc. One very important project will be to build four emergency stalls in the new shed so that if there is a problem with a horse who needs care, an older horse won't be displaced. Volunteers who are carpenters or know how to build or who can donate lumber are especially encouraged to help winterize the stalls. The need is urgent not only because the snow and ice are coming, but also because of



Photos by Sylvia Benavidez

Robin Walters offers hope and a home to many horses whether race horses or trail horses the number of animals under their care. Says, Walters, "Now I am basically full. I am an attorney by trade. My whole salary goes to this. We live on my husband's salary, which also goes to this in a certain part. The ownership and upkeep of the property is a donation by the couple. According to Walters just paying for feed, vet-



Minature horse Queen Bee shyly checks out the visitors.



Missy and Tika who are blind share a meal and an occasional bump of heads.

erinarian services, and farrier costs can easily go over \$110, 000 a year, so their operation depends on volunteers for assistance in caring for the animals. She also credits the support of the organization's volunteers for making the lives of the horses comfortable and healthy. Although Hoof & Heart's volunteer list

roughly consists of 60 people, there are about 10 volunteers that come in regularly to help care for the equine family. Walters and her husband appreciate the current help, and still, they need at least five more committed volunteers.

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