

Sunday, June 16, 2016

Hello everyone,

A few things that I wanted to give you a “heads-up” about.

**Welcome to the GLHS Class of 2016 –**

I would like to welcome the Class of 2016 to our Grass Lake Alumni Information Update E-Mail Contact List. Periodically we publish news and events from in and around Grass Lake to keep our alumni and friends updated. You are now included in a list that includes 1,159 e-mail addresses. If you wish not to receive these updates, let me know and your address will be removed.

**Scheduling for the Upcoming School Year -**

The last day of school for our students is Friday, June 17, and the first day of school for the 2016-2017 school year is August 24. Through a three-year waiver applied for and granted by the Michigan Department of Education, all Jackson County Schools will be utilizing the same schedule that includes 180 days of instruction, which allows everyone to begin school in advance of Labor Day. While Grass Lake has scheduled 180 days of instruction for several years, 180 has become a requirement for all Michigan schools, effective this coming school year.

**Runners and Walkers, Please Take Notice.....**

On Friday, July 8, the 6th Annual Traffic Jam’In 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Fun Run will be held beginning at the Community Events Park on Brown Street across the railroad tracks from the Depot Building. Go to <http://bit.ly/22muRpi> to find a printable registration form, or you can register online at <http://bit.ly/27QsrhZ>. After the race enjoy the festivities at the park that will include live entertainment, carnival games, refreshment tent, food vendors, a car smash, raffles, bounce houses and inflatable rides. For more information, contact Dawn Cuddie at 517-268-3213, or [coachcuddie@yahoo.com](mailto:coachcuddie@yahoo.com), or go to [www.grasslakechamber.org](http://www.grasslakechamber.org).

**Grass Lake Area Historical Society Update –**

A very nice article about happening around Grass Lake with historical significance can be found at <http://www.lifeinmichigan.com/grass-lake-area-historical-connections/>. It mentions the Coe House, Car #29, the Depot, and other items.

**Lost Railway Museum –**

Work has begun clearing the former Troy’s Tool Box (former implement company) to transform the building into the “Lost Railway Museum”. A group led by Phil Willis and Jim Stormont has already purchased an historical electric car and restoration work is being done at the Willis Farm at 2215 Willis Road. Volunteers are welcome to participate with the restorations of Car #1137 on Saturday mornings from 9-12:00. Come join in the fun and see where you can help. M R Builder received approval from the Village planning commission on June 6 on the building plan. Mike McKay said that he has workers scheduled on July 15<sup>th</sup> to begin work on the building. Currently Phil and Jim are working on a campaign to raise \$1,000,000 for the project, but they need support. Thanks to the Copper Nail for their \$5,000 contribution to the project. For those of you who use Facebook, you can find more information at <https://www.facebook.com/LostRailwayMuseum/?fref=ts>. If you have questions about how you can help, contact Phil at [Phil@willispc.com](mailto:Phil@willispc.com), or Jim at [JimS@grasslakect.com](mailto:JimS@grasslakect.com).

**Progress being made on the Federated Church Construction –**

New pictures from Friday, June 10 of work on the new church building. Progress is seen daily. Work also continues on the inside of the sanctuary where lights are getting ready to be hung and wainscoting is being prepped for installation.



### **Lady Warrior Varsity Softball Team's Season Ends in MHSAA Regionals –**

While being turned away from a Regional title by an excellent St Mary Catholic Central softball team, we are so proud of the effort, spirit, and grit shown by our Lady Warrior Varsity Softball team throughout the 2016 campaign. Another district title trophy will sit in our case as a reminder of the successes of this squad and the excitement they brought to our school. They ended the season 33-5. Thank you Lady Warriors for a wonderful season!



### **George Long Elementary School Students Work to Help Farmer with Disabilities –**

George Long Elementary School teacher Mike Arbuckle teaches STEM – science, technology, engineering, math – subjects to the students. He partnered with AgrAbility, a company that helps enhance the quality of life for farmers with disabilities, to provide 11 scenarios of disabilities to his students and had them develop ideas toward supporting these farmers. Thank you for providing this opportunity for your students Mr. Arbuckle! Go to <http://bit.ly/1U7DQux> for the story. (See photo next page.)



### **Grass Lake High School Students Excel in Learning New Vocabulary –**

[Vocabulary.com](https://www.vocabulary.com) combines the world's smartest dictionary with an adaptive learning game that allows students to learn new words and includes a count of new words learned per school. GLHS English teacher Amy Janz reports that she has received an email from [vocabulary.com](https://www.vocabulary.com) that Grass Lake High School ranked as the runner up for the most words mastered for May in Michigan, while being ranked third in April. At that point our students were 1,575 words behind first place. The competition will continue until the end of the school year. We are very proud of our students.

Have a great week everyone! Doug