

April
2024



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Wilson SDA Junior Academy News
- Pathfinders News
- Back In the Day
- March Church Board Meeting
- Announcements and Classifieds



Wilson SDA Junior Academy

We are proud to announce our own Alivia Groleau won first place for the 7th grade Michigan Education Association Coordinating Council #17B competition in the Youth in Art 2024 exhibit at the Bonifas Arts Center! We're so proud of her! We had 6 submissions from Mrs. Hakes' class and we're proud of all of them.

Each month we participate in a Bible Lab community service project. This month we made notes of thanksgiving for our local area fire departments, sharing our appreciation for all the hard work, protection, and sacrifice they provide us. We also want to acknowledge those in our church family who are a part of the fire department around here. You're awesome and we appreciate you immensely!

Be sure to mark your calendar for May 18 when WJA will perform our final program for the school year including all music groups and drama. Invite your friends and neighbors!

We're also proud to announce that we have completed our focus visit for our accreditation process with the Lake Union and received high praise for all we have accomplished since our last visit in 2022. We passed with flying colors. We'll have another check-in next Spring, then the full evaluation will occur again in 2027.

Thank you church family for all of your support and prayers as we move rapidly towards the end of our academic year. The last day of school is May 23rd.

--Blessings,

Ginnie Hakes

Principal, Wilson Junior Academy

N13925 County Rd 551

Wilson, MI 49896

W: 906-639-2566

P: 906-309-0231

www.wja-sda.org

Don't forget about our ongoing Rada fundraiser. They have a great selection of knives and kitchen utensils that are a great gift or just a great new addition to your own supply!

If you shop online please use the link above, or you may search for **Wilson SDA Jr. Academy** at <https://radafundraising.com/pages/select-your-fundraising-group> . If you prefer a catalog, please contact Brandee Groleau! She is also willing to help you with your orders.

The funds raised will go directly towards finishing our school gym project so that our school can function at its greatest potential for our students and teachers. Please help us meet this goal!

RADA Cutlery Fundraiser for the WJA School Expansion

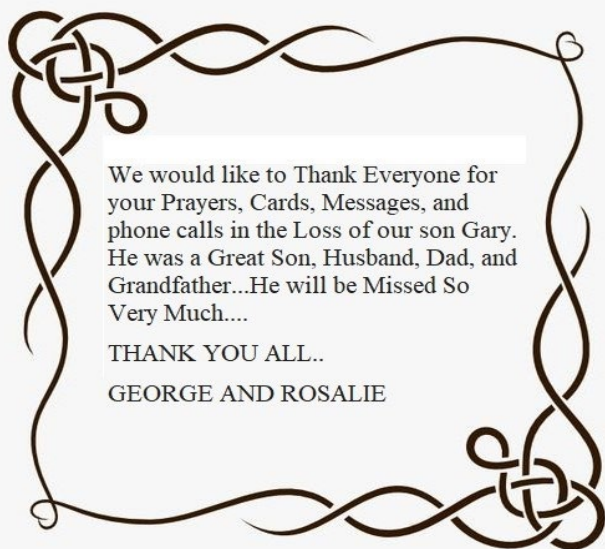
<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=1820058.87e8e7>

or call Brandee Groleau (906) 399-9247 (call or text)

Pathfinders

The Pathfinders have been busy working on several different honors: Welding, Tie-dye, bubbles, and Christian drama. Dylan from Gideon Rescue came and taught us the disaster ministry, and Three angels' messages honors. In February, the 6th graders took a trip to Battle Creek to learn about our Adventist pioneers. They will be presenting some of the things they learned for Pathfinder Sabbath.

Pinewood derby raised nearly 400 dollars for international camporee. We had three extra camporee tickets that we were able to transfer to another club, which will give us 675 dollars back to use for camporee expenses as well. We are getting very close to having the necessary funds and we are so thankful for your support! We are currently working on the logistics of transportation to and from Gillette to get our budget completely finalized. Two special needs we would like to address before the camporee is a new banner with our new club logo for the parades we will be participating in and to display our club's name at our campsite. We are estimating \$200 for this. The other is that we would like to acquire some more tents. Over the last year some of our tents have failed. We are expecting occasional strong wind gusts in Wyoming. From our experience the best tent style for this is a dome style with a rain fly that extends to the ground with multiple tie downs. We would welcome any donation of used tents in good repair that meet this description.



We would like to Thank Everyone for your Prayers, Cards, Messages, and phone calls in the Loss of our son Gary. He was a Great Son, Husband, Dad, and Grandfather...He will be Missed So Very Much....

THANK YOU ALL..

GEORGE AND ROSALIE

BACK IN THE DAY

WHEN PICKING MILKWEED WAS A PATRIOTIC PURSUIT

Wisconsin Natural Resources *magazine*
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/wnrmag/2019/Fall/back>



These days kids are recruited to help save monarch butterflies by joining campaigns to collect milkweed pods and plant new stems. But back in the fall of 1944, similar efforts asked children to help save lives in another way involving milkweed.

"Two bags save one life," read one government slogan. Others were, "Don't let our sailors sink" and "Schoolchildren of America? Help save your fathers', brothers', and neighbors' lives by collecting milkweed pods."

Seventy-five years ago, in the height of World War II, milkweed was valued for its floss, a naturally buoyant and water-repellant fiber used to fill life jackets for soldiers. It took two 20-pound bags of milkweed pods to make one life preserver.

Because men were at war and women were filling their places in the workforce, children became the government's focus for recruitment. Some picked milkweed as a class project, gathering pods in their walks to and from school where their teachers collected them. Others were a part of organized projects for 4-H clubs or Scout groups.

Before the war, life preservers were made from kapok, a silky fiber from the fruit of a tree grown in the East Indies (present-day Indonesia). But Japan's occupation of that region during the war cut off kapok supplies and

(continued page 3)

BACK IN THE DAY (continued)

the federal government identified milkweed as a suitable substitute.

There wasn't time to cultivate the amount of milkweed it would take to supply the need — 2 million pounds of ripe pods could make 100,000 life jackets — so the call went out to schoolchildren to pick wild milkweed.

Children were supplied with open-mesh onion bags or gunny sacks and sent afield to pick in September to mid-October, when the pods were ripe but not yet fully open. After picking, bags were tied together and strung saddle-style over fences to dry.

Urban and rural schoolchildren were encouraged to collect enough milkweed to make one life jacket— at least two sacks apiece — and were paid 15 to 20 cents per bag. Members of 4-H clubs received extra credit for their efforts. A 4-H history website (https://4-hhistorypreservation.com/History/WW-II_Support/#TOC-20) tallied the collection efforts by 4-H groups across the country, reporting that "by November 1944, Wisconsin 4-H'ers had already passed their 50,000 sacks goal."

A report by the Michigan History magazine ("A weed goes to war, and Michigan provides the ammunition") tells the story of what happened to the pods once they were picked. In 1942, the government appropriated a former lumber company in Petoskey, Michigan — located on the milkweed-rich northeastern shores of Lake Michigan — as the country's only milkweed processing plant.

Petoskey was accessible by road, rail and ship. Collection points were established at rural stores and small businesses across the Midwest and New England to funnel the fruits of the children's efforts to the company's processing plant, where they went through a procedure to dry and separate them.

Bagged pods passed through a dryer at the rate of 1,000 bags per hour, were lifted and emptied into a hopper, then gently crushed to release the floss, which was collected in a bagging chamber. The broken pods and seeds fell through a grate to collection bins below.

It was a time when patriotism was intergenerational. Everybody made sacrifices and children stepped up to the challenge and did their part. Reports of the efforts estimate that by the end of the war, children had picked over 2.5 million pounds of milkweed.

Kathryn A. Kahler is associate editor of Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine.

March Church Board Meeting

Related to the school:

- Members are asked to join in special prayer for WJA, privately, and co-operatively in the library before services on Sabbath morning.
- The school board has voted a modest increase in tuition and fees for the next school year.

A fund-raising project is being launched to focus on upkeep and improvement needs of church owned properties.

Progress is being made on upkeep projects.

- Thanks to Jim Pierce for obtaining and installing the new storm door on the Rent A house.
- Thanks to Gary Berger for picking up the new front pre-cast steps for the Rent B house, and to Mike and Tim Groleau for setting them in place.

Many hands make light work. Watch for opportunities to participate to be posted soon.



Last meeting for the season of the Gourley Township Historical Society will be Thursday, April 4th at the Township Hall. The topic will be a little different from previous meetings. We remember that our community has always been interested and dependent on our gardens, and many see that as a critical issue now. We will discuss how we can improve our personal gardens and share and barter with other gardeners as the price of groceries continues to rise.

Check it out....

Contact Ivy at (906) 639-2979 or ivynetz@gmail.com for info.

Miscellaneous Announcements & Classified Ads



Boerschinger Boy Baking

Making bread to order
call 906-639-3632
Ask for Zebulun



In search of clean gently used sofas and chairs for juniors sabbath school room. Please contact Brandee 906-399-9247. Text or call

FOR SALE

SQUARE STRAW BALES \$4.00

CALL RUSS BERGER, Jr.

(906) 639-2029



Chicken \$3 doz

Eggs for Sale



Duck \$3 for ½ doz

Call 906-639-3632

Ask for Ezra



GREAT LAKES
ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Academy Days APRIL 21-22, 2024

Register online at
glaa.net
or call us today!

- Experience dorm life
- Check-out classes & meet teachers
- Enjoy Aerokhanas, Bell Choir, Chamber Singers, String Ensemble and Wind Symphony group performances
- Make new friends & see old ones
- Win prizes

7477 ACADEMY ROAD,
EDMORE, MI 48829

(989) 427-4444

GLAA.NET

Farm Store

N9145 Badish Road L1

Daggett, MI

(906) 753-4577

M-W-F-Sat 11am – 6 pm ct



Whole milk, 2% milk, skim milk, chocolate milk, whipping cream (heavy cream), Half N Half creamer, ice cream, home-made waffle cones, pizza, beef

Buy one dairy product, get another same size for ½ price, only at the farm store!