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Community.

For over 50 years the Auburn Cornfest has been a cornerstone in our town and surrounding area for bringing people back together.

The Cornfest is the place where so many fond memories have been made. Over 50 years of children, young and old, walking down the midway and enjoying an elephant ear. Kids running through the maze house and riding the motorcycle ride. Boys and girls challenging each other to race down the slide - and then doing it again and again. Thrill seekers going on the Zipper and the Scrambler time after time. Young love riding high above the festival on the Ferris wheel holding hands and then playing the games along the midway to win a prize for each other.

There have been five decades of music and good times in the Cornfest entertainment tent, with folks enjoying the country bands, the rock bands, DJs and, of course, the polka band that ends the weekend. It's so much fun having a hamburger, corn on the cob, and a drink while listening to all the sounds of the festival. It's a pleasure watching the younger generation making the memories that you made here so many years ago.

Cornfest is a place for people coming together and catching up, whether they haven't seen each other for a week or 20 years. The planned class reunions and the impromptu ones. The wedding groups that want to come down for a drink because they haven't missed

a Cornfest since they were 4 years old. The neighbors who want to enjoy some great music and fellowship. And the friends who want to meet new people and make new friends.

Times have changed and so has the Cornfest. Rides have evolved, bands have come and gone, and the people in charge have moved on. There will still be a parade, fireworks, and children's fishing tournament, but we have also added a dirt drag race and a corn-hole tournament in the past few years. I know it would not be summer without enjoying some time down at the festival.

I want to thank the many individuals and businesses that have come together to make the Auburn Cornfest a special community celebration. Many hours have been invested to make this a fun and safe time for all ages. I look forward to seeing you there this year and in the years to come.



Thanks and God bless, *Dave Friebe*
President Auburn Improvement Management

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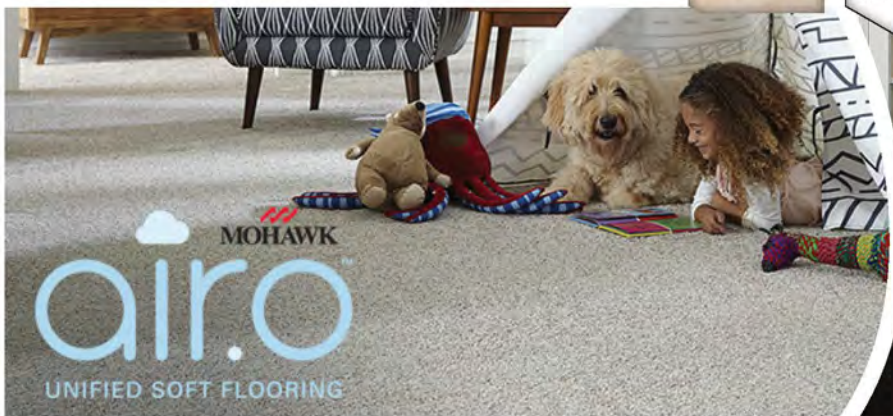
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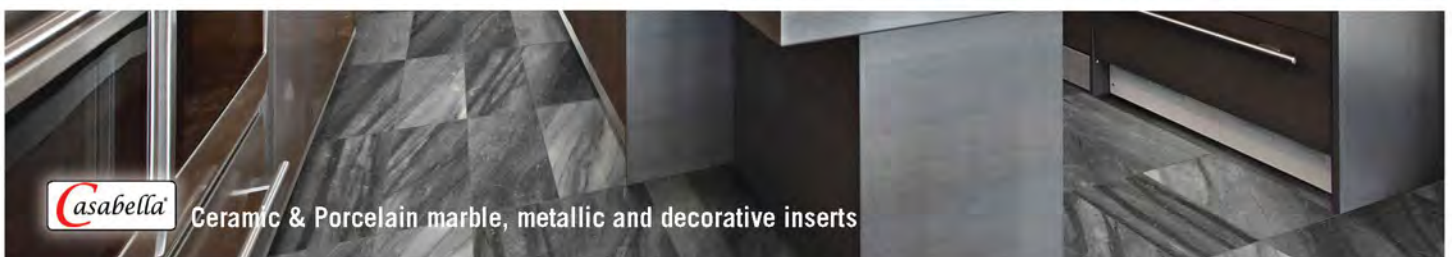
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Foster Families NRC

As local licensed foster parents for the last five years, we have had the opportunity to care for several placements in our home. As foster parents ourselves, we know there is a great need in the community to provide foster families and relatives caring for foster children with guidance, support, and mentorship, as well as a database of available resources for other assistance.

We established the Foster Families Navigation Resource Center (NRC) in 2020 to help support foster parents and foster children in a variety of ways. A primary goal of the NRC is changing the perception of foster care and providing education about what foster care means through community outreach. There are many opportunities that individuals can take to support

kids in care, whether it is becoming a foster parent or supporting foster parents and organizations such as the NRC.

The saying goes that "it takes a village to raise a child" and this is exactly what the NRC works to provide. There are several ways in which community members can become involved with this non-profit organization including: providing donations to assist foster youths' needs, volunteering time, hosting a meet and greet with your local Rotary Club or church group, or making a monetary donation.

During the past quarter, Foster Families NRC served more than 150 families, sometimes touching these



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families multiple times with support. The NRC assisted in handing out more than 50 hygiene packs, which include shampoo, deodorant, soap, hairbrush, toothpaste, etc., to local foster youth. A new towel and washcloth are included in every pack. While it may seem trivial to some that these basic needs are being met, for kids in foster care, items like these can help restore a sense of dignity and self-worth.

Many times, youth come into foster care with few if any belongings. An important resource housed at the Foster Families Center is our Resource Boutique. We carry size newborn through 3X, offering foster youth and their families access to our clothing for all age ranges and seasons. We take pride in what we're able to gather and provide for our kids and only carry new or extremely gently used clothing.

The NRC has been blessed with support and help from local communities, businesses, and organizations. United Financial Credit Union hosted a "Scrub a Dub" event to collect hygiene products, towels, and washcloths. Members First Credit Union held a clothing drive. New Life Church in Saginaw collected more than 140 new items of clothing. And Austin's Flowers and Gifts in Freeland just completed a new sock and underwear drive. It's only through amazing volunteers, partners, and donors like these that we are able to do what we do. And we are so incredibly thankful!



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Through our website, fosterfamiliesnrc.org, we are able to provide an active database that is constantly updated with available local and national resources. We created this database to be simple, easy, and convenient. It was designed for foster families, biological parents, and older foster youth to be able to use with ease. Along with the database, the web site houses a resource guide on what to expect with fostering, commonly asked questions, and other support.

We also offer a foster care mentoring program. This helps our new foster families or relative placements to be partnered with a more seasoned family, so they can walk this journey

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together. We know building relationships is key to support and with this mentoring program we strive to help make that happen.

Children ranging in age from birth to 17 years old can be placed in foster care for a variety of reasons. Many we may not know, but what we do know is that it is at NO fault of

their own. Here at the NRC, we work to support the families who choose to take these kiddos in and care for them in their time of need. The more support we can wrap around the family, the more they can support the children that come into their care.

To learn more about the Foster Fam-

ilies Navigation Resource Center and the services they provide, visit www.fosterfamiliesnrc.org. While there, you can sign up for the NRC newsletter, find ways to volunteer, and even donate. If you wish to mail in a donation, the center is located at 1501 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706.

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United Financial is also heavily involved in their local communities. It may be little things like sponsoring a local t-ball team or donating a gift basket to a golf outing, the credit union also sponsors a couple larger events each year as well.

Most recently they were the presenting sponsor for the 50th Anniversary Auburn CornFest, they also put on a 5K/10K race in Freeland; the United Financial CU Walleye Race that is in conjunction with the Walleye Festival in April. You probably have seen our staff volunteering at various local events as well. Follow our Facebook page to see where we go next.

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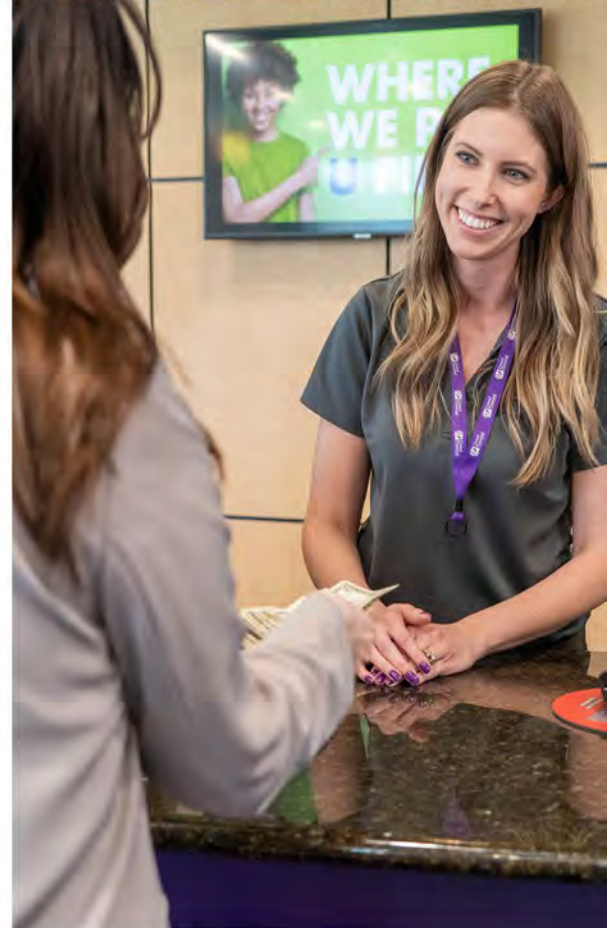
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NEIGHBORS AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

increasing awareness

Neighbors Against Drug Abuse (NADA) was formed approximately six years ago after some area residents became concerned about the number of overdoses in our community. This is a common concern seen in many communities around our country as an increased number of people are battling substance use disorder. The goal of NADA is to increase awareness of

and education about this disease as well as to decrease the stigma of substance use disorder. The mission of NADA is: "To raise awareness in our community for the prevention of substance use disorder by sharing testimonies, information, and methods to control an epidemic that is destroying families and taking lives."

Neighbors Against Drug Abuse has been involved in the community increasing awareness through a variety of events, including community presentations, billboards, walking in the Cornfest parade, a t-shirt display at Bay City Western, and showing the movie "Stigmatic" at the Auburn library. We also organized a purple light display in recognition of International Overdose Awareness

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the future. We can all do our part by supporting people battling substance use disorder to seek treatment in a compassionate manner. Substance use disorder does not discriminate and we are losing too many good young people in our communities.

We have one fundraising event annually in August which we have titled "A Night to Remember." At this event we recognize people in recovery from substance use disorder, remember those that are no longer with us due to overdose, increase awareness

Day, which included 22 area businesses lighting up their facilities. The community of Auburn has been very supportive of our organization.

Our message is that substance use disorder can happen to anyone and everyone can do their part by talking about this growing concern in our communities. Too many times stigma causes people to be reluctant to ask for help with their struggles. Stigma is the false belief that substance use disorder occurs in people who are "bad" or "weak." The truth is that substance use disorder is a disease that can be treated successfully, and we have an opportunity to see improved treatment opportunities and outcomes in

and decrease the stigma of this disease. Funds raised are used to help individuals and families who are battling substance use disorder and increase residential treatment opportunities in our area. The night includes a catered meal, two speakers, music, and a silent auction.

This year's event is scheduled for Aug. 27 at 6:00 pm at the LFA hall. Sponsorship opportunities are available, and the ticket price is \$25. For more information about this event, please message us on the Neighbors Against Drug Abuse Facebook page or call 989-450-9562.

Thank You Robert and the whole Kernstock Family for hosting the Auburn CornFest Fireworks every year!











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JELLY ROLL TO PERFORM IN *Auburn* FRIDAY, JULY 29

B KEN SHELTON

Fans of country and rap are in for a rare treat when Jelly Roll takes the stage in Auburn on Friday, July 29.

Described by some in the music industry as a "country Post Malone," Jelly Roll's music is a unique blend of Southern rap beats, soulful Southern rock, and more traditional acoustic sounds.

Jelly Roll will be joined by special musical guests Struggle Jennings and Chase Matthews. The show, which will be held on the Auburn Cornfest property, is presented by Tailgates N Tallboys along with Ken Shelton Promotions. Gates open at 6 p.m. Tickets are available at etix.com or kensheltonpromotions.com. General admission tickets are \$44.99 in advance or \$50 at the gate.

Born Jason DeFord, Jelly Roll grew up poor in the Nashville suburb of Antioch. By the time he was in his teens, he was struggling with addiction and getting in trouble with police. By the time he was in his twenties, he had spent time in jail on robbery and possession with intent to distribute charges.

That stint in jail, and the birth of his daughter, helped Jelly Roll turn his love of music and skill for writing poetry into a career. Always open about his past struggles, Jelly Roll recalls "battle rapping" in jail to hone his craft. When he was released from custody, he started producing tapes of his music and selling them out of the trunk of his car.

Jelly Roll is known for his collaborations with Lil Wyte, Struggle Jennings, Tech N9ne, Haystak, and Ryan Upchurch. His 2010 collaboration with Lil Wyte, "Pop Another Pill," scored more than 6.3 million YouTube views.

In March 2020, Jelly Roll's full-length album, "A Beautiful Disaster," which featured guest spots by Krizz Kaliko, Lil Wyte, Struggle Jennings, and others, went to number nine on the Billboard Independent Albums chart.

"You've got to believe in yourself."

His most recent album project, "Ballads of the Broken," includes some of his most popular songs to date: "Son of a Sinner," "Dead Man Walking," and "Save Me."

Jelly Roll made his Grand Ole Opry debut in November 2021, at the historic Ryman Auditorium, not far from where he grew up.

"I'm a testament that anybody can do it if you work," the 35-year-old, 450-pound rapper said following his performance. "You've got to believe in yourself."

Jelly Roll has a packed schedule for the rest of the year, including shows at the storied Red Rocks Amphitheatre and Bridgestone Arena in Nashville.

Learn more about Jelly Roll and watch his videos at <https://jellyroll615.com>.

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JULY 29, 2022

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Letter from AUBURN CITY MAYOR



Summer is here so whether you're listening to a concert in the park, enjoying music on your patio, buying fresh fruits and vegetables at the Farmers Market, or just relaxing and fishing in the pond, Auburn is a great place to enjoy the warmth and beauty of a Michigan summer.

Auburn is full of activities. Our Farmers Market is growing every year. Open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Park Pavilion, put the Farmers Market on your weekly to do list. Vegetables change with the harvest season, so expect to see different items with each visit. Our Farmers Market board works hard to make it a fun event every week. You'll find food vendors and live music, too!

A few Moonlight Markets are planned this year so Farmers Market patrons can shop in the evening or just come out to grab something delicious from one of the food vendors and listen to live music. The next Moonlight Market is scheduled for 6 to 10 p.m. on Aug. 26.

Auburn Park is always full of activities making it a great place to spend time. The Kid's Zone is a great place for kids to burn off energy, make new friends, and have tons of fun. The fishing dock always seems busy with people testing their skills catching fish. Usually it's "catch and release," but if you catch any legal walleye, they are yours to take home and cook up. Just stop by City Hall and get a permit to catch and keep them and it will not cost you a dime! Walleye were put in the pond and we need them removed.

The Auburn Williams-Lions Club is back this summer with their Mane Event concert series, held at the Park Pavilion. This summer's list of performers includes Laurie Middlebrook and the Lefties and Cornpone on July

15, Amy Petty on Aug. 19, Stone Street Revival on Aug. 20, and Frank & Jude on Aug. 21. Tickets are just \$5, and proceeds go to help the Lions do great things in our community. Parking is free and you'll have a chance to win \$100. So, grab your lawn chairs and join in the fun. There's always plenty of popcorn, cold pop, and great snacks too!

In downtown Auburn, take a stroll down Midland Road and enjoy the great banners we have on our light poles. We have banners honoring local heroes and others created by local students. This year's theme is "What Makes Me Smile." While you're in town, stop in and check out our many family-owned business. They are the backbone of the Auburn community.

Our new park - the Range - is coming along nicely and should be completed by fall. If you have any free time and want to help, stop by City Hall and talk to City Administrator Dave Haag. He'll find a something for you to do to get the project finished sooner and you'll have the pride and satisfaction to know you helped make it all possible.

I believe in Auburn and its people; they are the reason Auburn is a great place. We all live here, it's our home, and together, we all make it better. So, this summer, wherever you live, reach out to your neighbors, get to know more about them, have a neighborhood party in someone's backyard. Take the time to enjoy yourselves and your families. Together, let's all make our communities even better.

God Bless!

Lee Kilbourn Mayor, City of Auburn

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Hello Neighbors!

It's only been a few years since we had our charter night and officially launched our GLBAS Lions Club. Man has time gone by fast!



Almost immediately after chartering, our Lions Club faced a shutdown due to Covid restrictions. But we adjusted quickly and went to a Zoom meeting platform. We not only survived, but we also actually grew in membership

during the pandemic. I am very proud of our members for their resilience, determination, and commitment to rise above the challenges we faced. We were able to find creative ways to be effective and serve our communities.

Despite these last few difficult years, our Lions Club has hosted some great community events. GLBAS Lions Club in partnership with Ken Shelton Promotions held our first ever "Drive-In Concert" with Joe Nichols at the Auburn Improvement Grounds, what you know as the Auburn Cornfest grounds. It was a big success even though the weather didn't fully cooperate. It was a little too cold and it was lightly raining on and off, but everyone had a great time and was able to hop in their cars when they

needed to warm up. We kept the cars parked far enough apart and met the current Covid guidelines for Michigan. We had a small trial run a few months earlier with some local bands and built upon that success with improvements made for Joe Nichols. I had a lot of fun at both and was very grateful to our members, everyone who participated and volunteered, and of course the artist. What a great night and fun for all!

We also figured out that cornhole is a great way to have a fundraiser because you are 8 feet apart from your opponents and 27 feet away from the other side. We had a few tournaments, and they also were a lot of fun. I learned very quickly that there are a

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lot of players much better at cornhole than me, but still I was happy to have that experience. The other players had a great time and seemed to enjoy teasing each other and talking smack to make the games more fun. What a great way to meet more people and get to know more of our community residents.

I guess when it comes right down to it, our Lions Club not only continued to make a difference, but we also excelled during these trying times. We didn't want to fade away or take a break because of a pandemic. When the historic floods hit our communities, our club jumped into action and went door to door along with Lions from other clubs to give out bottled water, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, and food vouchers. I proudly wrote the grant that our district submitted to secure funds to assist our neighbors in their desperate time of need. The grant was finished and awarded within 72 hours by the Lions Club International Foundation. Lions are there whenever and wherever there is a need. It feels good to give back and to provide services when they are needed most.

Our GLBAS Lions Club works to make a difference in the community - and we have a lot of fun doing it. Our members enjoy having fun, so we create fundraisers and activities that are fun. We have several causes that we are very concerned about and we're working to be part of as many good things as we can.

We are just shy of 80 members and are still growing at a very fast rate. We are the second-largest club in our district of 37 clubs, a status we achieved in just over a year.

I am excited and proud of the members we have been able to attract and the events that we have completed. But we have so much more to do, so many more ways we can do better in the communities we serve, and many more members to recruit to join our happy family. So, what are you waiting for? Come join us and help us make an even bigger difference in the years to come! We would love to have you.

We are also very proud to be one of this year's main sponsors for the Auburn Cornfest, along with Corteva Engineering and United Financial Credit Union. Corteva, this year's fireworks sponsor, is top notch in agricultural science and is making a difference in their industry by paving the way for a safer tomorrow. United Financial Credit Union, the festival sponsor, and is an outstanding credit union known for exceptional customer service. I can't think of a better group of main sponsors for this year's Auburn Cornfest. Make sure you reach out to them during the festival and maybe say "Thank You" for their commitment to their neighbors!

Have a great time this year!

Matthew Tetloff

President, GLBAS Lions Club

We would like to THANK these sponsors for their generosity and commitment to the

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Thank You Graciously



there's nO place like O's! wOO hOO!!



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