July 3, 2014

Edgerton, Ohio

Issue No. 27

USPS 178-860

Established 1878

Single Copy \$1





#### 'Little Miss' contenders

Thirty-five girls from the ages of six on up will compete in this year's Miss Edgerton pageant which officially kicks off the Festival of Flags celebration here in Edgerton.

The pageant will again be

Petyn Baker,

daughter of Summer

Baker and Heath Baker

Sponsored by Tingle

Builders

held at Life Changing Re- of Commerce event, Missy alities Fellowship on Friday, July 18th at 6:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Admission remains the same at \$3 for adults; \$2 for students.

An Edgerton Chamber

Sleesman and Jessica Reitzel are again co-chairing the

Let us introduce you to the first installment of this year's group - 'Little Miss' category.



Jewel Cheek, daughter of Scott and Jessica Cheek Sponsored by Tano's Pizza



Ava Herman, daughter of Shanea and Rick Herman Sponsored by All Wrapped Up - Marcia Kitchen





Cara Schroeder, daughter of Colette and Adam Schroeder Sponsored by Schroeder



Ava Swank, daughter of Charlene and Bill Swank Sponsored by Dietsch Sales & Service

# HOME OF THE FORESTERS Stark signs with Huntington

UNIVERSITY

Nathan Stark signs a letter of intent to continue his baseball and college career at Huntington University. Seated here School, Stark is focusing his studies on with his parents, Shelly and Keith Stark, Nathan is flanked by head baseball coach Mike Frame. The Foresters are part of the

Crossroads League in the NAIA.

A 2012 graduate of Edgerton High Exercise Science.

(Photo courtesy of the school.)

### Drive sober or get pulled over warns Sheriff Towns

The Fourth of July is a favorite holiday for many Americans. Families and friends gather to celebrate our country with food, parades, parties, and fireworks. For many people, the celebration includes alcohol, but the holiday quickly goes from festive to fatal when people choose

to drive after drinking. Over the July 4th holiday period in 2012 alone, 78 people were killed in alcohol impaireddriving crashes on our nation's roads.

To crack down on drunk driving this Fourth of July, area law enforcement will be out in full force, aggressively

targeting those who put lives in danger. "Williams County Sheriff's Office is ramping up their enforcement to make our roads safer this Fourth of July," said Sheriff Steve Towns. "For everyone's sake, don't drink and drive or you will be arrested. The 'Drive

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Haylee Klender,

daughter of Marie and

John Klender

Sponsored by the Stilson

#### Celebrity birthdays for this week:

July 6 - comedian Kevin Hart (35), movie actor Sylvester Stallone (68), TV actress Shelly Hack (67);

July 7 - TV actress Claire Holt (26), drummer Ringo Starr (74), basketball player Lisa Leslie (42); July 8 - TV actor Michael Weatherly (46), TV actress

Sophia Busgh (32), chef Wolfgang Puck (65); **July 9** - movie actor Douglas Booth (22), TV actor Fred Savage (38), movie actor Toby Kebbell (32); July 10 - TV actress Sofia Vergara (42), TV actor Adrian Grenier (38), TV actor Carlon Jeffery (21);

July 11 - TV actor Justin Chambers (44), TV actress Sela Ward (58), singer Nina Nesbitt (20); July 12

- movie actress Michelle Rodriguez (36), TV actor Bill Cosby (77), TV actor Steve Howey (37)



Edgerton, Ohio will be part of a personal family celebration during the Festival of Flags July 25 and 26 as children's book author Allyn Stotz and mystery/romance authors Genilee Swope Parente and F. Sharon Swope return home to commemorate publication of new books. Allyn and Genilee are the daughters of Sharon and Robert Swope,

who ran the Edge r t o nEarth for many years.

Stotz'  $s\,e\,c\,o\,n\,d$ book,

KaileeFinds Magic IN Words was released in June by FutureWord Publishing Swope's and Parente's sec-

ond book, Wretched Fate, was released in December 2013 by Spectacle Publishing Media Group.

"Although the Swope family now lives in different parts of the country, Edgerton and our friends here and in Northwestern Ohio have remained a major support system for Allyn, Genilee and I as we went into this new adventure

### Sign-up July 5th

Any Edgerton fifth and sixth grade students wanting to play youth football or cheer, sign-up will be held Saturday, July 5th from 9 to 10 a.m. at the baseball field on Gerhart Street.

of writing fiction," Sharon

"We decided we needed to come home to celebrate the successes we've had," she added.

Allyn had one of her first major book signings/readings at the Edgerton Public Library. All three authors have kept touch with local readers through email, Facebook and family friends.

#### The Family

The Swope family's patriarch, Robert Swope, ran the Edgerton Earth from the mid-1960s to late 1980s. Sharon wrote a local column, Apron Strings, for most of those years. She was also a substitute teacher in the Edgerton local school system and both Allyn and Genilee graduated from Edgerton High School.

Allyn and her husband Brad Stotz, also originally from Edgerton, now live in Baton Rouge. Allyn is a fulltime children's writer and most recently took a position with FutureWord. She's been writing about five years, both books and magazine articles and has several other children's stories under contract for publication.

"I worked for many years in an office environment, but always had an active imagination. It wasn't until I started taking writing classes that I realized how much I've always wanted to put down some of the stories in my

head," she says. Sharon and Bob Swope now live in Woodbridge, Va,

outside of Washington, D.C. They are retired. Genilee, her husband Raymond Parente and daughter

Christina reside close to the

Swopes in Dumfries, Va. Genilee is a full-time magazine

and newsletter editor. Sharon and Genilee began writing about four years ago, inspired by the success Allyn

had in getting published. "I was 82 when I began putting down my ideas. I'm 86 now and suffering from macular degeneration, but I feel blessed to be experiencing this adventure along with my daughters," Sharon ex-

plains. mystery/romance mother and daughter writing team also have been featured speakers at events in the Northern Virginia area.

As Genilee explains, "After the success we had with that first book, mom and I decided we needed to let others know how important it is to go after your passion in life no matter your age so we've have spoken all over our area to church groups, seniors communities and books clubs."

#### The Books

For Stotz' second book, the author brought back the main character Kailee, from her successful first book, The Pea in Peanut Butter. In the current book, Kailee explores the wonders of reading by following Kailee as she goes into one of her favorite books.

"The story comes from personal experience because I really didn't like to read when I was a child. But once I learned the wonder of losing yourself completely in a good plot, I became a fan. Now, I want to share my passion with children just discover-

ing books." Swope and Parente write for the adult audience. They

are under contract for a series that follows the adventures of the independently wealthy, but always curious Detective Sam Osborne and his clients. The authors launched the first book—Twist of Fate—in December 2012, and the second book, Wretched Fate, one year later. The most recent book centers on a reclusive author Jacob Hardy, who joins forces with his new personal secretary Rosalie McGovern and Osborne to solve a series of mysterious thefts occurring in the middle of the night

mystery is not as much about how the thefts are occurring

as who the thief is. The authors would love to visit with old friends at one of their book signings. They will be at: • Edgerton Public Library, July 25 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; • Festival of Flags (under the big top), Miller Park, July 25 5-7:30 p.m.; • Susan's Hair Flair, downtown Edgerton July 26 12-3:00

p.m. (following the parade) For information on the authors, visit allynstotz.blogspot.com and www.swopeparente.com.

## Mini cheer camp

Edgerton's High School cheerleaders will be hosting a Mini Cheer Camp Monday, July 21 through Wednesday, July 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. each evening. The cost is \$30 and includes a camp t-shirt.

right under Jacob's nose. The

Participants will perform a half-time show at the Edgerton Festival of Flags 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament on Thursday, July 24 at 7:30 Registration forms can be

found on the school website or you can pick one up at the Edgerton Earth office or email Leslie VanAusdale at leslie.

vanausdale@gmail.com The camp is open to any child entering Kindergarten through sixth grade. Participants will have the opportunity to work with the Edgerton High School cheerleading squad as they learn the basic cheerleading fundamentals. They will participate in spirit and team building activities, develop new skills, learn a dance routine, and become leaders...CHEERleaders!

### Community invited to 'thank-you' cook-out

The Edgerton and Emanuel Churches invite the Edgerton community to join them in worship on Sunday, July 6, 2-14. The service will start at 10:30 a.m. at the Edgerton United Methodist Church on the corner of Michigan and Hull Streets.

Following worship, there will be a cook-out with hamburgers and hotdogs as our way of saying thank you to the community for their help and support since the devastating fire. Come and share in fellowship and visit with your neighbors.