



**Attica Lions
Club Meeting
B2**

**BHS Fourth Quarter
Academic Honors
B7**



Attica-Bellevue-Bloomville-Republic Local News



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Keep Pets Occupied While You're at Work

Concerned pet owners can take various steps to help keep their pets occupied and content while their human companions are away from home.

Get a buddy - When two pets get together, the opportunity for play increases exponentially. Animals can keep themselves company and hopefully out of trouble. A single pet may experience separation anxiety when his owner goes away to work or school, and that may result in damaging behavior like chewing, scratching or even soiling in inappropriate places.

Provide puzzling toys - Keeping pets' brains active can reduce instances of boredom. PetMD suggests food puzzle toys that can be stuffed with treats and involve brain power to unlock the food rewards.

Expend energy - Prior to leaving for work or school, pet parents can help pets expend some energy so they're more inclined to sleep during the day. The Animal Behavior College suggests an extra 20 minutes of walking each day may be enough to tire out most breeds. Working dogs, such as shepherds, pointers and setters, may need 40 or more minutes to burn off energy. Cat owners can play with their cats indoors, but generally cats will lounge around during the day anyway.

Provide white noise - Pets may grow accustomed to the sounds of an active house, so white noise can fill the void owners' absences create. Turn on the television or radio. Pet fountains, fans and other devices can create noises to keep pets' content.

Introduce new toys - Keep a cache of new toys and rotate them on a regular basis. Pets may become so interested in the bevy of new toys that they fail to even realize their owners are gone for much of the day.

Make rest enticing - Invest in a new and cozy pet bed (or cage bedding) that's too comfortable for pets to ignore.

Pets who grow accustomed to constant companionship during the day may need to adjust to a quiet home. Owners can try various strategies to help pets during this adjustment period.

Obituaries

Susan L. Maudsley, 78, Willard

*With Deepest
Sympathy*

Q&A With Wyatt Sumser: Bellevue's Newest State Champion

By Phil Wheeler, Staff Reporter

During Bellevue High School's athletic history, the Redmen have won 24 state championships; there have been six team championships, and a total of 18 individual state champions. Now there is one more. The newest of these champions is Wyatt Sumser.

Wyatt is an 18-year-old 2024 graduate of Bellevue High School, and this year's Division II High Jump Champion. He is quiet, almost shy, but beneath that calm exterior is the heart of a Lion, the determined Heart of a Champion. In the 2024 State DII finals, he cleared 6' 9" for a new top height in the state this year and a new Bellevue High School record. Until this season, his personal best was 5' 10", his height. He broke the nearly 50-year-old school record in the first week of April. His 6' 7" High Jump at the Regional's made him the top seed coming into State.

Sumser nearly went out at 6' 5"; He missed his first two tries before making it over. He cleared 6' 8" on his second try and set a new school record. But it wasn't enough for the crown, as he still had one competitor to beat. He made 6' 9" on his second attempt to become Bellevue's first state champion since Matt Roland's pole vault 3-peat in 2013. It is the first time a Redmen athlete ever qualified for the high jump at state, and he's the Redmen's first state qualifier in the long jump since 1959. He placed sixth in that event at 20' 10.75".



Bellevue's latest champion, Wyatt Sumser, holds his State Championship Medal in the High Jump.

Seven Questions and 7 Answers with Wyatt:

Q: When did you start high jumping?

A: "My sophomore year I started, I was jumping 5' 8", and then my junior year I came back and jumped 5' 10". I had some trouble with shin splints (Pain along the shinbone, the large front bone in the lower leg, caused by putting too much stress on it. Shin splints often occur in athletes when they start training harder or longer). In my senior year I put in a lot of work and stuff like that and then obviously, I jumped 6' 9"."

Q: What got you interested in the high jump?

A: "I'm not really sure, I mean I just went out for track my 8th grade year and was like 'Might as well try these different events', and then we got shut down for COVID. That's basically how I got into it."

Q: When did you know that high jump was your event?

A: "I'd say this year, probably, I mean I was decent at it - well actually I'd say my junior year because I jumped 5' 10" and I made it to Regional's."

Q: What did you find appealing about high jumping?

A: "I just think it's something different that people don't really know about so when they see me jumping 6' it's like 'Wow, that's insane'. I'm not the fastest so I had to find something I was decent at. I feel like just the technique and the grind is what makes it fun for me."

See Wyatt on B7

Cherry Festival Celebrates Its Golden Anniversary

Submitted by The Bellevue Historical Society

How fast time goes - it has been fifty years since Bellevue's first Cherry Festival! The Bellevue Historical Society is celebrating with an open house on Sunday, June 30, 2024, at their office at 108 Northwest Street, between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. There will be refreshments, memories, games for kids, and more!

Bellevue's Cherry Festival started in 1974 and continued through

1991. It was originally staged in the lot where the Bellevue Fire Station now stands. Everyone looked forward to the last weekend of June, and the entire town seemed to succumb to cherry mania.

In addition to the celebration on June 30, the Historical Society will present a related program at The Bellevue Hospital's Mature Audience Luncheon on Thursday,

June 20. The hospital asks that you pre-register if you plan to attend (419-483-4040).

The Bellevue Historical Society's mission is to promote a greater awareness of Bellevue's rich history. For more information, visit www.BellevueHistoricalSociety.com or phone 567-228-0833.

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