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Hometown Holiday Kicked off December 2nd in Chelsea



Story and more photos on page 3. Photos by: Aimee Bingham Osinski.

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Christmas at The Mansion Delights



Story and more photos on page 10. Photos by: Aimee Bingham Osinski.

Two Chelsea Residents Sue the City of Chelsea for Withholding Citizen Complaints and Police Disciplinary Records

M MICHIGAN LAW CIVIL RIGHTS LITIGATION INITIATIVE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Two advocates for racial justice have sued the City of Chelsea for denying their Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for complaints and disciplinary records associated with five officers who ticketed Black Lives Matter protesters during the summer of 2020. The advocates, Theresa and Kerry Plank, are among the 29 Chelsea residents that the Chelsea Police Department (CPD) charged

with "impeding traffic" during the demonstrations. A judge later dismissed the charges on the ground that the police officers violated the First Amendment rights of the protesters. The Civil Rights Liti-

gation Initiative at the University of Michigan Law School is representing the Planks in their suit. "In order to restore public trust between the police and the Chelsea community, it is critical

that the Chelsea Police Department be transparent about its officers' misconduct," said Kerry Plank. "We hope this case will result in improved public safety in our community as we continued on page 2

HOMETOWN HOLIDAY
CHELSEA, MICHIGAN

CHECK OUT PAGE 4 FOR ALL THE HOLIDAY EVENTS

Two Chelsea Residents Sue the City of Chelsea for Withholding Citizen Complaints and Police Disciplinary Records

► continued from page 1
move forward together.”

After police officers killed George Floyd and other Black Americans during the summer of 2020, a group called Anti-Racist Chelsea Youth organized several peaceful marches in support of the Black Lives Matter movement in Chelsea. Chelsea police ticketed 29 protestors, including the Planks, for “impeding traffic” while participating in these protests. Although Chelsea City Council voted unanimously to recommend that CPD dismiss the tickets, former Chelsea Police Chief Edward Toth refused to do so. Ultimately, 14A District Court Judge Anna M. Frushour dismissed the civil infractions on First Amendment grounds.

The City of Chelsea hired two firms to conduct independent investigations into CPD’s response to the protests. The first firm concluded the Department’s response had led to “escalating cycles of recip-

rocal mistrust” between CPD and the Chelsea community. Similarly, the second investigation found “a measure of distrust and dissatisfaction regarding transparency and engagement of the agency,” as well as “a lack of empathy and compassion on the part of CPD.” It concluded that “[t]ransparency about police conduct is critical to building and maintaining trust between officers and residents.”

In May, the Planks submitted a FOIA request with the City of Chelsea asking for citizen complaints and records of disciplinary action against five CPD police officers and former Police Chief Edward Toth. They believed the requested documents would shed light on the Department’s procedures with respect to citizen complaints and officer discipline.

The City denied the request for records about the officers, citing a FOIA provision

that allows the police to keep such records secret “unless the public interest in disclosure outweighs the public interest in nondisclosure in the particular instance.”

On November 8, the Planks filed a FOIA lawsuit in Washtenaw County Circuit Court for the documents. According to the complaint, the FOIA exemption cited by the City does not apply because of the strong public interest in improving police transparency and accountability in Chelsea.

“The goal of the lawsuit is to increase police accountability and promote transparency when it comes to police misconduct,” said Rachel Moore, a student attorney with the Civil Rights Litigation Initiative. “Given the community’s demands for safe and transparent policing, the public interest in disclosure clearly outweighs the department’s interest in keeping disciplinary records secret.”



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Hometown Holiday Kicked off December 2nd in Chelsea



► continued from page 1
By Aimee Bingham Osinski
anbingham@gmail.com

Chelsea's Hometown Holiday kicked into full gear on Friday, December 2. Pierce Park featured Chelsea 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade



choirs serenading residents with Christmas carols. Jets Pizza provided free pizza, Lighthouse Bakery provided hot chocolate and Culvers was handing out scoops of frozen custard. Excited children played freeze tag on the playground equipment while waiting for Santa. Just after the choirs finished their songs, Santa pulled up on a firetruck lit up with Christmas Lights. The excitement in the air was palpable. Santa pulled the candy cane striped lever to light the Christmas tree! Even a scrooge like me could not help but be swept up by the Christmas spirit. My



daughter, who happens to be an expert on the subject of Santa, informed me that the Chelsea Santa is the real Santa, unlike that fraud at the mall. She knows based on the cheerful elves that sing Christmas songs with him. Santa informed us that we were all on the nice list, which is always a relief because we had a few slip-ups this year.

The next morning we headed to Chelsea for one of our favorite holiday traditions; the material girl Children's Christmas Bazaar. Each year, children are able to sign up for time slots and young adults in the commu-

nity help the children select presents for family members. This year, all proceeds were donated to Faith in Action. The kids enjoy being able to select gifts for family members and when the money goes to a good cause, everyone wins. After selecting presents the kids had the opportunity to create some crafts with the assistance of kind volunteers. It appeared that everyone was having a wonderful time and once again, the Holiday Bazaar was a great success.

Saturday was filled with a host of events but I was unable to attend them all. I was



fortunate to attend the light parade. The cold weather moved in with a vengeance as if to announce that the Christmas season is here and so too is the winter weather. We found a spot on a corner toward the end of the route and marveled at the lights, the band, the trucks and tractors, and of course, Santa as he made his way down Main Street. With numb hands and feet, I was smiling from the cheerful mood of the crowd and made my

way to an after-hours parade event. Main Street opened its door to frozen parade goers and provided hot chocolate, cookies, music, and smores by fire pits. It was a nice way to chat with friends while warming up after the parade. All in all, the start of the Hometown Holiday was wonderful, reaffirming what a wonderful community Chelsea is and bringing more excitement and joy into the Christmas season for everyone in attendance.

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Vogel's & Foster's
The Potting Shed • Violet & Moss
Chelsea Antiques • Country Cabin
Culture Creations • The Cottage Rabbit
ClockTower Comix & Collectables
Serendipity Books • The Find

Dining:
Chelsea Alehouse Brewery
Chelsea Big Boy • China Garden
Cleary's Pub • Common Grill
Cottage Inn • Jet's Pizza
Los Tres Amigos • Mike's Deli
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Thompson's Pizza • Zou Zou's
Arctic Breakaway • Valiant Bar & Grill
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The Grateful Crow • Chelsea Burger

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Chelsea State Bank Donates \$1,350 to Ele's Place Ann Arbor

Chelsea State Bank donates \$1,350 to Ele's Place Ann Arbor as a show of their continued support of healing grieving children and teens.

Over 10 years ago, Chelsea State Bank employees kicked off their Blue Jeans for Charity fund to raise money for local charities. Employees donate \$3 per person each week, which allows them to wear jeans to work on Fridays. Chelsea State Bank then matched

the employee donations for the selected non-profit donation. Chelsea State Bank Customers also contributed dollars through a donation drive that took place in each of the branches and drive-thru locations. Ele's Place Ann Arbor was selected as the local charity for 2022.

"As the community bank in Chelsea and surrounding area, we want to do all we can to help safeguard the children in our

communities," said Chelsea State Bank President and CEO Joanne Rau. "Families are at the heart of our communities. I am always amazed at the generosity of our customers. Our employees continue to help those in need, both emotionally and physically, year after year. I am so proud of our employees, and the efforts they make to help others. They are true community bankers."

"We are so grateful

to Chelsea State Bank, its employees and its customers for the generous donations they give from the heart year after year. These gifts help ensure that our peer grief support programs for children, teens and their families throughout Washtenaw County, and the surrounding southeast Michigan area, remain free of charge for as long as a family needs," said Ele's Place Ann Arbor Branch Director Bree Arvai. "Since

Ele's Place Ann Arbor opened its door in 2007, Chelsea State Bank has been a dedicated and committed community partner. Their employees and customers stand with us, their leaders serve on our community board, they sponsor and attend our fundraising events, and they made a generous pledge to our capital campaign. There are so many amazing reasons we appreciate our partnership with Chelsea State Bank,

and why we honored them as our 'Company of the Year' in 2017."

About Ele's Place Ann Arbor

Ele's Place Ann Arbor is a non-profit, community-based organization dedicated to creating awareness of and support for grieving children, teens and their families. For more information visit <https://www.elesplace.org/branch-locations/ann-arbor/about>.

HOMETOWN HOLIDAY

CHELSEA, MICHIGAN

MAJOR EVENTS

- 12/01 | Special Needs Christmas Bazaar
- 12/1, 3 & 6 | Curiouser Clay Ornament Workshop
- 12/02 | Tree Lighting Ceremony
- 12/2-4 | Enchanted Alley Events
- 12/03 | Children's Christmas Bazaar
- 12/03 | All the Trimmings Holiday Show
- 12/03 | Light Parade
- 12/03 | Lights Out After the Parade Party
- 12/03 | CDL Tween & Teen Gifts for the Holidays
- 12/3-4 | Christmas on the Farm
- 12/04 | Public Christmas Shopping Bazaar
- 12/04 | Hometown Holiday Concert
- 12/09 | Three Men and a Tenor Holiday Concert
- 12/09-11 | Chelsea Robotics Wrap-A-Palooza
- 12/10 | Donuts & Selfies with Santa
- 12/10 | Fishville Farms Christmas Vendor Show & Food Drive
- 12/10 | Santa's visit to the Distillery
- 12/12 | CDL makerChelsea: Holiday Centerpieces
- 12/16 | Curling Fest
- 12/17 | Gingerbread Cookie Kit Distribution
- 12/21 | Longest Night Candlelit Vigil
- 12/24 | Virtual Storytime with Santa
- 12/28-31 | Jeff Daniels Onstage & Unplugged

ONGOING EVENTS

- 2022 Official Chelsea Keepsake Ornament
- Business Spotlight Series | Holiday Edition
- Culver's Coloring Contest
- Gingerbread House Display
- Helping Hands: Teen Supply Drive @ CDL
- Main St Light Poles - Contest & Display
- Santa Mail
- Santa Paws Photo Booth @ Lane Animal Hospital
- Sweet \$aver Saturdays
- Toys for Tots & Teens @ Palmer Auto Service

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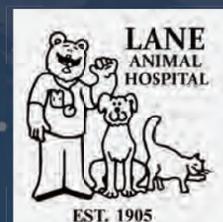
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WASHTENAW UNITED BEATS NORTHVILLE, LOSES TO MID-MICHIGAN



Photos Courtesy of Adam Winters

From: Adam Winters

Washtenaw United, Girls' HS Ice hockey, hosted both Northville and Mid-Michigan this past weekend at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. On Saturday, Washtenaw got out to a quick 3-0 lead half way through the first period, with goals from Kathryn Winters (Saline, '23), Sydney Clark (Saline, '25) and Chloe Dillen (Saline, '24). Lilly Schlack (Saline, '26) would add a goal less than 2 minutes into the 2nd period, extend-

ing the United's lead to 4. Northville would quickly answer with 2 goals, both by #16 Avery Peters. Peters would finish the game with a hat trick, and 1 assist.

Schlack would interrupt Northville's 4 goal second period with an unassisted goal at the 7:27 mark. Washtenaw would regroup in the third period, outscoring Northville 3 to 1 with goals from Winters, Sam Wawzysko (Saline, '24), and Raegan Kopitsch (Dexter, '24),

finishing in an 8-5 victory for the United. Goaltender Trista Tracy (Chelsea, '25) would finish with 22 saves.

The second period would continue to give Washtenaw problems during Sunday's game vs. Mid-Michigan Alliance Valkyrie. After a scoreless first period where the United outshot Mid-Michigan 7-6, the Valkyrie would score 3 goals, including 2 from #77 Kennedy Christenson who would finish the game with 3 goals. Mid-Michigan would

add 2 more in the third period for a final of 5-0. Hannah Wearn would earn the victory in goal for the Valkyrie.

Washtenaw United is currently 2-2 in play, good for 3rd spot in Division 1, West Conference of the Michigan Girls' High School Hockey League. Washtenaw plays its final 2 games of the calendar year this weekend, Friday at home vs Walled Lake at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube at 5:30, and Saturday at Plymouth-Canton-Salem at 5pm at the Arctic Edge

in Canton.

INFORMATIONAL ADDENDUM:

Washtenaw United is a High School Girls' Hockey Team skating out of the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. The team serves High Schools within Washtenaw County that do not have a dedicated team to play for. Currently, Pioneer and the combined Skyline-Huron have dedicated teams. Washtenaw United is made up of players from Saline, Dexter, Chelsea, Manchester, Milan and private

schools within the county. The team is in its third year of play.

Email:

WashtenawUnited-HSHockey@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.migirlshockey.org/page/show/7468678-washtenaw?subseason=845257>

Facebook: @WUHS-GirlsHockey
Twitter: @WUHS-GirlsHockey
Instagram: @WashtenawUnitedHockey

St. Louis Center Celebrates Fr. Rinaldo's 82nd Birthday!



From: St. Louis Center

St. Louis Center recently celebrated the 82nd birthday of Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC. He was an integral part of building the Center into what it is today. Here is some more about his life and legacy: Italy was the country of St. Louis Guanella (1842-1915), the priest who founded the Servants of Charity Congregation and had a passion for caring for persons with developmental disabilities and the frail elderly. His mantra was, "The whole world is your homeland" and his vision was to send priests throughout the world to care for "God's Special Children." Rev. Joseph Rinaldo was attracted to this charism through

experiences of his family of origin. Fr. Joseph's hometown was Naro, Italy, and he witnessed the horrors of WWII growing up, while the Allies and Axis powers battled for control of his native island, Sicily.

Fr. Joseph started theology studies in Chiavenna in 1963. Following his ordination in December 1967, he received a new assignment from his superiors. "In September 1968 I got a letter from General Secretary Fr. Peter Pasquali that said, 'we've decided to send you to America,'" said Fr. Joseph. "Come to Como, where [we are] going to take care of your passport." He flew to New York City, then found his way to

Don Guanella School in Springfield, PA. Fr. Joseph remained in Springfield until 1980 building a thriving community of services for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Fr. Joseph was assigned to St. Louis Center for the first time in 1980, discovering a facility with many needs. He got busy right away looking for creative ways to provide for the needs of the Center. New construction began, and St. Louis Center as we know it today began to take shape.

Fr. Joseph believes that the presence of the religious community is what makes a difference for the residents of St. Louis Center. "The difference is that we live with them. We are their fathers, and we are their friends. One of our priests is always here. Sometimes the kids want to talk to us to resolve their problems."

For many years, Fr. Joe served in many capacities at St. Louis Center and through the Servants of Char-



ty. We are truly grateful to him for his love and commitment to the residents of St. Louis Center and for his 50 plus years of service to the people of God. In December 2017, Fr. Joseph was honored at a special 50th Anniversary Ordination Mass at St. Mary (Chelsea) Parish that was celebrated with Most Rev. Bishop Earl Boyea and followed by a banquet at St. Louis Center for over 300 people. Staff often acknowledge his intentional kindness and thoughtfulness demonstrated by his small gestures and kind words while walking around the Center, making sure all is in order and ev-

everyone is doing well.

During his farewell gathering, St. Louis Center received a generous donation from Michael Chirco's Living Trust that amounted

to \$100,000, in Fr. Joe's honor. St. Louis Center and Fr. Joe thank Mr. Chirco for his past, present, and future contributions. His support does not go unnoticed. Mr. Chirco has been a long-time supporter of the Center.

St. Louis Center residents, staff, family and friends near and far are saddened by Fr. Joe's departure and will miss him for his dedication to the care of the individuals who call St. Louis Center home. Thank you, Fr. Joe, for all you have done to make the Center what it is today!

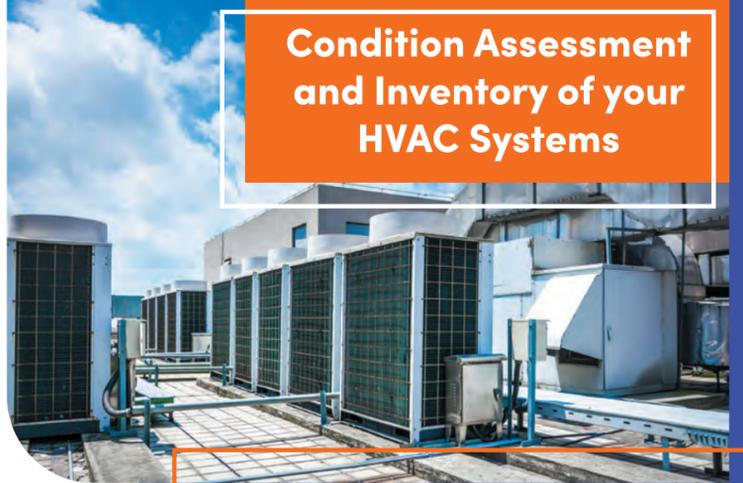




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DECEMBER EVENTS



Faith In Action Pajama Drive* (CHE/DEX) November 28–December 14
 Help Faith In Action by donating children's pajamas (sizes 5T-16). Drop off your unwrapped donations in the lobby!

Deck the Halls (CHE/DEX/STK) December 5–January 1
 Workout during the busy holiday season and you could win a prize! Earn a drawing entry every day you workout at your home center for a minimum of one hour. Your entries will be entered into a gift basket drawing each week.

Give the Gift of Health Gift Card Special* (CHE/DEX) November 28–December 24
 Purchase a gift card and give your loved one or friend the freedom to enjoy membership or other services at the Chelsea or Dexter Wellness Centers.

Relax and Roll Workshop* (DEX) December 21 • 4:30pm–6:30pm • \$10
 Stephanie Oldre, Pilates Trainer, MOVE/Personal Trainer, NETA
 In this 2-hour workshop we will release stress and tension from your hands to your feet and everywhere in between. We'll use simple self-massage techniques targeting trigger points and high-tension areas to help reduce aches and pains and improve mobility. Must be able to get on the floor. Call 734-580-2500 to register.

108 Sun Salutations for the Winter Solstice* (DEX) December 21 • 5:00pm–6:30pm FREE • Dexter Wellness Center Gym
 Dianna Kause and Megan Fink
 Celebrate the Winter Solstice, known as the day the sun stands still, by flowing through the 108 Sun Salutations with Dianna and Megan. We encourage you to pre-register for this class. Call 734-580-2500 to register.

*Community welcome!

UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS

Fundamentals of TRX (DEX)
 January 6-27 • \$50

QPR - Question, Persuade, Refer - Suicide Prevention Training*
CHE January 5 • FREE
DEX January 11 • FREE

Gratitude Yoga* (CHE)
 January 8 and January 11
 5:30pm-6:30pm • FREE



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Chelsea Hospital Earns 2022 Top Teaching Hospital Award

From National Quality and Safety Ratings Organization

Chelsea Hospital, a joint venture with Trinity Health and University of Michigan Health, was deemed a Top Teaching Hospital in the United States by The Leapfrog Group. Announced today, The Leapfrog Group is a national watchdog organization that is widely acknowledged as one of the toughest standard-setters for

healthcare safety and quality.

"I greatly appreciate and extend my congratulations to the physicians and clinicians at Chelsea Hospital who helped us achieve this recognition, and for working tirelessly to ensure that each and every patient is well-served every day," said Chelsea Hospital President Ben Miles. "As a community hospital, not only are we committed to the patients we serve today, but

we also believe it's essential to invest in future generations of medical professionals so they have the experience and training needed to continue delivering excellent care to future patients."

More than 2,200 hospitals were considered for awards by The Leapfrog Group this year. A total of 115 hospitals were selected as Top Hospitals, including:

- 58 Top Teaching
- 32 Top General

- 13 Top Rural
- 12 Top Children's

"We are honored to recognize Chelsea Hospital as a Top Teaching Hospital this year," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "Chelsea Hospital has demonstrated that they truly put patients first. We congratulate the board, staff and clinicians whose efforts made this honor possible."

The quality of patient care across many areas of hospital per-

formance is considered in establishing the qualifications for the award, including infection rates, practices for safer surgery, maternity care, and the hospital's capacity to prevent medication errors. The rigorous standards are defined in each year's Top Hospital Methodology.

To qualify for the Top Hospitals distinction, hospitals must rank top among peers on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey,

which assesses hospital performance on the highest standards for quality and patient safety, and achieve top performance in its category. To see the full list of institutions honored as 2022 Top Hospitals, visit www.leapfroggroup.org/tophospitals.

Top Hospitals will be honored tonight at the 2022 Leapfrog Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C.

Adoptable Dogs Waiting Twice as Long for Homes



From: Wendy Welch

Across the state, animal shelters and rescues, including Ann Arbor's Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) are battling a capacity crisis of historic levels. More kittens have come in to HSHV this year than in the past 15 years, and dogs are waiting twice as long for adopters. Dogs in Grand Rapids' Kent County Animal Shelter are waiting an average of 30 days longer for adoption. Royal Oak's animal shelter reports having hit 200% capacity for

dogs this year.

"Current economic conditions and people going back to work are likely causing the slowdown of dog adoptions," says Tanya Hilgendorf, HSHV's CEO. "But we also know we are competing with puppy mills that sell dogs to pet stores and online dealers, and many families are still buying purebreds and designer breeds."

A recent panel by Michigan Pet Alliance, the statewide professional association of animal welfare organizations, high-

lighted another cause for this unprecedented challenge: decrease in spay/neuter.

"During the past 2 years, nearly 3 million surgeries were missed...3 million animals that never got neutered," Dr. Julie Levy, Fran Marino Distinguished Professor of Shelter Education at the University of Florida, said in the recent panel discussion. "We can have generations of animals that have been born simply because Covid shut down, and the clinics couldn't recover."

"Shelters are closing to routine intake and are admitting only emergency intake. Shelters are needing to turn non-emergent cases away because they are so full. And they are fuller than they have been in years," Dr. Levy said. "It is a complex, scary thing... it involves a

shortage of veterinarians, [and] a vast decrease in the demand for pets from shelters that we've been starting to see for almost a year now."

HSHV encourages people to "Adopt, not shop."

"No matter what kind of glitter they put on the business, the fact is that animals sold in pet stores and online come from puppy mills. Good, animal-loving people simply do not know that when they acquire pets like this, they are perpetuating cruelty," says Hilgendorf. "And, are being sold for thousands

of dollars, often using predatory lending practices, I might add. But the public is often fooled by beautiful websites and misinformation that hide poor conditions and animal mistreatment."

"We understand some folks simply have favorite breeds, but we want to en-

courage families to check with local shelters and rescues first. If they can't find the breed their heart is set on, then go to a local family breeder, where the conditions, care and the parents can be seen firsthand," says Hilgendorf. "Shipping an animal across the country may be convenient, but it is a bad way for an animal to start their lives, and those puppies are most likely coming from puppy mills in disguise." "And please remember: shelter animals are simply animals without homes. Research shows that shelter dogs are no different than any other dogs behaviorally."

The Humane Society of Huron Valley is open for adoptions 7 days/ week and does not require appointments. See more information at hshv.org/adopt.

Five miles of twinkling Christmas light displays

New Nite Lites

We look forward to the 2022 Season at Michigan International Speedway, Brooklyn, MI!

Nite Lites is a DRIVE THRU CHRISTMAS LIGHT SHOW

When: Thanksgiving thru Dec. 31, 2022
OPEN EVERY DAY INCLUDING HOLIDAYS

Where: Michigan International Speedway
US-12 Entrance only, 12626 US-12, Brooklyn, Michigan 49230

TWO US-12 Entrances:
WEST bound use Lot 8 Entrance
EAST bound use Graves Farm Entrance

Time: 5:30 pm - 9 pm Sunday thru Thursday
5:30 pm - 10:00 pm Friday & Saturday

Pricing: \$30 per car/vehicle (Sunday thru Thursday)
\$35 per car/vehicle (Friday & Saturday)
\$45 per limo/motorhome/mini bus
\$100 per tour bus

Accept Cash and all Major Credit Cards

DRIVE THRU ONLY LIGHT SHOW

A global art project teaching fourth graders the power of empathy and understanding.

COMING TO CDL FEB. 2023

I LIVE WITH MY MOTHER, BROTHER AND COUSIN. MY BROTHER AND I HAVE DIFFERENT FATHERS.

I WISH FOR A 90 PLUS AVERAGE ON THE TEST. LAST YEAR I GOT 89.22.

I WORRY ABOUT GETTING A GOOD JOB. I WANT TO BE A FOURTH GRADE TEACHER.

Photographs by Judy Gelles

ART. CHELSEA DISTRICT LIBRARY .ORG

CHELSEA DISTRICT LIBRARY
221 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI

For more information visit art.chelseadistrictlibrary.org

THE FOURTH GRADE PROJECT

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS ExhibitsUSA MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE

Who do you live with? | What do you wish for? | What do you worry about?

Michigan Philharmonic launches “12 Days of Giving”

Fundraiser celebrates 12 ways the orchestra contributes to the community

As the Michigan Philharmonic continues celebrating 77 seasons of amazing music, community connection and unique opportunities for young and old alike, a new fundraising effort is being launched, called the “12 Days of Giving.”

Between Friday, Dec. 9 and Tuesday, Dec. 20, Philharmonic supporters can make a donation that will help the organization 12 different ways and ensure the Phil remains a vibrant and powerful voice for music in the community. Each day during the campaign

the Philharmonic will showcase one of 12 important ways it serves the music community and the broader region.

The goal is to raise \$10,000, and anyone who gives a donation of at least \$100 will receive two extra tickets to the Phil’s very special February concert “Jerry Herman: Broadway Legacy Concert” featuring legendary music from such great Broadway shows and movies like “Hello Dolly” and “La Cage Aux Folles.”

The giving themes are:

Day 1 – support the

Phil’s “adventurous concerts”

Day 2 – help student musicians experience the joys of performance

Day 3 – assist summer travel programs

Day 4 – provide classroom music instruction across school districts

Day 5 – develop unique new activities like this year’s “Tiny Tunes”

Day 6 – support bringing in special guests and artists

Day 7 – reach a wider audience through recordings, radio shows

Day 8 – secure music rights from compos-

ers

Day 9 – share insights, information about music

Day 10 – offer connections to Phil history

Day 11 – honor loved ones through legacy gifts

Day 12 – give back to an organization solely by donors & arts grants

To donate go to the Philharmonic website (michiganphil.org) or the link <https://michiganphil.networkforgood.com/projects/179104-12-days-of-giving>

About the Michigan Philharmonic:

Celebrate its 77th season, the Michigan Philharmonic – (or “Michigan Phil”) – is one of the most innovative and dynamic professional orchestras in Southeast Michigan. Nan Washburn, Music Director & Conductor since 1999, has won 19 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music from the League of American Orchestras. In 2019 the Michigan Philharmonic was awarded Second Place in the American Prize for Professional Orchestras. The orchestra performs in an

ever-expanding roster of Michigan communities; including Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia, Brighton, Downtown Detroit, and many others. The Michigan Phil is committed to reaching out to a broad and diverse array of audiences and providing enjoyable cultural and social experiences, while encouraging anyone who loves live music events to “Spend the night with Michigan Phil.”

For tickets and more information, please visit www.michiganphil.org or call (734) 451-2112.

Free COVID-19 Treatment Available Through the Washtenaw County Health Department

Washtenaw residents without health insurance or access to a medical provider can join COVID Plan4Health for free COVID-19 treatment and tests

Washtenaw County residents who don’t have health insurance or access to a health care provider are invited to join COVID Plan4Health, a new Washtenaw County Health Department program that connects people to free antiviral treatment (Paxlovid) if they test positive for COVID-19. Treatment is especially important for people at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, which includes more people than many realize.

“If you’re not

up-to-date on your COVID-19 vaccines (including a bivalent booster) or have risk factors like being older or not very physically active, you’re more likely to get really sick from COVID, even if your initial symptoms are mild,” says Juan Marquez, MD, MPH, Washtenaw County Health Department medical director. “Other high-risk factors include being a current or former smoker, having conditions like asthma, cancer, or diabetes, and being overweight or

obese. We encourage all Washtenaw residents who meet these criteria and don’t have access to medical care to join COVID Plan4Health.”

This program is intended for people without health insurance or access to a health care provider. People who do have a health care provider should go to their provider for treatment if needed.

A new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows that adults with

mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who were prescribed Paxlovid were over 50% less likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19. In addition to protecting the health of individuals, COVID-19 treatments can help prevent our local hospital systems from being overwhelmed as they respond to a rise in respiratory illnesses.

How COVID Plan4Health works

Once someone has joined COVID Plan4Health, they can request treatment via email or text message if they test positive for COVID-19. Patients will be able to pick up their prescription for Paxlovid either from the Health Department or local pharmacy.

In addition to free treatment, those who join COVID Plan4Health will be sent free at-home rapid tests. COVID Plan4Health is a partnership between the

Washtenaw County Health Department and CareEvolution.

How to join

COVID Plan4Health Joining COVID Plan4Health is free and only takes a few minutes. People can join by filling out a short form online at <https://covidplan4health.org/wchd> to see if they qualify. Phone assistance is also available for those who need it (734-544-6700). The COVID Plan4Health website will soon be available in Spanish.

“Join COVID Plan4Health today so you’re prepared if you need treatment in the future,” says Dr. Marquez. “COVID treatments must be started within the first few days of having symptoms to be effective. We hope this program gives peace of mind to those who may need treatment quickly if they get COVID-19.”

People can also join COVID Plan4Health once they have already tested

positive.

Resources

- COVID Plan4Health informational flyer

- Washtenaw County Health Department COVID-19 treatment webpage

Washtenaw County Health Department

The Washtenaw County Health Department promotes health and works to prevent disease and injury in our community. Our mission is to assure, in partnership with the community, the conditions necessary for people to live healthy lives through prevention and protection programs.

Local public health information and updates are always available at www.washtenaw.org/health. The Health Department also provides frequent social media updates (@wcpublichealth) and sends regular email updates, sign up at <http://bit.ly/WCHD555>.



Please join us for....

Christmas Eve

Church Service

What to expect: A classic style worship of lessons and carols!

| | |
|---|--|
| Where | When |
| St. Paul United Church of Christ 14600 Old US 12 Chelsea, MI | Christmas Eve December 24th 7:30pm |

**St. Paul is an open and affirming congregation.
All are welcome regardless of background or circumstance!



Christmas at The Mansion Delights



► continued from page 1

Most of my writing has been focused on Chelsea lately. But this past Saturday I had the opportunity to attend an event near and dear to my heart, Christmas at the Mansion, at Gordon Hall.

Three years ago, after losing my brother, and grandmother, and having a stroke in the two months prior to Christmas, I wasn't feeling much Christmas spirit. My editor assigned me to Gordon Hall for Christmas at the Mansion. My Mother had to drive me as I had not yet passed my after-stroke driver's test. We did not know what to expect. I'd never been to Gordon Hall and certainly not Christmas at the Mansion. My Mom and I climbed to the second floor and our eyes twinkled with joy as we both saw for the first time, the Christmas village collection. My mom looked down, said, "oh," and looked up at me, unable to contain the smile the collection brought to her face, the first I'd seen since my brother died. I could not help but smile. The collection is absolutely magical. To find something that brought our smiles back that year was nothing short of miraculous and from now on, the collection will always hold a spe-

cial place in my heart. It helped me remember how to smile.

I was greeted upon entering by the sound of angelic voices singing Christmas Carols and I caught a glimpse of Santa! Caryl Burke of the Dexter Historical Society provided a great rundown of Christmas at the Mansion. She was so kind and friendly, I immediately missed covering Dexter's stories. The Historical Society is raising funds to restore Gordon Hall. The Historical Society is trying to raise 3.5 million by 2024. If you would like to help, volunteer, donate, or become a member, please visit remembering the magic of childhood after their visit to Gordon Hall. If you were unable to attend there are a few more opportunities to view the Department 56 house collection

this year. December 10 from 6-8 pm people can tour the Mansion for a \$5 suggested donation and December 17th from 6-8 pm for a \$5 suggested donation. Do not miss the chance to put yourself in the Christmas spirit and find a little magic again.

<http://www.dexter-history.org/> for details.

The Christmas decor at Gordon Hall was beautiful. Kids were taking turns visiting Santa while I was there and upstairs gingerbread houses were being created in the room next to the magical Christmas village collection. I saw adults asking if they were allowed to join in the gingerbread fun as well, and they were! Everyone was smiling and in good spirits. Do yourself a favor and stop by the Mansion and get in the Christmas spirit and enjoy the magic.



Chelsea Police Department Weekly Summary

Incident #: 22-3995

Date: November 28, 2022

Location: 900 block of Moore Dr.

Time: 10:24 am

INFORMATION: While at the station the officer was assigned a walk-in fraud complaint. The complainant stated that they had received a notification from their bank stating that there had been some "suspicious activity" on their account. Upon closer inspection

the complainant stated that they had in fact located two separate transactions that had taken place and were not authorized. The complainant stated that they had made contact with the bank and reported both of the transactions. The bank suggested that the

complainant report the incident to their local police and after further investigation it was suspected that this issue was an internal issue within the bank. The case was closed pending any further leads on a potential suspect.

Incident #: 22-4002

Date: November 28, 2022

Location: 100 block of Madison St.

Time: 5:15 pm

INFORMATION: While on routine patrol an officer was dispatched to the area of the 100 block of Madison St. for the report of a larceny. The complainant stated that they had a flower urn permanently affixed to

a grave marker and an unknown suspect(s) had broken it off and stolen it. The complainant stated that they last knew the urn to be at the site on October 28th and when they returned to the site on November 28th

the flower urn was no longer there. At the time of the report there was no information available on a potential suspect(s) and the complainant could not think of anyone who may have done this.

Incident #: 22-4035

Date: December 2, 2022

Location: 1200 block of S. Main Street

Time: 11:16 am

INFORMATION: While on routine patrol an officer was dispatched to the 1200 block of S. Main Street for the report of an embezzlement complaint. Upon arrival the officer met with the complainant who

stated that it had recently been discovered that an employee had been found to be taking items without paying and altering reimbursement receipts and getting paid out for them. The suspect, a 36-year-old Chelsea woman was

later interviewed at the scene and released. The case is open pending further investigation and potential review by the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office for possible criminal charges.



Free Christmas Meal



Members of our community who are alone on Christmas or unable to afford a Christmas meal are invited for a free meal. We are pleased to once again offer this meal in person in the Chelsea Hospital dining room. Due to continued COVID-19 safety precautions, capacity is limited and fewer individuals will be seated at each table. Masks are required inside the hospital when individuals are not eating. Should COVID-19 cases increase dramatically on the day of the meal, the meal may shift to a pick-up only option. In that instance, registrants will be notified and the meal will be provided for easy at-home heating.

Sunday, December 25
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Chelsea Hospital Dining Room

Registration is required. Please call the Chelsea Senior Center at 734-475-9242 to register by December 16.

Interested in volunteering to help at this event? Let us know!

THM 89533653-202209 CD



new
ERROR

A Michigan Premiere by
ERIC PFEFFINGER

Directed by
LYNCH R. TRAVIS

FEB. 3 - MAR. 18, 2023
PurpleRose Theatre.org
734.433.7673

the PurpleRose theatre company