

DEXTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
DEXTER ICE FEST
 JANUARY 23rd | @11am | Downtown Dexter

OVER 35 ICE CARVINGS LOCAL DOWNTOWN SPECIALS
 Dexter Area Chamber presents Dexter Ice Fest in our beautiful downtown. Enjoy ice carvings sponsored by local businesses.

Thank you to our local sponsors:
 Aubree's Pizzeria & Grill, Grandview, G.COM

www.dexterchamber.org
 contact@chamberofcommerce.org

January 22, 2021

PRSR STD
 POSTAGE & FEES PAID
 HAMILTON PUBLISHING
 PERMIT NO. 4

EDRWSS EDDM
 POSTAL CUSTOMER

Volume 3 Issue 4

Dexter Guardian

Phone: 734-636-6577
 Fax: 888-355-0629

guardiannewspapersmi.com



facebook.com/DexterGuardian

Hamilton Publishing

This Home Had: 80 Showings & 14 Offers
 Result: SOLD in 3 Days @ \$25K over asking price!

HIGH DEMAND FOR AREA HOUSING

Tracy Rose GRI
 Associate Broker
 DEXTER RESIDENT

Reinhart REALTORS
 500 E. Eisenhower Hwy, Ann Arbor MI
 734-769-3800

Your home can be next - Get a FREE evaluation
 CALL or TEXT TODAY! 734-726-5400

I HAVE SEVERAL WELL QUALIFIED BUYERS LOOKING TO BUY NOW!
 Full Service Listing Special: 100% Covid Compliance, PPE Provided
 Professional Photography, Full Color Brochures, Floor Plans, 3D Online Tours
 Bluetooth Lockboxes, Staging Consults, Drone Photos, Virtual Showings

DEXTER SWIM IS TOP TEN!



Dexter Guardian
YOUR AD HERE
 for only \$100 per week

Contact: Tom Hamilton 734-757-7882
 or tomchelseaguardian@gmail.com

Dexter Goal Setting Work Session

By Aimee Bingham Osinski
 anbingham@gmail.com

On Saturday Jan 16th, the Dexter City Council had a Goal Setting meeting. It was a continuation of the January 9th goal setting work session. To be completely honest and upfront with you, I am at a loss as to how to report on this meeting. The meeting was held in such a different manner from a typical Council meeting. The big difference was the lack of structure and openness of participation. A typical City Council meeting has specific

times for input and participation. Typically a meeting has several set times for public comment, and set times for Council discussion. This meeting was more open and flowing and the Mayor tried to encourage people to add comments and opinions as participants thought of them. Rather than a strict meeting structure, the meeting felt more like a brainstorming session.

As a reporter, I'm really not supposed to insert my opinions and simply allow you to read about

what happened and formulate your own decisions. Council member Jamie Griffin submitted results from a survey. I do feel the need to add my opinion because it informs how I report. The survey dominated the discussion and the meeting.

Several council members pointed out that the responses to the survey pointed to a lack of understanding of what a City Council can and cannot do. When I read the responses, I immediately understood. The ideas **continued on page 2**

Left to right: Asst coach Murphy Hansen, Maddy Matos, Marea Balcom, Lily Witte, Delaney Parker, Head Coach Cory Bergen, Lauren Witte, Emma Sortor, and Hailee Waters.

Story and a photo on page 6. Photos Courtesy of Cory Bergen.

Dexter Forum



By Aimee Bingham Osinski
 anbingham@gmail.com

On Saturday January 16th, another Dexter Forum was held over Zoom. I

always enjoy attending these meetings. It feels more like an exchange of ideas between old friends. It is refreshing because

said friends don't always agree politically. But everyone respects ideas and opinions without nasty content. **continued on page 2**



Check out the new Mitten Kid website at
www.mittenkid.com

2021 DEXTER Winter MARKETPLACE

Located at the
 Dexter United Methodist Church
 764B HURON RIVER DRIVE, DEXTER

2021 SATURDAYS 9-11
 JANUARY 23
 FEBRUARY 6 & 20
 MARCH 6 & 20
 APRIL 10

Weekly \$20
 Vendor Drawing
 WWW.DEXTERMART.COM

HOOP HOUSE VEGGIES, SAUSAGE PORK BEEF, EGGS, MAPLE SYRUP GRANOLA HONEY, JEWELRY SOAP LOTIONS, PIES BREAD

SUPPORTED BY: DEXTER WELLNESS COALITION, 5 HEALTHY TOWNS, ST. JOSEPH MERCY CHELSEA, AND DEXTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dexter Forum

► continued from page 1
tion. It is truly a place where healthy discourse happens. It's not discourse per se, but information and idea-sharing amongst people that understand intrinsically that we don't have to agree to contribute something positive to the community. In today's political climate, I find the Dexter Forum a really refreshing positive place.

I had to leave early to catch a City Council work session, but I am grateful to John Hansen for taking notes and sending them out to meeting members so I can update readers on what was discussed.

John Hansen stated that community members were given an update from Jack Campbell, on his new condo development on Grand St, called Millennium

Place. He explained that plans are moving forward. I was glad to hear that plans are moving forward because Millennium Place is brought up in many City Council meetings and things seemed to be stalled for a bit with the project.

The school board just held its organizational meeting and all levels of school are on track to resume in-person learning at least some of the time. I'm sure many parents are excited but I'm not sure how many high school students will appreciate the return to normal. After nearly a year of adjusting, it will be a big adjustment.

Sue Shink was elected as chair of Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners. She was asked about the position prior to the

start of the meeting and was very humble about her new position.

Congratulations to John Hansen and Karl Fink for wrapping up six years of respectful, kind informative meetings. It is a welcome change of pace from our current political climate. We don't have to agree to add value to the conversation. When we approach a discussion with our own perspective and input, as long as we do it with respect, we can come up with better ideas and leave the conversation feeling productive rather than angry. The next meeting of the Dexter Forum will take place on Feb 6, 2021, at 8:30 am on Zoom. To join, contact John Hansen via email at RepHansen@aol.com.

Dexter Goal Setting Work Session

► continued from page 1
and suggestions are valid because somebody would like to see changes, but the things requested are outside of what the Council can do. The City Council cannot bring in specific businesses or private schools. The fact that the schools desired and businesses desired are not here is not a reflection of the values of the Council. It could be a reflection of a thriving real estate market and the desired businesses being shut out of the market. Or that the businesses and schools desired do not feel that Dexter is advantageous for success. One response that stood out to me: Shift more funds to creating a "real" small town America environment. Take a drive through Chelsea, Plymouth, Northville, Saline and you'll see what a true coordination of downtown shops should look like.

I am from Saline and still know many members of the com-

munity. I was under the assumption that the coordination of downtown shops is not the work of the City Council. I asked and was told by a Council member that the downtown coordination people see while driving through is accredited to a completely different organization, Saline Main Street.

The benefit for me, reading the response to the survey is that as a reporter, I can attempt to help the reader understand the functions of the Council. My efforts will only help if people choose to read and learn. I did see there is an idea or feeling of a lack of transparency from the council. Dexter does have a good website that is easy to navigate and utilize to learn about meeting dates and times, what will be discussed, and I encourage the public concerned with transparency to use the page and stay informed about the meetings and topics. Visit the website here:

<https://www.dexter-mi.gov/government/cc.php>. The Council is required by law to follow rules and regulations regarding open meetings. It appears they do. If you as a citizen are unaware of the meetings, it is your job as a concerned citizen to find the information. It's not hidden or being kept secret. It's not always easy to attend every meeting in person, but during Covid, with meetings on Zoom, it's much easier to listen in from the comfort of your own home.

A big contention with the survey is that only eight respondents were verified to be Dexter residents. Another concern was how the respondents were found. Anonymity and nasty comments made disparaging City employees caused people to question the usefulness and validity of the survey. Certainly, public opinion is valid, but the survey included mean spirited and disparaging comments about the peo-



January 23, 2021
Dexter Ice Fest Ice Sculptures will be on display in Monument Park and downtown Dexter

If you have any Community Events you would like listed here please email charlachelseaguardian@gmail.com

FREE **GUIDING GOOD CHOICES**
Virtual Parent Workshops



- ✓ Boundary Setting
- ✓ Decision Making
- ✓ Resiliency

Parents are you feeling prepared for the teen years?

Are you interested in creating a deeper bond with your youth?

Do you want to raise strong resilient children and help empower the youth in your life?

Recommended for caregivers who have a child between the ages of 9-14, but is open to anyone!

Find out more about Guiding Good Choices or upcoming workshops:
734-593-6806 | srslycoalition.org
ggc@srslycoalition.org



ple employed by the city who are working very hard to make Dexter a wonderful community for residents. Frankly, in my work as a reporter, I've encountered many grateful residents and business owners within the city to the hard work of the employees. Jim McCarger brought up that many of the anonymous comments parroted Jamie's own thoughts on city employees after the Avalon housing decisions were made. He reminded the Council and community how certain things were phrased previously. He pointed out that "Dexter residents stated," were actually quotes from two people. Jamie and one other resident writing letters to the editor. Jamie asserted multiple times that she was simply the messenger. Justin Breyer stated that an entire workday was dedicated to fielding calls from upset city employees feeling attacked by the responses in the survey. He was pointing to how unproductive the survey was. And it seemed to be the general feeling of the Council and community. From my perspective, it was productive. I found a need within the community that I can attempt to help fill. I do think input from the community is very valuable. But, I think it likely needs to be more transparent to be effective. There seems to be a lack of trust regarding the results and the way the survey was done.



Roofed by Billy White Roofing



**Residential & Commercial
Licensed & Insured
26 Years in Business**

Ann Arbor and Jackson Showrooms

LET US HELP!
Call or visit today

JACKSON **ANN ARBOR**
517.784.0463 734.882.2137
1710 E. High St. 6055 Jackson Rd.

billywhiteroofing.com | Commercial & Residential
Licensed & Insured

Message from DCS Superintendent



Dear Dexter Community,

In early August, we were required by the State to submit a plan for learning this school year. We were all well aware the plan would need revision as we learned more about the virus and its spread.

DCS started our programs remote and moved our younger students into a hybrid model with half of our students attending in-person and half remotely. We planned to phase in the middle and high schools this fall when we were asked by the health department to take a momentary pause. At the start of 2021, we moved our youngest students back into the buildings and plan to phase in our middle and high school students at the semester break in later January. We're so excited to have our students in the buildings and

believe we can run our schools in this hybrid model while providing for the safety of our students, staff, and families. As we continue to move through this winter and spring, we're hopeful we can add in-person days for our students, starting with the youngest students first.

Last Friday, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services released new guidelines and requirements for schools to safely teach students in the buildings. The guidelines require us to provide spacing for students and to maintain 6' spacing during lunches. These guidelines are limited to approximately 8 pages and replace the nearly 100 pages of guidance we were provided this summer. As scientists continue to learn more about the virus and the spread, we are

able to make more informed decisions that have high-impacts. We teach our kids to be resilient and we are modeling this as a school district.

We would also like to remind the community that we are urgently hiring for many positions: substitutes, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, early childhood teachers and assistants, custodians, and food and nutrition employees. With all these opportunities, we have a variety of work schedules and are willing to work with you to find a good fit. Visit <https://www.dexterschools.org/departments/human-resources/jobs> for complete listings, or email hr@dexterschools.org or call 734-424-4104. We hope to hear from you!

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and our community. Dexter Community Schools is so fortunate to have such incredible kids, educators, and families. Your support of our schools is what makes Dexter a special place to raise children.

Take care and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,
Christopher Timmis, Ed.D.
Superintendent



Despite the many challenges facing local businesses, Merkel Furniture & Carpet One remains OPEN and committed to providing you with the highest quality products, backed by over 90 years of passion and expertise.



Carpeting | Luxury Vinyl Tile | Hardwood | Laminate

Call to schedule your FREE flooring consultation



LIMITED TIME ONLY

WE PAY YOUR SALES TAX!

THRU JANUARY 31, 2021

SELECTION | QUALITY | EXPERTISE | COMPETITIVE PRICING



since 1924

FURNITURE AND CARPET ONE

MERKELFURNITURE.COM

CHELSEA | FURNITURE & FLOORING | 734-475-8621
ANN ARBOR | FLOORING & AREA RUGS | 734-971-2795



Virtual Breakdance Class

Weekly, virtual, class for grades K-5
Wednesdays, 3:00 – 3:45,
February 3 – March 10
Maurice Archer, Instructor



Breaking News! The International Olympic Committee has officially announced it will add breakdancing to the 2024 Games under the name "Breaking". Breakdance is a style of hip-hop dance that includes footwork and athletic moves like back or head spins. Maurice Archer has been teaching afterschool breakdance classes in Dexter for the past two years. His students learn to express themselves and build self-confidence through movement in a safe, fun, disciplined and friendly environment.

Beginning February 3, we're offering a 45-minute virtual class for boys and girls in grades K-5 on Wednesdays, 3-3:45p. Parents who register their student will receive a Zoom link prior to the first class.

For more info and online registration
Go to dexterschools.ce.eleyo.com
Enter Breakdance
in the search window



Dexter Community Education
(734) 424-4180 x1302



VIRTUAL CHAT WITH THE ROAD COMMISSION

COME CHAT WITH US!

On Zoom every Wednesday, between noon and 1 p.m.



bit.ly/chatwithWCRC



Dial (929) 205 6099

Meeting ID: 868 7856 1597

RSVP at wcroads.org/events



Occupied Home Invasion in Salem Township

Suspects distract homeowners while home is robbed



On Wednesday, January 13, 2021 around 5:45pm Deputies responded to a suspicious incident that turned out to be a home invasion in the 5800 block of Gotfredson in Salem Township. The homeowner

ers received a knock at their door and were engaged by a man pretending to be with a tree removal company. The suspect alleged that he would be trimming/removing trees around the property and asked to walk the property with the homeowner. As one of the homeowners walked the property with suspect #1, a second suspect approached the home and engaged the other

homeowner in additional conversation. While both homeowners were distracted, a third suspect entered the home and stole miscellaneous items. All three suspects got into a gray pickup truck and fled in an unknown direction. No one was hurt during the incident. The homeowners believed the interaction was suspicious, but did not realize any-

thing had been stolen until some time later. Deputies were then dispatched to the scene, but the suspects had already fled the area. Suspect Information: Suspect #1: "Ernesto" was the name used. Described as a smaller man that spoke with a Spanish accent. Suspect #2: "Sanchez" was the name used. Described as a white male around 5'8"

tall. Suspect #3: Described as a black male around 5'10" tall. Vehicle Description: Vehicle is described as a gray pick up truck. Possibly Ford F-150. Please remember when contractors arrive at your residence, to check their credentials if you did not request service before opening the door. Any information or

leads that could help, please contact Detective Babyecz (babyecz@washtenaw.org) or Deputy Saydak (saydaks@washtenaw.org) through Central Dispatch Non-Emergency 734-994-2911. For media inquiries contact Director Jackson at 734-891-2243 or jacksond@washtenaw.org.



**ST. JOSEPH MERCY
CHELSEA**

will host a virtual
**COVID-19
Vaccine
Community
Forum**

**Monday,
January 25
at Noon**

Join Nancy Graebner, President,
Cheryl Taylor, RN, MSN, Chief Nursing Officer,
Alon Weizer, MD, Chief Medical Officer
as they provide an update on COVID-19 vaccines and
current implementation plans for the community.

If you have specific questions you would like addressed,
please submit via [this link](#) by noon on Friday, January 22.

We will facilitate this meeting using a live WebEx.
(At the time of the forum, please click Join Meeting below and follow instructions.)

Join Meeting

To join by phone only: 408-418-9388; access code 713-625-949#;
press # again when prompted for attendee ID

Please share this invitation with others in our community.

Savings in Dexter

Featured Listing of the Week



Chelsea
3 bed/2 bath ranch home on over an acre in Chelsea School District! Over 1600 SF on full basement with front porch and rear deck with great open back yard. 2 car attached garage in the North Lake area, ready for new owners to bring their finishing touches and make it their own!
\$309,900

KLINK & ASSOCIATES | **Reinhart REALTORS**
734-260-7483 | 800 S. Main, Chelsea, MI 48118
Jeff@KlinkAssociates.com

The Encore
- Musical Theatre Company -

**Coming
Soon
2021-2022
Schedule
of
Events**

For tickets and showtimes please visit:
<https://www.theencoretheatre.org/>
or call 734-268-6200734

BOLLINGER
SANITATION & EXCAVATING
Serving The Chelsea Area Since 1951
(734) 433-1831
PROMPT SERVICE!

- RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL -

No Job Too Small or Too Big

**IS IT TIME FOR
YOUR SEPTIC TANK
CHECK UP?**



www.Bollingerse.com

Dexter Guardian

guardiannewspapersmi.com

For Classified, Church Directory
or General Advertising
Call: 734-636-6577 or email
tomchelseaeguardian@gmail.com
or charlachelseaeguardian@gmail.com

Please like and share our
Facebook Page: Dexter Guardian

Mission Statement:
Hard work, good work and
creating and fostering great
relationships are the keys to
community success.

the find We Moved!!
Specials! Discounts!



Upscale Family Resale
in Downtown Chelsea
118 N. Main Street
734-593-7044
TheFindChelsea.com
Sun-Tues Closed
Wed-Thurs 9am-5pm
Friday & Sat 9am - 7pm
"Family Apparel, Gifts & Thrifts"

MDHHS identifies first Michigan case of new COVID-19 variant, B.1.1.7. in Washtenaw County

From Bob Wheaton
The first Michigan case of new COVID-19 variant, B.1.1.7. was identified in an adult female living in Washtenaw County by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Laboratories today. The person recently traveled to the United Kingdom, where this variant originated. Close contacts of this individual have been identified and are in quarantine. At this time two new cases have been identified from close contacts with the person, but it is not known if they are infected with the variant.

B.1.1.7. is believed to be more contagious, but there has been no indication that it affects the clinical outcomes or disease severity compared to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that has been circulating across the United States for months.

However, a higher rate of transmission could increase the number of people who need to be hospitalized or who lose their lives to COVID-19 should the new variant begin circulating widely in Michigan. To date, the virus has been identified in at least 16 other states and jurisdictions in the U.S. This is the only known case in Michi-

gan at this time, however it is possible that there are more that have not been identified.

“The discovery of this variant in Michigan is concerning, but not unexpected,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. “We all have a personal responsibility to slow the spread of COVID-19 and end this pandemic as quickly as possible. We continue to urge Michiganders to follow a research-based approach by wearing their masks properly, socially distancing, avoiding crowds, washing their hands often, and making a plan to get the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine once it is their turn.”

Based on available evidence, current tests and vaccines for COVID-19 also work against this new variant. Protective actions that prevent the spread of COVID-19 will also prevent the spread of the new variant, B.1.1.7. Michiganders should:

- Get vaccinated for COVID-19.
 - Wear a mask around others.
 - Stay 6 feet apart from others.
 - Wash hands often.
 - Ventilate indoor spaces.
- Viruses constant-

ly change through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time. MDHHS's Bureau of Laboratories is a national leader in whole genome sequencing for SARS CoV2. MDHHS identified the variant in this individual's sample and will continue to conduct whole genome sequencing to quickly identify any variants of interest, including B.1.1.7.

Whole genome sequencing allows scientists to examine the genetic material of pathogens, including SARS-CoV-2. Over the past 10 months, laboratories across Michigan have been submitting samples to the state public health laboratory for surveillance to help monitor the emergence of any variants of concern. MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories prioritizes additional specimens for whole genome sequencing when there is increased concern for a new variant of the virus, such as in people with a travel history to places where the variant is known to be circulating.

At this time, information is limited and changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

WINTER WARM UP
SALE

UP TO

30% OFF*

Custom Furniture • Area Rugs
Mattresses • Accessories

AND
We'll Pay Your Sales Tax!



JANUARY 15TH - 30TH

Save on the **GOOD STUFF!**

CHELSEA
Furniture & Flooring
(734) 475-8621

Merkel
since 1924
FURNITURE AND CARPET ONE

ANN ARBOR
Flooring & Area Rugs
(734) 971-2795

MERKELFURNITURE.COM

*Conditions and exclusions apply, see store for details.

KERN AUTO

Affordable Cars & Trucks For Sale • Full Service Repair Shop
Tire Repair • Sunoco Fuels • On the corner of M-52 & I-94, Exit 159, Chelsea

No Reasonable Offer Refused!

734-475-2722

Tom Kern
734-645-3995

Kevin Kern
734-395-7381

1997 Ford Expedition... <i>Extra Clean</i>	\$3,995
2002 Honda Accord	\$3,995
2000 Ford Focus... <i>Extra Clean</i>	\$2,995
2002 Honda Accord... <i>2 Door, Reduced</i>	\$3,495
2011 Chevy Malibu... <i>102k Miles</i>	\$5,495
2007 GMC Half Ton	\$3,995
2009 Ford Escape <i>Locally owned</i>	\$4,995
2006 Equinox... <i>6 cyl</i>	\$5,995
2007 Ford Focus ZX3... <i>105k Miles, 2 Door</i>	\$4,495
2002 Ford Ranger Extended Cab <i>1 Owner</i>	\$5,495
2012 Dodge Journey	\$5,995
2003 Chevy 3/4 Ton Extended Cab 4x4	\$3,995
1995 Mercury Sable... <i>Extra Clean</i>	\$3,495
2002 GMC Envoy	\$4,995
2006 Cadillac CTS	\$5,995
2007 Ford Ranger Supercab... <i>Locally Owned</i>	\$4,495
2005 Ford 500... <i>45,000 Original Miles</i>	\$4,995
2009 Ford Focus	\$3,995
2011 Chrysler 200	\$5,995
2010 Ford Escape	COMING SOON
2011 Ford Escape 4WD	\$6,495
2009 Ranger 4WD	\$7,495

Come See Jeff Powell for Your Service or Repair Needs

Help support your hometown paper during these difficult times. As we recover from the Covid shutdowns we are hoping we can count on you to support the **Guardian**.

Please donate \$2 or \$5 per month by mailing a check to P.O Box 576 Chelsea, MI 48118 or by paypal at tomchelseaguardian@gmail.com



DEXTER ATHLETICS



DEXTER SWIM IS TOP TEN!



Dive coach Shawn Bergman; back row from left to right: Vivian Kinnard, Elysa Grossman, Lily Witte.

By Dave Merchant
dmerchant9701@yahoo.com

Dexter swimmers made their coach and school proud. Dreads coach Cory Bergen was glad how his team finished the season. "This season has certainly thrown us the most unique challenges we've ever faced. It's no different than every aspect of life since the pandemic hit. Our goal this year was to keep everyone safe and try to squeeze the most meaningful experiences we could out of this season. Our outlook was the same heading into the state meet. I felt like we were really ready to go head-

ing into the originally scheduled state meet two months ago. The two "pauses" in our team training we had to take really changed everything. The MHSAA was determined to have a "culminating activity" for our sport and that's really what it was Saturday at Grand Rapids Northview HS."

"Coach Shawn Bergman and the divers showed everyone that we are still the premier diving squad in the state on Friday with Lily, Elyssa, and Vivian going 1,5,7 to all earn all-state honors for the second year in a row. Lily threw down a new state re-

cord in diving on Friday and then showed her unique versatility by swimming on two state relays and earning medals in both on Saturday. Lily was named State Diver of the Meet and Coach Bergman was named State Diving Coach of the year, both for the second consecutive year."

"We brought seven swimmers to the meet on Saturday and our goal was to compete as hard as we could, be happy for ourselves and our teammates, celebrate finishing a season on January 16th that started on August 12th (only being able to do outdoor exercises for

the first four weeks), and make some memories together," Bergen said. "I'm happy to say that we did that and then some."

The day was exciting for the girls. "We had great efforts and smiles all day long and it was a long day," he said. "I couldn't be prouder of a group of girls. Going in, I thought that a top 10 finish would be fantastic and was happy that we finished 10th. In a program first, every one of our swimmers and divers that competed at the state meet this weekend earned at least one medal for a top 16 finish."

PERFECTION IS EXCELLENCE

By Dave Merchant
dmerchant9701@yahoo.com

Perfection in any sport is a thing of beauty. It is truly something of beauty and excellence.

Currently the members of the Dexter dive team have earned that title.

Sophomore diving sensation Lily

Witte set a Division 2 record with a point total of 486.95, the closest opponent had 447.50.

Junior Elysa Grossman was fifth with 367.55. Sophomore Vivian Kinnard was seventh with a score of 358.45.

The team earned recognition and the

Dexter diving coach, Shawn Bergman was named Diving Coach of the year. Lily was named diver of the year.

Hats off and continued success.

Beauty can be perfection and perfection can be excellence. These girls have several years left. I am

sure they will get better in the future and better can be even more perfect.

Shout out to the entire Dexter Division 2 swim and diving team. Way to go girls and way to go Coach Cory Bergen. Truly a touch of perfection and excellence.

Now winter sports teams are practicing without contact. February is when contact will be introduced.

It is rather late, but what hasn't been disturbed by the Covid-19 virus?

I hope there is perfection and greatness in wrestling, and boys' and girls' hoops.

Hockey and cheerleading will be perfect.

Don't forget the bowling team and the boys' swim team.

Good luck to Dexter and the sports teams. May they be as perfect and excellent as the Dexter girls' swim team.

Dexter Athletics

RISING TIDE

DREADNAUGHT ATHLETICS MILL CREEK WINTER RE-START

Dexter Athletics Re-start:

Mill Creek Middle School

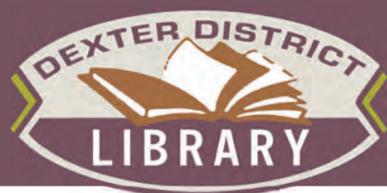
- MS Boys Basketball: Starts January 19th
- 8th Grade @ Creekside 3:30-5:30
- 7th Grade @ Mill Creek 3:15-5:15

- Co-ED Swim and Dive: Starts January 19th
- Practices @ Dexter High School Pool 3:30-5:30pm

- MS Wrestling: Starts February 16th (More information coming soon)

- MS Girls Basketball: Starts February 22nd (Information coming soon)

CONTACT DEXTER ATHLETIC OFFICE (734) 424 4170



Dexter District Library 2021 Winter Events for Kids, Tweens and Teens



Upcoming Winter Events at Dexter District Library

January 1 through 24

Winter Photo Contest for Teens

Local teens in grades 6 through 12 are invited to submit a photo for a chance to win a gift card. Photos will be judged in three categories: Winter, Dexter and Family/Friends. Entrants are limited to one picture in each category. Complete contest details will be emailed to registered participants. Photographs will be displayed on the DDL Teen Services webpage and in the Library's Teen Zone. Winners will be announced on January 28.

Bi-weekly Thursdays at 11:00 am, January 14 to February 25

Preschool Super Stories

Kids ages five and younger are invited to join Ms Krista this winter on our DDL facebook page every other Thursday at 11:00 am. We will read a longer picture book and share an activity related to the book. Everyone is welcome. Dates: January 14, January 28, February 11 and February 25

Bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm, January 20 to March 3

Club Create

Kids in grades K through 2 are invited to join us on facebook, every other Wednesday at 4:30 pm beginning January 20. Ms. Krista will share fun challenges, activities and craft ideas that you can try at home. She will also highlight a few new chapter books and readers. Everyone is welcome. Dates: January 20, February 3, February 17 and March 3

Thursday, January 21 at 4:30 pm

All Star Readers

All Star Readers Book Club for grades 3 and 4 will meet again on Thursday, January 21 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Registration is required and begins on Thursday, December 17. The book we will be discussing is *Flora & Ulysses* by Kate DeCamillo. Books will be available for pick up when you register. Join us for a fun, lively afternoon with Ms. Krista leading our discussion, everyone is welcome. A link to our Zoom meeting room and a password will be sent to you prior to January 21.

Saturday, January 30 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Cricut® for Beginners

Join us for a repeat of this popular virtual program as we talk about the basic functions of a Cricut® machine and discuss which tools and materials are worth investing in. A demonstration will be provided and samples of projects will be shared. Time will be available at the end of the presentation for participants' questions. Recommended for grades 6 through adult, registration is required. Zoom details will be emailed prior to the program.

Thursday, February 4 to Wednesday, February 10

February Craft Kits

February Craft Kits for grades K through 5 will be available from February 4 to February 10. Call from the Library parking lot and we'll deliver them to our outside table or pick them up inside. Registration is required on our website beginning January 18.

Regional Senior Living Organization Receives First Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine



UNITED METHODIST
RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION

Chelsea, MI/Grand Rapids, MI, Jan. 13, 2021 – The COVID-19 pandemic has been especially difficult and deadly for older adults and direct care workers, but this week brought a ray of hope to those at United Methodist Retirement Communities (UMRC) & Porter Hills. More than 1,000 UMRC & Porter Hills residents and team members received their first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, with vaccine clinics kicking off on December 29, 2020 at Porter Hills Green House® Homes and January 4, 2021 at Porter Hills Village in Grand Rapids, and January 8 at Chelsea Retirement Community in Chelsea, Michigan.

Vaccines were provided on-site by CVS Pharmacy for team members and residents of UMRC & Porter Hills' skilled nursing and assisted living centers.

"So many of us long to share hugs and be close to our loved ones, and receiving the vaccine is a critical first step," said UMRC & Porter Hills President and CEO Steve Fetyko. "The vaccine offers us all an opportunity to be part of ending this pan-

demic." To help protect independent living residents, UMRC & Porter Hills, in partnership with the Washtenaw County Health Department, set up a vaccine clinic for independent living residents ages 65+ from The Cedars of Dexter, The Pines, and Chelsea Retirement Community on January 11. Similarly, UMRC & Porter Hills is setting up clinics, in conjunction with CVS Pharmacy, for independent living residents of Porter Hills Village and Cook Valley Estates in the coming weeks.

Fetyko acknowledged the work of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the county health departments, and CVS Pharmacy in making the vaccines available. "We are continuing to partner with them as we seek to gain access to the vaccine for all of our communities and locations. We are extremely fortunate to have vaccine administration run so smoothly at UMRC & Porter Hills. So far, 75 percent of our locations and communities have had the opportunity for vaccinations, and we continue to seek solu-

tions for the remaining 25 percent of the older adults we serve."

Chelsea Retirement Community resident Mary Lee Rosen said, "This has been the greatest news for over nine months!"

"It felt like Christmas morning," said Wendy Brightman, President of UMRC Foundation and Porter Hills Foundation. "There was so much emotion and eagerness among our residents and our outstanding team members who have worked so hard these last ten months to keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible."

UMRC & Porter Hills Vice President of Operations, Nicole Maag agreed.

"There has been such a sense of hope, joy, and excitement as we rolled out the vaccination clinics," Maag said. "Our residents and teams have been through so much these past ten months and have shown amazing resilience. The arrival of this vaccine is the best possible way to start the New Year."

For more information, visit umrc.com or porterhills.org.

Building on a foundation of 165 years of combined service to older adults, United Methodist Retirement Communities (UMRC) & Porter Hills is a faith-

Socially Distanced /Virtual Events in Washtenaw to Attend January 2021

Dexter Winter Marketplace in Dexter

Dexter United Methodist Church is hosting a winter marketplace January 23rd that will host vendors from all over the area selling arts and crafts, baked goods, jewelry, fresh produce, eggs, cheese, meats and more. There will also be local musicians and vendor drawings! Social distancing, masks and one-way traffic will be required to help keep you and the vendors safe throughout the event.

44th Ann Arbor Folk Festival | Ann Arbor

When: January 29-30

Where: Online

Ann Arbor Folk Festival, a fundraiser for The Ark, began in 1977 and is now one of Ann Arbor's most anticipated events. Over the course of two days, Hill Auditorium will host several incredible musical acts—which can be enjoyed virtually. For more information visit <https://theark.org/folk-festival>.

Dexter Ice Fest | Dexter

When: January 23, 11 a.m.

Where: Downtown Dexter

On January 23rd, head to downtown Dexter to explore incredible and intricate ice sculptures sponsored by local businesses lined up all across the area! During the 2021 event, they plan to have more than 35 ice carvings for you to see. Please wear masks and make sure you're social distancing when visiting.



based, nonprofit organization whose mission is: Welcoming all, partnering together, enriching lives. Its vision is: A world in which all are empowered to age well. Together, UMRC & Porter Hills represents

the second largest nonprofit senior living organization in Michigan. With a tradition of exceptional quality and a commitment to cutting-edge care, UMRC & Porter Hills and its affiliates combine to

serve approximately 6,000 older adults each year, from 24 locations and service lines, across 22 counties in Michigan's lower peninsula. umrc.com|734.433.1000 and porterhills.org|616.949.4975

A SOPHISTICATED NIGHT OUT WHILE STAYING IN



By: **Bonnie Dockham**

Honorary Chair, Ellie Serras, presents the 1st Annual Flavors of Hope: The Cancer Support Community's (CSC) Gourmet Cooking and Wine Event to be held virtually on Saturday, February 13, 2021, at 6 pm.

The original plans for this charity benefit on Saturday, February 13, 2021, included strolling wine and food sampling in a gorgeous country setting. As with most things this year, we had to make adjustments in an effort to keep our community safe. This year, Flavors of Hope will feature a cooking demonstration by

Mainstreet Ventures Executive Chef Brent Courson. An easy-to-use video platform will create a feeling of being at an event together while enjoying the comforts and safety of home. Meal kits include supplies for a four-course gourmet meal (vegetarian option available) and a signature cocktail mix. Meals will be paired with a 2017 Ketcham Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir, which is made from the oldest block of Pinot Noir grapes on Ketcham Estate's property. Ketcham Estate is owned and operated by Ann Arbor Native, Allie Ketchum. Participants will have the opportunity to bid in a silent auction featuring a 3-night stay at Ketchum Estate with

a private tour. Single tickets are \$150 per person and include a meal kit for one and a half bottle of 2017 Ketcham Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir. Tickets for two are \$275 and include a meal kit for two and a bottle of 2017 Ketcham Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir. Virtual tables are available for \$1,250 and include meal kits for up to 10 guests and 5 bottles. All tickets include participation in the event on Saturday, February 13, 2021. **All proceeds of the event stay local and support the free services provided by the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor.**

The CSC provides free cancer support services to all people affected by cancer.

These programs range from professionally facilitated support groups, exercise and nutrition programs to children and family programming. CSC is the only organization in the community that focuses solely on improving the quality of life of people affected by cancer. All programs are provided free of charge. During the COVID-19 crisis, the CSC is continuing to provide professional opportunities for connection via free online programs that use HIPAA compliant video conferencing. One member expressed sincere gratitude following her first video group stating, "It is almost as if we are still in the same room together." Serving over 1100

people annually, CSC has only seen an increase in service provision since moving to an online format.

Have a special night at home fun while supporting people impacted by cancer. For more information and to buy tickets visit: cancersupportannarbor.org/flavors-of-hope.

About the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor

Cancer Support Community (CSC) of Greater Ann Arbor is part of an international non-profit organization whose mission is to ensure that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community. All programs

are completely free of charge and offered in a comfortable, home-like environment. The Cancer Support Community offers professionally led support groups, educational workshops, nutrition and exercise programs, and stress-reduction classes that empower and educate people touched by cancer. CSC is the only organization in Washtenaw County devoted solely to providing this support, education, and hope to cancer patients, their friends, family, and children. The center is located at 2010 Hogback Road, Suite 3, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. For more information: www.cancersupportannarbor.org.



#K00900 - DEMO (3146 MILES)

2020 TRAX FWD LS

\$86 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$86** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10249

2021 EQUINOX FWD LS

\$169 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$169** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10482

2021 TRAILBLAZER FWD LT

\$176 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$176** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10267

2021 MALIBU LT

\$179 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$179** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10434

2021 CHEVY COLORADO WT CREW CAB 4WD

\$197 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$197** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
36 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10286

2021 BLAZER 2LT FWD

\$199 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$199** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10324

2021 CHEVY SILVERADO CUSTOM CREW CAB 4WD

\$199 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$199** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K10324

2021 TRAVERSE AWD LT

\$249 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$249** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
24 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles



#K01200

2020 BOLT EV LT

\$258 PER MONTH
LEASE FOR **\$258** PER MONTH
\$995 Down Plus Start Ups
36 MONTH LEASE / 10k Miles

FIND NEW ROADS™

CHEVROLET



S SUBURBAN
Chevrolet of Ann Arbor

3515 Jackson Rd.
Ann Arbor

(at the corner of Jackson & Wagner Roads)

877.212.3162

Suburbanchvroletofannarbor.com



*All prices include GMS pricing. Demo units are remainder of 10k/yr. All pricing is 995 down plus first payment, taxes, doc fee, cvr fee, and plate fee. All prices include having a current 2016 or newer Chevrolet lease in the house that expires after March 1, 2020 through GM Financial. Must take delivery out of dealer stock before 1-31-2021. Limited availability. See dealer for complete details.

BOARD OF EDUCATION BULLETIN

DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



tion rate is at 1.04%, and as of January 7th, 8% of cases were in ages 0-17. The majority of current cases are adults 18-39 (over 50%); those likely to have school-aged children. In the 48130-zip code, there were 58 positive cases over the last two weeks, compared to 47 cases during the last two weeks of December 2020.

The Washtenaw ISD dashboard shows a positivity rate of 8.7% (7-day moving average). With that figure, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Level Risk Determination chart, Dexter is in the highest risk level in terms of cases and medium-high in terms of positivity rate.

Considering all this data, Dexter's Return to School Committee has determined that it is safe to return to the buildings with stringent safety protocols in place. Jenkins, GSRP and Y5-6th grades (hybrid model) started back Monday, January 11th and it is proposed that middle and high school students return to buildings in a hybrid model on Thursday, January 28th. With MLK Day on Monday, January 18, half days scheduled for Thursday, January 21 & Friday, January 22 and the high

school PSAT scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, it was determined that bringing students back on Thursday, January 28 would cause the least amount of disruption for students.

Governor Whitmer recently announced that schools are "strongly encouraged" to have students back in buildings by March 1st with safety protocols still in place. The Return to School Committee is working through these guidelines (released last week) to determine logistics.

Wrapping up his Superintendent Update, Dr. Timmis reiterated that the second semester window for School of Choice applications is underway; the application process will close on Friday January 15th. He also noted that a Board of Education Bulletin – a meeting summary, not actual minutes – will be distributed to the community and local press following each meeting.

Board President Dr. Julie Schumaker shared that following the recent election of the first woman as U.S. Vice President, she began researching historical DCS board records to find when the first woman was elected as a trustee. In doing so, Schumaker has found many interesting nuggets of Dexter School history which she plans to share; for example, when the District experienced rapid growth during the 1950's and 60's, Dexter asked the local fire department if they could hold some classes in the fire station due to lack of space (they were denied).

Student Representatives Annalisa Shehab and Aiden Naughton reported that Dexter students are nearing the end of their 1st semester. While DHS students would normally have exams at semester end, due to the pandemic there will be no exams this year. Some teachers plan to give chapter tests or have assigned a semester-end project. The 2nd semester begins January 25th, and hybrid classes for DHS and Mill Creek students are scheduled to begin on January 28th. Since current freshman didn't have orientation this past fall, they are invited to attend open houses scheduled for January 21st and 22nd, where NHS students will give tours and answer questions. Winter sports may begin competing on Friday, January 22nd.

DHS students have been invited to participate in a Zoom meeting on January 13th with DHS administration to discuss the previous

6-period per day schedule and give feedback on pandemic schedules. Dr. Timmis shared that parents will be invited to participate in a separate Zoom feedback session within the next few weeks.

No community members asked to speak during the public participation time allotted, and the Board moved on to unanimously approve the hiring of Carly Petersen as a counselor at Mill Creek Middle School.

The Board considered the COVID-19 data review information presented by Dr. Timmis during his update prior to unanimously confirming the 4th Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan as presented. Trustees asked about a possible reversal in the return to buildings decision based on a future positivity rate of 9% or higher. Timmis responded that there are many data points to consider, not just positivity rate, and that all factors will be taken into account by the Return to School Committee before decisions are made or reversed. In addition, HVAC filters for all schools, ordered in August 2020, have recently begun to arrive and will be installed as quickly as possible.

Bylaw 0144.1 regulates the amount of annual compensation for Board members. This compensation is paid by the District in two installments on or about December 15 and June 15 and shall not be contingent upon the number of meetings scheduled or attended. This amount has been unchanged for many years, with the exception of a few recession years where Trustees voted to take half that amount.

In her historical BOE research, Schumaker discovered that board member compensation was \$200 per year during the 1952-53 school year, which in today's dollars would be around \$2000 per year. Dr. Schumaker suggested that the Policy Committee benchmark neighboring district BOE compensation in order to provide equal opportunity to serve on the Board. Trustees approved remaining at \$840 per year for 2021-2022. The Policy Committee will review the topic for future adjustment.

Trustees voted to hold a Board workshop on Saturday, February 20th from 8:30-11:00 a.m. to be tentatively held at the Washtenaw ISD. The Board approved 6 class registrations for each Trustee to be used between now and June 2021.

The MASB Winter Institute will be held virtually February 19-21, and online classes and workshops are continuously available for all Trustees. New trustees are encouraged to take Board 101, as well as 100-level classes.

During a special meeting on December 7th, the BOE conducted the Superintendent's annual evaluation and rated his performance as Highly Effective. At this evening's meeting, a summary statement (see p. 21 of packet) of the Board's evaluation was read aloud in its entirety. The Board unanimously approved the statement with thanks to Dr. Timmis for his leadership during this challenging school year.

Each January, the Board of Education signs annual declarations affirming their commitment to the Board, listing any potential conflicts of interest, and agreeing to Board Norms and Social Media Guidelines. These forms can be viewed in the meeting packet.

The Board receives monthly financial reports from Dexter Schools CFO Dr. Sharon Raschke, which provide information about budget expenses. In November, this report is accompanied by a quarterly narrative with deeper explanations of changes from the original budget approved in June. The budget created in June is based on what the District estimates they will receive from state and federal funding. This information is not finalized until late in the year, which is why a full operating plan cannot be determined until November.

In response to a question, Dr. Timmis explained that Dexter is planning a robust summer program for special and high need students due to COVID-19. There are likely to be general education options as well. Funding for this program will be primarily from the 2021-2022 budget.

During Board Comments, trustees welcomed the new trustees and expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the student video created for School Board Recognition Month, citing the impressive artwork and warm sentiments shared by Dexter students. The new trustees thanked the Board and District for their support and onboarding assistance.

The next Dexter Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The January 11th Board of Education meeting began with the swearing in of three recently elected Board

Trustees: Brian Arnold, Elise Bruderly (who has served as an appointee since July 2020), and Jennifer Kangas.

Their terms run through 2026.

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Dr. Timmis thanked Trustees for taking on the commitment to serve Dexter students and the District. The Board viewed a heartwarming video, made by Creekside art teacher Jane Montero, in which Dexter students thanked the school board for their service and Dexter Art Teachers presented a mini virtual art show of Y5-12 student creations (find the video here).

Each year the Dexter Education Association donates award-winning books to each building's media center in recognition of Board service. The following books are being donated this year:

Anchor Elementary: Truman, by Jean Reidy and Lucy Ruth Cummins Beacon Ele-

mentary: Lift, by Minh Le

Wylie Elementary: I Hate Reading: How To Read When You'd Rather Not by Beth Bacon

Creekside Intermediate: Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk

Mill Creek Middle: They Called Us Enemy, by George Takei

Dexter High School: A Promised Land, by Barack Obama Louie Ceriani Alternative Education: The Hate U Give and On The Come Up, by Angie Thomas

As with last month's BOE meeting, much talk centered around the pandemic and the District's Return to School plan. Dr. Timmis shared the latest data from the COVID-19 Dashboard and the Return to School Data Review.

As of January 8th, Dexter is down significantly in student and staff cases/quarantining from what was seen in November. Data reviews now occur on Thursday afternoons, rather than Tuesdays, as there have been delays in receiving data after the weekend. The infec-



ST. JOSEPH MERCY
CHELSEA

Safely Caring for Women



Preventative well-women exams and specialized gynecology services offering peace of mind and safe care.

Specialties:

- Routine women's health care
- Menopause management
- Gynecologic surgery
- Urinary incontinence
- Prolapse
- Fibroids
- Abnormal bleeding
- Endometriosis

Women's Health Center
734-593-5979

Caring Together