



Congrats  
DHS Class  
of 2020!!

July 24, 2020

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# Dexter Guardian

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## Dexter High School Graduation 2020



Photos By Karen Walls

By Charla Hamilton  
charlachelseaguardian@gmail.com

(Special Thank You  
to Hope Vestergaard &  
Karen Walls for pro-  
viding information)

On Sunday July 12, DHS Class of 2020 was finally granted an actual graduation ceremony. Spirits were high as the graduates and their families gathered at Al Ritt Stadium

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## Interview with Board of Education Trustee Candidate Melanie Szawara



Melanie Szawara • Photo Courtesy of Melanie Szawara  
Story on Page 6

## Interview with Barbara Reed: Candidate for Board of Education Trustee



Barbara Reed • Photo  
Courtesy of Barabara Reed

By Aimee Bingham Osinski  
anbingham@gmail.com

Recently, I was able to interview Barbara Reed, who is running for Dexter Board of Education Trustee.

I started by asking her why. I mentioned that she'd been on the

Board since 2012, but I wanted to know why she wants to serve and why she continues to run. Barbara started telling about how she first came to the decision to run. She explained that she'd volunteered at the

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## Dexter Farmer's Market Location

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**October 4, 2020**

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If you have any Community Events you would like listed here  
please email [charlachelseaguardian@gmail.com](mailto:charlachelseaguardian@gmail.com)

# Chelsea First United Methodist Church Sponsors Virtual Concert to Benefit FIA

Chelsea First United Methodist Church (CFUMC) will sponsor a Facebook Live concert from 4-6 p.m. on July 25, with opportunities for listeners to donate funds to benefit Faith in Action (FIA). The livestream can be viewed during and after the event at <https://www.facebook.com/chelseaumc/>.

Linda Meloche of "Around Town" will host the collage-style concert that will feature local virtuosos Brian Brill, Mark Loring, Max Plank, and Cynthia Standefer; Chelsea High School (CHS) alumnae Katherine (Standefer) Grant and

Katie Rae Hayduk; and CHS musicians.

The event is the brainchild of Jeanne Franks, CFUMC's director of youth ministries. Restrictions due to COVID-19 response had canceled the church's mission trips; the effect on the Material Girls Christmas Bazaar, whose profits benefit FIA, is still undetermined; and the church building is closed, effectively canceling the annual July FIA food drive. "Just because you can't do what you've always done, doesn't mean that all is lost," said Franks, who decided there had to be a cre-

ative, new way to accomplish the goal.

Franks invited Emily Kuo to help with the effort. "She knows how to put the flesh on the bones with excellence," said Franks.

Since the pandemic caused the cancellation of both the high school collage and concerto concerts, Kuo hopes to provide a community platform for the young musicians to perform some of the pieces they had worked hard to perfect, while also raising funds for FIA to restock its pantries when COVID-19 aid is expiring, leaving many in need.

Franks said, "The



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**Humane Society of Huron Valley** Humane Society of Huron Valley Pets of the Week!

**Adopt a Pet-of-the-Week this week, and get 10% off your adoption fee!**

**The Ann Arbor's 107one Pet-of-the-Week is Hakeem**  
Meet Hakeem! This super cool boy is looking for a new family to love and adore. Hakeem may be a bit bashful when he first meets you, but after some love and TLC he'll be all tail wags and face smooches! This big guy will thrive in a home with a family that can help him boost his confidence and encourage his brave side. He will also need a home without cats or children under the age of 12. If you are looking for an amazing dog to adopt, please consider Hakeem!

**The WTKA Top-Dog-of-the-Week is Flora**  
Flora has two incredibly adorable traits: her magnetic personality and, of course, those EARS! This cutie pie is incredible and will fill your home and heart with so much joy. Flora is an energetic gal who will need an active family to match. She would love to get plenty of play time, some training from her new family, and of course plenty of cuddles. If you have a home without any other dogs and are looking for an adventure buddy, come meet Flora today!

**The W4 Country Pet-of-the-Week is Swiss Chard**  
Swiss Chard is a curious young lady, on the hunt for her forever home. This clever girl would do best in a household with no other animals or small children. She is hoping that her new human will give her the time and space she needs to settle in and gain some confidence. Do you have a special place in your heart where Swiss Chard can grow her roots? Please come meet her today!

**The Lucy Ann Lance Show Pet-of-the-Week is Toad**  
Meet Toad! This kitty is ready to play, play, play! Whether it's pouncing after toys or exploring his new home, Toad is ready to GO. He will need an adopter willing to give him lots of exercise, who will enjoy helping him burn all of that energy. If you are interested in this action packed cat, come meet Toad today!

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opportunity for these musicians to play is a gift both to them and the viewers.

Collaboration, community, connection is what I call 'church.'

Sheri Montoye, FIA's executive director, said the agency has accomplished its mission with strong support from local donors for 40 years. "Our primary support

tool is a well-stocked food pantry," she said. "When family finances are tight, FIA can provide food so that limited family funds can be used to cover other crucial household expenses. Every little bit helps, and we appreciate the continued support."

The current list of needs is updated every week or two on their Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/FIA.ChelseaDexter/> and on the website at <https://www.faihinaction1.org/>.

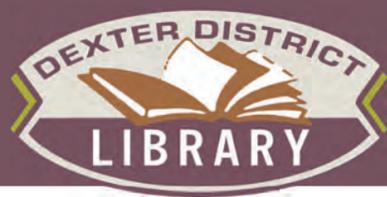
Financial contributions can also be made to FIA through a link on their website at <https://www.faihinaction1.org/donate/>, or by mailing a check to Faith in Action, 603 South Main St., Chelsea, Mich. 48118.

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**SATURDAY**  
**JULY 25, 2020**  
**4:00 P.M.**  
Hosted by:  
Linda Meloche  
Featuring:  
Hometown virtuosos  
Brian Brill, Mark Loring, Max Plank, & Cynthia Standefer.  
Esteemed alumni  
Katherine (Standefer) Grant & Katie Rae Hayduk.  
Chelsea High School Musicians  
Jimmy Alford, Nathan Cole, Kara Feldkamp,  
Phoebe Harris, Megan Hayduk, Thomas Kennings,  
Keegan McLaughlin, Peter Mourad, Joseph Norwood,  
and other students honored at  
this year's Solo & Ensemble Festival.



# Dexter District Library 2020 Summer Events for Kids, Tweens and Teens

## Curbside Service Hours Expanded (7/13/2020)

We are happy to announce that curbside pickup hours have been expanded and are now:

Monday – Friday: 11:00am to 7:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am to 2:00pm

## Library Closure FAQ (updated 6/15/2020)

• We are happy to report the Library continues to be on track to resume services, beginning Monday, June 15. We are completing our staff safety training and are getting caught up with the backlog caused by the rapid COVID-19 shutdown in March. The Library's outside materials return boxes are open on an ongoing basis. There is no rush to return materials. Returns will be placed in quarantine for over 72 hours and we will continue to waive all overdue fines. Return boxes will be open continuously. If you have returned materials and the items still appear on your account, please wait four to five days before contacting us. The materials will be checked in after quarantine is complete. We look forward to resuming our curbside pickup of materials on Monday, June 15. Pickup will be available between 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm Monday, June 15 through Friday, June 19. Materials on hold from before the shutdown will be available for pickup through June 23. New requests will be processed on an ongoing basis. We will have some catching up to do in this area as well. Currently, there are around 700 items we will need to locate and pull for patrons.

As we move forward, using the Library's catalog to request items will be the most efficient way to get exactly what you want. The Library also has a curbside request form, located at <https://dexter.lib.mi.us/curbside>. This form will allow you to request both specific and general items, which will be pulled and processed by staff. When items are ready for pick up, patrons will be notified by either text message or e-mail. The curbside form will be available on our web site beginning Monday, June 15 at 11:00 am.

During our curbside hours, we ask that individuals call the Library when you arrive in our parking lot. At that time, a staff member will get your account information, retrieve your items from our hold shelf and check them out to your card. The Library will have our small, blue tent shelter set up at the edge of the parking lot. Staff will bring your items to a drop off table. We ask everyone to observe appropriate social distancing measures during the transfer. Once you pick up your items from the table, you can be on your way.

Full access to all shared catalog member library holdings will continue to expand on a rolling basis. Because we have 50 libraries in the shared catalog, many will be restoring their services on various schedules. Each library will have the discretion of when to restore interlibrary loan service to the rest of the membership. When placing a hold for an item Dexter does not own, but shows as available at another library, you may get the message that the hold cannot be placed. This just means any copies reside at libraries which have not fully restored interlibrary loan. Please make a note of the title and try again after a week or so.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the near future. Be well.

- In a surprise announcement, Governor Whitmer relaxed many of the business restrictions that had been in place since the start of the pandemic in Michigan. The staff of the Library appreciate your patience during this difficult time and we look forward to resuming service. The majority of staff have not been allowed in the library since mid-March. We will take some time to prepare our staff to resume providing services and clear the backlogged work. Staff training for distancing in the work environment, cleaning, new workflow patterns and handling materials is required by State Executive Order. Beginning Monday, June 8 our parking lot drop boxes will be unlocked to accept returned materials. Returned materials will be quarantined for a period of three days. No fines will be assessed while we continue to quarantine materials. Our curbside service will resume Monday, June 15. For the week of June 15, the Library will provide curbside service between 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. We will close on Saturday and Sunday, June 20-21 and assess how the week went. Adjustments to service hours will follow. As with everything related to the pandemic, dates may be subject to change based on State-level directives. We will continue to monitor public health conditions and make adjustments, including reopening the building for access, as conditions improve. Our Pandemic Response Plan can be found on our web site at <https://dexter.lib.mi.us/about/library-policies/>. We have missed seeing all our patrons and hope you have remained healthy and well during this time. We look forward to serving you soon.
- Just ahead of the Memorial Day weekend, Governor Whitmer issued a new Executive Order (EO 2020-96) which extended statewide 'Stay Home, Stay Safe' orders through June 12. In issuing this order ahead of the Memorial Day weekend, the Governor did relax some restrictions on areas in northern Michigan and for certain types of businesses. However, the order continues prohibitions on providing all but critical, government in-person services (Section VII.) This even applies to areas of the State which have seen relaxation of commerce. Unfortunately, the order precludes the Library for providing any direct, in-person services. According to the State's MI Safe Start Plan, Michigan has been divided into eight regions, which will be monitored for COVID-19 progression. Washtenaw County falls into Region 1, along with the counties of Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Saint Clair and Wayne counties. Due to the prevalence of COVID-19 cases in Wayne County, it is expected that our region will see restrictions on movement and service continue to be tighter than other regions of the State. The Library continues to prepare a reopening plan to ensure that when restrictions are lifted, we will be able to resume lending materials in a manner that is safe for both our staff and the general public.
- On May 7, 2020, Governor Whitmer extended the statewide "Stay Home" order by issuing Executive Order 2020-77. This order continues closure of public libraries through May 28 and provides more consistency with previous Executive Orders (see below.) With the current order, the Library is not allowed to bring staff back into the Library to prepare to restore services. As we move forward through this crisis, we continue to monitor our options. The Library's drop boxes remain closed and we still cannot accept donations of materials. We continue to work with the staff at our library cooperative (The Library Network) to adjust due dates for items previously borrowed as well as extend borrower card expiration dates. Rest assured, no fines will accrue for the duration of this crisis. The Library will follow the State's MI Safe Start Plan and restore some form of in-person services when possible. We continue to expand our digital services and have increased borrowing limits for our hoopla and Kanopy services. If you do not have a Dexter District Library borrower's card, our online application process is quick, easy and can get you started borrowing materials while sheltering. On behalf of the staff and Board, we hope you and your family remain healthy and well.
- On April 24, Governor Whitmer extended the 'Stay Home' order with Executive Order 2020-59, which allowed some restoration of business activities. While there was a curbside service caveat for some businesses, the order was reviewed by the Library's attorney along with the Library of Michigan legal staff. Their interpretation of the order was that Section 6, outlining limitations on governmental activities, precluded resumption of any in-person service by public libraries to the general public. This requires our current posture of being closed to the public and relying on digital services to continue through May 15. We continue to prepare for the time when we can resume services. While we do not know for certain what form that will take, the Library is developing several scenarios to adapt to environmental conditions and provide a safe experience for the public as well as safe working conditions for our staff. Please continue to monitor our website for new information as it becomes available.
- If you returned any Library items between Friday, 3/13/2020 and early Wednesday AM, 3/18/2020 – those items have been placed in a quarantine and will continue to show on your account until they've been checked back in. These same items may be showing as overdue, lost or as fines on your account. You will not be fined for any items returned during this period. All of the fines will be erased when the items get checked in.
- Our outdoor return boxes are now locked. Please keep all materials at home for the time being. No overdue fines will be assessed during this period.
- All library cards that had recently expired or were going to expire soon have had expiration dates extended.
- Don't have a library card? Click here to apply for one.
  - Online registration is only available to residents of the Dexter School District. If you reside outside our service area, please check with your home library about getting a card.
- The Wi-Fi signal at the Library is available 24/7. Most devices get a strong signal in our parking lot and (when the weather is nice) for the benches along Alpine Street as well as the terrace area in Mill Creek Park North.

# DHS Graduation 2020 Student Speaker Speech

## Breaking the Status Quo

By Quinn LaFontaine

Avoiding norms or “breaking the status quo,” like the great Troy Bolton once said, is something we as a class have sought to achieve. Unlike Troy Bolton, we know our four years here haven’t exactly been a Disney High School Musical. But I can say breaking the status quo and each of us and finding out who we are meant to be has been OUR Dexter High School experience.

Beginning freshman year was terrifying. I had two older siblings who had already finished at DHS before I began so I grew up around the high school.

I was confident and ready to rule the school! I was the definition of a dumb freshman. We quickly found our place in the pecking order and mostly stuck to ourselves. We loved the independence of high school, but we stayed within our comfort zone.

During Sophomore year, we conformed to the norm to

fit in. Gossip, boy-drama, girl-drama, the “sophomore slump,” we had it all. We curated our social media presence, jumped friend groups, and sometimes regretted the friends we’d left behind. We wanted to look like we belonged.

By second semester I gained some insight in a class called world lit and speech. We were taught that we each have a voice and if we have something to say we need to say it. We also learned about listening. To take in what someone is saying and respond without comparing your own experiences to theirs or reacting quickly without thought. Absorb, understand, think, then respond. Thank you Mrs. McDonough for teaching so many of us these skills. As young people in a society filled with many social media platforms, we need to use this for good. Use it to talk and inform others about what you believe in. Don’t use it to argue or shame others but to under-

stand and to listen. It is our turn to make change and we are in such a great position, as young people, to change the world for the better and I hope that excites you as much as it excites me. Many of you may not have found your voice in your four years at Dexter but I promise you, you have one and I urge you as you move forward to use it. Sophomore year taught us that.

We entered Junior year with confidence. We were finally Underclassmen!

We were not trying to follow a norm, we were trying to create it. Gone was worrying what others thought of us, we loved our friends, we won the pep rally, and the football team advanced to the playoffs.

But discomfort crept back in. We were overwhelmed with difficult classes, extracurriculars, and the S.A.T. With college applications around the corner we experienced stress, pressure, and some sadness but our per-

sistence led us to great success because we had definitely left our comfort zones and we were different in the best way.

We came into Senior year loving every minute but already counting down the days! It was our turn to rule the school but that no longer mattered.

We were more interested in planning next year, cheering on our incredible football team, and making those final memories in the halls of DHS. Instead of ruling we were ready to mentor.

We are better leaders, better students, and better people than we were when we first came here, but The biggest lesson of senior year was about to be learned. We had to accept that things do not always go as planned. We were thrown a curveball, we are disappointed, and we feel let down.

Despite this, one of the greatest things we accomplished this year was to check in on a friend, set up a zoom call, reach out

through social media and even play a video game to stay connected and be supportive of one another.

No one has had a senior year like ours, we are unique and that comfort zone has been obliterated, but we have made it!

As we leave DHS behind, moving out into the world, I encourage you to take the lessons we’ve learned here with you.

Whether you are headed to school, taking a gap year, or starting a new job, the beginning may feel terrifying once again. We may not see where we fit in. But we’ve been there before. We will meet new people and find our spot.

We won’t just go along to get along. We will use our voice to educate and tell the world about what we believe in. But we will also be willing to listen.

We may find ourselves under incredible pressures again but we’ve worked through the hard before, and have excelled beautifully in spite of it. We

can do that.

We’ll become great at what we do and will mentor others so they can be great too.

We will recognize that when our plan doesn’t go as expected, it is not an ending. It’s a beginning.

I’d like to thank our Administrators, staff and our teachers at DHS. You have taught, encouraged, inspired and looked after us. We sincerely appreciate you for it.

And as for you, the class of 2020, to quote the great Troy Bolton one more time, “Be a jock who can whip up a mean creme brulee or a brainiac that can break it down on the dance floor.” I encourage you to continue to step out of your comfort zone and break the status quo. I am proud to be part of such a special class and I cannot wait to see what you all will do in the future. And never forget once a dreadnaught, always a dreadnaught.

Congratulations, Dexter High School, Class of 2020!

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# Dexter High School Graduation 2020



► continued from page 1  
to celebrate. Dr. Julie Schumaker, President of Board of Education gave the Welcome, Dr. Chris Timmis, Superintendent of Dexter Schools, gave opening remarks, and principal of Dexter High School, Kit Moran provided special awards, introductions and thank you's. There were four student speakers who gave speeches: Teaghan Holman, Quinn LaFontaine, Rose Reilly, and Simon Kim.

Kit Moran, principal of DHS left the class of 2020 with these words: "The Dexter community is very proud of all of you. We will miss you terribly but it is time for you to move on to the next step in your lives. There are thousands of moments from your high school career we will never forget. Good luck class of 2020!"  
Dr. Chris Timmis had these remarks for the DHS graduating class of 2020: "On be-

half of Dexter Community Schools, we are all so blessed to have this opportunity to recognize the Class of 2020 and celebrate your graduation.  
The Class of 2020 has been chosen to lead. The pandemic that ended your school year early and that has gripped our country combined with the social and political unrest that has permeated throughout our nation are a message to all of you. You were chosen

to lead. You were chosen to help each other, help our country, and lead our world to work together for the betterment of everyone. You were chosen to lead the change that will result from the circumstances we all find ourselves in as we sit at Al Ritt Stadium, wearing masks, with limited family present, and adapting to the landscape we are working within. You have been chosen to lead.  
Every leader has

one experience in their lives where they were put into a situation where it was their turn to "step up." This is your moment.  
I've had the wonderful opportunity to watch you grow up through our schools and to see you graduate today. Knowing you as students, as young adults, and as people, I firmly believe you are the group of leaders we have all been waiting for who will grab ahold of this opportunity and

make your positive impact on this world.  
Thank you for all you've done for Dexter Community Schools, all you've done for each other, and...thinking ahead..thank you for all you will do after you walk across this stage to become leaders in this world.  
Congratulations and forever, Go Dreads!" Congrats again to DHS Class of 2020.

# St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea sets August 3 relaunch date for free WAVE transportation service in Stockbridge and Manchester



From Bobby Maldonado

St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea is re-introducing a free public transportation initiative in Stockbridge and Manchester through the Western-Washtenaw Area Value Express (WAVE) service. The bus service, which will now launch on August 3, was originally set to begin in April but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the agree-

ment with WAVE, the hospital purchased a 12-person van with a wheel-chair lift, and will provide funding to support weekday shuttle service between Stockbridge, Manchester and Chelsea on scheduled days. The shuttle is a strategic priority for the hospital and is intended to reduce social isolation and improve transportation within communities it serves.

"We know that residents of Stockbridge and Manchester are vulnerable due to a lack of transportation options and that the collective health of the communi-

ty is negatively impacted as a result," said Nancy Graebner, president and CEO of St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea. "As Michigan continues its return to normalcy following the outbreak of COVID-19 infections this past spring, it's important that everyone keep up with medical appointments and their recommended diagnostic screenings. We hope that this new bus service makes attending these important appointments a little bit easier for local residents."

As a not-for-profit hospital, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea engages local

community members every three years to participate in a Community Health Needs Assessment. Social influencers of health, particularly social isolation due to lack of transportation, is routinely identified as a top concern.

The shuttle will make four-round trips per day from Stockbridge to Chelsea on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and from Manchester to Chelsea on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It will have two shuttle stops in each community and will be able to pick up disabled individuals who have made reservations within a three quarter mile radius from each stop. The service is available for passengers of all ages.

The shuttle stop locations are:

#### Stockbridge:

- Stockbridge Area Emergency Services Authority (SAESA), 1009 S. Clinton Street, Stockbridge
- Veterans Memo-

rial Park, the Gazebo on North Wood Street, Stockbridge

#### Manchester:

- Emanuel United Church of Christ, 324 W. Main Street, Manchester
- Manchester Village Offices, 912 City Road and Hibbard Street, Manchester

The shuttle will travel to Chelsea and drop off passengers at their desired location within the community. The shuttle is not limited to health care appointments. Passengers may take the shuttle for trips to the grocery store, medical appointments, pharmacy visits or for shopping trips.

Passengers may also use additional WAVE bus routes once they are in Chelsea, which travel throughout Chelsea as well as into Dexter and Ann Arbor. Reservations are encouraged to ensure seating due to social distancing requirements during the Covid-19 pandemic pe-

riod. Travel on other WAVE routes may require a fee.

In response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, all WAVE buses and vans have been outfitted with Plexiglas cockpits that enclose the driver. All hand-to-hand contact with drivers has been eliminated and fare boxes have been installed. All drivers have been issued face masks, gloves and medical grade face shields. WAVE is limiting seating on buses to ensure that riders adhere to proper social distancing, and **ALL riders are required to wear masks.** Drivers will continue to sanitize high touch points inside the buses regularly during the day and a full-time cleaning staff has been hired to clean the buses every night.

For information about the shuttle and for seating reservations, please call WAVE at 734-475-9494.

## Interview with Board of Education Trustee Candidate Melanie Szawara

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

Melanie Szawara is one of the candidates running for Trustee on the Dexter Board of Education. This past week, I had the opportunity to chat with her and get to know her a little better.

I was curious as to why she decided to run. Melanie is an attorney and mom of young children in the district. She explained that she's a long time Dexter resi-

dent. That her family has been here for several generations. She's a Dexter High school graduate and from a family of educators. Melanie states that everything grows and changes, but she hopes to bring back some traditions.

I asked Melanie how she was campaigning during a pandemic. She has a Facebook page. But being a long time Dexter resident, she has so many former

classmates and family in town that some people heard she was running before she told her mother. Being a long term member of a small town has been advantageous for her as far as spreading the word.

Finally, I asked Melanie if there was anything further she'd like her constituents to know. She said there are a lot of hot topics in education right now, like social justice. And she sees the recent chal-

lenges faced with the pandemic as an opportunity to forage into new areas. We can expand how we educate. We can be more creative and reinvent the ways we educate. A little different, a little more personalized education. We discussed how online learning works really well for some, but not others. My son, for example, thrived in an online environment, where he struggled in a classroom setting. Her

daughter, much younger than my son, did not do as well online. But, since we've had to examine things because of the pandemic, we can explore the different options for educating children and make it more individual for each child. Certainly a nice silver lining to this stress. Being a part of the Dexter community, she would like to continue with some of the old traditions. She specifically mentioned

really enjoying bringing graduation back to where it used to be. And she also wants the community to know that she has young children in school and her friends and former classmates' children are in school with them. She is personally affected by the growth and education of these kids. To learn more about Melanie, you can follow her Facebook page: Melanie Klark Szawara for Dexter School Board.

## Interview with Barbara Reed: Candidate for Board of Education Trustee

► continued from page 1  
schools for years as her kids were growing up. She was in the classrooms helping and she loved being on campus. She started attending school board meetings and speaking during public comment time. The more she attended, the more she wanted to participate. She wanted to be part of the process more. So she ran. Barbara said it was an exciting election. She did not expect to win, so when she did she was a little surprised. She immediately jumped into training so she could be the best board member she could be. She's running again because she really loves Dexter

schools- teachers and staff. Barbara explains, right now important things are happening and she can provide continuity.

I asked Barbara how her campaign has changed during COVID-19. Since Barbara has an active social media presence, she doesn't really feel that it's changed too much. Although she did point out that before COVID-19 the board would host panel which allowed for people to ask questions. She really enjoyed those panels and is disappointed they cannot take place now. She explains that it's harder to get to know people one on one. She did add that

she believes that the use of Zoom has actually helped the school board function well. She noted that attendance by citizens has increased, possibly because they can watch the Zoom, cook dinners, and do the things parents need to do while the board meets. She sees Zoom as being a positive impact of COVID-19. Barbara continues to be open and available to constituents through social media. "People have the right to know their rep. I feel strongly about that. If I'm distant or remote it's harder to know whether the rep is representing you." She appreciates getting community feedback

and wants to interact with the people she represents. And since she's been on the board for so long, people already know what she's about. She believes they either like her or they don't and they've had the chance to formulate an opinion through her history on the board.

I asked Barbara if she had anything else she'd like to share with potential voters. She explained that there's nothing she'd do differently. Her platform is the same as it was when she first ran.

1. Every student matters. They need to be supported and included. The district needs to provide the

best education possible. Individualized learning. The student should be met where they are and educated to the best of our ability.

2. High standards. Every child should have academic growth in a year. She's very concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on students in the district. She did praise staff for how quickly they made the switch from in-person to online. She recognized how hard parents and the district worked. But she's worried about students needing to catch up. She wants to follow the guidelines and be as safe as possible, but she believes in-person learning is

the best education possible for students in the district.

3. She is available to listen to the people she represents, even when they have a complaint with how she's representing them. She has always been available and she will continue to do that for members of the community. If you are interested in learning more about Barbara, check out her website at <https://www.barbararead4school-board.com/> or her Facebook page: Barbara Read Dexter Schools. She just started an Instagram page and works hard to make herself available to members of the community.

(Article Previously Ran in Online Edition on July 3)

# Interview with Ken Magee: Candidate for Washtenaw County Sheriff

By Aimee Bingham Osinski  
anbingham@gmail.com

This past week, I had the opportunity to interview Ken Magee, one of two Democrats and candidates, running for Washtenaw County Sheriff. This is another race that will be determined by the August 4 primary. Because of the negative impact COVID-19 has had on campaigns, I'm attempting to get to know each candidate prior to the primary and help the readers learn more about each candidate.

My first question was why? I want to know why everyone decides to run. Ken stated that he has three decades in law enforcement and he sees many things that need to be changed. He wants to restore trust in the police, noting that it's particularly an issue on the Eastside. He wants accountability on all levels and he'd like to improve transparency. Ken specifically discussed difficulty obtaining information under the Freedom of Information Act that he believes should not be as difficult. Once in office, Ken wants to combat the opioid epidemic. He stated, "there have been 200 deaths in Washtenaw County alone since the last election. Ken has a different strategy. All the deaths have been on his opponent's watch. 200 is way too many."

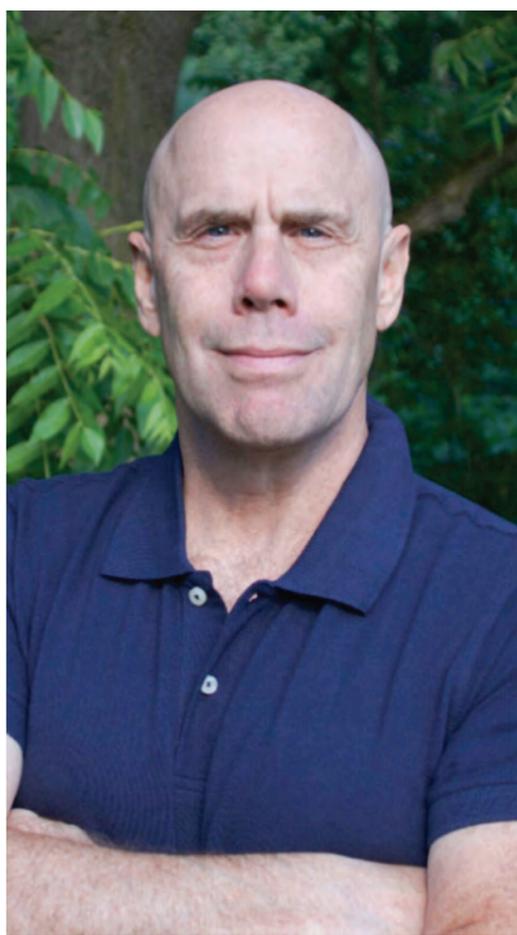
I interjected. My best friend from high school is an addict. I have not seen her in close to seven years. She's still alive so I still

have hope. But I have no answers. So I was wondering what Ken believes will help the situation. Ken stated, "In order to be an effective law enforcement leader you have to think outside the badge." He was very compassionate after I confessed that my friend is an addict. I appreciated his compassion because most people make assumptions about me because I know someone who is addicted. He did not. He took the time to explain his plan in depth. I really appreciated his compassion. He went on to describe his plan. He uses an acronym to provide the details: PETER.

**Prevention:** Ken mentions the SRS-LY organization and mentions that a whole lot of people are involved in prevention.

**Enforcement:** not just law enforcement, family values, athletic team values, and expectations. His idea is the enforcement of community standards, by including the entire community.

**Treatment:** Ken thinks we should re-evaluate how we treat addicts. Addicts do commit crimes to obtain drugs and sometimes under the influence. But he believes the best solution is treatment. He believes addiction is a medical illness. He does not believe jail is a good solution. He wants to hold them accountable but in a treatment situation. As a reader, maybe you're wondering how he gets addicts spots in treatment, rather than jail. Ken's idea is to turn



Ken Magee • Photo Courtesy of Ken Magee

part of the jail into a treatment facility. He sees wasteful spending in inflated salaries for people within the sheriff's office and the jail. He'd like to reduce the waste and use the money to hire social workers and treatment specialists to convert part of the jail into a treatment facility. Ken states that opioids have the most egregious impact on public health and safety. And he will update the community each day on what we are doing to address the issue.

**Recovery:** He states that recovery is not a 30-day process. Employers and families and individuals need to be aware that recovery is life long.

Ken then explained to me that while he was traveling the world as a Feder-

al Narcotics agent his own brother was battling addiction. It was a battle his brother ultimately lost. I immediately understood his compassion and the fact he understands you can care for someone very deeply but be completely separate from their addiction.

Ken then went on to discuss a bit of his history with law enforcement and his experience. He discussed things he had seen throughout his career. Ken was on the DEA team that helped take down Pablo Escobar. He sent me the recognition awarded to him by the Colombian Government. He was in Atlantic City during the Olympics when the bomb went off and helped save a little girl there afterward. He states that with his experience,

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF LIMA TOWNSHIP  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020  
FROM 7:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

A STATE PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE HELD FOR THE PURPOSES OF NOMINATING CANDIDATES AND TO VOTE ON TWO (2) WASHTENAW COUNTY PROPOSALS. (SEE SUMMARIES BELOW).

**PRECINCTS AND POLLING LOCATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**  
LIMA TOWNSHIP HALL,

**PRECINCTS 1 & 2: 11452 JACKSON ROAD AT LIMA CENTER ROAD**

The polling location is accessible to voters with disabilities and a Voter Assist Terminal is available. Absentee ballot applications for all elections are available during normal business hours at the Lima Township Office, located at 12172 Jackson Road, Dexter, on-line at [www.twp-lima.org](http://www.twp-lima.org) and [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote). If you have questions regarding the elections, your voter registration or voting you may contact the Clerk at 734-475-2246 ext. 203 or visit [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote).

#### PARTISAN SECTION:

United States Senator  
Representative in Congress - 7th District  
Representative in State - Legislature - 52nd district  
Prosecuting Attorney  
Sheriff  
County Clerk & Register of Deeds  
County Treasurer  
County Water Resources Commissioner  
County Commissioner - 1st District  
Township Supervisor  
Township Clerk  
Township Treasurer  
Township Trustee  
Delegate to County Convention

#### NONPARTISAN SECTION:

Judicial

Judge of Circuit Court - 22nd Circuit Non-Incumbent Position

#### PROPOSAL SECTION: PROPOSAL SUMMARY:

(See <https://www.twp-lima.org/departments/election-information/> for a sample ballot & full proposal language)

#### PROPOSAL SECTION:

**1. WASHTENAW COUNTY PROPOSITION TO AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION OF A .50-MILL ROAD AND NON-MOTORIZED MILLAGE.** PROPOSITION TO AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION OF A .50-MILL ROAD AND NON-MOTORIZED MILLAGE TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO MAINTAIN, RECONSTRUCT, RESURFACE, OR PRESERVE ROADS, BIKE LANES, STREETS, AND PATHS.

**2. WASHTENAW COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MILLAGE.** For the sole purpose of funding the operation of the WASHTENAW County Soil Conservation District, including programs to assist residents in the protection of surface and groundwater quality, increasing wildlife habitat, woodlot management, reforestation and tree planting..... and shall the County be authorized to levy, up to 0.020 mill (\$0.020 per \$1,000 of Taxable Value) as new additional millage for a period of six (6) years, 2020 through 2025.

Elaine Bater, Lima Township Clerk

he knows how to put together a team and a strategy to positively impact everyone. He feels that as sheriff he can bring all groups together, government, private business, and social agencies to lead the charge against opioids. You can find his plan on YouTube by searching Ken Magee. It's the video listed under Michigan Politics.

He plans on restoring trust in police services by being an active leader present in the moment. I asked Ken what he will do to improve the current situation between public distrust for police officers. Ken stated a more thorough investigation into who is hired to explore bias as well as who is promoted. He also discussed the safety problem for employees with many people having to work double shifts within

the jails. He reiterated that the current sheriff has been absent and that he will be present to take charge and be accountable to the community concerns. He will not be delegating this very important work. He will also create a community police oversight panel, and offer the community the opportunity to voice concerns at coffee house sessions. He would like to replace or define how information is obtained under the freedom of information act to provide more transparency from the department. Ken encourages anyone with questions to contact him and follow him on Facebook. Ken Magee for Sheriff. Magee4Sheriff@gmail.com. Twitter @Magee4Sheriff. Magee4Sheriff.com. He even provided his cell phone (503)781-3174.

## A message from the Dexter Daze Committee:

The 49th Dexter Daze was cancelled due to the refusal of the Dexter City Council to approve our permit request. This was done after a modified plan was submitted and without any opportunity to make further modifications. We had no choice but to cancel the event. We recently found out that the City Council is willing to approve fundraising events within the City and specifically at Monument Park.

We are very excited to report that the Dex-

ter Daze Committee has submitted a new park use permit to the City for their approval. Since we were not approved to hold the 49th Dexter Daze, and since we use each year's event to help cover the normal expenses of the Dexter Daze Festival, i.e. insurance, we are requesting that the City and the City Council approve a very small fundraising event so that we will be able to hold a spectacular 50th Dexter Daze in August, 2021.

Please stay tuned

as we await the decision of the City Council. We have modified our request to fit the same parameters of other events that have already been approved, so we are confident that our effort will be successful. The plan is to hold this fundraising event on Saturday, August 15 from 10-4 in Monument Park. We look forward to seeing all friends of Dexter Daze come out as a show of support for this well-loved community event. Thank you so much.



It is with a heavy heart that we announce that the 49th annual Dexter Daze Festival has been cancelled. Both the City of Dexter and Scio Township denied our permits for the event and the fireworks, respectively. On top of these denials, the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity has generated a proposal for outdoor events/festivals that is being submitted to the governor for approval. The extensive restrictions and requirements that are likely to be enforced make it impossible for us to meet by our August 14-15 event dates.

The proposed requirements are both physical and financial in nature and, as a group of volunteers working with a very limited budget (especially this year), we cannot find a way to meet the constraints being imposed. We hope that these requirements are temporary and that next year we will be able to hold our regular festival.

Please note that there are some events that are going to try and meet the requirements so that they can continue their tradition. We encourage each of you to visit the michiganfun.com website to support those communities who may still be able to hold their events.

We appreciate our Patrons, Vendors and especially our Community for the support that you've shown us during this time. We appreciate those who have helped us look for a solution, by talking and working through ideas and questions, by being part of the plan and by being proactive in finding resolution. Dexter Daze is more than a summer party. It has an economic impact on many organized Groups, Vendors, Contractors, Entertainers and even our local Community here in Dexter. We realize the impact our decision may have on each and every one of them with this announcement and we are truly saddened.

Thank you and we hope to see you in 2021.  
Dexter Daze Festival, Inc.

# DHS Graduation 2020 Student Speaker Speech

## Leading with Compassion

By Simon Kim

You know it's been a crazy year when you have to rewrite your speech 4 different times to make sure it stays relevant.

So I'm sorry if I fail to address any recent events in this speech I just can't see this year getting too much crazier.

Knock on wood. So Hi, my name is Simon Kim.

I am here representing the students of Dexter High School.

First of all I'd like to thank my parents from the bottom of my heart.

Without them I would not be here and I love you guys.

And of course that doesn't just go for my parents, but to all the parents and adults who have supported these fine students that will go on and no doubt, do amazing things.

Thank you faculty. As the support system here in Dexter is absolutely incredible.

In addition, I'd like to acknowledge the single parents here. Those who had to raise their children through hell and back, I applaud you. I believe that single parents are the strongest people on this planet.

Do you guys remember when we got our computer logins?

I vividly remember being confused at why they all started with the number 20.

Our teachers told us that it was the year we would graduate.

Back then 2020 seemed like a lifetime away. Well, here we are.

And it would be a

vast understatement to say that we have been through a lot.

But we made it.

Looking back on my years at Dexter Community Schools, I'd think that I've learned a little bit.

I learned that the mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell.

I learned how to integrate by parts.

And I even learned to brace the core and rip the floor.

Shoutout to coach Whittaker and the Iron Dread Program.

But, some of the most important lessons I've learned in Dexter are things that transcend the classroom.

Since I was young my father constantly told me to be worthy of my advantages.

I will admit, he repeated this often and it did get annoying, but last year I finally understood how important it was to reflect on the advantages that you are born with.

I know we all have our own unique challenges and struggles, but in Dexter, we are generally known as being fairly middle class and fortunate.

And while we are all born into different circumstances with different ideologies and political views.

It is beyond important to lead with compassion.

A lot of times it's easy to ignore the problems of others because it is rarely something we have to face in our own lives.

We hear about global crises and just scroll on.

We hear that par-

ents have to fear for their children's safety at the hands of those who have sworn to protect them because of the color of their skin.

By the end of my speech a child will die of preventable causes in Yemen.

And the only thing separating you and that child,

The only thing separating that person from your son or daughter graduating here today, is luck.

A random roll of a dice landed us here.

My point isn't to compare or belittle our own problems, but it's to realize that a lot of the advantages that we have aren't earned.

So we have to be worthy of our advantages.

Remember that talent is spread equally across the globe, but opportunity isn't.

Every single one of the faculty here today, every single parent and member of the community here has worked hard these last 12 years to make sure you get a quality education.

So do not waste that education.

Class of 2020 I stand here before you to tell you that we can truly make a difference.

Right now, all you need to change the world is this (phone).

Really think about that we can make the world shift on its axis, using a device that we can hold in our palms, not enough people are realizing this.

For the first time ever, every single person here can make their voice be heard.

Nothing is impossible anymore.

So go chase that dream, create art, make movies, make music, build the next amazon, or the next great nonprofit.

Use your voice to speak up against inequality, or to promote equal love for all.

But most importantly use your voice to

Have civil discourse with those that you disagree with and educate and change hearts.

As Steve Jobs once said.

Life can be so much broader, once you discover one simple fact, and that is that everything around you that you call 'life' was made up by people who were no smarter than you. And you can change it, you can influence it, you can build your own things that other people can use.

And as I close off, I'd like to leave you

with this poem-thing I wrote, I don't know what to call it, but I write these sometimes and I thought it was appropriate.

You are.

A vessel of infinite potential and there is nothing stopping you from doing anything.

But yourself.

Your own doubts consume the very thought of taking that leap.

And that light of potential begins to waver.

You begin to close yourself off in a box

With walls closing in.

But there is no box. The walls aren't closing in Despite what people say

The average lifespan of a human is 79 years.

79 years and you're gone.

Whether you believe in God, a higher power, or not.

Nothing is guaranteed.

So why create a box to live in, why

care about comfort, when you only have 79 years.

79 years to change the world.

You have the power of all human history combined within your iphone.

Imagine what Davinci would create with modern technology.

Image what Einstein could invent.

All that power within the palm of your hand.

79 years, to change the world.

I'm in.

Are you?

Class of 2020, we have been given the gift of being born in these circumstances.

So go forth with compassion and motivation.

And while 2020 has lacked in good vibes, let's do our best to enjoy these last few months together.

Thank you.

And Keep It Wholesome.

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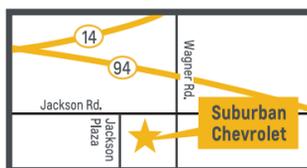
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# DHS Graduation 2020 Student Speaker Speech

## Use this Time for Good

By **Rose Reilly**

Hello everyone, today, we are graduating and moving forward, though I know that many of us may feel like we are floating, without any kind of certainty about what the future holds. Our graduating class is forced to imagine our own uncertain futures in the midst of a world in chaos.

It is probably naive to say that sometime soon, everything is just going to go back to normal. This cataclysmic world event will change the way that we live for a long time.

Things will be different and we will have to adapt, but I believe that we have what it takes to make adaptations and create the new norms.

In times of crisis, it's not all about answers, but about asking the right questions. So class of 2020--let's start ask-

ing those questions.

Let's allow quarantine to be an opportunity for introspection. Let's allow the solitude to highlight what we truly value. Let's allow this to be a time of personal development.

We are at a very important crossroads in our lives where we will be asked, more and more, to make decisions that will shape our lives for years to come.

Could there be a better time to pause and assess what we are really passionate about?

When considering the work we can do to better the world, looking at the activities that we maintain, without external pressure, during quarantine gives us an excellent window into those true passions.

I am sure many of you are thinking: "I have been spending a lot of time in bed,

how does that translate to a passion?"

Yeah, I have been spending plenty of time in bed too, but let's look at the things we have been doing in our cozy spots: I know I have been reading books about politics and getting back to writing for enjoyment. Maybe you have been pursuing creative projects, reading some interesting books, or learning how to use some new technology...wait. I think we all may have been forced to do that, like it or not. Who knew the "z" in Gen Z stood for Zoom?

Whatever the activity, we all need to take some time to pause and think about what attracts us to it. We should seek understanding about what we want to do, but most importantly, ask ourselves why we want to do it. Understanding our personal

motivations, unique capabilities, and values can help us each to be more successful in all our pursuits, and in the long run, make us happier.

I know we haven't been in school for a while now, but you may remember this one from class: Psychologist Abraham Maslow created a model called the Hierarchy of Needs in 1943 to describe the stages a human must progress through to lead a happy and healthy life. The final stage is known as self-actualization. Maslow characterizes this stage as a "desire to become more and more what one is, to become everything that one is capable of becoming."

This theory shows the importance of becoming our true selves to achieve true happiness, but how do we do this if we are not quite sure who we

are yet?

Chances are that we will never have a full view of who we are meant to be and what we are meant to do, especially not at the end of this pandemic, or even in the next 30 years.

Instead, being reflective on our choices and how they fit with the person we want to become and the kind of life we want to lead can provide the stepping stones to self-actualization and fulfillment.

So as we create new routines to replace our old ones, I challenge us all to include a moment for introspection into every day. Maybe you take a walk in nature, maybe you watch an interview with someone who inspires you and reflect on the qualities you admire in them, or maybe you just think about one thing that made you feel fulfilled each

day before you go to sleep at night.

By taking these small steps, we all have the power to use this time of chaos as a time of self-discovery, as we prepare to take this leap from high school student to whatever life has in store for us next.

We have the time now to think on the important questions of who we are and what we are meant to do. But remember that these answers won't come fast, and certainly not in their entirety. To approach that, I think the Tao Te Ching asks a very important question: "Do you have the patience to wait till your mud settles and the water is clear?"

Now that our assignments are done and tests have been taken, we have the time to turn that attention inward, let the mud settle, and ask ourselves, what's next.

# Adversity Doesn't Simply Build Character, It Reveals It

By **Teaghan Holman**

Hi everyone and welcome. I am beyond honored to have the opportunity to address you all today. The great Charles Dickens once wrote, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

While his words were written to describe the tumultuous environment of the French Revolution, the sentiment still rings true today. Over these 13 years we've been together, we've shared so many joyful experiences, from parking lot water fights to prom at the Big House. But we have also weathered some of the most difficult times: a tornado, Dexter bears, and the new carpeting in the high school. Yet we have survived and thrived through all of this.

Many people say our generation is "cursed;" cursed by 9/11, cursed by a dying planet, cursed

by an unprecedented global pandemic. Though these atrocities may align with some of the great milestones in our lives, we must remember that they do not define us. It may feel like we are living in a constant state of turmoil, but it is this disorder that gives us purpose. How we handle adversity and respond to it is what exposes our true character. The world needs our resilience more than ever before.

It is our ability to thrive in the face of disaster that makes our generation so necessary and influential.

If we have learned anything from bingeing Tiger King all in one day during quarantine, it is that nothing is impossible. It is safe to say that our senior year was not a typical one. It was heartbreaking to learn the longstanding traditions enjoyed

by each Dexter High School graduating class would not be enjoyed by the class of 2020. No senior survivor, spring sports, senior breakfasts, or skip days. For most of us, we didn't even realize that when we left the high school on March 13th, it would be the last time we ever walked out. It would have been easy for us to just give up and leave our senior year unfinished. But that is not how our class has ever handled adversity. Instead, we created new traditions, traditions that will be traced back to the class of 2020 for years to come.

It is evident that over the past 4 years, we have adapted to the changing world around us, finding the silver lining even in the darkest of times. And while most of us thought that senioritis would be the impending disease we would face at the end of our high school ca-

reers, the world had other plans. Our legacies, however, will be more than just Zoom classes, stay at home orders, and social distancing. While these experiences will be remembered, our legacy will ultimately be our continued strength and unity, regardless of the circumstances. We will come out on the other side of this more prepared and more to face the challenges ahead.

I am proud that you will be the people I think of when I look back on my high school experience. I cannot wait to watch every single one of you change the world in your own unique way. We have grown up together, learned together, and, most importantly, overcome adversity together. I know in my heart that as we take the next steps into our careers and beyond, we will continue to work together to turn

what may seem like the worst of times, into some of the best we've ever had. Thank you and Go Dreads!

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