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of 2020!!**

August 21, 2020

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Interview with Zach Michels: Candidate for City Council

By Aimee Bingham Osinski
anbingham@gmail.com

Saturday morning at the Dexter Forum, I realized current Dexter council member Zach Michels was running for council again. I was a little surprised as I honestly did not think he planned on running again. I emailed him to see if he might be available to chat.

The first question I had was what made him decide to

run again when I was under the impression that he was not going to run. Zach stated that for him, it takes a lot of energy to participate, time preparing, and hours in the meeting, plus he has

a demanding job. But he thought about the good he's done and the good that can still be done and it's exciting. So he's running again.

I asked him about his current platform.

The first issue Zach brought up is good government. He

believes the Dexter Council is doing well but there's a lot more that can be done. Zach has been

continued on page 8



Zach Michels and his dog Wally.
Photo Contributed By Zach Michels.

Dexter Forum: Election Afterglow

By Aimee Bingham Osinski
anbingham@gmail.com

The Dexter forum opened with, what I am sure is unsettling news for Michigan High School athletes. The MHSAA has postponed the Fall football season until the Spring. There was some concern from parents of athletes about equity of field and use and practice time in the Spring. There was the implication that football and basketball are the sports prioritized by the MHSAA. A par-

ent brought up that Spring sports were cut short due to the pandemic last year and it would be fair to everyone if football is too unsafe right now to just cancel the season. The concern and objection are for the more fragile students who rely on football for role models and goal setting and to help prevent bad choices during the teenage years. Sports have certainly provided motivation for my son with grades and have been valuable in

his life. I understand both sides of the coin and believe both sets of concerns are valuable and important. The Athletic Director as with the rest of the staff and administration has a lot of extra work adjusting to this pandemic.

Trail progress is continuing and the trail is now visible from the road on Baker across from the health center. Councilman Cousins let everyone know that it is anticipated

continued on page 2

New Mitten Kid Golf Clothing Available soon at www.mittenkid.com!

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[cityofdexterfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/cityofdexterfarmersmarket)



Dexter Farmer's Market Location

3233 Alpine St, Dexter, MI 48130

Months of Operation: May - October

Hours of Operation: Sat. 8 am - 1 pm,
and Tues. 2 - 6pm

October 4, 2020

Chelsea/Dexter Area CROP Hunger Walk
October 4 1:30pm-4:30pm St. Paul Church in
Chelsea 14600 E Old US Highway 12 Tickets
available at crophungerwalk.org

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

Dexter Forum: Election Afterglow

► continued from page 1
to be complete, behind the cemetery in mid-September. He also let everyone know that plans for the Dexter-Chelsea trail to cross at Millcreek have not been decided yet, but are going to be decided in the near future. Catherine McCleary informed everyone that there is a fund for long term maintenance of the parks.

The elections were up next on the agenda. Five absentee ballots were not counted in Washtenaw County, though the reasons were not given, be it a spoiled ballot or late arrival. County turnout was high. Normal turnout is 20%,

but it was 36% in the August primary. 75% of people voted absentee. People who attended the polls in person stated it was surreal and hospital like and that they felt very safe. We should certainly show a lot of gratitude to our election workers and everyone who worked so hard to make certain our votes counted and we were safe. With changes in absentee voting, it was no easy task and everyone really handled it well. Dexter Township reported an incredible turnout at 47%! Though it should be in the 90% range, improvement is an improvement. I will be running a se-

ries of articles as we approach the election detailing where and how to drop absentee ballots due to concern over mail delays and to make sure you don't miss your opportunity to vote by accidentally spoiling your ballot.

It is stump season at the Dexter Forum. Make sure you take your opportunity to introduce yourself to potential voters. If you would like to be included, contact John Hansen at Rephansen@aol.com. The next meeting of the Dexter Forum will be September 5th via Zoom at 8:30 am. To get on the email list for notifications, contact John Hansen.

Dread Youth Running Club in need of Coaches

From Dexter Community Education

Currently looking for 1-2 coaches for the Dread Youth Running Club this fall. Focusing on fun and progression, the goal of Running Club

is to encourage students in grades 3-6 to push themselves in a positive environment while working on fitness and endurance. Outdoor running is going to be one of the safest activities this fall and we all agree

our young people especially need fresh air and activity right now. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Jon Keith at keithj@dexterschools.org or call 734-424-4175.



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SEPT 21-23 THE ARK & CREATION MUSEUM

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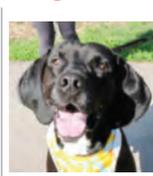
Humane Society of
Huron Valley

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 Baby Girl**
Do you prefer cats to people? Are you an introvert who enjoys social distancing? Meet Baby Girl! This gorgeous babe will melt your heart, she is soooooo sweet! Well, at least most of the time. Baby Girl is one of those very special "one-person cats" and is very loyal and a bit too protective. Because of her aggression toward strangers, she can't go to a busy household or with someone not quite settled in life yet. If you live alone, or with just one other adult human, have few visitors (and lots of space where Baby Girl can safely retreat), please come meet her today! You won't need other friends - she will make you feel like a rock star!



**The WTKA Top-Dog-of-the-Week
is Chester**
Meet Chester! This adorable fella is ready for his forever home. He is 6 years young and still has a lot of play left in him. He likes to run and play, and will do well in an active home. He absolutely loves humans, but he still thinks that cats and small dogs are toys to be chased and should not go to a home with either. He will do best in a home with adults only. If you have the environment for Chester we hope you will come meet him today!



**The W4 Country
Pet-of-the-Week is Sonny**
Meet Sonny! This adorable boy is ready for his forever home. He is 6 years young and still has a lot of play left in him, loves to run and will do well with an active family. Sonny adores humans, but he thinks that cats and small dogs are toys to be chased and should not go to a home with either. He will do best in a home with adults only. If you have the perfect environment for Sonny, we hope you will come meet him today!



**The Lucy Ann Lance Show
Pet-of-the-Week is Baby Girl**
Do you prefer cats to people? Are you an introvert who enjoys social distancing? Meet Baby Girl! This gorgeous babe will melt your heart, she is soooooo sweet! Well, at least most of the time. Baby Girl is one of those very special "one-person cats" and is very loyal and a bit too protective. Because of her aggression toward strangers, she can't go to a busy household or with someone not quite settled in life yet. If you live alone, or with just one other adult human, have few visitors (and lots of space where Baby Girl can safely retreat), please come meet her today! You won't need other friends - she will make you feel like a rock star!

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Mission Statement:

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

Featured Listing of the Week
Chelsea Schools
Nicely updated 3 bed/2.1 bath condo on full basement. Open concept living offers granite kitchen with SS appliances and snack bar overlooking the dining and spacious living area featuring the cozy gas FP & door wall to private deck with delightful shade awning and views of the common area for full outdoor enjoyment! Updated main floor half bath conveniently located near the 2 car garage entrance. Upstairs offers vaulted master suite with walk through closets and full bath. Two additional bedrooms share 2nd full bath along with handily placed laundry.
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TOUGH SEASON

By Dave Merchant
dmerchant9701@yahoo.com

One year ago everything with school and sports was normal or copacetic.

No one had heard of a pandemic. Not one person knew

about face masks or any of the safety items.

These days things are completely different. So now no in person school. The football and I'm guessing other sports will be

affected.

Michigan State doesn't want students living there. Others will follow. The Big Ten, Horizon League, among others won't play football.

continued on page 7

City News: 2020 Crack Seal Project, Traffic Signal Update & Registering to Vote

From City of Dexter

Crack seal work on various streets in Dexter began on Monday, August 17. Work areas include the decorative crosswalks downtown, all of the Industrial Park, Dover, Edison, Huron View Ct, and Cushing Court and portions of Inverness, Central and Second. This work is not expected to have a significant impact on residents or commuting traffic.

Starting after morning rush hour on Thursday, August 20 the traffic signals at Main and Baker will be upgraded. This will be a two phase process. The new signals will be installed and set to run the current timings on Thursday, the 20th. Next week, the new timings will be implemented. The upgrades will include a flashing yellow arrow to allow for left turns from Main onto

Baker (similar to the light at Broad and Main).

If you have recently moved to Dexter, or are planning to move out prior to the November Election, please make sure to update your voter registration as soon as possible. Have heard that appointments for the Secretary of State are being scheduled out into December 2020. Typically voter registration is updat-



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Savings in Dexter

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DEXTER ATHLETICS



DEXTER DREADNAUGHTS SPORTS SCHEDULES

Note: Dates and Times May Change



Girls Varsity Cross Country

9/15/20 5:00pm (A) vs Multiple Opponents
9/19/20 TBA (A) vs Multiple Opponents
9/25/20 TBA (A) vs Multiple Opponents



Boys Varsity Cross Country

9/15/20 4:30pm (A) vs Multiple Opponents
9/19/20 TBA (A) vs Multiple Opponents
9/25/20 TBA (A) vs Multiple Opponents



Girls Varsity Field Hockey

8/27/20 7:00pm (A) vs Novi HS
8/31/20 5:30pm (H) vs Pioneer HS
9/2/20 5:30pm (H) vs Saline HS



Girls Varsity Golf

8/31/20 3:00pm (H) vs Multiple Opponents
9/2/20 3:00pm (A) vs Tecumseh HS
9/9/20 3:00pm (A) vs Multiple Opponents



Girls Varsity Swimming

9/10/20 6:00pm (H) vs Jackson HS
9/17/20 6:00pm (A) vs Adrian HS
9/24/20 6:00pm (A) vs Tecumseh HS



Boys Varsity Tennis

8/22/20 9:00am (A) vs Multiple Opponents
9/3/20 4:00pm (H) vs Adrian HS
9/10/20 4:00pm (H) vs Tecumseh HS



Girls Varsity Volleyball

8/27/20 8:00am (A) vs Multiple Opponents
8/29/20 8:00am (A) vs Multiple Opponents
9/4/20 8:00am (A) vs Multiple Opponents

ON THE SIDELINE: HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL, SPARTANS, WOLVERINES AND CARDBOARD CUTOUTS



By Don Richter
drichter101@comcast.net

"Red -- 240."
"Red -- 240."
"Set."
"Omaha."
"Omaha."
"Hut."
"Hut-hut."
Dang, I miss football.

Can you tell?
This past week, the Big Ten Conference announced there would be no football this fall. High school football in Michigan also recently declared there would be no

football in the fall, as well, possibly kicking off in the spring.

Ugh.
Double ugh.
I don't know about you, but I need football.

Normally, around this time, I'd be closely keeping tabs on football practice beginning at Michigan State and Michigan, along with EMU, CMU, WMU, Ferris State, Grand Valley State, etc.

I'd be reading and researching all the high school football write-ups and previews across the Great Lakes State in anticipation of another outstanding season of high school football.

In my spare time, I write a blog about high school football in Michigan. My "Michigan High School Foot-

ball Blogspot" (I know, what a creative title, huh?) is a passion of mine. It's a labor of love I've been working on and enjoying for years. In my blog I write about all things football in the Great Lakes State, but mainly I highlight high school football. Every year, I post a high school top 10 ranking for each position group in the Great Lakes State. Multiple Big Ten, MAC and GLIAC schools have reached out to me and/or followed me on my blog throughout the years -- not to toot my own horn -- but, okay, I guess I will. What the heck, right? Blogging is a fun way to pass the time. High school football has always been an interest of mine, so it's (blogging and me) been a per-

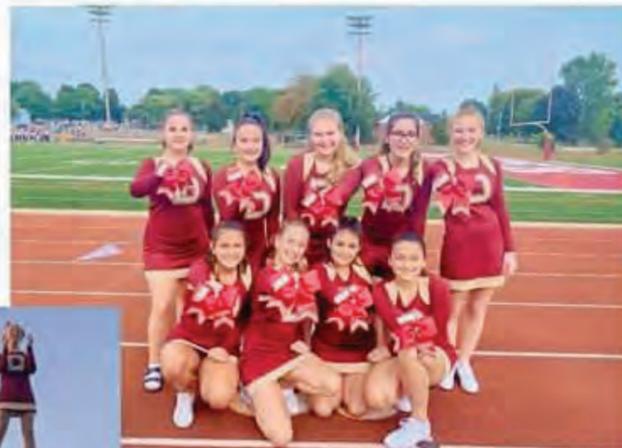
fect marriage. If only my real relationships were this simple and easy. But, that's another column for another time.

Back to my blog.
For the class of 2021, for instance, I've listed Dexter senior-to-be Colin Parachek (6-foot-4, 195 pounds) as my No. 3-ranked quarterback prospect in the state of Michigan. Last year, Parachek passed for 2,817 yards and 39 touchdowns, while rushing for an additional three TDs. Also named in my top defensive back prospect list for the class of 2021 is Chelsea's Joe Taylor (5-10, 170). As a junior, Taylor was named to the Division 3-4 All-State squad last season, while as a sophomore, he was **continued on page 10**



Middle School Sideline Cheer

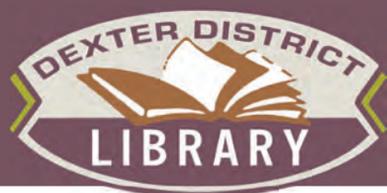
Practices begin August 17, Mon-Thu, 6:00-8:30p, Location: Al Ritt Field
Beginning Sept 8, Mon-Thu, 3:15-5:30, Location: TBA
Fee: \$200. For more info, contact dextercompcheer@gmail.com



Registration opening soon at dexterschools.ce.eleyo.com
Enter Cheer in the search window

For more information:
Dexter Community Education
(734) 424-4180 x1302





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



Kids Mystery Craft Bag Curbside Giveaway

We are currently giving out free craft bags for kids to any adult. All you need to do is call the Library from the parking lot and tell us how many craft bags you would like. The limit is three per family. There's a variety of crafts at a variety of age levels in each bag. We will hand them out until supplies run out.

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 from 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.

Bavarian Inn Restaurant and Lodge Release new Private Selection Maker's Mark Bourbon

The Bavarian Inn Restaurant and Lodge have teamed up with Maker's Mark, one of the country's finest producers of American bourbon, to release a unique private label bourbon.

The Bavarian Inn Private Selection, by Maker's Mark, is now available at the Restaurant and Lodge following its arrival in July. It will also be featured at a sold-out Bourbon Dinner later this month.

The new Bavarian Inn bourbon is the latest product in a strong private label program already in place at the Restaurant and Lodge that includes beer, wine and root beer, among others.

"For decades we have offered high quality private label beers and wines on our Bavarian Inn properties," said Bill Zehnder, President of the Bavarian Inn. "My father Tiny Zehnder had always hand selected each one, so when Maker's Mark offered us a chance to develop our own bourbon we jumped at the opportunity. As a private select drink it will nicely complement our current list of excellent bourbons."

Under the Maker's Mark process, the Bavarian Inn team, including family members and key managers, traveled to Kentucky where they chose the various bar-

rel "staves" that would develop the flavor profile for this private selection. The 50-gallon barrel took over five months to distill.

While bottles of the bourbon are not being offered for sale, guests at the Bavarian Inn properties can try it many different ways, offered "neat," "on the rocks" or in a number of classic bourbon cocktails. Bar managers at the Bavarian Inn are currently working on developing specialty cocktails using the bourbon that will be unique to Frankenmuth.

There will also be a special experience planned for October on the Covered Bridge where a new "Triple B" cocktail made with the private selection bourbon will debut. The "Triple B" name came about after a guest suggested Bill Zehnder call the bourbon "Bill's Bavarian Bourbon," or "Triple B."

The Bavarian Inn first began its relationship with Maker's Mark last year when planning the Restaurant's first bourbon dinner, an event in January that drew over 200 guests.

As the relationship grew, Bill Zehnder said his daughter connected them with another Frankenmuth High School graduate who works for Maker's Mark. From there the family worked with a Maker's Mark "diplo-

mat" to learn about and become involved in distilling the special bourbon.

Maker's Mark private select program allows customers to take a fully matured cask strength bourbon and have staves with different flavor profiles inserted to enhance and finish the flavor process. This barrel finishing takes an additional nine weeks to complete.

About Bavarian Inn Restaurant

Celebrating over 130 years of service, the Bavarian Inn Restaurant has become a Michigan landmark. Generations of diners, lodgers and tourists from around the globe have discovered true Bavarian hospitality thanks to Dorothy and her late husband William "Tiny" Zehnder. Guests experience the old-world European charm of the Bavarian Inn – whether it's the famous chicken dinners, fresh baked goods or Michigan's greatest selection of German beer. Bavar-

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TOUGH SEASON

➤ continued from page 4

What else will happen? I am sure some things will be happening that we haven't even heard of yet.

Major league sports are boring with no fans. I would rather watch the Golden Girls or Archie's place.

Last year's kids attended school. Until March they played sports and went to class. They will be lucky if they go back

by this March.

I love covering games, sports and features.

If you have any ideas shoot me an email at Dmerchant9701@yahoo.com.

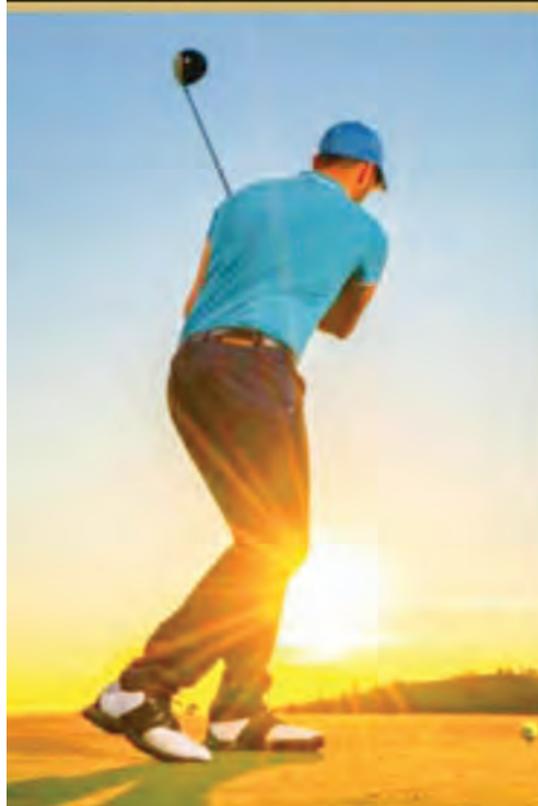
Stay safe and have as much fun as you can.

A big birthday in Heaven to my favorite baseball player of all-time Roberto Clemente, and happy birthday to my wife Debbie last week.



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Interview with Zach Michels: Candidate for City Council

▶ continued from page 1 working hard on conflict of interest ordinance. Zach believes the council does an excellent job getting information out but he'd like to make sure more people can participate and more opinions are heard. He did add that this is a challenge for government everywhere. Zach believes his voice is important, citing a standard history of council members, long term Dexter residents, and a different generation than Zach. He believes he brings fresh eyes to the council as a younger professional. He believes he represents a large portion of Dexter residents. He spoke of his father's career as an investigative journalist and being raised with ideals of speaking truth to power. He has a strong desire to represent the voices that aren't otherwise heard. Zach feels it is an important duty of his as an elected official. Another important issue for Zach is quality of life. He mentions his desire to ensure residents

and businesses have nice amenities; water, sidewalks, and roads. He believes this is important to the businesses in town because many of the customers do come from out of town. A pleasant, comfortable experience will help bring return customers back. Finally, he feels it's very important as Dexter grows and changes, as every town does, that Dexter remains uniquely Dexter. Zach explains that he is Dexter by choice. He looked at homes all over Washtenaw County. Each town has its own flavor. For him and his wife, Dexter was the perfect fit. Downtown-centric and unique from Saline, Chelsea, and Manchester. Zach wants to be aware of redevelopment and respect the nature of Dexter. He wants to keep the nature and the feels of Dexter the same, even as it grows and changes.

I asked Zach to tell me some of the things he's most proud of having accomplished on the Dexter City Council. Zach talked

about helping connect the organizers of the senior procession with the right people needed to get it accomplished. He was contacted on a Friday, helped connect the organizers with the right staff, got it on the agenda and it was approved the following Monday. I imagine seeing it to fruition had to feel good. As the mother of a child going into a very uncertain senior year, the gravity of getting it done for the seniors and their parents is not lost on me. Zach would like to make a senior procession a new tradition, something positive to come from a difficult time. One of the long term projects he's most proud of working for is having student reps on our governing bodies. He discussed that prior, a quarter of the population was not participating. This change falls directly in line with his platform of having more voices heard. I have to say, as an objective observer, I've been very impressed by the student reps

thoughtful contributions to important discussions. There is something to be said about fresh eyes and a different perspective. Zach also discussed his fight to have a housing task force. He mentions that as a solidly upper-middle-class professional, he was only able to afford to move to Dexter because of luck and the desire of the seller to give a young couple a chance. He adds that he could not move here today or buy his house. It took him 3 or 4 years for folks on the council to say yes to the task force, but he's very glad that they did and he was persistent in his work to get it done. He's also very proud of drafting the emergency ordinance for downtown

outdoor seating. He believes it serves the community by providing safer outdoor options and helping the downtown businesses survive. Zach mentions the vibrancy of the community right now, and has heard that people would like to see outdoor options continue after the pandemic. He, as an urban planner, explains that he is a code nerd and loves helping to write code. An asset, for any council I assume.

I asked Zach if there was any information he'd like to leave potential voters with. He stated that it's hard to pay attention to all the local elections. He specifically mentions city and county spots as having the greatest impact on citizens' local day to day life and pocketbook. He hopes voters will take the time to learn about all the candidates and select the ones that represent you the best. Zach states that the Council's inability to do anything on the fire department for the last five years has cost the community double. He encourages everyone to do their research, especially for the local positions. And vote accordingly. To learn more about Zach visit www.instagram.com/zachfordexter/ or <https://twitter.com/zachfordexter>.

If you are a candidate running and would like to be featured in an article, please email anbingham@gmail.com so we can arrange an interview.

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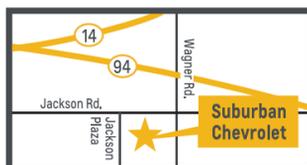
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ON THE SIDELINE: HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL, SPARTANS, WOLVERINES AND CARDBOARD CUTOUTS



University of Michigan linebacker Cam McGrone is one of the top defensive players for the Wolverines.

► continued from page 5 honored as the Ann Arbor News Defensive Player of the Year. Truly one of the state of Michigan's finest all-around athletes, Taylor, though a high-level football recruit, has verbally committed to play baseball in the Big Ten for Michigan.

I was looking forward to watching and covering both Parachek and Taylor this season and following Dexter and Chelsea on the grid-

iron. I was predicting big seasons from both Parachek and Taylor individually, along with winning years from the Dreadnaughts and Bulldogs.

Have I told you I miss football.

I really do.

Like, for real.

In college football, I was looking forward to seeing U-M play this season. I was excited about seeing the combination of Josh Ross (6-2, 230) and Cam McGrone (6-

1, 235) at linebacker for the Wolverines, along with the play of defensive end Aidan Hutchinson (6-6, 270) and cornerback Ambry Thomas (6-0, 185). On offense, I was interested in seeing the improvement of quarterback Dylan McCaffrey (6-5, 220) and the continued development of the offensive line, especially tackles Jalen Mayfield (6-5, 320) and Ryan Hayes (6-7, 305). I think Mayfield and Hayes have the potential to be outstanding bookend tackles for the Wolverines. I was also going to check out local players Chelsea's Hunter Neff (6-2, 235), a tight end-H-back and Dexter's Karl Kerska (6-2, 195), a kicker/punter for the Wolverines.

At MSU, I was anticipating watching the first season for new Spartan head coach Mel Tucker. I also was looking forward to the quarterback competition between Rocky Lombardi (6-3, 215), Theo Day (6-5, 225) and Payton Thorne (6-2, 195). I was waiting to see the breakout season for talented sophomore cornerback Julian Barnett (6-2, 190) and the potential All-Big Ten years of running back Elijah Collins (6-0, 215) and linebacker Antjuan Simmons (6-0, 220).

I'm not even going to begin discussing the NFL and my beloved Detroit Lions. That'll have to wait until next time.

I hear the SEC, Big

12 and ACC leagues are still going ahead with plans for college football this fall. We'll see if it happens.

I won't hold my breath.

Until then -- "Red -- 240."

"Red -- 240." "Set." "Omaha." "Omaha."

Oh never mind.

Football is on hold, at least in the state of Michigan for now.

I hear baseball

is playing in front of cardboard cutouts of fans and piped in crowd noise.

Yippee.

I need football.

It's going to be a long fall season...

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