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# The Commercial Record

\$1

Thursday, November 4, 2021 Saugatuck/Douglas Area, Michigan Vol. 46 Number 45

2012-15  
15 AWARDS  
NNA Better Newspaper Contest  
Awarded by International News Editors Association  
THREE STARS IN MICHIGAN



## Dress-up daze

What holiday is more perfect for Saugatuck-Douglas than Halloween? This post-pandemic year offered at least three dress-up opportunities: at Douglas Elementary School Friday, Saturday family and pets parade in Saugatuck (photo at right by Scott Sullivan) and Douglas' adult night parade (photo above by Kim Zahnaw). For more fun pictures, see inside.



## Community seeks \$1.3-million trail grant

**BY SCOTT SULLIVAN EDITOR**

The tri-community, with Saugatuck city acting as agent, has applied for a \$1.3-million federal grant for up to 70 percent of an estimated \$1.875 million needed to complete the nonmotorized Blue Star Trail through it.

Building the remaining 1.14 miles between already-existing Douglas and Saugatuck Township stretches, plus adding an estimated \$275,000 engineering fees, would bring the four-section project's total cost to \$2.1 million.

The Tri-Community Trail Committee and contract

C2AE engineers propose paying the balance with help from \$600,000 in Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grants, both cities applying by April 9 next year for \$300,000 each; a \$210,000 pledge from the 501c3 nonprofit Friends of the Blue Star Trail, plus \$10,000 each from Saugatuck city and township governments.

Douglas, whose trail stretch is largely built and paid and would share just half the Blue Star Bridge span, is active on the committee and remains supportive.

For nine years the

Friends have raised funds, procured grants and worked to build a 20-mile recreational trail largely west of the Blue Star Highway from South Haven to north of Saugatuck, where it would connect with existing trails north through Laketown Township and Holland to Grand Haven.

Saugatuck city for two years balked at completing the .4-mile stretch through its limits, expressing concern about first responder and traffic safety crossing the bridge and Lake Street south entrance into town.

Council and staff have seen multiple changes since then and now largely ap-

pear on board.

The trail committee — Holly Leo and Ken Trester from Saugatuck city, Kathy Mooradian and Jerry Donovan from Douglas, Brenda Marcy and Cindy Osman from township, plus John Adams and Richard Donovan from the Friends — resumed post-pandemic meetings this March with a major focus to establish a safe path for cyclists and pedestrians across the bridge between the cities.

The group and C2AE outlined options at an open house for some 100 citizens Aug. 24, received public feedback thereafter

and presented route choices to the three governments, which concurred.

Conditional TAP grant commitments, expected back from MDOT March 9, 2022, could also be issued for less than the 70-percent being asked for. C2AE has also broken down local cost shares in the event of receiving 65-, 60- and 50-percent federal matches.

"Many sections of the trail," reads the application "within the Saugatuck-Douglas area are complete, but the 'hard parts' have left a non-contiguous trail. The BST proposal will finish these

■ see Trail, Page A2

# Trail from Page 1

gaps to make three miles of continuous trail in the heart of the community that will not only connect to one another but regionally and beyond.”

The scope of work would include these stretches:

- Washington Street (Douglas) to Lake Street (Saugatuck), 1,600 feet long and including the Kalamazoo River-crossing bridge.

“This segment,” the submission notes, “includes approximately 77 feet of a 9-foot-wide, 2-way bicycle track and 7-foot-wide existing sidewalk (pedestrians). This was the only feasible option the Saugatuck Township Fire District would support because it maintained a continuous left-turn lane to allow for emergency vehicle to get across the only bridge in the community.”

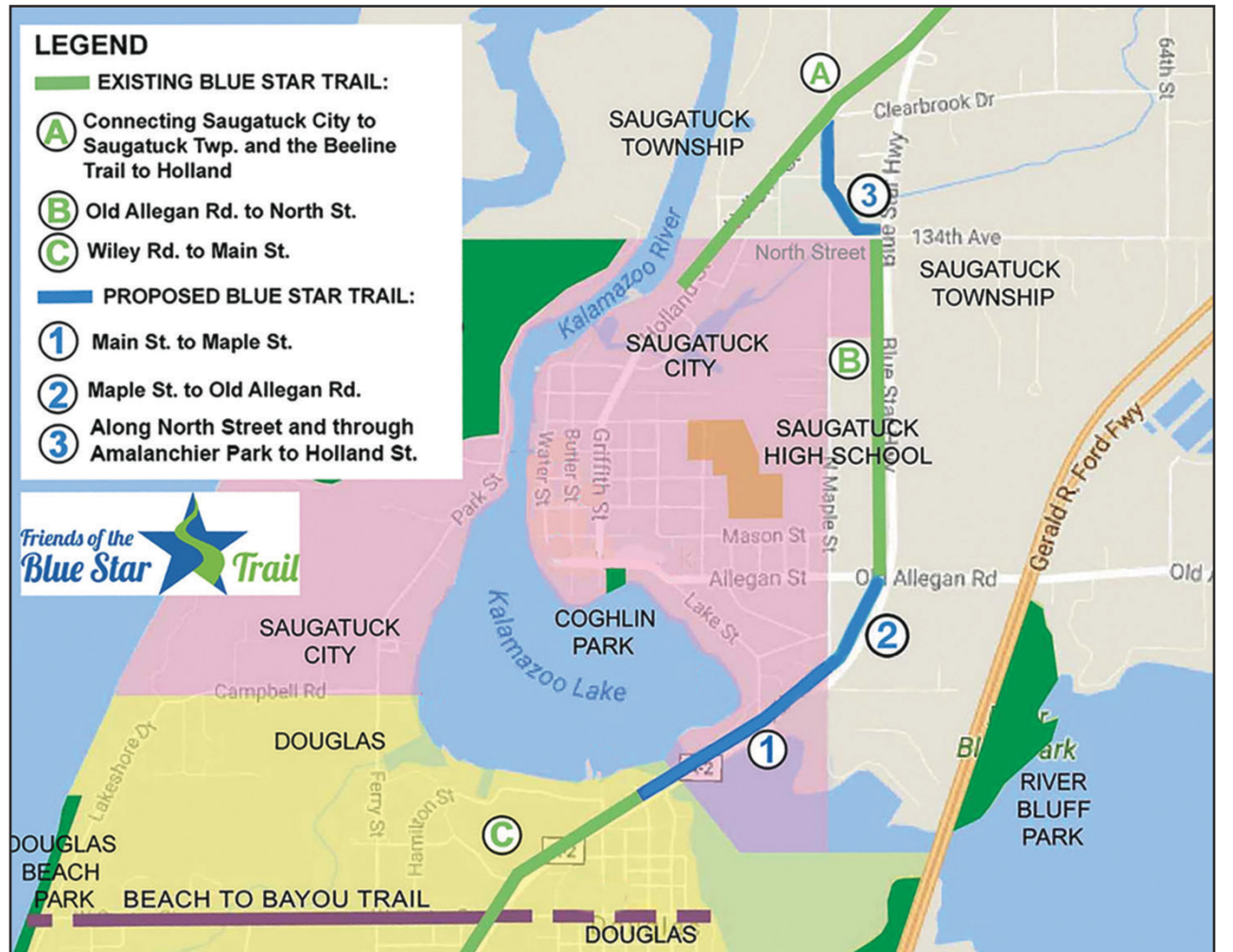
“Once on land, just north of the bridge, the two sepa-

rate bike and pedestrian facilities merge into a shared use path. This will be done by expanding the existing 825 feet of sidewalk to a 10-foot-wide asphalt separated trail to Lake Street.

“On the south side of the bridge at Washington Street, the trail will merge directly into the existing BST through Douglas, which is a 2-way cycle track and sidewalk.”

- Lake Street to Maple Street (Saugatuck city), 900 feet long with a 10-foot-wide separated pathway.

It will require, says the narrative, “700 feet of an at grade boardwalk (or retaining wall) due to slopes along the roadway as well as relocation of an existing guardrail. The remaining 200 feet will be a 10-foot-wide separated asphalt trail with a modular block retaining wall (opposite slope condition).



- Maple Street to Old Allegan Road (Saugatuck Township), 1,300 feet long. Plans there call for 10-foot-wide separated asphalt pathway including 275 feet of boardwalk to cross a small low area, 425 feet of retaining wall due to grade issues and 600 feet of separated trail.
- “The trail on the north end will cross Old Allegan, where it will connect directly to the existing trail segment,” the application says.
- North Street to Holland Street (township), 1,710 feet long including 210 feet of boardwalk to cross Goshorn Creek and the adjacent wetland, and 1,500 feet of asphalt separated trail, all being a 10-foot-wide pathway.
- “This section of trail is the most unique,” reads the narrative, “as it will turn away from Blue Star Highway through Amalanchier Park and along 66th Street to Holland Street, where it will cross and connect directly to Laketown Township’s Beeline Trail (10-foot-wide asphalt trail) extending 8 miles to the City of

Holland.

“This segment will utilize an old railroad grade, crossing a small creek with a boardwalk through an undeveloped park and along a low traffic road,” the application says.

Once the trail has been built, it continues, each of the three communities has agreed to provide for its maintenance, Saugatuck city and township from their general funds and Douglas from its major street fund.

Maintenance costs and budget were developed on a \$1,700-per-mile figure, additional costs to maintain boardwalk and street markings; plus \$2,000 per mile for snow removal and \$500 for long-term maintenance, bringing the total to \$4,770 per year, split up within each jurisdiction.

Included are annual safety inspections, refreshing pavement markings and signage each spring and as needed, checking and replacing delineators if needed, removing and/or cutting large debris such as tree limbs as needed, complete inspections after storms, spring clean-ups,

sweeping the path with a power broom each spring, mowing grass along the trail at least two feet on either side as needed, about twice a month; sweeping leaves again in fall, pavement and boardwalk repairs as needed, plus plowing and removing snow during winter.

The project is competitive for funding, says the application, because:

- It is part of local, regional and statewide trail systems;
- Only one local bridge (the Blue Star) connects the communities, hence it needs to provide for safe transportation choices to schools, parks, homes and businesses;
- It will benefit state tourism and local economic development by providing a recreation and transportation resource in a congested area.

“It has been well documented,” says the narrative, “that people want to live and visit in places that are both walkable and bike friendly. This trail segment will not only provide local bike friendliness but provide a facility that

links communities which is desirable for year-round living and a vacation destination.”

- The trail is a top priority in the MDOT Grand Region Non-Motorized Plan and in the Tri-Community Parks and Recreation Plan.
- The project will increase pedestrian and bicycle safety by allowing for such uses along the busy road corridor. The existing roadway shoulder and sidewalks are not a comfortable bike facility for Class B and C riders, therefore now it is little used by them.
- The project has gone through multiple review and schematic design plans to make sure it both meets AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) standards and has public support.

“Due to the limited right of way, topography and existing bridge width, the necessity for the design process has been needed to bring the project forward with confidence that it can built,” the submission says.

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# Rain moves school display indoors

*It rained on Douglas Elementary's planned outdoor Friday Halloween parade, and with building renovations precluding an indoor, central hallways procession the school's two kindergarten classes contented themselves with parading through each other's next-door classrooms. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)*

# Douglas OKs bid to raze Haworth plant

BY SCOTT SULLIVAN  
EDITOR

Douglas City Council Monday accepted the \$77,800 low bid from Melching Demolition to raze the former Haworth plant and remove hazardous waste materials above grade at the 200 Blue Star Hwy.

The city had budgeted \$250,000 through its Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Fund's Blight Removal account for the work.

Douglas, said city manager LaBombard, received six responses from nine vendors

that attended a Sept. 30 pre-bid site walk through. "Bids are financially favorable," he went on, "due to the credit the city will receive for the scrap value of the building."

Also bidding were Pitsch Companies and Pro-Tech Environmental Inc., both of Grand Rapids at \$175,000 each; Specialized Demolition of Hamilton, \$290,000; JMB Demolition LLC of Allendale, \$307,901; and Homrich of Carleton, \$323,000.

A review of the low bidder's references and experience has been conducted and

meets expectations, LaBombard told council. Norton Shores-based Melching is experienced with demolition and hazardous waste removal.

Above grade, that will include abating the asbestos and universal waste (i.e. fluorescent lighting containing mercury, etc.) from the building prior to demolition. The concrete floor and some fencing will remain on site.

Melching will provide a schedule of work and required insurance documentation, the manager continued. City staff will mail a notice

describing the project to nearby residents.

Work could be completed above grade as early as year's end. But below grade — where the extent of PCB contamination is still being measured — will have to wait.

Plans to raze the 147,000-square-foot ex-factory, which last housed operations in 2014, and clean up all past contamination on its 7.11-acre site took a hit when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this summer declined the city's request for a \$500,000 Brownfield rede-

velopment grant to help do the work.

Douglas's efforts have been assisted by a \$300,000 the Michigan Environment, Great Lakes and Energy department to decommission its soil vapor extraction systems.

City consultant PM Environmental, which has overseen additional below-grade PCB studies since denial for that work, is preparing a submission for the next round of federal Brownfield EPA clean-up grants, LaBombard said.

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 <b>6539 138th Avenue • \$ 351,000</b> 5.7 Acres Next to the Saugatuck State Park and the Historical Felt Mansion! This Solid Ranch Style Home has good "bones" and is ready for the TLC this location deserves.	 <b>247 Ida Street • \$200,000</b> A large front porch welcomes you to this well maintained 4 bedroom, 2 full bathroom brick Victorian home. The home is located on a sprawling lot with wonderful shade trees, making it a great spot for a summer day cookout.	 <b>6305 N Ryan Ridge Dr • \$682,000</b> Desirable Laketown Township is the setting for this spacious 4 bedroom 3.5 bath Craftsman style ranch home. 2.54 acres with a nice privacy buffer around the home and a woodland setting to enjoy from the rear deck.	 <b>1614 Walker Road • \$860,000</b> LAKE MICHIGAN entry level pricing for a phenomenal custom home offered for the very first time since built in 1990! 100 feet of private frontage, seawall, and stairs to the beach.	 <b>471 Amity Lane • \$275,000</b> Clean and comfortable condo located in the popular Amity neighborhood of Douglas and so close to Lake Michigan and downtown Douglas.
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## BLUE STAR

BY SCOTT SULLIVAN  
EDITOR

### Penis Plant

Absinthe, or something like that, makes the heart grow fonder. Which is why I'm thrilled to hear a rare "penis plant" bloomed last week at the University of Leiden's botanical garden in the Netherlands.

The problem when something happens is it spoils the anticipation. Seven-year locusts, 17-year cicadas and 20-year "penis plants," aka *Amorphophallus de-cus-silvae*, postpone fans' pleasure to where they can hardly wait.

"Twenty years?" my wife said when I told her about the bloom. "That's my kind of cultivar interruptus."

The plant, which grows on the island of Java in Indonesia, is famously hard to make bloom but a volunteer tended this one for six years till it flowered in mid-September.

Its spadix, the phal-lus-shaped portion that's part of its female stage, stands more than 6 feet tall and emits a stench which draws flies and other insects.

As part of its male stage, the plant ups its pollen, which attaches to bugs that can fly off to pollinate other "penis plants," not that it happens often. Only three have bloomed in European gardens — ever.

The Leiden plant is closely related to the *Amorphophallus titanum* ("giant penis plant" or "corpse flower"), also found naturally in Indonesian rain forests. When the latter blooms at botanic gardens in Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C., thousands flock to see the corpse flower, which reeks just as badly.

You've gotta love scarcity. Tulips? Ho hum; they're all over in spring. Dandelions? Ditto. "Penis plants"? Now we're talking.

Who cares that good, decent people make up 99 percent of the populace? It's serial killers we can't hear enough about them. "OMG, that's awful! Tell me more!" We in media know where our audience lies — and it is a lie, if you think our reporting is representative of boring normalcy. If it were, we'd go broke even faster than we are now.

What else sells is screaming. So when I got an email headed "TRUMP BREAKING NEWS" from Conservative Direct, linked with NewsMax, I knew there would be more capital letters coming.

"BREAKING NEWS: PRESIDENT TRUMP CONFIRMS LAUNCH OF BRAND-NEW SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM" it said, with three red stars before and after.

I recall an ex-President Trump. But some holdouts still dismiss the more than 7 million votes he lost by. Who can blame them for wanting alternatives to reality?

"Can you believe it, Friend?" the email pitch for my bucks went on. "President Trump is taking on Big Tech Censorship and fighting for FREE SPEECH! Now, we need your help to send Silicon Valley, the Radical Left and Liberal News Media a clear message of exactly where the American People stand."

In German, even non-proper nouns with capitals, but not English. So selecting "Silicon Valley," "Radical Left" and "Big Tech"



for such treatment but not "your help" and "clear message" struck me as some form of Aryan mastery.

"WILL YOU JOIN PRESIDENT TRUMP'S NEW SOCIAL MEDIA SITE?" the email asked. "Let the Big Tech Billionaires know where YOU Stand." I could click "YES, I WILL HELP FIGHT BIG TECH CENSORSHIP" or "NO, I WILL SIDE WITH BIG TECH." Thanks, NewsMax, for framing your question and answers so I have a choice. No "Yes, but ..." Divide, or devise, and conquer.

Trump is calling his new special purpose acquisition company — get ready for this — Truth Social. In other news, black is white, up is down and he really is still president.

"By one measure," writes Bloomberg Businessweek, "Trump's Truth Social is already more successful than many of the former president's business ventures ... Since (last week's) announcement, an investor frenzy has driven the implied value of the SPAC above \$8 billion."

Should Trump's venture go off without a hitch — remember, "implied" isn't "realized" — and he joins other Big Tech Billionaires, "it still won't restore him to the center-of-the-culture status he cherished when he was riding high on Twitter and Facebook," writes Bloomberg's Josh Green, "for the same reason that the bevy of startup right-wing alternatives from Gettr to Parler to Rumble haven't managed to do so.

"The broader public, including the all-important gatekeepers of mainstream media coverage, doesn't frequent those sites, nor do most of the people they interact with in their daily lives.

"The alternative networks," Green goes on, "are a self-contained bubble of like-minded thinking. You can't 'own the libs' if the libs aren't on your social network, so you probably can't entice the news media, either — even one highly alert for signs of controversy." Who, me?

It's worth noting Bloomberg principal Mike Bloomberg spent a ton of his own bucks seeking the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination in a campaign that lasted about five minutes. I kind of liked the former Republican New York City mayor, who is a fiscal conservative/social liberal journalist like me except he's made billions as a shrewd businessman. But I had little company.

Bloomberg, Trump and "penis" plants remind me of the billions and swimsuit models I never made, dreams deferred like hopes of raisin' my status that are drying up in the sun. The anticipation is so great I can barely bear it.



## Pause that refreshes

It's great grabbing a cup when you're wearing all that Douglas Adult Halloween Parade marching gear. (Photo by Kim Zahnow)

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Help needed for Thanksgiving

To the editor,

Thanksgiving will soon be here, and with it comes Christian Neighbors' distribution of Thanksgiving meal kits to area low-income families — a 38-year tradition in our community.

In 2020, 80 volunteers organized, packed and distributed 325 meal kits that fed nearly 1,200 area residents a complete Thanksgiving meal. This Thanksgiving, Christian Neighbors is looking for community members to help in several ways:

- Volunteer Nov. 22 or 23. Email Beth Huffman, [bdhuffman@gmail.com](mailto:bdhuffman@gmail.com), for a complete overview of the event and a link to register online to help.
- Donate money to offset the cost of food. Go to the Christian Neighbors

website, [christianneighborsindouglasmi.weebly.com](http://christianneighborsindouglasmi.weebly.com). The "Donate" button is at the bottom of its homepage.

• Donate nonperishable food. For Thanksgiving, Christian Neighbors would welcome donations of stuffing, applesauce, cranberry sauce, cake mix/frosting, flour and sugar.

• Spread the word. Any community member who is experiencing financial hardship, is not a Christian Neighbors client nor been identified by a church as needing Thanksgiving food may sign up now through Nov. 15 to pick-up a Thanksgiving Meal Kit on Nov. 23. Sign-up is required. Call or stop by Christian Neighbors, located within Community Church of Douglas, 6874 Wiley Road (Door C11), Douglas. Entrance is at the

back of the building.

For four decades, Christian Neighbors' purpose has been to identify and undertake to alleviate symptoms created by poverty. Through an atmosphere of caring and encouragement, we embrace those in the Saugatuck, Douglas and Fennville communities who are in need of basic living necessities, providing them with food, clothing, rent and utility assistance and other basic needs in the name of Christ.

We are open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. till Noon. Learn more at [christianneighborsindouglasmi.weebly.com](http://christianneighborsindouglasmi.weebly.com).

Beth Huffman  
Christian Neighbors Thanksgiving Coordinator

### LIFE AS PERFORMANCE ART

BY G.C. STOPPEL

One thousand years ago last month, my Viking ancestors brought lutefisk to the New World, as this continent is sometimes called. That was some 500 years before Chris Columbus dropped anchor off a small island in the Caribbean Sea.

Columbus gets all the notoriety of being the first European in the Western Hemisphere, but there is tremendous misunderstanding about the event — and him.

We learned in school he proved the world was round, not flat. Wrong. That was already done. Second, we forget he was not Spanish, but born in Genoa, Italy.

Here's what happened: Chris and his younger brother, Bartholomew, sought funding for an expedition to India by way of the Atlantic Ocean. They believed it was a shortcut that would speed up trade.

Europeans royalty, nobility and venture capitalists thought they were crackpots, and nobody wanted to fund them. Bart set out for England to sweet talk Henry VIII into writing a check, but that didn't happen because he was kidnapped along the way.

Suddenly in 1492 the king and queen of Spain



were able to drive the Moors out of their land and needed to hold a big celebration. They were so giddy with excitement they handed the necessary funds (some of which may have been looted from the Moors) to Columbus and watched as he sailed away.

In return for anything of value he brought home they would split it 90/10 — Ferdinand and Isabelle getting the big chunk.

Columbus brought the goods back to the queen and king, and they were so happy they doubled down and sent him cruising straight back to the Caribbean several more times. That led the Spanish

to send more soldiers and explorers, the conquistadors, to the islands, Latin and South America.

Many of them were brutal to the locals, which is why there is such an outcry about Columbus Day today.

So, how did we turn the tale of an Italian sailor, working for the Spanish royalty, who had no idea where he was but brought home lots of loot, into a national holiday?

The first observance of Columbus' arrival in the New World occurred in 1792 at Tammany Hall in New York City. Italians and Roman Catholics there organized the event as a way to remind fellow countrymen of their contributions. Soon after other Italian and Catholic communities began their own celebrations.

A large wave of Italian immigrants came to this country in the late 1800s. Many settled in New York City, but others came through the ports in New Orleans and settled there.

As with each new wave of immigrants there was a harsh reaction. Nativist groups incited hatred against the Italians, in part because they "looked" different, were "too clannish," ate

strange food, drank wine (in an era leading up to Prohibition) and above all were Roman Catholics. Everyone "knew" that allowing Roman Catholics into this country was going to lead to the Pope taking over.

This led to beatings, bullying, and worse. Italian immigrants were lynched in Louisiana and elsewhere.

A delegation of Italian leaders met with President Harrison, who readily agreed to their proposal of a day to honor their favorite son. Thus the national holiday we continue to observe.

The problem with Columbus Day is it circles back to the abuse and genocide of the Native Americans. On his second voyage Columbus returned with several of them in chains. It paved the way for the conquistadors who decimated the Carib and Annawak people of the Caribbean Islands, plus the Maya, Inca, and Aztec peoples of Latin and South America.

A growing chorus of voices proclaims the time has come to end the holiday and replace it with something else.

Minnesotans have suggested renaming it Lutefisk Day in honor of the

■ see Stoppel, Page A5

## The Commercial Record

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# Burmeister to host, offer art program Nov. 10

Michael Burmeister invites you to his world of pottery and painting during a Saugatuck-Douglas Art Club monthly session Wednesday, Nov. 10, at The Button Gallery, 33 Center St., Douglas, starting with a 6 p.m. meet-and-greet followed by program from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

As a ceramist and painter, Burmeister creates works rich in color, pattern and surface. Button Gallery has a fine selection of contemporary ceramic work due to its owner's expertise in this media.

Burmeister will demonstrate and discuss his hand building techniques during the session.

Formerly an adjunct professor and exhibition preparator, Burmeister taught fine arts courses and worked on acclaimed exhibitions in Pennsylvania and Illinois. His work has been exhibited regionally and nationally at colleges, universities, galleries and museums.

For more information about club activities, visit saugatuckdouglassartclub.org.



# SAUGATUCK ART CLUB DOUGLAS

# Buying American is key for future economy

BY MIKE WILCOX PUBLISHER

Buying American is more important now than it was in the 1980s when people were shamed for buying an Asian or European vehicle. Although for a few years way back then people really did make an effort to buy American, that theme has since fallen by the wayside.

Let's face it. Most of our consumables come from Communist China. An educated guess would be 80 to 90 percent of what we purchase is China-made. Now with our supply chain problems and empty store shelves, buying American-made products is important.

If you need another reason



to buy American, think about where Covid originated. China refuses to acknowledge it was a Wuhan lab that concocted the evil virus that has decimated millions in the world and United States. And to fight it, 90 percent of the medicines we take for Covid and otherwise are made in China.

Communist China is an easy target for our anger, but in a lot of ways we only have ourselves to blame. We as Americans determined we wanted to buy the cheapest goods possible, and China with its slave labor produced them for us.

The same products made in America, although of

much better quality, cannot compete with Chinese pricing, even though the goods must be shipped halfway around the world.

Unless we intend to be a province of Communist China, we must begin manufacturing goods here in the United States. That means drugs, appliances, cell phones and the thousands of consumer products we buy that originate in China.

Many of our leaders are hellbent on producing green energy, when in my opinion they should be subsidizing manufacturers that make the fundamental consumer goods and products we buy every day.

We seem to have a defeatist attitude. Big business and government think we cannot manufacture these items here in the States. I disagree.

American ingenuity can overcome most obstacles and we simply have to get back to basics and make our manufacturing the best in the world. We've done it before — remember the automobile? — and can do it again with the help with a few billion dollars from our government.

I've been a huge proponent of shopping locally. Our downtowns will disappear if we don't. The big box stores and Amazons of the world, are unlikely to

spend their profits locally, and are more likely to use China as their main source for products.

Your local hardware or gift shop is more likely to display American-made products, so why not kill two birds with one stone: buy locally and American.

I implore each one of us to check labels. If it says Made in China, leave it behind. If it says American Made, proudly drop it in your shopping bag. It might cost a little more in the short run, but you can count on it to be of higher quality and last longer. Not to take this step will eventually destroy our economy.

# Stoppel from Page A4

seafood of all real Scandihoovians. The day could wind down with polkas and accordion music. I could go for that, but not everyone has come to appreciate the smell of lutefisk because it has a tendency to take the roses off of wallpaper.

Another idea is to join forces with our Great White North neighbors and celebrate Thanksgiving that early October day.

That has some merit: weather in the northern tier of states is warm enough that noisy

and restless grands and great-grands could be exiled outside. It would be early enough in the year we wouldn't hear the nattering about how stores are selling their Christmas merchandise before Thanksgiving. And, by the time Christmas

does come, we should be finished with the leftover turkey from Thanksgiving.

Or maybe instead of canceling Columbus Day and pretending he never existed, we could look at the implications of European settlements on the

original settlers. It could be a true and honest examination of their culture, traditions, spirituality and much more.

Their love and care for the land has a lot to teach us. That would be a good thing.

TRIPPING THRU TIME with THE COMMERCIAL

By Jack Sheridan

### SAUGATUCK AMUSEMENT CO. TO BUILD LARGE PAVILLION

In an interview with Mr. Fredrick Limouze of California he tells of the immense pavillion he and his associates are about to commense on the dock property just South of Leleudecker's Inn.

The plans are at D. F. Ludwig's Real Estate office and show all the details of the proposed building which will be 200 feet long by 105 feet wide and cost about \$25,000. The main entrance will face the north and will have a vestibule 38 x 16. The dancing floor will be 110 x 90 making 99,000 square feet of space and there will be no posts in the building as the roof will be supported with steel arches 68 feet high from the floor. All around the dance floor there will be a promenade 25 feet wide, and different concessions will each have its place conveniently located for the accomodation of the public.

Ice cream and loed drinks will be served in a room 40 x 30 in the south east corner of the building which will be profosely decorated with Californian palms and embellished with electric lights. Cigar and souvenir stands will also be features, and check rooms and toilet rooms for the use of the guests will be convenient and commodious.

Electric lights will form an important feature in beautifying and enlivening the building, and from the fact that 1500 lights will be used, one will see that this essential feature has not been overlooked. The power will be generated by two gasoline engines which will be operated on the premises.

Mr. Limouze has had men at work laying out the ground and locating the corners for the building. The Altzer brought the pile driver from South Haven yesterday to commence work soon, as it is planned to put piles deep in the earth on which to rest the cement piers which will be 6 feet square at the bottom.

**1909**

Jack sez: March 1909 and Mr Limouze promotes his dream project with this interview and illustration in the CR. The cost turned out to be \$50,000 but it was done by the 4th of July. It put Saugatuck on the resorter's map!

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Thanks for a wonderful 31 years!

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# Sharing Economy has environmental benefits

BY RONNA ALEXANDER  
TCRC MEMBER

The concept of sharing isn't new: we've always shared a garden tool with a neighbor or toys with a family friend.

What's new is sharing with a much larger pool of complete strangers. This is essentially the Sharing Economy, which every year continues to grow thanks to digital platforms that enable these interactions on a huge scale.

The essence of this peer-to-peer way of sharing is granting temporary use of under-utilized belongings, resources, information and services such as homes, cars and tools. It's moving from ownership-based to a time-based concept. A cost-free example of this is your public library.

Companies such as Airbnb, RVshare and Zipcar leverage collaborative consumption. This has affected areas of our lives including co-working spaces, ride sharing, home and car rental, and sharing physical belongings.

One advantage to people participating in the Sharing Economy is cheaper goods and services. The concept

is built on the idea that sharing is more efficient.

This can reduce manufacturing demands, which can be an advantage for the environment plus lower the cost of ownership. For instance, if you only need to use a table saw once a year, it's much less costly to pay \$20 to rent one from a neighbor or tool-lending library than the out-of-pocket cost of a new one of your own.

The same thing goes for occasional services such as point-to-point rides like Uber or Lyft.

On the other side of the transaction, an owner can unlock the potential value of an item by sharing it. Owners can now make additional income by renting a vehicle that would otherwise sit idle all day in a parking lot.

In city centers, JustPark offers a users' space sharing for parking spots. Renting your house, possessions or skills can earn unexpected passive income.

This collaborative consumption can have positive impacts on the environment as well. By pooling resources, the sharing

economy works to reduce waste and make our spending and owning habits more sustainable.

Across several industries, the environmental benefits are clearly visible. In the world of fashion, the ever-expanding second-hand market is accessible through platforms like eBay and Depop.

By giving unwanted clothes a new life, they not only put money back in consumers' pockets but help reduce emissions generated by manufacturing and waste as the same time.

Another area finding new ways to be more sustainable is food waste. Communities are working together to set up exchanges of excess food products or leftovers.

Before your next trip to Meijer, check out the Flashfood app ... you can get massive savings on fresh food items nearing their best before dates, keeping them from hitting the compost pile or landfill. Good for your wallet and the environment.

The goal of a sustainable future starts with less consumption, which is at the



heart of the Sharing Economy where trust is the key currency.

Large companies rely on regulation and reputation to build relationships with consumers; peer-to-peer exchanges essentially ask buyers and sellers to trust each other.

The Sharing Economy offers a localized alternative to the commercial market, and as a result today's biggest retailers are having to work harder than ever to keep up with con-

sumer needs.

The future of the Sharing Economy is uncertain. No one is sure how peer-to-peer networks might reorder our daily lives and economy in the coming years.

But as more people participate it does promise tangible benefits: More flexibility in work and life since we can make arrangements faster and often on our own terms. More than ever, there are ways to earn and save

money through collaborative consumption.

With the potential of combining trust, flexibility, opportunity and environmental sustainability, it seems that sharing really is caring.

For ongoing updates and information on our Tri-Community Recycling Committee initiatives, follow us on Facebook and keep an eye out for bi-weekly articles here in The Commercial Record.



## Singing friar performs free at Ducc Nov. 13

Singing friar Brother Al Mascia (shown at left) will present a free concert at Douglas United Church of Christ, 56 Wall St., Douglas, Saturday, Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Mascia, who served as Ducc pastor from 1996 to 2001, now is a Franciscan friar living and working

in the metro Detroit area, where he actively serves the homeless.

He was instrumental in establishing coffee shop-like outreach centers for the homeless, as well as a bicycle-cart based inner-city mobile ministry.

Mascia, who is committed to ecumenical and inter-

faith relations, co-founded the Song and Spirit Institute for Peace in 2011.

A professional singer/songwriter, he loves writing songs and sharing his music.

To learn more, visit BrotherAL.org.

## Douglas seeks input Nov. 18

Douglas will host an open house seeking public feedback on upcoming projects Thursday, Nov. 18, in city hall, 86 Center St., from 7

to 8:30 p.m.

Topics will include conceptual designs and plans for the Point Pleasant municipal marina, wayfinding

and the downtown district. All are welcome to attend.

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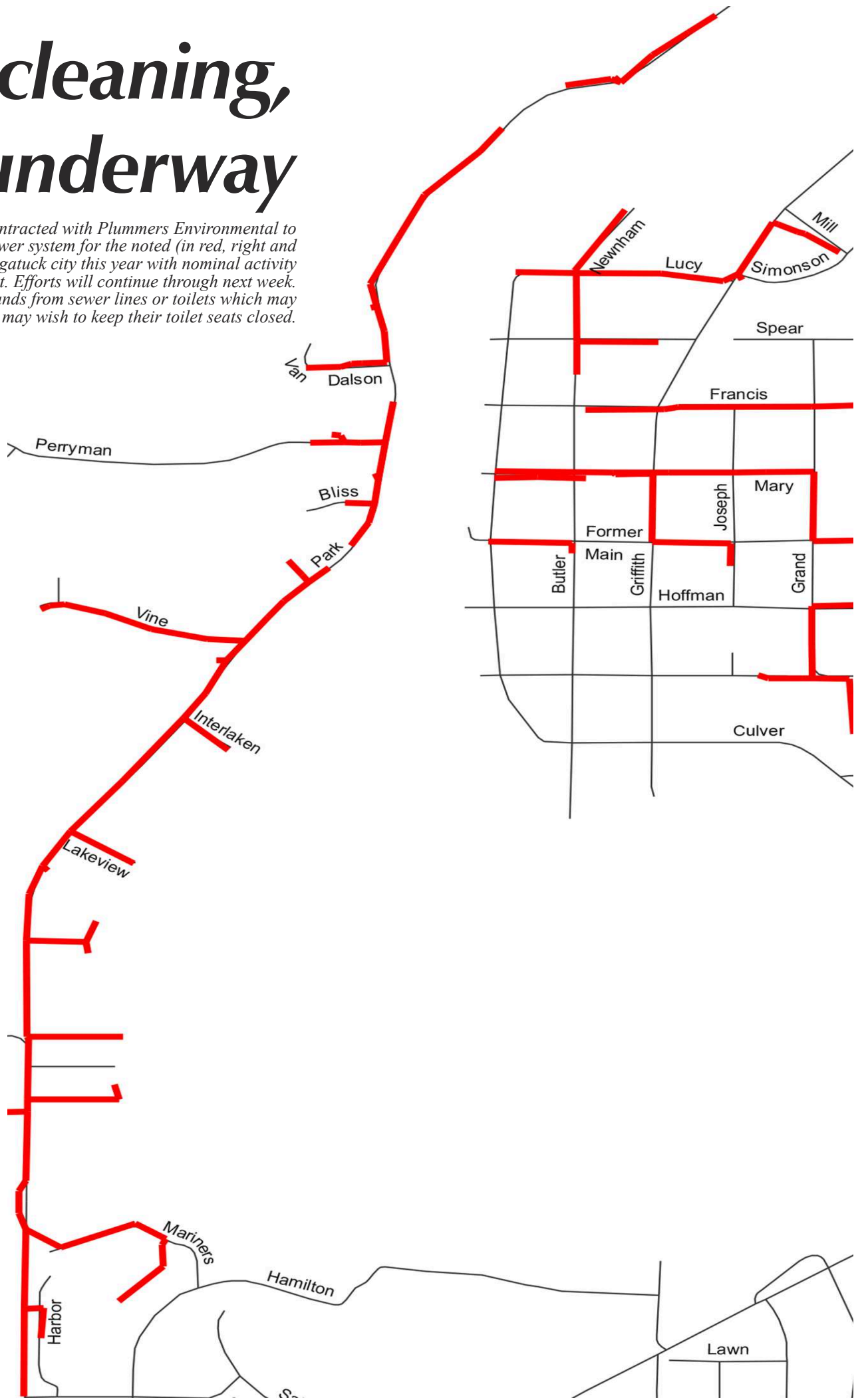
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# Local sewer cleaning, televising underway

The Kalamazoo Lake Sewer & Water Authority has contracted with Plummers Environmental to perform sewer cleaning and televising of the public sewer system for the noted (in red, right and below) sewer mains this week. Most work will be in Saugatuck city this year with nominal activity in Douglas except near Mariner's Cove on Ferry Street. Efforts will continue through next week. This activity, KLSWA advises, may create gurgling sounds from sewer lines or toilets which may surprise some residents. Residents may wish to keep their toilet seats closed.



## OBITUARY

### Gerald Bekken, 97

Gerald "Gerry" Bekken, age 97, of Douglas, passed away on Oct. 25, 2021.

Gerry was born in Douglas to Herman and Jennie (Lugten) Bekken on Oct. 8, 1924. He attended Saugatuck schools and graduated from Saugatuck High School with the Class of 1942.

After graduation Mr. Bekken enlisted in the United States Army. He faithfully and honorably served his country during World War II in the Pacific Theater. For his meritorious service at sea he was awarded a Bronze Star.

On March 1, 1953, Mr. Bekken started working for the United States Postal Service as a clerk in Douglas. After 30 years of service to his community he was selected on merit out of five finalists and appointed Postmaster of the Douglas office. He was Postmaster for nine years and retired after 39 years of postal service.

Gerry had a heart for public service and served as a volunteer firefighter for the Saugatuck Township Fire Department for 27 years. He also served on the fire department board for another 42 years for a total of 69 consecutive years of service to



the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township and Saugatuck city.

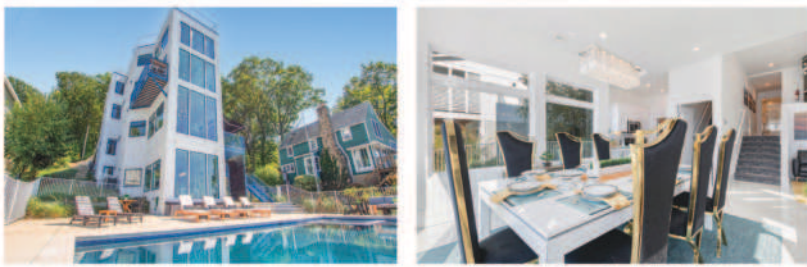
Gerry was secretary of the Douglas School Board, a member of the Moose Lodge and was actively involved in the March of Dimes. In full retirement he restored antique furniture, enjoyed golfing and staying active on the farm.

Mr. Bekken was preceded in death by his wife Jeanette Bekken in 2014; daughter Colleen L. DeVore in 2019, two brothers and a sister. He is survived by several nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude to Comfort Keepers of Holland, Freedom Village and Hospice of Holland. Funeral services have already taken place.

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# MAGGIE'S PANTRY

**BY MAGGIE CONKLIN**  
**Curried Squash Soup**  
 Quite a few years ago I was reading Fr. G.C. Corwin's "Life as Performance Art" in our favorite local newspaper when he discussed how his childhood hometown would be so overburdened with zucchini people would leave them in each other's automobiles as "gifts" that weren't gifts as much as burdens. Kind of like fruitcakes.



Every fall I find myself in a similar situation but with winter squash, not zucchini.

Don't get me wrong. I love winter squashes. Give me acorn squash, butternut squash, Hubbard, delicata, sweet dumpling, kabocha, spaghetti, Hokkaido, turban, and good old-fashioned pumpkin.

A year ago my cousin Tim gifted me an enormous squash called "Pink Banana." It must've weighed 10 pounds! I quartered it, steamed some, baked more, and put the rest in mason jars with cabbage to ferment into a starchy version of sauerkraut. It certainly fed us, even if I wondered if it was more burden than gift.

Back then I offered an article with three different ways to cook winter squashes, probably because I was trying to figure out what to do with that pink banana one.

Today we're going to deal with the leftovers in the most delicious way: Curry Soup!

So find that article you clipped out of this paper. You know the one that told you how you could boil, steam or roast (bake) your abundance of squash, and you clipped it out because you simply had to do that, then never did? Well, do it tonight, so you can have curried squash soup for lunch tomorrow.

**Ingredients:**  
 1 medium onion  
 1 Tbsp. cooking oil  
 2 cups leftover squash, cubed  
 2 cups chicken bouillon  
 ½ tsp. powdered ginger  
 ½ tsp. curry powder  
 Dice the onion and sauté in oil until soft, but not brown. Then add the cubed pre-cooked



squash and stir around a bit.

You can use any kind of winter squash you like, but spaghetti squash doesn't work very well for soup. Baked, roasted and steamed squash work better, and boiled squash works OK if not overcooked. It needs to be a little firm still. Add the 2 cups of

chicken bouillon and allow to come back up to a simmer. Add the ginger and curry. A half teaspoon of curry is not nearly enough in my opinion, so feel free to taste test it and add more.

If it's too chunky for your taste, you can use a wooden spoon or potato masher to squash the squash and make it

souper.

You can get your average run-of-the-mill curry at the local grocery store, but you have more choices at Saugatuck Spice & Tea Merchants at their new location on Mason Street, next to the 'Round the Corner Ice Cream Shop. They have three kinds of curry: Indian (mild), Maha-

raja (medium) and Hot Madras, which is as its name implies. All their curries are salt free, which is not the case with many lesser curries.

I still suggest adding more curry, but I'll let you be the judge of your own soup.

Enjoy!

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## More wellhouse art wades into Wade's

Now there are two Wade's Bayou wellhouses with Kathleen Van Tubbergen art on them after she completed the west building with this variation of her black-on-white line drawings depicting local scenes on the east one, which she painted as a Saugatuck-Douglas Art Club volunteer this summer. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

## Douglas eyes Wiley/Blue Star, Water Street

BY SCOTT SULLIVAN  
EDITOR

Douglas traffic engineers advised city council Monday steps could be taken to address Wiley Road wait times at Blue Star Highway and Water Street truck traffic between Wiley and South Street. But they would come with costs.

No actions were taken on the advisory study and report.

The city has been working with Prein & Newhof Engineering of Holland to study concerns at both sites and recommend possible options to address them.

For the former, east- and west-bound Wiley traffic has the most difficulty turning left or moving through the Blue Star intersection, often having to wait for a gap to complete the maneuver safely. A blinker light there now

shines red to stop Wiley traffic, whereas busier Blue Star vehicles pass under a yellow caution signal.

On Water — a two-lane north-south local road with rolling hills, several sharp curves, west-side sidewalks north of South Street and posted 25 mph speed limit — truck traffic was measured at 37 percent on an August weekday, 32 percent Saturday, most of it longer-axle trucks such as Amazon and FedEx delivery vehicles, city and landscaping trucks. Plus the city public works department lies along and its vehicles travel on that stretch.

The number of heavy six-wheeled semi-trucks using Water was 6.5 percent of total daily traffic.

Speed analyses consider 50th and 85th percentile speeds at

which motorists actually travel through an area, the former considered what most drivers feel is reasonable and safe, the latter excessive.

“While it is desirable to have motorists traveling at the speed limit,” said Prein engineer Scott Tezak, “it is typical for driver to travel at slightly higher speeds.

“Vehicle speed studies throughout Michigan generally travel at an average of 3 to 8 mph over the posted speed limit. In addition, it is typical for about 10 to 15 percent of motorists to exceed the limit by more than 10 mph.

“Water Street results,” he continued, “show the 85th percentile traffic speed 10 mph over the posted 25 mph limit, and 49 percent of traffic exceeding 5 mph over that limit, indicating most motorists on the road consider a

higher speed safe and reasonable under ideal conditions.”

Potential countermeasures for controlling speeds within project limits should be considered, Tezak said, and include the following three E’s:

- **Engineering:** Installing traffic calming infrastructure improvements (i.e. gateway entrances, advanced warning signage, speed radar signage, medians, pavement markings, rumble strips, etc.);

- **Education:** Informing residents and visitors of the speeding problem and possible solutions; and
- **Enforcement:** Partnering with law enforcement and community groups to reduce the frequency of over speeding.

A more-extensive study for Wiley at Blue Star, said Prein

engineer Nate Williams, showed the corner qualifies based on traffic volumes, if not incidence of accidents, for a stoplight, but the benefit for cost ratio might be minimal.

During peak hours, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., eastbound Wiley traffic turning left, right or passing through waits an average 15 to 34 seconds, westbound 12 to 18 seconds.

A 30-second-wait traffic light, said Williams, would improve the site’s rating but have little comparative benefit for Wiley drivers, whereas it would impede more-voluminous Blue Star traffic. Plus it would be expensive.

Council took no action but voiced its appreciation for having gathered data and counsel for possible future action.

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# Fennville seeking new clerk/treasurer

Fennville is looking for a new clerk-treasurer after Deborah Perez recently resigned the position, Commercial Record correspondent Jim Hayden reports in his Bicycle Base Fennville blog.

Perez was city treasurer before taking over clerk duties in 2017 when long-time clerk Pat Phenix retired. Perez's last full day was Tuesday, Nov. 2. She will work part time until the end of the month, city administrator Amanda Morgan told the city commission at Monday's meeting.

Morgan will seek a full-time replacement for Perez. She also is looking for a part-time office assistant to help with growing demands on staff.

Without Perez in the office, city hall might need to be closed when Morgan leaves the building. She will announce closings on the city's Facebook page.

Monday was also the last meeting for Mayor Tom Pantelleria, who decided earlier this year not to run for re-election. The commission will vote for a new mayor at its first meeting after the Nov. 2 election.

Members will meet at 7 p.m. Nov. 22 — a week later than originally scheduled — because three commissioners were not going to be present Nov. 15.

"Thank you, mister mayor, for your many years of service," com-

missioner Dan Rastall said at the close of Monday's meeting.

"It was a real privilege serving with you," Pantelleria said to the entire commission. "It was a great pleasure."

Pantelleria has been Fennville mayor since 2015, leading the city through major changes including hiring the town's first administrator, approving massive infrastructure repairs and updates to the sewer and water systems, allowing marijuana retailers in town and purchasing a new city hall building.

In other business Monday, the commission:

- Unanimously accepted a \$260,000 Drinking Water Asset Management Grant from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. No match from the city is required.

The money will be used to review the city's line flushing program, update the geographic information system, identify lead and copper service lines and complete a rate study and an asset management plan.

- Unanimously approved a fire truck swap

between the Fennville Area and Lee Township fire departments. Fennville will trade its 2001 pumper for Lee's 1998 pumper/tender and 1992 pumper.

Fennville wants Lee's pumper because it can quickly dump water to fight fires. Fennville plans to sell the 1992 vehicle. The Fennville Area Fire Board has approved the swap. Manlius Township must also approve the trade.

- Accepted the October run report from the Fennville Area Fire Department. The department had

a total of 35 calls — 14 in the city, 17 in Manlius, and four assists. The Fennville Police Department report was incomplete and not accepted.

- Asked the city administrator to work out a way to pay \$40 a month to fund the phone service for two new automated external defibrillators installed in the city.

- Unanimously approved the community holiday celebration for Saturday, Dec. 4, including a 6 p.m. lighted parade and tree lighting ceremony.

# Lake levels continue decline

BY SCOTT SULLIVAN  
EDITOR

What a difference a year makes. Lake Michigan water levels, whose all-time monthly highs in late 2019 and early 2020 caused home to topple over dune banks and threatened infrastructure, stood 13 inches below last year's Oct. 15 mark that day this year, and 23 inches

below their all-time October 1987 high.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hydrologists, who have gauged Great Lakes levels since 1918, forecast they will continue their typical seasonal declines in coming months.

For November, they predict Lakes Michigan and Huron — which are linked at the Straits

of Mackinac, therefore considered one — will drop three more inches.

Though they are still 18 inches higher than the 103-year October monthly average, that loss amounts to a major respite.

"During fall and early winter," said Detroit District corps hydrologist Keith Komptolowicz, "water levels typically decline as a

result of increased evaporation.

"Evaporation is highest during this time of year as a result of the colder air that enters the region and moves over the relatively warm lake water surfaces."

The Corps' recent six-month forecast, covering October to March is available at <https://go.usa.gov/xFEWx>.

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# Trailblazers prevail in opening round of playoffs

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

CASSOPOLIS—Establish the run.

That is always a goal for the Saugatuck football team from an offensive standpoint. But it was even more important during the Trailblazers' Division 8 playoff opener at Cassopolis given the wet, sloppy field conditions.

Mission accomplished. Led by a 122-yard, two-touchdown effort from Ben Drew, Saugatuck rushed for 330 yards on 48 carries (6.9 yards per carry average) in earning the 28-8 win over the host team.

The Trailblazers, who improved to 6-4, led 20-0 at halftime.

"It was another week of challenging weather and field conditions, as has been

the case in recent weeks," Saugatuck coach Bill Dunn said. "So, establishing the run was important. Not having to be forced into passing situations was a key to victory."

"A credit to the kids up front. They executed well at the line of scrimmage and we had excellent ball security throughout the game."

Benny Diaz added 87 rushing yards on 10 carries, with John Hartgerink going for 81 yards on 12 carries. Quarterback Brogan Kelley—who didn't attempt a single pass—added 40 yards on 10 carries.

"Our mindset is not to beat ourselves, and part of that mindset is to establish our run game and put us in good first-down conversion opportunities," Dunn said. "We did that with 330 yards

rushing and 13 first downs as a team.

"Again, it was a well-balanced rushing attack led by Ben."

Limiting turnovers was another key for Saugatuck, which had only one turnover in the form of a fumble late in the game.

"Offensively, we took care of the ball, which was our number one priority," Dunn said. "Second, we wanted to control the time of possession by maximizing our scoring opportunities, which we did with one punt and the on fumble late in the game."

Saugatuck scored on its other four offensive possessions.

Drew started the scoring with a 27-yard run less than two minutes into the game. Following a 1-yard

scoring run by Hartgerink two seconds into the second period, Drew found the end zone for his second TD on a 4-yard run with 1:34 remaining in the opening half.

Declan Rewa converted on his second and third extra-point kicks after the first was blocked, as the Trailblazers took their 20-0 lead to halftime.

Cassopolis scored its only touchdown of the game on a 23-yard run on the opening possession of the second half. But Saugatuck answered with a 1-yard run from Kelley midway through the fourth quarter to put the game out of reach.

"We had a great start in the first half before a little lull in the third quarter, but we rebounded well in the fourth quarter," Dunn said.

"I am proud of the kids. They had the energy and preparation needed to win a playoff game and made plays throughout the game on both sides of the ball to win on the road, which is always tough."

On the defensive side of the ball, Saugatuck got 13 tackles from Hartgerink and 10 from Drew. Diaz and Colin Garcia added seven tackles each, with Landon Miller recovering a fumble that Drew caused.

"Our defense did an excellent job of containing Cassopolis's speed to the edge and limiting the effectiveness of their inside running game," Dunn said. "Making tackles in wet conditions can be challenging enough, and our defense did a great job of making plays on defense."

"We have a bend-but-don't-break mindset on defense. A credit to Cassopolis, they only had one turnover in the game, and was able to move the



Benny Diaz races down the sideline late in Saugatuck's win over Cassopolis. (Photo by Jen Drew)



Ben Drew ran for 122 yards and two touchdowns to lead Saugatuck past Cassopolis. (Photo by Jen Drew)

ball at times, but our defense did not give up the big play and only gave up the one score."

Next up for Saugatuck is a district title game at White Pigeon on Friday, Nov. 5. This is the same White Pigeon team that bested Saugatuck 48-6 in the opening game of the season after handing the

Trailblazers a 24-0 loss in the opening round of the playoffs last season.

"We are looking forward to the rematch with White Pigeon and a week of preparation for a district championship," Dunn said. "It is two physical teams going head-to-head. It should be an exciting night of playoff football."

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The Saugatuck boys' cross country team of (from left) Luke Gorgas, Charlie Stormer, Tristan Ashley, Adam Martinson, Loch Rigozzi, Kurtis Bronz and Will Ayers placed second at region-

## Martinson wins regional title to lead Saugatuck boys

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

PORTAGE—Prior to this season, a total of seven Saugatuck boys had secured an individual regional championship.

There is now an eighth member of that club.

Senior Adam Martinson posted a personal-best time of 16:41 to easily claim first-place honors at the Division 3 regional at Portage Central on Saturday, Oct. 30.

The victory was not only Martinson's first at a regional race, but also his first ever in a cross country meet at any level. Saugatuck has now had an individual regional champ for first consecutive years: Nik Pettinga in 2017; Corey Gorgas in 2018; and Max Sharnas in 2019 and 2020.

Sharnas, a senior, was unable to defend his regional crown as he has been out all season with an injury.

"With Max in his same class and Nik a year ahead of him, Adam didn't have a lot of opportunities to win races," Saugatuck

coach Rick Bauer said. "I'm really happy for him to get this one and to be a regional champion."

The runner-up in this year's race—Jaden Barnes of Bloomingdale—finished 12 seconds behind Martinson.

"We had a game plan and Adam executed it," Bauer said. "It wasn't about going out and running his fastest time. It was about winning the race. So he hung back the first half and then made his move."

The solid showing by Martinson helped lead the Trailblazers to a second-place showing in the team standings with 61 points. Coloma was six points ahead with 55.

This was the first time in 10 years that Saugatuck failed to capture a regional championship as a team.

Still, Saugatuck qualified for the Division 3 State Finals along with Coloma and third-place finisher Constantine (88 points). The Finals are slated for Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn on Saturday, Nov.

6. The D3 boys' race is scheduled to start at 11:30 a.m.

"It's been a tough year dealing with Max's injury and an injury to Luke (Gorgas), which really changed our entire season," Bauer said. "But these kids kept working hard and I'm really proud of them."

Martinson will be hoping to secure All-State honors for the second straight season. He did so last year by place 11<sup>th</sup> in the Division 4 race.

In addition to Martinson, two other Saugatuck runners earned All-Regional recognition by placing in the top 15. Senior Tristan Ashley was fourth with a season-best 17:13, while classmate Kurtis Bronz was 10<sup>th</sup> with a personal-record 17:57.

"Tristin and Kurtis both ran well," Bauer said. "I still feel like Tristin's holding back a little bit and I hope he goes all out at state. And Kurtis has been giving it everything he has all season, and that showed with his PR."

Juniors Charlie Stormer (25<sup>th</sup> at 19:12) and Gorgas (26<sup>th</sup> at 19:20) rounded out the scoring runners for the Trailblazers. Sophomore Loch Rigozzi (28<sup>th</sup> with a personal-best 19:23) and junior Will Ayers (74<sup>th</sup> at 21:43) also competed for Saugatuck.

In the girls' race, Saugatuck placed fifth with 142 points, thereby snapping a string of 14 straight years of qualifying for the State Finals.

The Trailblazers will still be represented at MIS, as senior Hannah Smit qualified as an individual by placing 13<sup>th</sup> at 21:30.

Fennville senior Angelica Mendoza also qualified, placing seventh at 21:13. The Blackhawks placed sixth as a team with 164 points.

Also competing for Saugatuck were: senior Becky Pond (21<sup>st</sup> at 22:16); senior Samantha Sixberry (22<sup>nd</sup> at 22:18); senior Adelaide Burmeister (52<sup>nd</sup> at 24:49); junior Natalie Tuckerman (58<sup>th</sup> at 25:25); senior Sydney Stickel (66<sup>th</sup> at 25:48); and senior Ainsley Lowery (68<sup>th</sup> at 26:15).

## Saugatuck volleyball upends Black River in district opener

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

MUSKEGON—The Saugatuck volleyball team opened post-season play with a Division 3 opening-round district match against Black River on Monday, Nov. 1.

And it couldn't have gone much better for the Trailblazers.

Saugatuck didn't allow more than 18 points in any set and claimed the 3-0 victory by scores of 25-14, 25-15, 25-18.

The victory, which upped the Trailblazers' record to 26-6-3, set up a showdown with Muskegon Western Michigan Christian—the top-ranked team in the state—in a

district semifinal. That match was slated for Wednesday, Nov. 3, with the winner advancing to the district finals on Thursday, Nov. 6, at 6 p.m.

Aerin Baker spearheaded both the offensive and defensive attack for Saugatuck. Not only did she rack up a match-best 18 kills, but she also led the Trailblazers with 17 digs and five blocks. Her two aces were second on the team behind Dayna Crough's three.

Crough added 19 assists and eight digs, with Catherine Pond going for 10 digs. Alysa Ries and Emma DeBoer contributed five digs and four kills, respectively.

In a tune-up for district play, Saugatuck hosted a quad on Thursday, Oct. 28, that also featured Allegan, Covenant Christian and South Haven.

The Trailblazers went unbeaten at 2-0-1, besting Allegan (25-22, 25-19) and Covenant Christian (25-23, 25-19) before settling for a split with South Haven (25-13, 24-26).

"We came out playing very strong and continued to the end of the last set," Saugatuck coach Ross Such said. "All players played tough defense as they fought to keep the ball from hitting the floor."

"Again, our servers took advantage of open spots spotted on the defensive side of the net."

Baker and Crough led in the serving department. Baker finished with six aces, while Crough had five.

Baker also had 24 kills, 21 digs and eight blocks. Crough had 15 assists and 11 digs.

DeBoer (seven kills and 11 digs), Ries (four kills and 11 digs) and Pond (four assists and 12 digs) also played well for Saugatuck.

In a tri match hosted by Saugatuck on Tuesday, Oct. 26, the Trailblazers dropped a tough 25-21, 23-25, 15-5 decision to Bu-

chanan before regrouping to beat Black River 25-11, 25-20.

"We lacked energy for the matches, we made too many unforced errors and we had a difficult time getting into our normal flow," Such said. "Both Black River and Buchanan had tough servers and they capitalized on our mistakes."

Baker posted totals of 22 kills, 13 digs, 10 aces and three blocks. Crough had 26 total assists.

DeBoer had two aces, four kills and six digs versus Black River, with Pond and Kailyn Merkle each going for three digs against Buchanan.

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1044 Holland St, Saugatuck - Liz Engel & Heather Conley



1034 Holland St, Saugatuck - Liz Engel & Heather Conley

**COMMERCIAL**



150 W Center Street 1, Douglas - Bill Underdown

**VACATION RENTAL**



320 Blue Star Highway #6, Douglas - Bill Underdown



2348 Forrest Trail Circle, Fennville - Tammy Kerr



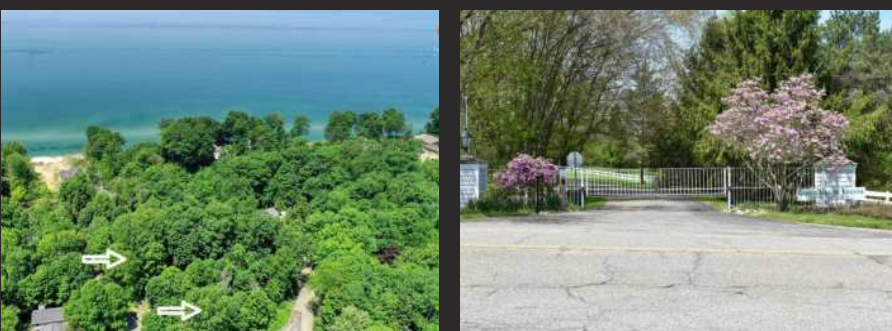
200 Garden Terrace Unit B, Douglas - Tammy Kerr



91 S Union, Douglas - Liz Engel



651 Holland Street, Saugatuck - Tammy Kerr



Lots 12 & 16 Lakeview Terrace, South Haven-Bill Underdown & Ryan Johnson



VL 126th Ave, Fennville - Tammy Kerr



1871 Doris Ave, Grand Haven-Tammy Kerr



**Daniel B. Garcia** lives by the expression "the world is your oyster" and brings to the Century 21 Affiliated team a strategic combination of international expertise-having worked in real estate overseas in Spain-as well as a distinctively passionate and heartfelt local approach, progressively becoming a well-known face and market expert in the Saugatuck-Douglas area.

Daniel is fluent in seven different languages and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business with a Minor in Public Relations, as well as a Juris Doctorate.

Prior to working in real estate, Daniel worked as an entrepreneur where he was

recognized by leading publications for his leadership skills and growth of his company taking it from 1 office to having a presence in 7 cities throughout Spain, Mexico, and Latin America.

When he is not working, Daniel enjoys traveling, exploring new places and meeting new people, getting lost in a good book, anything pertaining to the arts and culture, as well as being a strong advocate and supporter of many philanthropical and social-justice causes.

Daniel believes in making the home-buying process- a purchase which can often times be a person's most important invest-

ment- both financially as well as emotionally- a pleasant, special experience and one that his clients remember fondly, even through the passing of the years, which is why a considerable amount of his business comes from word-of-mouth and referrals— Whether they happen to be halfway across the globe or right in his own West Michigan neighborhood!

Some of his most interesting international sales have been a former ambassador's oceanfront residence in Ibiza, Spain, as well as a stunning historic country estate belonging to a famous actress in Genova, Italy.



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