

A comeback in Manchester

Inside: John Hummer takes a look at the Village of Manchester, which is enjoying an economic revival.



Creative women author books

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

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EXPONENT

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A shot in the arm

Vaccine rollout begins, but not so fast

Napoleon, Columbia officials have differing views on vaccination distribution.

By John Hummer
Editor

COVID-19 vaccines have begun to make their way across the country, the state, and locally. Hospital and health department officials are now trying to figure out how best to organize local distribution of the vaccines to get "shots in the arm" to those who are currently on the priority list.

The vaccines are being doled out in phases. As of January 11, those in Phase 1B include frontline state and federal workers and first responders, jail and prison staff, pre-K-12 teachers and childcare providers as well as individuals age 65 and older.

Though people in this group were able to begin receiving vaccines Monday, Jackson County officials say they do not even have an adequate supply of vaccine to finish vaccinating those in Phase 1A, so those in Phase 1B will inevitably be delayed.

The nation's Center for Disease Control has structured a two-phase vaccine distribution program, with several incremental priority areas under the first phase. Most other Americans fall into Phase 2, and are slated to begin receiving shots in the June-July time frame. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is the agency overseeing vaccine distribution.

The Jackson County Health Department (JCHD) received their first doses of the Moderna vaccine in late December. Around the same time, Henry Ford Allegiance Health (HFAH) received their first doses of the Pfizer vaccine.

Each person choosing to receive the vaccine must get two doses. A person should get the second Pfizer

See *Vaccines* page 3



COURTESY PHOTO

Pretty as a picture: Sylvia Kay of Wamplers lake shared this awesome photo of a sunrise over Wamplers Lake last Sunday. Note the ice fishing shelter located in the center right. Kay mentioned that this is a great way to greet a new day, but, as always, officials warn to exercise care when going on the ice.

Napoleon ice fishing incident raises scare

By John Hummer
Editor

An ice fishing incident roiled up the community of Napoleon Saturday as reports of an emergency on Mellen Camp Lake circulated. An investigation by police turned up no evidence of a drowning Saturday.

In a late development Monday afternoon, Napoleon Township Police Chief Duaine Pittman reported that a father of a Napoleon teenager that was fishing with a friend last Thursday contacted the department to notify them that it was his son and a friend who fell through the ice, but that they were okay. The two teenage boys, in the 14-15 age range, went through the ice but were able to get themselves out. The

father had called the Jackson County Sheriff's Office last Thursday to notify them of the incident, but word never came back to the Napoleon Township Police Department that day.

On 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Napoleon Township Police Deputy Chief Matt Peters was dispatched to Mellen Camp Lake, a small lake on the east side of Wolf Lake Road across from Little Wolf Lake.

"Someone had reported a large hole in the ice with fishing gear around it and nobody in the area," Peters said. Peters spoke with the person who contacted him, who said there had been several other people out fishing.

"He had seen the tip-up all by itself and this five-

foot-by-five-foot hole in the ice with some tackle around it, but nobody else fishing knew anything about it," Peters said.

The fishing equipment left around the hole included one fishing pole, a couple of small tackle boxes, and propane tanks.

Peters summoned the Napoleon rescue squad who began attempts to determine what, if anything, was down in the fishing hole. The Jackson County Dive Team arrived on the scene, did an extensive search of the area, and pulled out an ice fishing shanty, an auger, a jet sled to haul equipment, a heater, and more ice fishing tackle.

"They did not find any

See *Ice fishing* page 3

Napoleon

Man's life saved thanks to mail carrier, police

"When they called and told me he was alive, I cried. I just couldn't believe it. It was so wonderful that he was found in time."

Linda Morea
USPS Mail Carrier

By John Hummer
Editor

A Napoleon man's life was saved last week thanks to the actions of a mail carrier and the Napoleon Township police and fire departments.

Napoleon police received a call around noon last Thursday from U.S. Postal Service mail carrier Linda Morea noting that a resident's mailbox had a substantial amount of mail piling up. The resident, Richard Mikkelsen, 86, of 6300 Wheaton Road, had not retrieved his mail for three days.

"He gets his mail every single day without fail," Morea said. She noted it was icy out, which may have led him to forego getting his mail for a couple days. "By the third day, I said, 'You know that's just out of character.'" So she took Mikkelsen's mail to the door.

"I pounded on the door and nothing. Nobody came and I thought, 'That's just kind of odd. It warrants a well-check.'" That's when she decided to call the police.

Officer Chris Jacobson was dispatched to the scene for the welfare check, said Napoleon Township Police Chief Duaine Pittman.

Pittman explained that when Jacobson arrived at the home, he couldn't see in the windows and pounded on all the windows and doors with no response. The garage had windows, but they were up too high to see in.

"The windows were up pretty high, so we sent the fire department out, used a ladder, looked in the window [of the garage] and there was no car," he said.

When Jacobson first spoke with Morea, she suggested contacting Meals on Wheels

See *Life saver* page 3

Police ask for help in suspicious Norvell incident



Norvell Township Sheriff Deputy Jay Truchan is asking the public for assistance in identifying three unknown subjects that trespassed onto a township resident's property and are believed to have been up to criminal activity.

A citizen reported that a suspicious vehicle pulled into a residential driveway off Austin Road on the afternoon of Sunday, Jan. 3. The three unknown subjects were observed walking around the property and looking into windows. There were two females and one male subject believed to be in their 20s and 30s.

The homeowner became concerned as the subjects kept driving by the home at a slow speed before pulling into the driveway and opening their tailgate door. The subjects were driving a vehicle described as a white 2018 GMC Acadia.

The subjects vacated the area but then returned back to the home on Wednesday Jan. 6. The subjects were again prowling around the property before leaving the area prior to law enforcement arrival. The homeowner believes that the subjects are possibly "porch pirates" and looking to steal delivered packages that were left by the door.

Deputy Truchan stated it is unknown who these subjects are or where they came from, but it is believed they could be within the greater Jackson County area and casing out homes.

Law enforcement requests for the public to keep watch within their neighborhoods and report suspicious activity to 911 or their local police department.

If anyone recognizes the individual in the above photos, or has further information on the incident, contact Sheriff Deputy Jay Truchan at 517-768-7959.

Meet our firefighters

For Jeff Simpson, assistant fire chief was a long time in coming

By John Hummer
Editor



Jeff Simpson

It took Jeff Simpson a while to get where he wanted to be, but now, as assistant fire chief for Columbia Township, you can hear the happiness in his voice.

"I'm sure glad that I'm here. I wouldn't change it for anything," he says.

Though he lived the first 10 years of his life near Tampa, Fla., Simpson has been a Michigan resident ever since. He is a 1993 graduate of Lumen Christi High School.

"When I was younger, we had a fire station down the road from us in Florida," he explained. "Every time the trucks would go out, my dad and I would hop in his Volkswagen and we'd chase the firetrucks and it always kind of piqued my interest from a young age."

Following high school, he worked a handful of construction and laborer type positions. "I like to be outdoors working with my hands, so I kind of went that

route," he stated. Simpson did that kind of work for about five years and then worked as a medical assistant at a doctor's office for about 10 years.

Then things fell in place for him to pursue his true calling as a firefighter. A police officer from Blackman Township came into his doctor's office every now and then and Simpson got to know him.

"Through him, I was introduced to Ron Hills who was the fire chief [in Columbia Township] at the time," Simpson said. It wasn't long after meeting Hills that he interviewed for a paid on-call firefighter position around the year 2000. After getting approved by the township board, he started fire school.

Simpson then became certified in all aspects of firefighting and rescue and passed his National Registry Test to officially become a firefighter. He was a paid on-call firefighter for about 10-12 years, he estimates.

In the early 2010s, he became more involved in Columbia Township as a part-time township maintenance worker and simultaneously took on the township's zoning officer position.

Almost three years ago, Columbia Township Fire Chief Scott Cota was promoted to his current position when the fire chief position became available, creating a vacancy for assistant fire chief. Simpson applied for and got the position.

"If I could look back, I wish I could have started my fire career a little earlier, but sometimes you don't always get to do what you want, and you have to take a different avenue," he noted.

So, what is it that "stokes his fire" as a firefighter?

"It's really being out in the public – being able to go out and help somebody in their worst time of need," Simpson says. "It's nice to be able to go and provide a hand and assist – trying to make that day better for those individuals."

Simpson and his wife, Kim, have four children – two boys and two girls, ages 13, 10, 9, and 3. "They keep me quite busy," he laughed.

In his spare time, Simpson likes fishing during the warmer months. During the winter, he plays hockey once or twice a week with a group of guys at Optimist Ice Arena in Jackson.

Doing Business

Amanda L. Kirkpatrick, Jackson County clerk, reports the following recently recorded proprietorships or changes in business ownerships:

Dignity & Hugs Home Care, 11818 Orban Road, Grass Lake (Home care for seniors) Kelly Leonard, owner
Sarah Martin Photography, 1852 W. Argus Court, Jackson (Portrait Photography) Sarah Martin, owner

Marriages

Amanda L. Kirkpatrick, Jackson County clerk, reports the following recently recorded marriage license applications:

Darren Lawrence Knowles, Jackson and Stacy Michelle Wilson, Jackson
Melvin Lee Taylor Sr., Rives Junction and Joan Ann Densmore, Rives Junction
William Arvo Putnam, Jackson and Vicki Lynn Simpson
Matthew Robert Conrad, Jackson and Morton Angela Elaine, Jackson
Samuel Duane Ort, Brownsburg and Amanda Jean Motts, Spring Arbor
Robert James Young, Jackson and Karol Ann Kurtz, Jackson
James Louis Hart, Grass Lake and Patricia Jane, Hart, Grass Lake

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Winston Churchill

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Ice Fishing from page 1

body – there was no person in the water that they could tell,” Peters reported. “Some of the evidence suggested that someone may have gotten out of the water and that it probably occurred [Friday] night because the hole was already frozen over.”

Peters added that there was a neck gator frozen solid on the ice a few feet from the hole and there was about 30 feet of fishing line running back toward the walk-in entrance to the lake that was coming from a fishing rod and reel that was on the edge of the hole.

“It appeared that somebody was able to drag themselves out and run back, but at this point that’s all we know,” he said Saturday. “We don’t know if that occurred, or if anyone was injured.”

Police contacted area hospitals, but there were no reports of anyone who had went in with hypothermia that had been exposed to cold water.

Peters said Jackson County

road patrol assisted by going door-to-door up and down Wolf Lake Road checking on the possibility of any missing residents.

“We have no reports of any missing persons at this time,” he said, adding that no one had called in any ice fishing incident.

Peters noted there was about three inches of ice on Mellen Camp Lake.

“Just the pressure of an average size man was causing some of that ice to crack,” he stated. “Depending on lakes and areas, ice conditions can vary from moderate to poor at this point. So, use caution. From my understanding, that’s one of the first lakes in the area to freeze over. I would think other lakes [ice] would be a lot thinner than that one.”

Police returned the fishing gear to the father and son.

In addition to the Napoleon Township Fire Department and the Jackson County Dive Team, the Grass Lake Fire Department assisted at the scene.

Bird’s eye view



Scott Brown decided to have a little winter fun and brought his drone to Swain Memorial Park in Brooklyn to get a bird’s eye view of the village. We are glad he shared this unique perspective of the old Ford plant, the frozen mill pond, and the Columbia school complex with us. It looks cold down there!

Life saver . . . from page 1

to get Mikkelsen’s phone number or an emergency contact. She had seen Meals on Wheels before at his residence. They did, indeed, have Mikkelsen’s daughter’s phone number.

“Nobody knows you like your mail carrier,” Morea said.

Jacobson went back to the office and made several attempts to contact his daughter, Eileen Kimball. After a few hours, contact was made with her. Kimball said her father did not have a car and never leaves the house.

Officer Jacobson and Officer Andrew Flint then went back to the house, and with the daughter’s permission, forced entry into the basement of the home.

In the meantime, Mikkelsen’s granddaughter arrived at the home. As police were searching the basement, the granddaughter found Mikkelsen on the floor of the laundry room in the upper level of the house – alive, but unable to speak. He was soon transported to Henry Ford Allegiance Health by Jackson Community Ambulance.

“I’m glad they got there in time,” Morea said.

“He’d been down for three days,” Pittman said. “He was alive, dehydrated, and they found out at the hospital he had COVID.” He was listed in critical condition. As of last Friday, he was doing “pretty well” according to Pittman.

“The daughter was really thankful for the efforts of the police department and the fire department, and the mail carrier,” he said. “It takes the community and people like [Morea] to be willing to call us. That’s what we’re here for – to protect lives and help people.”

Morea was humbled in knowing her actions led to saving Mikkelsen’s life.

“We have to watch our older people,” she said. “Sometimes they need us. When they called and told me [Mikkelsen was alive], I cried. I just couldn’t believe it. It was so wonderful that he was found in time.”

Vaccines . . . from page 1

vaccine 21 days after their first dose; the Moderna vaccine 28 days after the first dose.

Since then, both the health department and the hospital have begun vaccinating those groups in the Phase 1A priority group, including healthcare workers, emergency medical services personnel and long-term care residents and staff.

“We will utilize all available avenues to notify Priority Group 1B individuals of available vaccine and how to sign up for an appointment,” JCHD officials say. However, timing and completion of vaccinations within any phase in Jackson County is dependent upon the supply of vaccine and the capability to administer it.

Strategic planning for the next vaccination phases and groups will continue as the vaccine becomes available. The administering partners will inform the next prioritized groups how, when, and where to receive vaccinations, but right now, few details are ironed out.

“As the health department moves through the process of distributing the vaccine accord-

ing to their plan, local fire departments will most likely be utilized as local vaccination points,” said Napoleon Township Fire Chief Greg Bickford. He and Police Chief Duaine Pittman have a plan in place for Napoleon area residents who will be receiving the vaccine next. They will utilize the bays of the main township fire station and have a pre-planned traffic pattern laid out.

“This will be a very fluid plan as we have all seen changes in the COVID vaccine rollout at the federal, state and local levels,” Bickford said.

In Columbia Township, Fire Chief Scott Cota said they are not going to be a distribution point.

“The reason we are not doing that is that it’s been a difficult enough struggle for us to keep this place clean as far as disinfecting stuff,” he said. “The last thing I want to do is introduce people into here that aren’t common to this area. That was the consensus, I believe, with a lot of different fire departments.”

Cota said the fact that the Pfizer vaccine has to be kept at an ultra-low temperature, minus-

80 degrees, was also a factor in not choosing to be a vaccine distribution point. To his knowledge, Henry Ford Allegiance Health and the county health department are the only facilities that have the proper freezer equipment for the Pfizer vaccine.

So, where will Columbia Township residents be able to go once they move up the priority list and are able to receive the vaccine? Cota currently does not yet have the answer to that question.

“I have not had a distribution list sent to me as far as where this is going to take place,” he said.

For vaccine updates from the Jackson County Health Department, go to mijackson.org/2442/COVID-Vaccine.

An informational phone line, 517-817-4469, is also available that has a recorded message providing local vaccination information.

The Exponent will continue to report on this as details unfold.

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Letters

Boy scout inquiry

Dear editor,

As a person who grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from high school there in 1955, I have many memories of the community. One in particular is of my selection to attend the Boy Scouts of America National

Jamboree at Valley Forge, PA in 1950. Recently I found a number of items from this trip along with other items relating to Brooklyn Troop 32. I am wondering if there is still a Troop 32 and, if there is, if they would be interested in these items?

Please let know if you can direct me to someone to discuss this with.

**Bob Patterson
Hudson, FI.**

Editor's note: Patterson can be contacted by email at bocar1937@gmail.com.

Someone is going to pay

Dear editor,

This is a response to Mr. Schepeler's opinion article entitled "Someone is going to pay" from the December 29, 2020, edition of The Exponent.

I suppose that a trigger warning should be issued, since Mr. Schepeler's opinion piece and this letter to the editor present ideas and topics that some, perhaps many, will find offensive and scary.

So here goes – I agree with Mr. Schepeler. Someone is going to pay for all that "free" fake money being printed and distributed. The loss of income in 2020 due to the lockdowns amounted to less than \$300 billion. Yet the feds poured \$4.4 trillion into the economy. Why? Did all the members of Congress flunk basic math? Or is there something more nefarious behind their actions? One thing is for sure - all that fake money shoved into the economy is going to create inflation.

The government can't create new wealth by printing money. If

it could, there would be no reason to work anymore. Everyone could stay home, and the feds could make you rich.

But it doesn't work like that and our elected representatives should know better. History has proven that money printing doesn't work. For those of you who were lucky enough to have had a course in school that studied U.S. history you'll remember the disaster that the American Revolutionary War Continental Currency was. There were other U.S. government experiments with money that were failures that caused unnecessary misery for millions of its citizens.

If you didn't study U.S. history, perhaps you'll remember more recent events that happened in Argentina and Venezuela. Fake money equals massive inflation and a failed state.

So, all the fake stimulus money being printed will result in someone having to pay – and it is us - or more likely your children and grandchildren. Fake money is dishonest money that

steals the future from our children. Our elected representatives are causing great harm by allowing the government to borrow and spend money it doesn't have. This ultimately will lead to massive inflation that will result in a weakened economy that makes us all poorer. Worse, it could eventually lead to the collapse of the dollar, trust in government, each other and civil society.

At one time you could count on an elected Republican representative to be fiscally conservative. Today's conservatives claim they want smaller government but it's obvious based on their policies they don't believe their claim. If we and our elected representatives don't adhere to the economic and moral practices that make an individual and nation successful then, as I heard someone declare recently - "We are all socialist now."

**Matt Campbell
Jackson**

From the supervisor's desk

**By William
Sutherland
Norvell
Township
Supervisor**



The Planning Commission is a Board of seven members. Each member is appointed for a three year term. It is comprised of one Board of Trustees representative and six members at large (residents of the township). Those members are appointed by the Supervisor, subject to approval by a majority of the Township Board elected and serving.

Ideally, the membership of a Planning Commission should be "representative of important segments of the community." To fulfill that mandate, we are looking for a diverse cross section of our community, rural, lake, agricultural residents.

Issues that the Planning Commission will be working on in the near future are revising the Township Master Plan, revising the Zoning Ordinance, revising of the Zoning Map, a Special Use Permit for an assisted living

facility, and developing a Capital Improvement Plan.

The Norvell Township Planning Commission currently has three openings. Training is provided, and this is a compensated position. If you would like more information regarding one of the openings, please call (517) 536-4370 or email me at Bsutherland@norvelltownship.com. I am happy to discuss what the commitments are and answer any questions you may have.

As has been reported in the Exponent, there is a rate increase coming for residents that are connected to the Vineyard Lake Sewer.

The Leoni Township Board passed a resolution at their December 17, 2020 meeting. Here is the pertinent section of that resolution:

"Effective March 1, 2021, the rate per REU for all customers of the sewer system for all line items of service are increased by \$4.00 per REU over the rates in effect as of February 28, 2021."

"Unless other action is taken by the Leoni Township Board of Trustees, the rate per REU for all customers of the sewer system for all line items of service shall be decreased by \$1.00 per REU from the rates in effect as of September 30, 2021."

The entire resolution can be obtained from Leoni Township.

Starting February 10, 2021, the Regular Board of Trustees Meetings will start at 6:30 PM. It will still be on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The hope is that more residents will be able to attend the meeting. We are still conducting the meetings virtually and the login information can be found at the Norvell Township website on the agenda or you can email me, and I will send you the link.

I would also like to remind everyone that the Township offices are still closed to the public and operating on an appointment only basis. If you need to do business in person, make an appointment. Face masks are required for entry and you will be required to complete a COVID questionnaire.

Memorial motorcade scheduled

Jackson Right to Life will hold its memorial motorcade on Friday, Jan. 22 at 10:30 a.m. Participants will line up in the parking lot at the New Covenant Church, 2405 W. Washington Ave., on the corner of West Washington and 24th streets beginning at 10 a.m.

The procession will begin at 10:30 a.m., led by a police escort and a hearse, down Michigan Avenue past Planned Parenthood to Martin Luther

King Drive (formerly Francis Street), and end at St. John's Cemetery where an interdenominational prayer service and wreath laying ceremony will be held.

Guest speakers will include Senator Mike Shirkey and Rep. Julie Alexander. Guest clergy to be announced. This event offers participants an opportunity to express their grief and loss of over 60 million unborn children in the U.S. since January 22,

1973. Individuals are welcome to bring a wreath to present at the Memorial to the Unborn at St. John's Cemetery.

For more information, contact Kathy Potts at 262-4746 (call or text) or Jackson Right to Life at 517-784-1300.

In the event of inclement weather, visit Jackson's Right to Life Facebook page.

Communication

Like other Americans around the country, we are horrified by the events at the Capitol, iconic home of our nation's representative government. As soon as this insurrection is quelled, we urge all members of Congress to act immediately to confirm the results of the Electoral College as certified by every State.

We pray that this shameful moment in history will spur us all to come together as a people, e pluribus unum, committed to the ideals of our democracy, united in our diversity.

The General Council of the Adrian Dominican Sisters

The year 2021 has begun

Editor's note: Connie Gale submitted this fun little ditty in celebration of the new year.

We certainly should bless in having some fun,
This would also include getting things done.
Please reach out to others regardless of politically who has won,
We must care for all life as we are one,
We must return to ethics, or humanity is done,
We need true education so adulthood does not become stunned.
We need honest health care, or unpredictable death will be a ton,
Please reach to beyond when recognizing the sun.
May the Light surround you in 2021!

Connie Gale

Births

Ava Elizabeth Andrews

Ava Elizabeth Andrews was born on January 6, 2021, to Josh Andrews and Rachel Schmucker. She was born at University of Michigan Mott's Children's Hospital and weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces.

Ellie Kristine Bertke

Ellie Kristine Bertke was born on Dec. 22, 2020, to Robert and Emily Bertke. She weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces.

Grandparents are Kristine Adams of Brooklyn, Charles Adams of Napoleon, Roger Bertke of Brooklyn and Vicki Bertke of Grass Lake. Great-grandparents are Phillip and Judy Hull of Jackson.

We were here when...

25 years ago ...

- In January of 1996, the Brooklyn Masons donated \$2,000 to the Columbia Township Fire Department to purchase a Jaws of Life, which kick-started a community drive to get a set of the life-saving equipment into the department's hands. The drive eventually succeeded, at a cost of \$21,000, and a hydraulic-powered machine was purchased. With the advance in technology, the department now utilizes battery-operated Jaws of Life.

56 years ago ...

- Robert Wahr shot this nice buck with his trusty 12 gauge. Wahr, who lived on Wampers Lake Road at the time, brought down the buck that field dressed at 173 pounds and sported a 10-point rack, while hunting on the farm of his father, Oscar Wahr, on Case Road. Bob was working as a foreman at the Brooklyn Ford plant at the time.



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Norvell Township December police activity report

Total hours worked	170
Patrol miles	502
Norvell Township complaints	35
Case narrative reports	35
Domestic/assaults	1
Suspicious situations	6
Civil	5
Larceny	1
Ordinance complaints	1
Motorist assists	2
Assists other departments	4
Property inspections	25

JC dean's list Spring 2020 semester

The following Jackson College students were named to the Spring 2020 semester dean's list.

Full-time students: Brooklyn: Daniel Case; Candice Fulcher; Kyle Mitchell; Morgan Pocklington; **Grass Lake:** Danielle Nelsen

Part-time students: Brooklyn: Timothy Alcorn; Cameron Heckaman; Niya Holbert; Madison Ostrowski; Jacob Swarczynski; Skye Taylor; John Welter; **Cement City:** Sierra Russell; Kacy Utterback **Clarklake:** Mari Carpenter; Savanna Clore; Mia Douglass; **Grass Lake:** Amanda Craft; Scott Crutchfield; Katelyn Glynn; Denae Howell; Patrick Jolly; Anna Kimberly; Julia Scott; Kevin Shoquist; David Vicory; **Napoleon:** MacKenzie Reason

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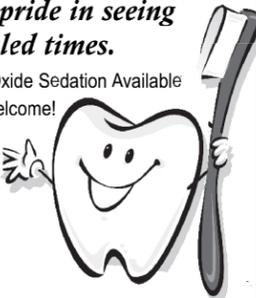
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Remembering old home remedies: Then and now

By Michelle McLemore
 Staff writer

Just as viruses and diseases have evolved through the years, Health care has also transformed. Still, other methods have stayed remarkably consistent at the basic care level. Over the next few weeks, The Exponent will look at different aspects of health care and how it has looked across history.

The common cold has been one of the longest running, contagious viruses. As a nose and an upper respiratory infection, the Mayo Clinic says symptoms may include runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, cough, congestion, slight body aches, mild headache, and sneezing. A low-grade fever and general feeling of malaise is possible as well.

An infected person is contagious 1-2 days before his or her symptoms start, although the person could remain contagious as long as symptoms are present — as long as up to two weeks. Because multiple viruses can cause colds, it has not been eradicated nor controlled. So, how have people dealt with the symptoms over time?

From the mid-1800s to 1960s, Foley's Honey and Tar Compound was used widely for throat and lung concerns. The ingredients included seven percent alcohol, pine tar, honey, terpin hydrate, sodium benzyl succinate, and gum Arabic. The common dosage was one teaspoon for an adult, half a teaspoon for a child and 5-10 drops for an infant.

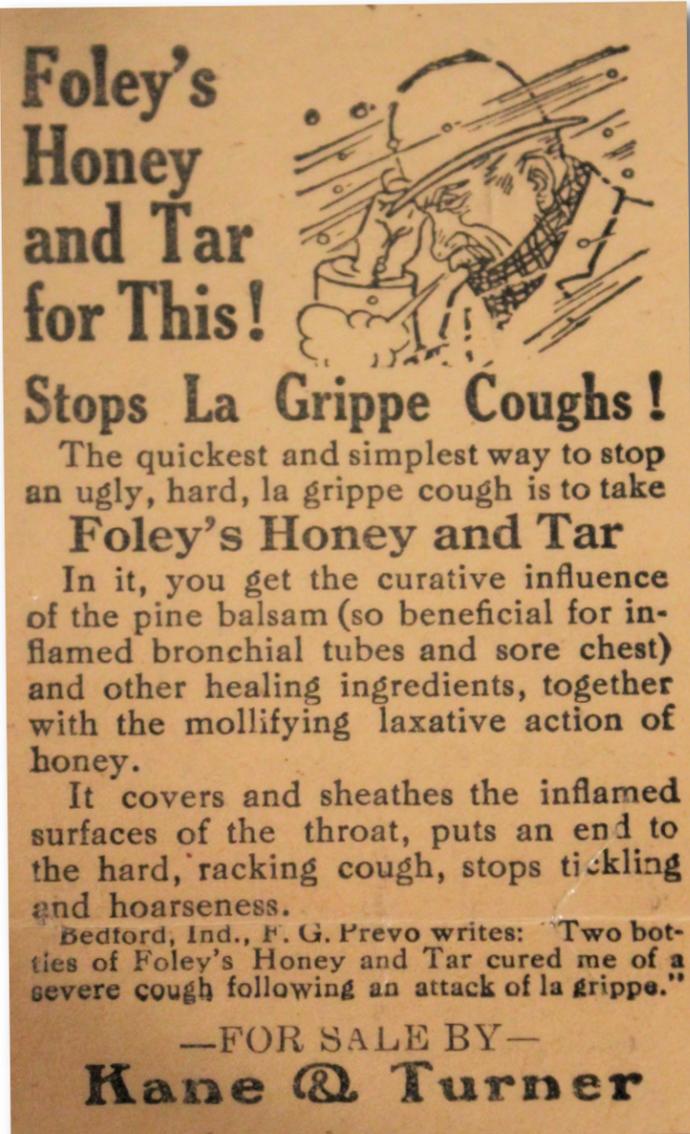
Cambridge Township home remedies for colds had some similarities. Saturday January 9, Joyce and Hugh Drake, both in their 90s, shared some memories dating back to the early 1900s.

Joyce recalled one day at a local gathering; a southern visitor had developed a persistent cough. "I went home immediately, made a batch [of cough remedy] and took it back to the woman before she left for Tennessee." Joyce received news that the visitor had sipped the concoction all the way home and felt much relief. The recipe? One tablespoon honey, one teaspoon lemon juice, and one shot of whiskey.

Fast forward to 2021. Christina Hardy Walters, formerly of Onsted, recounted her parents talking about a similar recipe: one teaspoon of honey, crushed peppermint candy pieces, 1-2 slices of lemon squeezed over the honey and peppermint candy, and Wild Turkey Bourbon poured over all until the mason jar was full. Shake until dissolved.

Though Walter's family never used the remedy because it was forbidden in their Southern Baptist church, some of the neighbors spoke highly of it. The same recipe is accessible today on PawPaw Garrett's Homemade Cough Syrup site. They suggest one ounce as a typical serving.

What about the rest of the symptoms? For a head cold, Joyce said there was nothing better than rubbing Vick's



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It covers and sheathes the inflamed surfaces of the throat, puts an end to the hard, racking cough, stops tickling and hoarseness.

Bedford, Ind., F. G. Prevo writes: "Two bottles of Foley's Honey and Tar cured me of a severe cough following an attack of la grippe."

—FOR SALE BY—
Kane & Turner

Cough syrup with pine balsam was available at Kane and Turner drugstore in Onsted October 31, 1918 Onsted News.

VapoRub on the bottom of one's feet, pulling on socks, and going to bed. Rubbing it on the chest also helped to breathe.

"And if you didn't have any Vick's," Joyce continued, "folks would melt lard and then mix some kerosene into it to spread on the chest. Then, cover with a warm cloth."

Vick's was first released in 1894 as a Croup and Pneumonia salve based on the creation Lunsford Richardson made for his sick son. According to Vick's history page, the boy would end up remarketing the salve in 1911 as Vick's VapoRub.

In 2021? The same product comes in a cream, patches, shower bombs, and bath crystal form. One of the key ingredients used in Vick's is Eucalyptus. Healthline outlines the essential oil is used to create an effective steam or heat application to improve breathing, reduce asthma reactions, and reduce coughs. 1-2 drops on the skin under the nose or rubbed on the sternum echo the same application methods of earlier historical techniques.

Croup — another infection that affects the upper airway causing a distinctive barking cough, as well as in some cases, a fever, hoarseness, and labored breathing. Often seen in babies and young children, a person with the croup is usually contagious for three days after symptoms start or until the fever disappears, according to Healthline.

According to WebMD a sec-

ond type of croup occurs at night and may be caused from reflux from the stomach. For most adults, their air passageways are larger, so if they do catch the virus, it does not impact them to any great degree. Healthline reported there were only 15 reported cases of adults with the croup in 2017.

Hugh Drake remembers as a child it seemed the croup was "always worst in the middle of the night, like three or four a.m."

"Mom melted a teaspoon of butter over the cook stove and put in a couple drops of kerosene," he noted. This listener had to clarify: "You drank it?" He nodded once without hesitation.

"And I've never been in a hospital my whole life with the exception of just last year when I got my fingers pinched in a tractor situation." As it turned out, the nurses questioned who was going to keep changing the dressing and putting on the antibiotic. Wife Joyce had no hesitation.

"My mom would faint at the first drop of blood. I had to take care of all my siblings if something happened," Joyce explained. Hugh proudly chimed in with, "I'm surprised more doctors haven't called her to help them out."

Home remedies and general first aid was vital before doctors were only a short drive away or health care hotlines available via video and phone. Still, much was yet to come in the progression of accessible care and advanced medicine.

A labor of love

Woman's business is much more than mending, stitching and stuffing



Donations of stuffed animals, stuffing, and other materials are accepted and most appreciated, as Danielle Allore-Taylor aims to maintain momentum and help as many as she possibly can through her restoration business. Danielle's own childhood stuffed animal, which she shows in photo below, is named Rabbit and is 34 years old.

Story and photos
by Christine MacIntyre
Staff writer

Many of us own(ed) a special stuffed companion that has remained with us throughout childhood, possibly into adulthood. Danielle Allore-Taylor of Spring Arbor found her calling through her recent business idea. She recognized a need among those of us with long-time stuffed animal friends who have endured a lot over the years.

Having temporarily lost her job due to the pandemic, Danielle reverted to an old passion and hobby – stuffed animal restoration. “I was always the stuffed animal kid. There was always something stuffed and fluffy in my hands at all times,” she says. Her personal favorite, Rabbit, is still with her after 34 years. Over the years, her mom repeatedly mended Rabbit for Danielle, sewing him over and over again. “She never once told me he was too old or worn, and never once questioned me about getting rid of him – she knew how special he was (and is) to me.”

She initially posted a flyer about her restorations publicly on Facebook, but it didn't gain momentum. She caught her big break when a woman from Illinois contacted her about restoring her boyfriend's stuffed dog, Max, as a gift. And so, Danielle's stuffed animal restoration business, Fluff, was born.

When Max arrived, Danielle decided to create a video of the restoration from start to finish. She posted it on TikTok on December 1 and was shocked when the video “Max” went viral with over five million views. The video was shown on US Weekly, and her videos continue to reach millions of people as they are shared and liked over multiple social media platforms.

To streamline the business end, she developed a website (www.fluffrestoration.com) where people can see examples of her work and inquire about services. Her website also features information about the scholarship restoration fund – a donation-based fund that enables restorations for those individuals who can't afford the service. Donations can be made through PayPal, and a form on the website allows those interested to see if they qualify for the scholarship.

Stuffed animals are widely acknowledged as emotional companions, as many people take their stuffed buddies with them throughout life's journeys. Over time, these special friends become tattered, torn, and dirty – stained with tears and disheveled from snuggles and hugs. These physical representations of our soul are evidence of a special bond which is not easily broken. Rather than throwing them out or donating them, people often hold onto them long after they've served their purpose. Danielle's goal is to not only restore the stuffed animals, but also to help emotionally repair the human to which it belongs – a profound service in today's world.



Dominique Linden sent her teddy bear to Danielle for restoration after hearing about her work. Linden says she has had her bear for about 28 years. “Through my whole life she's been there in some capacity. Sometimes front and center, other times packed away.” Her emotional attachment with her bear developed over the years, sharing the hardest days of her childhood with the bear by her side.

As an adult, she had placed the bear in storage. “The longer I had her and the dirtier she got, the harder it got to look at her,” she says – the stuffed bear was a reminder of hard times. “I had been seriously considering getting rid of her since I was ready to move on....” Linden states.

She reached out to Danielle as soon as she found out about Fluff, knowing that this was the reason she couldn't convince herself to part with her bear. “I have felt so much gratitude that it was [Danielle] offering this special service. I wouldn't have trusted anyone else with it because the emotional ties are so strong,” says Linden. “Now she's back front and center and she's softer and her original color again.”

As Danielle carefully replenishes the fluff within, cleanses the matted fur, and restores each special project to its glory, she creates the hope that humans, too, can have a fresh start. Fluff is about more than mending belongings composed of fabric, thread, and stuffing – it is about mending hearts, too. Linden states, “The work that Danielle is doing is more important than just the surface level, which is already so cool. Inner child work is getting more popular and for good reason.”

This service is more than a side hustle for Danielle, as these belongings are essentially extensions of the individuals they belong to. Each stuffed animal who finds itself in her care receives so much more than mending, stitching, and stuffing.



Columbia Fire Department Report

December 30 Natural death: Hewitt Road; Fire: Vining Street	Southern Shores Drive; Eagle Point Road/Jefferson Road; Hewitt Road; Fire: Jefferson Road; Dearlymyer Road/Cement City Road; Hyde Road; York Road/Crego Road; Wolf Lake Road; Karen Court; Hayes Road; Rescue: Golfview Drive (2)	Drive; Fire: Vicary Road January 5 Rescue: Constitution Avenue; Case Road; East Mill Pond Drive January 6 Rescue: Constitution Avenue; Ernest Street; Fletcher Drive
December 31 Rescue: Wamplers Lake Road		
January 1 Rescue: Sherman Street; Ashley Court; Spicer Drive		
January 3 Traffic hazard: Riverside Road; Wesch Road;	January 4 Rescue: Golfview Drive; North Shore	

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A comeback in Manchester



The new River Raisin Waterfront Park in Manchester has become a centerpiece of the village. Coming up the stairs is Manchester Village President Patricia Vaillencourt.

Many things are coming together to aid in the renaissance of our neighbor to the east.

**Story, photo by
John Hummer
Editor**

The Village of Manchester, Brooklyn's neighbor to the east, was a dormant bedroom community in the not-too-distant past. Not any longer. It is now a thriving destination community with a lot to offer, thanks to several new developments over the past year.

The village may have hit bottom when its town grocery store, Manchester Market, closed its doors more than two years ago. Yet, since then, village leaders have picked up the pieces and are progressing in a way that make both residents and interested observers marvel.

"We're like all small towns – we're learning to appreciate our community and how much they need our support," said Village

President Patricia Vaillencourt.

One of the keystone elements of the village's newfound growth is the purchase and restoration of the market by the group that owns Doll n' Burgers restaurants in Tecumseh and Jackson.

"They purchased it because they're expanding and growing," said Vaillencourt. "They really wanted a place where they could process their meats." The company has been working to renovate the building, not only for that purpose but is planning on adding other uses for the building.

According to Vaillencourt, the Doll n' Burgers owners have worked out an agreement with Acorn Farmers' Market and Café to allow them to expand their farmers' market space and have their café available for customers. Acorn Farmers' Market

and Café is a neighborhood store selling locally-sourced meat, dairy, produce, baked goods, freshly prepared ready-to-eat foods, and healthy beverages, including coffee. They are currently operating out of small quarters at 327 W. Main Street in downtown Manchester.

The owners will also be putting in some groceries, Vaillencourt said. She indicated the new store may be ready to open as early as February.

"It's really going to be quite an indoor shopping area with different businesses being run in there," she said. "We're very, very excited. They've been doing a lot of work to the building and the parking lot."

In addition, a new scenic attraction that could be dubbed the centerpiece of the village is at the four corners in town where M-52 intersects with Main Street – River Raisin Waterfront Park.

Vaillencourt said planning for the park started some 10 years ago. The village was successful in obtaining a Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant to dredge the River Raisin at that critical point near the main intersection in town.

"We worked jointly with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation to help us qualify for grant funding for our River Raisin park," she noted. "We got

it dredged, got our park put in there, and it's been a phenomenal success," she said.

A related part of the grant project is for the county to contract to provide a canoe/kayak livery at Sharon Mills Park a couple miles west of the village. The facility will provide rental boats for paddlers to enjoy the river, take out at the new ramp in the park, and then visit downtown Manchester.

Within the Village of Manchester is a border-to-border shared use trail. Plans call for it to eventually connect with the trail that goes from Manchester to the Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve, with hopes that it eventually goes all the way to Brooklyn.

Recently, Chris Moile, who owns Over the Edge restaurant and Ollie's Pizza at the corner of Main and M-52, received permission to put three "igloos" for people to sit at the riverfront outside and enjoy a meal. Moile had bought the building on the corner about four years ago and did a "huge amount of renovation," Vaillencourt said. "He did a phenomenal job." She said the building was in very rough shape when Moile acquired it.

Another new business that will sweeten up Manchester, which opened just before Christmas, is Sweet Leilani's Desserts on the south side of Main Street in the old Black Sheep Tavern building. Owned by Sheila Vish, the business will carry everything for the sweet tooth imaginable, including a variety of baked goods including cakes, pies, pastries, scones, muffins, cheesecakes, as well as the likes of "crazy" shakes, parfaits, bagged candies, and more. Watch for doughnuts, too. Vish will also have some gift items for sale.

Yet another exciting development in Manchester is River Raisin Distillery that opened about six months ago on the west end of town in the old Koebbe Welding building. It is owned by a young couple named Krista and Joe Jarvis. In normal times, there is some indoor seating. Currently they are selling their products out-

the-door.

"They've done very, very well," Vaillencourt shared, adding that Joe built everything himself.

"They have their own brand of vodka – a one-of-a-kind product they call 'Cane & Grain'. They sell out pretty quick. It makes a mean Moscow Mule with vodka, ginger beer, and fresh lime."

Another business seeing a major facelift is the former Dairy Queen situated on the river on Main Street. Although it will no longer be a Dairy Queen franchisee, the Fahey family owners are expanding its size and scope and are still planning to serve ice cream.

Yet another spark in town is Worth Repeating, a resale shop on the north side of Main Street where some of the proceeds are put back into the village. It recently reopened after having been closed for a couple of years.

"They've put several thousand dollars already back into the community," noted Vaillencourt. "It's all done by volunteers and donations." Among other things, the shop has donated money for student scholarships and prom dresses.

To help service all of the new business and the growing community, the village is also looking at expanding its wastewater treatment plant.

In addition, the village is exploring becoming a city, Vaillencourt said. Petitions are into the state and the required survey has been done. They are awaiting a review by the State Boundary Commission.

"We pay a lot of township taxes and get absolutely no services for them – none," she said. "As we look at the needs of the township versus the village, it's very, very different. We're literally supporting two units of government."

Regardless if the village becomes a city or remains a village, one thing is for certain: Manchester is growing, and remains is a great place to live and visit.

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Local authors pen books



PHOTO BY MICHELLE MCLEMORE

Jackie Freeman shares her young reader's primary which demystifies pickleball — the fastest growing sport in the U.S.

By Michelle McLemore
Staff writer

Passion drives people to do a variety of things. For local writers, Jackie Freeman and Haley Hickcox, publishing creates a venue to share real-life sports knowledge as well as creative tales.

Elementary primer:

Onsted resident, Jackie Freeman and Jackson friend Karen Worthy, offer a new 30-page children's book: "Bend Your Knees, Louise!" explaining the basics of

pickleball in an entertaining way.

The book uses poetic structure, engaging artwork, and diversified characters to teach a young audience the basic rules of the sport. Interspersed with the instructive narration are pickleball fun facts. There is also a glossary of the sport's lingo in the end.

Freeman has been playing the sport for three years and is a member of the Jackson Area Pickleball club. It is one of three to which she belongs. "I could go on and on about the sport," Freeman admitted. She laughed commenting how patient her family has been about the topic. "But" she shares, "I think some of them are starting to get interested in it now."

Co-author Worthy is a founding member of the Jackson Area Pickleball Association in Michigan. She has been playing for several years and competes annually in the U.S. Open in Naples, Fla., as well as other tournaments.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, enthusiasts have to be creative to continue finding places to play. The Jackson Pickleball Association has been meeting to play at the outdoor tennis courts at Ella Sharp Park. For individuals hoping to stay closer to home during this time, Freeman suggests applying tape on your garage door to play as a single.

Freeman explained, "Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the United States." As such, enthusiasts are looking for ways to spread the joy of playing and increase accessibility to courts.

The Jackson Pickleball association and the City of Jackson are in dialogue about putting in pickleball courts near the Cascades. Freeman and Worthy are hop-

ing to talk with local school districts and fitness centers about setting up teams, tutorials, and possibly adding courts. The duo has also been asked by Onsted and Tecumseh library personnel to offer virtual reads of the book.

Freeman is optimistic about possibly getting into classrooms. "We know the curriculum and hope we could share not only about using rhythm and rhyme to communicate an idea, but also to share the sport."

While awaiting the upcoming release of a second book, the website offers several resources: a reader's comprehension study guide, coloring pages, and a word search are all available.

"Bend Your Knees, Louise" was completed in November and fresh off the press in December. Copies may be purchased from Ad-Lib Coffee & Custards in Onsted as well as at Wolverine Pickleball in Ann Arbor. It is also available through the website at bendyourkneeslouise.com/.

Young adult horror

Haley Hickcox, a 2018 Onsted graduate was 19 while writing the piece and 20 by the time of publishing "The Runaway" — a young-adult, horror short story.

"I have enjoyed writing since I was little," Hickcox related. "It has always been an outlet for me to express myself and to get my emotions out in a healthy way."

Hickcox was a member of the Onsted Writers' club for four years. The club met mornings to allow students to share whatever they were working on for feedback and encouragement as well as to learn about publishing opportunities. Hickcox dabbled in a variety of genres and even



COURTESY HICKCOX PHOTOGRAPHY

Haley Hickcox is a 2018 Onsted School graduate. "The Runaway" is her first published piece via Amazon.

drafted novels.

"My long-term goal is to be on the best seller list, but for the current time, I will focus on getting another piece published," Hickcox shared. The fresh author is closer than most would guess. Her next piece is done and is being prepared to publish. A third piece has been started.

Watch for "The Runaway" and other future pieces under the pen name "H.E. Chambers." You may find "The Runaway" right now at Amazon Kindle. Search by title and author.

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