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March 17, 2020
Vol. 4, No. 47

THE LATEST NEWS ON CORONAVIRUS IN OAKLAND COUNTY

STATE OF EMERGENCY

*Schools, bars, restaurants, gyms closed for the month
More COVID-19 cases confirmed in Oakland County*

On Monday, March 16, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Executive Order 2020-9, which temporarily closes theaters, bars, and casinos, and limits restaurants to carry-out and delivery orders.

Under Executive Order 2020-9, now in effect, the following places of public accommodation will be closed: restaurants, cafes, coffee houses, bars, taverns, brewpubs, distilleries, clubs, movie theaters, indoor and outdoor performance venues, gymnasiums, fitness centers, recreation centers, indoor sports facilities, indoor exercise facilities, exercise studios, spas, and casinos.

This order does not restrict a place of business from offering food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-through service, or drive-up service. Places of public accommodation are encouraged to do so and use precautions to mitigate potential transmission of COVID-19, including social distancing. Restaurants may allow five people inside at a time to pick up orders, so long as they stay six feet apart from each other.

These restrictions do not apply to the following locations: office buildings, grocery stores, markets, food pantries, pharmacies, drug stores, and providers of medical equipment and supplies, health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities, warehouse and distribution centers, and

industrial and manufacturing facilities.

Order restrictions will remain in place until Monday, March 30 at 11:59 pm.

"This disease is a challenge unlike any we've experienced in our lifetimes," said Governor Whitmer. "Fighting it will cause significant but temporary changes to our daily lives. By practicing social distancing and taking aggressive action now, the state is working to mitigate the spread of coronavirus so we reduce the risk that our health care system becomes overwhelmed. This is about saving lives. Michiganders are tough and we are going to get through this, but it will require everyone doing their part. That means making smart choices and not putting yourself or others at risk by going out in public unless it is absolutely necessary."

"We need to move quickly to slow the spread of the virus and protect public health," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun. "I realize these actions will present temporary changes to the way we live, but they are critical to help ensure our health care system is prepared to treat those who need the most urgent medical care."

"This crisis will require business and labor working together to ensure that we are putting the best interests of Michiganders first in order to protect public health," said Jeff Donofrio, Director of the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. "We understand that these decisions

will impact the way we do business, but the decisions we make now will allow us to get our economy back on track sooner rather than later. We are putting measures in place to help protect the employers, employees, and individuals that will be impacted."

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Governors across the United States have begun implementing similar measures in their states, including Jay Inslee (D-WA), Charlie Baker (R-MA), and Tom Wolf (D-PA).

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19, call your health care provider. If you do not have a health care provider, call the nearest hospital.

Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing. Avoid contact with people who are sick.

If you are sick, stay home, and avoid contact with others. Replace handshakes with elbow bumps. Stay at least 6 feet away from others when in a public setting.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.



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Oakland County: Hotline available to help residents use online services during COVID-19 mitigation

Individuals who have business with Oakland County are encouraged to take advantage of the county's online services in lieu of visiting the government campus in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses. Among the measures for preventing the spread of the Coronavirus illness is social distancing which includes utilizing online services where possible.

"Our staff is available to make it as easy as possible to use online services," County Executive David Coulter said. "We offer a number of services online that range from making payments to requesting public records. We strongly recommend that you check out our online services before visiting our government campus."

The list of online services at Oakland County includes ordering records such as birth or marriage certificates, purchasing county park passes, renewing dog licenses, paying traffic tickets, searching property records, and more. To view a complete list of services, go to Oakgov.com/services/. If anyone

needs assistance utilizing an online service, call Oakland County's IT Help Desk at 248-858-8812.

A woman from Oakland County who traveled internationally was among the first two cases in the State of Michigan, it was announced last Tuesday evening. She continues to recover in an area hospital. An Oakland County Health Division contact investigation determined the woman had low to no public exposure. Health Division identified the handful of close contacts she had since returning home, has contacted and asked them to self-isolate, and continues to monitor them daily.

For more information on COVID-19, go to Oakgov.com and click on the "Coronavirus Disease 2019" button or call Oakland County's Nurse on Call line at 800-848-5533.

2020 Census is underway

by CYNTHIA KMETT

By the time you read this, you probably have received notice from the U.S. Census Bureau telling you the 2020 Census is now underway. Don't disregard this notice. It's the law and you are expected to fill out the requested information. For the first time, you can use the web to tell them your answers. It's at mycensus.gov.

Despite the request that you tell the government whether or not you're a citizen that question is NOT part of the information they are asking for on the Census form. So whether you're rich or poor, it's to your advantage and the state's advantage to fill out the questions. If the form sent to you isn't returned, come May a Census worker will be knocking on your door to get the answers.

Is it important? Indeed it is. The number of people in our state, county and city is how the federal government makes many decisions. From money for roads and bridges as well as funding for education and school lunches, that's how the money is allocated for the next ten years. It is also

how they determine how many members of the House of Representatives in Congress are decided. The more people in Michigan, the more seats we get in Congress.

We know that a lot of folks don't trust the government, but all of this information is confidential and not shared with any other agencies, not even the immigration service, IRS or law enforcement agencies.

Online and phone responses can be completed in 13 languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese). A paper form will be mailed to every house that hasn't responded already when we send our fourth mail piece out.

"The goal of the census is to count every person living in the United States once, only once and in the right place," said Ron Jarmin, who is performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Director of the U.S. Census Bureau. "The 2020 Census is easy, safe and important. "The

census asks just a few questions and takes about 10 minutes to respond. For the first time, you can choose to respond online, by phone or by mail."

Unfortunately, we all know scammers abound in our modern world. The Census Bureau will never ask you:

- Your Social Security number.
- For Money or donations.
- Anything on behalf of a political party.
- Your bank or credit card account numbers.

If someone claiming to be from the Census Bureau contacts you via email or phone and asks you for one of these things, it's a scam, and you should not cooperate. Hang up the phone or delete any message. If someone comes to your door and wants to see your ID, slam the door and call 9-1-1, that is not a real Census worker.

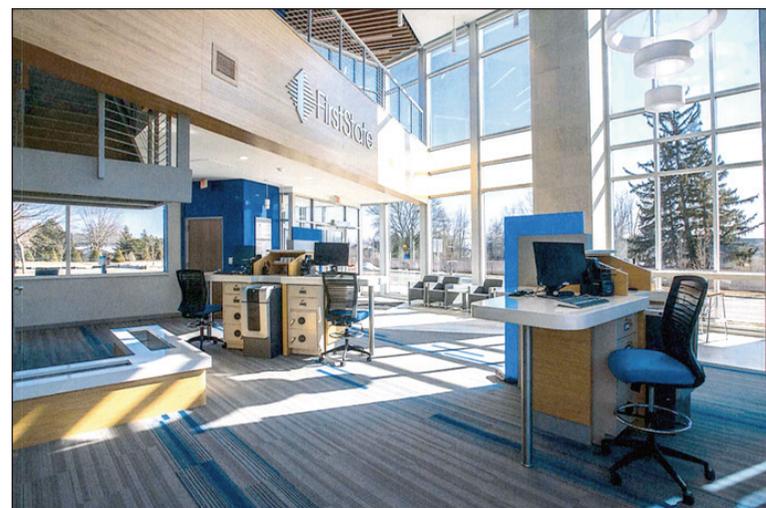
Taking a Census is called for in the U.S. Constitution and a lot of support for our community comes from this information. Just take 10 minutes and answer the few questions it asks.

First State Bank opens first branch in Oakland County

A fixture in Macomb County for over 100 years, First State Bank is expanding its footprint with their first branch in Oakland County which opened on February 24. Located at 1575 S. Rochester Road in Rochester Hills, this full-service branch of the local community bank delivers a broad range of accounts and services to individuals, families and businesses. The branch itself is a beautifully designed space reflective of First State Bank's vision for the future.

The branch, located just north of Bordine's, is managed by Sharon Reinke, an experienced banking professional who has spent the last 15 years in the Rochester market. In her role as Branch Manager, Sharon embraces the opportunity to connect with her customers and help them with their financial needs. "My philosophy is to look at the big picture - by taking the time to fully understand a customer's financial situation, I am able to better help them accomplish their financial goals."

Joining Reinke in bringing the bank's hometown banking style to the Rochester area are mortgage lender Ann Mickens, and commercial banker Vito Pianello. With over 30 years of banking expertise, Ann Mickens is a



seasoned and reputable advisor who enjoys working with customers whether they're on the hunt for their first home or seeking guidance for debt consolidation. Vito Pianello, an entrepreneur at heart, has a profound understanding of the passion, risk, and high level of care that goes into owning a business and has put that understanding to work in the community for over 20 years.

"First State Bank is excited to expand into Rochester and become part of the fabric of this vibrant community," says Gene Lovell, President and CEO. "We are driven to provide a personalized banking experience, as well as

the account options, financing solutions, and a level of one-to-one care that has been our hallmark for over 100 years. Our true value is in our commitment to supporting community initiatives and contributing to the financial well-being of the neighbors we serve. Although we have been building relationships, connecting with the community through events and chamber participation over the past two years it is great to have a branch that we can call home to welcome our neighbors into."

More information can be found at Fsb.bank/rochester/.



Judith Smith Marlette

"Judy"

of Novi, formerly of Port Huron, Rochester and Farmington, Michigan. Age 83, passed away peacefully March 6, 2020. Beloved wife of the late John Marlette. Loving mother of Annalee (Darrin) Judd,

Kelly (Tim) O'Neil and Dana (Jim) Molony. Proud grandmother "Gommy" of Graham, Sam, Jack, Shamus and Declan. Sister-in-law of Laura Huebner and the late Tom Marlette.

Per Judy's wishes a private memorial service will be held.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Fox Run Scholarship Fund, 41200 Fox Run Rd. Novi, MI 48377.

Rochester Hills Mayor Barnett declares state of emergency

The City of Rochester Hills is working to minimize the public's and its employees' exposure to the coronavirus. Effective immediately, Mayor Bryan K. Barnett has issued a State of Emergency in the City of Rochester Hills.

This State of Emergency will allow the Mayor to make immediate decisions in the interest of the City's health, safety and welfare. In light of the pandemic, the city will modify the hours that buildings are open to the public for the remainder of the month of March to Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., beginning Monday, March 16, 2020. This includes Rochester Hills City Hall and the Rochester Hills Fire Station.

The Rochester Hills Public Services Building will be closed to the public. Oakland County Sheriff's Office deputies, the Rochester Hills Fire Department and Rochester Hills Department of Public Services will continue to respond to calls. In the event of an emergency, continue to call 9-1-1.

The Clerk's Office is suspending Passport Application Acceptance Services and Solicitation Licenses for 30 days, starting March 16 through April 15. All birth and death records can be applied for online at Michigan.gov/vitalrecords/.

Rochester Hills residents are encouraged to use the City's

website payment portal option for making payments and reporting concerns at Rochesterhills.org/.

City staff will continue to work throughout the State of Emergency and can be reached via phone and email. City Hall can be reached at 248-656-4664 or mayorsoffice@rochesterhills.org.

City Council meetings will continue as scheduled. As always, residents will be able to view City Council meetings online at Youtube.com/rochesterhillstv or via RHTV. The City's Commissions & Boards meetings will also continue as scheduled. In addition, we're evaluating all City events, particularly those that exceed the State of Michigan's 250 person guidance for event size. News about the City's meetings and events will be available on Rochesterhills.org/.

Visit rochesterhills.org/coronavirus for more information, including a description of the symptoms of the virus and preventative measures residents can take to limit their exposure. The site also includes links to helpful county, state and federal resources.

The coronavirus pandemic presents unprecedented challenges. The city will continue to keep residents informed and will stay engaged in partnership with local, state and national leaders.

Anthology Senior Living cancels events

Anthology Senior Living of Rochester Hills, located at 1775 S. Rochester Rd., announced this week that in order to protect their residents during these uncertain times, their March 25 Dementia Education Series has been

canceled and the Lunch on March 26 will be postponed with a future date to be determined.

If you have any further questions you can reach them at 248-266-7680.

Rep. Slotkin outlines SBA loan options

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin (MI-8) is encouraging Michigan small businesses affected by the coronavirus crisis to take advantage of Small Business Administration loans to help them weather the storm.

Legislation passed earlier this month makes \$1 billion available to the SBA to subsidize disaster relief loans to small businesses.

Start immediately to collect the information needed to apply for loans. Get the latest information by visiting Sba.gov or calling SBA's national disaster relief line at 1-800-659-2955.

Once familiar with the details,

contact Michigan SBA offices in Detroit or Grand Rapids to talk to them about your specific case and get advice on filling out the right SBA disaster assistance loan. SBA staffers are busy during this crisis period, but will call back if you leave a message.

Slotkin will hold a tele-town hall meeting with 8th District constituents on Tuesday, March 17 at 5 p.m. to answer their questions and hear directly from them about how the coronavirus is impacting local communities. Constituents can sign up for the tele-town hall at <https://slotkin.house.gov/live>.



ANTHOLOGY

OF ROCHESTER
HILLS

Memory Care Education Series *Dementia-Related Behaviors*

Join our monthly Virtue Memory Care Education series to learn more about the effects of Dementia in aging adults. Our monthly sessions provide a safe, confidential place to ask questions as well as gain valuable resources. This month's session will focus on hallucinations, delusions, paranoia and other challenging behaviors as dementia progresses.

Join Us

April 29th / 6:00 pm

Anthology of Rochester Hills

1775 S. Rochester Rd / Rochester Hills, MI 48307

RSVP BY APRIL 27

For MORE INFORMATION, or to RSVP

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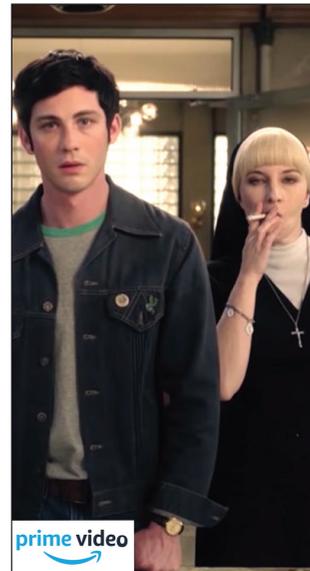
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Remaining performances of Fiddler on the Roof canceled

Broadway in Detroit has announced that all remaining performances of Fiddler on the Roof at the Fisher Theatre have been canceled due to coronavirus public safety and security concerns and the direction of local and state government recommendations.

Guests who purchased tickets through Ticketmaster will receive a refund to the credit or debit card that was used for the purchase.

Guests who purchased tickets through the Fisher Theatre Subscriptions or Group Sales offices will also receive a refund to the credit or debit card that was used for the purchase.

Guests who purchased tickets at the Fisher Theatre box office

can return their tickets to the box office in person to obtain a refund or they can mail their tickets with their full name, address, phone number and email with a request for a refund to: Fisher Theatre Box Office - Fiddler Refund - 3011 W Grand Blvd Detroit, MI 48202

Broadway In Detroit and Ticketmaster are only able to refund the original purchaser or purchases made through Ticketmaster Verified Resale. Broadway In Detroit is not responsible for purchases made through third party resellers.

At this time performances for all future shows presented by Broadway in Detroit, including Dear Evan Hansen, will go on as scheduled.

Broadway in Detroit & The Broadway League, along with its partners, are closely monitoring the evolving coronavirus situation and we will provide additional updates as needed. They are following the lead of local, state and federal elected officials as they implement strategies recommended by public health authorities and the Center for Disease Control in all theatres and offices. The safety and security of theatergoers and employees is top priority.

For more information, call 313-872-1000 or visit BroadwayInDetroit.com.

Chamber Music Society of Detroit announcement

Out of concern for the safety of their audience, and in light of the decision by Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer to close all Michigan K-12 schools for the next three weeks, the Chamber Music Society of Detroit is suspending all public gatherings scheduled during March.

The CMSD is exploring alternative delivery of the live concert scheduled at the Seligman Performing Arts Center on March 28 and will provide additional details as they become available. In the meantime, ticket holders will be contacted by mail before

March 28 to process their preference of ticket donation, open exchange or refund.

During this time of unprecedented crisis, the Chamber Music Society of Detroit encourages everyone to remain safe and follow closely the health

guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control, the State of Michigan, and your local public health officials. Nothing matters more than your health and safety.

cmdetroit
CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT

“Lend Me a Tenor” promises a good time

Reviewed by Suzanne Angeo (member, American Theatre Critics Association; Member Emeritus, San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle), and Greg Angeo (Member Emeritus, San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle)

Avon Players is serving up a crowd-pleasing show, “Lend Me a Tenor”, a classic farce in every sense. First created by renowned playwright Ken Ludwig (“Murder on the Orient Express”, “Fox on the Fairway”), it premiered on London’s West End in 1986 with Andrew Lloyd Webber as producer. It went on to Broadway in 1989, garnering nine Tony nominations, winning two awards.

upon to use it.

By far the standout is Johanna Steinbrecher-Booker (so good in Avon’s recent hits “Company” and “Mamma Mia”). As Tito’s bombastic wife Maria, she owns the stage whenever she’s on. Second in the scenery-chewing department is Erica Gunaca as Diana, an aspiring ingenue soprano who’s willing to do anything with anyone to get ahead. Rounding out the enjoyable cast is Joy Oetjens as the grandiose opera guild chair Julia (who, Henry says, looks like the Chrysler Building), and Bodi Johnson as the crazed fanboy bellhop, a source of many over-the-top disruptions.

relatively new director at Avon, making her debut in 2018. Her guidance is capable, but farce is challenging, especially for community theatre companies. To make farce really work well, a refresher course in the special theatrical techniques used in voice and movement might be helpful. Nevertheless, even though the show gets off to a slow start, the momentum that’s built into the script brings everything together in the second act, with the audience really enjoying themselves in a recent sold-out matinee performance.

An interesting note: As originally written by Ludwig, the opera being staged in the story



Photo courtesy of Avon Players

As the story opens, the folks at the Cleveland Grand Opera Company couldn’t be more excited. For tonight only, world-famous Italian tenor Tito Merelli has agreed to sing the lead role in their presentation of Pagliacci. Everybody loves Tito, especially his female fans, and he loves them right back, much to the perpetual chagrin of his wife, Maria.

The opera company’s stressed-out manager, Henry Saunders, is played by Joe Colosi in a solid performance. Nick Frederick, pleasantly dorky as Henry’s hapless young assistant Max, really comes into his own when he dons the clown hat. Max is in love with Henry’s pretty young daughter Maggie, delivered as a goofy airhead by Kimme Suchyta. Max’s problem: Maggie has a long-standing obsession with – you guessed it – Tito Merelli. Jonathan Farrell as Tito has a nice stage presence and a fine tenor voice when he’s called

No spoilers here, but one of the priceless sight gags – indeed, the main point of this farce – is two identical Pagliaccis running around, romancing women who can’t tell them apart, and making mayhem. At one point they lean on a wall directly opposite each other, and it’s supposed to be a mirror image. In this show, one of the guys is quite a bit taller and the ladies would have to be blind not to notice. This really diminishes the potential comic impact.

The play’s 1930s setting gives costume designer Anne Curtis the chance to dress the cast in some pretty spiffy duds. The single set by Brad Holoday and Mark Misch, representing a fancy hotel room with a dividing wall, offers plenty of room to throw hissy fits, slam doors, drink champagne, flirt shamelessly and make mad whoopee, all in the course of one wild day.

Deirdre Ward-Beck is a

was Othello, with the lead role performed by an actor wearing the blackface makeup that leads to mistaken identity and farcical madcap high jinks. This became problematic in recent years, as blackface drew increasing criticism. In response, the opera in the story was updated to the more acceptable (and relevant) Pagliacci, with the lead role performed in whiteface clown makeup, hat and costume. Anyway, aren’t crazy clowns more fun? But clowns or not, nothing beats a good farce to lift your spirits and let you laugh at yourself, and maybe even the whole human race.

Avon Playhouse is located at 1185 Washington Rd in Rochester. For more information, call 248-608-9077 or visit Avonplayers.org/.

“I’ve never responded well to entrenched negative thinking.”

David Bowie

All DSO concerts and events canceled through April 5

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra has canceled or rescheduled all concerts and events through April 5, 2020, following the temporary prohibition by the State of Michigan on assemblages and events over 250 people and to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The DSO hopes that audiences and supporters understand that the health and safety of patrons, musicians, and staff remains a top priority, and that they are examining every possibility of bringing music to you both now and when they return to the stage. They invite all to visit Dso.org/replay for free access to on-demand archive of webcast performances.

In addition, all Civic Youth

Ensembles and Detroit Community Ensembles rehearsals and performances are being suspended through April 5.

Check dso.org/coronavirus or DSO social media for the latest up-to-date information.

Tickets for rescheduled concerts will be honored on the new dates. All ticket holders will be contacted via email with options for exchanges, donating tickets, and refunds. Ticket holders with questions may contact the DSO Box Office by phone at 313-576-5111, email tickets@dso.org, or fax 313-576-5109. Anticipate limited staffing and longer phone wait times. DSO may also have modified phone and box office hours, for the safety of their employees.

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Info 313-872-1000 | and June 14 7:30 pm

Photo: Francesco Scavullo

Health & Wellness

Stevens votes to pass emergency Coronavirus funding

The U.S. House of Representatives passed an \$8.3 billion emergency supplemental appropriations bill to address the coronavirus and protect Americans from this public health crisis.

Rep. Haley Stevens (MI-11) voted to pass H.R. 6074, an emergency funding package to support a robust and coordinated response to coronavirus.

“The coronavirus outbreak is a serious public health crisis, and this emergency funding package will ensure our federal agencies, states and localities have the resources needed for an effective response to keep Americans safe,” said Congresswoman Stevens. “The package includes funding for screening and prevention efforts, vaccine research and development, medical supplies, and critical support for local

healthcare providers. I was also proud to support \$1 billion in loan subsidies for small business in areas directly impacted by this outbreak. While this bill provides important funding for public health initiatives and emergency efforts, I will continue working to make sure that American manufacturers who are being impacted by supply chain disruptions get the help they need. In Michigan, manufacturers that rely on imported parts, materials, or products are concerned by the continued disruption of operations in China and other countries. I will continue monitoring this crisis and ensuring that our American manufacturing workers and state and local officials in Michigan are getting adequate support from the federal government.”

Clean, sanitize, disinfect your environment

Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting. Mixing up these terms can result in poor cleaning practices and the spread of illness. Having a better understanding of these three words may help prevent someone from becoming ill.

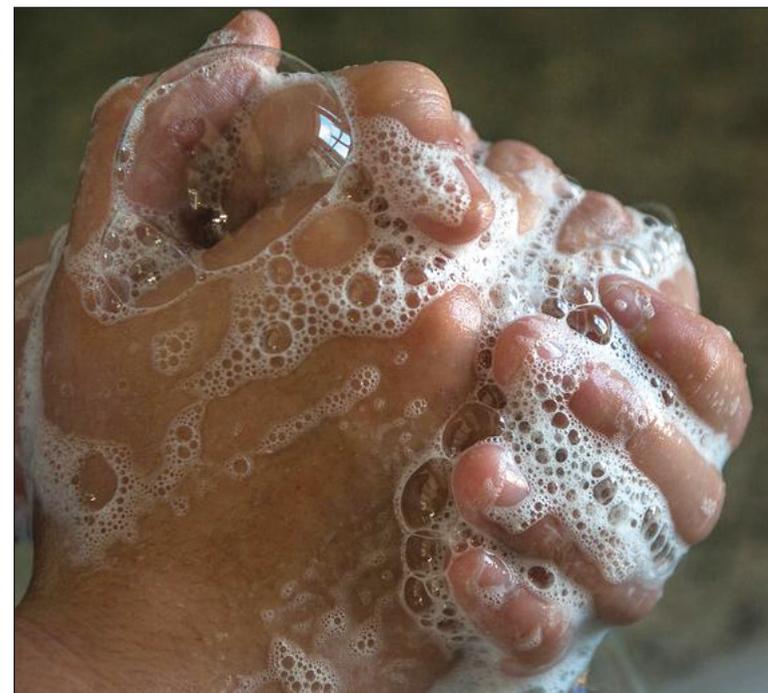
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cleaning removes germs, dirt and impurities from surfaces and objects. Cleaning is done by using soap, detergent or another cleaning product and water, then physically scrubbing to remove germs from the surface. It is important to remember that cleaning does not kill germs, mold or fungi; it just removes visible, dirt. Before you can sanitize or disinfect, the dirt and debris must be removed.

Sanitizing reduces the number of germs on a surface to safe levels, according to health officials. This is done by using a commercial sanitizing product, such as chlorine bleach mixed with water. It is important to mix the sanitizing solution at the proper ratio of bleach to water, if it is too strong, it can cause a chemical contamination, if it is too weak, it won't kill the germs. It is also important to let the solution stand on the surface for a recommended period of time. The standard solution for a bleach and water sanitizing mix is one tablespoon bleach to one gallon of water or one teaspoon bleach to one quart of water (in a spray bottle). The concentration is 50 – 90 ppm and requires a contact time of 30 seconds. This solution can be tested to ensure the concentration's strength by purchasing sanitizer test strips at

a food service store. If sanitizer is stored in a spray bottle, it should be tested daily to ensure the strength is still within the range of 50 – 90 ppm.

Disinfecting kills the germs on surfaces. This is done by using a stronger solution. If bleach is used, the solution recommended is one-quarter to three quarters cup of bleach to one-gallon water, with a contact time of two minutes. This process can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

lung problems and other issues. Remember, cleaning should always take priority over sanitizing or disinfecting. As you clean, remember to change your water frequently to avoid further spread of dirt or germs. In most situations sanitizing would follow cleaning. Always read the directions on the product you are using. You should only disinfect when there are many germs present. For example, if someone has been sick in your home (vomit or diarrhea) or restaurant, or



Should you disinfect all the time to ensure more germs are killed? That probably would not be the best idea. Chemicals are very strong and can have adverse results on health. Using the strongest concentration all the time can lead to skin irritation,

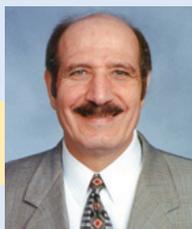
you've spilled a large amount of raw juices from a meat, poultry or seafood product on the floor, this would warrant cleaning and disinfecting.

— MSU.edu

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Combine household chores with your fitness routine

If you really want to burn some calories and work out your muscles while doing housework, it's important to be aware of your body and how it's moving. You may also want to skip shortcuts and actually look for ways to make chores more strenuous in order to get a better workout.

Vacuuming

You may hate to do it, but pushing around a vacuum always counts as at least a mini workout. The next time your rug or carpet needs attention, give the cat a heads-up, then really focus on stretching out your arms and legs

when you're making sweeps across the room. Be sure to check your posture to make sure that you're not slouching – this can be bad for your back.

Dusting

Dusting can be boring and tedious, but not if you put your favorite music on and take dance breaks. Yes, dance breaks. Why not? You're already on your feet and doing something. You might as well take the opportunity to add some fun to an otherwise absolutely un-fun task. And it doesn't matter if you're not the greatest dancer in the world.

Gardening

This one is almost a no-brainer. Anyone who's ever engaged in serious gardening will tell you that it can be exhausting, backbreaking work. Unless you're just attending to one flower pot, you don't really need to add anything to garden work in order to burn calories. You're lifting, walking, bending, digging, and probably breaking a sweat.

If you already suffer from a bad back, planting raised beds that allow you to bend less is a really good idea.

Gazette

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3/4

VOLUNTEER

Forgotten Harvest is a non-profit organization that collects surplus food and redistributes it to local charities, providing families in the metro-Detroit area with fresh and nutritious food.



Not only do their efforts benefit those in need in the community who need it most, they also help reduce food waste in the area by collecting large quantities of food from restaurants, wholesalers, and caterers. Forgotten Harvest is always in need of monetary donations and volunteers. Visit ForgottenHarvest.org for more information on how to donate your time, energy, and efforts to this worthy cause.

ADOPT A PET

Oakland County Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center have some wonderful dogs and cats waiting for someone to come rescue them! All of their dogs are current on age appropriate shots, microchip, and heartworm tested, all of their cats are up to date as well! If interested, please contact the shelter at 248-858-1070 OCAC is located at 1200 N Telegraph Rd Bldg 42E, in Pontiac.

ADOPT A PET

Gabana



Spot



Purty



GET YOUR GAZETTE

Gazette Media Group is a media and events company based in Troy, Michigan. Originally established in 1980 by Claire Weber as the Troy-Somerset Gazette, GMG now publishes two local newspapers and hosts a variety of events throughout the metro Detroit area. The Gazette creates and curates hyper-local content and distributes free weekly newspapers throughout businesses in the community. Go to GetYourGazette.com to read past issues and to find the nearest pick-up location. The Gazette is always looking for news, photos, and tips from around the community. Email News@GazetteMediaGroup.com or call 248-524-4868 for editorial submissions.



NOW HIRING!

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	4	2			7			1	
				1	9			8	7
7		1	5						3
	3		7	8			9		
	7	6					3	5	
			8		6	5			7
1						3	7		9
5	6				1	9			
3				8				1	4

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To place a classified advertisement, Call 248-524-4868, fax to 248-524-9140, or email classifieds@gazettemediagroup.com

15 words for \$12.00, each additional word 25¢ • Phone numbers and hyphenations count as 2 words, abbreviations count as 1 word

Single line of caps 75¢ • Bold single line of caps \$1.00 • Double line of caps \$1.50 • Bold double line of caps \$2.00

Payable by credit card or mailing a check to GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS, P.O. Box 482, Troy, MI, 48099. Please make check payable to Gazette Media Group.

Deadline for ad placement is 10 a.m. Wednesday, the week of publication.

Gazette Media Group reserves the right to revise, classify, or reject in whole or in part, any advertisement in this newspaper. Errors / Corrections: The Gazette is committed to correcting errors that appear in the newspaper. Those interested in contacting the paper for that purpose can email: News@GazetteMediaGroup.com or call 248-524-4868. Please note, the Gazette is not responsible for errors in advertising.

Meisner: No one will lose property to tax foreclosure due to Coronavirus

Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner is issuing a pledge today that no one in Oakland County will lose their property to tax foreclosure because of circumstances related to Coronavirus, including taxpayers who contract the virus, are required to self-quarantine or anyone facing circumstances related to the virus and its broad impact. This is in addition to Meisner's broader efforts to help families save their homes from tax foreclosure under any circumstance.

"My pledge today is that no one in Oakland County will lose their property to tax foreclosure because of circumstances stemming from the Coronavirus public health emergency," said Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner. "I want everyone in Oakland County to focus their attention on staying healthy and preventing the spread of the virus, not on whether or not they could lose their property. The Treasurer's Office has your back."

The Treasurer's Office is adapting to the changing needs of taxpayers in a number of ways to ensure that no one loses their property to foreclosure. The following are several examples of changes made to date, other options are also under active consideration.

Anyone with a hardship associated with Coronavirus will not face foreclosure this year and their property will be pulled from the tax foreclosure process. This includes people unable to visit County offices to make a payment or to meet with the Treasurer's team for a Taxpayer Assistance Meeting to work out a repayment schedule.

If taxpayers are prevented from visiting county offices due to quarantine, illness, or other disruptions, including lack of sufficient transportation or childcare, the County Treasurer will accept tax payments by credit card or check online at www.oakgov.com/treasurer.

In addition to the online payment option and to encourage social distancing, if the Treasurer's Office and County courthouse campus are closed to the public, the Treasurer has an outside drop box for tax payments that will be checked regularly.

If full payment is not an option for the taxpayer, the County Treasurer will offer repayment schedules or payment plans. Usually negotiated in friendly, face-to-face meetings in Pontiac, Treasurer Meisner and his deputies will now perform Taxpayer Assistance Meetings by telephone at (248) 858-0611.

The Treasurer will approve automatic repayment schedule renewals to property owners who are 50% or more compliant paying old payment plans.

The Treasurer will waive the processing fee to produce 2019 delinquent tax statements.

Treasurer Meisner and his deputies have performed cross-training to accommodate anticipated work shortages, so there will not be a disruption in service.

"Our fight to prevent foreclosure includes and extends beyond those impacted by Coronavirus. Given the challenges this pandemic will cause, I will not allow an Oakland County property owner to lose their home."

Rochester Community House remains open, increasing health measures

In an effort to help mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic, Rochester Community House will be reviewing events, while remaining open for classes and meetings based on teacher and leadership evaluation.

"We are monitoring each class and each event to make sure that we are taking precautions to keep our community safe," said Alan Smith, Community House Director.

Smith also assured the community that in addition to increasing cleaning and sanitizing

of all surfaces and public areas, Rochester Community House has partnered with the CDC's Life is Better with Clean Hands program to educate every guest on proper handwashing methods.

The community is also encouraged to drop off canned and nonperishable items during normal business hours in order to further meet the needs of the community.

Rochester Community House, is located at 816 Ludlow in Downtown Rochester.

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Rochester Hills • \$350,000

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