

Alcona County Review

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1 Section

Serving Alcona County for 143 Years

Harrisville, Michigan 48740

Commission on Aging expands plans for new center

By Mary Weber
Staff Writer

Plans for a new senior center/community building have been altered by the Alcona County Commission on Aging (ACCOA). The plans, which have significantly increased costs, have been changed to better meet community needs.

The new plans, which will cost somewhere between \$19 and \$25 million, were brought to the ACCOA board by ACCOA Executive Director Lenny Avery during the meeting last week.

Avery said the new plans include utilizing all seven-plus acres of property they are close to purchasing from the Alcona Health Center (AHC). The acreage is on the west side of Barlow Road, just north of AHC and northeast of Alcona Elementary School. According to Avery, surveys have been performed on the property. He would not discuss the purchase price until the sale has been completed.

The original plans Avery talked about this summer with county commissioners were just for the community/senior center with estimated costs of about \$5.5 million on approximately five acres of property. Avery explained as things progressed last year, his first year as ACCOA's executive director, he saw the greatest need in the community was affordable housing, which is where ACCOA will begin its focus.

"While doing exploration for the project, I kept finding more and more need and shortfalls in the community. This build will take into consideration the need for housing, food insecurity, health and nutri-

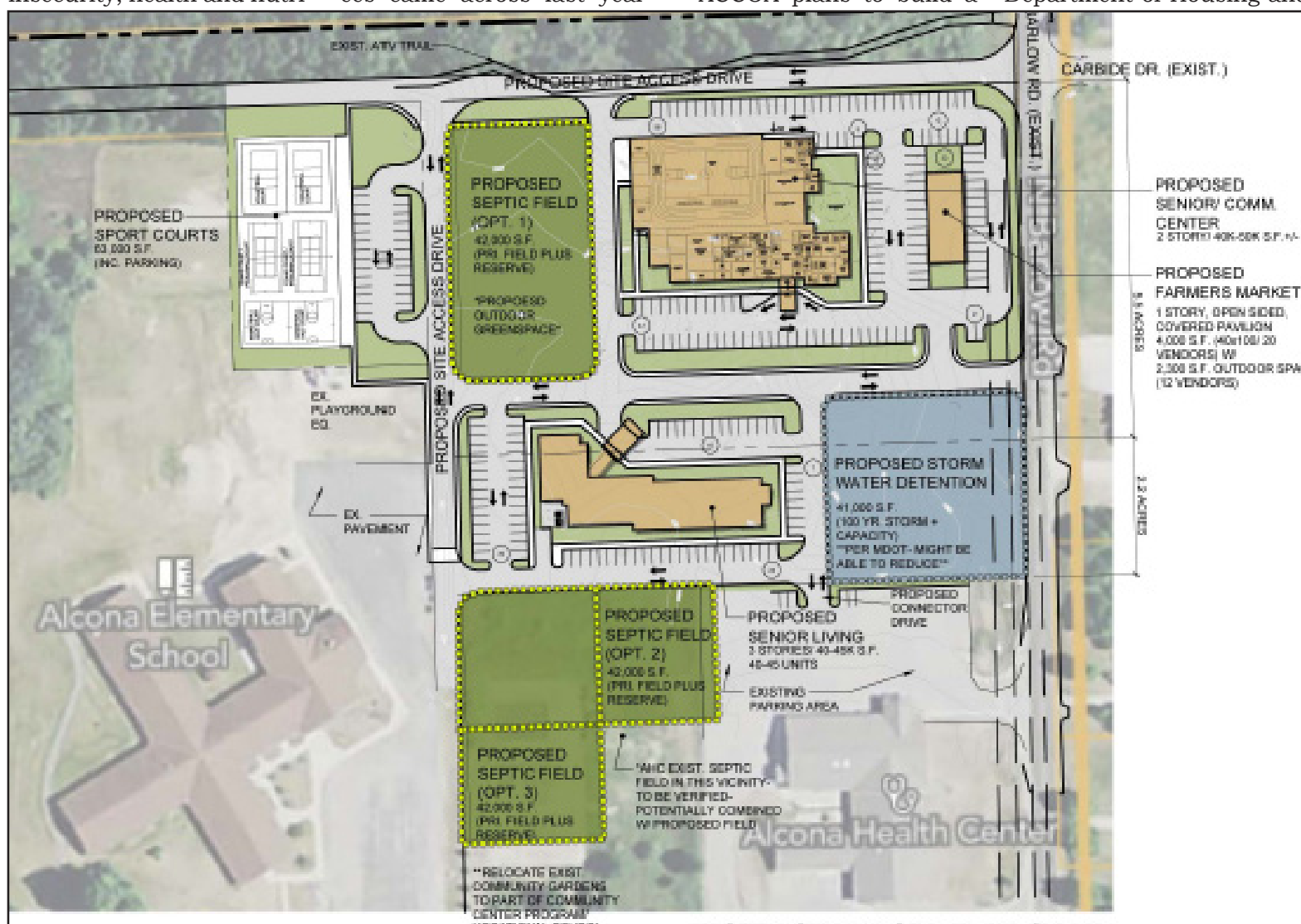
tion, access to quality health care and physical fitness," Avery said.

He talked about a situation with an infestation of bed bugs he and his employees came across last year

while working with residents of a local senior living facility. He felt some of the residents wanted to move but were stuck because there was no place for them to go.

ACCOA plans to build a

45,000 square foot, three-story 45-unit housing structure that would be fully handicap accessible and meet Michigan State Housing Development Authority and U.S. Department of Housing and



The new, proposed plans of the senior/community center, farmers market, sports courts, and senior housing were presented at last week's Alcona County Commission on Aging meeting. *Courtesy graphic.*

Violence toward local police officers increases

By Cheryl Peterson
Editor

A response to a domestic violence call ended in three charges of violence against responding law enforcement officers.

According to records from the Alcona County Sheriff's Department, acts of violence against law enforcement officers in the department has increased over the last two years.

On January 28 Alexander M. Bidlake, 27, of Mikado was bound over to 23rd Circuit Court after a preliminary examination on an incident that took place on January 11 in Mikado. He is

charged with aggravated assault on a police officer causing injury, two counts of resisting/obstructing a police officer and domestic violence. He was arraigned on January 12 and released on a \$5,000 cash surety 10 percent bond.

Bidlake allegedly assaulted police officers—deputies from the sheriff's department and an officer from Oscoda Township Police Department—while he was being arrested following an alleged domestic violence incident.

"This incident is a disturbing trend observed by the Alcona County Sheriff's Office," said Undersheriff Keith Myers. "Since January 1,

2020 the sheriff's office has had three separate incidents of aggravated assault on a police officer and 11 separate incidents of resisting/obstructing a police officer.

"Unfortunately, it mirrors 2019 where the sheriff's office had three incidents of aggravated assault on a police officer and 15 incidents of resisting/obstructing a police officer. The fact that there were six aggravated assaults on police officer and 26 incidents of resisting/obstructing in the last two years is pretty significant for a small department," Myers said.

The name of the injured deputy was not released; however, he has recovered.

With this rise in violence toward officers in the sheriff's department, there has been an emphasis on training for defensive and de-escalation tactics—with plans to continue into this year. "This training focuses on how deputies can address an already upset and potentially aggravated individual and work to calm the situation. Defensive training is learning techniques to get control quicker than an untrained person," Myers said.

"Usually a majority of these type of incidents involve individuals who have consumed alcohol or narcotics, or both."

Urban Development guidelines.

He envisioned either one or two-bedroom apartments with a living room, bathroom and kitchen and said the unit would be a fully functional apartment complex with a laundry room, manager's office and maintenance/supply rooms.

The second focus on the proposed site is a community/senior center which will meet much more of the community's needs than the original plans focused on. The planned 47,000 square foot center will house a senior center including space for a fully equipped kitchen to meet the needs of congregate and home-delivered meals in the community, congregate dining/activity room, a day center and ACCOA offices.

Continued on page 2



God Bless America



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Obituary

Robert S. Neil

Robert S. Neil, 58, of Barton City, died on Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021 at home.

He was born October 26, 1962 to Laurence and Janice (Hughes) Neil in Pontiac, Mich. He was raised in Rochester Hills, Mich.

Mr. Neil was an ironworker with the Local 25 for 26 years. He was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Mr. Neil is survived by his wife, Debra Sommerfeldt-Neil; one daughter, Erin Neil; one son, Andrew (DeAnne) Neil; six grandchildren, Carter Neil, Jayna Neil, Jacob Neil, Claire Neil, Mariah Green and Roman Green; his parents, Larry and Jan Neil of Barton City; one sister, Trisha Figlioli; one brother, Laurence Neil II; and nieces and nephews, Jason Figlioli, Jared Figlioli, Drew Neil, Trevor Neil, and Kira Neil.

Cremation arrangements were made through Gillies Funeral Home, Lincoln. Private services have been held.

Americanisms



“If you love two people at the same time, choose the second. Because if you really loved the first one, you wouldn’t have fallen for the second.”
— Johnny Depp

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Alcona County Review

111 Lake Street, P.O. Box 548
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Toll Free (877) 873-8439
Fax: (989) 724-6655
www.alconareview.com

Cheryl L. Peterson, Publisher & Editor
E-Mail: editor@alconareview.com
John D. Boufford, Production Manager
E-Mail: comp@alconareview.com
Subscription & Other Inquiries
E-Mail: subscribe@alconareview.com

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Center Continued from page 1

The community center is to include a full recreation gym with exercise equipment and sauna, a learning/test community kitchen for culinary arts including canning, areas where students could come to study/access Wi-Fi and an art gallery. Also enclosed in the community center will be community partner offices.

Outside of the community center, there are plans to build a splash park, a skate-park, tennis, basketball, pickleball, and beach volleyball courts. There will be walking trails around a retention pond, community gardens and a picnic pavilion, with plenty of parking available.

Avery explained to better meet the needs of food insecurity while taking into consideration the vast amount of farming done within the county, the proposed site will also have a 25 vendor, 4,000 square foot farmers market pavilion with enclosed areas for refrigeration, storage, a small kitchen, water, heat and Wi-Fi access.

“One of our goals is to get our farmers market to allow individuals to utilize things like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Senior Project Fresh dollars to use at the market. We want both the farmer and the community to benefit from this.

“The vision of the project is to be in a location where everything is accessible including health care, congregate meals at the senior center, exercise and if (residents of the housing complex) are bored on Friday nights, they will be able to attend a football game at the school, all within walking distance or a very short bus ride,” Avery said.

ACCOA’s primary target for funding the project is through federal and state dollars as well as community partners wishing to invest in the project and sponsor a site, such as a skate park or the farmers market where they could advertise their sponsorship. Avery said partners in the project were already coming forward but it was too early to divulge names.

Avery said overall the project would entice people, perhaps those seeking jobs at the new space project in Oscoda, to live in Alcona County. He explained for at least a decade rumors of a senior living facility going to be built in the Lincoln area

were just that, rumors, with no building ever transpiring.

“Talk is cheap. Let’s just do these things and quit waiting for a bus that never comes. Let’s figure out how to do a massive project that will hit all the needs of our community. Our community needs action. Investing the money here is important because the people of Alcona County are important. We can’t just keep getting passed over,” he said.

To better define the needs of the community and to convince federal and state governments to supply the necessary funds to build, the ACCOA board approved spending \$25,000 for a feasibility study. Avery said the study will include interviews with the whole community including teachers, parents, seniors and business owners

to gather information on what is needed.

During the meeting, the ACCOA board also discussed that the current senior center in Lincoln will remain closed to the public except for exercise classes and drive-through meal pick-up until further instructions are given to reopen. Avery explained extra precaution is being used in senior centers due to the utilizing population’s age and the aggressive effects COVID-19 has on them.

Home delivered meals and in-home services remain operational during the public closure.

The ACCOA board meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. Instructions to attend the meetings by Zoom may be found on the website at alconaseniors.org.



Calendar of Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Alcona County Baby Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. at St Raphael Church, 2531 E. F-30, Mikado. Available for Alcona County residents with newborns through age four — free formula, diapers, toys, new and gently used shoes and clothing. Layettes are available in the eighth month. This is not an income-based program. COVID-19 regulations will be in place.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

The Community Walking Club for Everyone will meet in the parking lot of the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library at 9 a.m. Social distancing will be practiced, and face masks will be required. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

A Teen do it yourself hand warmer kit for youth ages 12-18 is available for pick-up. Call (989) 724-6796 to reserve a kit and schedule a pick-up day and time. Available while supplies last.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Sunrise Community Food Pantry is open from 1 to 3 p.m. at Hubbard Lake Bible Church. Clients are asked to come only one time per month and must be present to re-

ceive food. Recipients must remain in their vehicle for curbside pick up and follow volunteer traffic control. The pantry accepts clients regardless of county residence. Identification is required. Bring box or bag. The church is located at 13508 Hubbard Lake Road, Hubbard Lake. Call (989) 727-3606 for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

The Community Walking Club for Everyone will meet in the parking lot of the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library at 9 a.m. Social distancing will be practiced, and face masks will be required. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

The Alcona County Food Pantry will be open from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Harrisville United Methodist Church, 217 State Street, Harrisville.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The Alcona County Library and all its branches will be closed in observance of President’s Day.

(Editor’s Note: Entries for Calendar are always welcome. The deadline is Friday at noon. They will be published in chronological order as space allows. Entries should be turned in at least two weeks prior to the date of the event.)

Writing Letters to the Editor

The Alcona County Review welcomes Letters to the Editor so readers can express their opinion or draw attention to local, regional or statewide issues. However, letters on national topics will not be accepted.

- Letters to the editor must be signed with a first and last name and include an address and phone number where the author can be reached for confirmation or questions during regular business hours. **Unsigned letters will not be published.**
- Letters must address the editor -- not government, the community, organizations or the authors of previously published letters.
- **Letters should be no longer than 300 words.** Inappropriate content will be deleted and letters will run on a space available basis.
- This forum is not intended as a thank you section for groups and organizations. **Thank yous are considered personal messages and therefore advertising.**
- Drop off letters to the Alcona County Review office at 111 Lake Street, Harrisville; mail to P.O. Box 548, Harrisville, Mich. 48740; or e-mail using plain text format to editor@alconareview.com.

Local
Notes

Local Notes

Local
Notes**Grants for Career Training**

Michigan Works! Northeast Consortium has a variety of programs that can help job seekers pay for tuition towards an in-demand career, find on-the-job training opportunities, find paid apprenticeships, and help pay for support services like books, mileage, fees, required clothing/tools, and more. The programs Michigan Works offers are not loans, so will not need to be repaid.

Even those individuals who are enrolled in classes but could still use financial assistance are encouraged to apply, as well as those who have been denied the Future for Frontliners Program, the Pell Grant, or those with out-of-district tuition.

Michigan Works has helped many job seekers in the region further their education and start new careers in welding, truck driving, law enforcement, utility lineman, mechanics, HVAC, nursing, medical assistant, construction, manufacturing, and more. All programs have eligibility requirements. Reach the nearest Michigan Works office by calling (800) 285-WORK.

Hosting Exchange Students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs is looking for families to host boys and girls ages 15-18 for the next academic year. Students from all over the world - Germany, Spain, Italy, Japan, and Ukraine, to name a few.

ASSE students come with an enthusiasm to practice their English and experience American culture - food, sports, shopping, and more. They also love to share their own culture with their host families - who welcome them not as guests, but as family members - giving both the students and families a rich cultural experience.

In addition, ASSE students have pocket money for personal expenses, along with health, accident, and liability insurance. ASSE students are selected for participation based on academics and good citizenship. Host families can choose their students from a wide variety of backgrounds, countries, and personal interests.

ASSE's top concern is the health of host families, host communities, and exchange students. Even as the U.S. and many other countries continue to live under temporary stay-at-home orders, students will not travel unless it is considered safe to do so by the U.S. and foreign governmental agencies entrusted with public health and safety.

To become a host family, or to find out how to become involved with ASSE in your community, please call us at the ASSE Eastern Regional Office, (800) 677-2773 or go to www.host.asse.com for a host family application.

Managing Natural Resources

To learn how to work with decision makers, influence

management decisions and aid in conservation efforts, enroll in Michigan State University Extension's EmpowerU: Advocating Invasive Species Management and Natural Resource Conservation. This five-week online course will provide the fundamentals on how to get started by:

- Gaining understanding of the roles and levels of government and who to contact regarding natural resources management;
- Learning to use skills such as influence, power, persuasion, framing, questioning and listening in interactions with decision makers;
- Knowing where to find reputable information on the status of natural resources in an area;
- Creating an engagement plan and experience practicing it in a safe, peer-learning environment;
- Viewing engagement with decision makers as a norm and encouraging others to do it; and
- Networking with other people passionate about making a difference in natural resource conservation.

For more information and program registration, go to <https://events.anr.msu.edu/EmpowerU2021/>. Registration is \$10, which includes access to all online sessions and downloadable handouts. The deadline is February 12.

Americanisms

“Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else.”
— Judy Garland

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Harrisville Harbor Commission Vacancy

The HHC is looking to fill the remaining position of a term of a Commissioner on the Harrisville Harbor Commission; this term expires at the end on 2021 and reappointment is possible. The commission is responsible to govern over management, operations, budgets and to approve expenditures required for proper harbor operations.

The HHC meets on the first Thursday of April, June, August, October and December or as needed. This is a voluntary position with a small per diem based on a balanced budget at the end of the year.

Please send resume to Ms. Janet Mansfield at winsten@voyager.net AND Chairperson Bruce D. Weber at bruce.weber@frontier.com (please send to both) by March 1, 2021.

2/3 thru 2/24

**District Court**

The following individuals were sentenced in 81st District Court in January.

- Nathan Scott Wheelock, 23, of Kentwood, Mich. was sentenced to 15 days in jail, six months of probation and fines and costs of \$805 for attempted motor vehicle: Use without authority/without intent.
- Kathleen Marie Turnmire, 55, of South Branch was sentenced to seven days in jail and \$1,305 in fines and costs for operator's license - forgery/alteration/false ID and attempted assault/resist/obstruct police.
- Adam Dean Johnson, 37, of Harrisville was sentenced to seven days in jail, one year of probation and fines and costs of \$1,285 for domestic violence.
- Terry Lee Atherton, 57, of Burton, Mich. was sentenced to six months of probation and \$515 in fines and costs for brandishing a firearm in public.
- Kelsey Lou Hale, 27, of Lincoln was sentenced to \$250 in fines and costs for wildlife conservation - general violation.
- Trevor Daniel Britten, 48, of Remus, Mich. was sentenced to fines and costs of \$250 for wildlife conservation - general violation.
- Timothy Michael Krisan, 50, of Harrisville was sentenced to fines and cost of \$590 for operator's license suspended, revoked, denied.

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“psh-psh-psh” sounds, this is bird parlance for “a predator is near,” and even in winter, some birds may pop by to investigate! They may also make a few short “call notes” of their own to help warn of danger. Your best ally in this trick is the black-capped chickadee, often the first to respond. They can vary the rate or urgency of their calls to convey the distance or the immediacy of the threat. - Brenda Weaver

Source: northernwoodlands.org

County to receive final quarter of grant funding

By Mary Weber
Staff Writer

Alcona County is in the final quarter of receiving a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) totaling of \$143,813, however, the county seat itself was only able to secure a fraction of the funds given.

According to Alcona County Commissioner Carolyn Brummund, the State of Michigan CDBG grant was intended to offer aid relief from COVID-19 related expenses during 2020, however the criteria applicable for the grant was lengthy and didn't cover expenses the commissioners thought would have been covered.

"We submitted things that sounded logical to us, but were not approved by the framework of this particular grant," Brummund said.

She explained one of the items they submitted was for a new phone system at the county building, of which the county is in dire need. The new phone system allowed employees to answer calls from home, which would be extremely helpful in lock downs and reduce the potential spread of the virus, however the request was turned down under grant criteria.

"They said no, phones were considered maintenance. We explained we wouldn't need people working from home if it wasn't for COVID-19, but they said that didn't matter," Brummund said.

The county also asked for funds to remove snow from the Alcona Recreation Area site so people could easily pickup food at the site during the Pop-Up Pantries which the Alcona County Commission on Aging was coordinating, but the county was also told no because that was also considered maintenance.

Funds, however, were approved for the Alcona County Food Pantry which distrib-

utes from the First United Methodist Church parking lot in the amount of \$13,291.63 for food to be given and a large chunk of the funds, \$78,815.91 went to Alcona County Commission on Aging for food given during Pop-Up Pantries plus extra staff and food needed for home deliveries during 2020.

Brummund explained 800 megawatt radios needed by the fire departments in the county was turned down, but material used to make masks for election workers was approved. "Before the election, someone in Curtis (Township) bought material and made masks for the election workers, the cost of that material, about \$230, is being covered under the grant. Don't misunderstand me, I'm happy they got that funding," Brummund said.

In addition to being able to reimburse Curtis Township for material, the county captured \$6,500, of which \$3,430 will go in the general fund to reimburse sanitizing supplies; \$1,840 will go to building safety such as plexiglass and thermometers; \$322.59 will reimburse the cost of mailboxes the county placed in the lobby to conduct business during COVID-19 closures; \$296.98 for communications; and \$411 to cover mileage costs to get supplies.

"We couldn't count the extra paper towel being used for washing hands, but hand sanitizer was approved," Brummund said.

She explained the county asked for funding through the grant in the amount of \$95,000 for the Alcona County Emergency Operational Center (EOC) which is the large classroom housed at Station 1 of the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) building on M-72 north of F-41, "It's the hub of a crisis if or when we had one and we felt it could be a place where we

could do COVID-19 testing and distribute vaccines, but they said no to that," Brummund said.

The county also asked for funds for fiber-optic broadband so the county would have a link from the high school to the EOC center, but that was also turned down.

Brummund explained some of the things which were turned down initially in the first three quarters for the grant, are now being reconsidered for re-submission, such as four large batteries totaling \$1,100 used in the enforcement emergency trailer utilized last year to do COVID-19 testing. "The trailer was used as a warming site for test workers, but more importantly it housed refrigeration for chilling the tests waiting to be picked up for delivery to the test laboratory," she said.

Brummund plans on delivering her final report to the board of commissioners at



Carolyn Brummund

the first meeting in March. She was unsure if another grant will be offered for 2021 but said they have alluded to one being offered.

top ten

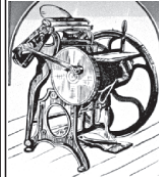
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3. Dumb Cane
4. Spider Plant
5. Golden Pothos
6. Dracaena
7. English Ivy
8. Peace Lily
9. Schefflera
10. Heart Leaf Philodendron

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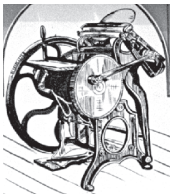
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How much earnings to file income taxes?

Dear Savvy Senior,
 What are the IRS income tax filing requirements for retirees in 2020? My income dropped way down when I was forced into retirement last March due to COVID-19, so I'm wondering if I need to file a tax return this year.

Unexpected Retiree



Savvy Senior

Dear Unexpected,
 Whether or not you are required to file a federal income tax return this year actually depends on several factors: How much you earned last year (in 2020), the source of that income, your age and your filing status.

Here's a rundown of this tax season's IRS tax filing requirement thresholds. For most people, this is pretty straightforward. If your 2020 gross income—which includes all taxable income, not counting your Social Security benefits, unless you are married and filing separately – was below the threshold for your filing status and age, you may not have to file. But if it's over, you will.

- Single: \$12,400 (\$14,050 if you're 65 or older by January 1, 2021).
- Married filing jointly: \$24,800 (\$26,100 if you or your spouse is 65 or older; or \$27,400 if you're both over 65).
- Married filing separately: \$5 at any age.
- Head of household: \$18,650 (\$20,300 if age 65 or older).
- Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child: \$24,800

(\$26,100 if age 65 or older).

To get a detailed breakdown on federal filing requirements, along with information on taxable and nontaxable income, call the IRS at (800) 829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy of the "1040 and 1040-SR Instructions for Tax Year 2020," or you can get it online at IRS.gov.

Check Here Too

There are, however, some other financial situations that can require you to file a tax return, even if your gross income falls below the IRS filing requirements. For example, if you earned more than \$400 from self-employment in 2020, owe any special taxes like an alternative minimum tax, or get premium tax credits because you, your spouse or a dependent is enrolled in a Health Insurance Marketplace (aka Obamacare) plan, you'll need to file.

You'll also need to file if you're receiving Social Security benefits, and one-half of your benefits plus your other gross income and any tax-exempt interest exceeds \$25,000, or \$32,000 if you're married and filing jointly.

To figure all this out, the IRS offers an interactive tax assistant tool on their website that asks a series of questions that will help you determine if you're required to file, or if you should file because you're due a refund. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

You can access this tool at IRS.gov/Help/ITA – click on "Do I Need to File a Tax Return?" Or, you can get assistance over the phone by calling the IRS helpline at (800) 829-1040.

Check Your State

Even if you're not required to file a federal tax return this year, don't assume that you're also excused from filing state income taxes. The rules for your state might be very different. Check with your state tax agency before concluding that you're entirely in the clear. For links to state tax agencies see Taxadmin.org/state-tax-agencies.

Tax Prep Assistance

If you find that you do need to file a tax return this year, you can free file through the IRS at IRS.gov/FreeFile if your 2020 adjusted gross income was below \$72,000.

Or, if you need some help, contact the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (or TCE) program. Sponsored by the IRS, TCE provides free tax preparation and counseling to middle and low-income taxpayers, age 60 and older. Call (800) 906-9887 or visit IRS.treasury.gov/freetaxprep to find out about services near you.

You can also get help through the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide service, a participant in the TCE program that provides free tax preparation in-person, online and by phone. To find out about service options in your area, call (888) 227-7669 or visit AARP.org/findtaxhelp. You don't have to be an AARP member to use this service.

(Send senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, Okla. 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org.)

Three face charges in 2019 elk poaching case

Three men, all relatives from northern Michigan, are allegedly responsible for poaching three elk were arraigned in Otsego County last week.

Christian White, 29, of Gaylord, Mich. and Harry White, 70, and Ronald White, 56, both of West Branch, Mich. pleaded not guilty to a total of eight wildlife crimes after admitting to poaching three cow elk in Pigeon River Country in December 2019.

Christian White was arraigned on hunting deer without a license, taking an over-limit of elk, failing to make a reasonable effort to retrieve the elk and taking elk in the wrong hunting unit.

Harry White was arraigned on taking an over-limit of elk, failing to make a reasonable effort to retrieve elk and taking elk in the wrong hunting unit.

Ronald White faces one charge -- taking an over-limit of elk.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers began investigating the three relatives more than a year ago after receiving anonymous tips that eventually connected and confirmed the suspects at the location where the three elk were found lying together – 50 yards north of Hardwood Lake Road east of Vanderbilt, Mich.

"This case can be summed up with one word – diligence,"

said Sgt. Mark DePew, who supervised the case. "Without our officers' professional commitment to pursuit of the facts, these suspects would have gotten away with one of the worst elk poaching incidents I have ever seen. By utilizing teamwork, technology and good old-fashioned police work, this case could not have come to a better conclusion."

During the investigation, the Whites confessed to conservation officers that they poached the three elk.

If found guilty, the Whites will serve a mandatory 30 days in jail, with a maximum stay of 180 days. The misdemeanor charges include a 15-year revocation of hunting privileges and reimbursement up to \$5,000 per elk in addition to other costs.

This was the third elk poaching case within a 30-day period in late 2019. Conservation officers are actively investigating the two preceding elk poaching crimes – the first was a bull elk killed in November 2019, then a second elk killed one week later.

Anyone who witnesses or suspects a natural resource violation should immediately call or text the Report All Poaching hotline line at (800) 292-7800. Information can be left anonymously; monetary rewards may be offered for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of violators.

NOTICE

The Curtis Township Board will be holding a special meeting on February 4th, 6:30 p.m. at the Glennie United Methodist Church. This will be a workshop meeting to discuss blyte and how to address the issues within our Township. Public is welcome.

1/27 & 2/3

NOTICE

The Curtis Township Board is seeking applicants for Zoning Administrator, this is a Salary position and applicant must be available to issue Zoning Permits as needed. Please email a letter of interest to curtistownshipclerk@gmail.com.

1/27 & 2/3



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Anyone who typically fishes with lead jigs in the winter should consider trying something different.

Tungsten jigs can be an excellent alternative, and they are heavier and denser than lead options. Although they are often smaller than their lead counterparts, they often produce similar sensations while fishing with them.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

Northeast

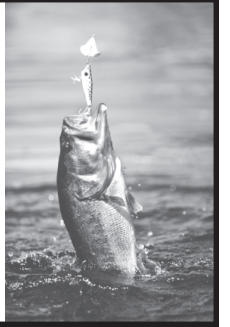
Lower Peninsula

• **Chesapeake County:** Burt Lake had slow catch rates for perch and walleye. The fish caught are good-sized, but low numbers. Three ORVs have gone through the ice. Extreme caution is necessary, especially near the pressure cracks. On Mullett Lake there is skim ice in the middle. Some are fishing along the shoreline.

• **Montmorency County:** McCormick Lake had ice on the south bay with open water from Sheridan Creek. Ice conditions on the north end of the lake were unknown. A few brown trout measuring 12-14 inches were caught when jigging or using tip-ups with minnows. East Twin Lake was slow, with only a few walleye and perch taken. On West Twin, anglers reported small walleye and no perch. Clear Lake was producing a few splake. On Lake 15, catch rates for smelt were good, though the bite slowed.

Northeast Michigan

Fishing Report



• **Alpena County:** Grand Lake was producing a good number of perch, though the bite did slow. Fletchers Pond was slow, with only a small number of perch and pike taken.

• **Iosco County:** Anglers were struggling to catch fish in most lakes. On the Au-Sable River some nice blue gills and perch were caught in Cooke Pond near Pine Acres Road, though anglers were working hard to get them.

• **Higgins Lake:** A few anglers are fishing in shallow water along the south shore and the west shore for pike and rainbows. Anglers will need to wait a bit longer for the ice to shore up so they can get out farther.

• **Houghton Lake:** Is producing pike and nice catches of crappie, though anglers are moving around and putting in their time to get them. Blue gills and crappie were found in the weed beds. Walleye were hitting, but the bite slowed.

• **Lake St. Helen:** Panfish, pike and the odd walleye were

caught on the Third Lake.

• **Tawas:** A couple ice shanties were off the access road near Jerry's Marina. Before the bay started to ice up, boat anglers caught good numbers of walleye and lake trout down near Alabaster and Whitestone Point when trolling body baits in 20 to 25 feet.

• **Tawas River:** When there was open water, walleye and lake trout were caught at Gateway Park when casting spoons and body baits.

• **AuGres:** Pike were caught inside Northport Marina on tip-ups. At Eagle Bay Marina, pike were caught on tip-ups and some nice crappie were taken. Small perch and bluegill were caught on wax worms. There was some shelf ice between the Pine River and Sagatoo Road. A few nice perch were caught on jack hooks and minnows.

• **AuGres River:** Anglers were getting a lot of undersize walleye along with a few keepers. Most were jigging with minnows. Steelhead were caught in the East Branch.

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Stargazing offers welcome reprieve from pandemic

By Claire Moore
Capital News Service

Stargazing, the outdoor activity practiced by curious humans throughout history, is getting a new appreciation during the era of COVID-19.

Observatories may be shuttered and amateur astronomy groups temporarily distanced to stop the disease's spread, but the moon, planets, constellations and even nebulae still appear each night.

Glimpsing them can still be done safely with access to a darkened backyard, field, park or even the shores of the Great Lakes.

It's a pleasant surprise that interest in celestial phenomena is rising despite the circumstances, said John Pannuto, a member of the Oakland Astronomy Club in Rochester, Mich. "One of the telltale signs, in terms of people's interest, is that you can hardly buy a telescope today to put under the Christmas tree for your kid," Pannuto said.

In fact, Oberwerk—a company that manufactures high-performance binoculars in Dayton, Ohio—has been busy filling back orders, according to Pannuto. "Most places that you go to try and buy something online—they're sold out or backordered," said Robert Parrish, who works with the International Dark-Sky Association to advocate for reducing light pollution.

The Tuscon, Arizona-based association's aim is to maintain dark skies so humans can view what's in space. It stresses the importance of reducing wasteful or unne-

cessary use of artificial light, which can harm human mental health and disrupt ecosystems.

Parrish is also a board member of Cass County's Parks and Recreation Department, which oversees one of Michigan's two internationally designated dark sky parks, Dr. T.K. Lawless Park east of Cassopolis.

Why are humans so fascinated by celestial bodies?

Warber said. But the universe can help put humans back into perspective, she added. "When we see ourselves in relation to the sea, or to the sky, or to the mountain top, we see ourselves in proper perspective as just this one little being," Warber said. "We see the grandeur, the art of wonder, the magnificence of creation."

Gary Dietz, the president-elect of the Oakland As-

"When we see ourselves in relation to the sea, or to the sky, or to the mountain top, we see ourselves in proper perspective as just this one little being. We see the grandeur, the art of wonder, the magnificence of creation."

Sara Warber,
Avid Stargazer and Dark Nature Enthusiast

Sara Warber, an emeritus professor of family medicine at the University of Michigan, theorizes it's because looking at them influences spiritual well-being.

In a 2013 research article, Warber coined the term "dark nature" to describe nocturnal environments that can elicit positive emotions from humans.

There's a small but noteworthy group of activities where humans interact with dark nature: night fishing, camping, watching nocturnal wildlife and even moon gardening, which is planting during specific moon phases.

Stargazing is one such dark nature activity, according to Warber. She said experiencing awe and wonder while searching the skies is "profoundly good" for humans.

COVID-19 does indeed loom large at the moment,

tronomy Club, said the pandemic is putting a damper on in-person group observation and using public telescopes. The organizations the club regularly works with—like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, libraries and parks—have halted in-person events.

But the club adapted, using laptops, Zoom, personal telescopes and a sky simulator application called Stellarium. "We came up with the idea of, 'Well, gee, why can't we do something like that?'" Dietz said of switching to a virtual format.

Awe associated with stargazing should be shared, especially during the pandemic, Dietz said—and he and Pannuto didn't want the club's outreach to falter.

"If our galaxy was simply an average one of 200 to 300 billion stars—and we have a

Continued on page 7

American Life in Poetry

By Ted Kooser

U.S. Poet Laureate, 2004-2006

That sage curse, "May you live in interesting times," has been upon us for the past few years, but here a Kentucky poet, Jonathan Greene, offers us some reassurance that there is order in the world. Greene has a special talent for, and love of, short poems, and this is a good example of his work. This poem is from his most recent book, *Afloat*, published by Broadstone Books.

The Return

We are heartened when
each year the barn swallows return.
They find their old nests,
teach their young to fly,
lining up on the barn roof
for their first flight.
They remind us, for now,
some rituals of this good earth continue.

Unsolicited manuscripts are not accepted. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2018 by Jonathan Greene, "The Return," from *Afloat*, (Broadstone Books, 2019).

Alcona County Sheriff's Report

For the Week of January 25-31, 2021

64 complaints were handled resulting in the following: 1 Arrests; 1 Operate While Intoxicated.

Complaint Statistics

Car/Deer Accidents	7	Traffic/Traffic Stop	12
Mental	1	Personal Prot. Order Vio.	1
Property Damage Accident	5	Criminal Sexual Conduct	1
Assist	2	Animal/Dog	5
Fraud	3	Miscellaneous	1
Well Being Check	5	Suspicious Event	6
Littering	1	Salvage Vehicle Inspect.	1
Operate While Intoxicated	1	Truancy	1
Child Neglect	2	Civil	3
Domestic	1	Threats	1
Drive While Lic. Suspended	1	No Insurance	1
Alarm	1	Found Property	1

Complaints taken by City, Township or Village

Alcona	5	Caledonia	6	Curtis	10
Greenbush	3	Gustin	5	Harrisville	10
Hawes	8	Haynes	2	Mikado	1
Millen	2	Mitchell	4		
Harrisville City	4	Village of Lincoln	4		

Stargazing

Continued from page 6

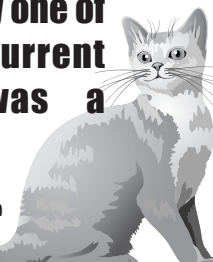
trillion galaxies in the universe — you just start to realize how insignificant we are and the potential for other life someplace else," Dietz said. "The sense of awe and amazement, it never goes away."

Temperatures around the Great Lakes Basin dip with winter, but amateur astronomers say the winter night skies are worth bundling up to view.

Sydney Meadows, a program coordinator with Emmet County Parks and Recreation, reminded stargazers should prepare for another factor that could affect astronomical viewing: pesky cloud cover, which the Midwest frequently experiences from late November to mid-March.

Emmet County's Headlands International Dark Sky Park is on two miles of untouched Lake Michigan shoreline in Mackinaw City and open year-round.

People get their cats in many ways: shelters, rescues, breeders, gifts and over 52 percent say one of their current cats was a stray.



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 Pastor Claire Duncan • haynescommunitychurch.org

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 Pastor Ernest Ruemenapp (989) 724-6728 • www.church72.org
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 Sunday school 10 a.m.
 Wednesday 6 p.m. midweek service (preaching and prayer service).

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 Pastor Christina Bright Office 736-7816


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Answers

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S	A	L	A	D	O	I	L	G	R	A	N	U	L	E	O	V	E	N	
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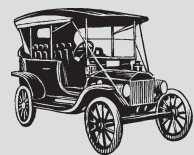
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GOLD "scare" in Haynes; sand to be assayed

No Cause for a "California Panic" But No Harm to Know.

February 3, 2021 ~ Investigation is being made to determine whether or not gold exists in a peculiar quality of sand that lies underneath the harder surface formation of certain sections of the township of Haynes, particularly along the course of a stream that flows into the south branch of Black river.

Just what gave rise to the "suspicion" that gold might be found in that locality, the Review does not know. The story goes that a stranger offered the opinion that under the excellent arable surface soil there would be found hundreds of feet of sand. Investigation proved he was correct, and furthermore, so the story goes, the said sand seemed to be different from any other sand found in this section.

Samples of this sand, taken from the farm of Wm. Armstrong, were sent to the government essayists at Washington and in due time their report came back—but the report was entirely lacking in any mention of mineral deposits, it being "against the rules," so the letter stated to give out any information of that sort. It is now proposed to have the analysis made by a private concern.

Whether this has been done has not been made public. However, the investigation comes out, there is no need for anyone to lose any sleep. That there is "gold" to be had by a proper treatment of the farm lands in Haynes and in every other township in Alcona county is a matter of common knowledge. If there are any deposits of the pure yellow stuff to be had, so much the better.

Strange hole at Glennie arousing much curiosity

February 3, 1921 ~ Rumors of the discovery of gas, oil, or something of the kind, have been "leaking" around lately, but so far the Review has been unable to learn anything very definite about the matter. Our Glennie correspondent sends in the following:

"A small hole about the size of a half-dollar has made its appearance on Jos. Solomon's premises between his house and the garage. When first discovered it had a peculiar sound, like rushing water; now the noise sounds like wind. A number of people have visited the place but no one seems to be able to account either for the noise or the hole.

Livestock Market to be built in Lincoln soon

February 7, 1946 ~ Harold Hanchett, owner and operator of Livestock Markets at Clare and at Standish, will open a Livestock Yard in Lincoln sometime in May of this year. The new business will be known as The Hanchett Livestock Yards.

The Yards will be located east of the village, on a site at the southwest corner of the 40 acres owned by the village and formerly known as the Marshall farm. Erection of the main building will begin as soon as weather conditions permit. It will be of cement block and frame construction, approximately 80x110 feet in size and will accommodate about 2,000 head of livestock.

It is expected that the Market will operate on Thursday each week.

Members of the Lincoln Village Council, who were instrumental in securing this new business for Alcona farmers and livestock buyers and dealers, are to be complemented on the success of their efforts.

Members of the Lincoln Village Council, who were instrumental in securing this new business for Alcona farmers and livestock buyers and dealers, are to be complemented on the success of their efforts.

ANSWER
CryptQuip

Kelly - Stone wedding

February 4, 1971 ~ Miss Constance Susan Stone of Harrisville and Mr. David Lloyd Kelly of Barton City were united in marriage at a seven o'clock wedding ceremony in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Harrisville, Saturday, January 23.

Rev. Carl J. Litchfield of the United Methodist Church officiated at the double ring ceremony before one hundred guests.

Music for the ceremony was played on the organ by Mrs. William Gutzman of Lincoln. The bride given in marriage by her brother, Thomas Stone, was lovely in a white bridal gown styled with an Empire waist line and A-line skirt with a bustle which extended into a train. Her flower were red roses arranged on a small white bible.

Mary Ellen Somers, friend of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore a green floor length gown, with Empire waistline, and the bridesmaid, Reta Lynn Stone, niece of the bride, wore a pink gown with Empire waistline.

They carried bouquets of flowers, of the same color as their dresses, attached to white lace backgrounds.

Jamie Lynn Smith, cousin of the bride, was flower girl. Her Empire styled gown was yellow, and she carried a bouquet, made up the same as those of the maid of honor

and bridesmaid, of flowers to match her dress.

A cousin of the groom, Fred Ross of Barton City, was best man, and the other attendant was Melvin Rifenkark. Ring bearer was Kevin J. Rifenkark, brother of the groom. Ushers were Robert Stone of Harrisville, brother of the bride, and Walt Duff, of Barton City, cousin of the groom.

The men attendants wore white dress jackets and carnation boutonnières.

The bride's mother chose a white dress and red accessories, and the groom's mother wore a brown dress with black accessories. Their corsages were of red roses and white carnations.

Following the wedding a buffet lunch and reception were given in the Barton City V.F.W. Hall, guests attending. The hall was decorated with pink and white streamers and white bells. Music for dancing was furnished on record players.

The new Mrs. Kelly is the daughter of Mrs. Lula Lange of Harrisville, and the late William Stone. She is a senior at Alcona High School. Her husband, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rifenkark of Barton City, graduated from Alcona High School and is employed as a pulp cutter. They are residing at Barton City.

Win No. 6 for Alcona in NEM Conference

February 4, 1971 ~ Snowfall gave Harrison a chance to creep up on the league leader in the Northeastern Michigan conference, Alcona, last Friday night. In the games played last Friday night Harrison took the measure of Houghton Lake, 67-56, while Whittemore-Prescott was getting its first conference win in five starts, beating Beaverton, 72-63.

On Tuesday night, Clare played a return engagement at Harrison while this Friday sees Whittemore-Prescott at Houghton Lake, Harrison traveling to Alcona and Roscommon playing at Beaverton.

The Alcona Tigers made it six in a row by defeating Roscommon for the second time of the season with the score of 67-51. Alcona had three players in double figures - Dave Somers with 23, John McIntyre 18 and Tom McIntyre added 10 in Tuesday night's game.

The Alcona Tigers get back in action Friday, February 5th, when they host the Harrison Hornets.

The Alcona High Basketball Homecoming is Friday, February 12th, when Alcona hosts the Beaverton Beavers.

The Alcona J.V.'s were handed a 62-50 defeat.

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Harrisville Climatological Observations for 2020

Weekly Report

Date	Temperature (F°)		Water Content	Miles Per Hour		Dominant Direction
	High	Low		Av. Wind Speed	High Speed	
Jan. 24	28	16	0.00	4.8	20	SSW
Jan. 25	31	20	0.00	4.4	19	N
Jan. 26	30	19	0.02	12.5	38	NE
Jan. 27	24	13	0.00	2.9	17	N
Jan. 28	22	14	0.00	3.1	21	N
Jan. 29	27	13	0.00	2.5	17	NNW
Jan. 30	29	10	0.00	4.0	15	WNW

Precipitation Summary (Inches)

	2020-2021 Season		Normal Water Content
	Water Content	Snowfall	
Weekly Total	0.02	0.4	0.35
January to Date	0.55	5.0	1.71
Year/Season to Date	0.55	9.2	1.71

Climatological Observations taken by Stanley L. Darmofal at the Harrisville National Weather Service Coop Station located 1.8 miles NNE of Harrisville Post Office. Observations for each day are from midnight through 11:59 p.m. T=Trace (less than 0.005" Water Content.)

Trivia Test

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the longest river in Asia?
2. **TELEVISION:** What is the name of the trashcan dweller in PBS' "Sesame Street"?
3. **FOOD & DRINK:** What kind of nuts are used to make marzipan?
4. **MOVIES:** What incantation did the fairy godmother use to transform the character in Disney's animated "Cinderella"?
5. **MEDICAL:** What is a more common name for onychocryptosis?
6. **ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is a male goose called?
7. **LITERATURE:** In which famous work did the phrase "eat, drink and be merry" appear?
8. **MUSIC:** What is the most watched video on YouTube?
9. **CHEMISTRY:** What is the chemical symbol of potassium?
10. **AD SLOGANS:** Which company sells its popular clothing with the slogan, "Quality never goes out of style"?

Answers: 1. Yangtze River; 2. Oscar the Grouch; 3. Almonds; 4. "Bibbidi bobbidi boo"; 5. Ingrown toenail; 6. A gander; 7. The Bible; 8. "Baby Shark Dance"; 9. K; 10. Levi's (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Super Crossword

O - E VEY!

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Much of the Western Hemisphere, with "the"</p> <p>9 Accuse of misconduct in office</p> <p>16 Aloe —</p> <p>20 Base for some dressings</p> <p>21 Tiny sand bit</p> <p>22 Kiln, for one</p> <p>23 Group of shorthand pros throwing dice?</p> <p>25 — all been there"</p> <p>26 Remember</p> <p>27 Fork out</p> <p>28 Russian news agency</p> <p>30 Lip</p> <p>31 Monet works</p> <p>32 Besides that</p> <p>34 Take a hammer to one's Mexican coin?</p> <p>38 — -Cola</p> <p>40 Part of LED</p> <p>41 '60s protest</p> <p>42 Study every method of seizing defaulters' property?</p> | <p>47 Small knapsack</p> <p>49 — Island (immigrants' gateway, once)</p> <p>50 Pull back (in)</p> <p>51 Liveliness</p> <p>52 Andrew Lloyd —</p> <p>54 Command to list a team's players?</p> <p>61 "Last Stand" general</p> <p>63 Watergate senator Sam</p> <p>64 In want</p> <p>65 \$\$\$ source</p> <p>66 Particular style of rounded roof?</p> <p>71 Rail support</p> <p>72 Crackly</p> <p>75 Implied wordlessly</p> <p>76 Sticky — (tough spot)</p> <p>79 Jazz instrument that tightens your face when you play it?</p> <p>84 C.S. Lewis' land</p> <p>86 Tropical kin of a raccoon</p> <p>87 Rumble (up)</p> | <p>89 Betray by selling out</p> <p>90 French circle dance</p> <p>93 Greek philosopher who never overtook other travelers?</p> <p>97 Vacuous</p> <p>98 Earthy shade</p> <p>99 Sea marker</p> <p>100 Locating a city in Alaska?</p> <p>103 Slugger?</p> <p>105 Fuel additive brand</p> <p>108 Lao- —</p> <p>109 Entre —</p> <p>110 Rankle</p> <p>111 Inaptitude for music</p> <p>114 Teeny-tiny</p> <p>116 Rejection a president issues with no doubt whatsoever?</p> <p>121 Schnozzola</p> <p>122 Generally</p> <p>123 Tall, tapering pillars</p> <p>124 Eat away (at)</p> <p>125 Sheetlike gray cloud</p> <p>126 Requiring no cables</p> | <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 "Ad — per aspera"</p> <p>2 HBO host</p> <p>3 Pick by ballot</p> <p>4 — avis</p> <p>5 Shrine figure</p> <p>6 Amass</p> <p>7 Feel malaise</p> <p>8 Missteps</p> <p>9 Rapper —</p> <p>10 Wife's title</p> <p>11 Butter slice</p> <p>12 Suffix with benz-</p> <p>13 Mommy or Daddy's sis</p> <p>14 Loose coat</p> <p>15 Novelist Hermann</p> <p>16 Promise</p> <p>17 Actor Sloane</p> <p>18 Drop in again</p> <p>19 Flowerlike sea polyp</p> <p>24 Scot's denial</p> <p>29 Vidal of hair care</p> <p>33 Bert who played a lion</p> <p>34 Drink a bit of</p> <p>35 Besides that</p> <p>36 Ave. crossers</p> <p>37 Trudeau of Canada</p> <p>38 Baby beds</p> <p>39 Beginning</p> <p>40 Lairs</p> | <p>42 Ayres of "Holiday"</p> <p>43 Prefix with acoustics</p> <p>44 74-Down in egg whites</p> <p>45 Poetic "always"</p> <p>46 — de Janeiro</p> <p>47 Small, silver fish</p> <p>48 Sheepskin boot brand</p> <p>51 X minus two</p> <p>53 Like blood</p> <p>55 Choppers</p> <p>56 Go wrong</p> <p>57 Campers, for short</p> <p>58 Warming in hostilities</p> <p>59 Particular issue</p> <p>60 Bagel variety</p> <p>62 Go in circles</p> <p>65 Perform</p> <p>67 Long skirt</p> <p>68 "Green" prefix</p> <p>69 CEO or prez</p> <p>70 Diary author Anais</p> <p>73 Part of ESL</p> <p>74 Product of amino acids</p> <p>77 Freightage</p> <p>78 Word before Kat or Glue</p> <p>80 Coll. entry exam</p> | <p>81 Baseball's Vizquel</p> <p>82 Preceders of xis</p> <p>83 Preceder of tee</p> <p>85 Year, in 46-Down</p> <p>88 Brothers, e.g.</p> <p>90 Donating</p> <p>91 Jennifer of "Friends"</p> <p>92 Redgrave of "Atonement"</p> <p>93 Cpl., for one</p> <p>94 Resistance unit</p> <p>95 — -wee Herman</p> <p>96 More wacky</p> <p>98 GM security system</p> <p>101 Cosmic bursts</p> <p>102 Party invitee</p> <p>103 To and —</p> <p>104 "No kidding!"</p> <p>105 Smarts</p> <p>106 Carpet nails</p> <p>107 Paper printer</p> <p>110 Cold treats</p> <p>112 Inactive</p> <p>113 Musician Tennant</p> <p>115 Hedge shrub</p> <p>117 "... boy — girl?"</p> <p>118 Umpire's cry</p> <p>119 Winter worry</p> <p>120 DOJ division</p> |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|

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Moments In Time

By The History Channel

- On Feb. 1, 1790, the Supreme Court of the United States meets in New York City for the first time, with Chief Justice John Jay presiding. The U.S. Supreme Court was established by Article Three of the U.S. Constitution, which took effect in March 1789.
- On Feb. 7, 1812, the most violent of a series of earthquakes near Missouri causes a so-called fluvial tsunami in the Mississippi River, making the river run backward for several hours. The strongest of the aftershocks, an 8.8-magnitude, caused church bells to ring in Boston, over a thousand miles away.
- On Feb. 4, 1861, delegates from South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana convene to establish the Confederate States of America. Within two months, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee all had joined the Confederacy.
- On Feb. 6, 1891, three members of the Dalton Gang stage an unsuccessful train robbery in California -- an inauspicious beginning to their careers as serious criminals. A year later, the gang botched another robbery, boldly attempting to hit two Kansas banks at the same time.
- On Feb. 3, 1953, French oceanographer Jacques-Yves Cousteau publishes "The Silent World," a memoir about his time exploring the oceans. In 1950, Lord Guinness, a British patron, bought him an old British minesweeper to use for his underwater explorations. Cousteau christened it Calypso.
- On Feb. 2, 1980, details of ABSCAM, an FBI sting operation to uncover political corruption in the government, are released to the public. Thirty-one public officials were targeted. In the operation, FBI agents posed as representatives of a fictional Arab business, offering money in exchange for special favors.
- On Feb. 5, 2003, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell gives a speech to the United Nations justifying an invasion of Iraq that is full of fabrications. Powell later called it a "blot" on his record.

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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

- The most leaves ever found on a clover is 56.
- In 2012, General Mills sent professional basketball player Jeremy Lin a special jersey made entirely out of Fruit Roll-Ups after he tweeted about his love for the snack.
- The southern polar region of Enceladus, one of Saturn's moons, contains cryovolcanoes, an exotic type of geyser that spews ice instead of magma.
- Aluminum is infinitely recyclable, with nearly 75% of all aluminum ever produced still in use today.
- The first footprints on the moon will remain there for a million years.
- A Kansas man requested that an Iowa court grant his motion for trial by combat. His opponents? His ex-wife and her attorney, whom he desired to meet "on the field of battle" in order to "rend their souls from their corporeal bodies."
- The world's largest recorded snowflake measured 15 inches wide and 8 inches thick.
- Similar to how human babies suck their thumbs for comfort, baby elephants suck on their trunks.
- In the Middle Ages, a man's wealth was measured by his stockpile of pepper.
- A 639-year performance by an automated organ, based on avant-garde composer John Cage's "As Slow as Possible," started in September 2001 and is still running at St. Burchard Church in Germany. Progressing so slowly that visitors have to wait months for a chord change, it is scheduled to conclude in 2640.
- Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin brought a chalice, bread and wine to the moon to take communion.

Thought for the Day: "Yet I had rather be remembered as those brave beginners are, though many of them missed the triumph, than as the latecomers will be, who only beat the drums and wave the banners when the victory is won." -- Louisa May Alcott

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: H equals D

DR TWZ VIIS HXDCDQF ICIQ BLWZFL

TWZX FEM BEQV DM QIEXKT

IPSBT, D'H MET BLEB'M E RZIKDML

PDMBEVI.

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Veterans Host

By Freddy Groves

Get the VA welcome kit

It doesn't matter if you've been out for years or are just now separating from the service, the Department of Veterans Affairs has a gift for you: the VA Welcome Kit. It's something every veteran needs to have on hand for current information you need now or things that can come up over the years.

It's all about your VA benefits and the services it offers for the veteran, families, survivors and caregivers. Each kit has over a dozen quick-start guides for a wide array of topics, including health services for women, accessing urgent care, mental health services, getting caregiver benefits, home loans, explanation of dis-

ability ratings, applying for burial in a VA cemetery and getting educational benefits. They give step-by-step instructions, as well as listing the documents you'll need, links to specific web pages (put your cursor on one and click), telephone numbers and departments within the VA system.

Getting one of the kits is easy: Just download it (www.va.gov/welcome-kit) as a .PDF file either in black and white or color. If you only want one specific guide, scroll down the page and pick your topic. Further down are links to other topics such as housing assistance, careers, life insurance, pension and more.

I give this kit an A grade. The VA put a lot of thought into it, and it's well done. Take a look. So far there have been over 1 million downloads. Suggestion: Print it out (42 pages) and put it in a folder so it's handy.

As a final note: Are you still doing the full minute hand washing? Never mind the 20 second wash, go for the full minute. Keep your nails short and scrubbed. Wash often. It doesn't matter that the vaccine is now being given. Don't slack off. For a long time we'll still need to do the distancing and mask wearing ... and hand washing.

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Kovels: Antiques and Collecting

By Terry and Kim Kovel

Movie clock

When an unfamiliar, puzzling item comes up at auction, there is no previous sale to give a hint of the value. So, when this Warner Brothers Pictures clock was offered at a William Morford sale, the catalog just said "minimum bid \$100." The cast iron is shaped like an ark. It has a clockface and the "clock" runs for a short time when the ark is rocked. The clockface shows scenes from the 1928 movie "Noah's Ark" -- a part "talkie" movie. There were several collectors who probably wanted movie memorabilia who bid until the final price was \$855. If there had been no description of how and why it worked, the ark might not have even sold.

We researched the name of the maker, Art Metal Works, and learned it was started by Louis Aronson (1869-1940), an inventor with a company in New York City, then Newark, New Jersey. The company is famous for the Ronson lighter patented in 1910. (No doubt Mr. Aronson inspired the name.) The company was sold to Zippo in 2010.

Q: I'm moving into a senior living residence and won't have room for my large collection of half dolls. One of the dolls has her hand broken off, but I don't know the best way to fasten it back on. Many of the dolls are from around the world. I bought them when I worked in Germany and Okinawa. How can I find someone interested in buying them?



Ever see a movie clock before? This unusual apparatus made in 1928 sold for \$855. It was used for publicity for the movie "Noah's Ark," a Warner Brothers picture with Dolores Costello and George O'Brien -- long forgotten movie stars.

A: Half dolls, also known as pincushion dolls, were first made in 1908 and were popular until the 1930s. They were made with a porcelain upper body attached to a large cloth skirt and were used to cover a pincushion, powder box, pot of tea or other items. Most are found today without the skirt.

Prices depend on size, decoration, condition and style. Closed arm half dolls sell for the lowest prices. Those with arms extended away from the body sell for the highest prices. Contact an auction house that specializes in dolls. Half dolls have sold at auction for \$100 to over \$1,000. They are hard to find and a popular collectible. Don't try to re-

pair the broken doll yourself. A poorly done repair significantly lowers value.

CURRENT PRICES
Delft plate, blue, white, women and children standing on riverbank, windmills and trees, small boat, c. 1841, 9 inches, \$72.

Coca-Cola cooler, airline, metal, side mount, bottle opener, red, 1950, 14 1/2 x 18 1/2 inches, \$200.

Double stained-glass window, Art Nouveau, green, orange, maroon, stripes, arcs, oak frame, 31 x 51 inches, \$370.

Stickley library table, oak, plank top, block legs, center stretcher, tenon construction, 29 x 29 inches, \$520.

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ALCONA REVIEW CLASSIFIEDS

Ads may be brought in to our office at
111 Lake St., Harrisville

Cost per ad is \$5 for the first 10 words and
20¢ for each word thereafter.

Boxed ads are \$6 per column inch.

Ads and payment must be received by 4 p.m. Monday.

All Classified Ads **MUST** be Paid in Advance

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Stoneworks Home Maintenance

Hiring crew for 2021. Looking for roofers, carpenters, and masons. Call 704-989-7513

Now hiring RNs, LPNs, CNAs and a cook. Apply at Jamieson Nursing Home, 790 South US-23, Harrisville, Mich. 48740. (989) 724-6889

Caledonia Township currently has a job opening for the Township Hall Custodian. Information on this position can be found on the township website at www.caledoniatwp.net or by contacting Twp. Supervisor Cyndi Apsey at 989 335 3018. Please mail letters of interest by February 5, 2021 to Cyndi Apsey at PO 74, Spruce, MI 48762 or you may also do so by email on or before February 5, 2021 at caledoniatwp-supervisor@gmail.com

HIRING ASAP in LINCOLN - Backwoods Bistro - Seeking full-time, experienced Restaurant Manager to lead all aspects of our business. Restaurant manager responsibilities include maintaining the restaurant's revenue, profitability and quality goals. You will ensure efficient restaurant operation, as well as maintain high production, productivity, quality, and customer-service standards. <https://puremi.ch/3r8k0S9>

Full-time office assistant position available. Organized and dependable person with good phone and communication skills needed to answer phones, file, and perform other general clerical duties. Previous office and Quickbooks experience preferred. Excellent benefits. Please submit a resume via e-mail to gauthierheating@yahoo.com or by mail to: Gauthier Heating & Cooling, PO Box 107, Black River, MI 48721

Help wanted bartenders and waitresses apply in person at Shotmakers in Harrisville after 2 p.m.

BUYING TIMBER

Buying standing timber, minimum five acres. Cole Forest Products (989) 736-8928.

FOR SALE

Central Boiler Certified Classic Edge outdoor furnaces. Exceptional performance and value. Call today! Gauthier Heating & Cooling (989) 471-2478.

HAAS-Sohn white kitchen cook and wood stove, would be great in a hunting camp. \$325 Also four piece bedroom set, king size bed, walnut color, \$275, call home: 989-736-8717 or Cell: 989-335-5102

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice to Creditors

To all creditors: The decedent, Maryellen Boehringer, date of birth, September 20, 1927, settlor of the Maryellen Boehringer Trust No. 1, dated November 3, 2008, who lived at 7775 West M-72, Curran, Mich. 48334, died on January 2, 2021. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Julianna Karshina, Trustee, at 27529 West Echo Valley, Farmington Hills, Mich. 48334, or the attorney for the trustee, Jim Thomas, at 5191 Hampton Place, Saginaw, Mich. 48604, within four months after the date of February 3, 2021 (first publication of this notice).

BIDS WANTED

Alcona Citizens for Health, Inc. dba Alcona Health Center is accepting bids/requests for proposals for two separate projects regarding construction of drive-thru porticos at their pharmacy locations in Alpena and Lincoln, MI. For more information and instructions please view the website - www.alconahealthcenters.org/bids-requests

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Sat. Feb. 6. 10 a.m. ~ Perry Creek & M-33 Mio.

New & Estate Furniture; Kitchenware; Pfaltzgraff; Crocks; Antiques; Collectibles; Zippo Lighters; Sportsman; Fly Fishing; Mount; Guns; Ammo & Reloading; P/U Hunt Dog Cage; Shop Tools; Garage; Outside; JD Mower; Snowplow; Coins & More! View Website!

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SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Canada geese expand range, migrate later as environment shifts

By Anne Hooper
Capital News Service

The Canada goose is an icon of the North American wilderness.

Characterized by their elongated necks and little black heads, the waterfowl are often seen flying southbound in "V" formations. But in recent years, their migratory and stationary behaviors have been changing.

Many groups are migrating later than ever, said Beth Clawson, a state coordinator at Michigan State University's Kalamazoo County Extension. "Over time, geese have been starting their migrations later and later in the season. It's because, if the weather is survivable and sufficient food is available, they have no reason to leave," she said.

Modern farming encourages the birds to remain stationary late into the year, she said. "When farmers leave grain waste in their fields, it becomes an attractive and reliable food source for geese."

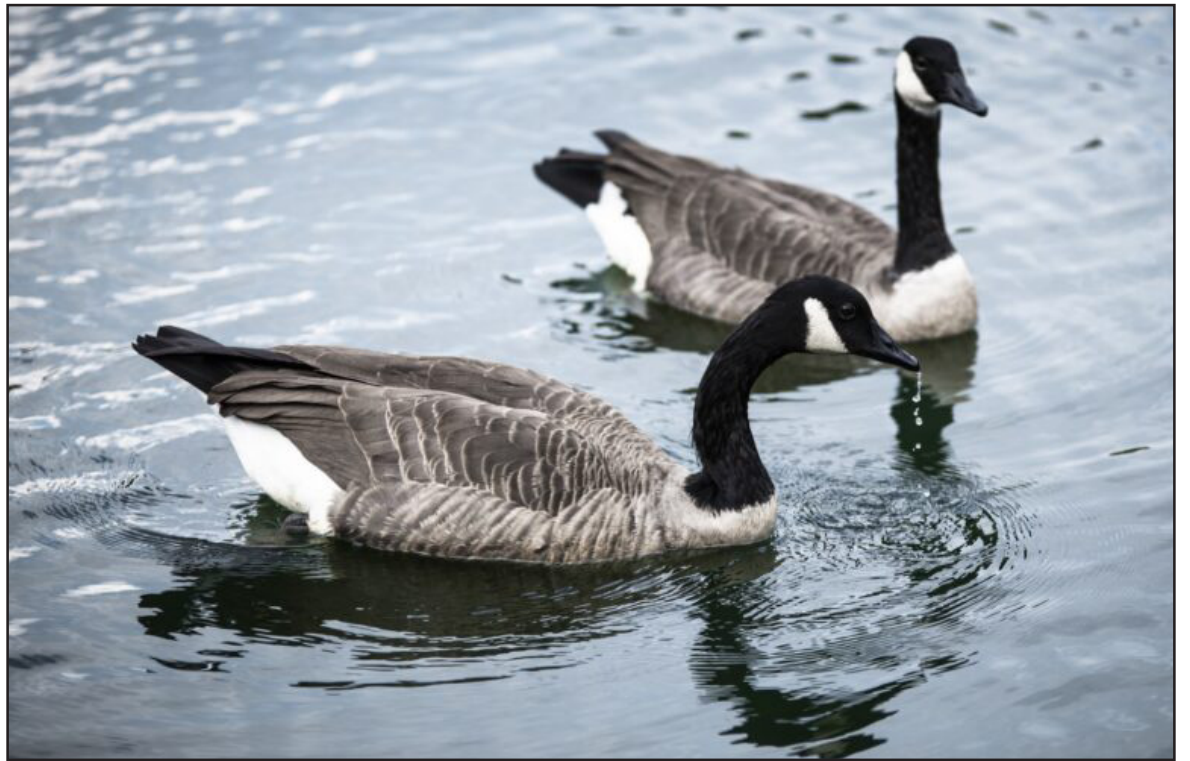
The increase in global temperatures also affects migra-

tion, Clawson said. "As climate change intensifies, environments throughout North America are becoming warmer. As a result, not only are many Canada geese delaying their migrations, but some have also stopped flying as far south as they once had."

Temperature is a key factor for when migratory birds start flights southward. With climates warming, the cool weather that acts as a trigger arrives later — if at all.

Many species are also showing a permanent northward shift in their ranges, Clawson said. "While the term 'climate migrant' is generally used when talking about people, it absolutely applies to other species as well. Birds, mammals and other animals are being forced to move farther and farther north as their native habitats become less hospitable."

According to Clawson, terrestrial species move an average of 10 miles northward per decade. Many animals are forced to expand their territo-



Canada geese, once on the verge of extinction, have made a comeback after adapting to the environment. *Courtesy photo.*

ries into human-claimed areas, she said. Large numbers of Canada geese have relocated to crop fields and suburban neighborhoods.

"Land fragmentation is happening everywhere — we humans and our industries are cutting and carving up the land, disrupting the local ecosystems and displacing species from their natural habitats," Clawson said.

It's no surprise Canada geese are adapting to such pressures.

David Luukkonen, a goose expert and retired researcher for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, agreed that behaviors are certainly the birds' response to drastic changes in their environment.

The past 100 years have

been turbulent for the Canada goose, he said. "By the mid-twentieth century, habitat loss and unregulated hunting had the geese teetering on extinction," said Luukkonen, a wildlife biologist. "Thanks to restoration efforts made by state and national conservation agencies, though, the Canada goose was able to make a comeback — and then some."

Since bouncing back from near-destruction, the waterfowl have hit another extreme: a population explosion. The challenge now is managing the abundance of geese and maintaining the distribution of their specific populations, Luukkonen said.

"There are actually multiple subspecies — there's the

giant Canada goose that ranges from the northern U.S. into southern Canada, the cackling goose that inhabits Arctic Canada and a handful of others," he said. "We don't want to lose any of the genetic variation that's developed within these populations."

The goal now is to establish and maintain a balance with the geese. "People get mad at the geese for overtaking their property, but they're just doing what they've always done: trying to survive," he said. "Ultimately, it comes down to balancing our needs with theirs — to reduce 'conflicts' with geese, among other animals, we need to figure out better ways to manage the environment so we can successfully coexist."

The Garden Bug

Plant-inspired baby names

Ainsley	Ilana	Sakura
Ash	Koru	Sorrel
Aster	Linden	Sylvan
Birch	Madara	Terra
Cerise	Marwa	Timothy
Clover	Orrin	Valli
Elowen	Pepper	Wilder
Florian	Reed	Yvette
Heath	Rowan	Zinnia

Source: www.house-plant-hobbyist.com
- Brenda Weaver

Wood sorrel (1902, Field Book of American Wild Flowers)

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