

# Alcona County Review

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Serving Alcona County for 143 Years

Harrisville, Michigan 48740

## Alcona makes switch to eight-man football

By Ben Murphy  
Sports Writer

The storied Alcona High School football program is going to look vastly different come fall 2021. The Tigers, who have qualified for the playoffs five times since 2012 (not counting 2020's all-in format) recently made the decision to switch from 11-man football over to the eight-man game.

"It is a quite a change," said head coach Jason Somers. "It is quite a change for the coaching staff and for strategy and all of that and the biggest part of this is it is a big change for these young men. They are going to have a lot to learn, but I think it will be a positive change for our school with the participation being what it is right now."

Speculation on when Alcona would be making the switch to eight-man has been swirling for the last several off-seasons. However, when the team went 0-7 last fall and struggled at times to have enough healthy players to field a squad, it was felt a change needed to be made.

"This has been brewing for about three or four years. We have had this conversation every year at the conclusion of the football season," Somers said. "We want to be a traditional 11-man football program but this year it came down to the fact that we were

playing with 12 or 13 players and it puts those kids in an unusual spot and it puts the staff in an unusual spot. We should be able to break free from that and alleviate some of that with this change.

"When we met as a staff it was definitely not taken lightly," he added. "We weighed the pros and the cons and had a real good talk. We thought the best way to proceed would be with eight-man football."

Almost like dominos, much of the North Star League's (NSL) football teams have made the transition to eight-man football. In fact, Oscoda and Rogers City are the lone holdovers in 11-man. Alcona is awaiting word from the NSL if it will be on the league schedule this year, but still hopes to play mostly local teams ahead of a 2022 schedule that may feature a nine-game conference season. A schedule full of local teams sounds quite appealing to Somers.

"It makes scheduling so much easier and traveling becomes easier," he said. "We get to renew old rivalries that we had with Hillman and, of course, Whittemore-Prescott has always been a rivalry game. On the flipside we do lose the games with Oscoda and Tawas. It has good and it has bad."

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Jason Somers (center), head coach of Alcona's football program, signals from the sidelines of a road game in a prior season. Somers will continue to guide the Tigers as the program makes the switch from 11-man to eight-man starting with the 2021 season. Photo by Ben Murphy.

## Caring for high-risk residents

By Mary Weber  
Staff Writer

"When you are a caregiver, you know that every day you will touch a life, or a life will touch yours."

~ Author unknown

Caring for the elderly, sick and infirmed is never an easy job. It is back-breaking, strenuous and mentally anguishing work that many do day-in and day-out for those in need.

Fighting through a deadly pandemic has made it harder than ever to do the work necessary to protect the weakest citizens.

For the staff and residents at Lincoln Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation, it has been a year of consistent protocol changes trying to keep abreast of the latest information to keep staff and residents healthy.

Administrator Marie Santer said it was a huge task to keep up with everything for her staff of 32, but somehow, they have gotten through the year and even after an out-

break of the virus reaching their residents, they have been able to overcome it.

"We were the last facility in the area to have any of the virus affect us. We did a good job keeping it out of our facility, but it only takes one to cause an outbreak," Santer said. For Lincoln Haven, the outbreak occurred just before Thanksgiving with 22 out of 37 residents testing positive for the virus. Three residents, who had underlying health issues, succumbed after contracting COVID-19.

Santer said things there are now back to normal, or at least, as normal as they can be. "There are a lot of guidelines we follow. We have not been able to allow visitors since just before Thanksgiving and haven't been able to have any group activities in the facility for months," she said.

She was very proud the facility had just received an inspection from the State Infection Control Department and the facility received no

citations. "They said we were doing a great job and from all the nursing homes they inspected, we were the best with infection control measures. That is huge for us. These inspections are very critical, it only takes one staff member to accidentally let their mask slip below their nose to get cited," Santer said.

She was also very happy to announce the facility had been accepted to retain their residents should they get the virus. "We had to fill out an application and be accepted to retain our residents. Without the acceptance, after December 15 we would not have been able to retain patients and would have had them go to a COVID-19 unit. (It is) a strenuous move for people so fragile and a whole new staff and building to get used to. This way they can stay here to recover where they are comfortable. We cannot accept new COVID-19 patients into our facility, but at least we

Continued on page 8



Twin Lakes Cemetery has a new sign that was made possible with donations from family members of those buried in the cemetery. Perry Budreau made the sign with materials purchased from the donations. Gustin Township Board members and the cemetery sexton are appreciative to those who contributed to the new sign. Courtesy photo.



# God Bless America



# Obituaries

## Barbara J. Pauloski

Barbara Joan Pauloski, 90, of Greenbush, died on Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020.

She was born May 23, 1930 to Arthur and Lillian (Summers) Watts in Pontiac, Mich. She graduated from Rochester High School in Rochester, Mich.

She married Dean Pauloski in 1951.

In addition to her love for being a fulltime home maker, Mrs. Pauloski enjoyed knitting, quilting, reading, and golf.

Mrs. Pauloski is survived by one son, David Pauloski; two daughters, Bunnie Pauloski and Cathy (Eric) Klein; two grandchildren, Kellee (Shawn) Duggan and Michael (Meredith) Hetchler; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death



by her parents; her husband, Dean; one granddaughter, Kimberly Welch; and one grandson, Thomas David Follis.

Memorial contributions may be made to Ovarian Cancer, Lung Cancer and suicide prevention programs.

## Howard L. McKee

Howard L. McKee, 78, of Oscoda, died on Monday, Dec. 28, 2020 at Medilodge in Frankenmuth, Mich.

He was born August 6, 1942 to Cecil and Florence "Dolly" (Bye) McKee in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., where he was raised.

He married Elida Sten in 1964.

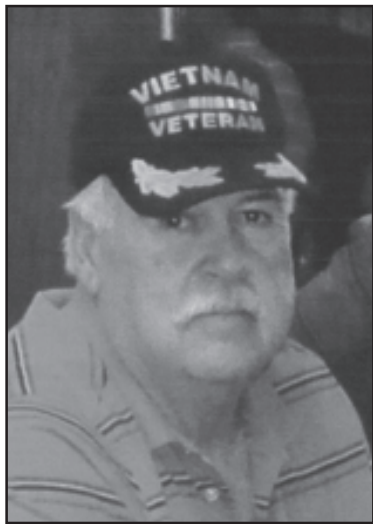
Mr. McKee served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was a recipient of the Bronze Star.

He graduated from Michigan Technological University and worked as a program manager for General Motors.

The McKees were longtime residents of Holly, Mich. He retired in 1997 and they moved to Oscoda.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing and raising beagles. He was a member of the Mikado American Legion Post No. 254, and the Iosco Sportsman Club.

Mr. McKee is survived by



his wife, Elida; two daughters, Rondy (Fred) McKee of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and Polly (Paul) Masterson of Oscoda.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Donna Zollner.

Cremation arrangements were made through Gillies Funeral Home, Lincoln. A celebration of life event will be announced at a later date.

## Nyla Jean Holmes

Nyla Jean Holmes, 96, of Harrisville, died on Monday, Dec. 28, 2020 at MidMichigan Medical Center in Alpena.

She was born September 1, 1924 to Lloyd R. and Vera C. (Yakes) Rivers in Onaway, Mich. She was raised in Harrisville and Mikado. She graduated from Harrisville High School.



On June 3, 1943 he married Kenneth G. Holmes in Harrisville.

Mrs. Holmes worked as a secretary for the Michigan State Cooperative Extension office at the Alcona County Courthouse for many years.

She enjoyed quilting and gardening.

Mrs. Holmes is survived two daughters, Kathy (Doug) Smith and Julie (David) Mills; one son, Gary (Deanna) Holmes; eight grandchildren, Stacey Moran, Melissa Lundberg, Jesse (Rachel) Smith, Jill (Jeff) Wampler, Rebecca Vleit, Hannah (Chris Holden) Holmes, Cameron Holmes, and Clara Holmes; and six great-grandchildren, Daniel Moran, Cassidy Moran, Logan Smith, Conner Smith, Colton Smith, and Willard Vleit.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth, on December 11, 1907; six brothers, Dale Rivers, Stanley Rivers, Forest Rivers, Ronald Rivers, Warren Rivers, and Norman Rivers; and two sisters, Elise Stone and Sharon Goul.

Cremation arrangements were made through Gillies Funeral Home in Lincoln.

## Jaqueline (Jackie) Trimmer

Jaqueline (Jackie) Trimmer, 69, of Harrisville died on Friday, Jan. 1, 2021.

She was born in Lansing, Mich. to Ronald and Mary Veltman on July 25, 1951. She went to school at Eaton Rapids Public Schools.

She married Patrick Trimmer on December 17, 1976, in Lansing, Mich.

Mrs. Trimmer worked for the Lansing Public School District and Waterford Public School District as an administrative assistant for most of her career.

The Trimmers enjoyed the winters in Bonita Springs, Fla. and summers in Harrisville.

She was a master gardener. She founded the city beautification program in Harrisville and served as the treasurer and member of the Sunrise Garden Club in Harrisville.

She was also a member of the Harrisville Lady Lions. She enjoyed making her home and city beautiful, spending time with friends and family, and attending her grandchildren's sporting and school events.

Mrs. Trimmer is survived by her husband, Patrick, two daughters, Jennifer (Bill) Strall and Kelly (Tom) DeLind;



one son, Robert Trimmer; two grandchildren, Benjamin DeLind and Clare DeLind; one sister, Joanne Cleeves; one brother Tom Veltman; one sister-in-law, Chris Kilmer; one brother-in-law, Mark Kilmer; and nephews, Justin Cleeves, Beau (Erin) Kilmer and Casey Kilmer.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Harrisville Garden Club, 419 N. Lake Street, Harrisville, Mich. 48740 or Inspiration Alcona, P.O. Box 506 Lincoln, Mich. 48742 with "Pocket Park" written in memo.

## Americanisms



"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful."  
— Norman Vincent Peale

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## Alcona County Review

111 Lake Street, P.O. Box 548

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(989) 724-6384

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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## 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.

# Calendar of Events

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

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, JANUARY 11

Teen do it yourself kits for ages 12-18 will be available at the Alcona County Library in Harrisville. January's kit is a sticker mosaic. Call (989) 724-6796 to reserve a kit and schedule a pick-up day and time. Available while supplies last.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

The Alcona County Department of Health and Human

Services (DHHS) Board will meet by video conferencing at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room in the lower level of the Alcona County Building located at 106 Fifth Street in Harrisville. For more information and video participation information, contact Tammy Ranger at (989) 619-5865.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

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, JANUARY 18

The Alcona County Library

and all of its branches will be closed to observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

The Alcona Book Club will meet at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library from noon to 1 p.m. (tentative). The selection for January is "We Were the Lucky Ones" by Georgia Hunter. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information and to confirm.

The Knitting Klub & Crochet will meet at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. (tentative). All levels are welcome, call (989) 724-6796 for more information and to confirm.

*(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. Events sponsored by businesses or individuals to make a profit or governmental units for meeting notification are not eligible for this free public service. Sorry, bingo, garage sales, raffle ticket sales, or political campaigning information is not eligible.)*

## Community Foundation has 2021 scholarships available

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) is accepting applications for its 2021 competitive scholarship season. Current and former graduates of high schools in the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle are invited to apply.

Scholarship opportunities through CFNEM are based on a wide variety of criteria including the student's high school, year of graduation, college they plan to attend, or their planned field of study. Many scholarships are for students who have already graduated from high school, and also for those planning to attend a certificate program or trade school.

To be eligible, students must complete the application by the March 1, 2021, deadline.

Most of the scholarships must be applied for directly through the Community Foundation's online platform. Students applying for awards will complete one online application, and will be considered for any scholarship for which they are eligible.

New scholarships, or those being awarded for the first time this year, include:

- The Helen Sanecki Scholarship for females graduating from Alcona High School who plan to study in the field of education, high school counseling, or writing;
- The Henry Sanecki Scholarship for graduating students from Alcona High School to study in the field of aviation, Air Force, or engineering;
- The Charles L. Snyder Scholarship for students of Alcona, Alpena and Iosco counties planning to study agriculture or education;
- The Jim and Luann Gaasch Scholarship for graduates of high schools in Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency and Presque Isle counties who will attend Alpena Community College.

The Community Foundation also holds scholarships that are available for students through CFNEM's affiliate foundations: the Iosco County Community Foundation (iccf-online.org), the North Central Michigan Community Foundation (ncmcf.org), and the Straits Area Community Foundation (sacf.net). These counties include Cheboygan, Crawford, Ogemaw, Oscoda and Iosco. Affiliate scholarship applications are accessed through a separate online platform, available through each affiliate website.

While most of the awards are for one year of study, some of the available scholarships are multiple-year awards.

Scholarship applicants should visit the "Scholarships" section of the Community Foundation's website at cfnem.org, as well as the affiliate websites.

Scholarships awarded during the 2021 competitive scholarship program are for the 2021-22 academic year and are paid directly to the educational institution the student has chosen. The application deadline for all CFNEM and its affiliate foundations' scholarships is March 1, 2021.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan is a charitable organization committed to providing people who care about the future of the area with unique and effective ways of supporting their community now, and for generations to come. Led by a volunteer board of local citizens, the foundation oversees a group of permanently endowed funds from a wide range of donors. Gifts of all sizes from individuals, families, businesses, and agencies are invested in a balanced, well-managed portfolio to build endowments, enabling support for students and local community non-profits now and forever.



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Your information connection for Events & Attractions, Area Services, Government Directory, Church Directory and more.

**Alcona health center**

**Harrisville Services -**  
205 N. State St. Ste. A  
Harrisville, MI 48740  
Phone: (989) 724-5655

**Lincoln Services -**  
177 N. Barlow Road  
Lincoln, MI 48742  
Phone: (989) 736-8157  
Pharmacy: (989) 736-9888

**Tiger Extension -**  
181 N. Barlow Road  
Lincoln, MI 48742  
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# Is Social Security income taxable?

Dear Savvy Senior,  
I understand that a portion of my Social Security benefits may be taxable when I retire. Can you tell me how to calculate this?  
Ready to Retire



**Savvy Senior**

Dear Ready,  
Whether or not you'll be required to pay federal income tax on your Social Security benefits will depend on your income and filing status. About 35 percent of Social Security recipients have total incomes high enough to trigger federal income tax on their benefits.

To figure out if your benefits will be taxable, you'll need to add up all of your "provisional income," which includes wages, taxable and non-taxable interest, dividends, pensions and taxable retirement-plan distributions, self-employment, and other taxable income, plus half your annual Social Security benefits, minus certain deductions used in figuring your adjusted gross income.

**How to Calculate**

To help you with the calculations, get a copy of IRS Publication 915 "Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits," which provides detailed instructions and worksheets. You can download it at [IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p915.pdf](http://IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p915.pdf) or call the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy.

After you do the calculations, the IRS says that if you're single and your total income from all of the listed sources is:

- Less than \$25,000, your Social Security will not be subject to federal income tax.
- Between \$25,000 and \$34,000, up to 50 percent of your Social Security benefits

will be taxed at your regular income-tax rate.

- More than \$34,000, up to 85 percent of your benefits will be taxed.

If you're married and filing jointly and the total from all sources is:

- Less than \$32,000, your Social Security won't be taxed.
- Between \$32,000 and \$44,000, up to 50 percent of your Social Security benefits will be taxed.
- More than \$44,000, up to 85 percent of your benefits will be taxed.

If you're married and file a separate return, you probably will pay taxes on your benefits.

To limit potential taxes on your benefits, you'll need to be cautious when taking distributions from retirement accounts or other sources. In addition to triggering ordinary income tax, a distribution that significantly raises your gross income can bump the proportion of your Social Security benefits subject to taxes.

**How to File**

If you find that part of your Social Security benefits will be taxable, you'll need to file using Form 1040 or Form 1040-SR. You also need to know that if you do owe taxes, you'll need to make quarterly estimated tax payments to the IRS, or you can choose to have it automatically withheld from your benefits.

To have it withheld, you'll need to complete IRS Form W-4V, Voluntary Withholding Request ([IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf](http://IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf)), and file it with your local Social Security office. You can choose to have seven percent, 10 percent, 12 percent or 22 percent of your total benefit payment withheld. If you subsequently decide you don't want the taxes withheld, you can file another W-4V to stop the withholding.

If you have additional questions on taxable Social Security benefits call the IRS help line at (800) 829-1040.

**State Taxation**

In addition to the federal government, 13 states - Colorado, Connecticut, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont and West Virginia - tax Social Security benefits to some extent too. If you live in one of these states, check with your state tax agency for details. For links to state tax agencies see [TaxAdmin.org/state-tax-agencies](http://TaxAdmin.org/state-tax-agencies).

*(Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, Okla. 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](http://SavvySenior.org).)*

## Football Continued from page 1

From 2012 to 2017 Alcona was one of the premier small school programs in the area, only missing the playoffs one time in that span. The Tigers reached their pinnacle in the 2017 season, when they won a district championship but have since fallen on hard times.

In 2018 the program had a single win, though 2019 was a bit of a bounce back year, when the team went 4-5. The 2020 season saw things go back the other way with an 0-7 campaign.

Programs like Hillman, AuGres, Mio and Whittimore-Prescott have shown the benefits that come with going to eight-man including lengthy playoff runs and restored interest in their programs.

"That was a big talk with the coaches, in that this may breathe some much-needed energy back into the program," Somers said. "When you only have 12 or 13 guys it gets really hard to practice. You are never doing live contact and the competitiveness just cannot be simulated so we have to back off. Now, if you are talking about 13 kids on an eight-man team practice can be amped up and skills can be

more readily practiced. We are excited about it and excited to be back into more of a competitive environment. It should ultimately lead to better play on the football field."

Alcona has long been known for its smash-mouth style of play, especially on the offensive side of the ball where it has historically run a full house, or "T" formation. Somers added he hopes to incorporate the "T" offense in eight-man and also use some spread offense, like what they ran towards the end of last season.

"We have a lot to learn but I have a great staff who is up to that challenge and they have all committed to coming back next year, even though we are going through this change so that is great," Somers said. "We are excited about this."

**Happy New Deals!**

'19 BUICK ENCORE ESSENCE AWD With heated seats, remote start & back up camera	<b>\$22,995</b>
'17 BUICK ENVISION AWD With heated seats, remote start & back up camera	<b>\$24,995</b>
'17 GMC CANYON DENALI CREW CAB 4X4 With heated & cooled leather seats, spray on bed liner, Trailer pkg., running boards, remote start, back up camera	<b>\$34,500</b>
'17 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW 4X4 MOSSY OAK EDITION With running boards, fiberglass topper, trailer pkg. back up camera & remote start	<b>\$31,995</b>
'15 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD With heated leather, trailer pkg. & 7 passenger	<b>\$20,295</b>
'15 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ AWD With heated leather, remote start	<b>\$17,395</b>

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**top ten**

**Reasons for ER Visit**

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4. Back pain
5. Cuts, contusions
6. Upper respiratory infections
7. Broken bones, sprains
8. Toothaches
9. Abdominal pain
10. Chest pain

Source: [howstuffworks.com](http://howstuffworks.com)



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Call the Review (989) 724-6384  
or email  
[editor@alconareview.com](mailto:editor@alconareview.com)

# Great Lakes farmers look to the future with alpacas

**By Anne Hooper**  
Capital News Service

The word “farming” typically produces images of pastures dotted with cattle, muddy pens full of pigs or hen houses bustling with chickens.

But there is a new animal in the Great Lakes spotlight: the alpaca. While far less common than other livestock, the woolly Peruvian quadruped is crucial for the livelihood of some American farmers.

This is especially true for the Great Lakes region, where some of the nation’s largest registered alpaca herds are found.



With the ever-growing push for sustainability, alpaca fiber may stand as the next greatest thing in fashion. The Great Lakes region has some of the largest alpaca herds in the country. *Photo courtesy of Jaddy Liu.*

“Out of all the different animals that we’ve farmed — which includes cattle, pigs and horses — alpacas have been our favorite,” said Nancy Rogers, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. They’re clean, have docile personalities and are a dual-purpose animal: You can breed and sell them while harvesting their fiber,” she said.

Rogers owns Three Generations of Love, an alpaca farm that she founded with her mother several years ago.

In both the Great Lakes region and country, Ohio

takes first place with 26,512 registered alpacas, according to the Alpaca Owners Association—a national organization headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The association reports there are 16,840 alpacas in New York, 13,501 in Pennsylvania, 8,302 alpacas in Michigan, 7,927 in Wisconsin and 5,073 in Indiana.

As the industry has developed, so have related organizations — such as the Great Lakes Alpaca Association headquartered in Lodi, Wisc. Founded in 1995, its mission is “to promote the growth of the alpaca industry” in the

mentally destructive to produce. Cashmere goats, for instance, eviscerate their grazing land with their sharp hooves. Manufacturing synthetic textiles uses precious resources while pumping out harmful chemicals.

Alpaca wool could help mitigate pollution, according to experts. The animal is renowned for its soft hooves that leave grazing land unscathed. It also requires minimal water and produces little waste compared to other livestock, such as sheep and cattle.

Rogers attests to their cleanliness: “They have padded feet that don’t tear up the pastures. They also use a concentrated dung pile where the whole herd excretes their waste.”

“Their feces are small and pellet-like, making them easy to collect for disposal or use as compost. And, since alpaca waste contains low levels of nitrogen, it’s safe to put back into the environment,” she said.

Rogers said they sold their herd following her mother’s retirement in 2016. Although the animals have left Three Generations, a constant reminder of them remains: their wool.

“With the alpacas gone, we’re solely in the business of fiber production now. We’ve accumulated a lot of wool from them, which we take to the local mill and convert into yarn,” Rogers said.

“It generally costs \$8-\$10 to make a skein of yarn, which then sells for \$15-\$20. Most of our money, though, comes from our knitted apparel. People prefer to buy clothing rather than making it themselves,” she said. Rogers said that the largest profit comes from completed apparel and accessories.

It can be hard to break into the industry because of the several-thousand-dollar price for each animal and the rela-

tively low revenue of raw fiber — though well-established, sizable farms can become financially sustainable, according to AARP, the national association for retirees. The most profitable are those that can carry out production from start to finish, beginning with raw fleece and ending with artisan clothing.

According to economists, alpaca wool is valued at about \$25 per kilo (2.2 pounds) in the global marketplace — that’s six times the price of standard sheep wool.

Aside from producing wool and fertilizer, the animal itself is innately valuable. Since alpacas were first introduced to the United States in 1984, demand has grown dramatically each year.

“When alpacas were first brought here from Peru in the 1980s, there were just a few of them and they cost a fortune,” said Leslie Herzog,

president of the Great Lakes Alpaca Association. “If you could trace your alpaca’s lineage to the Peruvian Acocya Farm, you could make well over \$100,000.”

Along with being the association’s president, she owns and operates Herzog Alpacas in Highland Park, Ill. She’s witnessed the evolution of the American alpaca industry over the past several years.

“Since alpacas were so valuable back then, people’s primary focus was buying and selling them — they weren’t as interested in their fleece. That all changed, though, when the recession hit in 2008 and alpaca farmers were no longer able to sustain themselves by selling the animals,” Herzog said.

“But, instead of dying out, the industry reinvented itself

**Continued on page 8**

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# Surviving 2020 despite hardships of pandemic life

By **Mary Weber**

Columnist

Finally, a new year has begun and with it comes a collective sigh of relief that 2020 is now in the past.

It was a hell of a year and will be remembered as one of the worst in history due to a pandemic that rocked nations across the globe. Thankfully, there is hope on the horizon for 2021 with an effective vaccine that may put an end to the COVID-19 virus.

As with most families, marking the new year means it is time to pack and put away Christmas décor. For my husband, Wil, it means putting away the elaborate Christmas village he has collected for 40 years with so many houses the village is spread across two rooms.

For me, it means taking down the Christmas tree filled with angel ornaments and numerous other decorations we put up annually.

As I look at the task before us, I already know there is one decoration we held in high regard this Christmas that won't be getting packed or tossed in a trash bin - a very sad poinsettia plant that looks more like Charlie Brown's bending branch Christmas tree than the robust colorful multi-red leaf poinsettias found in stores.

This poinsettia is one I purchased for Christmas 2019. It was a gift for Wil's mother, Agnes, who lived with us for three years before her death just a few weeks after that Christmas.

I typically don't keep poinsettia plants after a season, but I didn't have the heart to pitch this particular plant, even when it started dropping leaves like crazy. Instead, I let this poinsettia hang out with the rest of my indoor house plants, watering it occasionally, even though it just looked like stems.

I don't have a green thumb when it comes to plants, I often forget to water them and rarely ever give them much thought. For this reason, I only pick the hardiest of house plants to care for. The fact this poinsettia survived at all surprises me.

It seems survival has been the key theme of 2020. Sadly, so many didn't. We who made it to 2021 saw a world last year we have never seen before. We saw the wear and tear on our healthcare workers, the toll it took on parents, sons and daughters, the task teachers faced and our youth crying to attend school again. We saw nursing homes crumble under the weight of an unstoppable virus and we saw a nation politically at war on how to overcome a pandemic.

Early on in the year, survival took an almost humorous detour, as we struggled as a nation to find toilet paper. Apparently, someone decided the one with the most toilet paper would win the survival game, causing every store to put limits on the product. Many stores ran out completely.

Stores also ran out of paper towels and disinfectant wipes. Suddenly surgical masks were not just for medical professionals, as children and adults donned them. Going to the bank with your nose and mouth covered was no longer a sign the bank was about to be robbed.

Protocols were changed by many professions to take the utmost care not to infect oth-

ers, some sent workers home to do their jobs remotely, others, such as first responders, had to take extra caution and time to sanitize their equipment. Plexiglass was installed between cashiers and patrons. Social distancing and washing hands vigorously to the tune of the ABC song became the new normal.



The Weber's sad, but still surviving poinsettia plant.

ers, some sent workers home to do their jobs remotely, others, such as first responders, had to take extra caution and time to sanitize their equipment. Plexiglass was installed between cashiers and patrons. Social distancing and washing hands vigorously to the tune of the ABC song became the new normal.

It has been a long, hard year for many. Many businesses shut their doors for good, many others are on the brink of closures. People have lost their jobs.

For Wil and me, surviving the past year meant we stayed home a lot. My dear 74-year-old husband, has a host of health issues, putting him at high risk of succumbing to the virus should he get it.


For Wil, going out meant a trip to the mailbox and back. For me, it meant being very careful not to bring any germs home after an outing. Luckily, the Alcona Review seemed to understand the risk factors and my work outside home was scaled back considerably. I conducted interviews over the phone and attended meetings via Zoom, propped up against pillows in the comfort of my bed. Dressing for work meant putting on my good pajamas.

Lions Club and other community activities we enjoyed immensely in the past ceased. Having friends over and visiting others also ceased. Wil and I were glad to have each other but after just a few weeks of isolation, we be-

came anxious and a bit bored.

Our boredom in April grew into a long list of honey-do projects for May. First on our list was to get a new puppy. We felt our older dog, Gustin, needed a friend and since we now had time to train a puppy, it would be fun to do that again.

Of course, it couldn't be just any puppy, it had to be what I consider to be the king



## Alcona's Backyard

*By Mary Weber*

white, instead of the clay-mud brown she loves to dig in. We are pretty sure her name should have been "Excavator," as we have never met such an energetic landscaper.

When we weren't trying to wrestle the 40, then 50, then 70 and now 85-pound puppy into the shower to rinse her off, we were busy with shipments of home improvement supplies to tackle all those house projects we put aside for years.

One home improvement activity after another followed through much of the summer. Even our eight-year-old granddaughter who had to be quarantined for two weeks to be able to come and be with us was put to work painting our deck.

The gardening projects, that I was so anxious to start back in April, kept getting pushed to the back of the list, including the repotting of the poinsettia plant. By August, when I finally had time to garden, I found the plant laying on its side, brown and crumpled from the summer's heat with no water.

I never expected the plant to survive, still, I felt bad about ignoring it for so long. I cut away some of the brown shriveled stems and replanted it, making sure it had plenty of water for the remainder of the summer. I didn't expect it to grow, but it did.

When the weather grew cold it came in with my other houseplants. Of course, Caledonia, the excavator, thought her landscaping duties included the house plants and gave quite a few of them the going over when my back was turned, including the poinsettia. Still, somehow, through all its hardship, it

survived and six weeks before Christmas it gifted us with a few red petals, not many, but just enough to remind us that Christmas is a time for new hope and healing.

There has been great loss over the past year, still, for the most part, we seem to be surviving. Young families have learned to cope with school closures and brilliant teachers have found ways to educate children remotely. Children, who became isolated, learned to use Facetime and other Internet social networks and games to communicate and play with each other. They also began to use some imagination to play.

Families tuned out of hectic schedules running from one sports activity to another and brought out board games and jigsaw puzzles to do at the dining table. They began taking walks together again and people took new interest in cooking and reading.

As I gaze at my sad but surviving poinsettia, I look back at not just the hardships we have faced as a nation, but how we have endured it. Hopefully, we will never have another year like 2020, but if we do, I'm sure with a little love and care for our fellow man, like this poinsettia, we will survive.

*(Mary Weber was born and raised in the suburbs of Detroit, Mich. She moved to Alcona County in 2005 with her husband, Willy when he retired. Life in the north woods, away from city life presents new experiences not only with nature but with a community of caring, friendly people, they now consider family...and they love every minute of it.)*



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# The joy of early season panfishing

By **Gregg Schefferly**  
Outdoor Writer

There is something truly exciting about winter pan fishing. As the sun comes up, the lake takes on a life of its own. Snow crunches underfoot as you make your way out on the ice. The sunrise is beautiful as it pops over the horizon. The hand auger slicing through the ice is music to your ears as it effortlessly carves a hole to fish from.

The sounds of other anglers making their way out can be heard across the frozen surface -- sleds are dragged across the ice and augers and spuds chime in around the lake as everyone prepares to fish.

Ice fishing can be as simple or complicated as you wish. Simple as a five gallon bucket and a spud or hand auger. The bucket not only carries your equipment, but it is something to sit on, and can also be used to carry the fish off the ice.

On pleasant days it's hard to beat sitting a bucket jiggging for panfish. After a short jiggging cadence, drop the line to allow the bobber to float freely. It's pretty exciting when a fish bites. One way to tell is seeing rings around the bobber as the fish is nibbling on the offering suspended below. Sometimes hooking a panfish can prove to be a challenge because they are only nibbling the bait. Other times the bobber will suddenly disappear below the water and you'll set the hook feeling the scrappy panfish below resisting the trip topside.

Depending on whether or not you're using an old fashioned dowel rod or a commercial rod with a reel will determine how you'll retrieve your catch. With the dowel rod you'll set the hook, and in one fluid motion set the rod on the ice as you pull the line up hand over hand. Of course, if your rod has a reel you'll quickly retrieve the fish.

Once you get your catch topside you'll want to get your offering back down as quickly as you can before the school below move on. Often times the bait will be fine and you can simply drop it back down. Other times you'll have to rebait before getting your offering back down the hole.

If you're quick enough, sometimes you can catch a few fish before the school moves off. Once they do, there are a couple different tactics employed to continue to catch fish.

The first is to wait them out. Simply put, hang in there, and continue jigging until another school of fish shows up. The second tactic is after fishing a short time and if nothing shows up, you move and try to locate fish.

Keeping it simple makes it much easier to quickly move about. Early season with a hand auger or a spud, it doesn't take long to cut through a few inches of ice, ladle out the ice chips and be back fishing.

On those days that aren't so nice, having a portable shanty, and a heater opens up an entirely new world. Not only are you very comfortably



## Exploring the Outdoors

By *Gregg Schefferly*



This blue gill was caught on first ice by an angler who is not disclosing tactics or location. The good news is that these lunker panfish can be caught on any number of lakes in northeast Michigan. *Photo by Gregg Schefferly.*

tucked away and out of the cold with the warmth of a heater, you can actually look down the holes and see the fish. Often times, it's as clear as an aquarium. What's interesting, is when you can see the fish below, suddenly you'll find yourself trying to keep your offering away from the smaller panfish as you try and catch the bigger ones. It quickly becomes evident that the first fish biting are seldom the biggest ones.

Bait choices for ice anglers come down to mousies, waxworms, spikes, wigglers, and minnows. What you chose will depend on what you're fishing and what they prefer. Locally, a few of the favorites are perch, bluegill, and crappie. Using ultra-light line is a must as you try and catch those lunker panfish. Sometimes simply dropping your offering down to within a foot of the bottom can have you catching fish. At times panfish will be suspended so it doesn't hurt to change things up and try different depths.

For those of you who like taking advantage of modern electronics, a GPS with a lake's map showing contour lines will help find points or drop offs. A flasher instantly shows not only fish but also your lure. Being able to instantly see fish and what depth they're suspended will allow you to literally put your offering right in front of their noses.

Flashers are incredibly sensitive; I've observed my bait fall off my lure and was able to see it slowly sinking to the bottom. With the flasher you'll know if there are fish below you. Having the flasher allows you to instantly see how the fish react and helps you make changes to your tactics

allowing you to catch fish. It could be the presentation, perhaps the color, the lure, or

Continued on page 8

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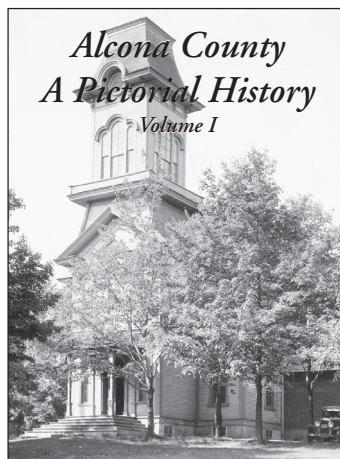
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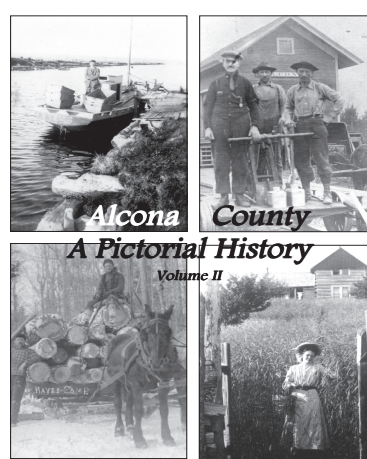
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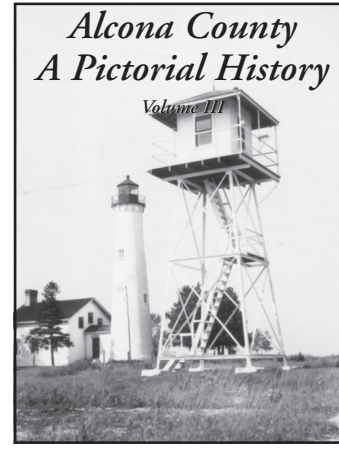
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## Panfish

Continued from page 7

the bait.

As winter settles in and the ice conditions improve to allow you to get out fishing, why not take a day and give it a shot? You might have so much fun you'll discover you're hooked. Good luck!

(After spending several years in Afghanistan, Alaska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin, Gregg Schefferly has returned to writing and Lincoln where he grew up hunting, fishing, and trapping. Feel free to contact him or send him pictures at northwriter@hotmail.com.)

## Alpacas Continued from page 5

and began to reorient itself toward cultivating and selling the animal's fiber. It's warmer than wool, hypoallergenic, water-repellent and environmentally friendly. People love it," she said.

According to Herzog, alpaca cultivation is on the rise. For the industry to reach its full potential, however, she said better fiber mills need to be constructed.

"While Peru has lots of specialized mills that can accommodate alpaca fiber, we have relatively few that can process it. At this point in time,

the amount of mills that we have couldn't handle a large-scale, thriving alpaca industry," she said.

While the lack of large-scale mills currently presents an obstacle for the industry's advancement, Herzog is optimistic about its future in the Great Lakes region and beyond. "We're just tapping into the potential of alpaca fiber. Even with the current industry limitations, we're refining it, blending it with other materials and finding new purposes for it — that fiber is the future," she said.

## Caring Continued from page 1

can keep our residents here," Santer said.

She explained the truth about nursing facilities such as Lincoln Haven is that many residents do not have visitors regularly and there is one guardian caring for 12 patients. "It's not uncommon that nursing home residents don't get visitors. We do have some though, I'd say about eight of the residents would get regular visits from family before COVID-19. So, in that respect, not a lot has changed for the community here," Santer said.

Instead of allowing visitors in, Lincoln Haven purchased five tablets so residents who had family wanting to visit could Skype or Facetime over the Internet. They also, as usual, allowed residents to call family members and the staff increased efforts to communicate to family members how their loved ones were doing.

Christmas festivities were also changed a bit this year. Instead of having group get-togethers in the common area, which is no longer allowed until the restrictions are lifted, activities such as decorating

Christmas cookies were brought to the resident's room where they could work on the craft either by themselves, with a roommate or a staff member. The annual Christmas party and dinner were also brought to each room.

Typically, the community helps to entertain residents by offering Christmas caroling and music, this year, however, the staff at the facility played Christmas music for the residents.

"We tried to keep things upbeat and happy. We have a great group of staff here who have always been heavily involved in life at the facility.

"The church and community have also always been good about donating gifts and giving Christmas cards," Santer said.

She explained they received so many Christmas cards the 32 residents each received four cards and a gift for Christmas.

Santer said they expect the facility, both staff and residents, to receive their COVID-19 vaccinations soon and hopes sometime after that some of their restrictions will be lifted.

"We just keep trying to keep everything as normal and healthy as possible," Santer said, "The residents have just about everything they need, but always appreciate cards of any kind, such as thinking of you and get well wishes and enjoy getting mail, even if they don't know the person who is sending the card."

Cards and short letters can be mailed or dropped off at the door. The Lincoln Haven Nursing and Rehabilitation Community is located at 950 Barlow Road, Lincoln, Mich., 48742.

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# Buggy Rides



## Harrisville family helps exchange cultures

**January 3, 1996** ~ By Cheryl Peterson

It isn't often that you would find a German and Japanese student living in the same home in Alcona County, but the Hartz family has both and welcomes the experience.

Denise and Richard Hartz of Harrisville have two exchange students living with their family for the next six months. Nobuhiro Yamamoto, 17, of Osaka Japan and Christine Winkler, 17, of Haimhausin, Germany will be staying with the family until July.

Both exchange students came to live with the Hartz after, staying with temporary families in Hillman — also members of the Hartz family.

Nobuhiro did not speak English when he arrived in the United States. He also had never seen snow. Command of the English language is still a challenge for Nobuhiro, but he is perfecting his aim with snow balls and ability to ride snow mobiles.

Osaka is a city with a population of about 250,000 and living in Harrisville has been quite a change of environment for Nobuhiro who likes "the woods and the quiet."

Nobuhiro has three older brothers, two of which have been exchange students. His father is a professor at a junior women's art college and his mother works part time in city hall.

Making friends has not been a difficult task for Nobuhiro. He has many and enjoys their company. He also said having every thing close by is convenient. In Osaka he would have to take a train to go to a movie house. He said television is "a lot different" and one thing he does here, as a household chore, is burn newspapers — something he never did in Osaka.

Nobuhiro plans to participate on the track team this spring concentrating in sprinting events.

Learning English was not a task that Christine Winkler had to master before she came to the United States — she was already fluent in the language.

She had also been to the United States twice before coming to live in the area.

She vacationed with her family and friends two times in western United States, but found living in the states to be very different. Christine explained that while vacationing the Germans drove and bought groceries for meals — the food they made a home. Living in the United States has opened her eyes to how different foods are between the cultures.

Christine's home town,

Haimhausin, is a village of about 5,000 people in a similar climate — so the size of the community and advance of winter did not provide much of a change for her.

One thing she's had to get used to is living with brothers and sisters. Christine is an only child and by living in the Hartz family she has added two brothers and one sister to her United States experience. In Germany her father works with computers and her mother runs the household.

Christine has also made many friends and she said some of them think she is "a genius" because she is taking "difficult" classes like chemistry and physics. In Germany, Christine said, she was taking 14 subjects. English was the first foreign language she was required to learn. She has studied Latin for six years and Italian for one year.

Having exchange students as family members is not a new experience for Denise, Richard, Kristen and Steven Hartz. Two years ago they had a German exchange student live with them. Denise's experience is much more extensive because while growing up her family also included exchange students.

"The kids are the ones that

have to adjust the most," Denise said. "It's hard having that extra person staying around the clock. I think they've adjusted well. It's really such a nice experience. There's no way to describe it."

Christine and Nobuhiro are Youth For Understanding (YFU) exchange students. The were placed in temporary homes in the U.S. because the group had trouble finding them host families in this area.

When a cartoonist gives a character way too many details, one might call it overdrawn.

**Cryptopquip**  
Answers

Super Crossword

Answers

W	A	G	S	E	T	N	A	S	L	O	W	I	S	H	A	W	E					
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D	E	B	A	C	L	E	P	E	R	S	O	N	A	L	I	T	I	E	S			
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C	T	R	L	E	A	U	U	N	A	A	D	E	E									
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S	H	O	W	H	O	S	T	I	N	G	C	O	N	T	E	S	T					
A	S	P	S	O	O	M	C	S	A	R	U	N	T									
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L	E	M	M	E	S	S	A	G	E	T	E	N	E	M	E	N	T	S				
E	R	A	S	N	E	E	R	E	D	N	E	S	R	O	O	F						

## Clark released Friday re-arrested Tuesday

Second Charge is for Complicity in First Bank Robbery

**January 3, 1921** ~ Harry Clark, confessed accomplice of Joseph Quarters in the attempted holdup of the McNichol Bank at Glennie on Dec. 7, and who had been confined in the county jail here since the day following the crime, was released from custody Friday night, Dec. 31st, under \$7,000 bail.

On Tuesday Sheriff Freer arrested him a second time and returned him to his cell in the jail. The second arrest was made on complaint of Mrs. E. R. McNichol, in connection with Clark's confessed complicity in the robbery of the same bank on August 22, when the robbers got, away with \$1900 of the bank's cash.

Clark was arraigned in Justice Southgate's court and placed under \$20,000 bond.

Mrs. McNichol was in Harrisville the first of the week, coming after she learned of Clark's release. She is inclined to think that the crime is not regarded as seriously as it should be, due probably to the fact that the young men implicated in it are so well known and to the general sympathy that is naturally felt for the families of the accused.

Speaking of Cashier and Mrs. A. A. Miller, she won-

dered of the people appreciated their condition and the nerve-racking experience to which they had been subjected. Both Mr. and Mrs. Miller were handled by the robbers on the occasion of the first robbery, put into a room and threatened with death if they tried to give the alarm.

On the second attempt Mrs. Miller was in an upper room while the shooting was going on down stairs. She came running with a shotgun when her husband called to her after he was shot down, both fearing the robbers might return.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been sent to their people in Indiana for a time to recover. Mrs. Miller, a frail little woman, is said to be a nervous wreck and Mr. Miller is still suffering from his wounds.

Later word from the Millers is to the effect that Mrs. Miller is sick in bed and that Mr. Miller is not recovering as rapidly as was hoped. He was expected back this week to Glennie, but is unable to come.

Quarters is still in the hospital at Bay City, and his Condition is said to be critical.

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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	
Dec. 27	35	24	0.00	6.4	23	SSW
Dec. 28	32	21	0.04	2.4	24	N
Dec. 29	29	11	0.00	3.4	26	SSW
Dec. 30	33	27	0.13	10.3	37	SSW
Dec. 31	31	18	0.00	1.9	13	WSW
Jan. 1	32	15	0.11	4.5	19	W
Jan. 2	33	28	0.00	1.9	13	N

**Precipitation Summary (Inches)**

	2020-2021 Season		Normal Water Content
	Water Content	Snowfall	
Weekly Total	0.28	4.0	0.42
Month of December	1.22	3.3	1.83
January to Date	0.11	4.0	0.12
Year/Season to Date	0.11	8.2	0.12

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. **MOVIES:** In how many movies did Sean Connery play the character James Bond?
2. **ADVERTISING SLOGANS:** What product is touted as "the fabric of our lives"?
3. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** How many laps do drivers have to complete in the Indianapolis 500 race?
4. **HISTORY:** How many Pyramids of Giza (Egypt) were constructed?
5. **MUSIC:** Which pop song repeats the chorus, "Why can't you see? You belong with me"?
6. **LITERATURE:** What kind of novel is written in a series of letters?
7. **MEASUREMENTS:** How many cups are in 1 pint?
8. **MYTHOLOGY:** What is the home of the Greek gods?
9. **ANATOMY:** How much of the adult human body is made up of water?
10. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the most densely populated continent on Earth?

**Answers:** 1. Seven; 2. Cotton; 3. 200; 4. Three; 5. "You Belong With Me" by Taylor Swift; 6. Epistolary; 7. 2 cups; 8. Olympus; 9. About 60%; 10. Asia (c) 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

# Moments In Time

By The History Channel

- On Jan. 7, 1789, Congress sets today as the date by which states are required to choose electors for the country's first-ever presidential election. A month later, on Feb. 4, George Washington was elected president by state electors and sworn into office April 30.
  - On Jan. 10, 1901, a drilling derrick at Spindletop Hill near Beaumont, Texas, produces an enormous gusher of crude oil, signaling the advent of the American oil industry. The geyser flowed at an initial rate of 100,000 barrels a day. Today, only a few oil wells still operate in the area.
  - On Jan. 5, 1920, the New York Yankees announce the purchase of heavy-hitting outfielder George Herman "Babe" Ruth from the Boston Red Sox for \$125,000. Ruth had played six seasons with the Red Sox, leading them to three World Series titles.
  - On Jan. 6, 1936, Porky Pig makes his world debut in a Warner Brothers cartoon, "Gold Diggers of '49." When Mel Blanc joined Warner Brothers the following year, he became the famous voice behind Porky as well as Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Sylvester and Tweety.
  - On Jan. 8, 1966, ABC's rock and roll TV variety show "Shindig" airs its last episode. The show had debuted in September 1964, featuring acts including the Everly Brothers, the Rolling Stones and The Beach Boys.
  - On Jan. 9, 1972, a fire breaks out aboard the lavish Queen Elizabeth, and by the next morning the world's largest passenger ship lies in a wreck on the bottom of Hong Kong harbor. Launched in 1938, the Queen Elizabeth steamed across the ocean as a troop transport during World War II.
  - On Jan. 4, 1999, 11 nations adopt a single currency, the euro, and "locked in" their exchange rates relative to each other and to the euro. At midnight, their currencies officially ceased to exist.
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## Super Crossword

### EMCEE RIVALRY

- |  |  |   |   |  |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 Moves like a dog's tail</p> <p>5 Sicilian erupter</p> <p>9 Not too swift</p> <p>16 Slack-jawed feeling</p> <p>19 Question to an unknown caller</p> <p>21 Portable grill</p> <p>22 See 38-Down</p> <p>23 Start of a riddle</p> <p>25 In favor of</p> <p>26 Downhillers, e.g.</p> <p>27 "— -haw!" (rodeo yell)</p> <p>28 Magazine agent's success</p> <p>30 Total failure</p> <p>32 Riddle, part 2</p> <p>36 Run — (buy drinks on credit)</p> <p>37 Title for Lancelot</p> <p>39 Sleep study acronym</p> <p>40 Big vases</p> <p>41 Riddle, part 3</p> <p>49 Cab Calloway catchphrase</p> <p>50 Lovingly, to a musician</p> | <p>51 Common folks</p> <p>55 Similar to</p> <p>57 Actor Kilmer</p> <p>58 Peppery</p> <p>59 Boxer Clay, later</p> <p>60 Riddle, part 4</p> <p>69 PC combo key</p> <p>70 Water, in Vichy</p> <p>71 A, in Italy</p> <p>72 "Zip- — -Doo-Dah"</p> <p>73 Riddle, part 5</p> <p>81 Author Rand</p> <p>82 Fall Classic mo.</p> <p>83 12, on a sundial</p> <p>84 Small kid</p> <p>85 Clorox, e.g.</p> <p>87 Having no 131-Across</p> <p>91 Sarajevo locale</p> <p>96 Riddle, part 6</p> <p>99 Some vipers</p> <p>102 — -pah-pah</p> <p>103 Gen. Lee's side: Abbr.</p> <p>104 Half-pint</p> <p>105 End of the riddle</p> <p>111 — Stone (hieroglyphic discovery)</p> | <p>114 Gretel's brother</p> <p>115 Metal source</p> <p>116 Painter's undercoat</p> <p>117 A Gershwin brother</p> <p>118 Riddle's answer</p> <p>125 Sci-fi author Stanislaw</p> <p>126 Email, e.g.</p> <p>127 Some overcrowded houses</p> <p>128 Historic span</p> <p>129 Smiled villainously</p> <p>130 See 74-Down</p> <p>131 Top of a car</p> <p><b>DOWN</b></p> <p>1 It follows "/" in a URL</p> <p>2 "Feels so nice!"</p> <p>3 Loses one's hair</p> <p>4 Not guaranteed only to float</p> <p>5 Merman of song</p> <p>6 British prime minister May</p> <p>7 Small peeves</p> <p>8 Enzyme-name suffix</p> <p>9 Transparent</p> <p>10 Dwells</p> | <p>11 Shikoku sash</p> <p>12 Is no longer</p> <p>13 Here, in Le Havre</p> <p>14 Sandbar</p> <p>15 Indian language</p> <p>16 Public scandal</p> <p>17 Like Afghans</p> <p>18 Act of exiting</p> <p>20 Clic — (Bic brand)</p> <p>24 Drain-clearing stuff</p> <p>29 Shocks</p> <p>30 Quick race</p> <p>31 Sewing case</p> <p>32 Baby buggy, to Brits</p> <p>33 Tolkien meanies</p> <p>34 Fish in a Pixar title</p> <p>35 Doctors' gp.</p> <p>38 With 22-Across, spaced out</p> <p>42 "If — a Hammer"</p> <p>43 Mouselike animal</p> <p>44 1970s Chevy</p> <p>45 "Curses!"</p> <p>46 Shed skin or feathers</p> <p>47 Doctors' gps.</p> <p>48 Curse</p> <p>52 Resident of Riyadh</p> | <p>53 Page of "Juno"</p> <p>54 Album's first half</p> <p>56 Make — in (begin working on)</p> <p>58 "Grand" hotel</p> <p>60 1983 comedy with Mr. T</p> <p>61 Gasoline additive</p> <p>62 Wading bird</p> <p>63 Sickly</p> <p>64 Label</p> <p>65 Color shade</p> <p>66 "Say again?"</p> <p>67 Rock's Brian</p> <p>68 Boat mover</p> <p>74 With 130-Across, home of a Scottish "monster"</p> <p>75 Say again</p> <p>76 Old lovers</p> <p>77 "Say it — so!"</p> <p>78 — Field (Mets' home)</p> <p>79 Drifting sort</p> <p>80 English prep school</p> <p>86 Aides: Abbr.</p> <p>87 "Hmm, I guess so"</p> <p>88 Grandiosity</p> <p>89 In the past</p> <p>90 Magazine or book divs.</p> | <p>92 Wall — (financial district employee)</p> <p>93 Nearly massless particle</p> <p>94 Lacks entity</p> <p>95 "— boy!"</p> <p>97 Vie for the love of</p> <p>98 Lurches from side to side</p> <p>99 For a spell</p> <p>100 Generous type</p> <p>101 It's west of Colombia</p> <p>106 Bursts (with)</p> <p>107 Of the past</p> <p>108 Ski cottage</p> <p>109 Like pop flies</p> <p>110 Co.'s top dog</p> <p>112 Hall's pop partner</p> <p>113 Slightly built</p> <p>116 Admiral Graf — (German warship)</p> <p>119 Mao — -tung</p> <p>120 Sugar-name suffix</p> <p>121 Big rabbit feature</p> <p>122 Peak: Abbr.</p> <p>123 Siouan tribe member</p> <p>124 Abbr. on a bounced check</p> |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
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## Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

- Snakes can help predict earthquakes. They can sense a coming earthquake from 75 miles away, up to five days before it happens.
- Pure cocoa can help prevent tooth decay.
- According to Roger Highfield, author of "The Physics of Christmas: From the Aerodynamics of Reindeer to the Thermodynamics of Turkey," Rudolph's red nose is probably the result of a parasitic infection of his respiratory system.
- The original game of Clue, patented in 1947 by a British man who invented it to pass time during World War II air-raid blackouts, included a lead pipe token made of real lead (it was eventually replaced by steel, then pewter). The original version also included slightly more exotic weapons like a hypodermic syringe and an Irish walking stick.
- There are no muscles in your fingers. Their function is controlled by the muscles in your palms and arms.
- No one ever called "The Lion King" a documentary, but one hyena researcher was so incensed by the film's inaccuracies that he sued Disney for defamation on behalf of hyenas everywhere.
- There's a town called "Big Ugly" in West Virginia.
- The Eiffel Tower was originally supposed to be erected in Barcelona, but the project was rejected because citizens considered it an eyesore.
- It's illegal in New Zealand to name your child Sex Fruit, Fat Boy, 4Real, Cinderella Beauty Blossom, or Fish and Chips.
- Your tonsils can grow back if there was tissue left behind during the removal process.
- If you could use your nose in space, you'd discover it smells like a mixture of hot metal, diesel fumes and barbecue, thanks to compounds called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons that emanate from dying stars.

Thought for the Day: "Not only must we be good, but we must also be good for something." -- Henry David Thoreau  
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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: **K** equals **O**

YIAE G PGBSKKEVWS CVLAW G  
PIGBGPSAB YGF SKK ZGEF  
JASGVNW, KEA ZVCIS PGNN VS  
KLABJBGYE.

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# ALCONA REVIEW CLASSIFIEDS

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### LEGAL NOTICES

#### Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Alcona County, starting promptly at 10 a.m. on January 20, 2021.

The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Paul S. Hupcik and Dolores E. Hupcik, husband and wife. Original mortgagee: First Federal bank of Northern Michigan successor in interest to/and or name change to mBank. Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None. Date of mortgage: December 23, 2005. Date of mortgage recording: January 4, 2006. Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$105,282.39.

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Mikado, Alcona County, Michigan, and described as: The N-1/

2 of the SW-1/4 Exc. the south 250 feet of the west 697.94 feet, Section 26, T25N R8E. Common street address (if any): 4255 Alvin Road, Mikado, Mich. 48745-9749 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: December 23, 2020

Trott Law, P.C.  
31440 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 145  
Farmington Hills, Mich. 48334  
(248) 642-2515  
1426560  
12-23, 12-30, 1-6, 1-13

#### State of Michigan Probate Court County of Alcona Notice to Creditors Decedent's Estate File No. 20-6137-DE

Estate of Geraldine Scott, deceased.

Date of Birth: July 22, 1942

To all creditors:

Notice to creditors: The decedent, Geraldine Scott, died June 6, 2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Raymond Scott Jr., personal representative, or to both the probate court at County Building P.O. Box 385, 106 Fifth Street, Harrisville, Mich. 48740 and the personal representative within four months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 6, 2020

Attorney  
Howard T. Linden, PC  
Howard T. Linden P25438  
29100 Northwestern Hwy.  
Suite 370  
Southfield, Mich. 48034  
(248) 358-4545  
Personal Representative  
Raymond Scott Jr.  
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## Kovels: Antiques and Collecting By Terry and Kim Kovel

# Folk art paintings

Artists sometimes only make one kind of art, perhaps keeping to painting, sculpture or jewelry. But many try all kinds of art before they find the one that is best. Self-taught Peter Hunt (1896-1967) started painting thrift shop furniture with peasant designs in 1929. His colorful pieces sold quickly in Cape Cod and became so fashionable that they were sold in the furniture departments of Macys, Gimbel's and other well-known department stores. Old boxes, school desks, strollers, toys, buckets, trays, fabrics and more were decorated.

Hunt was handsome, charming and clever, and he sold his folk art to important socialites, including Helena Rubenstein, who promoted his work. He also wrote cookbooks and how-to guides so amateurs could copy his style. His painting is compared to early Pennsylvania German or Norwegian Rosemaling. His painted designs were signed with "Anno Domini," the last two numbers of the year, and his cursive signature. Sometimes he added French phrases to the decorations. But the fad only lasted till the 1960s, and he died penniless.

Peter Hunt's art is being collected again. This Hunt dollhouse, painted inside and out, sold at a recent Eldred auction for \$240. A large piece of furniture could bring over \$1,000.

Q: I haven't been able to identify the maker of my silver water pitcher.



The folk art paintings on the dollhouse are the signed work of Peter Hunt. The 39-inch-high plywood toy was decorated in 1941.

The mark includes the initials "L.B.S. CO." and "E.P.N.S." and a cross, a crown and a shield. I presume the interior is aluminum because it's very lightweight. It looks very modern. Do you have any idea who the maker is and the time period? What can I expect as to its value?

A: This mark was used by Lawrence B. Smith Co. of Boston, Massachusetts. The company was founded in 1887 and made silver and silver plate serving pieces. It went out of business in the late 1950s. The letters "E.P.N.S." stand for "electroplated nickel silver." Sterling silver is solid silver. Nickel silver doesn't contain any silver but is an alloy made of about 20% nickel, 60% copper and 20% zinc. In electroplating, an electric current is used to deposit a thin layer of silver onto the base

metal. The process came into commercial use about 1840. Modern silver plate trays are almost impossible to sell and have no melt down value since they aren't solid silver. Your silver plate pitcher might sell for about \$50 to \$75.

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#### CURRENT PRICES

Face jug, salamander on forehead, spaced teeth, hooked nose, handled, greenish black, 9 1/2 inches, \$130.

Sign, Maserati, logo, round, red, white, blue, porcelain, 12 inches, \$345.

Cluthra vase, blue, green, white, footed, Durand, 11 1/2 inches, \$500.

Quilt, tulips, flower buds, scalloped border, green and yellow striped borders, 63 x 73 inches, \$660.

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## Veterans Host By Freddy Groves

### At ease: Sarge and the coffee shop vets

There wasn't a single veteran on the sidewalk outside the coffee shop. I was saddened by this, believing they couldn't continue their morning meetings because of the cold weather. Still, I approached the carry-out window to order a hot drink -- and saw that the whole bunch of them were inside, all seated 6 feet apart in their lawn chairs.

I poked my head through the door and was waved in.

"I have an announcement," Sarge said from his perch on a stool at the counter. He rapped his COVID measuring stick on the floor. "We can't stay out in the cold all winter," he said. "So, I bought this place. VA

small-business loan. Welcome to our new clubhouse."

The group exploded with questions, of course. He explained, "I bought it, but we're the only ones who will be allowed in here. To keep to all the virus rules, we'll sell coffee through the window, maybe make hot meals for homeless vets if anybody knows how to cook. But you all have to sign up as employees."

That naturally got a huge reaction about government regulations, phony COVID stats and privacy. "We're limited in how many we can have in here," he countered, "unless you're employees. In case somebody rats us out and sends

the authorities around." Sarge was serious, and he had the paperwork to prove it. He waved a sheaf of documents and handed out a stack of W-4 forms. They all got busy writing in their names and Social Security numbers on documents that would never be sent to the IRS.

"You up for it, son?" He waved a form at me.

What the heck, right? I know how to cook, courtesy of the Army. So I took the form and filled it out. I knew I was officially admitted to the group, after all this time, when Sarge told me to bring a lawn chair.

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