



Great Lakes Bay Veterans Coalition hosts successful Personal Hygiene Drive



The Great Lakes Bay Veterans Coalition hosts an annual Personal Hygiene Drive to support the Aleda E Lutz VA Hospital in Saginaw. This event is held during the entire month of November with delivery usually the second Friday in December.

The hospital has a program where they help homeless and low-income veterans by giving them personal hygiene items. Each veteran can receive about a dozen items. The program is run by volunteers and isn't funded by federal dollars. The group was asking for donations each month to meet the need.

Three years ago, the Coalition decided to collect some items and took down two

truckloads of supplies. That kept the group supplied for about four months. The next year, the Coalition provided enough supplies to keep them stocked till October. Last year, not only did they have enough supplies for the year, they were able to send boxes of supplies to their CBOCs (Community Based Outreach Clinics) all over mid-Michigan.

This is only possible thanks to the efforts of groups like DTE who make a huge impact on the success of the program.

30th Annual Breckenridge FFA Farm Toy Show

The Breckenridge FFA Alumni and Chapter hosted the 30th Annual Breckenridge FFA Farm Toy Show with over 500 people in attendance. There were over 30 vendors with toy tractors, trucks, and farm memorabilia.

Thanks to your support and participation, this fundraiser will help the Breckenridge FFA Chapter with the cost of attending conventions throughout the year. Be sure to save the date for the next show on December 3, 2022!



From Jason Hannath

Despite the cold and snow, construction on Meridian Wind is moving forward with plans to be operational in the third quarter of 2022. In similar fashion, our local non-profits are continuing to serve those in need throughout the winter. We've highlighted some of these organizations

in this newsletter to celebrate their accomplishments and enable those of you who want to connect with them – either through voluntary service, monetary means, or thoughts and prayers – to do so.

Each month, this newsletter commemorates the incredible community we are all blessed

to be a part of. We're proud to be able to support our local schools, neighborhood events, and the individuals that make it all happen. As we head toward a long-awaited spring, we hope you will all stay safe and warm. We look forward to the many great things to come this year.

Local cheer and pompon teams win big

A big round of applause to the Merrill, Breckenridge, and Hemlock Competitive Cheer and Pompon Teams on their big wins this season!



Merrill Competitive Cheer took first place wins at the Swan Valley Invitational and Breckenridge Invitational!



The Hemlock High School Pompon Team qualified for States and is making a run at their fifth State Championship in a row. Hemlock's middle school team also qualified for Division 1 for the first time in six years!



The Breckenridge Varsity Cheer Team swept first place wins in Leslie and Breckenridge!



Annual Buck Pole provides fellowship and fun

Porter Free Methodist Church hosted their annual Buck Pole on opening day. It was a great evening of fellowship and fun for the whole family. Special thanks to all the local sponsors that donated gifts for our hunters!



Children's Grief Center thrives in Saginaw community

The Children's Grief Center of the Great Lakes Bay Region (CGCGLBR) continues to thrive in Saginaw community. There have been peer support grief groups for children, teens, and the adults who bring them for the past five years at the MidMichigan Children's Museum. Their mission, creating a healing environment through peer support for children, teens and their families grieving a death, continues to support the grieving youth of Saginaw.

CGCGLBR was recently the fortunate beneficiary of Saginaw Valley State University's yearly Battle of the Valleys and was awarded \$41,765.58. The SVSU Student Association stepped up 110% to create activities all week long to raise awareness and engage students in philanthropy to support the center. CGCGLBR continues to host SVSU Social Work interns every year and have onsite campus grief groups for university students.

CGCGLBR looks forward to their partnerships and collaborations with other agencies in the Saginaw community and have loved being part of the Riverfront as they've grown. To get more information, or register for group or volunteer training, please email admin@childrensgriefglbr.org, call (989)495-9335, or check out their website at www.childrensgriefglbr.org.



Barton Malow Construction Corner

In February, with the majority of the project being completed, there will be small amounts of traffic driving to the turbines for in-tower work throughout the month. We still advise for the safety of the public to watch work activities from a distance.

Collection line crews will be wrapping up work in the first half of February in Jonesfield. Splice pits and junction box installation will occur on the collection line routes as necessary in the field. The remaining work will occur near or in the turbines.

Finally, restoration crews have been stopped due to the weather and will be returning to work in the spring when the weather allows. The final stone cap will be placed on the access road in the spring as well. The transmission line is planning to continue access road removal in Richland and Jonesfield townships.