



Merrill Fun Day gave memories to last a lifetime



DTE brought the fun with their infamous Kids Zone! The kids had a blast, and let's be honest, the parents even had some fun too! The informational booths were a new addition to the DTE Kids Zone this year, bringing awareness to the great causes that each of these organizations serve and expanding networks by connecting one another.



DTE and the Merrill Lions Club teamed up for a day of family fun along with the Lions Pancake Breakfast. The Lions volunteers once again selflessly committed their time and effort to pulling off a delicious and successful fundraiser.



All in all, this was much more than just Merrill Fun Day. Every attendee had a part in making this a joyful, uplifting, and memorable day for the community.

The Jonesfield-Lakefield Fire Department opened their doors for Touch - A - Firetruck, and many other local community members and organizations were involved in this fun day. Special shoutouts to Lou E. Loon, Sammy Spirit, Jewls the Clown, Sauter Balloons, MidMichigan Events and Kim's Fun Faces for the endless memories they provided.



From Jason Hannath

In September, we had an incredible celebration with our landowners at Dow Diamond. Our utmost appreciation goes out to each of you for your support and collaboration throughout the process of this project.

We were also grateful for the ability to engage with the community and a group

that is near and dear to our hearts - the Merrill Lions Club - during Merrill Fun Day. We can't go without mentioning the amazing non-profits and other local partners that supported this event. Much thanks to Barton Malow, CAN Council, Children's Grief Center of the Great Lakes Bay Region, Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, Hemlock Robotics, Junior Achievement, Merrill Community Schools, Saginaw County Youth Prevention Coalition,

Saginaw Promise and Underground Railroad.

This past month, we had the pleasure of sponsoring many events put on by local organizations. We take pride in the remarkable relationships we've been able to nurture with all our partners over the years, and we're thankful to be part of a company that cares about the communities where we live and serve.

Flame of Hope Week raises more than \$100,000



During this year's Flame of Hope Week, three teams of Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) volunteers ran over 700 miles from Copper Harbor to Belle Isle in Detroit. This week-long event raises funds and awareness for Special Olympics Michigan, and this year, we raised over \$100,000 – the highest year yet.

Throughout the Flame of Hope Week, there are numerous community runs throughout the state where everyone has the opportunity to run and walk to show their support for Special Olympics Michigan. With sponsorships and the support of all the LETR volunteers, runners, walkers, and donors, we were able to hit this outstanding milestone for the Special Olympics Michigan athletes.

We could not have done it without the help of sponsors like DTE and their generous donations. We'd like to thank all who participated, and we're already looking forward to next year!



Don't forget to stay up-to-date with the latest on the Meridian Wind Project at empoweringmichigan.com/meridianwind

Thanks to all who attended our Landowner Appreciation Event!

DTE took things outdoors and hosted a successful Landowner Appreciation Event at the Great Lakes Loons baseball game last month. We had over 400 guests in attendance, and were able to enjoy the game together from the Northern Lights Pavilion. It was a perfect night for a ball game and smiles were shared by all. We look forward to seeing you at the next event!



Project 111 has a life-saving impact on local teens

Project 111 would like to thank DTE for partnering with us to keep teens safe behind the wheel!

Project 111, the Safe Driving Movement, is rethinking the way adults and law enforcement approach teens about safe driving. Project 111 gives teenagers reasons to think twice and make good decisions behind the wheel of a vehicle by giving teens incentives, such as Apple Watches, iPads and gift cards, to encourage good choices. These incentives give Project 111 a voice to be heard as they



teach and remind teens what good driving looks like.

Project 111 is having a life-saving impact on the teens of Midland County. Statistics show that Midland County teens are involved in 10% fewer crashes than their counterparts across Michigan. That translates to 55 fewer teen crashes each year!

Set to open the Project 111 Driving Institute early in 2022, Project 111 will offer a superior driver's training experience to teens across the Great Lakes Bay Region. By combining their powerful incentive and education program into driver's education, Project 111 hopes to set a new standard in training teens to be safe drivers.

To find out more about Project 111 please visit their website at www.project111.org.

Barton Malow Construction Corner

During the month October, the project team will be focused on the assembly portion of the wind turbines in Jonesfield Township. The large crawler cranes will continue moving around the project site, so please be cautious for road closures in the area. During turbine assembly, we ask that for your safety and the safety of our crews, you observe the process from the county roads to keep a safe distance.

Collection line crews will also be working throughout the project footprint installing the underground cable that connects the

towers together throughout the month of October.

With hunting season underway, we will continue working in the area. Please be mindful of the workers on your parcels completing turbine assembly, site restoration, and collection line installation.

Finally, with ongoing restoration efforts, we will have culverts available for sale. If you are interested, please contact John Piche at 248.392.0714 or Nick Schank at 248.915.9508 during the hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.