



## Letters

### A note of encouragement

Dear editor,

In these days of such hate, evil, violence, and destruction, our hearts are heavily laden. Jesus said, "come to me and I will give you rest." He is faithful to keep His word. I think of this lately as Satan attacks us and the things we have buried deep within us rear up its ugly head, totally unexpected and unwanted.

Down in the dark secret places in our hearts, on the lowest level,

Satan wants to create an area where all kinds of nasty thoughts, habits, addictions and attitudes can develop and multiply and then spring out of you when you least expect or want it. It is only the Lord Jesus who can reach down and shine a bright light into those hidden places.

Many of us have those places in ourselves that need to be corrected, to heal and to make changes to all of that garbage we have stored there. He is

preparing a better place for us - Heaven. No matter how many times we mess up and fall short, His compassion never fails (Lamentations 3:22). As God removes the garbage from our hearts, we can be free again (Galatians 5:1).

God is on our side, oh Lord, great is thy faithfulness!

Judy Cregar  
Brooklyn

### Proposed pit would be devastating to area

Dear editor,

I am a concerned citizen directly impacted by the proposed gravel pit in the Irish hills.

I've lived here for 22 years and bought this property from Chuck Brighton. He was a good man, friend and neighbor. He told me once that he had it in his Will to protect the land behind my home permanently as either farmland or natural land, never to be touched by commercial entities. It appears that his surviving family decided to sell out to a gravel pit company that will destroy the beauty and clarity of our environment, and pose serious health and environmental consequences to the surrounding residential homes and businesses, including my home.

I've served as a good neighbor, good citizen and raised my son here in this community. This is an area rich in natural beauty with many lakes and historic sites, including my beloved church dating back to the 1850s. This is considered a tourist area for campers, hunters, and beautiful summer homes. It is a sanctuary for wildlife and the area serves as a watershed for communities. Those of us that live here and serve the community year round will endure the biggest impact of the mines if they are approved.

WJ Hayes State Park and Wampers Lake, which I have been going to since I was a baby to swim and enjoy the lake, would be dramatically affected so close to the proposed areas.

There are considerable risks to the environment, animal species, wetlands and water-

shed areas of the Irish hills. Areas allowing gravel mining have a history of problems destroying the water. What will happen to our precious lakes out here that so many people invest time and money to have summer homes on?

People that come here to vacation, or live here year-round like myself would no longer be able to enjoy the peace, beauty and clarity of this area as it is now. My friend Chuck Brighton would roll over in his grave knowing the potential risks of putting the gravel pit in this area, and what it will do to the value of our homes. Home values have already depreciated in the area since the proposals were presented.

Businesses all within this area will be dramatically affected when people are going to avoid coming out here, or living here due to the traffic, pollution, and destruction this will cause.

The residents of this community will be directly impacted by the serious health consequences that have occurred in other residential communities that had gravel mining permitted.

Gravel pits pose huge health and environmental risks, and people need to understand these consequences, namely our Cambridge Township officials that hold the key to passing these permits.

Gravel mining affects the air in a way we can't always see or smell.

Businesses and residents living within an 8-mile radius of these proposed sites can be affected; especially in this area

that has higher than average wind gusts. Health risks are only part of the huge economic and environmental consequences these mines pose towards businesses and residents.

It's my opinion that gravel mining companies should not be allowed to function within a 10-mile radius of residential properties, much less watershed areas and lakes where people vacation, boat and swim. It's a travesty to think that the almighty dollar is more important than the quality of life in a residential community that is historic, rich in nature and so important to people all over Michigan. They picked the wrong place to try to do this.

I am proud to be part of the Citizens to Protect the Irish Hills which includes numerous amazing and intelligent citizens that have contributed much to this community, are very concerned and do not want this gravel pit to be allowed. To see the map of the proposed areas, go to citizensprotectirishhills.com.

I can only hope that the good people of the Cambridge Township Committee and Board love this area enough to protect it as their duty as township government officials to not allow the permits to be passed. We depend on and vote for them to have our community's best interest at heart and save this precious area, its memories and the homes of the loving families that live here.

Lori E. Mantyla  
Cambridge Township

## Letters

### What happens to the shrink wrap?

Dear editor,

I have a few good ideas for maybe an upcoming article in the Exponent.

First, since we all have been driving by the boat storage lots all winter, we're seeing the boats slowly heading back to the water. I think many of your readers would like to know (sorry if this has been covered already) what happens to blue shrink wrap. Is it landfilled or recycled??

Being new to the area (from Grosse Ile) the preferred shrink-wrap color is white over blue

here. I don't know why. The downriver area does not recycle the white shrink wrap. There is a place you can send yours to be recycled.

My question is this, why (if not already) is all that shrink wrap not recycled? As a boat owner myself, I would pay an upcharge for disposal.

With all the boats in this area, it's a viable question for your reporters to ask.

Scott Cancillieri  
Brooklyn

### No power outage credit received

Dear editor,

Information on Consumers Energy responding to a letter I wrote requesting a tax credit for a power outage back in February 2023. I think the public needs to know their criteria for receiving a tax credit for power outages.

Consumers Power sent me this response: Thank you for submitting an electric outage credit application for the outage you experienced on or around March 3, 2023. We are always happy to hear from our customers and make sure to respond as quickly as possible. Below is an update on the status of your application.

We evaluate electric outage credit applications according to several criteria, including outage duration and frequency, whether the outage stems from a catastrophic event, and more. After careful review, we are sorry to

report your request has been denied because the event causing your outage was classified as catastrophic. During catastrophic events, your outage must exceed 120 hours to qualify for the credit and yours did not.

Consumers Power needs to understand the cost of running a generator, and the loss of food products to the average customer. Also, it looks more like they are more interested in profit, profit. Also, why are rates higher from June 1 through September 30 each year? The State of Michigan's Attorney General Dana Nessel should be asking Consumer Power why? And report to the residents of Michigan.

Dave Petsch  
Brooklyn

### We oppose wokeism

We the undersigned Christian pastors, as authorized and mandated by Jesus Christ our Lord, do publicly forbid the anti-Christian agenda of wokeism in all of our spheres of influence. This woke ideology includes:

- The abortion of babies in their mother's womb, in violation of the United States Constitutional right to life;
- The LGBTQ+ identity confusion, which is contrary to Jesus' words that God created us as biological males and females in His image;
- Critical Race Theory, which

promotes racial division, unforgiveness, hatred and violence;

• The decision of those in political authority in government and education who insist we raise children according to their values rather than the parents and their family values.

Rev. Richard L. Blank, retired  
Member of Lifesouthern  
Ministries, Tipton, Mich.

Linda Kalmar, Tecumseh  
Chuck Kalmar, Tecumseh  
Mary Cantu, Cement City  
Karen Magill, Manitou Beach



## Columbia Fire Department Report

<b>April 13</b> Rescue: Nicole Drive; Pamela Drive; Constitution Avenue;	(2): Alameda Court; Fire: Case Road	<b>Rescue:</b> Constitution Avenue
<b>Assist other agency:</b> Idle Hills Road, Norvell Township; Fire: South King Street	<b>April 15</b> Fire: Jefferson Road/Q Lane; Wampers Lake Road/Spicer Drive;	<b>April 17</b> Rescue: School Street; South Main Street
<b>April 14</b> Rescue: Monroe Street; Irwin Street	<b>April 16</b> Fire: Brooklyn Road;	<b>April 19</b> Rescue: East Mill Pond Drive; Riverside Road; Hyde Road; Irwin St.