



Come for Breakfast, Stay for Lunch, at the Village Inn!

By Kate and Calvin Holtrop

Connie McKellips and her husband Steve had been looking to buy a restaurant for a few years. When they heard that Suzi's Village Inn was closing, they thought that would be a great opportunity for them to get started.

"Even though it was right in the middle of a pandemic, getting into the restaurant business is scary enough. Then adding the pandemic with it, to say the least, has been interesting!" said Connie.

Connie and Steve hated to see Suzi's Village Inn close, since it had been a staple in Fruitport as long as she could remember. As a young adult, Connie worked there. Her daughter worked at the restaurant as well. Sadly, Suzi's closed not long ago, after nearly 35 years of business. But the McKellips have brought the restaurant back to life, renovating and adding some new menu items along with the best of the community's favorites.

The new Village Inn opened up on February 8th of 2021, and, according to Connie, things are going well. "We just want to get the word out that we are open and ready for business," she said.

The Village Inn's hours are 7 days a week from 6am-2pm. The restaurant will also be looking into outdoor seating for summer, and Connie hopes to have that set up very soon.

FRUITPORT REGULATOR RUN

by Aimee Cohoon-Johnson

Last year would have been the 13th annual Fruitport Regulator Run. We jokingly called it the "Lucky 13 Run" to ward off any bad mojo, and just like everything else in 2020, it was cancelled. The Regulator Run is our largest fundraising event of the year, helping us to generate monies to support local needs and charities. With all the cancellations and changes around social gatherings, we needed to get creative with how we connected with people to conduct our fundraising. So, we organized prize raffles, silent auctions, games at the Pincrest golf outing, and joined forces with the Team from 5 Below. As a result, we were able to raise a good deal of capital and in the process discovered new avenues for future fundraising opportunities. With all this community support we were able to provide donations to the Fruitport Lions Club Thanksgiving and Easter dinners, P.H.I.K (Putting Hope In Kids), Fruitport Township Flag Fund, and our Christmas for Families program. This Memorial Day weekend we will host the 14th annual Regulator Run (apparently there is no such thing as the Lucky 13 Run...) and we expect to see a great turnout if the weather cooperates. The Regulator Run is not only a fundraiser, but also a great way to bring folks together for a fun event to honor our Veterans. As always, Veterans ride free! This Memorial Day we thank all members of the armed services for their dedicated work and sacrifices. We also thank our community for their continued generosity. #fruitportproud



The team from 5 Below and Pincrest Bar & Lanes donated items, shopped, and wrapped gifts for our Christmas for Families program.

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