

**HONORING HOWELL HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SURVIVORS**

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*May 11, 2021*

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| Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 16 graduating seniors from Howell High School who recently participated as contestants in the 14th annual “Senior Survivor” fundraiser.  I’m thrilled to honor Gage Altrock, Felicia Berendt, Nicole Caudy, Jackson Dukes, Lucas Gonzalez, Olivia Gray, Alyssa Johnson, David Johnston, Julia Jolly, Ryan Lane, Danny Maura, Zach Metz, Taylor Newstead, Alaina Schrock, and Molly Tucker — as well as the winner of this year’s Senior Survivor: Morgan Pasini.  For a full week, these students lived at Howell High, collecting money and competing against each other in reward and immunity challenges that included scavenger hunts, trivia challenges, and cake-baking contests. This year’s Senior Survivors were put to the test — not just to prove who could outwit, outlast, and outplay their fellow competitors — but also by the extraordinary circumstances they each have faced in adapting to a school year affected by COVID–19.  Each Senior Survivor was supported by a Junior Survivor from the 5th grade classes at | Howell’s elementary schools. These Junior Survivors led a coin drive in their schools to benefit their respective seniors.  Together, Howell students raised a whopping $220,427 — which will go towards building an inclusive playground for children of all abilities at Genoa Township Park.  This playground, which will be named the Senior Survivor Playground, will let kids play together in a natural environment in order to develop physical, imagination, and problem-solving skills through self-directed play. Together with its nationally-recognized Unified Sports program, it’s just one more example of the Howell community’s steadfast commitment to including students with disabilities and special needs.  None of it could have been possible without the 16 seniors who came together to raise money for a noble cause. Over the years, Senior Survivors have raised more than $760,000 for various charities. It is why I have the great privilege of recognizing them on the floor of the People’s House — so that their selfless service to others may be forever known. |