

# Fowlerville NEWS & VIEWS

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*"Serving the Local Communities"*

Volume XL No. 2

Sunday, January 14, 2024

Published Weekly



Nelson Cypher, a member of the Knights of Columbus, left, and Father Nate Sokol extend an invitation to attend the Italian Dinner that will be served at St. Agnes Catholic Church on Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Knights of Columbus hosting Italian dinner at St. Agnes Church on Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting an Italian Dinner at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Fowlerville on Saturday, Jan. 20. Doors open at 5:30pm, with the dinner served at 6pm. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$12 for those 12 and under. The meal includes

homemade lasagna, spaghetti, appetizers, salad, dessert, and a cash bar.

Call (517) 223-8684 to order tickets or stop at the church office. Tickets will also be available at the door. The church is located at 855 E. Grand River Ave. on the east side of Fowlerville. All are welcome to attend.

**FOWLerville  
DENTAL CENTER**

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AND MORE**

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NEW PATIENT  
TREATMENT\***

\*Must present ad at appointment.  
Some restrictions may apply.  
Expires 1/31/2024.

**CONVENIENT HOURS -**  
Friday, Saturday and Evening appointments available.

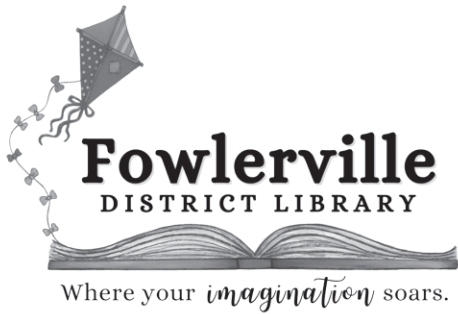
**WE ACCEPT HEALTHY MICHIGAN INSURANCE FOR KIDS & HEALTHY MICHIGAN THRU DELTA DENTAL FOR ADULTS**

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**MODERN FACILITY -**  
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**NEW YEAR,  
NEW SMILE!  
CALL NOW!**



## Upcoming Events

Monday – Wednesday: 9:30 am to 7:00 pm  
 Thursday: 9:30 am to 8:00 pm • Friday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm  
 Saturday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm • Sunday: Closed  
 For any questions, or to register for programs, call us at 517-223-9089

\*\*\*

### STORYTIMES

#### Family Storytime (Ages 1-5)

Have fun singing songs, reading stories, dancing, and playing! Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Jan 16 & 17 • 10am

\*\*\*

**PJ Storytime (Ages 1-5)** Wear your pjs for an evening storytime. We will have snacks & crafts. Bring a blanket and stuffie to be extra cozy. Feb 5 • 6pm

\*\*\*

### KIDS & FAMILY

#### Perler Bead Party (Ages 7-12)

Join Storm to make your own Perler Bead creation. Friday, Feb 9 • 4 – 5pm

\*\*\*

**Chess Club** - Join the Chess Club! The Mid-Michigan Jr. Chess Club will meet. All levels are welcome from beginner to advanced! Saturdays Jan 20-27 • 1-3:30pm

\*\*\*

**CHESS TOURNAMENT** - The Chess Club will have tournament play. Saturday Feb 3 • 1 – 3:30pm

\*\*\*

#### Kids Krafternoons (Ages 7-12)

Drop in and get crafty with a new and exciting craft each month! Supplies provided. Monday, Feb 12 • 4-5pm

\*\*\*

**Lego Club (Ages 7-12)** - Build your own Lego creations and complete challenges. Thursdays • 4pm

\*\*\*

#### My First Escape Room-Sponge Bob (Youth)

Where's Gary? Can you find him? No prior knowledge of Sponge Bob is required. Sign up for a time slot. Fri & Sat Jan 19 3:30, 4, 4:30, 5 & Jan 20 10:30, 11, 11:30 12pm

\*\*\*

#### Crochet Kits

Stop by the library on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to grab a themed crochet amigurumi kit. Provide your own hook and everything else is included. While supplies last.

\*\*\*

#### Cozy Crafting by the Fireplace

Join Mary to work on your craft or learn to knit and start a beginner project. Help is also offered for the aforementioned crochet kits. Monday, Feb 5 • 3-5pm

\*\*\*

#### Homeschool Social - Meet for learning, fun and snacks.

Mondays, Jan 22 & 29 • 12-1:30 pm

\*\*\*

#### New Graphic Novel Club (Ages 7-12)

Join Storm for a discussion on Bad Guys #1. Jan. 22 • 4-5pm

\*\*\*

#### Book Boxes (All ages)

Fill out the online form by visiting the events page on our website. Let the librarians pick a surprise selection of books for you. Register the first two weeks of every month to get next month's box, which will be ready to pick up the first of the following month.

\*\*\*

### TEENS

#### Teen Crafting (Teens)

Join Mary and drop in to make crafts such as flower pounding, resin jewelry, fairy making, diamond painting, and much more! Wednesdays, Jan 17-31 • 2:30-4:00 pm

\*\*\*

#### Twitch Streaming (All Ages)

Join Connor and Tally and get sneak peeks of new games! twitch.tv/fowlervillelibrary  
 Mondays, Jan 22 & 29 • 3:30-4:30pm

\*\*\*

#### Board Games with Connor (Age 10+)

Join Connor and friends for some after school fun. Tuesdays, Jan 16-30 • 3-5pm

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#### Dungeons & Dragons (Ages 12-18)

Come play D&D 5th Edition! No prior experience needed. Wednesdays, Jan 17-31 • 2:30-5pm

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#### Switch Free Play (Ages 10-18)

Open gaming time with the library's Switch. Fridays • 2:30-5 pm

\*\*\*

#### Jr. High Yoga with Mrs. Duke (Ages 11-15)

Come after school and give yoga a try. Wednesday, Jan 16 - Feb 6 & 20 • 3pm

\*\*\*

#### Teen Escape Room

Submarine, Last Breath. Find your way to the surface

before you run out of air! Registration is required. Mon Jan 29 • 5:30pm

\*\*\*

### ADULTS

#### Senior Day

55 or better is invited to join us for a baseball presentation including the late, great Charlie Gehringer followed by live music from the Jazz Cat Trio. Snacks will be provided. Friday, Jan 26 • 12pm

\*\*\*

#### Yoga with Vanessa (Adults)

Join Vanessa Duke for yoga class, no cost, just bring your mat or use one of ours. Wednesdays, Jan 17-31 • 5pm

\*\*\*

#### Jam Session

Join Mr. Damerow for some musical collaboration. Bring your horn, keyboard, harmonica, or whatever you have and join the fun. Tues. Jan 16 & Feb 20 • 5:00 – 7:30pm

\*\*\*

#### Cardmaking

Join Mary to make 4 greeting cards with the theme of "Valentines". Registration is required. Thurs Jan 18 • 6:30 pm, Fri Jan 19 • 11am

\*\*\*

#### Scrapbooking (Adults)

Join Mary to scrapbook your favorite photos. Stay the whole time or for just a few hours. Snacks will be provided. Everyone gets their own table. Registration is required. Sat Jan 20 • 10:30 – 3:30

\*\*\*

#### Self-Indulgence Book Group (Adults)

This is a traditional book discussion group. You can get a copy of the book at the front desk. Next meeting, we will discuss Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley Thurs Jan 25 • 2 pm

\*\*\*

#### Beyond the Book Discussion Group (Adults)

Book discussion plus movie or documentary. Books are available at the front desk. Next meeting, we will discuss TEXT FOR YOU by Sofie Cramer Fri Feb 9 • 6:00 pm

\*\*\*

#### Sewing with Patty (Adults)

By special request evening hours have been added. Bring your sewing machine and get ready for some fun. Registration is Required.

Wednesday Jan 17 & Feb 7 • 6 pm Friday Feb 9 • 11am

\*\*\*

#### Adult Escape Room

Submarine, Last Breath. Find your way to the surface before you run out of air! Registration is required. Mon Jan 29 • 6:30 pm

\*\*\*

#### FDL Oral History Project

Record your history with us as we capture the memories and stories of our residents. Call to schedule an audio interview, which can be done by a family member or staff member and can include video. Recordings will become part of the FDL historical collection.

\*\*\*

**Join Marion Cornett** in the historical room to discuss local history. Wed. 10-12pm • Jan 17-31

\*\*\*

**The library will be closed** on January 15 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

# Thank You!



Thank you Mary Hudson, for stepping up and graciously offering your services as the Interim Director for the past year. We are all extremely grateful!

*Sincerely, the Fowlerville District Library Board & Staff*



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Across from the fire station  
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# Carpet Depot



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**Financing Plans Available!**

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## Preparing a Fair Project: Your Creative Alternative to Hibernation

By Dawn Bhajan  
 Superintendent Open Class Home Arts,  
 Fowlerville Fair

With another holiday season in the books, and a Michigan winter now stretching bleakly ahead, it's tempting to transition to hibernation mode.

Makers, resist that temptation! This is *prime time* for crafting, collecting, cultivating, creating... and planning out those blue-ribbon entries to showcase at this year's Fowlerville Fair. With the revival of our Fair's Open Home Arts program, you need only be a resident of Michigan to enter hundreds of classes that span the spectrum from Needlecraft to Horticulture, Photography to Robotics, Baking to Fine Arts, and everything in between.

In last month's article, we hinted at some exciting changes to Fowlerville Fair's Open Home Arts. Just for starters, here are a few fun additions to the exhibitor class list:

- Diamond Dot enthusiasts will now have their own Youth and Adult classes to showcase their crystalline creations.
- Welding, rapidly gaining in popularity, will also sport its own feature class.
- PLUS, Antiques classes are back on the Fair book for 2024! Enter your antique treasures (50 years or older) in classes for farming tools, military, automotive and railroad, toys, apparel, Scouting memorabilia, sewn pieces, books and publications, pottery and glassware, and cast iron goods for a chance to win ribbons, premiums, and prizes. While the snow flies, why not check those barns, attics, and basements? You never know where you might find your next Best in Show...

In addition to offering new classes, we want to celebrate you, the makers! This year, we're thrilled to introduce Fowlerville Fair's inaugural **Open Home Arts Exhibitor Reception** during Fair week, open to all Open Class Home Arts exhibitors. The reception will feature light refreshments and a special awards presentation. It's the perfect opportunity to share your masterpiece(s) with family and friends, and meet and admire the creativity of your fellow makers, growers, and collectors! You'll receive your invitation with your exhibit entry.

Getting excited yet? Fantastic! Then how about joining us on our brand new Open Class Home Arts Facebook group, and letting us know what keeps your creative juices flowing during these long, cold months. Just search "Fowlerville Fair Open Class Home Arts" on Facebook and ask to join – we'll be glad to welcome you!

This positive-vibes-only, social media group will spotlight classes, swap creative wisdom, share resources, and feature exhibitors and supporters. Our goal is to celebrate all of you wonderful makers whose efforts make life more beautiful, more practical, and more meaningful for everyone around you.

Stay tuned to *Fowlerville News & Views* for more Open



The winter is a great time to get busy creating projects for the Fowlerville Fair. Photo by Dawn Bhajan

Home Arts intel and, in the meantime, may the plummeting temperatures fuel your creativity!

Volunteers are needed and appreciated to help grow the Fowlerville Family Fair Open Home Arts program. Please contact Dawn Bhajan with interest: [dawnbhajan@gmail.com](mailto:dawnbhajan@gmail.com)

## Fowlerville Senior Center

P.O. Box 598 \* 203 N Collins St.

Hours of operation are Monday-Friday 8:30am-2:00pm

Phone Number: 517-223-3929

**DROP IN EUCHRE - EVERY MORNING 8:30 am to noon**

**DROP IN EXERCISE - EVERY MORNING 10 am – 11 am**

**GLEANERS PANTRY HOURS: Tuesday – Thursday 9am – 2 pm**

**Monday, January 15- Board Games 12:30pm**

**Tuesday, January 16- Dice Games – Noon**

**Wednesday, January 17- BINGO Noon – 2pm**

**Thursday, January 18- Birthday POTLUCK 11:30am-2pm**

**Friday, January 19- BINGO Noon – 2pm**

**Monday, January 22- Community Meeting 11am and Board Games 12:30pm**

**Tuesday, January 23- Dice Games – Noon**

**Wednesday, January 24- BINGO Noon – 2pm**

**Thursday, January 25- Buck & Carolyn 12:30-1:30pm**

**Friday, January 26- BINGO Noon – 2pm**

**Monday, January 29- Board Games 12:30pm**

**Tuesday, January 30- Dice Games Noon**

**Wednesday, January 31 - BINGO Noon-2pm**

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**"Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!"**  
**NEW HOURS: Monday - Friday • 8am - 5pm**  
**Saturday • 8am - 1pm**

# Fowlerville High School News

## OFFICE HOURS

Administration Offices 7:00 a.m.– 2:30 p.m.  
 Building opens 6:45 a.m.  
 \* \* \*

## IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES TO NOTE:

1-15 Holiday Break Building is closed  
 1-17 ½ Day Exams 1, 2  
 1-18 ½ Day Exams 3, 4  
 \* \* \*

1-19 ½ Day Exams 5, 6  
 1-19 End of Semester 1  
 1-22 1<sup>st</sup> Day Semester 2  
 \* \* \*

Doors at FHS will be open at 6:45 a.m. on school days. After school hours if your student is not participating in a sport, math lab, credit recovery or meeting with a teacher they should make arrangements to leave the building by 2:30 p.m.  
 \* \* \*

**Fowlerville High School would like to inform parents/guardians of a new resource for information.** Our “Virtual Counseling Office” has links for future planning, mental health and community resources, scheduling options and setting a meeting with a counselor and much more. This information can be found on Fowlerville High School Webpage under the Counseling Department.  
 \* \* \*

**Fowlerville Community Schools, in a joint effort** with all Livingston County Schools, would like to invite all families to our first monthly mental health series for parents. Each month, every school in Livingston County will host the same parent meeting designed by the Cook Center at 6:30 pm. The series will cover several topics that parents and children are battling. Topics include:

Feb 8 @ 6:30 pm - Building your child’s confidence.

March 14 @ 6:30 pm - Bullying

April 11 @ 6:30 pm - Substance abuse and vaping

In each meeting, parents will learn simple strategies to help you respond to your child when they are facing these challenges or learn more about each one if it is ever needed. The cost is completely free to all families and is a valuable resource.

There are two options for attending the parent meetings. You can attend in person at our High School Media Center or virtually via the links provided in the attachments. We know your lives are busy, but we hope that you may be able to find the time to attend this informational series.

Attending in person will allow you to connect with other families as we all navigate raising confident and healthy children. Please contact Amanda Robertson, our mental health specialist, with any questions you may have at [atrobertsona@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:atrobertsona@fowlervilleschools.org). We hope to see you all there!  
 \* \* \*

**Class of 2024 Parents/Guardians and students, Class of 2024 FAFSA Update.** The Federal Government has announced that the updated FAFSA will be open for applicants by 12/31. Before you stop reading, please remember that Michigan is a state that uses the FAFSA application for all State Scholarships and Grants as well as some college scholarship opportunities. This is free money that does not need to be paid back and can be used at trade schools, certificate bearing programs, community colleges, as well as 2–4-year universities and colleges.

At the start of the year, we were informed that all a student would need to complete their portion of the FAFSA was their contributor’s (Parent/Guardian) name and email. With this information, we walked the students through Step 1: Getting their Student Aid ID. We also booked a financial aid specialist to host a workshop during the school day to walk students through completing their application. Unfortunately, the Federal Government is now requiring students to have their contributor’s social security number among other items. Knowing parents/guardians would not want their students to have this information we need to pivot our plans.

In lieu of the in-school workshop, we have booked an online event with a financial aid specialist to be held on 1/17 at 8pm. This way the specialist will be able to walk you and your student through the process from the comfort of your home without the concern of your social security information being in the hands of a high school student. This event is only for Fowlerville Seniors and their families (please see email from 12/4 for FAFSA and workshop links). All questions can be answered, especially ones like who should be the contributor, divorced families, guardianship as well as tips and tricks to get the most aid.

It is our goal that all graduating seniors have the tools available to take their next steps after high school. One of the most difficult conversations we have with students and their families is about missing deadlines for things like financial aid, or when a student changes their mind from entering the workforce and wants to attend a trade school or community college and have not taken the necessary steps to help pay for it.

We hope you take advantage of this opportunity. We appreciate your time and are excited for the class of 2024,

If you have any questions, please email: [hardbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:hardbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org)  
 \* \* \*

## SENIOR LOCK-IN

The Class of 2024 is looking forward to making their Senior year one full of memories that will last a lifetime! The seniors have created an Amazon wishlist that is full of practical items that will be raffled off during the Senior Lock-In. Any donations from the Amazon Wishlist below will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support of our Seniors! See News & Views on the Fowlerville HS page for qr code.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/bfNkDND?ref\\_=wl\\_shar](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/bfNkDND?ref_=wl_shar)  
 \* \* \*

**Anyone wishing to donate to the Micro food pantry** please go ahead and put canned goods etc. into the pantry. Self-serve and self-fill. The pantry is located on 2<sup>nd</sup> St and Grand River next to State Farm.



Jud Scott

## Fowlerville High School’s “ATHLETES” OF THE WEEK

### JV Boys Basketball

**Dylan Soli** - Dylan is a sophomore guard on the Fowlerville Junior Varsity Boys Basketball team. He is a captain for our squad. Dylan is our primary point guard because he does a tremendous job of handling and taking care of the ball. Our team is in good hands with Dylan playing the point guard position as he is confident and composed under pressure and duress. Dylan has made many clutch baskets for us this season during key moments when the team has needed it most. Dylan is an excellent creator for himself and for others. He picks up both offensive and defensive schemes quickly and does things the right way the first time around. Dylan has quick hands and feet defensively and does a great job of creating turnovers for our team so that we can get out and run in transition. Dylan is a leader by example who is steadily developing his vocal leadership skills. The boys basketball program is very fortunate to have Dylan for the current season and the seasons to come.

**Landon Aeschliman** - Landon is a sophomore on the Fowlerville Junior Varsity Boys Basketball team. He is also a captain for our squad. Landon is the most versatile player on the floor as he has shown the ability to play every position for our team. Landon works and plays hard on a daily basis and is excellent when attacking the basket on the offensive end. He has made some big 3 point baskets for us at times this season during key moments in games. He is strong through contact and has many and-1 baskets for us this season. Defensively, Landon communicates well and positions himself according to the principles we preach on a daily basis. He is a leader both by example and vocally. Landon has excellent ballhandling skills and is also one of our best offensive and defensive rebounders, speaking to his versatility out on the court. His competitiveness provides a spark for our team. The boys basketball program is very fortunate to have Landon for the current season and the seasons to come.

### JUD’S FOOTBALL FORECAST

**SATURDAY, JAN. 13**  
 Green Bay 21 vs Dallas 31  
 Cleveland 21 vs Houston 24  
 Miami 24 vs Kansas City 28

**MONDAY, JAN. 15**  
 Philadelphia 24 vs Tampa Bay 17

**SUNDAY, JAN. 14**  
 Pittsburgh 17 vs Buffalo 28

Every week through the season two Fowlerville H.S. athletes will be saluted for their efforts. Athletes will be selected by the coaching staff and Athletic Dept. For that “Winning Deal” on a new or used car or truck, see Dick Scott Motor Mall.

[www.DickScott.com](http://www.DickScott.com)

**Dick Scott MOTOR MALL**

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 SERVICE DEPARTMENT OPEN: Mon. & Thurs. 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. • Tues., Wed. & Fri. 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
 BODY SHOP OPEN: Mon. thru Fri. 8am-6pm



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## Smith Elementary School News

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm  
 School Hours: 8:50 am – 3:32 pm

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- January 15 – NO SCHOOL MLK Jr. Day
- January 19 – Half Day for K-5 (Dismissal Time 12:02)  
 Open House Adjustment
- February 19 – NO SCHOOL President’s Day
- March 1 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester K-5

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**Recess, Temperatures & Proper Clothing** – With winter temperatures upon us lately, please make sure your child brings warm outer wear to school, such as mittens, scarf, hat, snow pants, boots and winter coat. Per our student handbook, students are expected to go outside for recess when the temperature is 10 degrees or higher. Please Note \* A very helpful plan is to also keep an extra set of clothing in your child’s backpack at all times, just in case they get their clothes wet while outside, spill something on themselves at lunch or have an accident at school.

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**Clothing Donation** – The Smith office is very low on stretch waistband sweatpants or athletic type pants. Unisex sweatpants are the best option. Sizes used most often are 6 to 8 & occasionally 5T & 10. We are very low on small and medium size boys & girls underwear. We really appreciate any and all clothing donations. Our community is the best!

\*\*\*

**Medication** – If your child requires any prescription or non-prescription medication during the school year, a parent or guardian must bring the medication in to the Smith Office to drop it off and complete the necessary paperwork. This includes ALL prescription and over the counter medications. **School Board Policy states that children are not allowed to transport medication.**

\*\*\*

**FYI** – Each school building in the Fowlerville Community School District has a Child Study Team / Response to Intervention process in place, which is a vehicle for staff members to review student performance, concerns, and collaboratively develop interventions. If you have concerns about your child’s development and are interested in more information on special services, contact his/her building Principal.

### Livingston Link-up holding networking event at Brighton church on Feb. 2nd

Livingston Link-Up invites business professionals, medical personnel, care providers, and those who assist residents in need to their free event Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at 2|42 Community Church in Brighton (7526 Grand River Ave.) This is the perfect opportunity for professionals and organizations to meet up with the people and groups working on local issues. Your referrals, insights, volunteerism, and financial support might be the missing link in solving some of our shared community challenges!

“This event provides an opportunity for Livingston County agencies and organizations to network and build relationships that will last beyond the event and lead to collaboration across sectors which further supports our residents in need,” said Amy Johnston, the Community Collaborative Planner for the Livingston County Human Services Collaborative Body.

There’s no registration needed! Simply show up and get to know other local professionals.

## NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF HANDY TOWNSHIP TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Handy Township Board scheduled for Monday, January 15, 2024, has been **rescheduled to Monday January 22, 2024**, at the same time of 7 p.m. in the Handy Township Board Room, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, (please use rear entrance of the building to the boardroom). The Public is always welcome to attend.

Laura A. Eisele, Handy Township Clerk  
 (1-7, 1-14, 1-21-24 FNV)



## Michigan House Report

By Bob Bezotte, 50<sup>th</sup> District

The 2024 legislative session is officially underway, and the House of Representatives reconvened this Wednesday with a unique balance of power. Following the election of two Democratic state representatives to other positions, our House now stands at a deadlock with 54 Republicans and 54 Democrats. Special elections in April will fill the vacant seats.

As someone who has consistently advocated for bipartisan collaboration on common-sense policies to improve the lives of local families, I see this as a unique opportunity for us to come together for the collective well-being of our state. The delicate balance of power demands a spirit of cooperation, understanding, and compromise.

In the coming months, my sincere hope is that we can transcend party lines and focus on the issues that matter most to people in Livingston County and beyond. From improving the safety of our communities and our schools, fixing local roads, and supporting veterans who are struggling with their mental health, there are several challenges that require our collective attention. By fostering an environment of open dialogue and collaboration, we can find common ground on key issues and develop effective, pragmatic solutions that benefit every corner of Michigan.

I invite you to stay engaged and informed as we navigate this new legislative landscape. Your input is invaluable, and I remain committed to representing the diverse voices of our community.

*If you have any questions or ideas, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office by calling (517) 373-3906 or emailing [RobertBezotte@house.mi.gov](mailto:RobertBezotte@house.mi.gov).*

### “Fowlerville News & Views” Neighborhood Classifieds

**\$8 for the first 20 words**  
 ...then 10¢ a word after  
**Call (517)223-8760**  
 206 E. Grand River - Fowlerville

## Fowlerville Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Team loses to Pinckney

The Fowlerville JV Girls Basketball Team traveled to Pinckney on Thursday, January 4th and found themselves suffering a 12-point loss. The final score was 32-20.

Missed free throws for the Gladiators and tough play by the Pirates allowed them to pull away with the win. Ireland Curtis led the offense with 14 points while Avery Borg added 4 and Brynn Gouling chipped in 2 points. Makenna Rudnicki and Vivian Shelley contributed good minutes for the Gladiators.

Hours:  
Monday thru Friday  
8am-5pm

Jane's Garage

**Mechanic Shop & Oil Change**  
*(Formerly Randy's Mechanical Shop)*

**Oil Changes**  
*First Come, First Serve*

**\$3.00 OFF**  
Any  
Oil Change

**January Special**  
**FREE**  
oil change with any mechanical service of \$500.00 or more. (Limit one per vehicle.)

- Alignments
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- Brakes
- Flashes
- A/C & Heating

Call for an Appointment [www.janesgaragellc.com](http://www.janesgaragellc.com)  
**(517) 223-5989 • 75 Fowlerville Rd. • Fowlerville**

## Change pays.

**Katie Pikkarainen, Agent**  
 215 E Grand River Avenue  
 Fowlerville, MI 48836  
 Bus: 517-223-4173  
[katie.pikkarainen.raia@statefarm.com](mailto:katie.pikkarainen.raia@statefarm.com)  
 8:30 to 5:30 M - F

Switch and save an average of  
\$480\*

Talk to me about saving more than pocket change.  
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 1201245 State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

**100 W. Grand River • Fowlerville**  
**(517) 223-9193**  
 HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-5:30pm • Sat. 9am-4pm  
*Serving Fowlerville & Livingston County Since 1946*

**Stop By For Additional Listing Information!**

**VIEW ALL LISTING AT [WWW.HARMONREALESTATE.NET](http://WWW.HARMONREALESTATE.NET)**

Nice spacious farm home on 3 country acres. Features include 5 bedrooms, 2 full baths & large mudroom with washer and dryer. Bright kitchen with appliances included. Plenty of room for a pole barn or garage. Stockbridge schools. \$225,000

Nice location close to town for this quality new construction. This ranch home features desirable split floor plan with 3 bedrooms & 2 baths. A spacious great room, dining area & kitchen with stainless steel kitchen appliances included. Enjoy your yard with the doorwall leading to concrete patio. Large 2 car attached garage with concrete driveway. All on large .88 acre lot with short commute to I-96 & M-52. \$299,900

Nice location on a paved road, just minutes to town for this beautiful brick ranch home. Features include 3 baths, 4 bedrooms, brick fireplace & finished walkout that makes a great in-law quarter. Country setting with 1.5 acre treed lot with large deck and fenced yard. Attached 2 car garage plus large shed for additional storage needs. \$324,900

----- **VACANT LAND** -----

Nice corner building site for your new home in downtown Fowlerville. Walking distance to schools, shopping and dining. Natural gas, water & sewer available. \$28,000

Nice county 1+ acre parcel on a paved road in the Morrice schools. Located just 2 1/2 miles to town. \$19,900

Beautiful 1 acre build site with views of all sports Crooked Lake in desirable Northshore Woods. Recently cleared build site with natural walkout site. Beach access to Crooked Lake within walking distance. Nice nature trails throughout the development along with gazebo & picnic area. Building restrictions apply please call for details. \$109,900

**FOR ASSISTANCE AFTER HOURS “CALL”**  
**Sandy Eldred @ 517-375-0842.**

**Contact our experienced agents for a “MARKET ANALYSIS!”**

*“Proud Member of Fowlerville Business Association”*

# LEGAL NOTICES

## FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, February 7, 2024.

The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Francisco Cervantes Jr., A Single Man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as a nominee for Loanpot.com. LLC, Mortgagee, dated January 25, 2021, and recorded on February 8, 2021, as Document Number: 2021R-005996, Livingston County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated November 30, 2023 and recorded December 11, 2023 by Document Number: 2023R-022460, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Four and 29/100 (\$179,504.29) including interest at the rate of 2.75000% per annum.

Said premises are situated in the Township of Handy, Livingston County, Michigan, and are described as: Parcel 3: Part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 9, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the North Section line, South 87 degrees 50 minutes 15 seconds East 897.61 feet from the Northwest corner of said Section 9; running thence South 87 degrees 50 minutes 15 seconds East 150.00 feet along the north Section line; thence South 00 degrees 24 minutes 58 seconds East 297.00 feet; thence North 87 degrees 50 minutes 15 seconds West 150.00 feet along the North Right-of-Way of Brandi Lane (66 foot wide); thence North 00 degrees 24 minutes 58 seconds West 297.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Together with a non-exclusive easement being more particular described as follows: A 66 foot wide non-exclusive private road easement being described as follows: Part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 9, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the centerline of Nicholson Road and the West Section line, South 00 degrees 36 minutes 58 seconds East 330.03 feet from the Northwest corner of said Section 9; running thence South 87 degrees 50 minutes 15 seconds East 1569.53 feet along the centerline of Brandi Lane (66 foot wide) for ingress and egress for the above described parcels and adjacent property owners to the center of a 75 foot radius cul-de-sac and the terminus of Brandi Lane; thence continuing South 87 degrees 50 minutes 15 seconds East 151.66 feet along the centerline of a 66 foot wide easement for ingress and egress, for the property lying Easterly thereof, and the end of said easement Commonly known as: 9844 BRANDI LN, FOWLERVILLE, MI 48836

If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: January 7, 2024

Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C.

Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC  
43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180,  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200

Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Case No. 23MI01022-1

(01-07)(01-28)

(1-7, 1-14, 1-21 & 1-28-24 FNV)

## Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 14, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): CLIFFORD J WILCOX AND MARLENE P WILCOX, HUSBAND AND WIFE

Original Mortgagee: STANDARD federal bank, a federal SAVINGS bank

Date of mortgage: October 5, 1998

Recorded on March 3, 1999, Liber 2538, on Page 253, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Forty Thousand Six Hundred Fifteen and 98/100 Dollars (\$140,615.98)

Mortgaged premises: Situated in Livingston County, and described as: Parcel B: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 24, Town 3 North, Range 5 East, Oceola Township, Livingston county, Michigan, described as follows: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 24, Town 3 North, Range 5 East, Oceola Township, Livingston County, Michigan; thence along the centerline of Musson Road and the North and South 1/4 line of said section 24, South 02 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East, 1873.01 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described; thence continuing along afore-described line South 02 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East 267.56 feet; thence North 88 degrees 38 minutes 17 seconds East 250.00 feet; thence South 02 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East 200.00 feet; thence North 88 degrees 38 minutes 17 seconds East 402.86 feet; thence North 02 degrees 43 minutes 18 second West 667.55 feet; thence South 88 degrees 38 minutes 12 seconds West 404.00 feet; thence South 02 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East 200.00 feet; thence South 88 degrees 38 minutes 12 seconds West, 250.00 feet to the point of beginning.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of section 24, Town 3 North, Range 5 East, Oceola Township, Livingston County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 24; thence along the North-South 1/4 line of said Section (said line also being the centerline of Musson Road) South 02 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East, 2335.52, feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing along said line South 02 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East 4.75 feet; thence North 88 degrees 37 minutes 20 seconds East 652.99 feet; thence North 02 degrees 47 minutes 15 seconds West 4.75 feet; thence south 88 degrees 37 minutes 20 seconds West, 652.99 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 2700 Musson Rd, Howell, MI 48855

The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale will be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing  
Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.  
23938 Research Dr, Suite 300  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335  
248.539.7400

1519751

(01-14)(02-04)

(1-14, 1-21, 1-28 & 2-4-24 FNV)

## NOTICE OF CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, default has been made in the terms and conditions of the Master Deed of Jonathan's Landing Community Association dated May 9, 2002, signed on Jonathan's Landing I- May 9, 2002, and recorded on May 17, 2002, in Liber 3398 Page 830, et seq., inclusive, Livingston County, Michigan, Register of Deeds, and any amendments thereto, and designated as Livingston County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 250 (the "Master Deed"). Said default under the Master Deed has resulted in the recordation of a "Notice of Lien for Nonpayment of Assessments" by Jonathan's Landing Community Association, said Notice of Lien for Nonpayment of Assessments being dated October 23, 2023, signed on October 19, 2023, and recorded on October 23, 2023, in Document No. 2023R-019598, Livingston County, Michigan, Register of Deeds (the "Lien") on which Lien there is claimed to be due, as of the date hereon, the sum of THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTEEN AND 89/100 DOLLARS (\$3,813.89). Under the power of sale contained in the Michigan Condominium Act of 1978, MCL 559.208(2), and Article II, Section 2.5 of the Condominium Bylaws, attached as part of said Master Deed, please take notice as follows:

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Lien will be foreclosed by a sale of the lien premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on Wednesday, February 7, 2024. The amount due on the Lien may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the premises. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Said premises are located in the Township of Howell, County of Livingston, State of Michigan, and more particularly described as: Unit 89, Building 16, Jonathan's Landing 1 Condominium, a condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 3398, Page 830, et seq. Livingston County Records and designated as Livingston County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 250, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in the above described Master Deed (and Amendments thereto, if any) and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended.

Owner(s) of Record: Kelli Turrall

Property Address: 3401 Kneeland Circle, Howell, MI 48843

Parcel ID No. 4706-28-402-191

Attention homeowner (or condominium co-owner): If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Lien at the telephone number stated in this Notice. The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale pursuant to MCL 559.208(2) unless the property is determined abandoned, then, in that event, the redemption period shall be one (1) month from the date of such sale pursuant to MCL 559.208(2), after which Kelli Turrall and all persons claiming through or under him shall be forever barred from all equity of redemption. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, the owner, Kelli Turrall, will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to Jonathan's Landing Community Association for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Dated: December 28, 2023

By: Jonathan's Landing Community Association, a Michigan Nonprofit Corporation

For any inquiries, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Lien set forth below:

Melissa Francis, Esq. Hirzel Law, PLC  
37085 Grand River Avenue, Suite 200  
Farmington, Michigan 48335

Phone: (248) 478-1800

Hirzel Law, PLC File No. 16227

(01-07)(01-28)

(1-7, 1-14, 1-21 & 1-28-24 FNV)

## Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball improves record with win over Pinckney

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team improved its overall record to 3-5 with a 64-50 non-league win over Pinckney on Friday, Jan. 5th. Wyatt Soli led the way with 24 points while Brendan Ray and Dillon Wieas each had 15. Sam Shrader chipped in with 8. Wieas also helped earn the victory with 9 rebounds.



# LEGAL NOTICES

## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 7, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Robert Limbright, an unmarried man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): UNITED SHORE FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC D/B/A UNITED WHOLESALE MORTGAGE, LLC

Date of Mortgage: June 25, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 1, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$158,019.24

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Cohoctah, Livingston County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 16, Town 4 North, Range 4 East, Cohoctah Township, Livingston County, Michigan, described as follows; Beginning at a point on the South 1/8 line of Section 16 which is North 0 degrees 28 minutes 50 seconds East along the West line of Section 16, as occupied, 1315.13 feet to the South 1/8 line of Section 16; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes East along said South 1/8 line 659.90 feet from the Southwest corner of Section 16; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes East along the South 1/8 line of Section 16 a distance of 658.10 feet to the West 1/8 line of Section 16; thence South 0 degrees 13 minutes West along said West 1/8 line of Section 16 a distance of 662.10 feet; thence North 89 degrees 24 minutes West 658.10 feet; thence North 0 degrees 13 minutes East 662.10 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 9284 Schrepfer Rd, Howell, MI 48855-8312

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 7, 2024

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1519020  
(01-07)(01-28)

(1-7, 1-14, 1-21 & 1-28-24 FNV)

## St. Agnes hosting Firekeepers Casino bus trip & breakfast on Feb. 21st

St. Agnes has scheduled its next trip to Firekeepers Casino on Wednesday, Feb. 21. We will be hosting a free breakfast at 9am at St. Agnes Church, 855 E Grand River Avenue, Fowlerville, in the Lothamer Parish Center prior to the bus leaving at 10am.

We will be going to Firekeepers Casino in Battle Creek. The cost is \$50 and includes round trip bus transportation, \$25 in free slot play and \$5 to use toward dining, slot play or use in the gift shop. Returning guests who bring their Red Hot Rewards Club Card will get credits and points added to their existing card. Guests need to bring a valid ID to receive the group package. Those without Red Hot Rewards Cards will be issued them prior to entering the casino.

A Blue Lakes Charter bus will leave the St. Agnes Church parking lot at 10am. Anticipated arrival time back in Fowlerville is 5:30pm. Please call the office at 223-8684 to pre-register or email Lisa at [stagnesfowlerville@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stagnesfowlerville@sbcglobal.net). First come first served. All are welcome to join us for a fun day out!

## FORECLOSURE NOTICE NOTICE OF SALE

TO ALL PURCHASERS - A lien has been recorded on behalf of Howden Meadows Condominium Association. The lien was executed on September 20, 2023 and recorded on September 22, 2023, as Instrument 2023R-017786, Livingston County Register of Deeds. The lien secures assessments and other sums as of the date hereof in the amount of Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine Dollars and Forty-Five Cents (\$4,909.45).

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Under the power of sale contained in the recorded Condominium Documents and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212 that the lien will be foreclosed by a sale of the property described below, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check, at the main entrance of the Judicial Center located in Howell, Michigan (that being the place of holding the Circuit Court for said County), on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 10:00 am, Eastern Standard Time.

The amount due on the lien may increase between the date of this notice and the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

The name of the record property owner is Tracy Wallace, and is situated in the City of Howell, County of Livingston, State of Michigan, and is legally described as follows: Unit 18, of Howden Meadows, a Condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Instrument No. 2019R-010872, Livingston County Records, as amended, and designated as Livingston County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 429. Sidwell No. 17-25-103-018

Commonly known as: 405 Dorchester Drive, Howell, Michigan 48855

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which event the redemption date shall be thirty (30) days after the foreclosure sale or fifteen (15) days after the Association's compliance with the notice requirements of MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCL 600.3278 the co-owner(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to the Association for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the lien at the telephone number stated in this notice. This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing lienholder. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: January 9, 2024

Howden Meadows Condominium Association

c/o Makower Abbate Guerra Wegner Vollmer PLLC

Sarah R. Karl

30140 Orchard Lake Road

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

248 671 0140

(01-14)(02-11)

(1-14, 1-21, 1-28, 2-4 & 2-11-24 FNV)

## Livingston Planning Dept. invites residents to complete 2025 Master Plan Survey

Residents are invited to give their feedback on a variety of topics and help plan for the future by completing a 2025 Master Plan Survey available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LivMasterPlan>. Only lasting about 10 minutes, the survey asks residents about their opinions on the quality of life in the county, infrastructure, technology, recreation areas, and future land use regarding housing and transportation.

The survey is part of the Livingston County Planning Department's development of the 2025 Master Plan that will help guide the development of our community.

A master plan is a policy document that sets a vision for the development of a community through best practices or recommendations for land uses, zoning, transportation, and other areas that help enhance quality of life for that community's residents. Public participation and collaboration with townships, villages, and cities within our area will help the Planning Department prepare an impactful guide.

Stay connected to the Plan's progress by visiting <https://milivcounty.gov/planning/livingston-county-2025-master-plan/>.

## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT.

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 14, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Edward D. Kidder, an unmarried man

Original Mortgagee: Nations One Mortgage Corporation  
Date of mortgage: February 14, 2005

Recorded on March 11, 2005, Liber 4737, on Page 424, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Four and 31/100 Dollars (\$139,424.31)

Mortgaged premises: Situated in Livingston County, and described as: PARCEL 2: Part of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 1 North, Range 3 East, Unadilla Township, Livingston County, Michigan, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the centerline of Spears Road and Section line East 336.55 feet from the South 1/4 corner of said Section 9; running thence East 336.55 feet along the centerline of Spears Road and the Section line; thence North 04 degrees 21 minutes 00 seconds West, 1040.00 feet; thence West 336.55 feet; thence South 04 degrees 21 minutes 00 seconds East, 1040.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Commonly known as 18680 Spears Rd, Gregory, MI 48137

The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Mortgagee/Assignee

Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.

23938 Research Dr, Suite 300

Farmington Hills, MI 48335

248.539.7400

1519749

(01-14)(02-04)

(1-14, 1-21, 1-28 & 2-4-24 FNV)

Joseph Gardella Trust and Estate

**NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

Joseph Gardella (date of birth November 30, 1958), who lived at 7635 Pinckney Road, Putnam Township, Michigan 48169, died on December 14, 2023. There is no personal representative of the Grantor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the Decedent are notified that all claims against Joseph Gardella Estate and Trust dated June 18, 2009, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Peggy Gardella, Trustee, within four (4) months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

THIS NOTICE IS PUBLISHED ON January 14, 2024.

Dated: January 10, 2024

Attorneys for the Trustee:

Strobl PLLC Evan H. Kaploe, Esq.

33 Bloomfield Hills Parkway, Suite 125

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304

(248) 540-2300

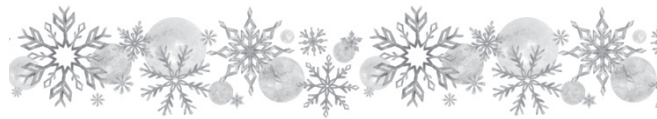
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**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS OF HANDY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FEBRUARY PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the Tuesday, February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary Election has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., at the Township Hall located at 135 & 137 N. Grand Avenue, Fowlerville. The public is welcome to attend.

Laura A. Eisele  
Handy Township Clerk  
(1-7 & 1-14-24 FNV)

# Caleb Jenkins Column



## What Makes a Superhero a Hero?

For much of the past two decades, superheroes have dominated the entertainment industry. But in 2023, we seemingly started to see some cracks in the juggernaut's armor. Multiple superhero projects severely underperformed, and the two highest grossing domestic movies of the year, *Barbie* and *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*, were not related to superheroes at all, at least not in the traditional sense. Some superhero movies, like *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse* and *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3*, still did well at the box office and were lauded by critics, but the genre's vulnerability was evident as audiences flocked to non-superhero flicks like *Oppenheimer* and *Avatar: The Way of Water*.

The success and failure of two superhero projects caught my eye last year, but it was for different reasons than just the state of entertainment. Rather, I was fascinated by their respective advertising schemes and the response of audiences. More specifically, I believe these factors tell a story of what motivates us individually and what we find inspiring in each other. For the sake of those who enjoyed the projects, I will not name them because I do not want my analysis to ruin their fun, and such details are not important to the takeaway.

Both superhero projects were made by the same company

and released around the same time; however, the respective marketing teams generated decidedly different buzz for each. The first focused advertising on the attributes of the superheroes themselves. There was little in the way of what the superheroes were doing or what their purpose was. On the contrary, the advertising was more about wanting people to celebrate the superheroes themselves just for their attributes and abilities, rather than their purpose or how they acted heroically.

This is a subtle difference from other superhero-related advertising. We can describe the difference by saying that theming was less about "let's save the city" and more about "look how powerful I am." To me, and seemingly to many others, the campaign came off as a narcissistic representation of superheroes. In fact, the strategy performed so poorly that the company changed the advertising theme completely as the release date neared, still even that did not salvage the project from performing miserably.

Standing in stark contrast, the second project generated a great deal of positive buzz focused on noticeably different themes: greater purpose and self-sacrifice for others. I did not watch either production, so I do not have a stake in the game. But I did find it fascinating that the themes of the second seemingly resonated so much more with audiences.

Despite how much we hear about self-love, self-fulfillment, personal pride, and other self-focused themes in society, there is something about a higher purpose that still grabs our attention. There is something deep down within us that feels fulfilled by serving others and making a difference. Although we sometimes try to mask it by pursuing the easier route of self-promotion, we are, at our core, still drawn to a higher calling.

This may be a silly illustration of superhero media, but what I observed gave me a bit of hope. The narcissism that tempts us, and that we so often see in society, is not inevitable. Despite the increasing celebration of self-absorption, the call to a greater purpose remains compelling, and it is one I hope we continue to answer.

## Livingston Conservation District

### 2024 Spring Tree Seedling Order Form ~ Order deadline April 1st @ 5:00p.m.

All orders must include payment for processing. Mail order form and payment to: LCD, P.O. Box 916, Fowlerville, MI 48836

Tree Pick-up will be Saturday, April 20, 2024, 9:00am-1:00pm. You will receive a postcard in the mail with instructions for the pickup of your order.

**Orders will not be delivered, it is your responsibility to pick up or arrange for pick up of your order on the designated date and at the designated location.**

The delivery location will be at the Munsell Farm barn located at 301 Smith Rd, Fowlerville, MI 48836, just north of Mason Rd on Smith Rd in Fowlerville (same location as last year.) Please contact us prior to ordering with any questions. (2-2 indicates the tree seedling has spent two years in a seed bed and two years in a transplant bed. Likewise, 3-0 indicates three years in a seed bed and zero years in a transplant bed. Transplants have a larger root system than regular seedlings.) The Livingston Conservation District distributes only the best nursery stock at an affordable price. Seedlings are not guaranteed after delivery. *Size of seedling varies by specie.*

*Please pay attention to the sizing for each specie.* For a description and picture of all products and to order online, visit [www.livingstoncd.org](http://www.livingstoncd.org)

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2-1 Norway Spruce	12"-18"	\$38.00	\$60.00	\$125.00	\$210.00		
2-1 White Spruce	12"-18"	\$38.00	\$60.00	\$125.00	\$210.00		
2-1 Colorado Blue Spruce	10"-18"	\$38.00	\$60.00	\$125.00	\$210.00		
2-0 Concolor Fir	8"-14"	\$38.00	\$60.00	\$125.00	\$210.00		
P+1 Fraser Fir	7"-12"	\$38.00	\$60.00	\$125.00	\$210.00		
2-1 Douglas Fir	10"-20"	\$38.00	\$60.00	\$125.00	\$210.00		
DECIDUOUS TREES	Size	10	20			Quantity	Cost
2-0 Sugar Maple	6"-12"	\$55.00	\$75.00				
2-0 Red Maple	12"-18"	\$48.00	\$68.00				
1-0 Red Oak	12"-18"	\$55.00	\$75.00				
1-0 White Oak	12"-18"	\$55.00	\$75.00				
1-0 Black Gum	12"-18"	\$38.00	\$62.00				
2-0 Paw Paw	12"-18"	\$38.00	\$62.00				
1-0 Quaking Aspen	18"-24"	\$38.00	\$62.00				
1-0 River Birch	12"-18"	\$38.00	\$62.00				
1-0 Sycamore	6"-12"	\$38.00	\$62.00				
SHRUBS/BUSHES	Size	10	20			Quantity	Cost
1-0 White Flowering Dogwood	12"-18"	\$50.00	\$75.00				
1-0 Red Bud	12"-18"	\$50.00	\$75.00				
1-0 Red Raspberry - Latham	#1	\$60.00	\$85.00				
1-0 Butterfly Bushes	12"-18"	\$50.00	\$75.00				
1-0 Common Lilac	12"-18"	\$50.00	\$75.00				
PLANTS	Age	10	20			Quantity	Cost
Albion Strawberry (everbearing)	1 yr	\$30.00	\$50.00				
Flavorfest Strawberry (June bearing)	1 yr	\$30.00	\$50.00				
Jersey Knight Asparagus	1 yr	\$30.00	\$50.00				
MARKING FLAGS					Quantity	Cost	
Red Flag Markers 24"	10 for \$3.00	30 for \$7.00	50 for \$10.00	100 for \$16.00			
Name:						Subtotal	\$
Address:						6% sales tax	\$
						Optional Donation	\$
City:	State:	Zip:				TOTAL	\$
Email:	PH#						







## Snow, Oceans, East & West— Sin?

By Susan Kretchman

In the column I wrote last week, I described my love for snow which included a lament that we have not enjoyed a significant pile of it in our area—yet!! Hope beyond hope resides in my mind that we will get one “big” snowfall before we begin thinking about all things spring.

I even gave a little bit of science behind how snowflakes are formed and how they are unique in nature. This week, I am expanding on another aspect of snow and science, how both show up in scripture as teaching points for us.

A good place to begin is recognizing that according to God, every person on earth past, present, or future is classified as a sinner. Paul said it this way: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23) Paul did not say “some people” or “certain people” or “only this type of person”. He said ALL. That’s you. It’s me. Therefore, no one escapes this truth.

How do we define sin? Paul gives us a short list in 1 Corinthians 6: 10-11: “Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

Because God is loving, desiring that not one person be eternally separated from Him, He provided a way for redemption from our sins. Furthermore, once we are in a relationship with Him and confess with repentance He makes more promises how sins are dealt with: “As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” Psalm 103:12

“God casts (hurls) our sins into the sea, where they sink like a stone. Such an act of grace caused Micah to ask, “Who is a God like you ...?” (Mic. 7:18).

The amazing thing about scripture is how science backs up what the ancient authors wrote. Did you know that east and west never meet? And, while we’ve made incredible strides in exploring and understanding the ocean, the bottom of the ocean remains one of Earth’s last frontiers. The extreme conditions of crushing pressure, darkness, and frigid temperatures present formidable challenges that we’re only beginning to overcome. (source oceanexplorer.noaa & quora.com)

Do you think that it’s a coincidence that once sins are forgiven God has no further use for them? I’m inclined to believe there’s a good reason for making them irretrievable.

Also of great comfort is how God takes a person’s sinful nature and transforms it to becoming a new creation. Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord taught of the power of the Savior’s Atonement. “Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” Isaiah 1:18.

Maybe you don’t like snow. Many people don’t because of the cold weather. Or the thought of driving to work and errands makes you apprehensive when it’s knee deep after a good storm. Regardless of how you feel about snow, it’s my hope that as you consider how the early biblical authors used visions of white snow and the perilous depths of oceans to illustrate how God deals with our sins, will cause you to pause. Take a deep breath. Lay aside any preconceived ideas you’ve had or still wrestle with in your mind. Surrender any pride and come to a place of humility recognizing that in the small word “all”...a three letter word that encompasses EVERY human being from the time of creation into our present and future..is included in that total.

Maybe you need to read Paul’s list of sins again. They aren’t comfortable words by any means. Some are sins we don’t talk a lot about with our friends and family. Nonetheless, they are recorded for us to read, acknowledge, and make a decision to remain part of their sinful nature or embrace the promise in Paul’s encouraging words of verse 11: “But you WERE washed, you WERE sanctified, you WERE justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” Take note, however, you cannot be washed, sanctified, or justified without FIRST coming into a relationship with

### Community Connect 2024 to be held at Brighton church on Feb. 3rd

The Livingston County Homeless Continuum of Care is reminding residents to mark their calendars for Community Connect 2024, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2|42 Community Church in Brighton. We’re busy planning the final details of the event, but look forward to bringing the community another day of connection with services, free resources, and plenty of helpful information. Everyone in our community who could benefit from these services and resources is welcome to attend.

“We had a phenomenal event last year with record-breaking attendance and are looking forward to another day of connecting residents with services,” said Amy Johnston, the Community Collaborative Planner for the Livingston County Human Services Collaborative Body.

The event will offer many valuable resources for Livingston County residents. Some of the free services will include health screenings, haircuts, legal services, and information on topics like housing, utility programs, and basic needs. Many free resources will be available as well.

Those who attend can pick up personal care items, winter gear, laundry detergent, diapers, food, and more. No registration is needed to attend, and families are more than welcome! (Please note that childcare will not be provided.)

Thank you to 2|24 Community Church for hosting the event and the following sponsors who make Community Connect possible, Livingston Sunrise Rotary, Brighton Masonic Lodge, and the Livingston County Homeless Continuum of Care.

Finally, volunteers always help make this day possible. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities available from event set-up and tear down, traffic directors, and more. Head over to Volunteer Livingston at [https://www.volunteerlivingston.org/need/index?agency\\_id=81231](https://www.volunteerlivingston.org/need/index?agency_id=81231) to sign up and help out.

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If you enjoy music, look for the recording by Ann Wilson “My Jesus”. You’ll be blessed.

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**Drick elected as chair of the Livingston County Board of Commissioners**

Jay Drick, who represents the City of Howell and Marion Township as the District 5 representative on the Livingston County Board of Commissioners, was elected as the chair at the board's organizational meeting last Monday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. He replaces Dave Domas who had served as chair for the past two years.

During the past year, Drick had served as Chairman of the Courts, Public Safety, & Infrastructure Development Committee, as a member of the Finance and Asset Management Committee, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee. As the representative of District 5, he is also appointed to the City of Howell Capital Rate Improvement Board, the Thompson Lake Improvement Board, and the Cedar Lake Improvement Board.



Jay Drick

Nick Fianim was elected as the vice chair. He represents District 8 which includes Hamburg and Genoa Townships.

Both votes were unanimous.

According to a published report, Drick thanked his fellow Commissioners for

their vote of confidence and said: "I'm looking forward to a successful year with my fellow Commissioners. Our board has a diverse set of skills that work together to provide a high level of county services while being good guardians of taxpayer dollars."

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**Fowlerville High School Alumni announces plans for 2024 gathering**

The 130th FHS Alumni banquet & gathering will be Saturday, June 8, at the high school, according to President Judy Recker. The alumni officers are busy making contact with "special" classes who will be recognized at the event, but a reminder to all FHS graduates and friends, you are most welcome to come and share the night with all others. Reminiscing with former teachers,

classmates, and old friends is a special occasion. MARK YOUR CALENDAR, FHS ALUMS!

As the alumni association has done for the past 47 years, scholarships will be presented to several members of the 2024 FHS graduating class. Presentation will be at the Senior Awards Night in May. Donations in any amount are welcomed. Please send donations any time to the: FHS Alumni Association, Box 446, Fowlerville, MI 48836. The alumni association is a 501(3)(c) organization.

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<p><b>ANY APRILAIRE OR LENNOX HUMIDIFIER WATER PANEL BUY 1, GET THE 2ND 1/2 PRICE*</b></p> <p><small>*Pick-up counter only. Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon at time of service. Prior sales excluded. Offer ends 3-31-24.</small></p>	<p><b>APRILAIRE OR LENNOX MEDIA FILTER \$10 OFF</b> Excludes MERV 16 &amp; 501 Conveniently located off new Latson Rd. Interchange</p> <p><small>*Pick-up counter only. Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon at time of service. Prior sales excluded. Offer ends 3-31-24.</small></p>	<p><b>\$200* OFF</b> FURNACE INSTALLATION OR A/C INSTALLATION</p> <p><small>*Not valid with any other offer. Coupon must be presented at time of service. Furnace must be in operating condition. Offer ends 3-31-24.</small></p>

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The former Woodshire Place Banquet Facility, located on East Grand River near Hogback Road, is being purchased by Handy Township, with plans to continue using it as a voting site.

### Handy Township purchasing former Woodshire Place to use as voting site

By Steve Horton

Handy Township is purchasing the former Woodshire Place Banquet Facility, allowing officials to continue using it as a voting site. The closing is expected to take place this Tuesday, Jan. 16, with the purchase price being \$535,000.

The building, located at 6520 E. Grand River, has been used for many years to host wedding receptions, anniversaries, parties, seminars and business meetings. It was owned by the Glover family of Fowlerville. For the past 15 years it has also been rented out by the township for state and federal elections.

It is being called the Handy Township Voting Center.

Necessity was the main motivation for purchasing the building, said Township Clerk Laura Eisele.

“After our last 2022 election we were informed by the owner that they planned to sell the property,” she explained. “That election was also when Michigan voters approved Proposal 2 which expanded the time frame of when eligible voters could cast ballots, both in person and with absentee ballots. So we needed to find a facility large enough to accommodate our voters, which is now around 6,600 people, and it had to be a secure place where we could operate for over a two-week period before and after each election.”

Proposal 2 requires that a municipality have an early voting site available to voters for nine days prior to each election, starting on the Saturday ten days before Election Day through the Sunday just before that date. The hours the polls need to be open are 11am-7pm. Voters also have a longer window to drop off absentee ballots and there is a requirement that officials be able to accept military absentee ballots that were mailed for up to six days after Election Day.

“The clerk or other election officials need to be at this site during those days,” Eisele pointed out.

Upon learning of the planned sale, Eisele said a committee was formed to look at options of where a place could be rented. Those options, members soon learned, were limited.

“There aren’t that many buildings in the community large enough where we could have the voting machines we need for our three precincts,” she noted.

Two of those precincts are for non-village voters who live north or south of the I-96 freeway and the other is for those voters who reside in the Village of Fowlerville.

“We approached a couple of area churches, but they didn’t want to rent space out for the nine days of voting prior to Election Day, which includes a couple of Sundays,” she said. “There was the same problem with the school. Also, with the kind of security at the schools nowadays, you can’t have people going in and out of a building for that amount of time either.”

Eisele added that the law allows a township to have a

voting site outside its boundaries, but officials didn’t want to inconvenience residents by making them travel a longer distance.

On the other hand, purchasing Woodshire Place—which is over 6,000-square-foot in size and sets on 4.67 acres—made it easier to meet the longer voting time frame, along with offering other advantages.

Those advantages, Eisele said, included having a site that voters were already used to going to, adequate parking, an area where candidates can set up their tents or campaign signs without being too close to the voting entrance (as stipulated by law), and where security can be better maintained.

“By owning this building, we don’t have to move the voting machines back and forth,” she said. “We can better secure them and the ballots over what’s now a 17-day voting cycle, and we’re already able to meet the handicap-accessible requirements that are mandated.”

Another consideration is the number of elections that take place.

“We have three scheduled this year—the Presidential Primary in February, the Michigan Primary in August, and the General Election in November,” Eisele pointed out. “On non-Presidential election years, we have the Primary and General Election. We also handle school millage votes and bond issue requests when they come up.”

To quiet speculation, Eisele said that the township board hasn’t any current plans to re-locate its offices, now located on North Grand Avenue in the village, to the new building. She also said that the board is not interested in renting out the facility for public use due to the liability expense.

### Conway Township Clerk’s Office busy preparing for Presidential Primary

The Conway Township Clerk’s Office has been working hard to prepare for the upcoming Presidential Primary election. About 5,000 election-related pieces of mail have been processed through the clerk’s office in the last three weeks. These mailings explained: early voting procedures, the new permanent ballot list, absentee voter application ballot selection and the creation of an early voting site at the township hall.

Of the 846 absentee voter applications sent out in late December, 173 have returned to date. Currently 150 voters have elected to be on the permanent ballot list.

There are 2,878 registered voters in the township. If a resident needs to register to vote, they can do so in multiple ways. Coming into the clerk’s office on Tuesday or Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through February 14th. Registration is also open during early voting from February 17th through the 25th from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Finally, residents can register on election day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The deadline to register at other locations: Michigan Voter Information Center (MVIC) at [mVIC.sos.state.mi.us](http://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us), by going to [vote.gov/register/mi](http://vote.gov/register/mi), or typing register to vote in Michigan in any Internet browser is February 12.

Information and forms are available on the Clerk’s page of the township website: [conwaymi.gov](http://conwaymi.gov)

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—Area Deaths—

**Elaine Morse**

A memorial service for Elaine Catherine Morse is being held on Saturday, Jan. 20, starting at 12pm at the Herrmann Funeral Home in Fowlerville. Visitation will begin at 11am and continue until the service. The funeral home is located at 105 E. Grand River, east of town.

Elaine Morse passed away on Nov. 20, 2023. She was 89 years old and a resident of Williamston.

**IOSCO TOWNSHIP WINTER PROPERTY TAX BILLS**

Winter 2023 property tax bills may be paid at Bank of Ann Arbor, Fowlerville branch only. The address is 760 South Grand Avenue, Fowlerville. Payments will be accepted from Dec. 1st, 2023 to Feb. 14th, 2024. Please include the lower portion of your bill with payment.

The Treasurer's office is open Thursdays from 1pm to 5pm. February 14th and February 29th, the office hours will be 9am to 5pm. The hall is located at 2050 Bradley Road. You may also mail your payment, drop it in the drop box at the hall, or pay online. [www.ioscotwp.com](http://www.ioscotwp.com).

Amanda Bonnville  
Iosco Township Treasurer  
(12-24-24 and 1-14-24 FNV)



**Donald "Donnie" Smyth**

Donald "Donnie" Lavern Smyth, age 87 of Fowlerville, passed away on Monday, January 8, 2024, at Trinity Health Livingston Hospital in Howell. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at St. Agnes Catholic Church, 855 E. Grand River Avenue, Fowlerville with a luncheon immediately following at the church. Donnie's family will receive friends at Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes, MacDonald's Chapel, 315 N. Michigan Avenue in Howell on Monday from 4-7 pm and again Tuesday at St. Agnes Catholic Church one hour prior to Mass.

Donnie was born on February 29, 1936, in Ann Arbor to the late William and Mable (Forton) Smyth, the third youngest of 18 and the last remaining. Donnie worked in maintenance for Ford Motor Company at the Wixom Assembly Plant for 32 years before retiring in the early 1990s and was a proud member of the UAW Local 36 Union. No job was too big—he was always ready to jump in and take over any project. After retiring, he stayed busy in the summer mowing the yard and field to perfection and keeping the trees and bushes trimmed. He had a good sense of humor and was always teasing others.

Donald is survived by his wife, Donna Smyth; son, James Smyth; daughter, Norma Acker (Doug); step-son, Chuck Dillingham (Jeanne); grandchildren: Brittany Hess (Dean), Bert Kangas, Dalana Trumble (Stanton), Jessie Ramsey (Mitchell), Nick Acker, Samuel Acker (Katie), Elizabeth Acker (Kate), Tim Acker (Colleen), Lyndy Cullen (Tim), Robin Sones (Ray), Rebekkah Morris (Bill), Rachel Marble (Ty), Jacob Smyth, and several great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors, friends and his grand dog, Mr. Weiner.

Donald was preceded in death by his daughter, Lori Ann Smyth.

Memorial contributions given in Donald's name are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association. Online condolences may be shared with his family by going to [www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com).



**Ruth M. Davis**

Ruth M. Davis, age 85 years, died on January 4, 2024, at her home, The Summit in Mesa, Arizona. She was born on February 8, 1938, in rural Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan, to Irving F. and Ethel M. (Jones) Utter. She attended a country school until the fifth grade when the Utter family moved into Fowlerville. She attended Fowlerville Schools and graduated in June 1956.

On February 22, 1964, Ruth was joined in marriage to Charles Blascovich, a widower with three young children, at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Fowlerville, Michigan. Within the year, they moved to Riverside, California, and welcomed a fourth child into their family in 1967. Twenty-two years later, the marriage ended in divorce. Returning to Fowlerville in 1996 to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her high school graduation, she and Richard Davis rekindled their high school relationship. The following year they were married and, when Dick retired, they moved to Arizona. He passed away there in 2002.

Surviving are four beloved children: Doreen (Robert) Redinger of Fowlerville, Anthony (Amber) Blascovich of Fowlerville, Angelo (Patricia) Blascovich of Lake Elsinore, California, and Catherine Downing of Bloomfield, New Mexico. Also surviving are two step-daughters: Cheryl Davis and Susan Davis, both of Howell, Michigan. Ruth's seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren were added blessings. Her only sibling, Frank C. Utter, passed away in 2012, and his widow Ann continues to live in Fowlerville.

Ruth was a strong woman of faith for whom life was an adventure, a gift from God. Devoted to her family, a friend to everyone, she was always eager to learn something new. Her homemaking skills were unequaled and she was an avid Arizona Diamondbacks baseball fan. She was a member of St. George's Catholic Church in Apache Junction.

While still in high school she worked in Woods' Drug Store in Fowlerville and after graduation began a clerical career in a local factory. Over the years she continued to build on her work experiences by serving as a bank teller, a dental office receptionist, and a Mary Kay cosmetics consultant. She also co-partnered a catering business, was a community home sales representative, and conducted several Bible study groups for many years.

Traveling throughout the US and Europe provided her with many treasured memories. It also introduced her to a French family with whom she lived for a year and later revisited several times. One special honor was her selection as the Queen for Fowlerville's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 1961. Twenty-five years later she returned to town and, wearing the same dress, participated in the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

A funeral mass was offered on January 12, 2024, at St. Agnes Catholic Church, Fowlerville, with burial at Greenwood Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be directed to Hospice of the Valley, Administrative Office, 1510 E. Flower Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85014, or to a charity of your choice.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Herrmann Funeral Home. Online condolences may be expressed at [pjherrmannfuneralhome.com](http://pjherrmannfuneralhome.com)

**Fowlerville Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Team falls to Stockbridge**

The Fowlerville JV Girls Basketball Team fell short against the Stockbridge Panthers last Tuesday, Jan. 9, losing 27-13. The shots would not fall for the team, but they continue to work hard. Only four Lady Gladiators scored with Ireland Curtis leading with 8 points, while Anja Ott added 3. Avery Borg and Eilla Shaw chipped in one point each.



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—Area Deaths—



**George Ernest Grostick**

George Ernest Grostick, 73 of Three Rivers, passed away December 26, 2023 at his home. George was born in Howell, MI on July 17, 1950, a son of Charles and Sylvia (Kitinoja) Grostick. He graduated from Fowlerville High School in 1969 and went on to earn his Bachelor’s Degree in Education from Central Michigan University. George was an All-State wrestler in high school, and earned a scholarship to compete at CMU.

On February 20, 1977, he married Wendy Smoll at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church; they were later divorced. George worked for International Paper in Howell for 25 years. He was an assistant wrestling coach at Fowlerville High School for several years. George was an avid sports fan, his favorite being Michigan Football. He was a true outdoorsman, enjoying hunting and fishing whenever he could.

George is survived by his daughter Heather Grostick-Jones of Battle Creek, son Bradley (Carey) Grostick of Bristol, grandchildren Alexis Grostick, Gauge Starkweather, Tori Grostick, and Kaitlynn Grostick, great granddaughter Ceinna Duran, brother Alan (Sara) Grostick of Warrior, AL, and niece and nephew Charles Grostick and Laura Grostick. He was preceded in death by his parents.

According to his wishes, cremation has taken place. There will be no public services. Arrangements were entrusted to Eley Funeral Home, Centreville. Please visit [www.eleyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.eleyfuneralhomes.com) to sign George’s online guestbook.

**Fowlerville Fire Department Report**

- January 4**
  - 4:57 a.m. Medical response on Mohrle Rd in Conway Township.
  - 8:07 a.m. Medical response on Stow Rd in Conway Township.
  - 9:40 a.m. Medical response on S Benjamin St in the Village.
- January 5**
  - 12:13 a.m. Carbon monoxide alarm investigation on Munsell Rd in Iosco Township.
  - 11:47 a.m. Assist Livingston County EMS on Smith Rd in Handy Township.
  - 3:55 p.m. Medical response on N Cedar Rd in Iosco Township.
- January 6**
  - 10:22 a.m. Medical response on Astoria Blvd in Iosco Township.
  - 5:27 p.m. Medical response on Iosco Rd in Iosco Township.
- January 7**
  - 5:20 p.m. Medical response on S Grand River in the Village.
  - 11:16 p.m. Medical response on Arlene Ct in Iosco Township.
- January 8**
  - 3:24 p.m. Mutual aid assistance to Howell for structure fire.
  - 9:36 p.m. Carbon monoxide alarm investigation on Village Dr in the Village.
- January 9**
  - 8:57 a.m. Medical response on Bull Run Rd in Iosco Township.
- January 10**
  - 1:01 a.m. Medical response on N Grand River in the Village.
  - 8:05 a.m. Carbon monoxide alarm investigation on Lange Rd in Handy Township.
  - 9:38 a.m. Medical response on Fowlerville Rd in the Village.
  - 5:43 p.m. Wire down on E Frank St in the Village.
  - 9:36 p.m. Medical response on Sober Rd in Conway Township.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
LIVINGSTON COUNTY  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**Decedent’s Estate**  
CASE NO. and JUDGE  
2024-22301-DE Miriam A. Cavanaugh  
Court address and Court telephone no.  
204 S. Highlander Way, Howell, MI 48843  
(517) 546-3750

Estate of Robert C. Hedstrand deceased  
Date of birth:\* July 5, 1953

**TO ALL CREDITORS:\*\***  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Robert C. Hedstrand, deceased, died August 30, 2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Joyce E. Hedstrand, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 204 S. Highlander Way, Howell, MI 48843 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 9, 2024

Attorney:  
Schaller Law Firm, PLC  
Dale F. Schaller P59743  
225 E. Grand River Ave., Ste. 203  
Brighton, MI 48116  
(517) 546-7777

Personal Representative:  
Joyce E. Hedstrand  
6450 Oak Grove Road  
Howell, Michigan 48855  
(517) 545-9193

(1-14-24 FNV)

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
LIVINGSTON COUNTY  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Estate of Dorene Margaret Bauer, also known as Dorene M. Bauer, Deceased  
Date of birth: REDACTED

**TO ALL CREDITORS:\***  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Dorene Margaret Bauer, died 11-08-2023. Creditors of the decedent/Settlor are notified that all claims against the decedent, her estate, or her Trust will be forever barred unless presented to Robert L. Bauer Trustee of the Dorene M. Bauer Trust under Agreement dated February 3, 1997, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. This notice is published pursuant to MCL 700.7608. There is no personal representative of the Settlor’s estate to whom letters of administration have been issued. Notice is further given that the trust estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

January 9, 2024

Attorney:  
Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Hannah R. Muller P82817  
2723 S. State Street, Ste 400  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
(734) 214-7619

Name:  
Robert L. Bauer  
c/o 2723 S. State Street, Ste 400  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
(734) 214-7619

(1-14-24 FNV)

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON  
PUBLICATION NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
DECEDENT’S TRUST ESTATE**

Gary Carl Pratt a/k/a Gary C. Pratt, Deceased  
Date of Birth: January 20, 1948  
Name of Trust: Revocable Living Trust of Gary C. Pratt dated April 2, 1996

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The Decedent, Gary Carl Pratt a/k/a Gary C. Pratt, died on November 20, 2023. There is no probate estate. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jennifer Pratt, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: January 9, 2024

Attorney:  
Jeffrey A. Levine P32551  
39395 W. Twelve Mile Rd. Ste. 200  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331  
248-489-8600

Jennifer Pratt, Trustee  
37400 W. 7 Mile Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48152

(1-14-24 FNV)

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
LIVINGSTON COUNTY  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent’s Estate**

CASE NO. and JUDGE  
2023-22185-DE  
Court address and telephone no.  
204 S Highlander Way # 2, Howell, Michigan 48843  
(517) 546-3750

Estate of Mark Francis Auty  
Date of Birth: 9-22-1961

**TO ALL CREDITORS:**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Mark Francis Auty, died 1-29-2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jennifer Ann Auty, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 204 S Highlander Way #2, Howell, Michigan 48843 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 1-10-2024

Attorney:  
Jeffrey S. Sternberg/Kotz Sangster Wysocki, PC P38642  
36700 Woodward Avenue, Ste. 202  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304  
248-646-1056

Personal Representative:  
Jennifer Auty  
6527 Challis Road  
Brighton, Michigan 48116  
810-772-8617

(1-14-24 FNV)

**Fowlerville students receive academic honors from Southern New Hampshire**

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following Fowlerville students on being named to the Fall 2023 President’s List: Liberty Greenwood and Tyler Wyatt. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

\* \* \*

Jaclyn Jarvis of Fowlerville (48836) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s Fall 2023 Dean’s List. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the


reporting term are named to the Dean’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with a 91-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 225,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH.

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\*\*EPA cord wood Hydronic Heater list 1-6-2021



Angie Feguer presents Ryleigh Nelson with a commemorative ball. She's flanked by her coach Kayson Lycos (left) and parents Diane and Todd Nelson.

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Round Hay	66	\$55.00-\$77.50
Large Square Hay	3	\$40.00-\$45.00
Round Straw	4	\$35.00 Each
Square Straw	200	\$2.50-\$3.25
Wood	16	\$35.00-\$82.50
Oats	10	\$16.00 Each
Chicken Eggs	72	\$2.00-\$3.75
Quail Eggs	8	\$1.25 Each
Chickens	44	\$2.00-\$16.00
Ducks	10	\$2.00-\$9.00
Geese	2	\$4.00-\$6.00
Quail	5	\$8.00 Each
Rabbits	15	\$1.00-\$5.00

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## Webberville senior Ryleigh Nelson breaks school basketball scoring record

Angie Feguer (Hoag), a 1985 Webberville graduate, was an outstanding and very accomplished Spartan athlete during her varsity career. Her basketball career culminated in the fall of 1984 with her setting the girls' all-time Webberville school scoring record with 822 career points.

Feguer's record has stood firm for nearly 40 years, until

December. That's when Spartan senior Ryleigh Nelson surpassed Angie's career scoring record by recording her 823rd career point on Dec. 19th vs. Whitmore Lake.

Nelson's accomplishment was celebrated at the boys' varsity game against Burton Bentley on Jan. 9th. Feguer presented Nelson with a game ball commemorating her record. Nelson will undoubtedly continue to increase this record as the season continues, setting another high bar for future Spartans to aspire to.



Webberville sophomore Dylan Rhodes works to find a way to the basket.

## Spartan Varsity Boys Basketball Team rolls past Burton Bentley for 61-51 win

After a few weeks off, Webberville's Varsity Boys Basketball Team beat Burton Bentley on Jan. 9th. The Spartans defeated the Bulldogs, 61-51. The game was a tight one and at halftime the two teams were tied up at 26 all. The Spartans battled hard and secured a comfortable lead late in the fourth quarter.

Austin Johnson led the Spartans with 19 points. Dominic

Driver contributed 16 points, Daxten Feguer provided 11 points, and Kyle Kubiak tallied up 9 pts.

\*\*\*

The JV team also racked up a win against Burton Bentley, 48-42. Scoring leaders were Camdyn Buchanan with 20 points, Karson Lycos with 11 points, and Kaleb Matiyow with 7 points.

Next up, the Spartans take on New Lothrop at home on January 16th at 5:30pm (JV) and 7:00pm (Varsity).

## Williamston Farmer's Market collecting bottles & cans on Sunday, Jan. 21st

The Eastern Ingham Farmers Market in Williamston is holding its next bottle and can fundraiser on Sunday, Jan. 21st. Simply bring your Michigan-returnable bottles and cans to the large parking lot of McCormick Park at 123 High Street anytime between 11am and 1pm. Stay warm in your car, pop the trunk and volunteers will cheerfully collect your generous donation.

Other bottle and can collection dates which are held on the first and third Sundays during the off-season will be: February 4 and 18; March 3 and 17; April 7 and 21 and May 5.

Market volunteers are always welcome and needed to work two-hour shifts for the bottle collections on those Sundays during the off-season. Just contact Jane Reagan (517-525-4177)

If your business collects bottles and cans, consider donating them as well. Special collections can be made directly at your business address during the week. Just call Jane to make arrangements for special pick-ups.

For more information about Sowing Growth, the non-profit organization that operates the Eastern Ingham Farmers Market in Williamston, to become a vendor for the 2024 season, to be added to the newsletter email list, to volunteer or to donate to the Market, visit the Market Facebook page or contact Market Manager at [EasternInghamFM@gmail.com](mailto:EasternInghamFM@gmail.com).

## Friends of Webberville Library holding Euchre Fun Night on Jan. 27th

Friends of the Webberville Library are sponsoring a Euchre Fun Night fundraiser on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Registration at 6:00pm and playing begins 6:30pm at the Webberville Cultural Center. The entry fee is \$10 per person to play. Prizes will be awarded and there will be a 50/50 drawing. Snacks and beverages will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.



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Eighth grader Paige Riggs-Ross carefully drops her device over the balcony.



Eighth grader Cole Morris works to see if his egg survived, while fellow eighth grader Levi Howard is happy about his results.

**Webberville Middle School science class caps unit with ‘Egg Drop Challenge’**

Katie Petty’s science students at Webberville Middle School recently took part in an Egg Drop Challenge. It’s an experiment in which students are tasked with creating a device to protect an egg when dropped. This experiment fit in well with their unit studying force and motion and offered a hand-on way to understand the concepts.

Each student was given various supplies, such as shopping bags, balloons, cotton and plastic containers to prevent the egg from breaking. Students worked independently to craft the best protective device for their fragile passenger.

“The students had a variety of creativity and ingenuity for how to soften the blow to the egg,” Ms. Petty explained. “Several used the idea of a parachute, some used varying



Teacher Katie Petty inspects 7<sup>th</sup> grader Tori Taylor’s egg.

layers of padding, some eggs were “suspended” in the middle of their contraption.”

The moment of truth came when they dropped the devices from the second-floor balcony of the Spartan Center Fitness Center.

“We only had three egg fatalities out of the two dozen eggs used,” said Ms. Petty. “The students had a great time incorporating their new concepts of force and motion and involving other concepts like wind resistance.”

**NIESA Fire Report (Northeast Ingham Emergency Service Authority)**

On Wednesday January 3, 2024 NIESA responded to two medical response calls. One call was in Leroy Township and one was in the City of Williamston.

On Thursday January 4, 2024 NIESA responded to two medical response calls. One call was in Williamstown Township, and one was in the Village of Webberville.

On Friday January 5, 2024 NIESA responded to two medical response calls. One call was in the City of Williamston, and one call was in Wheatfield Township.

On Saturday January 6, 2024 NIESA responded to six calls. Four calls were in Williamstown Township, with three being medical responses and one a vehicle accident. Another call was in Wheatfield Township for a medical response, and one call was in the City of Williamston for a vehicle fire.

On Sunday January 7, 2024 NIESA responded to nine calls. Three calls were in Williamstown Township, with two calls being for medical responses and one a utility problem. Two calls were in the City of Williamston with both for medical responses. One call was in Wheatfield Township for a medical response. One call was in Locke Township for a medical response. Two calls in Leroy Township were both medical responses.

On Monday January 8, 2024 NIESA responded to five calls. Two calls in Leroy Township were both medical responses. Two calls in Williamstown Township were also medical responses. One call in Wheatfield Township was a medical response.

On Tuesday January 9, 2024 NIESA responded to five calls. One call was in Williamstown Township was a medical response. Three calls in the City of Williamston were all medical responses. One call in Wheatfield Township was also a medical response.

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**NOTICE LEROY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEALS HEARING**

A Leroy Township Board of Appeals meeting will be held Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Leroy Township Hall, 1685 N M-52, Webberville, MI.

RE: Todd and Loretta Benjamin have requested an appeal of the Leroy Township Zoning Ordinance, Section 708: Permitted Signs by Zoning District (2c) vii: Minimum Required Setback from the (M-52)existing right-of-way line. The applicant’s variance would consist of having less than the required minimum set-back, from the road right-of-way.

Property Description: 4212 E Holt Road. Webberville, MI.

Any further questions, please contact the Township Office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Americans With Disabilities (ADA) Notice The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with Disabilities at the Board of Appeals meetings upon 7 days notice. Contact Wilma Whitehead at 517 521-3729.

Leroy Township Board of Appeals  
 Wilma J. Whitehead  
 Leroy Township Clerk  
 (12-31-23 & 1-14-24 FNV)

*“Over 20 Years Serving The Local Community”*

**Chiropractic**  
 Health Center of Fowlerville  
 103 W. Grand River Ave., Fowlerville

**“Dr. Tim” Tersigni**  
 517-223-9276

**DEEP LASER THERAPY NOW OFFERED**  
 WE OFFER MANY TYPES OF ADJUSTMENTS INCLUDING IMPULSE INSTRUMENT ADJUSTMENT

**The no “popping, no cracking” adjustment.**

- Accepting new patients
- Walk-Ins welcome
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- Sports injuries
- Nutritional support & testing
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- Deep-Tissue laser therapy

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MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

**New Hours: Monday 9-6:30, Tuesday 9-1:30  
 Wednesday & Thursday 9-6, Friday 9-5 • Saturday 9-Noon**

# Kreeger Elementary

## School News

### CALENDAR OF KREEGER EVENTS

1/15/24	No School – MLK Day
1/19/24	½ Day- dismissal 12:02pm
2/5-7/24	4 <sup>th</sup> grade Hearing Screening

2/8,9,12,13,14/24	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade Vision Screening
2/19/24	No School – President’s Day
3/1/24	End of Second Trimester
3/4-8/24	Spring Book Fair
3/7/24	½ Day, 12:02 dismissal - Conferences 1-4pm; 5-7:30pm

### Hearing and Vision Screening Information

Livingston County Health Department is providing Hearing Screening For 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from February 5<sup>th</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup> and Vision Screening for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>. Please call the school at (517)-223-6006 if you **do not** want your child screened. If you have a concern and would like your child tested technicians will accept parent/teacher requests on the first day of screening (Please call and we will add you to the list). Any other questions regarding Hearing or Vision Screening may be answered by calling the Health Department at (517)-546-9850.

\*\*\*

**ATTENDANCE LINE:** If your child will not be at school, please call the attendance line to excuse their absence. The attendance line number is 517-223-6333.

\*\*\*

**LOST AND FOUND** – Our lost and found is overflowing! If your child is missing sweatshirts, coats, boots, gloves, hats, etc – please have them check the lost and found. Items not

claimed will be donated at the end of January.

\*\*\*

### ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

All pre-enrollments can be done online [www.fowlervilleschools.org](http://www.fowlervilleschools.org).

After you complete those documents please print and sign areas marked. Bring your child’s original raised seal birth certificate, 2 proofs of Fowlerville Schools residency and if your child attended a school in Michigan his/her immunizations will be on the MCIR website. Please call the office at 517-223-6340 when finished so that we may finalize the enrollment.

## Williamston Eagles Club to host euchre tournament on Jan. 19th

Euchre returns to the Williamston Eagles Club! Please join us on Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> for another fun night of cards. Registration is from 6-6:30pm and play starts at 7pm. Cost is \$10 per person. You don't need a partner to play, we will draw for partners and table numbers. First, second and third place prizes, set cups, plus a special prize for last place.

Euchre is a great way to meet new people and have fun with old friends. The club is located at 835 High St in Williamston. Call 517-655-6510 after 3 pm for more information. See you there!



**COME FOR COFFEE STAY FOR THE LORD'S PRESENCE**  
**134 Free St • Fowlerville**  
**10:30am Sunday Church For Everyone**  
 Communion & Healing Service Every Sunday  
 Chuck Wagon (pass a dish) Lunch the last Sunday  
 Inner Healing by appointment [info@roacrm.org](mailto:info@roacrm.org)

# JUST for KIDS

## Marshmallow Penguins

### Ingredients:

- 10 oz. Bag of Marshmallows
- 12 oz. Dark Chocolate
- Yellow and Orange M&M candies
- Edible candy eyes



### Instructions:

Line a baking tray or plate with grease proof or baking paper – check that it will fit in your refrigerator first.

Break up the dark chocolate and place it in a microwave safe bowl.

Melt the chocolate in the microwave in 30 second bursts, stirring between each one to ensure it melts evenly. Be careful not to overheat or burn the chocolate, heat only until just melted and smooth.

Hold a marshmallow by an end ‘edge’ between a finger and thumb and carefully dip it into the chocolate, leaving a patch of uncovered marshmallow for the penguin’s tummy.

Hold it upside down over the bowl of chocolate to allow any excess chocolate to drip off, then stand the marshmallow up on the baking tray, marshmallow side down.

Don’t worry if some of the chocolate puddles behind the marshmallow - it forms a little tail!

Repeat with the remaining marshmallows until you have created as many penguins as you need.

Place the tray in the fridge until the chocolate has completely hardened - 10-15 minutes.

When the chocolate has set, re-melt the bowl of dark chocolate if needed.

Cut the M&Ms in half with a sharp knife. Some of them may crumble, so discard (eat) those and just keep the ones with a fairly straight edge.

Lay all of the penguins down on their backs.

Using a little of the dark chocolate, stick two candy eyes and a smartie ‘beak’ onto each penguin.

Return to the fridge to set.

Store the penguins in an airtight tin or container until ready to serve. They look fantastic on a platter sprinkled with powdered sugar or shredded coconut ‘snow’.

## Snowman Smoothies

### Ingredients:

- 1 Banana
- 8 oz. Milk
- 4 Tbsp. Greek Yogurt
- 2 Tbsp. Oats
- 2 Tbsp. Shredded Coconut (optional)
- A few drops of Vanilla Extract
- Maple Syrup or Honey to taste



### To decorate (optional):

- Spray Whipped Cream
- Snowflake Sprinkles
- Clear plastic cups or glasses
- Black & orange Sharpies

### Instructions:

First prepare the banana – peel and slice it into rounds, then lay them out on lined baking tray and freeze for a couple of hours or overnight.

Before making the smoothie, prepare the cup or glass that you are serving it in by drawing on a fun snowman design with the Sharpies.

To make the smoothie, add the milk, Greek yogurt, oats, shredded coconut and vanilla extract to a blender. Remove the banana pieces from the freezer and add them to the blender too.

Blend together until completely smooth, then taste and add a little maple syrup or honey to sweeten if needed.

Pour into the prepared cup or glass and, just before serving, top with squirty cream and snowflake sprinkles.

Enjoy!



*Just for Kids page is sponsored by:*

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Iris R. Foote, DVM	Ashley A. Pfeifer, DVM
Peter L. Esterline, DVM	Lauren M. Gnagcy, DVM
Heather L. Murphy, DVM	Abigail C. Schleusener, DVM

**105 Fowlerville Road • Fowlerville**  
**(517) 223-9618 • Fax (517) 223-0101**  
[www.kernroadvet.com](http://www.kernroadvet.com)

**ATTENTION PARENTS:**  
 If you do not name a guardian to raise your child and the unlikely happens, would you want a total stranger to decide who will raise your child?  
 Before it is too late, please call:  
**Gormley Law Offices, PLC**  
 today for a *free initial consultation* regarding  
**Wills/Trusts/Estate Planning.**  
**517-223-3758**  
[Gormleylawoffices.com](http://Gormleylawoffices.com)





### Livingston County Circuit Court Judge Michael Hatty leaving his position

Livingston County 44<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Judge Michael Hatty is leaving his position. The news came after a posting was put on the State Bar of Michigan website that listed a judicial vacancy for this seat, noting that the vacating judge was the Honorable Michael Hatty.

The posting stated that those interested in being considered for the position need to submit their application electronically and it needs to be received by 5pm on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Judge Hatty's replacement will be appointed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to fill the remainder of his term which runs through 2024. The judicial seat will be on the November General Election non-partisan ballot and is for a full six-year term.

Hatty is unable to run for another term as a judge or judicial candidate cannot be 70 years of age or older at the time of the election or an appointment.

He has served on the bench since 2009 when the then Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed him to fill the vacancy created when Judge Stanley Latreille resigned. He was elected in 2010 to complete the remainder of Latreille's term and then elected to six-year terms in 2012 and again in 2018. He was named as the Chief Judge for Livingston County in 2020.

Hatty had been an attorney in private practice prior to his appointment and was also the attorney for Deerfield Township at one time.

### Crossroads Sierra Club presenting program on The Philippines Jan. 17th

The Crossroads Sierra Club is presenting a program on Wednesday Jan. 17, 7pm at the Brighton District Library, 100 Library Drive, Brighton. The program is entitled "A Cultural Experience in The Islands of the Philippines" and will be presented by Dr. Karen Schmitz, Professor of Human Nutrition, Madonna University.

As part of a Fulbright-Hays Grant Program, six faculty members and five graduate students from Madonna University spent a month on four different islands of the Philippines learning about the culture, history, sustainability efforts, social programs and food production in The Philippines. This presentation will cover a variety of experiences, including marching with the local police in the Independence Day Parade in Silay, practicing English skills with high school dropouts in Manila, and learning about the various initiatives toward meeting sustainability goals for the island nation.

## Fowlerville Junior High School News

**AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING** every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday's from 2:20-3:20.

\*\*\*

### SPORTS FOR WEEK OF JAN.15:

Mon., 1/15: NO school; no practices; MLK Day  
 Tues. 1/16: Practices resume for 7th & 8th GBB, 6-7-8 Wrestling, & 7-8 CCHEER  
 Sat., 1/20: CCH-Color War Invitational-HOME:9:30; FHS COMP gym. Public welcome to attend; admission is charged; concession on site  
 Sat., 1/20: Wrestling @ Chelsea Invitational-9:00; bus-7:00  
 Parents: Your cooperation in revisiting the FINAL FORMS registration site & completing missing information is appreciated. Sorry for the inconvenience.

## Fowlerville Police Report for the Village of Fowlerville Council Meeting Tuesday, January 16, 2024

The Fowlerville Police Department responded to **833** calls for service over the past six weeks.

**Total citations issued this period: 54** moving and parking citations.

\*\*\*

### Warrant Authorized/Declined

- Incident #23-01198- OUIL - Warrant Authorized
  - 39 y/o male, Howell, Saturday December 2nd 2023 at approximately 2200 hours.
- Incident #23-01236- Threats- Warrant Authorized
  - 16 y/o male, Fowlerville, Thursday, December 14, 2023, at approximately 1040 hours.
- Incident #23-01241- Flee and Elude - Warrant Authorized
  - 16 y/o male, Grand Rapids, Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at approximately 1735 hours.
- Incident #23-01224-Weapons Offense-Warrant Under Review
  - 17 y/o male, Webberville, Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at approximately 1200 hours.
- Incident #23-01256- Retail Fraud- Warrant Under Review
  - 31 y/o male, Webberville, Sunday, December 23, 2023, at approximately 2005 hours.
- Incident #24-00007- Aggravated Assault/Felonious Assault-Warrant Authorized-FELONY
  - 61 y/o, male, Fowlerville, Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at approximately 1307 hours.
- Incident #23-01264- Entry Without Permission- Warrant Under Review
  - 58 y/o, female, Brighton, Tuesday, December 26, 2023 at approximately 0816.
- Incident #23-01222- Retail Fraud- Warrant Under Review
  - 59 y/o, male, Howell, Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at approximately 1536 hours.
- Incident #23-01278- OUIL- Warrant Authorized
  - 33 y/o, male, Fowlerville, Saturday, December 30th, 2023 at approximately 2200 hours.
- Incident #24-00016- VCSA- Warrant Authorized-FELONY
  - 41 y/o, male, Howell, Friday January 5th 2024 at approximately 0100 hours.
- Incident #24-00029- Disorderly Conduct- Warrant Under Review
  - 30 y/o, male, Fowlerville, Tuesday January 9th 2024 at approximately 1900 hours.
- Incident #24-00031- OUIL- Warrant Authorized-FELONY
  - 41 y/o, male, Owosso, Wednesday January 10, 2024 at approximately 0600 hours.
- Incident #24-00015- Citizen Assist- Warrant Authorized-FELONY
  - 41 y/o, male, Cohoctah Thursday January 4th 2024 at approximately 2100 hours.

\*\*\*

### Officers Investigated the Following Types of Complaints:

- 47-Assist to EMS/FAFD
- 1-911 hang ups
- 4-Alarm
- 606-Area checks
- 8-Assist other agency
- 542-Building and property checks
- 14-Citizen assist
- 26-Citizen assist
- 13-Community Policing
- 2-DHS referrals
- 4-Domestic verbal
- 66-Follow up
- 35-Foot Patrol (Subdivisions and Downtown area)
- 144-General Non Criminal
- 1-Intimidation threats
- 12-K9 training
- 62-Liquor inspections
- 1-MDOP
- 2-Meetings
- 5-Message delivery
- 4-Motorist assist
- 5-Ordinance investigation
- 5-Parking/traffic complaint
- 10-PDA
- 1-Repo
- 203-Subdivision patrols
- 25-Suspicious Situations
- 105-Traffic detail
- 5-Traffic violation arrests
- 1-Warrant attempt
- 12-Welfare Check
- 1-Abandoned Vehicle
- 37-Admin. Duties
- 5- Animal complaint
- 1-Assault report
- 1-Burglary in progress
- 1-Child abuse/neglect
- 1-Civic event
- 2-Court /prosecutor
- 5-Disturbance/Trouble
- 1-Domestic physical
- 1-Fraud
- 1-Hit & run
- 4-Juvenile complaint
- 5-Larceny
- 6-Lockout
- 1-Lost/found
- 1-Mental/CMH
- 4-Missing person
- 1-Noise complaint
- 4-Patrol information
- 6-PBT request
- 1-Prisoner transport
- 12-Retail Fraud
- 6-School event
- 2-Suicidal subject
- 147-Traffic stops
- 1-Unattended death
- 1-Warrant arrest

\*\*\*

The above statistical information is retrieved using the computer aided dispatching module, provided by Livingston County Central Dispatch. All supporting statistical documentation can be provided upon request.

\*\*\*

### Assist other agencies:

Officer Edmonds was requested to assist the Meridian

Township Police Department to check an address in the Village to make contact with a registered owner of the vehicle that was involved in an accident in their jurisdiction. Officer Edmonds made contact with the owner and relayed the information to the investigating officers.

Officer Austin was requested to assist the LCSO with a reckless driver that was passing Fowlerville and Officer Austin assisted with the traffic stop.

Officer Austin assisted MSP with checking the address where a suspect was allegedly attempting to break into a residence. Investigating officer determined no person was attempting to break into the residence and officers cleared the location.

Officer Austin was requested to assist the LCSO with taking a possible combative subject into custody. The suspect was placed under arrest with no incident.

Officer Doung was dispatched to assist the Ingham County Sheriff Office with blocking the roadway on I-96 for serious accident. Once the accident was cleared Officer Doung cleared the assist.

\*\*\*

### Additional Information:

As we bid farewell to 2023, I want to express my gratitude for the resilience and collaboration demonstrated by our community and the Fowlerville Police Department throughout the year. Our officers have worked diligently to ensure your safety, facing challenges head-on, and adapting to the dynamic needs of our community. The dedication of our law enforcement professionals, coupled with your unwavering support, has allowed us to strengthen the bond between the police force and residents, fostering an environment of trust and cooperation.

Looking ahead, we acknowledge the importance of continual improvement. In 2024, we will build upon our successes by enhancing transparency, communication, and accountability within the Police Department. We are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive force that reflects the needs of our community. Your feedback and engagement remain crucial in shaping the future of law enforcement in our city. As we enter the new year, let us continue working together to build a safer Fowlerville community.

Respectfully Submitted  
 John J. Tyler, Chief of Police

### Educational improvement can be accomplished by reinstating a program we once had

Commentary by Randy Schafer

Community Education classes were a common component of most school systems dating back to the 1950's. It made use of the school buildings after the general education students left for the day.

Many adults who did not finish high school and get a diploma took classes from certified teachers in order to receive a G.E.D. or a General Education Degree equivalent. This was especially popular with adults who worked to support families or simply did not have the means or circumstances that resulted in solving this need. It opened the world to them that a lack of a diploma would have kept shut.

In addition, many young people who did not finish high school participated.

Enrichment classes were also offered. Adults and younger people had the opportunity to take classes for self-improvement and enjoyment. The selections were unlimited. These were taught by anyone who had a skill and knowledge to share. The cost was minimal.

Think of a family or person taking a class in English Conversation, especially the large number of non-English speaking people learning it as a second language. Think of learning another language of interest.

There existed a wonderful opportunity to take enrichment classes such as: personal finance, photography, insurances, investments, art, music, home maintenance, technology, AI, mechanics, welding, woodworking, drivers' education, etc.

During my tenure as a public-school teacher with a vocational background, I witnessed a tremendous use of this invaluable resource.

It connected the community with the school and opened so many doors for self-improvement. Some CORE teachers taught for extra income in the evening and other people taught for the joy of sharing with a stipend. The schedule was set up each semester by a secretary.

The government reimbursed the school for the CORE classes because of the value added to the individual and to society for having a productive, better-trained workforce.

Unfortunately, during the early 2000's Community Education started to fall off as a low priority. So now where does one go for self-improvement?

I sincerely hope the legislature and Governor make Community Education a priority once again.

*Randy Schafer was a Vocational Education Teacher for 42 years and an Ingham County Commissioner for 38 years.*

# NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIED SECTION

Call (517)223-8760

Office Located at 206 E. Grand River, Fowlerville MI  
Fowlerville News & Views



**-DEADLINE THURSDAY BY 3PM-**

**DIRECT CARE STAFF NEEDED:** To take care of disabled adults in Howell. DL/ID, GED/Diploma needed. Call Shelbey at 734-434-9395 (new number).

\*\*\*

**EVANS GARAGE DOORS**—Sales, Service, Installation. Call for a Free Quote. “Our Business is Up & Down.” 517-223-9905 or 517-582-9755.

\*\*\*

**SMALL ENGINE REPAIR:** Lawn Mowers, Rototillers, Pressure Washers, and Most Other Small Engines. Fowlerville. Call Steve @ 517-294-2018.

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**I BUY FIREARMS:** Rifles, Shotguns or Handguns. If you have firearms you no longer need – Call me! (517) 294-6406. In business since 2006.

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WE BUY ALL CARS/TRUCKS/SUV'S  
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(810) 691-5030 stop by or we can come to you  
[CASH4CARSAUTOSALES.COM](http://CASH4CARSAUTOSALES.COM)

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**SPECIALIZING in fixing leaky roofs.** Call 517-927-8050

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**TRAILER REPAIR:** Wheel Bearings, Lights, Axles, Springs and Most Other Trailer Services. Fowlerville. Call Steve @ 517-294-2018.

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**CHRIS' DRIVEWAY GRAVEL.** Delivered & Installed. Also--Culverts. Grading and Skidsteer Work. Insured. 30 years experience. Call Chris at 517-204-5127.

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**PURCHASE: Standing Timber, Produced Timber, Farms, Lots, and Wooded Property.** Standing Timber Appraisals: Firewood Logs and Blocks only, Farm Hedge Row Trimming, and Thinning & Removal. Call ‘The Tree Guy’ at (989) 289-2329 or email at [lcruzetrod@gmail.com](mailto:lcruzetrod@gmail.com)

\*\*\*

**NEW 3 BED, 2 BATH, single and double-wide mobile homes** for sale or rent in Fowlerville. Purchase price range is \$85,000-\$120,000 with lot rent of \$325. Rent price range is \$1,200-\$1,500 per month. This includes lot rent, washer/dryer, water/sewer, and trash. All homes have new appliances. If interested, call 517-521-3412.

\*\*\*

**HELPWANTED:** Evenings with routine bedtime chores. A disabled gentleman in his home. Call 517-404-0975.

\*\*\*

**HELP WANTED:** Dishwasher/Prep Cook. Apply within Old Days Café, 118 N. Grand Ave., Fowlerville. 517-223-8090.

\*\*\*

**WE'LL CARE FOR ELDERLY** in their home. Call for details. 760-617-2517.

\*\*\*

**FOR RENT: Fowlerville. Furnished Efficiency Apartment.** Working person only. Utilities furnished. No pets. \$450 a month. 517-749-6127.

## NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on  
**Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 11:00 AM.**  
to dispense of the items stored in:

Kenneth Hilyard - Unit 196

THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE.

**NELSON MINI STORAGE**  
9177 West Grand River • Fowlerville, MI 48836  
(517) 223-0137

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on our website!**  
The Fowlerville News & Views  
is on the web!

[www.Fowlervillenewsandviews.com](http://www.Fowlervillenewsandviews.com)

An E-Edition of the current weekly  
issue is posted on the site.



## Market MegaLiners

### AUCTION

**Woodshop online auction. Grizzly bench/floor radial drill press, dust collector, two-speed finishing planer, extra set of planer knives, table saw and more.** SherwoodAuctionServicesLLC.com for details and more auctions. 1-800-835-0495.

\*\*\*

**Gun & Ammo Auction Ends Soon. Kopitz Firearm/Militaria Auction Coming Soon!** +Multiple estate auctions happening. Bid anywhere, shipping/inspection available. Next gun auction March. Selling? Call John Peck 989-345-4866. JohnPeckAuctions.com.

\*\*\*

### BUSINESS SERVICES

**METAL ROOFING** regular and shingle style, HALF OFF SPECIAL COLORS! Lifetime asphalt shingles. Steel and vinyl siding. Hail damage. Licensed and insured builders. Pole Buildings. Quality work for 40 years! AMISH CREW. 517-575-3695.

\*\*\*

### MATTRESSES

**Adjustable Bed Brand New with mattress.** Made in U.S.A., in plastic, with warranty. Retail cost \$3,995.00, sacrifice for \$875.00. Call for showing or delivery: DanDanTheMattressMan.com 989-832-1866

\*\*\*

### MEDICAL

**VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00! 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-835-7273 Hablamos Espanol

\*\*\*

### MISCELLANEOUS

**AMISH BUILT** storage sheds and mini cabins delivered to your site anywhere in Michigan! Starting at \$2,500.00 mynextbarn.com 989-832-1866

\*\*\*

## BUSINESS SERVICES

**BRENDA'S PET GROOMING**-- Est. 2010. Quiet home setting. Saturdays by appointment only. Fowlerville/Webberille 517-294-0209. Also offering nutritious pet food: <https://lifesabundance.com/BrendasPetGrooming>

\*\*\*

**D&R ROOFING & SIDING:** New homes, tear-offs, recovers, gutters, flat roofs. Call Don at (517) 548-3570 or (517) 376-2064.

\*\*\*

### EXCAVATION SERVICES—

**Driveway Grading & Stone,**  
Forestry Mulching & Land Clearing  
Trenching, Grading Topsoil & Seeding  
Ditch Cleaning & Brush Hogging & Site Clearing  
Stump Grinding  
517-375-2789.

\*\*\*

**MGB PAINTING.** “Painting with finesse.” Interior & Exterior. Fowlerville. Call Samantha Beadnell at 517-223-0704 or [mgbpainting39@yahoo.com](mailto:mgbpainting39@yahoo.com)

\*\*\*

## Williamston Area

### Senior Center

201 School Street - 517-655-5173

#### January 2024 Events

**Monday, January 15th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Willows and Oasis Advisors sponsored lunch and presentation on senior living resources at 12:30pm

**Tuesday, January 16th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, NATIONAL HAT DAY - wear your favorite hat, Lunch with a board member, Mind Benders with Jackie from CADL Williamston

**Wednesday, January 17th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Chair Exercise at 11am, Mindful music and coloring at 12:30pm, Needle Work Group 1-3pm

**Thursday, January 18th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Tech with Drew at noon, Chair Volleyball at 12:30 pm

**Monday, January 22nd** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Chair Massage at 10:30am, Winter Decor Craft with Pat at 12:30 pm



## U.S. Congress Report

By Elissa Slotkin,  
7<sup>th</sup> District, U.S. House  
of Representatives

### Calls for Review of U.S. Steel Acquisition by Japanese company

U.S. Representative Elissa Slotkin (MI-07) is calling for a comprehensive review of Nippon Steel’s acquisition of U.S. Steel, joining her colleagues in the Labor Caucus in a letter to the Biden Administration, citing concerns surrounding how the sale, announced last month, could harm our supply chains and national security.

“U.S. Steel cut thousands of autoworkers out of the decision to be sold to a foreign company and have offered no promises to keep those good-paying manufacturing jobs in America, so I’m joining my colleagues to push the administration to review the sale,” said Slotkin.

“Michiganders understand firsthand the dangers of outsourcing critical manufacturing and supply chains too far from our shores — and the chickens came home to roost during COVID when disruptions caused major shortages of critical items like microchips,” she noted, adding that “Steel is one of those critical items, deeply connected to our economic security. This sale seems like the opposite of all the lessons we learned the hard way during COVID, which is why I’m pushing for it to be reviewed with serious scrutiny.”

The Labor Caucus, of which Slotkin is a member, said in its letter to the Biden Administration that “Domestic steel production is crucial to the U.S. economy, including by supporting tens of thousands of well-paying, middle-class jobs across the country, as well as being key to the U.S. industrial base and our global competitiveness. To preserve U.S. domestic steel production capacity and to ensure that steel production jobs remain good jobs going forward, it is critical that any company that acquires U.S. Steel commits to respecting and working collaboratively with the company’s workforce... The proposed acquisition of a major American steel producer by a foreign company also raises questions about the implications of this acquisition for U.S. national security and domestic steel production capabilities.”

The bipartisan group of members specifically asks the Administration “to use all available tools to ensure comprehensive regulatory review of this deal and its implications for U.S. workers and our industrial base.” Slotkin has been a leading advocate for legislation addressing American supply chains for critical materials such as microchips and pharmaceuticals. A former CIA Officer and Pentagon official, Slotkin was one of the first federal lawmakers to recognize the risks of outsourcing our supply chains for critical materials like chips, which the U.S. Armed Forces are also heavily reliant on. In 2021, she led a bipartisan task force to examine the resilience of the U.S.’s defense supply chains.

The Congresswoman also co-founded the Domestic Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Caucus, a working group in Congress focused on restoring America’s drug manufacturing industry in order to head off potential supply chain disruptions. And in December 2022, her Strengthening America’s Strategic National Stockpile Act, which would make improvements to America’s Strategic National Stockpile of medical supplies, was passed by Congress and signed into law.

**Tuesday, January 23rd** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Wii Bowling at 12:30pm

**Wednesday, January 24th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, BELLY LAUGH DAY, Chair Exercise at 11am, Popcorn and Comedy Movie “Grumpy Old Men” at 12:30 pm

**Thursday, January 25th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Dave Trojan presents “Aviation Archeology in Michigan” at 12:30 pm

**Monday, January 29th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, NATIONAL PUZZLE DAY, Play Charades at 12:30 pm

**Tuesday, January 30th** - Euchre 9am - 11:45am, Quarter Bingo with Chief of Police Jeff Weiss at 12:30 pm





Hammock camping has been available at Port Crescent State Park in Huron County for the past few years.



A natural play space is created by taking inspiration from the surrounding landscape. (Photo courtesy of the Natural Learning Institute at North Carolina State University)

## Showcasing the Michigan DNR-- The Power of \$2: Donation by campers & boaters brings state park innovations

By Heather Johnson Durocher  
Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources

Initially, Brian Dunn wasn't so sure about designating a couple of sites at his park for hammock camping – just how popular would it be, he wondered. Would campers want to rent a hammock and sleep in it rather than pitch a tent or make use of another lodging option?

The answer, he'd learn soon enough, was a resounding "yes."

"I'll admit I was skeptical," said Dunn, park supervisor at Port Crescent State Park and Port Austin Harbor in Huron County. "But surprisingly the hammocks have been getting a lot of use – I was really shocked at the number of people who really prefer hammock camping or wanted to try it. It's quite remarkable. The sites are full, a lot."

It doesn't hurt that the sites have stunning Great Lake views – Port Crescent's two hammock sites are within 30 feet of Lake Huron's Saginaw Bay.

"It's phenomenal, right on the water," said Dunn, adding that up to four hammocks, which are available for rent at the park, can be set up on each site, which also features electric hook-up, a fire ring and picnic table. "We use recycled posts – MDOT [the Michigan Department of Transportation] donated these to the DNR, they're old highway posts from I-96 – and they have multiple hooks so the hammocks can be placed at different heights."

Dunn credits the idea of offering hammock camping at Port Crescent to Chuck Allen, a department analyst in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division, who believed it would be an attractive option for campers. The idea was then brought to life through a DNR Parks and Recreation fundraising program – The \$2 Difference – in which campers and boaters can choose to give \$2 when making their camping or boating reservation to help roll out new and enhanced amenities.

"It was right during the middle of the pandemic, these two sites had lost ground due to high water levels and erosion, and we thought it was a great time to try something new," said Dunn of hammock camping. The park also features alternative lodging like geodesic domes. "The park now offers everything from hammock camping to traditional camping to cabins with no amenities to cabins with a full kitchen and bathroom."

The opportunity to doze off while lying snug in a hammock beneath the stars is among numerous changes and enhancements made across the state through The \$2 Difference program. Thanks to the more than 80,000 people each year who have given an additional \$2 when making their reservation, the DNR has been able to introduce many new and enhanced features in recent time, from hammock-focused campsites, solar lights in vault bathrooms and fishing line recycling tubes at boating access sites, to natural play spaces, a synthetic ice rink and curling sheets, among others. Some projects are up and running while others are in progress, expected to come to life this spring and beyond.

"The two dollars that people decide to give when making a camping or harbor reservation is a small boost that adds up and goes a long way," said Ron Olson, DNR Parks and Recreation chief. "It's exciting to see how these donations add up and provide a way for us to implement truly innovative amenities that make visits to our parks and harbors even better."

### The start of something good

Gathering ideas and brainstorming ways of bringing them to life is at the core of the DNR Parks and Recreation Innovation Team, which formed in 2016 to collect and evaluate

thoughts on improvements to parks, harbors and recreation areas that often are pitched to the division by staff, friends groups and private business owners.

"A team of staff came together from different parts of the state with different expertise to look at each idea from their perspective," said Maia Turek, parks and recreation engagement and innovations specialist, who was instrumental in launching the innovations team. "Early ideas vetted by the innovations team include the BMX pump track at Van Riper State Park – it became the first of its kind at a Michigan state park – and floating water parks now found at Holly and Bald Mountain recreation areas. Since its start, the team has evaluated more than 120 different ideas."

In 2019, during the Michigan state park centennial celebration, an optional \$1 donation was added to the reservation process – in its first year, this program generated more than \$80,000, Turek said.

"The following year, 2020, we changed it to \$2 and the donations were over \$150,000," she said. "We've continued with The \$2 Difference because we want to be sure we are spending the funds that are being donated. This fund eventually merged with the innovations team, which allows for more innovative ideas to be funded thanks to the generous contributions of our campers and boaters. Where we may have recommended a project before, but had no funding source to complete it, we can now recommend and fund projects that benefit all visitors to these special places."

### Protecting aquatic wildlife – and boats

This past summer and fall, the \$2 donation fund helped the DNR begin rolling out fishing line recycling tubes at every harbor, boating access site and fishing pier through the state's parks and recreation system.

These recycling tubes are helping protect aquatic wildlife from the dangers of eating or getting tangled in fishing line and other fishing tackle, and they also help protect boat propellers. The collected fishing line is ultimately sent to Berkeley Conservation to be recycled at no cost.

More than 120 volunteers and parks and recreation staff have helped build more than 1,000 tubes, said Shane Morse, park supervisor for W.J. Hayes, Cambridge Junction Historic and Watkins Lake state parks as well as Lake Hudson Recreation Area and the Jackson Field Office.

Morse, who manages close to 50 boating access sites in southeast Michigan, said recycling tubes are being checked and emptied on a regular basis, with significant amounts of line being retrieved and bundled up for recycling – "none of it is going to the landfill, which is phenomenal," he said.

### A natural way to play

Amanda Treadwell, urban area field planner in the Parks and Recreation Division, said funding from the \$2 donation program is a tremendous gift that is helping bring "a unique opportunity" related to outdoor play spaces to Michigan state parks.

"We just might be the first state park system to coordinate and develop this initiative," Treadwell said.

The initiative: partnering with the Natural Learning Institute at North Carolina State University to develop plans for natural landscape-inspired play spaces. Think natural rock formations, trails and trees at a state park, for example, which are incorporated into an outdoor environment that supports safe physical activity for children and their families.

"The play space materials would represent the eco regions that each state park is in rather than something that is standard and pulled out of a magazine," Treadwell said. "Each one would be unique, with learning opportunities for the ecology and cultural history of the space. It would be an accessible learning space as well as a play space for children and families of all ages and abilities."

With help from The \$2 Difference, the DNR is collaborat-



Fishing line recycling tubes are being placed at every harbor, boating access site and fishing pier through the state's parks and recreation system.

ing with the Natural Learning Institute to develop a resource manual, she said.

"They'll provide a guide to us, which will help us create these unique playscapes throughout the system," she said, adding that the pilot location for a natural place space is Hartwick Pines State Park campground in Grayling. "It will provide maintenance and operations guidelines for these play systems and outline a process for us to work with a consultant to develop them."

### The power of \$2

Starting this spring, you'll notice a special sticker with the words "You made this happen with your reservation donation" placed on amenities funded by The \$2 Difference. A few more examples of this funding at work:

- Accessible beach walkway at Pontiac Lake Recreation Area and accessible kayak launch and sunshade at Lake Hudson Recreation Area.
- Dishwashing stations at 20 state parks.
- Interpretive signage at Tahquamenon Falls and Fort Wilkins Historic state parks.
- Lighted trail equipment for winter events at Seven Lakes State Park and Ionia Recreation and Highland recreation areas.
- New harbor amenities, including laundry facilities, fire rings with seating and lawn games.
- Track chairs at North Higgins Lake, South Higgins Lake (with matching donation from Safari Club International), Warren Dunes and Wilderness state parks.

For Dunn, from Port Crescent State Park, it's exciting to see how improvements and changes can be implemented that best fit individual parks.

"All of our parks have their own unique personalities and amenities that make sense for their visitors," he said. "The \$2 donation funding – I think it's phenomenal. I really see it helping us do the extra things that we may not be able to otherwise swing with our budgets. It's a nice way to add those extras that make camping and recreating more fun."

## Economists predict good year for state, but auto industry issues cloud future

Commentary by Rick Haglund

A historic six-week strike against Detroit Three automakers by the United Auto Workers union in which the UAW won in record wage increases for about 150,000 hourly workers was the major economic headline in Michigan in 2023.

Despite predictions that the strike would upend the surging sales momentum of Detroit automakers, buyers largely shrugged it off. The Detroit Three collectively reported their best sales year since 2019, the year before the COVID pandemic drove auto sales into the ditch. (Stellantis reported a slight sales drop for the year).

And the walkout paid off for UAW workers, an estimated 66,400 of whom are working in Michigan auto factories. Signing bonuses and wage hikes won in the contracts “should more than offset the loss of personal income due to the strike,” according to the University of Michigan’s latest state economic forecast.

This year also will mark Michigan finally recovering from job losses incurred during 2020 when the state lost 1.2 million jobs during the first two months of the COVID outbreak. Michigan was hit earlier and harder than most states by the pandemic.

Although the number of people who reported they were employed in September was slightly larger than just before COVID struck the state, the number of payroll jobs isn’t expected to exceed the pre-pandemic level until early this year.

“The state has mounted a vigorous comeback from the pandemic recession in the face of severe supply chain shortages, high inflation, rising interest rates and now a major strike in its marquee industry,” the U of M economists said.

Michigan’s economy is expected to continue adding jobs through 2025, albeit at a slower rate than last year as the Federal Reserve continues efforts to tamp down inflation.

U of M economists are forecasting the state’s economy will add 40,400 jobs this year, down from 65,600 in 2023. Job growth ticks up slightly in 2025 to 42,400 jobs.

A big reason for tepid job growth is that Michigan’s slow-growing, aging population is creating labor shortages, according to the U of M economists. Growing the state’s population, particularly the working-age population, is expected to be a major focus of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s administration and the Legislature this year.

While the state’s labor force participation rate—the percentage of adults working or looking for work—has been rising since the end of the pandemic, the U of M economists expect the rate to stall at 61.8% this year.

And inflation, though falling, will continue to eat into the paychecks of Michigan workers over the next two years. Real disposable income is forecast to be just 1.3% higher in 2025 than in 2019.

While the state economy is expected to continue growing over the next two years, the long-range outlook is worrisome.

That’s particularly true for the auto industry.

The Detroit Three’s recent strong performance masks a steady decline in market share against aggressive Asian and European competitors that is likely to continue.

U of M economists predict Ford, GM and Stellantis will sell a combined 5.8 million cars and trucks in 2024 and again in 2025. That’s about the same number of vehicles the automakers sold just over a decade ago and less than half of the more than 12 million vehicles they sold a quarter century ago.

Fewer sales typically result in fewer auto jobs, particularly those in the factories of automakers and suppliers.

The Detroit Three’s share of the U.S. auto market has been falling for decades, although the rate of decline has slowed in recent years. The domestic automakers’ market share is expected to fall from 36.8% last year to 35.3% in 2025 as automakers prioritize profits and keeping prices up over market share, according to the U of M forecast.

And slower-than-expected sales of electric vehicles is causing heartburn for Detroit automakers that have invested billions of dollars in a historic transition to battery-powered vehicles.

GM has abandoned its goal of selling 400,000 electric vehicles by the end of this year. And Ford is scaling back its \$3.5 billion battery plant in Marshall, cutting planned employment from 2,500 jobs to 1,700 jobs.

There also are fears that if electric-vehicle-denouncing Republicans take control of Congress and the White House next year, they’ll kill the federal government’s support for the electric vehicle transition by Detroit automakers.

Plus, there’s growing alarm that low-cost Chinese electric vehicles could enter the U.S. market from factories Chinese companies are planning in Mexico.

More broadly, Michigan’s economy is lagging its competitors in income, job growth and attracting talent. Those issues came into sharp focus last year when Whitmer created a statewide task force and appointed a chief growth officer to address Michigan’s stagnant population.

U of M’s economic forecast points to one seeming positive development for Michigan’s future: the state’s economy is increasingly less reliant on the highly cyclical auto industry.

There are more jobs in professional and business services, and the private education and health sector than there are in manufacturing, and many of those jobs are highly paid.

U of M economists say Michigan has “a newfound economic resilience” that could signal the state “has turned the corner from the boom-and-bust economy of the past.”

That would be as significant as the Detroit Three making a successful transition to an electric vehicle future.

*Rick Haglund writes the “Micheconomy” column for the Michigan Advance. He’s a former reporter and business columnist for Booth Newspapers, now the MLive Media Group, with extensive experience covering Michigan’s economy and the auto industry.*

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## Savvy Senior Column

By Jim Miller

### Tips on Caring for an Aging Parent

Dear Savvy Senior,

*Where can I turn to for caregiving help? I help take care of my 80-year-old father and work too, and it’s wearing me out.*

*Worn Out Wendy*

Dear Wendy,

Taking care of an aging parent over a period of time – especially when juggling work and other family obligations – can be exhausting. But help and resources are available.

Here’s what you should know.

#### Identify Your Needs

To help you determine and prioritize the kinds of help you need, a good first step is to make a detailed list of everything you do as your dad’s caregiver and the amount of time each task takes. Identify the times when you need help the most and which tasks others might be able to do for you.

Then list the types of care needed, such as simple companionship or doing active chores, like shopping or running errands. Once you determine this, here are some tips and places you can reach out to for help.

#### Care Helpers

If you have siblings or other loved ones close by, start by asking them if they could come and help with specific tasks. And see if friends, neighbors or faith group members could help too.

You also need to check into local resources that may be available. Many communities offer a range of free or subsidized services that help seniors and caregivers with basic needs such as home delivered meals, transportation, senior companion services and respite services, which offers short-term care so you can take an occasional break. Call your nearby Area Aging Agency (800-677-1116) for referrals to services.

There are also a bevy of online services you can use to help you save time on certain chores. For example, online grocery shopping and home deliveries, and online pharmacy medication refills and deliveries. You can also order meal-kits or pre-made meals online through numerous meal service delivery companies and arrange needed transportation with ride sharing services like Lyft or Uber.

Or, if you can afford it, you may want to consider hiring someone a few hours a week to help with things like cooking, housekeeping or even personal care. Costs can run anywhere from \$12 up to \$25 per hour. *Care.com* or *CareLinx.com* are two good websites to help you find someone, or you can work with a local home care agency.

#### Financial Aids

If you’re handling your dad’s financial chores, make things easier by arranging for direct deposit for his income sources, and set up automatic payments for his utilities and other routine bills. You may also want to set up your dad’s online banking service, so you can pay bills and monitor his account anytime. Or, if you need help, consider hiring a bill paying service like Silver Bills (*SilverBills.com*), which charges a flat fee of \$150 per month.

*BenefitsCheckup.org* is another excellent tool to look for financial assistance programs that may help your dad, particularly if he’s lower income.

#### Technology Solutions

To help you keep tabs on your dad when you are away at work or if he lives alone, there are affordable technology devices that can help. For example, there are medical alert systems and smart speakers that help with communication and allow him to call for help if needed. Home video cameras with two-way speakers that allow you to monitor and talk to him when you’re away. Electronic pill boxes that can notify you if he has taken his medications. And to help you coordinate his care with other members of his care team there are websites like *LotsAHelpingHands.com*.

#### Other Resources

There are also a number of other organizations you can draw on for additional information like the Family Care Alliance (*Caregiver.org*), which provides a state-by-state listing of caregiving programs and services; the Alzheimer’s Association (*ALZ.org/help-support/caregiving*) that provides information unique to the challenges of dementia caregivers; and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (*Caregiver.va.gov*), which offers caregiver support services to veterans and spouses.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit *SavvySenior.org*. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.



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