

Fowlerville NEWS & VIEWS

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“Serving the Local Communities”

Volume XXXVIII No. 4

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Published Weekly



Taking part in ‘Peter Pan Jr.’, a musical being put on in early February by Prelude Children’s Theater, are these Fowlerville students and their dance instructor. From left, front row, Jackson Clark (John), Vann Otto (Peter Pan), Carson Otto (Michael), Natalya Flores (Mrs. Darling); back row, Aubrey Clark (Wendy), and Maria Usher of Maria’s School of Dance, who is directing the choreography for the play. Tickets for the musical, which will be held at Hartland Performing Arts Center, are now available.

Fowlerville dance students taking part in ‘Peter Pan Jr.’ musical in Hartland

Five local students are taking part in ‘Peter Pan Jr.’—the annual musical being put on by Prelude Children’s Theater.

Shows are planned Feb. 5, 6, 12, and 13. Showtimes will be Saturdays 2:30pm and 7pm and Sundays at 2:30pm at the Hartland Performing Arts Center at 9525 Highland Rd, Howell. Tickets on sale now at our.show/prelude.

With a cast of nearly 60 kids, Prelude again promises to bring “children’s theater with a Broadway flare.” Prelude is known for selling out shows with its lavish sets, incredible costuming, special effects and awesome talent! This year is no exception with the classic, Peter Pan Jr., where the Pan WILL FLY! Prelude’s previous shows include Frozen Jr., Madagascar Jr., Lion King Jr.,

James and the Giant Peach Jr., and many more.

This year’s cast features students from Fowlerville and many of them are from Maria’s School of Dance. Playing key roles are Aubrey Clark as *Wendy*, Jackson Clark as *John*, Natalya Flores who has the dual role of *Mrs. Darling and a Pirate*, Carson Otto as *Michael*, and Vann Otto in the starring role of *Peter Pan*.

They range in age from second thru ninth grade.

Maria Usher, from Maria’s School of Dance, is also playing a key part in the production by directing the choreography for the entire show.

Here are some comments from the local participants.

Natalya: “This is my first ever stage show and I’m super

Continued on page 20



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Combining trees, crops & livestock could help battle climate change

By Caroline Miller
Capital News Service

Growing crops, trees and livestock on the same land could help farmers battle climate change.

This technique is known as silvopasture, and it creates a sink to collect carbon responsible for global warming. It also battles erosion and improves soil.

A main contributor to climate change is the release of carbon dioxide that warms the climate.

Silvopasture manages forages, forests and livestock on the same land. It draws carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and puts it back into the soil, said Monica Jean, a Michigan State University Extension field crop educator based in Clinton County.

“Naturally, farming already does draw down carbon some, because we are going through photosynthesis, so carbon is coming into those plants,” Jean said. “But a sink would be where you’re actually taking that carbon and putting it back into the soil so that there is a negative.”

If managed properly, silvopasture can achieve a system where none of the resources are managed to the detriment of another, Jean said.

MSU Extension has been working with farmers around the state to optimize their systems through an environmental lens, she said.

“Over the 30 years that I’ve been observing and involved in silvopasturing, I’ve never really experienced a downside to it,” said Brett Chedzoy, the regional forester for Cornell University Cooperative Extension.

Chedzoy, who has worked with MSU Extension, has captured carbon with silvopasture on his own land for more than 10 years.

“Simply put, we’re growing more biomass per acre in a silvopasture than a treeless pasture or a woods,” Chedzoy said. “So we’re both capturing and storing more carbon per acre.”

His first experience with silvopasturing was in the Peace Corps working in central Argentina 30 years ago, Chedzoy said. There he saw how the practice limits erosion.

“This is an area where it rains 40 inches a year, about the same as Michigan or New York, and much of that rain comes during the summer months in the form of intensive storms,” Chedzoy said.

“Historically, this mountainous landscape was very prone to flash flooding because the rain would hit this treeless landscape, and often an overgrazed landscape, and instead of infiltrating into the soil, it would just run off and cause flash flooding and along with it erosion and other issues,” he said.

Trees he has planted intercept a lot of that rainfall and allow it to infiltrate the ground instead of run off, he said.

“That’s just one environmental benefit of having the trees there,” Chedzoy said.

Not only is silvopasture creating carbon sinks – and preventing flash floods and runoff – it’s also benefiting the soil.

“The trees are adding a tremendous amount of organic matter to the soil, which further helps improve the soil health and the ability of that soil to absorb rainfall,” Chedzoy said.

Another farm that has worked with MSU Extension and has had success with silvopasture is JNelson Farms in Hope, Midland County.

Jon Nelson, the manager and owner of the farm, introduced silvopasture in the spring of 2018. One of the major improvements has been in water cycling and nutrient cycling, which has improved soil health and carbon sequestering, he said.

“We’ve been able to hold water better and go through larger rains,” Nelson said.

Nelson said he believes silvopasture is a great solution to climate change and he hasn’t had any problems with it.

“I think it’s a practice that could substantially increase forestry and our situation,” Nelson said.

Even though JNelson Farms hasn’t experienced any drawbacks, Chedzoy said there are limitations to managing silvopasture.

“Our biggest challenge, and this is probably true of nearly all farms, is time,” he said. “It requires more management, and it requires going out and doing new things that can be quite labor intensive.”

One way to overcome that challenge would be to hire others to do the work, like a logging crew or consulting foresters, he said. But it’s not easy to find the best people to do the job.

“Silvopasturing is something that requires more than the status quo of skill and management inputs,” Chedzoy said.

Jean, the field crops educator, said another drawback is that silvopasture must be used on wooded land, which not every farm has, and it must be managed properly.

“You don’t want to damage the trees. That’s one of the main issues is this long-term compaction problem, so you do need to be careful, and you need to manage it well,” Jean said.

When livestock isn’t intensively managed in a silvopasture system, excessive activity from the animals around the root zone can cause soil to compact, damaging root zones, she said.

Jean said that if a farm doesn’t have a wooded area to

implement silvopasture, then it can get costly to plant the trees needed for the system to work.

Even with these limitations, Chedzoy said he believes any grazer can learn to do good silvopasturing management, but it comes down to whether the farmer is willing to make the commitment.

Caroline Miller writes for Great Lakes Echo.

Asahi Kasei thanked by Fowlerville High Life Skills Class for donations

Asahi Kasei Plastics, a local company in Fowlerville, donates their returnable cans/bottles to Mrs. Esch’s Life Skills Class at Fowlerville High School.

“Asahi Kasei, we would like to thank you so much for the donations!” said Mrs. Esch on behalf of her students. “We collect the returnables, return them, and then use the money to shop for items for our classroom. This allows us to cook every week, do fun science experiments, make crafts, buy special items for our room, purchase items for our class store, and more.

“All of this is made possible because of your generosity,” she added. “You are helping us learn skills that we need to move forward in life. Thank you!”



Some Special Recipes

By Dawn Horton

This week’s recipes are from local resident, Doris Bowers who is retired from the Fowlerville School system. The Chicken Divan was a recipe of her late step mother, Fern Schultz. She prepared meals for the Howell Lions and Rotary Club, serving it on occasion. The Delicious Dessert Cake was given to Doris by a friend. Enjoy these two great sounding recipes!

*Note: We are looking for more recipes to put in the paper. This feature began 2 years ago this March and people have often expressed how much they enjoy it. Please send recipes via fax to 517-223-4177, email to fowlervillenews@gmail.com or drop them off at the office.

CHICKEN DIVAN

- 2 - 3 chicken breasts, cooked and cubed
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1/2 teaspoon curry powder

- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 cup rice, cooked
- 1/2 bag frozen broccoli, cooked

Mix together. Put chicken, broccoli and rice in a dish. Mix other ingredients. Pour on top. Put 6-8 oz. shredded cheese on top of soup. Melt 1/2 stick butter. Mix with soft bread. Put on top of cheese. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 25 minutes.

—Doris Bowers

DELICIOUS DESSERT CAKE

- 1 box orange or yellow cake mix
 - 2 eggs
 - 1/2 cup sour cream
 - 1 can peach pie filling
- Mix, bake in greased 9x13 pan for 30 minutes.

TOPPING

- 20 oz. crushed pineapple
 - 3 oz. cream cheese
 - 8 oz. cool whip
- Mix. Spread on cooled cake.

—Doris Bowers

Kreeger Elementary School News

ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

All enrollments can be done online 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.

Calendar of Kreeger Events

1-24-22 Art Club 5th Grade **Last Day

1-24 thru 1-27 Vision Screening for 3rd & 5th Grade Students

2-21-22 NO SCHOOL K-12

VISION SCREENING INFORMATION

Livingston County Health Department is providing Vision Screening for 3rd and 5th grade students from January 24th thru January 27th. Please call the school at (517)-223-6005 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 Vision Screening may be answered by calling the Health Department at (517)-546-9850.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your student will be absent for any reason please call the attendance line at 517-223-6333. We do not get messages that are sent directly to the teachers. Thank you.

STUDENT 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 Kreeger Office to drop it off and complete the necessary paperwork. **School Board Policy states that children are not allowed to transport medication.**

Does your child know what to do at dismissal time?

*Will your child be riding the bus home?

*Will your child be going to *Little Glads*?

*Will your child be getting picked up?

If you need to call the office for a "reminder note" for your student, please call the office before **2:50** at 517-223-6006

Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball

Team defeats Owosso 74-48 on Tuesday

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team defeated Owosso in a non-conference game on Tuesday by a score of 74-48. Gregory Wilkinson led the way for the Glads with 26 points and nine rebounds. Carter Young had 13 points and six rebounds, while Brendan Ray chipped in with 13 points. The team is now 5-3 overall and 1-1 in league play.

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 26- Virtual Meeting for First Grade Parents re: Body Safety Training

February 21- NO SCHOOL (President's Day)

March 4 – End of 2nd Trimester K-5

March 10 – K-5th Gd ½ Day of School (Dismissal 12:02)

March 10 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:00 – 4:00 & 5:00 – 7:30

March 28 to April 1 – NO SCHOOL (SPRING RECESS)

April 4 – School Resumes

April 15 – NO SCHOOL (GOOD FRIDAY RECESS)

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. **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.

Meals on Wheels program needs volunteer drivers to make deliveries

The Meals on Wheels program needs volunteers in the Gregory, Hamburg, and Pinckney areas. We would love the opportunity for you to be part of our team. This is a commitment of 1-2 hours of your time as little or as often as your schedule will allow. Once a month, once a week, temporary, or on a continuous basis. *Delivering meals to homebound seniors is a very rewarding experience.*

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For more information, please call Lucy @ 810-632-2155 or email info@lwmow.org.



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Caleb Jenkins Column



Is Freedom Inevitable?

Since its inception, the U.S. has pursued the great experiment of freedom and representative government, which has progressed through various stages. After the War for Independence, the form of government that the new nation would institute was not immediately clear. This uncertainty stemmed from great debates on how the state should function. While the Founders deliberated government structures and

levels of power, they generally agreed on the importance of preserving freedom and ensuring representation by the people. Ultimately, as attributed to Benjamin Franklin, the U.S. would be a “republic, if you can keep it.”

With the system decided upon, the U.S. set about protecting these newly secured rights and principles of democracy from internal discontent and outside meddling. Yes, the U.S. has struggled against various forms of foreign interference since our founding! Policies designed to preserve the integrity of the nation and our neighbors, such as the Monroe Doctrine, perhaps best represent this stage of the great experiment. The U.S. was still a young nation, and the Civil War and other smaller events showcased the fragility of our system. The struggle for democratic republicanism was largely internal and local.

As we well know, the U.S. promotion of democratic principles went global after World War II with the advent of the Cold War. Policies like the Truman Doctrine saw communism, most clearly represented by the Soviet Union, as a threat to the preservation of the rights and freedoms that Americans had long defended. The idea was to counter states supporting the Soviet Union and generally encourage the growth of democracies around the world. This plan had mixed results with quite a few detours along the way, but the U.S. ultimately got what it was after.

The Soviet Union collapsed, and many hailed the new century as the end of history. The near universal adoption of freedom and democratic principles would represent the final stage of governmental and societal development. The great experiment was finally complete. Except, of course, it wasn't. The persistence and rise of communist China; the authoritarian turn of Russia; and challenges to democratic structures in the U.S. and around the world all demonstrated that freedom is not a foregone conclusion.

The U.S. experienced three stages in the great experiment of democratic republicanism: founding, preservation, and propagation. The defining trend of the contemporary stage is not quite clear yet because we must decide what it will be. Human rights, freedom, and representative government may be self-evident principles, but they are not inherently guaranteed. If we treasure these values, then we must faithfully act in ways that promote them. Their continuance is up to us.

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NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY TO INCORPORATE AS A CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND RIGHT TO REFERENDUM

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the Township of Handy has a population of 2,000 or more according to the most recent United States Census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of the Charter Township Act, Public Act 359 of 1947, as amended (MCL 42.3a). The Township Board has the right to exercise one of three options concerning status as a charter township:

1. Adopt by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township.
2. Adopt by majority vote a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township. At least 60 days after the adoption of the resolution of intent, the Township Board may adopt the resolution to incorporate as a charter township.
3. Adopt by majority vote a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

If option 2 is adopted by the Township Board, the citizens of the Township have the right to file a “Right to Referendum Petition.” This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between the passage of a resolution of intent to incorporate and before the final adoption of the resolution to incorporate as a charter township.

The petition must follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law (MCL 168.488), and the heading must indicate “Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township.” The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of the Township based on the vote cast for all candidates for township supervisor at the last election in which a supervisor was elected.

If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

Laura A. Eisele, Clerk
 Handy Township
 (1-16 & 23-2022)

—Area Deaths—



Mary Ellen Lauter

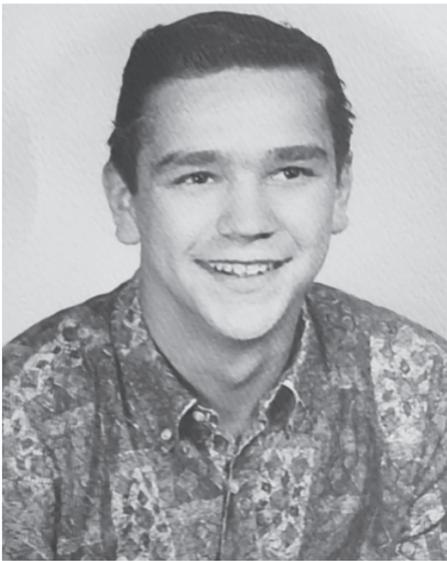
Her Legacy... Mary Ellen Lauter, 88, passed away January 13, 2022, at her home in Fowlerville, Michigan. She was born on April 1, 1933, in Newberry, Michigan to Cory and Anne (Schwab) Kelley. Mary Ellen was a proud Yooper, growing up in Newberry with her six siblings. Later she moved to Detroit and worked as a telephone operator for Michigan Bell Telephone where she met the love of her life, the late Robert Lauter. They married on May 25, 1957, in Detroit, Michigan. Robert brought four children to the marriage, whom Mary Ellen raised and loved as her own. Mary Ellen and Robert completed their family by having three more children together.

With an eye for details, and a focused perfectionism, Mary Ellen was successful in her career in banking. She started as a teller at National Bank of Detroit, and worked many years as a Difference Controller at Michigan National Bank. Her last job was at the City of Livonia's Water Department, managing collection. When she was not working, Mary Ellen loved to visit the casino with friends and family, play her piano and organ, and work on her various sewing projects. She was a talented cross-stitcher and quilter. A member of the Fowlerville Village Quilters, colloquially known as "Stitch & Bitch," her and the ladies would gather to create beautiful quilts for charity. She will be remembered for her artistic talent, the way she approached everything with detailed precision, her great sense of humor, and dedication to family.

Family was most important to Mary Ellen, and she cherished spending time with them. She was a loving wife, dear mother, beloved grandmother, cherished great grandmother, and treasured friend. All that knew and loved her will dearly miss Mary Ellen, especially her beloved cat, Hobbes.

Her Family... Mary Ellen will be missed by her children, Susan Smith, Judith Gau, John (Amy) Lauter, David Lauter, Jennifer (Kenneth) Steinhauser; grandchildren, James, Michael, Jeffrey, Kris, Brian, Tammy, Jennifer, Lisa, Shelley, Bobby, Corey, Kent, Benjamin, Maryanna, Zach; 14 great grandchildren; daughter in heart, Dr. Lauren Phoenix; and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Lauter; son, Robert A. Lauter; daughter, Nancy Thompson; parents, Cory and Anne Kelley; and all of her siblings, Betty, William, Margaret, Judy, Nancy, and Timothy.

Her Farewell... Mary Ellen's family and friends gathered 2-8 p.m., Thursday, January 20 at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel in Howell, Michigan. Her Community Farewell was held at 11 a.m. (10 a.m. gathering), Friday, January 21, at Borek Jennings Funeral Home. Pastor Matt Nickels served as celebrant. Entombment followed at 2:30 p.m. at Glen Eden Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be given to family for future designation. Please leave a message of comfort for Mary Ellen's family at 1-877-231-7900, or sign her guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.



Roy Lee Coselman

Roy Lee Coselman was a devoted husband, father, grandpa, brother and friend. Roy passed away peacefully in his Fowlerville, MI home on Friday, January 14, 2022 at the age of 74. Roy was born to the late Harold and Anna Coselman. He has been a lifetime resident of Fowlerville.

On May 15, 1965, Roy married the love of his life, Linda (Stage). Together they have 4 children.

Roy was a proud man with a great work ethic which he instilled into each one of his kids. He worked for VCF for 29 years before moving on to Versatrim for 20 years.

In Roy's spare time he enjoyed fishing, hunting, training his dogs but most of all, time with his family.

Roy had a contagious smile and a clever sense of humor, always ready with a "good" joke or a friendly tip on how to throw a proper horseshoe!

Roy had a kind soul and will be missed deeply. He will forever live on in our hearts and the stories we will continue to share.

Surviving family includes: wife Linda Coselman; daughters Kim Coselman and Kelly (Randy) Nehring (Brighton), sons Roy (Amy) Coselman (Fowlerville) and Tim (Jodi) Coselman (Fowlerville); 9 grandchildren Kenneth Riddle (Fowlerville), Coen Nehring (Brighton), Ashley Coselman (Fowlerville), James Hawkins (Lansing), Lindsey Hawkins (California), Christian Coselman (Fowlerville), Dylan Butler (Fowlerville), Destiny Coselman (Leslie), and Jordan Williams (Florida); great granddaughter Lena Coselman (Fowlerville); sisters Ann Myers (Byron), Connie Coselman (Fowlerville), and Betty Lemieux (Fowlerville); brother Richard Coselman (Howell); and Dennis (Carol) Coselman (Byron).

He was preceded in death by his parents Harold and Anna and brothers Harold and Robert.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements entrusted to Herrmann Funeral Home. Online condolences may be expressed at pjherrmannfuneralhome.com

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Nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath Bungalow in the Ithaca area with lots of out buildings on 1.6 acres. This well maintained home features kitchen appliances, new metal roof on the home and buildings and newer septic system. \$209,000.



Charming brick Cape Cod in the Village of Fowlerville on large .5 acre lot with one car detached garage. Features updated kitchen with all appliances included, central air, cove ceilings, hardwood floors, cedar closets and full basement. The 2nd level master suite with bath is in need of renovation. There are two nice bedrooms and full bath on entry level. Cash or conventional only. \$185,900.



Spacious new quality construction on 5 beautiful acres in the Hartland schools, turn-key ready. This custom home features 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 1st floor master suite with large bath and walk in closet, open concept kitchen with fabulous wood floors throughout the kitchen, dining room and great room. Beautiful quartz counter tops and stainless steel kitchen appliances. Large walkout basement ready to finish for additional living space and 4 car attached garage with 360-amp service. A Must See Home! \$839,000

----- VACANT LAND -----

- Nice country 1+ acre parcel on a paved road in the Morrice schools. Located just 2 1/2 miles to town. \$19,900.
- Nice location for this beautiful setting 12 acre parcel just 1 mile from downtown, ready for your dream home. Mature trees surround some of the boundary lines and natural gas at the road. \$109,900
- Excellent location for this 4.2 acre commercial site just 1 mile east of downtown Fowlerville along Grand River. Many possibilities available for this site. New survey and perc are complete. \$139,900

Attention Conway Township Residents Photography Contest

The Conway Township Planning Commission is updating their master plan. They are holding a photography contest for the residents of Conway Township. Photos may be used in the Master Plan, the Township Website, or other materials. The deadline for the contest is February 28, 2022. Further information and the submission form can be picked up at the township hall (on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 9am and 3pm) or at www.conwaytownship.com.

Elizabeth Whitt, Township Clerk
 (1-9, 1-23, 2-6 and 2-20-22 FNV)

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—Area Deaths—



Judith Lynn BeVier-North
1958 – 2022

Judi BeVier-North age 63, of Howell, Michigan passed away on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Judi was born in Wayne, Michigan on May 4, 1958. She grew up and attended public schools primarily in West Bloomfield, Michigan. At graduation she attended Oakland Community College before transferring to Northern Michigan University where she would receive her bachelors in Education. Later, while teaching full-time and raising two children, she would go on to receive her Masters.

She pursued her passion in teaching as well as counseling and worked many years in the Merrill Public School District in Merrill, Wisconsin. Upon retirement she moved back to Michigan in 2016 where she would reside in Howell. She stayed involved with education by substituting at public schools in Michigan. She loved quilting and was an exclusive member of a local quilting club. Judi was very active in life even in the final days of her journey.

She is survived by her two sons: Jonathon and Michael; her brothers: Randy and Bruce; her sister Pat; her sister-in-laws: Mary and Linda; her nieces and nephews: Heather (Corey), Corey (Laura), Erin, Eric, and Tara. She is also survived by her uncle Rollin Horton. She is preceded in death by her parents, Bruce and Marion BeVier.

A service was being held at Herrmann Funeral Home on Saturday January 22 with visitation from 10am – 12 noon with services starting at 12 noon.

A separate memorial service will be held in Merrill, WI later in the year.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Northern Michigan University School of Education using the online giving form under Alumni and friends in the “about” section of Nmu.edu/education or to the Judi BeVier-North Counseling Fund at Merrill High School, 1201 North Sales St. Merrill, WI 54452.

Crossroads United Methodist Church holding Swiss steak dinner Jan. 29

Crossroads United Methodist Church will resume its monthly Swiss steak dinners for the public on Saturday, January 29. Dinner will start at 4 p.m. and last until supplies are gone. The cost is \$9 per person, regardless of age.

Due to Covid19 protocols, all dinners will be boxed. People will pay inside, pick up their dinners and carry them home or take them to a table in the fellowship hall to eat, picnic style. Masks are encouraged. On the menu will be Swiss steak, mashed potatoes with mushroom gravy, vegetables, coleslaw, rolls and cookies.

The church is located at the corner of Haslett and Zimmer roads, east of Haslett and north of Williamston. For more details, please contact the church at 517/655-1466 or email at office.umccrossroads@gmail.com.



Marie Theresa Duncan

Her Legacy... Fowlerville – Marie Theresa Duncan, known as Theresa, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at St. Joseph Mercy Livingston. She was born on July 27, 1931 to Henry and Helen Brisson. Theresa retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield. Where after retirement she became active with the Red Hats Club of Redford and President of the Senior’s Club. She served as an usher for Fox and Fisher theaters. Theresa’s hobbies included card games, casinos, horse racing, crocheting and puzzles. She loved U of M and Michigan State football, Hallmark and Turner Classic Movies and going to the show. She loved traveling with husband Nick. Most of all, Theresa loved spending time with all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and many, many friends.

Her Family... Dear mother of Steve (Kathy) Sheldon; loving grandmother of Heather Sheldon and the late Justin Sheldon; great grandmother of Kali; stepmother of Nick Duncan Jr., Atea (Wayne) Nazarowff, Lance (Nancy) Duncan; step grandmother of Atea, Anthony, Elliott David, Shelby, Haley and Jack; and step great grandmother to Ford, Zeke and Grayson. Theresa was dearly loved as well by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by sister Rita Weisman, brother Leo, Harold and Donald Brisson and her parents.

Her Farewell... Theresa’s family and friends were gathering for a Mass of Christian on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 11:00am at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Howell with a gathering beginning at 10:00am. Father Gary Koenigsnecht was to serve as celebrant. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Paralyzed Veterans of America or a senior center of your choice. Please leave a message of comfort for Theresa’s family at 1-877-231-7900, or sign her guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.

Fowlerville student named to Dean’s List at Albion College

Fowlerville student Parker Douglass was named on the Fall 2021 Albion College Dean’s List.

Dean’s List honors are given to students who achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in four graded courses. Douglass is a first-year student at Albion College. Douglass is a resident of Fowlerville.

Albion College is a private liberal arts Michigan college of approximately 1,500 students and is nationally recognized for its academic excellence in the liberal arts tradition, a learning-centered commitment, and a future-oriented perspective.

Coach sought for Fowlerville Junior High & High School Equestrian Teams

A coach is being sought for the Fowlerville Junior High and High School Equestrian Teams for one or both age levels. Anyone interested in coaching, please pick up an application from the Fowlerville High School Athletic Department or have one emailed to you. Please contact the Athletic Department if interested at 517-223-6061 or taitm@fowlervilleschools.org. Applications must be submitted by January 28, 2022.

Fowlerville High School News

OFFICE HOURS

Administration Offices 7:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.
Building opens 6:45 a.m.

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 3 p.m.

Senior & parents: It is time to order your cap and gown! Please check the fowlervilleschools.org or your google classroom for ordering information as well as other senior information.

The Class of 2024 is offering a wonderful opportunity to purchase beautiful flowers bulbs and seeds to help raise funds to support class sponsored events such as prom and senior lock in. Please check out our website at <http://FHSClassof2024.fpfundraising.com>, orders will be delivered directly to you beginning April 1st. We thank you for your support.

Spring 2021 Fowlerville High School Scholarship Winners: Attention class of 2021 Senior Honors Night Scholarship winners. Congratulations again for being the recipient of a Fowlerville Community Scholarship as well as successfully completing the first semester of school/training after high school. Scholarship winners from the Spring 2021 Senior Honors Night can claim their scholarships by completing the Scholarship Winners Request Form. The form is available in the Fowlerville High School counseling office or by visiting the Fowlerville High School web page-counseling tab-2021 Scholarship Winners ribbon.

Winners must provide a copy of their semester 1 college/trade school transcript showing successful completion as well as evidence of semester 2 enrollment (semester 2 class schedule). Please submit the completed form and required evidence in person to the counseling office or to hardbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org.

Fowlerville Community School wishes to thank all scholarship providers for their continued support of our senior classes. For information on becoming a scholarship sponsor, please email Jamey Hardenbrook at hardbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org.

Fowlerville High School Semester 2 Co-op Program: Juniors and seniors that are interested in the co-op program can pick up semester 2 paperwork from the counseling office after Christmas break. Students must be on track to graduate and have room in their schedule for co-op elective credit. Completed forms should be returned ASAP or by the end of semester 1, January 21. Co-op paperwork is also available on the Fowlerville High School webpage. Please direct any questions to Jamey Hardenbrook at hardbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org.

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 2nd St and Grand River next to State Farm.

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Steve Horton Column

A different way of looking at the work-force shortage

It's being called 'The Great Resignation.'

Which is shorthand for the thousands of workers—former or would-be—who are not returning to jobs they once had or have chosen to quit them in pursuit of greener pastures.

Most of these jobs, but certainly not all, are on the low end of the wage scale or in parts of the service sector that do not necessarily lead to a lucrative career. Many are labor intensive, require long hours and have uncertain work schedules.

Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic bears some blame for triggering the situation since the public-health shut-down orders of 2020 and the quarantines during the past year gave people a lot of time off that they had not previously experienced. For many others, the work has been done remotely from their home, giving them a different perspective in earning a living.

Normally, being laid off for an extended period of time would cause economic anxiety, even hardship. And for many people, that has been the case. But anticipating that the layoffs would be detrimental to the economy—not to mention the workers—the federal government (as you may recall) added a substantial unemployment check to qualified workers, far above what they'd normally receive. For many, the amount surpassed what they received from their job or combined jobs.

Of course, the extra unemployment money was not the only cash pumped into the economy by the federal government. Under the Trump presidency and now with the Biden administration, there have been the stimulus checks most taxpayers received, Payment Protection Loan grants to businesses and non-profit organizations, Child Tax Credit payments to qualified families, low-interest loans for businesses that were hardest-hit by the shut-downs, and coming soon the infrastructure money.

Interestingly, the combination of extra money and having

time off helped spur certain sectors of the economy. People undertook home-improvement projects, which was a boom to hardware stores and lumber yards—big and small. People bought stuff on-line, which kept the home-delivery companies like Fed Ex, UPS, and Amazon busy as well as the factories that produced various, in-demand products. Most of us ate at home, so the grocery stores and their employees were busy.

On a less positive side, the pandemic sent a lot of people to the emergency room and filled hospital beds which stressed and strained the medical-care system, but also saw an increased demand for nurses and other staff that has not been met.

And the workers at those various stores that saw an uptick in business did not necessarily benefit that much financially. In fact, they were more exposed to the virus, had to work extra hours, and dealt with a demanding public.

While COVID-19 is still very much with us, the shut-down orders were eased and then rescinded. Businesses, such as restaurants and fitness centers re-opened with a regular schedule—only they found a much smaller work force.

A common refrain—uttered by everyone from factory owners to bakeries to auto-repair facilities to big-box stores—has been that the “demand for goods and services is there, but we can't find enough employees to keep up with it.”

The response, depending on the business, has been to cut hours of operation, increase wages, and even offer signing bonuses. As for companies who are able to, their employees continued working from home—not an optimum situation for some of them, but better than closing down.

At first, the knee-jerk reaction to this worker shortage was to blame the high unemployment check. After all, why would someone want to return to the job if they're being well-paid to sit at home, was how the reasoning went.

Another complaint—often aimed by older folks at the younger set—was that “no one wants to work anymore” as in “they're lazy.”

The solution, they felt, and one which eventually came about, was to end that extra unemployment money and force the unemployed back to the job.

Well, that hasn't turned out to be a magic bullet. The lack of sufficient labor remains a problem for many businesses.

Further study has suggested that an assortment of causes are at play.

People are leaving or not taking the low-end entry jobs, choosing instead to pursue higher-paying opportunities. A good scenario for the factory, but not the restaurant.

A lack of affordable child care or even child care itself is a reality many families with young children are facing, with one of the parents choosing to remain at home.

Health-care concerns about COVID is still another reason cited for why people are reluctant to rejoin the labor force.

For many who were called “essential workers”—nurses, store clerks, and teachers—the stress of long hours, difficult working conditions, and the controversy over public-health measures has caused them to quit their jobs. “Burn out” has become a common explanation in these cases.

Surveys indicate that one sub-group of the population who have left the work force are older workers. Many of them apparently decided that “life is too short” and retired. Other people found that they enjoy working from home and are seeking those type of jobs rather than return to the office.

People, having had time to reflect, felt that they wanted more meaningful work or that it was simply a good time for a career change and a higher wage is not swaying them. Echoing this sentiment, a large number of folks have chosen to start a business during their lay-off rather than continue working for someone else. Of course, the irony is that, if they've been successful, they can't find help.

Government officials, at least those with political agendas, don't like such nuanced and varied explanations, preferring the self-serving scapegoat. A lot of the public, sad to say, are prone to follow that example.

But a clear-eyed look at what has happened and how best to deal with it is a better public-policy choice than finger-pointing.

An example of such vision comes from Brian Calley, the president and CEO of the Small Business Association of Michigan. In a recent speech to a small group of community leaders and business leaders in Barry County (reported by Taylor Owens in *The Hastings Banner*, the former state legislator and lieutenant governor under Gov. Rick Snyder urged his audience “to think of the pandemic a little bit differently than you have in the past.”

Calley told them that many of the pandemic's effects on the economy were trends that were already in progress, such as remote work and telemedicine—and they won't be going back to the way things were.

“By thinking of the disruptions as an acceleration of things that were already happening, that our economy was already inclined to do, I think relieves ourselves from the burden—or the pressure—of waiting for things to return to normal, because they are not going to.”

Owens, in her report, noted that Calley told his listeners that employment changes are also part of a long-term trend.

“We've had a long-term decline in labor force participation rates, actually going back about 20 years,” he said.

As for how to deal with this decline going forward, Calley called the issue “complex” and that solutions won't be “simple,” not the usual analysis you hear. Which is why it's probably more accurate.

To illustrate this point, Calley pointed to people over 55 and young parents—two subgroups that left their jobs in noticeable numbers during the pandemic.

Many in the older group, he pointed out, have chosen to retire early and most of them won't be back on the employment rolls.

The young parents, on the other hand, may likely have a different outcome, he said. While a large number left the labor force to stay home with their children, and many are able to continue doing so thanks to their spouse's paycheck, it's possible that with affordable and/or available child care, plus the right opportunity, many of them will eventually return to work.

Calley's overarching theme, from what I gathered in reading in Owens' article, is that businesses need to look at the labor market from a different angle—the new normal if you will—rather than the previous, more familiar approach.

And by attempting a different perspective, they may find a means to find enough workers or, failing to do that, make the necessary adjustments for what's available.

Fowlerville Fire Department Report

January 13

1:10 a.m. Medical response on Addison Circle in the Village.

8:12 a.m. Medical response on S Gregory Rd in Iosco Township.

1:18 p.m. Medical response on Carr St in the Village.

2:00 p.m. Medical response on Dutton Rd in Iosco Township.

3:37 p.m. Medical response on Bull Run Rd in Iosco Township.

January 14

10:13 a.m. Medical response on W Lovejoy Rd in Conway Township.

3:13 p.m. Medical response on Sycamore St in the Village.

5:47 p.m. Open burn complaint on Nicholson Rd in Handy Township.

January 15

1:55 a.m. Medical response on Fowlerville Rd in Handy Township.

10:56 a.m. Motor vehicle accident on Horn Rd in Conway Township.

January 16

10:18 a.m. Medical response on W Grand River Ave in the Village.

12:20 p.m. Medical response on W Allen Rd in Conway Township.

1:52 p.m. Medical response on Owosso Rd in Conway Township.

2:59 p.m. Motor vehicle accident on Owosso Rd in Conway Township.

9:33 p.m. Medical response on Fowlerville Rd in Handy Township.

January 17

No calls

January 18

6:13 a.m. Medical response on Church St in the Village.

10:29 a.m. Medical response on Mackinaw Trail in Handy Township.

11:01 a.m. Medical response on Dutcher Rd in Iosco Township.

5:39 p.m. Medical response on Church St in the Village.

January 19

12:28 p.m. Medical on Alans Dr in Handy Township.

5:31 p.m. Medical on Alans Dr in Handy Township.

11:51 p.m. Medical on W Grand River in Handy Township.

HANDY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS Monday, January 17, 2022

The regular meeting of the Handy Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Alverson at 7:00 P.M. Trustees present: Eisele, Munsell, and Shear. Absent: Roddy. Also present: Twp. Atty. Hamameh- and resident: Chuck Wright. Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

At the regular Handy Township Board meeting the following motions were made:

To approve the agenda as amended

To approve the minutes of 12-20-21 as presented

To pay the bills in the amount of \$90,112.18

To authorize Miller Canfield to pursue bond re-funding

To adopt poverty exemption income guideline & asset test, approve waiver of penalty for late filing of property transfer affidavits and permit letter appeals to the 2022 Board of Review

To enter into agreement with Howell Public Schools for summer 2022 tax collection

To accept the engagement agreement and rate letter from Foster Swift

To approve quotes from Total Energy Systems for generator repairs

To accept the 2020-2021 audit

To renew the farmland leases for C. James Palmer and Kurtis Griffes for 2022

To approve quote for RBC repairs at Sewer Plant

To adjourn meeting at 8:28 P.M.

Laura A. Eisele
Handy Township Clerk
(1-23-22 FNV)

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Thursday, January 27, 2022 from 7-10 p.m
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Infrared Sauna</u></p> <p>1 visit = \$17</p> <p>5 or 10 visits = 17% OFF</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Bring your bathing suit and/or beach towel. Sauna will be running all weekend for you to try one. 10 minute session for free. If you love it, take advantage of the anniversary special.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Any Acapulco gear</u></p> <p>17% OFF all weekend long!</p> <p style="font-size: small;">(Includes shirts, sweatshirts, hats, koozies and tumblers)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Massage Chairs</u></p> <p>Buy One/Get One FREE</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Massage chairs will be on all weekend for you to try one. 5 minute session for free. If you love it, take advantage of the anniversary special.</p>		

Had lots of fun performing Hula & Tahitian dances at different venues

By Karen Grab

I've already highlighted some special things my sister Kathy and I (the Seeley Twins) did after arriving in Southern California in 1970, including appearing on American Bandstand, dancing on the Steve Allen Show, and being members of the Santa Monica College Dance Drill Team.

I should explain that much of this was not happenstance, but rather by design. But it did come about by a chance encounter in Michigan.

Milly Werner, who played a large part in all of this, had met Pearl, a friend of our mother's, at a laundrymat in Flint.



Here we are in our Hawaiian dance outfits, with Kathy on right. We did a candle routine as part of our performance.

Pearl told Milly that she had to meet "the twins," so she brought her to our home in Haslett. Kathy and I happened to be at Marvel Lanes on M-78 in Lansing, two miles from our home. Milly met us at the bowling alley and said "those two are showgirls and I am taking them to California with me."

She wanted to book our shows and had the gift of gab. She acted as our promoter and agent once in California. She was already going out west to be near her son and daughter-in-law and grandson Tommy. Milly had a history in show business,

having done a country music act with her husband Charlie under the stage names of Daisy June & Elmer. As Daisy June, she had appeared on TV in Michigan.

Sunny California, as you can tell, opened up a new world for us. Milly's daughter-in-law was a hula dancer, and we discovered a new love for dancing. She lived in Simi Valley and we noticed how hot it got there, so we decided to live in Santa Monica near the beach. We looked up Sonya School of Dance in the phone book. She excelled in Hula and Tahitian dance and was located on Lincoln Boulevard, not too far from where we lived on 5th Street. We started taking lessons and Milly booked dancing gigs for us, including



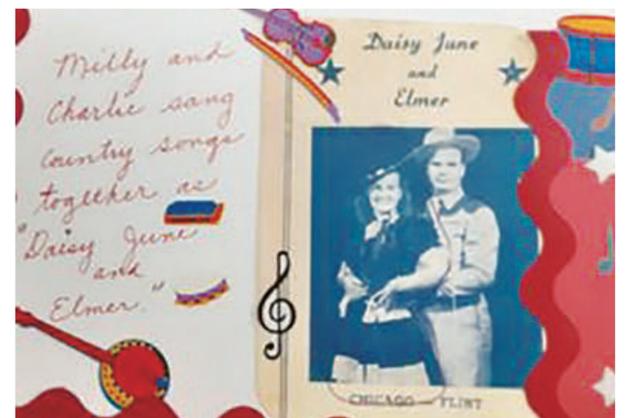
'Tahitian doubletake' was a write up we received in the Simi Valley newspaper.



We're shown here dancing at the award banquet for the Santa Monica Dance Drill Team.

parties and a comedy club.

This was exciting stuff, much different from the small rural town of Fowlerville where we'd grown up. None of this would have happened if we had not ventured outside of the box.



Milly and her husband Charlie had been entertainers in Michigan, performing a country music act as Daisy June & Elmer.

More photos next page

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<p>ANY APRILAIRE OR LENNOX HUMIDIFIER WATER PANEL</p> <p>BUY 1, GET THE 2ND 1/2 PRICE*</p> <p><small>*Things matter only. Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon at time of service. Price varies. Other restrictions apply. Offer ends 2-28-22.</small></p>	<p>APRILAIRE OR LENNOX MEDIA FILTER</p> <p>\$45*</p> <p><small>Excludes MERV14. Conveniently located off new Levan Rd. Interchange.</small></p> <p><small>*Pick-up routes only. Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon at time of service. Price varies. Other restrictions apply. Offer ends 2-28-22.</small></p>	<p>\$200* OFF</p> <p>FURNACE INSTALLATION OR A/C INSTALLATION</p> <p><small>*Not valid with any other offer. Present coupon at time of service. Price varies. Other restrictions apply. Offer ends 2-28-22.</small></p>	<p>FINANCING AVAILABLE</p> <p>AUTHORIZED CONTRACTOR</p> <p>191297</p> <p>Michigan Saves™</p>

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Smith Elementary highlights ‘Classroom of the Week’

The ‘Classroom of the Week’ at Smith Elementary School are the students in Mrs. Tammy Woodward’s kindergarten class. Front row, from left, Jase Schmalz, Ellen Marshall, Scarlett Schueller, Jacob Zabawa, Zachary Covietz, Charlotte Byers; middle row, Chance Hineman, Jack Blair, Adelyn Hunt, Kelsee Knurick, Jared Banko, Lane Burns; back row, Mrs. Woodward, Rylee Anderson, Isaac Morris, Harper Barron, Laelah Hetrick, Josiah Walker, Espan Barnett, and Brody Hines.

Tahitian dances, continued



We got our dancing ability from our dad. He was a great ballroom dancer and would dance with his sister Ethel in Walled Lake when they had a dance ball set-up near the amusement park on Haggerty Road. Here we are in our apartment in Santa Monica, dancing with our father. My mother, in the background, sat it out.



We performed at the Comedy Club and part of our act was to get the fellows out on the floor to try dancing with us.

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Willis Ward, a football player at the University of Michigan in the 1930s, became famous when he was benched for the team's 1934 game with Georgia Tech, due to that college's coach refusing to play against a black athlete. Ward went on to become a federal assistant prosecutor and Wayne County probate judge. The university currently has a special online exhibit, celebrating his life and accomplishments.

Photo Credit: Willis Ward | Walter Reuther Library, Wayne State University

U of M celebrates athlete who was benched for his race in '34 football game

Roommate of President Gerald Ford went on to become Detroit-area prosecutor & judge

By Ken Coleman,
Michigan Advance

Willis Ward, one of the University of Michigan's greatest athletes, wasn't dejected when racism and injury prevented him from showcasing his Great Depression-era talent.

He was perhaps best known for being benched during a 1934 football game against Georgia Tech because the opposing coach refused to play a game with an African American on the field.

Richard Smith, a physician who attended U of M and has studied African-American culture, said that Willis was a product of the Detroit westside community that nurtured its residents and inspired them to achieve in spite of the odds.

"His story should serve as an inspiration to the people of Michigan — no matter what background you come from," said Smith.

Now a new U of M online exhibit, "Willis Ward: More than a Game," highlights Ward's life experiences, produced by the Bentley Historical Library's athletics archivist Greg Kinney and Bentley staff members Brian Williams, Caitlin Moriarty and Andrew Rutledge.

Born in Birmingham, Ala., on Dec. 28, 1912, Ward's family left Jim Crow era race discrimination and settled in Detroit around 1918. At that time, tens of thousands Blacks left Southern states and moved to Detroit looking for greater economic and social opportunity during a period known as "The Great Migration."

Ward was a scholar and star athlete at Northwestern High School, graduating in 1931. He later attended the University of Michigan, where he excelled at football and track and field

at a time when few Blacks took classes there.

At U of M, he was only the second African American to letter on the school's varsity football team. Ward roomed with Gerald R. Ford, who hailed from Grand Rapids and would later ascend to Congress. He became president in 1974.

"Willis Ward was well aware of the 'rule' that African American students could not play football at Michigan. No African American had played in a varsity game for Michigan since George Jewett in 1892," said Greg Kinney, Bentley Historical Library athletics archivist. "U of M Athletic Director and former coach Fielding Yost, a southerner by birth and attitude, was determined to keep it that way."

When the Georgia Tech team threatened not to play in 1934, Yost benched Ward. Ford, who was white, publicly stood up for Ward and threatened not to play in protest. However, Ward encouraged him to suit up and participate. The incident was front-page news.

Ford addressed what happened in a 1999 *New York Times* op-ed in which he expressed support for U of M's affirmative action policies that were under fire by many, especially those in his Republican Party.

"I don't want future college students to suffer the cultural and social impoverishment that afflicted my generation..." Ford wrote. "Do we really want to risk turning back the clock to an era when the Willis Wards were penalized for the color of their skin, their economic standing or national ancestry?"

As the 1936 Olympics approached, Ward looked toward the opportunity to represent his country as Eddie Tolan, another Black track and field star from Detroit and U of M, had done in 1932. However, as a result of the Georgia Tech experience, Ward had lost the ambition to win, did not train to his peak and thus did not compete in the Olympic games. Ward had previously beaten Jesse Owens, his rival from Ohio State University, who went on to win four gold medals during the games that were held in Berlin, Germany, during Adolf Hitler's fascist reign.

But Ward was not bitter about his U of M football experience. In 1954, he penned a guest column for the *Detroit Tribune* newspaper called, "My Greatest Sports Thrill," about a game against Princeton where Yost embraced him after a team win.

"... It was the first time he had ever hugged a colored player — when he hugged me," Ward wrote. "He often related that in his 35 years of coaching football that was the greatest tackle he had ever seen."

Saul Green, a former U.S. attorney for Michigan's Eastern District, said Ward encouraged him to attend the University of Michigan — which he did in 1965 — and become a lawyer. Green's father, Forrest, and Ward were good friends.

"I can only imagine that the things Judge Ward faced were overt and much more difficult," said Green, comparing the racial climate in the 1930s to the 1960s.

WARD HAD A STORIED CAREER

After his time at the U of M, Ward went on to earn a degree from the Detroit College of Law in 1939, served in the U.S. Army during World War II and created a program at Ford Motor Co. to help minorities in employment matters. He was instrumental in helping Owens, his former athletic foe, to secure a job at Ford in Detroit.

Ward was active in Republican Party politics, including a failed 1956 run for U.S. Congress against Democratic incumbent Charles C. Diggs Jr. During the 1956 campaign, Ward challenged Democrats to support President Dwight Eisenhower's civil rights legislation.

"The President's civil rights program, shelved by Democrats in the recent session of Congress, deserves the unstinting support of all conscientious voters," said Ward as reported by the *Detroit Tribune*, a Black newspaper.

Southern Democrats still had a way on Congressional action during that time period.

Ward became a federal assistant prosecutor during the 1950s. He was appointed as a Wayne County probate judge in 1973 by then-Gov. William Milliken, a Republican.

Former state Sen. Buzz Thomas (D-Detroit), Ward's grandson, said the former athlete wasn't negatively affected by his college experience. Thomas remembers Ward during his childhood continuing to be a U of M supporter who often attended football games.

"In spite of what happened at the University of Michigan with that football game, he didn't stop loving the university," said Thomas, who served in the Michigan House and Senate. "He was very much a Michigan guy."

Ward died in 1983 at age 71. A decade ago, the Michigan Senate unanimously passed a resolution sponsored by then-Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton) honoring Ward, that read, in part:

"[W]e hereby proclaim October 20, 2012, as Willis Ward Day in the state of Michigan — exactly 78 years after he was benched for a Georgia Tech game — in recognition of his many accomplishments, steadfast character, and significant contributions to our state."

This article is reprinted with permission from Michigan Advance, an online media outlet.

www.michiganadvance.com



Fowlerville Varsity Boys Bowling Team wins game against Eaton Rapids

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Bowling Team competed against Eaton Rapids this past week and earned a 16 to 14 win. Way to go boys!

Governor, Attorney General detail work being done to combat human trafficking

With Human Trafficking Awareness Day being held earlier this month, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Attorney General Dana Nessel used the occasion to detail the resources available and work being done to combat trafficking.

"I am grateful to the Attorney General and law enforcement agencies in Michigan and nationwide working diligently to ensure survivors have the resources they need and bring traffickers to justice," Gov. Whitmer said. "Michiganders should review the available resources, report trafficking, and support those who feel helpless. Together, we can save lives."

"Those victimized by traffickers face sexual, physical and emotional abuse—all for the purpose of control and submission," AG Nessel said. "That is why it remains incumbent upon all of us to report trafficking and support those who feel helpless. I encourage everyone to take some time to review the resources available to better identify these instances of abuse."

Nessel's Human Trafficking Initiative prosecutes traffickers and provides training throughout the state. Since its inception, 34 individuals have been arrested on human trafficking charges. While several cases are currently pending, 25 convictions have been secured thus far.

Since 2019 alone, in over 30 presentations, the initiative provided human trafficking training to approximately 200 law enforcement professionals, 350 legal professionals, 300 victim service providers, 800 medical professionals, as many as 1,000 various other professionals and about 300 members of the general public.

One educational tool available on the initiative's website is red flags to watch out for, which summarize behaviors that a victim of trafficking often exhibits.

The following are questions to ask yourself if you suspect someone is being trafficked:

- Are there bruises or other signs of physical abuse?
- Are there signs of psychological abuse?
- Is the person submissive or fearful?
- Is the person being controlled?
- Is the person being deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care, or other life necessities?
- Is the person allowed to be in public alone?
- Can the person freely contact friends or family?
- Is the person a minor engaged in commercial sex?
- Does a minor appear to be in a relationship with a much older person?
- Does the person fear his or her employer?
- Can the person leave their job situation if they want?
- Has someone threatened the person's family?

The Department of Attorney General is also home to the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission. Each year, the Commission reports on its work and initiatives to the Governor and Legislature. The 2021 annual report will be released later this month. Until then, you can read the 2020 annual report on the Attorney General's website.

You can sign up online to receive updates from the Commission. All prior updates from the Commission are also available online.

More information on the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission can be found online.

If you are a victim of human trafficking or have identified someone you think may need help, please contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 888-373-7888, or text 233733.

The national, toll-free hotline is available to answer calls, texts, and chats from anywhere in the country, 24/7. All calls are confidential.

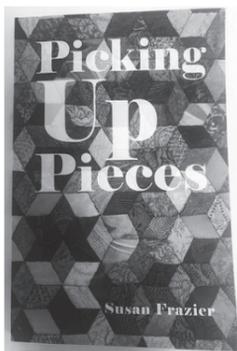
Area Author to hold Book Signing on January 26

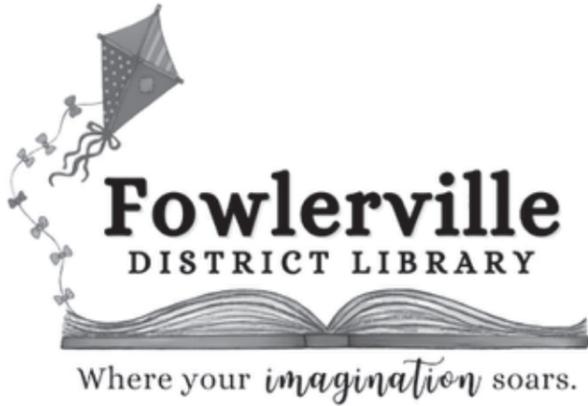
Susan Frazier, who taught at Fowlerville High School from 1973-2005 and resides in Howell, has published 'Picking Up Pieces' --a collection of imagined stories inspired by quilts (damaged or unfinished) that have come to her over the years.

It is a loving effort to highlight a few of the amazing quilts hand-crafted with passion and ingenuity by many thousands of everyday American women, some of whom never lived to see their works of beauty used or admired.

Frazier is holding a book signing this Wednesday, Jan. 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Torch 180, located at 131 Mill St., Fowlerville. A portion of the sales will be donated to the non-profit organization.

Book costs \$15 Softcover & \$20 Hardcover





Upcoming Events

Monday – Wednesday: 9:30 am to 7:00 pm
 Thursday: 9:30 am to 9:00 pm
 Friday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm
 Saturday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
 Sunday: Closed
 * * *

For questions or more information on any of our materials or programs, email info@fowlervillelibrary.org or give us a call at (517) 223-9089.

* * *
ADULTS

Adult Game Night

Third Mondays, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Play new board games, cards, and trivia here at the library. Meal provided.

* * *

Letter to the Editor

Your editorial regarding the changes to the Michigan Auto – No Fault Law is very important. I was employed as an independent rehabilitation nurse/catastrophic case manager in the auto no-fault system for twenty years. I worked with both auto insurance carriers and defense attorneys. The needs of my clients always came first.

Regarding Gov. Whitmer’s “success” she touts, I believe she is again broadcasting her lack of knowledge of medical issues (her first failure was discharging Covid patients to nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Any competent physician or nurse would realize it is impossible to maintain isolation procedures in those facilities.)

Your article regarding the Brain Injury Association indicated more than 16,753 patients were being treated in specialized brain injury facilities. As a result of the change in law, 1548 had to be discharged. I hope they were not the patients who appeared “normal”, but who had sustained severe brain injuries. Often, they were young people who could not succeed in education, or maintain employment and became so frustrated with their lives they experienced violent outbursts. Without the supervision and assistance of caregivers, these people are likely to be on the street or in jail. Often their families are unable to care and supervise them.

Many people in the Auto No-Fault system are not brain injured but are severely injured. The diagnoses include severe multiple trauma, spinal cord injury, complicated, disabling orthopedic injuries and amputation. Many of them exceed the insurance company payment level and are included in the MCCA (Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association). Many require long term and lifetime medical care.

I would hope that Governor Whitmer and her “political zeal” do not strip the MCCA of enough funds to manage current and future claims. When I worked, prior to 2004, I was involved in life care planning and the information was provided to attorneys and insurance companies to estimate the lifetime care costs for clients when settlement was being considered. In those days, some catastrophic cases had estimated costs in the high single digit millions.

Nancy Manson,
 Howell

Letter to the Editor

Moral decline, can it get any worse?

What’s up with all the TV ads for gambling? Yes, anywhere, anytime, 24 hours a day. At home, at work, while driving down the road, (no different than texting), and if you have a problem, call 1-800 sucker.

How about just selling sheets without showing two guys in bed. Or your new razor without showing a woman scantily clad shaving more than just her legs. We don’t need our kids seeing women dancing around so happy they have on leak proof panties or no wire bras.

Attention drug companies: Why would anyone take your MED’s when the side affects are worse than the ailment? Save your advertising money and lower the prescription prices for what we currently take. Let our doctors recommend alternatives. The other two are attorneys and insurance companies. Is there anything or anyone not being sued?

Al Halliday,
 Howell

Fitness/Yoga with Belinda

Mondays, 10:00 am– 10:45 am

Practice postures to strengthen and promote flexibility in all parts of the body with an emphasis on balance and core strengthening. This class is for all levels of fitness. Bring bottled water and your yoga mat.

* * *

Monthly Book and Coffee

Monday, January 24, 1:00 pm

Join Zoe in the afternoon for a traditional book club that includes coffee and dessert. This month’s selection is *Orphan Train: A Novel* by Christina Baker Kline. **Registration required.**

* * *

Monthly Beyond the Book

Thursday, January 27, 6:30 pm

Join Zoe in the evening for a book discussion of *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult, followed by some extra special materials. **Registration required.**

* * *

TEENS

Tabletop Wednesday

Wednesdays, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Drop in and play your favorite tabletop RPGs. Play with your friends or have out teen librarian Connor run a one-shot. All are welcome, no registration required.

* * *

Teen Craft Wednesday

Wednesdays, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Mary has her finger on the pulse of what teens are into. Dabble in fun and free arts and crafts, such as beaded bracelets, fairy angels, and other top secret projects.

* * *

Friday Gaming

Fridays, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Join us for free play on the Nintendo Switch. Enjoy multi-player classic like Smash and Mario Kart or choose games from the library’s collection.

* * *

Teen Book Club

Tuesday, January 25, 4:00 pm

January’s theme is Book Turned Into a Movie. Read a book that fits that theme and then join Zoe after school for a lively discussion accompanied by snacks and a craft.

* * *

FOR KIDS

Drop in with the kids for any of our revamped storytime programs – open to everyone!

* * *

Preschool Storytime (ages 3 to 5 with caregiver)

10:00 am Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Join our wonderful Mrs. D. for engaging stories, sing-a-longs, neat crafts, finger plays, and so much more!

* * *

Letter to the Editor

Voting Rights

In 2018, Michigan voters made non-biased redistricting and absentee ballots for anyone a priority. These two factors were designed to construct a more fair voting system in Michigan.

In 2020, the country was inundated with the Big Lie that our voting system had allowed widespread cheating that had toppled Trump and allowed Biden to win the election. Numerous court challenges and recounts proved that this had not happened, yet Republican state legislators began making it more difficult for everyone to vote by restricting access to absentee ballots, ballot drop-off centers, voting time schedules and early voting policies.

These limitations have fueled the mistaken beliefs of many Republican constituents that our election process was terribly flawed and illegal and Trump only lost because of these problems.

Many Republican politicians don’t want to see a high voter turnout because they are less likely to win elections so they are passing laws to make voting more difficult. There are about 50 bills in the Michigan legislature concerning voting rights. Among the points targeted are cutting polling places by fifty percent in counties and barring election officials from sending absentee ballots to all registered voters.

Governor Whitmer has the power to veto such laws but Republican activists in Michigan, are getting around veto power by seeking signatures on a petition to mandate that an outside audit of the 2020 election be conducted and that a grand jury should have the power to arrest election officials who do not cooperate. This petition would circumvent the governor’s veto power.

Cheating and conniving to circumvent our state and national voting laws to win what are supposed to be fair elections is why we need a federal voting rights bill. It is our right and duty to participate in fair elections and we should all be outraged about any efforts to restrict our right to vote.

Donna E. Gadbad,
 Brighton

Toddler Storytime (ages 1 to 3 with caregiver)

10:00 am Thursdays & Fridays

Get ready to move and groove with some funky tunes and stories with our dynamic youth librarian Storm.

* * *

Baby Lap Sit (ages 0 to 2 with caregiver)

9:30 am Fridays

Come and make some new baby friends in this musical storytime led by Storm. Babies and their caregivers will socialize, sing songs, and play together.

* * *

Facebook Live Storytime (ages 2 to 8)

12:00pm Thursdays on Facebook

Join LIVE on our Facebook page for this amazing program where kids can interact with Storm from home! Build some early literacy skills in your pajamas.

* * *

My First Escape Room: Pokémon (Ages 5 -9)

Friday, January 28, 4:00 pm

Can you catch them all? Perfect for younger kids with curious minds who love puzzles! No previous knowledge of Pokémon is required. **Registration required.**

Kevin Scherer, 517-223-2200
Owner

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NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY TO INCORPORATE AS A CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND RIGHT TO REFERENDUM

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of Marion has a population of 2000 or more according to the most recent United States census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 concerning status as a charter township, as follows.

1. Adopt by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township;
2. Adopt by majority vote a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township;
3. Adopt by majority vote a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

If option 2 is adopted by the township board, the citizens of the township have the right to file a “Right to Referendum Petition”. This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between passage of a resolution of the intent to incorporate and final passage of the resolution to incorporate as a charter township.

The petition shall follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law, and in the heading will indicate “Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township”. The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of the township based on the vote cast for all candidates for supervisor at the last election at which a supervisor was elected.

If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

Tammy L. Beal, Marion Township Clerk
 (1-23 & 1-30-22 FNV)

Get your Social Security benefit statement (SSA-1099/SSA-1042S)

By Vonda Van Til,

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

We've made getting your annual Benefit Statement even easier. The Benefit Statement, also known as the SSA-1099

or the SSA-1042S, is a tax form we mail each year in January to people who receive Social Security benefits. It shows the total amount of benefits you received from us in the previous year. You can use this information when you file your tax return, as it shows how much Social Security income to report to the Internal Revenue Service.

If you live in the United States and you need a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S, go online to get your instant, printable replacement form using your personal *my* Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Look for your replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S for the previous tax year in your personal account after February 1.

If you don't have access to a printer, you can save the document to your computer or email it to yourself. If you don't have a *my* Social Security account, creating one is very easy to do and usually takes less than 10 minutes.

And that's not all you can do with a personal account. If you receive benefits or have Medicare, your personal *my* Social Security account is also the best way to:

- Request a replacement Social Security number card

(in most states and the District of Columbia).

- Get your benefit verification letter.
- Check your benefit and payment information.
- Change your address and phone number.
- Change your direct deposit information.
- Request a replacement Medicare card.
- Report your wages if you work and receive Social Security disability insurance or Supplemental Security Income benefits.

If you're a non-citizen who lives outside of the United States and you received or repaid Social Security benefits last year, we will send you form SSA-1042S in the mail. The forms SSA-1099 and SSA-1042S are not available for people who receive Supplemental Security Income benefits.

If you don't have a personal *my* Social Security account, you can create one today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Vonda Van Til is the Public Affairs Specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 or via email at vonda.vantil@ssa.gov.

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Winter Themed Snacks

Popcorn Snowman

Not all snowmen are made of ice. This popcorn snowman tastes delicious and also makes a cute decoration on any dining table. It's a no-bake activity that kids will love personalizing any time of year—no snow required. In the end, you'll have a healthy snacktime favorite.

What You Need:

- 6 cups popped unsalted popcorn
- 1 bag marshmallows
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- Butter
- Mini M&M's
- Red licorice whips
- Red Hots
- Pretzel sticks (optional)



What You Do:

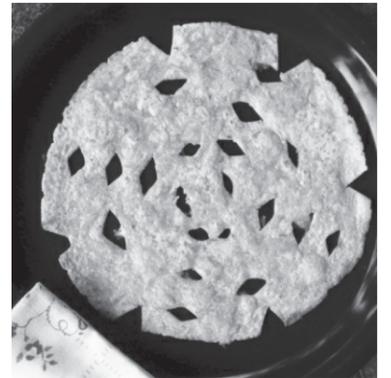
1. Help your child melt a bag of marshmallows in a pan on low-medium heat, stirring often.
2. Add the vanilla to the melted marshmallows and let it stand for five minutes.
3. Fill a large bowl with the popped popcorn and pour the marshmallow mix over the popcorn. Let your child stir it well with a wooden spoon to coat all of the popcorn.
4. Your child can now butter their hands and form the popcorn into one large ball for the body and one small ball for the head. Put the small ball on top of the large one. Continue to create snowman bodies until you run out of popcorn.
5. Press M&M's into the popcorn for eyes and buttons. Add Red Hots for the mouths. Wrap red licorice whips around the snowmen's necks as scarves and top off your snowmen with a giant marshmallow hat to keep them warm!

Snowflake Tortillas

This winter, heat up your children's afternoon snack with these wholesome snowflakes! This is a great opportunity for you to get your kids in the kitchen and cooking with you. Design and cut tortillas, finish them off with a little powdered sugar, and make your child's snacktime or school lunch healthy and memorable!

What You Need:

- Package of whole grain, flour tortillas
- Kitchen scissors
- Baking sheet
- Oven mitts
- Spatula
- Preheated broiler or toaster oven
- Powdered sugar



What You Do:

1. Fold the tortilla in half, and then in half again.
2. Help your child cut out shapes and designs from the folded edges of the tortilla with the kitchen scissors. Cut through all of the layers, trying not to tear the tortilla. (Note: for safety reasons, an adult may want to take over during this part.)
3. Open the tortilla and place it flat on the baking sheet. It should resemble a snowflake.
4. Place the baking sheet and snowflakes under the broiler or in the toaster oven just until the tortilla starts to crisp. Watch them carefully—it only takes a minute or so!
5. Wearing oven mitts, remove the baking sheet from the oven. Set aside and let cool for a few minutes.
6. Once they're cool, help your child carefully sprinkle the powdered sugar on the snowflake tortilla. A little goes a long way!
7. With a spatula, remove the tortilla snowflake from the baking sheet.
8. Place the tortillas on the plate and dig in!

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Meghan Swain Kuch
Fowlerville District Library
Board Trustee

—Area Deaths—



Michigan House Report

By Bob Bezotte,
47th District

In June 2021, the House Oversight Committee requested for the Michigan Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to review the COVID-19 deaths in long-term care (LTC) facilities. This review identified a total of 8,061 COVID-19 deaths linked to LTC facilities, which is 42 percent higher than the 5,765 deaths reported by the Michigan Health and Human Services Department (MDHHS). When including only LTC facilities required to report COVID-19 deaths to MDHHS, the 7,010 deaths identified by the OAG represent a 24 percent increase of those logged by the department. The OAG review has concluded a total underreporting of 30 percent.

MDHHS has come out publicly to dispute the OAG'S findings and label the review as partisan, however the OAG stands by its review and its thoroughness/accuracy. The underreporting of the COVID deaths occurring in LTC facilities is disheartening. Nursing home residents suffered immensely during the pandemic and now we're finding the situation is even worse than we imagined. This audit will help us sharpen the focus of our work moving forward.

Recently, in a resounding win for personal freedom, the U.S. Supreme Court has blocked President Biden's private sector workplace vaccine-or-test mandate. The mandate would have forced tens of millions of U.S. workers at companies with at least 100 workers to get vaccinated or submit to weekly testing. The court ruled the secretary of the Labor Department "lacked authority to impose the mandate," adding that the decision should be left up to Congress. The case now goes back to the Sixth Circuit so some loose procedural ends can be tied up, but at this point, the mandate is functionally dead. Although the federal mandate has been rejected, Michigan companies may still require their employees to get the shot.

Michigan Works! Southeast is partnering with the Southern Michigan Center for Science & Industry to hold a Careers of Today and Tomorrow event on May 12th. This career fair will help individuals to learn about growing industries in the region. This is a great event for students to explore occupations as well as adult job seekers looking to find immediate work. For more information or to register, visit www.mwse.org/ct2.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at 517-373-8835 or RobertBezotte@house.mi.gov.

Livingston County Concert Band celebrating 50th year with concert

The Livingston County Concert Band, celebrating its 50th year, will be under the direction of Dale Marzewski for their upcoming concert, *Different Strokes for Different Folks*, at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 27. The concert will be presented at the Rod Bushey Performing Arts Center, Howell High School, 1200 West Grand River Ave., Howell. This concert features folk songs and other styles of music.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (age 62 and older) and children and students are free. Refreshments served following the concert. Please visit the band's website (www.lccbmusic.org) or check out the Livingston County Concert Band Facebook page for more information.



Patrice Ann Devine

Patrice Ann Devine of Webberville, MI, age 67, went home to be with the Lord in Heaven on Friday, January 7, 2022. She was born March 17, 1954 in Detroit, the daughter of Edward Michael & Ruth Audry (Oliver) Devine. Patrice graduated from St. Mary's of Redford High School in 1972. She attended Calvary Church in Webberville. She owned Iron Horses Antiques, Collectibles, and Curiosities.

Patrice is a child of God who lived her life as a great example. Filled with His love, joy and mercy, she found peace and happiness sharing the love of Christ with family, friends, and neighbors. She enjoyed walks in the woods, bike rides, gardening and collecting rocks, all while singing, praying, and praising. Psalm 91:1 "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."

Survivors include her mother, Ruth Audry Devine; 3 children, Julie Ann (Robert Earl) Caudill, Megan Marie (Christopher James) Scott, David Patrick O'Brien; 11 grandchildren, Victoria Lynn, Cortney Lawrence, David Lee, Brittney Morgan, Madilyn Alexandra, Adam Robert, Breydon Lewis, Delaney Abrial, Caleb James, Ashton Michael, Joshua Graham; 1 sister, Rita Marie (Ron) Bochenek; 7 brothers, Dennis John (Patti), Thomas Michael, John Timothy (Becky), Steven Edward, Mark Christopher (Alexa), Matthew Joseph (Michelle), and Michael Kevin (Mary) Devine; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Edward Michael Devine.

A memorial service will be held at Calvary Church in Webberville, MI with Pastor John Plumley officiating. Please check back here for details about the memorial service. Burial will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorial contributions may be made to Right to Life of Michigan. Arrangements were entrusted to Cole Funeral Chapel in Chelsea.



Fowlerville student named to President's List at Nichols College

Gabriel Temple, a Nichols College student from Fowlerville, achieved President's List status for the fall 2021 semester at Nichols College, which ended in December. The Dean's List and President's List give recognition to those students who achieve high grades during a single semester. In order to be included on the Dean's List, a student must have a minimum average of 3.5 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and must have received no grades below B- during the semester. Students whose semester average is 3.85 or higher for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and no grades below B- will receive President's List honors.

Nichols College is located in Dudley, Massachusetts.

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Webberville Report



Senior Spotlight—Lydia Howard

By Kylie Atkins

Throughout her four years at Webberville, Lydia Howard has made an impact not only in the classroom but also in the community. Howard is the daughter to Ben and Katie Howard and sister to Caleb who graduates in 2023 from Webberville, Ella who's in 8th grade, and Levi who's in 6th grade.

"I have a super supportive family always pushing me to be the best that I can be," said Howard. "My mom has always been super involved in my education from homeschooling to homework or Lansing Community College classwork, and she has always been willing to help. My dad has gone to all of my events and asks about my day every day. I love having conversations with him."

In her spare time, Howard enjoys spending time with her friends and family, shopping, watching Netflix, and reading.

One of Howard's childhood friends, fellow senior Riley Kingsley, had some kind words to say.

"Lydia is always there when I need someone to talk to, and she's always been supportive of me and my choices," said Kingsley. "The way she's always so respectful, even when people don't deserve it, amazes me every time."

Howard has been involved in FFA and competed in the FFA Creed and Broiler Contests. Her other activities include Student Council, National Honor Society, and Journalism where she's been an editor her junior and senior years.

"Journalism has been my favorite class," said Howard. "I really liked designing the yearbook and taking pictures at events. Plus, there is Hayley (Williams) and Kylie (Atkins) in there so it is always entertaining."

Howard has also taken six Lansing Community College (LCC) classes through dual enrollment, where she was a part of LCC's President's List, and she's maintained above a 4.0 GPA. This year Howard has also been taking Calculus with her favorite teacher, Mrs. Huffman.

"Lydia is so fun to have in class," said Huffman. "She is an incredibly respectful person, but that doesn't mean that she cannot have fun in class. I enjoy her sassiness towards math, and I'm so grateful I get to have her in my class this year!"

After graduating from Webberville, Howard plans to attend Capernway, a one-year bible college in Northern England. She then plans to attend Grand Valley State University to pursue a degree in international business and marketing or corporate law.

"I want to travel in my future career, and this will be a good experience for me to learn about different cultures," said Howard.

Although Howard hasn't been a part of the community for her entire life, she's made close friends at Webberville. Hayley Williams and Howard became friends in 9th grade after Howard sat with Williams at lunch.

"I admire Lydia's kindness," said Williams. "She's always been the sweetest person I've known, and I truly admire how sweet she is to everyone around her."

When asked about what she'll miss most about Webberville, Howard said, "Definitely the people. I will miss seeing some of my teachers and many of my classmates. It's grown to be very familiar to me even though I only started freshman year, I'm going to miss the sense of community I have here."

Howard leaves the underclassmen with this parting advice, "Be involved, because I started in freshman year and didn't know anyone. I was super shy and I regret not talking to people and making new friends sooner. Go to the games and get involved with the student council, you'll regret missing out later on in life."

Williamston Theatre to start new year with '9 Parts of Desire'

Williamston Theatre, located at 122 S. Putnam Street in downtown Williamston, starts off 2022 with 9 Parts of Desire by Heather Raffo. Performances for this story begin Thursday, January 27 and run through Sunday, February 27. Tickets are now on sale.

Featuring Sarab Kamoo in a one-woman, performance, the play details the lives of nine Iraqi women that span the decades between the first and second Gulf Wars and occupation. It is a portrait of the extraordinary (and ordinary) lives of a whole cross-section of Iraqi women: a sexy painter, a radical Communist, doctors, exiles, wives and lovers. This work delves into the many conflicting aspects of what it means to be a woman in a country overshadowed by war.

Tickets are Pay-What-You-Wish for the Preview on Thursday, January 27. Remaining Preview tickets are \$19. Starting Thursday, February 3 tickets prices are \$28 for Thursdays, \$37 for Friday and Saturday evenings and \$34 for Saturday and Sunday matinees. Senior citizens (65 and older) and members of the Military (active and retired) receive a \$2 discount on all tickets. Student tickets (with a valid student ID) are \$10 for all performances. Discounts are also available for groups of 10 or more (booked at least 1 week in advance through the Box Office).

Tickets can be purchased Tuesday - Friday from 12-6pm by calling (517) 655-SHOW (7469) or ordered on-line up until 1 hour prior to the performance by visiting our website www.williamstontheatre.org. There is now a \$1 ticket fee per ticket.

All patrons, including children, attending Williamston Theatre performances must show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 (at least 14 days have passed since the final dose) at the door upon your arrival to the Theatre.

All patrons must wear masks over their nose and mouth at all times while inside the venue.

This production is made possible in part by an award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts with additional support from the Williamston Sunrise Rotary.

IOSCO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE for ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

The Iosco Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on February 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on a proposed amendment to the 2019 Iosco Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended, pursuant to the Zoning Enabling Act, Public Act 110 of 2006. The Planning Commission may also consider a recommendation to the Iosco Township Board regarding such amendment. The public hearing will be held at the Iosco Township Hall at 2050 Bradley Road in Iosco Township. A copy of the proposed amendment application and the 2019 Iosco Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended, can be viewed at the Iosco Township Hall during the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays. Written comments should be received by 12:00 p.m. (noon), February 8, 2022 and addressed to the Iosco Township Planning Commission, 2050 Bradley Road, Webberville, MI 48892. The amendment application provides for the rezoning of a two-acre area along West Mason Road in the northwest corner of Parcel # 47-09-02-100-002 (7821 Mason Road), near the West Mason/Fowlerville Roads intersection, from the current AR Agricultural Residential District to the C-1 Local Commercial District. The application has been submitted by Chris Wilson of Wilson Pike Development, Nashville, TN. Individuals needing to make an appointment outside of the above referenced business hours, or to request special services to fully participate at the public hearing, should contact township clerk Julie Dailey at least five (5) days prior to the hearing date at 517-223-9545.

Julie Dailey, Iosco Township Clerk
 (1-23-22 FNV)

Williamston Area Senior Center

201 School Street - 517-655-5173

January-February 2022 Events

Please check our website www.williamstonseniorcenter.com or our Facebook for specific announcements of upcoming activities.

* * *

Monday, January 24th – Chili & Cornbread Lunch from 11am-1pm

Tuesday, January 25th – Euchre 10am-Noon and Mind Games with the Library at 12:30pm

Wednesday, January 26th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Australia Day/Travel to Australia Day at 12:30pm and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm

Tuesday, February 1st– Euchre 10am-Noon, Chinese New Year Craft 11:30am, Chair Exercise 12:30pm, and Knitter Group from 1pm-3pm

Wednesday, February 2nd – Euchre 10am-Noon, Groundhog Day Craft at 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

Thursday, February 3rd – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Carrot Cake Day, Birthday Bash, and Winter Olympic Games at 12:30pm

Monday, February 7th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Fettuccine Day, Fettuccine, Salad and Roll, and True or False

Tuesday, February 8th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Lunch with the President at Noon, Board Meeting at 1pm, and Knitter Group 1pm and 3pm

Wednesday, February 9th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Make Your Own Travel Mug at 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

Thursday, February 10th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Super Bowl Sundae at 12:30pm and Learn to Play Mexican Train at 1pm

Monday, February 14th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Valentine's Day Party Chicken Pot Pie & Salad, and Cookie Decorating at 12:30pm

Tuesday, February 15th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Chair Exercise at 12:30pm, and Knitter Group from 1pm-3pm

Wednesday, February 16th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Meet & Greet with County Commissioner Randy Schafer, and Needle Work Group from 1pm-3pm

Thursday, February 17th – Euchre 10am-Noon, and Tech with Drew at 12:30pm

Monday, February 21st – Euchre 10am-Noon, Pizza & Salad, Angora Rabbits with Jackie McDonald, and National Pet Day bring a picture of your pet in!

NIESA Fire Report (Northeast Ingham Emergency Service Authority)

On Wednesday January 12, 2022 NIESA responded to six calls. Four were emergency medical calls with two responses occurring in Locke Township, one in Williamstown Township, and one in the City of Williamston. NIESA also responded to a vehicle accident in Wheatfield Township, and a fire alarm activation in the City of Williamston which was a false alarm.

Thursday January 13, 2022 NIESA had six calls. Four were emergency medical responses, with three occurring in the City of Williamston, and one in Leroy Township. They also responded to a fire alarm activation in the Village of Webberville, which was a faulty alarm, and a vehicle accident in Leroy Township.

On Friday January 14, 2022 NIESA had seven responses. One response was for a vehicle accident in Locke Township on M-52. The remaining six responses were emergency medical calls. Three of the responses were in Williamstown Township, one in the City of Williamston, one in the Village of Webberville, and one in Wheatfield Township.

Saturday January 15, 2022 NIESA had three calls. All of the responses were emergency medical calls, with two occurring in Wheatfield Township, and one in Leroy Township.

On Sunday January 16, 2022 NIESA had three responses. Two of the calls were emergency medical calls into Leroy Township. The third response was a fire call within the City of Williamston for a carbon monoxide alarm activation. It was the result of a faulty detector.

Monday January 17, 2022 NIESA responded to three calls. Two of the responses were emergency medical calls, with one occurring in the City of Williamston, and another in Williamstown Township. The third call was a fire response assisting Meridian Township with a structure fire.

On Tuesday January 18, 2022 NIESA had four calls. All of them were emergency medical calls, with one response in Williamstown Township, one in Wheatfield Township, one in the City of Williamston, and another in Leroy Township.

Tuesday, February 22nd – Euchre 10am-Noon, Mind Games with the Library at 12:30pm, and Knitter Group from 1pm-3pm

Wednesday, February 23rd – Euchre 10am-Noon, Movie & Popcorn Showing “The Long, Long Trailer” at 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

Thursday, February 24th – Euchre 10am-Noon, Bingo at 12:30pm, and National Tortilla Day with Chips and Salsa

Monday, February 28th – Euchre 10am-Noon, National Chili Day with Chili Dogs and Chips, MI Veterans Affairs Agency Presentation and Motivated & Moving with Jasmine at 12:30pm

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Round Hay	217	\$5.00-\$52.50
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Square Straw	141	\$3.50-\$4.25
Wood	7	\$52.50-\$80.00
Chicken Eggs (Doz)	76	\$1.00-\$1.20
Quail Eggs (Doz)	75	\$0.50-\$1.00
Chickens	25	\$2.00-\$14.00
Pony	1	\$300.00
Feeder Calf	1	\$375.00

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MARION TOWNSHIP SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES JANUARY 13, 2022

The regular electronic meeting of the Marion Township Board was held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:30 pm. Members Present: Hanvey, Andersen, Donovan, Durbin, Lloyd, Beal, and Lowe. Members Absent: None. The following action was taken: 1) Call to Order. 2) Call to the Public. 3) Motion carried to approve agenda; motion carried to approve consent agenda. 4) Motion carried to postpone action on MiSignal broadband project until February 10, 2022 meeting. 5) Motion carried to adopt resolution to accept Burnham & Flower proposal for Michigan Township Participating Plan Property & Casualty Dividend Program with added casualty and terrorism coverage. 6) Motion carried to adopt resolution to approve opting out of 2011 PA 152. 7) Motion carried to adopt resolution to approve Poverty Exemption Policy and Guidelines for 2022 Income and Asset Tests. 8) Motion carried to adopt a resolution to allow residents to file letter appeals to 2022 Board of Review. 9) Motion carried to review handbook updates and bring back to next meeting. 10) Motion carried to have Beal, Lloyd, and Donovan meet with Spicer to discuss hall expansion options. 11) Correspondence & Updates. 12) Call to the Public. 13) Motion carried at 9:20 pm to go into closed session to discuss written legal opinion of attorney on issue of outstanding special assessment and proposed racetrack; motion carried to come out of closed session at 10:34 pm. 14) Motion to adjourn at 10:36 pm.

Tammy L. Beal, MMC
Township Clerk

Robert W. Hanvey
Township Supervisor
(1-23-22 FNV)

NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY TO INCORPORATE AS A CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND RIGHT TO REFERENDUM

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of Iosco has a population of 2000 or more according to the most recent United States census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 concerning status as a charter township, as follows.

1. Adopt by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township;
2. Adopt by majority vote a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township;
3. Adopt by majority vote a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

If option 2 is adopted by the township board, the citizens of the township have the right to file a “Right to Referendum Petition”. This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between passage of a resolution of the intent to incorporate and final passage of the resolution to incorporate as a charter township.

The petition shall follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law, and in the heading will indicate “Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township”. The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of the township based on the vote cast for all candidates for supervisor at the last election at which a supervisor was elected.

If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

Julie Dailey, Iosco Township Clerk
(1-23 & 1-30-22 FNV)

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NOTICE OF SALE
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Tuesday, February 1, 2022 @ 11:00 a.m.
 to dispense of the items stored in:
 Jessica Alana - Unit 257
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Fowlerville Mini Storage
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NOTICE OF SALE
 A liquidation sale will be held on
February 4, 2022 at 10am to dispense of the items
 stored in the following units:
Gregory Woolworth Units I-156, I-145
This sale is subject to cancellation without notice.

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO
 REFERENDUM
 ON BECOMING A
 CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of Conway has a population of 2000 or more according to the most recent United States census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 (MCL 42.3a). The township board has the right to exercise one of three options concerning status as a charter township, as follows:

1. Adopt by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township;
2. Adopt by majority vote a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township;
3. Adopt by majority vote a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

In the event option 2 is adopted by the township board, the citizens of the township have the right to file a "Right to Referendum Petition". This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between passage of a resolution of the intent to incorporate and final passage of the resolution to incorporate as a charter township.

The petition shall follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law, and in the heading will indicate "Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township". The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of the township based on the vote cast for all candidates for supervisor at the last election at which a supervisor was elected.

If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

Elizabeth Whitt
 Conway Township Clerk
 (1-22 & 1-30-22 FNV)

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**We Shall Overcome & Thank You
 for Being a Friend**

By Jace Arledge

Hello, I am hoping that your past week was healthy, joyful and full of hope and love.

This past Monday, was the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr AND Betty White. So I thought it relevant to write about them this week.

Now, some will think, "What do these two people have to do with each other?" Let's examine it together:

Equality for all, Rights for the oppressed, love for the most vulnerable and hope that we could all see the beauty in the world and each other.

Thank you MLK and Betty White for sharing a wonderful way to look at the world, to hope for the world and to pass to future generations. But alas, it really isn't happening. We have become more divided in the last five years than I can remember in my past 40. Have we lost the message? Have we changed the interpretation of the message? I am not sure, I ponder that every day. Am I doing enough to work towards the message of "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." ("I Have a Dream" speech, Martin Luther King, Jr, August 28, 1963)

So I ask you friends, what is happening? Have we forgotten those who held out their hands to help, pitched in to bring comfort to others who were hurting, literally gave the shirt off their backs to aid one in need? Today, with social media, much of what is seen are hateful comments, memes, and posts towards each other for believing different, for having their own opinion.

Why? Why treat others unkind when they don't do what you say or believe how you do? We spend our children's early years teaching them to be kind and accepting of those with differences, but then they watch us adults and how we interact with each other. Actions speak louder than words, and some actions are very hurtful and unnecessary.

Lastly, as I always am, a song comes to my mind that speaks volumes in "times such as these"...



**Savvy
 Senior
 Column**

By Jim Miller

Tax Breaks for Caregiver of Elderly Parents

Dear Savvy Senior,

Are there any tax breaks that you know of for family caregivers? I help financially support my 82-year-old mother and would like to find out if I can write any of these expenses off on my taxes.

Supplemental Sam

Dear Sam,

There are actually several tax credits and deductions available to adult children who help look after their aging parents or other relatives. Here are some options along with the IRS requirements to help you determine if you're eligible to receive them.

Tax Credit for Other Dependents

If your mom lives with you and you're paying more than 50 percent of her living expenses (housing, food, utilities, health care, repairs, clothing, travel and other necessities), and her 2021 gross income was under \$4,300, you can claim your mom as a dependent and get a nonrefundable tax credit of up to \$500.

If you happen to split your mom's expenses with other siblings, only one of you can claim your mom as a dependent, and that person must pay at least 10 percent of her support costs. This is called a "multiple support agreement."

The IRS has an interactive tool that will help you determine if your mom qualifies as a dependent. Go to IRS.gov/help/ita, scroll down to "Credits," and click on "Does My Child/Dependent Qualify for the Child Tax Credit or the Credit for Other Dependents?"

Medical Deductions

If you claim your mom as a dependent and you help pay her medical, dental and/or long-term care expenses, and weren't reimbursed by insurance, you can deduct the expenses that are more than 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI).

So, for example, if your adjusted gross income is \$80,000, anything beyond the first \$6,000 of your mom's medical bills – or 7.5 percent of your AGI – could be deductible on your return. So, if you paid \$8,000 in medical bills for her, \$2,000 of it could be deductible. You can also include your own medical expenses in calculating the total.

You should also know that your state might have a lower AGI threshold, which means you might get a break on your state income taxes even if you can't get one on your federal income taxes.

To see which medical expenses you can and can't deduct, see IRS Publication 502 at IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p502.pdf.

Dependent Care Credit

If you're paying for in-home care or adult day care for your mom so you are free to work, you might qualify for the Dependent Care Tax Credit which can be worth as much as \$4,000.

To be eligible your mom must have been physically or mentally incapable of self-care and must have lived with you for more than six months. To claim this tax credit, fill out IRS Form 2441 (IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f2441.pdf) when you file your federal return.

Flexible Health Savings Accounts

If you have a health savings account (HSA) or your employer offers a flexible savings account (FSA), you can use them to pay for your mom's medical expenses if she qualifies as a dependent. But be aware that if you use an HSA or FSA to pay for your mom's medical costs, you can't take a tax deduction on those expenses too.

For more information, see IRS Publication 969, "Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans" at IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p969.pdf.

*From a distance You look like my friend Even though we are
 at war
 From a distance I just cannot comprehend What all this
 fighting's for
 From a distance There is harmony And it echoes through the
 land
 And it's the hope of hopes It's the love of loves It's the heart of
 every man
 God is watching us God is watching us God is watching
 us From a distance
 Songwriters: Julie Gold
 "From a Distance" lyrics © Wing And Wheel Music, Julie
 Gold Music*

Let's reflect and do the right thing my friends... The next generation is counting on us. Till next time...



U.S. Congress Report

By Elissa Slotkin, 8th District, U.S. House of Representatives

Co-Leads Bipartisan Bill to Boost Funding for Local Police Departments

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin (MI-08) recently announced that she is leading a new bipartisan bill to provide \$50,000,000 in grants for small police departments, with many in Michigan’s 8th District eligible for funding. The legislation is endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the National

Troopers Coalition (NTC).

The Invest in Law Enforcement Act would provide funds to help police departments with a force of 200 officers or less invest in:

- **Training** in officer safety, de-escalation, and domestic violence.
- **Equipment and technology** such as body cameras, secure data storage, and privacy and security guidelines.
- **Personnel support** including officer recruitment, retention bonuses, and funding for officer enrollment in mental health, public health, and social work programs.
- **Mental health resources** for officers.

These resources will provide vital support for local Michigan police departments such as those in Oxford, Mason, Leslie, and Stockbridge. “Now more than ever, we need to make sure police departments in smaller and rural towns have the resources they need to set our officers up for success and keep our communities safe,” said Slotkin. “This bill does exactly that by funding specialized training for situations that require de-escalation or instances that may involve unique skill sets, including responding to domestic violence calls. After the tragedy we experienced in Oxford late last year, I’ve also seen firsthand the need to make sure our first responders have access to the mental health resources they need. That’s why I’m pleased this bill includes funding to help cover those costs for our law enforcement officers, as well as allocating funds for essential accountability measures like body cameras.

“Good community policing starts with making sure our local departments have the resources they need to get the job done, and this bill provides that funding while giving officers the training and tools they need for a range of different situations,” she added.

The reaction from law enforcement officials has been positive.

“Local police departments are critical to keeping Michigan families safe, and this bill represents a much-needed investment that will make an enormous difference for departments like ours,” said Meridian Township Chief of Police Ken Plaga. “Whether by covering new recruitment efforts, specialized training, or mental health services, this funding would be a huge win for our individual officers

and police departments across Michigan. We’re grateful for Congresswoman Slotkin’s leadership on this issue and urge other members of the Michigan delegation to support her bill.”

“Over the last year, law enforcement officers have faced many challenges and threats to their well-being that has created a dangerous environment for those sworn to protect the public,” said Patrick Yoes, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police. “These challenges have ranged from violence against officers, an increase of violent rhetoric against them, lagging technology, recruitment and retention issues, and mental health concerns. Particularly, smaller municipalities have seen an increased strain on the men and women in blue as they attempt to uphold the rule of law. The ‘Invest in Law Enforcement Act’ would be a step in the right direction to combat these issues that plague law enforcement officers in smaller municipalities. On behalf of the more than 364,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I am proud to offer our support for this incredibly necessary legislation.”



CONWAY TOWNSHIP LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Conway Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on February 14, 2022, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Township Hall located at 8015 N. Fowlerville Road, Fowlerville, Michigan 48836, to review the proposed amendments to the Conway Township Zoning Ordinance, as follows:

1. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). New Section 6.27 in regard to detached accessory dwelling units in the AR and R Districts.
2. General and Supplemental Regulations. Amend Section 6.09(A)(8) pertaining to Temporary Land Use Permits for Agricultural Tourism entertainment events.

The Planning Commission reserves the right to modify or alter the proposed ordinance amendments at or following the public hearing and to make its decision accordingly.

Written comments concerning the above matter may be submitted to the Conway Township Clerk at any time prior to the public hearing, and may further be submitted to the Planning Commission at the public hearing. The complete text of the proposed amendments may be examined at the Township Hall during regular Township business hours, which are 9-3 Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or on the Township’s website, www.conwaytownship.com, after the publication of this Notice and until and including the day of the meeting. The complete text of the proposed amendments may be further examined at the meeting.

Conway Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, upon ten days’ notice to the Conway Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk by writing or calling the following: 8015 N Fowlerville, Fowlerville, MI 48836 or call 517 223-0358, between the hours of 9-3 Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The complete text of the Conway Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended, may be examined at the Township Hall, 8015 N. Fowlerville, Fowlerville, MI 48836, during regular Township business hours, which are 9-3 Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or on the Township’s website, www.conwaytownship.com.

Elizabeth Whitt, Clerk
Conway Township
8015 N. Fowlerville Road
Fowlerville, MI 48836
517-223-0358
(1-23-22 FNV)

Residents encouraged to enjoy nature during ‘Livingston County Parks Rock!’

Need something to do to beat the winter doldrums? Plan a hike at Lutz or Fillmore County Park to search for brightly painted souvenir rocks for the chance to win a \$25 gift card during their Livingston County Parks Rocks! Contest. The County’s two parks are always free to enter and offer scenery and trail systems for residents to enjoy year-round.

To encourage residents to experience the beauty of our community, the Livingston County Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee has hidden 30 brightly colored rocks along the two park’s trails, signage, benches, and other features. All rocks have been placed no more than ten feet off of the trail on the ground or above.

With the contest now underway, residents are invited to visit both parks to search for rocks. Once a rock is found, snap a picture of yourself and any explorers with you. Send your photos and a brief description of your park experience via email to communications@livgov.com or by message on Livingston County’s Facebook page www.facebook.com/livcogov.

The Contest is open until March 31st. All photos and descriptions will be posted to the County’s Facebook page during the first week of April for the public to vote for their favorite photo and story. The top two most liked entries will each receive a \$25 gift card.

Lutz County Park is located at 3355 Lutz Road in Deerfield Township. Fillmore County Park is located at 7075 McClements Road in Genoa Township.

To learn more about the County’s parks, please visit <https://www.livgov.com/parks/>.

Medicare questions?
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Debbie Holmes
Medicare Plan Specialist
Livingston County



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**In My Father’s Footsteps
A Walk from Hell to Paradise**

Discover the Beauty of Michigan on Foot. Explorer Clayton Klein spent many days walking the state of Michigan. Into his 90s, he regularly logged over 1,500 miles each year. To raise awareness and funds for Hospice, he trekked from Paradise in the Upper Peninsula to Hell in Southeastern Michigan each September.

His daughter and fellow adventurer, Debbie Klein, accompanied Clate on many of his expeditions. Together they canoed above the Arctic Circle and through the Everglades, backpacked the Lake Superior shore, and walked the country roads and rustic trails of rural Michigan. Deb also charted her own path on a bicycle, pedaling throughout Michigan and across the United States.

Join Deb as she shares these adventures with delight and humor, culminating in her own walk from Hell to Paradise. She shares descriptions of wildlife encounters, the serenity of exploring Michigan on foot, and the exceptional kindness and generosity of the friends she met along the journey. This is the story of an audacious goal set and accomplished, and a heartwarming tale of the extraordinary bond between father and daughter.

120 Pages • Route Maps • Over 40 color photos

**Copies can be purchased at Fowlerville News & Views office,
206 E. Grand River, Fowlerville.
Call 517-223-8760 to schedule pick-up of book.**

