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Volume XLII No. 4

Sunday, January 25, 2026

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At the entrance of Borek Jennings Funeral Homes in Fowlerville are, from left, Anna Warnstrom, Karl Jennings, Scott Runyon, Joshua Jennings, and Todd Borek. Karl and Todd are co-owners, while Anna, Scott and Joshua make up the expanded Fowlerville team at the local funeral home.

Borek Jennings acquires Herrmann Funeral Home, expands service to Fowlerville community

Borek Jennings Funeral Homes is honored to announce the acquisition of Herrmann Funeral Home following the retirement of longtime owner Penny Herrmann. Herrmann, it was noted, selected Borek Jennings to continue her legacy of compassionate service in Fowlerville, a choice deeply valued by the Borek Jennings team.

“We are very pleased to be in Fowlerville,” said Todd Borek, co-owner of Borek Jennings Funeral Homes. “We look forward to being active members of the community. Funeral service is about caring for your neighbor at one of the most challenging

times of their lives. We take this responsibility to heart.”

The expanded Fowlerville team includes:

Scott Runyon, a Howell High School graduate (Class of 1989), Fowlerville resident, Rotary member, and active participant at Chilson Hills Church.

“The opportunity to serve families where I live — to not just see them in their hour of need but on a walk downtown or at a local store — is such a privilege,” said Runyon. “I feel very fortunate to have this opportunity.”

Joshua Jennings, son of co-owner Karl Jennings, who along with his wife will move into the funeral home residence in February.

Continued on page 2

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Borek Jennings acquires Herrmann Funeral Home, continued



The funeral home at the east end of Fowlerville on Grand River was recently acquired by Borek Jennings Funeral Homes which also has funeral homes in Pinckney, Hamburg, and Howell. It began in 1961 as the Dillingham Funeral Home, under the ownership of Gale & Mary Dillingham. Scott & Kim Niblack then owned and operated the business as Niblack Funeral Home. During their tenure they acquired Liverance Funeral Home, sold the building to the Village of Fowlerville, and combined the operations at the Grand River location, calling their facility Niblack Funeral Home Dillingham-Liverance Chapel. They then sold it to Penny Herrmann who operated it as Herrmann Funeral Home.

"I grew up in Pinckney; I love being from a small town; and we look forward to building our lives here," said Jennings, a 2017 graduate of Pinckney High School and a graduate of Calvin University.

Anna Warnstrom, lifelong Livingston County resident and graduate of Pinckney High School (2009) and Wayne State University.

"I feel honored to have spent my entire career serving families at Borek Jennings," said Warnstrom.

Co-owner Karl Jennings emphasized the organization's community centered mission.

"Borek Jennings believes that funeral homes belong to the community — to be a special place for family and friends to gather; a place where love and kindness are shared, life is remembered, and the journey to healing begins," he said. "We

are grateful that Penny Herrmann chose our team to succeed her and thank her for her many years of dedicated service."

With the addition of Fowlerville, Borek Jennings Funeral Homes now serves four Livingston County communities: Hamburg, Pinckney, Howell, and Fowlerville.

The owners, in their mission statement, said that "Borek Jennings is committed to providing compassionate, community rooted care to families navigating loss. With a focus on healing support, personal service, and trusted guidance, the organization is dedicated to serving families throughout Livingston County with dignity and respect."

Farmers Insurance awards \$5,000 Grant to Family Impact Centers

Family Impact Centers is grateful to recognize the support of Farmers Insurance which recently awarded the organization a \$5,000 community grant to strengthen local food assistance efforts and provide healthier food options for families in need.

In 2025, Family Impact Centers served 547 unique families across Fowlerville and surrounding rural communities. With the support of Farmers Insurance, the pantry will be better equipped to purchase nutritious foods such as fresh produce, proteins, and other essentials that help families maintain health and stability.

"In a time when more families than ever are needing help, support like this makes a real difference," said Michael Shafer, Executive Director of Family Impact Centers.

In addition to expanding access to healthy food, this funding will also help Family Impact Centers continue developing resources that support meal planning, grocery budgeting, and grocery-saving strategies for families working to stretch limited resources.

Fowlerville JV Girls Basketball Team loses to Williamston, 32-26

The Fowlerville Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Team lost to Williamston on Thursday, Jan. 15, by a score of 32-26.

"The Lady Glads gave it their all but fell short when the final buzzer sounded," said Coach Michelle Quigley.

Brynn Rudnicki led the scoring with 11 points while Savannah McClanahan added 8. Edie Stephenson chipped in 3 points and Emma Hubbard and CJ Checchi each scored 2 points.

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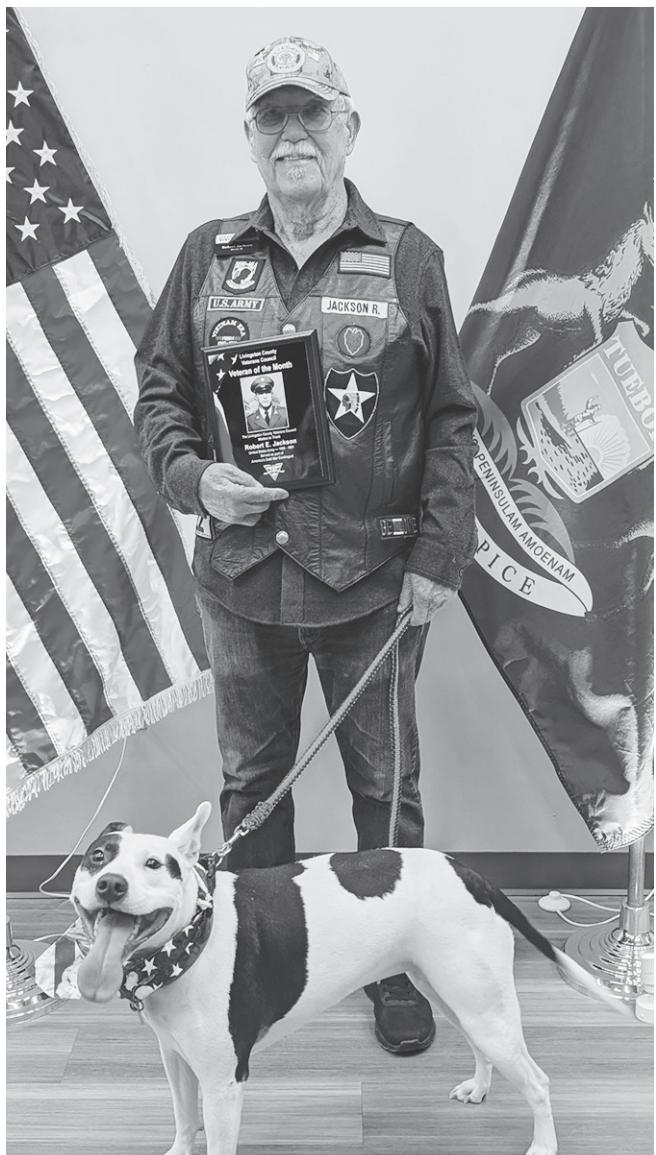
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Robert Jackson honored as Livingston County 'January Veteran of the Month'

The Livingston County Veterans Council has honored Robert Edgar Jackson as the 'January Veteran of the Month'. The recognition was for his service in the United States Army from September 26, 1958, to September 26, 1961, followed by one year in the Army Reserve.

Jackson completed basic training under the 5th Army at Fort Leonard Wood and artillery training at Fort Chaffee before deploying to Germany with the 7th Army and later the 24th Infantry Division. He concluded his active-duty service with the 2nd Army at Fort Benning, Georgia.

He proudly served as part of America's Cold War Contingent.

Robert is an active and dedicated member of American Legion Post 141 in Howell. He resides in Howell with his service dog, Luna, who is his constant companion and partner in daily life.

Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball loses to Williamston in league game

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team traveled to Williamston for a league game on Friday, Jan. 16, and lost 68-30. Sam Shrader and Tyler Jonas led the Glads with 6 points each. The Glads are now 3-8 overall and 0-5 in the CAAC Red Division.

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Fowlerville student named to Central Michigan University's Fall Dean's List

Victoria (Tori) Briggs of Fowlerville achieved academic excellence for the 2025 fall semester and has been named to Central Michigan University's Dean's List.

Briggs is pursuing a degree in Exercise Science-Kinesiology with a minor in Psychology and completed classes this semester in Chemistry, Intermediate Composition, Human Anatomy with Cadaver Lab and Math.

In addition to her academic interests, Briggs also is a member of the Central Michigan Softball Team.

Tori is the child of Vicki Briggs-Rasor and Philip Rasor of Fowlerville and Steve and Doris Briggs of Clinton Township and graduated from Fowlerville High School in 2024.

Fowlerville JV Girls Basketball Team comes out strong to defeat Corunna

The Fowlerville Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Team came out strong and put together four quarters of good basketball to defeat Corunna last Tuesday, Jan. 20, by a 31-15 score.

The offense was led by Edie Stephenson with 11 points, while CJ Checchi and Elly Morales each added 6 points. Aubree Knurick and Kendra Peterson dropped in 4 points apiece to round out the scoring for the Lady Glads.

Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team loses to Portland last Tuesday

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team traveled to Portland last Tuesday, Jan. 20, for a non-league game and lost 72 to 33. Landon Aeschliman led the Gladiators with 10 points. Sam Shrader had eight and Tyler Jonas chipped in with six. The varsity is now 3-9 for the season.

Student of the Week—Jason Botruff

Jason Botruff, a senior at Fowlerville High School who is known to his friends as JB, is the kind of student who leaves a lasting impression on everyone he meets. Kind and fun-loving, Jason balances his positive personality with a strong work ethic as an honor roll student and through his job at Fowlerville Farms. He is an excellent athlete and was even voted "Best Dancer" by his peers, a reflection of the joy and energy he brings to any room. As a true leader in our Unified Sports program, Jason consistently models teamwork and respect, uplifting those around him through both his actions and attitude. Jason Botruff is a true example of a Gladiator—leading with heart, character, and pride.



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When Life is a Puzzle

By Susan Kretchman

You know the feeling. You've opened the box that has a beautiful photo of what's inside the box. An array of colors fill your eyes with colors galore and anticipation of creating your own masterpiece, using the contents from the box. Your time and effort will take patience, time, and concentration to the point where your eyes become tired and blurred. With numerous careful moves, honing in on each item from the box, you slowly solve the problem in front of you and just as you arrive at your "a-ha moment", sadness and frustration take over your former serene lapses of time spent on your project. You've just entered the warp of frustration when one puzzle piece is either missing or your realization that one part is not where it belongs, throwing off the entire completion of the numerous designs meant to come together in order and purpose to create the exact image that's on the box.

So, it is with life sometimes. I think it's safe to say many of

us have experienced feelings of not "quite belonging", "being in the wrong place at the wrong time", staying in jobs or careers that do not satisfy a longing for accomplishment, making a difference in our world, or using our talents to their fullest potential.

In Rick Warren's book "A Purpose Drive Life", he

wrote about how God has placed a purpose in every person. Quoting him from page 1 of chapter 1 is this: "It's not about you. The purpose of your life is far greater than your own personal fulfillment, your peace of mind, or even your happiness". He continues, "if you want to know why you were placed on this planet, you must begin with God. You were born BY His purpose and FOR His purpose".

His book is a wonderful read for anyone and one I highly recommend. What Warren teaches is timeless wisdom in every chapter. He brings clarity and understanding to the age-old question "why am I here?" and helps the reader to identify purpose and not feel like the person struggling to force a puzzle piece in the wrong spot within its original design. Like a misplaced puzzle piece, how often do we—especially Christians—try to fit in where we don't belong or linger in relationships that drain our energy rather than flourish, hang onto jobs that frustrate us, repeat the same behaviors over and over again hoping for change, with no results other than more despair and defeat.

Puzzle boxes have the picture of what's inside the box. Like a preview of the finished puzzle, God gives us a glimpse of how our lives should look, too. In Romans 12: 2 Paul wrote "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." (New Living Translation)

As a child, when I began putting a puzzle together I always set the box cover on end so I could refer to it for hints as I fingered pieces, assembling outer edges first to begin filling in the remaining sections. It's a habit I would continue to use now if I chose to sit down with a puzzle. In like manner, for me to live each day with purpose and intention, I hold my Bible on my lap and read portions of scripture that help me to see and understand why I'm here, what work God has for me to do, how to treat others inside and outside of my family, how to conduct myself in all manner. Life will be a constant puzzle for me and you as we figure it out. Only God sees the beginning to the end for us. Isaiah said "Only I (God) can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish". (New Living Translation)

Years ago I sat under a teaching that unpacked the concept of how God sees our lives. Our life is like a line that is eternal, stretching east to west, no beginning or end. In one look, God sees each one of us as newborn, childhood to teen laboriously entering adulthood and eventually the elderly person waiting and abiding for physical death. The timeline of life—as we know it—differs greatly compared to His perspective. He has every piece of our life exactly in its place according to His plan and purpose. Thus, when we stray from His perfect design, trying to force ourselves to fit in the wrong time or spot, He patiently waits for an awakening within us to return to wisdom and discernment, and He carefully places us back in the right place.

We can assemble with ease when we place the puzzle box cover on edge, its photo acting as hints guiding each piece in our fingers. More so, we are able to glean abundant knowledge when the pages of a Bible are open on our laps, giving direction and meaning to life.

The goal of the puzzle box is to empty its contents and put the design together. The goal of God is for us to empty ourselves before Him and allow Him to fill us with beauty, wonder...and purpose.

In full disclosure, a dear friend of mine gave me a suggestion to write about life compared to a puzzle. She's a person I fully rely upon for true friendship through the mountains and valleys of my life, as we share prayer requests with one another as well as the goodness of God.



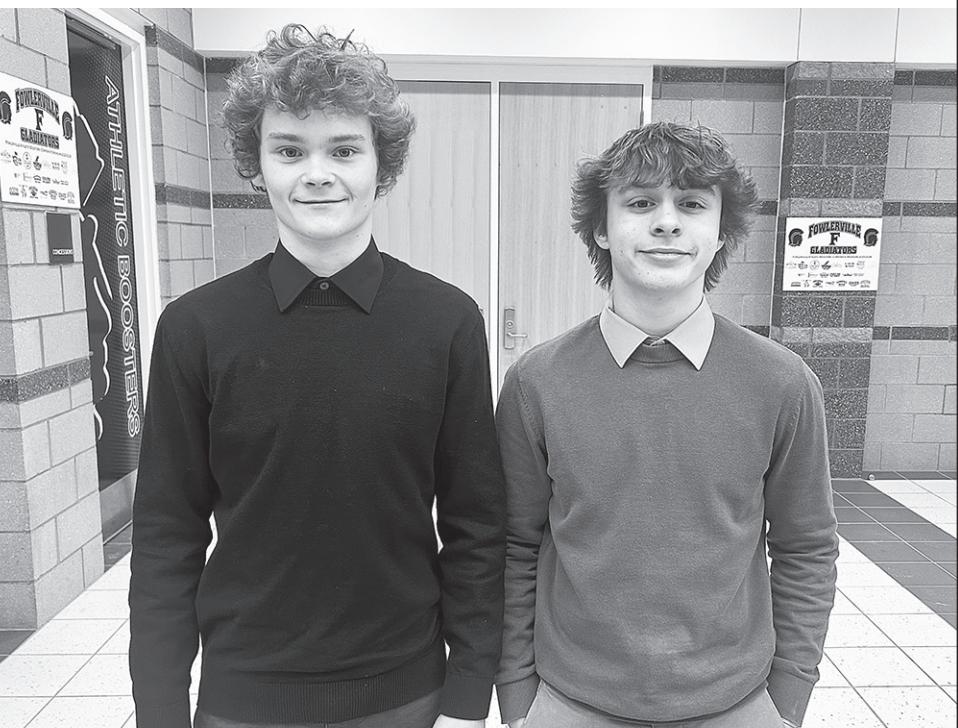
Fowlerville Elementary News

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

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 16 – NO SCHOOL-President's Day
February 17 – NO S C H O O L - T e a c h e r Professional Development
March 5 – Parent Teacher Conferences 5-7:30
March 27 thru April 3 – NO SCHOOL-Spring Break

Please make sure your child is packing their boots, snow pants, coats and gloves/mittens. The office is running very low on extra mittens and gloves, if you are able to donate it would be much appreciated. Thank you!!!!



JV Boys Wrestling

Henry Scott, Freshman and **Connor Richmond**, Freshman are selected to be the JV wrestlers of the week though they have been getting quite a few Varsity matches. They are aggressive wrestlers that are learning fast as they get the High School mat experience. They are both newcomers to the High School team but it's getting harder and harder to pick them out as the rookies. They do make the mistakes, but both have used them as learning lessons and made some great progress as wrestlers. These two are very coachable and will continue to challenge the established wrestlers on the team and work their way into challenging the conference opponents. Congrats guys and keep up the challenge.

JUD'S FOOTBALL FORECAST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
NFL Conference Championships
New England 27 at Denver 24
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Gala to support
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The Coach Minock Varsity Club Foundation has been incredibly supportive of Fowlerville High School's Unified Sports Program and many other students in our community. They are hosting a Valentine's Day Adult Prom Gala, offering a fun night out while supporting a great cause.

The event includes dinner, dessert, entertainment, dancing, and a professional photographer, with proceeds benefiting students in Livingston County and beyond.

The event will be held at Crystal Gardens and tickets are \$165 per couple. Please help spread the word. Thank you for supporting our students!

To purchase tickets, contact:



Brooke Esch
eschb@fowlervilleschools.org
517-223-6145

Fowlerville Fire Department Report

January 15

1:12 p.m.--Medical response on Brookdale Dr in the Village.

7:10 p.m.--Smoke alarm investigation on Majestic Blvd in Handy Township.

4:37 a.m.--Personal injury accident on E I-96 in Handy Township.

9:57 a.m.--Medical response on Hogback Rd in Handy Township.

3:22 p.m.--Medical response on Van Buren Rd in Handy Township.

8:35 p.m.--Medical response on S Grand Ave in the Village.

January 16

5:25 a.m.--Carbon monoxide alarm investigation on Chippewa River Dr in Handy Township.

10:15 a.m.--Medical response on Rafferty Dr in Iosco Township.

5:23 p.m.--Personal injury accident on Munsell Rd in Iosco Township.

9:10 p.m.--Mutual aid to Dansville Fire Department on Mason St.

January 18

12:05 p.m.--Electrical hazard on Village Dr in the Village.

12:06 p.m.--Medical response on James Dr in Handy Township.

12:21 p.m.--Medical response on Walnut St in the Village.

January 19

2:55 p.m.--Medical response on E Grand River in the Village.

5:28 p.m.--Personal injury accident on W Grand River in the Village.

January 20

1:20 p.m.--Medical response on Fowlerville Rd in Handy Township.

1:47 p.m.--Medical response on Nicholson Rd in Handy Township.

January 21

8:49 a.m.--Medical response on E Van Riper Rd in the Village.

9:05 a.m.--Medical response on W Grand River in Handy Township.

3:11 p.m.--Personal injury accident on Mason Rd in Iosco Township.

Michigan DNR Fishing Tips—

**Try drilling multiple holes
when ice fishing**

When ice fishing, try drilling multiple holes and stay mobile. Fish often school tightly in winter, and if you're not marking or catching fish within 10–15 minutes, moving to a new hole can greatly improve your chances. Covering water helps you locate active fish instead of waiting for them to come to you.



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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Heather Trudell and Thomas Trudell, wife and husband, as tenants by the entirety
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC

Date of Mortgage: February 24, 2024

Date of Mortgage Recording: March 18, 2024

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$301,079.96

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Cohoctah, Livingston County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land located in and being a part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 26, T4N, R4E. Cohoctah Township, Livingston County, Michigan, more fully described as follows: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of Section 26 and proceeding South 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East, along the East-West 1/4 line of said Section 26, being also the centerline of Chase Lake Road (66.00 foot wide public right of way), a distance of 368.10 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel herein described; thence North 00 degrees 12 minutes 00 seconds East 333.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East 147.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 12 minutes 00 seconds West 333.00 feet to the aforesaid East-West 1/4 line of said Section 26, being also the centerline of Chase Lake Road (66.00 foot wide public right of way); thence North 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds West, along said 1/4 line and centerline, a distance of 147.00 feet to the point of beginning. Together with and subject to rights of ingress and egress, and public and private utilities over and across a 66.00 foot wide private easement described as follows: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of Section 26 and proceeding South 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East along the East-West 1/4 line of said Section 26, being also the centerline of Chase Lake Road (66.00 foot wide public right of way), a distance of 515.10 feet to the point of beginning of said easement description; thence North 00 degrees 12 minutes 00 seconds East 660.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East 66.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 12 minutes 00 seconds West 660.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds West 66.00 feet to the point of beginning of said easement.

Common street address (if any): 952 Chase Lake Rd, Howell, MI 48855-9399

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

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

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

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 4, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1581023
(01-04)(01-25)

(1-4, 1-11, 1-18 & 1-25-26 FNV)



FORECLOSURE NOTICE (ALL COUNTIES)

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE.

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement –

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM a.m./p.m. on February 04, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Robert Thomas Pignanello and Rashell Lynn Pignanello, husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Selene Finance LP

Date of Mortgage: October 25, 2017

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 8, 2017

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$152,821.12
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Unadilla, Livingston County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Town 1 North, Range 3 East, Commencing at the West 1/4 corner South 2 degrees 33 minutes 53 seconds East 1325 feet; thence South 87 degrees 52 minutes 06 seconds East 986.51 feet; thence South 50 degrees 46 minutes 50 seconds East 97.00 feet; thence North 39 degrees 13 minutes 10 seconds East 198.33 feet; thence South 50 degrees 46 minutes 50 seconds East 379.86 feet; thence South 39 degrees 13 minutes 10 seconds West 33.00 feet; thence an arc right, radius 481.85 feet, chord bearing South 26 degrees 29 minutes 27 seconds East 396.41 feet; thence South 2 degrees 12 minutes 05 seconds East 59.68 feet for the point of beginning; thence South 2 degrees 12 minutes 05 seconds East 125.27 feet; thence North 87 degrees 52 minutes 18 seconds West 363.00 feet; thence North 125.00 feet; thence South 87 degrees 52 minutes 18 seconds East 358.18 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 18551 Williamsville Rd, Gregory, MI 48137-9426

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

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

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

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 25, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

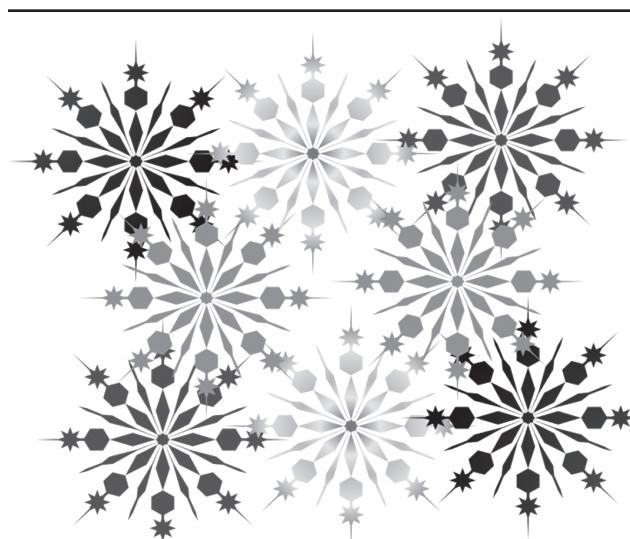
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1582443

(01-25)(02-15)

(1-25, 2-1, 2-8 & 2-15-26 FNV)



Community Connect Event being held Feb. 7th at 2142 Community Church

The Livingston County Homeless Continuum of Care is hosting the 19th Annual Community Connect Event on Saturday, February 7th at 2142 Community Church in Brighton. This event is a one-day event bringing together free resources, information, and connection to services. Anyone in the community who could benefit from these services and resources is welcome to attend.

The event will offer many valuable resources for Livingston County residents. Some of the free services will include health screenings, haircuts, legal services, and information on topics like housing, utility programs, health and human services and basic needs. Many free resources will be available as well. Those who attend can pick up personal care items, winter gear, laundry detergent, diapers, food and more. No registration is needed to attend the event and families are welcome! Childcare will not be provided.

This year, the Secretary of State Mobile Office will also be on-site providing a variety of services. Necessary documents and fees will still apply. A list of fees and documentation needed can be found at <https://milivcounty.gov/hscb/homeless-care/sos-mobile/>.

The Community Connect Planning Team acknowledges this event could not be successful without the help of community partners, sponsorships, and volunteers. Thank you to 2142 Community Church for hosting the event and to the Brighton Masonic Lodge, Livingston County United Way, and Livingston Sunrise Rotary for sponsoring the event.

Volunteer opportunities are available for event set-up, tear down, traffic directors, and more. Sign up at https://www.volunteerlivingston.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=81231.

Card of Thanks

To our family, friends, Fowlerville and Webberville community members, Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Abigail Hospice from Howell and St Agnes Catholic Church - thank you for all the prayers, support, phone calls, food etc that you shared with our family after Dennis passed. Dennis (Lou) called Fowlerville home for 87 years. He loved that his kids and grandkids all grew up in the same area that he did. We are grateful to all of you and thank you so much.

The family of Dennis (Lou) Judd

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Gary Hartman
Owner/Operator



LEGAL NOTICES

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement.

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Cassady M. Pitt, a single woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns

Date of mortgage: August 30, 2021

Recorded on September 7, 2021, in Document No. 2021R-036783, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC

Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand One Hundred Fifteen and 21/100 Dollars (\$198,115.21)

Mortgaged premises: Situated in Livingston County, and described as: UNIT 11, BUILDING NO. 3, CRYSTAL WOOD, A CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED RECORDED IN LIBER 2869, PAGE 865, LIVINGSTON COUNTY RECORDS, AND DESIGNATED AS LIVINGSTON COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 211, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN THE ABOVE DESCRIBED MASTER DEED AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AND AS DISCLOSED BY ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED. Commonly known as 2255 Crystal Crossing Dr, Howell, MI 48843

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

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

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC

Mortgagee/Assignee

Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.

23938 Research Dr, Suite 300

Farmington Hills, MI 48335

248.539.7400

1582469

(01-18)(02-08)

(1-18, 1-25, 2-1 & 2-8-26 FNV)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 25, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Melinda S. Mack and Jordan D. Mack, wife and husband, joint tenants

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

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PHH Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: April 9, 2020

Date of Mortgage Recording: April 22, 2020

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$231,109.41

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Handy, Livingston County, Michigan, and described as: Unit No. 73, Red Cedar Crossing, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 4533, Page 924, as amended, and designated as Livingston Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 311, together with rights in the general common elements and the limited common elements as shown on the Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended.

Common street address (if any): 8626 Rifle River Dr, Fowlerville, MI 48836-8295

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

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

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

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 18, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1582337

(01-18)(02-08)

(1-18, 1-25, 2-1 & 2-8-26 FNV)

Constance H. Koch Trust and Estate

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following: Constance H. Koch (date of birth August 15, 1935) who lived at 13130 Pine Meadow Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430, died on December 26, 2025.

There is no personal representative of the Grantor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the Decedent are notified that all claims against Constance H. Koch and Constance H. Koch Trust dated August 20, 1997, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Douglas H. Koch and James A. Rocchio, Esq., Co-Trustees, within four (4) months after the date of publication.

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

THIS NOTICE IS PUBLISHED ON January 25, 2026
January 20, 2026

Attorneys for the Trustee: Strobl Stark PLLC
Jon P. Everly, Esq.
33 Bloomfield Hills Parkway, Suite 125
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304
(248) 540-2300

Douglas H. Koch, Co-Trustee
James A. Rocchio, Esq., Co-Trustee
c/o Strobl Stark PLLC
33 Bloomfield Hills Parkway, Suite 125
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304

(1-25-26 FNV)

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF Livingston

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Trust Estate

Estate of Beverly Elaine Chesney

Date of Birth: §redacted§ 1936

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Beverly Elaine Chesney died 10/January/2025

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to David Chesney, c/o Kenneth V Zichi, J.D. successor Trustee within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

This notice is published pursuant to MCL §700.7504. There is no Personal Representative of the Settlor's estate to whom letters of administration have been issued, and no filing is planned.

January 14, 2026

Kenneth V. Zichi P-39513
Attorney name Bar no.
PO Box 1121
Fowlerville, MI 48836 (517) 258-8020
David Chesney c/o KV Zichi, J.D.
Successor Trustee name
PO Box 1121
Fowlerville, MI 48836 (517) 258-8020

(1-25-26 FNV)



Livingston County Comments

By: Doug Helzerman,
District 1
Commissioner

**Village of Fowlerville
213 South Grand Avenue
Fowlerville, MI 48836
517-223-3771**

Regular Village Council Meeting Minutes *Synopsis

Monday, November 17, 2025

The Regular Village Council Meeting was called to order by President Hill at 6:31 pm in the Village Council Chambers.

Trustees Present: Curtis, Hardenbrook, Heath, Helfmann, Mayhew, and Hill.

Absent: Hernden

Quorum Present

COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. VOICE VOTE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HELFMANN MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, CONSISTING OF ITEMS 6. a. THROUGH 6.j., AS PRESENTED. VOICE VOTE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO WITHDRAW THE PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 500 FROM OCTOBER 20, 2025, AND TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AS TWO SEPARATE ORDINANCES (ORDINANCE NOS. 501 AND 502). VOICE VOTE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER CURTIS MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MULTI-TENANT AND SHARED BUSINESS SIGN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF FOWLERVILLE AND FOWLERVILLE INVESTMENTS, LLC. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HELFMANN MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 501, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 346, SECTION 612: FENCES, WALLS, AND SCREENS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HELFMANN MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 502, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 346, SECTION 620: SUPPLEMENTARY DWELLING REGULATIONS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT (AUDIT) AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-25 AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HELFMANN MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER MAYHEW SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-26 AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER HELFMANN SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 25-27 AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER CURTIS MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER HEATH SECONDED, TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION UNDER SECTION 8(D) OF THE MICHIGAN OPEN MEETINGS ACT, MCL 15.268(D), TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY UP TO THE TIME AN OPTION TO PURCHASE IS OBTAINED, AT 7:11 P.M. ROLL CALL VOTE: VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND ALL TRUSTEES PRESENT VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL MEMBER HARDENBROOK MOVED; COUNCIL MEMBER CURTIS SECONDED TO ADJOURN THE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING AT 7:27 PM. VOICE VOTE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Prepared by:
Jamie Hartman, Village Clerk
(1-25-26 FNV)

These are several items of interest from our Tuesday, January 20th meeting. Nathan Burd, our administrator, introduced his choice as our new CFO (chief financial officer). He said that replacing Cindy Arbanas is no easy task. Cindy has served the County extremely well and she will be greatly missed. He was pleased to recommend the appointment of Mr. Joseph Mangan to this key leadership position.

Mr. Burd told us that Mr. Mangan has previously served as a finance director in the cities of Hillsdale and St. Joseph. He also previously worked for Plante Moran as a local government finance and accounting consultant and currently works as a local government finance consultant with the firm of Lauterback and Amen.

He commented that throughout the interview process, Mr. Mangan displayed an impressive knowledge of public sector financial administration and he was very well qualified for our consideration. Nathan expressed his excitement for having the opportunity to work with Joseph, and this hire will be an exceptional addition to our team.

There will be a period of overlap with our outgoing CFO for training purposes.

We are grateful for the help of Hiring Solutions, LLC, for their assistance during this search. Under Nathan's direction, along with advice from Human Resources Director Jennifer Palmbos and Chief Financial Officer Cindy Arbanas, they have brought another excellent person to keep our Livingston Team a topnotch example of good government.

In an update from EMS director Dave Feldpausch, he told us that despite many challenges we are now in the home stretch with both projects of building new EMS substations. Putnam is scheduled for substantial completion on January 26th, 2026, and Cohoctah is scheduled for February 13th, 2026. The EMS department stands ready to staff them the day they are completed.

Though budgeted separately, they were within the total projected costs for both.

Director Feldpausch and his team ran into significantly more issues at the Cohoctah site than they did in Putnam. While they anticipated some of the challenges in Cohoctah, a few of them became more costly than anticipated and caused some significant completion delays. He said the main issues were the soil conditions which had to be remedied in multiple locations prior to construction and a major utility relocation which could not be established until the project had begun. They had to complete several soil borings on both sites prior to construction and none of them revealed any issues, but once construction began pockets of unsuitable soil were found at the Cohoctah site that needed to be remedied. The relocation of utilities at both sites proved to be a significant challenge and unfortunately, their planning was at the will of DTE and Consumers Energy, who did not share the same sense of urgency as Dave and his team. Despite countless phone calls and planning

meetings, these companies didn't seem to hurry.

Each January the board selects new officers. Nick Fiani was chosen as Chairman and Jay Drick as Vice Chairman. My assignments remain the same with the exception that I was moved from the General Government committee to the Personnel committee.

2026 is an important election year. I hope you will all vote and advocate for people and policies that will keep our constitutional form of representative government strong so that we will truly continue to have liberty and justice for all. Dhelzerman@livgov.com



U.S. Congress Report

By Tom Barrett,
7th District, U.S. House
of Representatives

Leads Hearing on his Bill to Expedite Payments for Disabled Veterans Vehicle Modifications

Congressman Tom Barrett (MI-07) last week led a House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity hearing on legislation to reform and improve the VA. This included Barrett's **CRUISE Act (H.R. 7083)**, which he introduced last week to streamline payments to providers for disabled veterans' vehicle modifications through the Adaptive Automobile Equipment (AAE) program.

"There have been continued payment delays from VA, and in certain parts of the country, there are 22 adaptive automotive invoices that are over 1,000 days late for their payments. That's years in backlog."

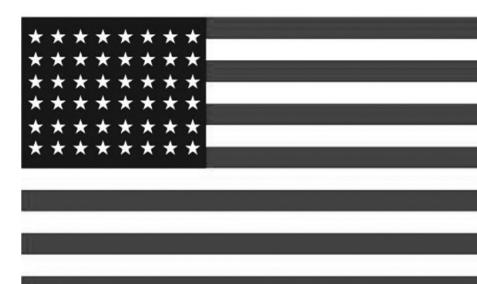
"That's unacceptable, and my bill would get to work at addressing these delays, cutting out the red tape, and ensuring providers get paid for their valuable work — all the while getting disabled veterans the service that they deserve. My bill would also hold VA accountable for making these payments to AAE providers in a timely manner by requiring the VA to publish the exact number of days that each payment takes that exceeds 30 days."

"If we don't fix this, we risk losing good providers who help our veterans get the adaptive vehicles that they need. ... We can't let the bureaucracy get in the way of providing these benefits. If this continues, veterans will have less provider options available to them because they won't see the VA as a good-faith partner in that effort." **Background:**

The VA's Automobile Adaptive Equipment (AAE) program pays for vehicle modifications necessary for veterans with service-connected disabilities to drive or to enter and exit their vehicles. Currently, individual VA hospitals are responsible for issuing these reimbursements, but some hospitals have fallen behind on paying invoices. As of May 2025, the National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association was aware of nearly \$11 million in payments owed to dealers that were more than 90 days overdue. This creates a real financial burden that is hurting the small businesses that install wheelchair ramps, lifts, and other vehicle modifications for veterans.

Barrett's Centralized Reimbursement for Upgraded Innovative Service Equipment (CRUISE) Act (H.R. 7083) would centralize the AAE reimbursement process at the VA Central Office and remove that responsibility from VA hospitals. The bill would require the department to implement a process to track invoices and issue payments. If the department is unable to process a payment within 30 days, it must publish how many days are necessary to make the payment.

Barrett has been a leader on efforts to help disabled veterans with their transportation needs. Last year, the House unanimously approved Barrett's Automotive Support Services to Improve Safe Transportation (ASSIST) Act, which would authorize the VA to cover a wider variety of vehicle modifications.





Carrie Nation.

1903 - Carrie Nation visits area, speaks at Fowlerville Fair

By Steve Horton

Note: I wrote this article around 1977-78 when I was a young reporter. Having an interest in history, I'd done this sort of feature off and on from the very start of my career—and have continued doing so in the years since. I remember what motivated it was seeing a small news item in an old copy of 'The Fowlerville Review'. I took it from there.

It was October 9, 1903. The famous 'Hatchet Lady' of America's prohibition movement, Carrie Nation, was scheduled to speak at the Fowlerville Fair.

Mrs. Nation had become renown during the 1890s with her violent sprees against Kansas saloons.

Alone, or accompanied by a few hymn-singing women, she would enter the establishments, sing, pray, assail customers, and then commence to smashing the fixtures and stock with a hatchet.

Nation described these acts as "hatchetation of the joints."

Nation, along with condemning the use and sale of alcohol, also lamented the existence of fraternal orders, tobacco, foreign foods, corsets, skirts of improper length, and the type of paintings usually found in barrooms.

She was an able speaker, using the Bible as her text, and given to violent language when she became aroused.

At the close of her addresses she usually sold souvenir hatchets, the sale proceeds going to maintain the home for drunkards' wives and children which she had built in Topeka, Kansas.

Much of Carrie Nation's fervor against liquor-use was traceable to an unfortunate first marriage in 1867 to Charles Gloyd, a young Kentucky doctor who as an alcoholic. The newly-wedded wife tried reforming her husband, but with no success. The marriage was over after only a few months, with Gloyd dying shortly afterwards.

Ten years later she married David Nation, a lawyer and clergyman.

In 1889 the Nations moved west to Medicine Lodge, Kansas.

While Kansas had a law prohibiting liquor sales, the law was largely ignored. There were many places where liquor was openly sold.

Carrie Nation quickly became involved in the prohibition effort. Her first activity was to organize a local branch of the Womens Christian Temperance Union. The group's persuasive approach, however, did not suit her for too long. She soon began her career of barroom destruction.

Prohibition movement

While Carrie Nation was usually alone in her violent acts against liquor use, the prohibition movement in the 1890s and early 1900s was wide-spread, the majority of its support coming from the nation's rural areas.

The temperance movement had begun in the early 1800s with supporters urging people to avoid alcohol. The campaign had little success, so supporters began working for laws to ban the manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages.

Efforts by the "prohibitionists" were increased during a reform movement in the 1830s and 1840s. Supporters argued that alcohol endangered mental and physical health, as well as caused crime.

The prohibitionists efforts culminated in 1846 when Maine became the first state to pass a dry law. By 1855 twelve more states had outlawed alcoholic sales.

The movement declined during and immediately after the Civil War, but re-emerged in 1869 with the formation of the Prohibition Party.

The political group began running candidates, including a presidential ticket, shortly afterwards.

The "Womens Temperance Crusade" came in 1873. During this crusade, women church members went into saloons, sang hymns, prayed, and asked the proprietors to stop selling liquor.

Within a few weeks the crusade had swept over 23 states, resulting in the closing of thousands of saloons.

The following year, as a result of the crusade, the Womens Christian Temperance Union was established. Members began working through schools, churches, and other organizations, promoting the passage of dry laws.

The Prohibition Party, in conjunction with the WCTU, reached its peak in 1892 when 271,000 votes were cast for its candidates.

During the next several years, many states began abandoning their dry laws, but allowed a provision for a "local option" which encouraged many towns and counties to pass prohibition laws.

During that same time-span Carrie Nation began her rise to fame.



U.S. Senate Report

By Elissa Slotkin, Michigan 119th

Introduces bipartisan legislation to strengthen rural broadband infrastructure

U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) introduced bipartisan legislation to reauthorize a U.S. Department of Agriculture program to help improve access to broadband service in Michigan and the rest of rural America.

"High-speed internet isn't a luxury, it's a necessity," said Senator Slotkin. "By strengthening USDA support for targeted broadband projects, this bipartisan bill helps lower costs and bring reliable, high-speed internet to rural Michigan and communities across the country, so people can work, learn, and stay connected."

The Middle Mile for Rural America Act proposes a five-year (2026-2031) reauthorization of the middle-mile infrastructure program to help connect rural communities to high-speed internet.

"If we're going to ensure reliable, high-speed broadband service to people in rural areas, we must look at the whole, which includes critical middle-mile projects. This is a small, but significant USDA program that fills a gap to help ensure reliable and affordable service for rural homes and businesses," Senator Hyde-Smith said. "I expect this reauthorization to be approved so that electric cooperatives, like those in Mississippi, can continue their work to expand broadband service."

The 2018 Farm Bill expanded the authority of the USDA Rural Utilities Service to fund loans, loan guarantees, and grants for stand-alone middle-mile broadband projects, which previously could only be supported indirectly as part of last-mile projects. U.S. Representatives Randy Feenstra (R-IA) and Rep. Josh Riley (D-NY) introduced companion legislation (HR.5037) in the House.

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WICKED FOR GOOD

WEDNESDAY, 1/28 5-8PM

FOWLERVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY-Programming Room

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ALL 9-12th grade WELCOME!

Fowlerville District Library
Where your imagination soars

The Giving Barn

Lecture causes excitement

The local newspaper, commenting on the 'Hatchet Lady's' lecture at the fair, entitled 'Why I Smashed,' noted: "We are not prepared to endorse every word she uttered—we never yet listened to any speaker for 30 minutes that we could agree with every word uttered."

"We will venture the assertion, however," the newspaper went on, "that many people heard more truth in those 30 minutes than they have listened to in a long time before, even if they did get pretty well stirred up."

The newspaper added its opinion that no address ever delivered in Fowlerville has caused as much comment and discussion, favorable and unfavorable.

"We think it only just," the newspaper concluded, "to commend the splendid order maintained by the thousands of people who gave her a respectful hearing without ungentlemanly conduct or interruption while she was pouring out a scathing denunciation of parties and men."

Carrie Nation's career as a prohibitionist was to end five years later. Before its finish though, she would be arrested 30 times for her saloon-wrecking, shot at, and beaten up.

While her activities had little immediate effect, they did help create a public opinion that eventually led to passage of the 18th amendment in 1919, banning the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages in the United States.

It should also be added, as a footnote, that apparently none of the Fowlerville saloons was visited by Mrs. Nation during her stay in town.



5 years ago, we moved to Fowlerville, beside Lil and Vern Eklund.

Weekly, these two show us acts of kindness.

Today, in 26 degrees with snow falling, Vern brings our trash can in all the way from the road, rolls it to our back deck after he shovels the snow off the deck.

We wanted to publicly say

"Thank You Vern" for being a caring and compassionate friend and neighbor!

"Kind hearts are the gardens, Kind thoughts are the roots, Kind words are the flowers, Kind deeds are the fruits."

VERN, OUR HERO!

- Ted & LouAnn Fitzpatrick

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Michigan House Report

By State Rep.
Jason Woolford,
50th District

Ending the Revolving Door at the Unemployment Insurance Agency

Recently, I introduced House Bill 5449 to take a clear stand for ethics, transparency, and accountability at Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA). Public trust in government depends on knowing that decisions are made in the best interest of the people, not influenced by future job prospects or private gain.

Over the past several years, the UIA has faced serious challenges, including widespread fraud and concerns about how vendor contracts are managed. While many dedicated public servants work hard to help unemployed Michiganders, the system itself needs stronger safeguards to prevent conflicts of interest. HB 5449 is designed to put those safeguards in place.

The bill creates a cooling-off period to stop revolving-door conflicts at the UIA. Senior agency officials, including top leadership, procurement officials, contract managers, and IT project managers tied to vendor contracts, would be prohibited for two years after leaving the agency from working for, advising, or accepting anything of value from UIA vendors. This ensures that decisions made in public office are not shaped by the promise of a private-sector job down the road.

Accountability also extends to the private sector. Under HB 5449, any vendor that violates this rule would be barred from contracting with the UIA for five years.

This bill is part of a larger conversation in Lansing about strengthening ethics. Speaker Hall has emphasized the importance of preventing lawmakers from immediately becoming lobbyists after leaving office, and this plan follows that same principle. Public service, whether in the Legislature or a state agency, should never be a pathway to personal gain.

Michigan taxpayers deserve to know that their government is working for them. This bill is a step toward restoring trust in the UIA and ensuring decisions are guided by integrity, not insider advantage. I look forward to continuing this work and advancing reforms that put the people of Michigan first.

As always, please reach out to me if you have any questions or input you would like to share. You can call my office at (517) 373-3906 or email me at JasonWoolford@House.MI.Gov.

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TAI CHI - EVERY MORNING 9am

CHAIR EXERCISE-EVERY MORNING 10 to 11am

Tuesday, January 27- Dice Games – Noon to 2pm

Thursday, January 29- Membership Lunch and Exotic Animal Presentation with "Preuss Pets" 11am to 1pm

Friday, January 30- BINGO Noon – 2pm



IOSCO TOWNSHIP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING DATES: 2026-2027

The Township Board meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month: at the Township Hall. The Township Hall is located at 2050 Bradley Rd., Webberville, Michigan.

March 19th, 2026	April 16th, 2026
May 21st, 2026	June 18th, 2026
July 16th, 2026	August 20th, 2026
September 17th, 2026	October 15th, 2026
November 19th, 2026	December 17th, 2026
January 21st, 2027	February 18th, 2027
March 18th, 2027	April 15th, 2027

IOSCO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATES: 2026-2027

The Planning Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month: at the Township Hall. The Township Hall is located at 2050 Bradley Rd., Webberville, Michigan.

March 3rd, 2026*	April 14th, 2026
May 12th, 2026	June 9th, 2026
July 14th, 2026	August 11th, 2026
September 8th, 2026	October 13th, 2026
November 10th, 2026	December 8th, 2026
January 12th, 2027	February 9th, 2027
March 2nd, 2027*	April 13th, 2027

*Due to a scheduling conflict the March Planning Commission meetings will be the 1st Tuesday of the month.

Julie Dailey
Iosco Township Clerk
(1-25-26 FNV)



Surrealist paintings by Senior Center Members.



Brutus the repaired boiler.



Becky Spatisano, Mary Janis and Joan Bonine practicing Tai Chi.

Fowlerville Senior Center offers a Warm Place, Tai Chi, Art & Hugs

By Mark Thompson

One thing about Michigan weather is that it's not boring. The Fowlerville Senior Center wants everyone to know we are a "Warming Center" and we are available Monday through Friday, from 8:30A – 2:00P for anyone in need.

Speaking of heat, the Fowlerville Senior Center had a couple of heating issues this past week. Our office was warm enough to be a sauna, and the Fowlerville Community Theatre room was so cold they were having a difficult time rehearsing because their teeth were chattering.

The Senior Center utilizes a boiler heating system, and we called Sharon's Heating and Cooling for help. Kadin James was sent and while he solved one issue rather quickly, the second issue proved to be a bit more problematic and required a new part. We are pretty sure our boiler system is older than Kadin has been alive and may even be older than some of our members—hence the issue of finding a replacement part. Kadin was able to temporarily fix the remaining issue while a new part was ordered and making sure our office had heat.

We think Kadin James should be recognized because through the entire repair process, which lasted a week, Kadin kept Senior Center staff informed of repairs being made, parts being ordered, how he made temporary repairs so Senior Center members would be kept warm during our activities and a timeline when the permanent repairs would be completed. Through this entire repair process Kadin was polite, knowledgeable, patiently explained everything being done and even made himself available by phone for questions. Because of Kadin's work ethic and professionalism, when we called Sharon's Heating and Cooling to finalize the repairs, we advised what a great employee he is and how he represented their company in the best way possible.

The Fowlerville Senior Center's low Impact Tai Chi sessions remain popular, and we have begun exploring other forms of Qigong (pronounced Chi Guhng). These are a choreographed sequence of flowing movements, often described as "meditation in motion," all rooted in Qigong principles of using physical postures, controlled breathing, and focused intention. All movements can be done standing or seated depending on a person's abilities.

We held an art class where Senior Center members explored painting two different types of artwork—Abstract and Surrealist.

Our abstract art piece involved heavy weight, acid free watercolor paper, a host of paint colors, the mixing

of paint to create more varied colors, a squeegee, the use of various paint brushes and brush strokes to create individual colorful and unique pieces of abstract art.

Our surrealist art piece involved a framed canvas; painters tape and a template of a woman with flowing hair. Each artist again used various colors of paint, a squeegee, utilized various paint brushes and various brush strokes to create their own colorful and unique piece of surrealist art.

At the Fowlerville Senior Center members give hugs but did you know receiving and giving hugs can have positive effect on your health? By receiving and giving a hug we can produce positive mental health benefits, such as reducing stress and anxiety, creating feelings of happiness, safety, social connection, improving our mood and maybe even boosting our immune system. Proper hugging etiquette is to always ask, "Is it okay if I give you a hug?" If the person is uncomfortable receiving a hug, offer a handshake instead.

"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life"
--Picasso



New Livingston Hospital – April 2026
The future of care, here for you

On April 19, we're opening the doors to a new era of care – bringing hope, healing and next-level care to our community. Our modern, four-story hospital in Brighton features private rooms, leading-edge technology and expanded services, all designed with your comfort in mind. You'll receive care from the same compassionate team you know and trust, now in a healing environment built for the future.



Take a first look at
TrinityHealthMi.org/NewLivingstonHospital



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Howell Chamber of Commerce official completes first year at Institute for Organization Management in Arizona

The Howell Area Chamber of Commerce announced that Dianne Samples, Director of Programming and Engagement, has completed her first year at Institute for Organization

Management, the professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The four-year nonprofit leadership training program was held at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

“Institute graduates are recognized across the country as leaders in their industries and organizations,” said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, the U.S. Chamber’s vice president of Institute for Organization Management. “These individuals have the knowledge, skills, and dedication necessary to achieve professional and organizational success in the dynamic association and chamber industries.”

Reflecting on the experience, Samples said, “This first year at Institute for Organization Management pushed me to think differently about leadership, engagement, and how chambers help build strong communities and connected business ecosystems. What resonated most was gaining fresh perspective from professionals across the country and bringing those ideas back to share with our team and our members. I’m excited to keep working together to make sure our programming stays relevant, meaningful, and impactful for the businesses and communities we serve.”

Since its commencement in 1921, the Institute program has educated tens of thousands of association, chamber, and nonprofit leaders on how to build stronger organizations, better serve members, and become effective business

advocates. Institute’s curriculum consists of four weeklong sessions at university locations across the country, covering leadership, advocacy, marketing, finance, membership, and organizational strategy.

Institute for Organization Management is the premier nonprofit professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, fostering individual growth through interactive learning and national networking opportunities.

The Howell Area Chamber of Commerce is a catalyst for a vital business environment and an exceptional community; connecting, advocating and leading on behalf of business and community.

For more information, visit howell.org or institute.uschamber.com.

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2026 Farmer Education Day

Tuesday, February 3
8:30am–3:30pm

Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA)

1425 W Grand River Ave
Howell, MI 48843

FREE PROGRAM

Lunch provided by Livingston County Farm Bureau and Livingston Conservation District.

5 RUP credits are available for those who attend the entire program.

Open to non-members – bring a friend!



Register by January 27
Scan the QR code to register
or contact Stacey Coddington at
(517) 546-8124 or scoddin@ctyfb.com.

Agenda

8:30-9:00am | Registration/Welcome

*Clark Humrich, Chairman, Livingston Conservation District
Ray Moses, Director & Membership Chairman, Livingston County Farm Bureau*

9:00-10:00am | Crop Management Update for Southeast Michigan

Madelyn Celovsky, Conservation Agronomist Educator, MSU Extension

10:00-10:15am | Snack Break

10:15-11:15am | Drone Technology for Aerial Product Application

Bryan Hammis, Owner & Operator, Flying Acres LLC

11:15am-12:15pm | Wildlife Management for Crop Production

Nicolle Ritchie, Field Crops Agronomist Educator, MSU Extension

12:15-12:45pm | Lunch

Banquet Style, Room A

12:45-1:45pm | NRCS and USDA Organization Updates

*Chris Corgan, District Conservationist, USDA NRCS
Maria Weston-Natural Resource Specialist, USDA NRCS*

1:45-2:45pm | Hemp Crop Remediation Research

Jason Grostic, Grostic Farms, MSU College of Agriculture Graduate

2:45-3:15pm | Risk Management Tools for Farms

Ray Heisler, Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan, Risk and Safety Management

3:15-3:30pm | Livingston County Farm Bureau update

Hannah Meyers, Southeast Regional Manager, Michigan Farm Bureau

Closing Comments/Questions

7:00 a.m.– 2:30 p.m.

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, club or meeting with a teacher they should make arrangements to leave the building by 2:30 p.m.

Fowlerville High School Local Scholarships

Happy New Year from the counseling department at Fowlerville High School. We would like to thank the community for their continued generosity and support of our senior class. Each year businesses and community members support our senior class with approximately 50 scholarships totaling \$30,000: a true testament to the commitment of a small town and their high school.

FHS Class of 2026 Local Scholarship Presentations:

Fowlerville High School will present community scholarships to the class of 2026 in their ELA courses during the week of 1/19. All presentations, applications, and scholarship information is also posted in the Class of 2026 Google Classroom. All completed applications are due to the counseling office no later than Friday, February 27th- end of the school day. In addition to the application requirements, students that wish to be considered for a local scholarship must also have completed FAFSA on file by the deadline.

FHS Class of 2025 Local Scholarship Winners:

Congratulations once again on your scholarship award. The deadline to request your scholarship is March 1st, 2026. Please submit your semester 1 transcript, semester 2 course schedule and the completed Scholarship Request Form to Mr. Hardenbrook: hardenbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org.

OR NEW OPTION:

Through the Fowlerville High School Website-Counseling Page- Class of 2025 Scholarship Winner Funds Request

You will need: Your name/ address, the name of the scholarship(s) you were awarded and to upload your semester 1 transcript and proof of semester 2 enrollment.

Senior Parents – Graduation is around the corner cap and gown ordering has begun. Order online Jostens.com pick the graduation tab, order now, enter school and state, then start your order. The basic cap & gown unit is under Cap & Gown section shop all.

The Writing on the Wall

By Jace Arledge

This past Monday was the Federal holiday honoring the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. What can be said about Dr. King?

Whether one likes it or not, Dr. King was a TRUE follower of Christ. I'm talking full on, a believer that ALL people were loved by God, deserved to be treated justly and fair and most importantly...EQUAL.

Standing for these beliefs essentially saw him murdered in 1968 while in Memphis, Tennessee supporting striking sanitation workers. He was there in a quest for fair and just working conditions.

I am reminded of the Biblical story of Daniel chapter 5 after King Nebuchadnezzar has died and his son Belshazzar inherits the throne. One day while trying to impress those around him and "party" with the treasures that were stolen from the land of the Hebrews, a hand appears and writes these words on the wall in front of the king and his guests:

"Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin"

Not one of his wise men could interpret these words. So, at the urging of the Queen, they called upon Daniel. See Daniel never gave in and denied his beliefs. He had a strong conviction in God, he believed that God was sovereign and that all things come from and are taken because of one's faith or the lack of, and the more that you followed what God asked, oh the riches you would obtain.

This is a big deal my friends. So many fell away from their beliefs for quick comfort. Thinking that they would be saved if they fell into line like toy soldiers, forgetting who they were and where they came from. But Daniel, oh Daniel. He and three others refused to forget who they were and what they were fighting for. They survived the fiery furnace (you will have to read that in Daniel 3), and death at the hands of the Babylonians. It really is a great story of faith and standing up for what you believe.

Hang on, I get carried away at times... let's get back to the writing on the wall... Daniel was called in to interpret what those words meant and possibly WHO wrote them. After Daniel tells the King that he didn't learn from his father's death, and he would be punished, he proceeded to interpret: Mene (MENE): God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end.

Tekel (TEKEL): You have been weighed in the balance and found wanting (not good enough).

Upharsin/Parsin (UPARSIN/PARSIN): Your kingdom is being divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

That very night, the king was killed and Darius, the Ruler of Mede took over.

Now I can see your faces. What does this have to do with anything? You don't believe in these stories, thinking that they are all fairy tales. Whether you believe them or not is not the point. The point is they give a lesson; our culture today isn't unlike Belshazzar's.

We all desire for people who are in the know, can read the room and have their fingers on the pulse and can interpret the writing on the wall. I mean, let's be honest with ourselves. We idolize and put premiums on pundits, commentators, FOX, MSNBC, CNN, TikTok, Instagram and Facebook. All day long we listen to those who THINK they know what is happening in our world. They try to decode the happenings and many times it is incorrect, but we hang on every word as if IT is the Gospel. But they are NOT Daniel.

There are emails, texts, and sound bites that are misrepresented and pulled out of context, gossip (oh the gossip), political commentary (someone's opinion) and combating opinions on just about everything. They are NOT Daniel.

I read comments on a cooking page the other day. The chef was talking about ingredients of THEIR signature dish, and someone came on and tried to tell them they were doing it all wrong... Like who does that? Who feels they are that brazen? WE DO... ALL THE TIME and we have become so bold that it doesn't matter if we are wrong or right, we are going to let our voice be heard even going so far as to harm others physically, mentally and financially.

Livingston Fine Art Association to meet on Jan. 27th at Cleary University

The Livingston Fine Art Association will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 27th, at the Commons Building, Chrysler Hall, at Cleary University, Room 3. Park in Lot C and there will be signs to guide you to Room 3. Doors open at 6:30pm, meeting begins at 7:00pm. (Note Date Correction)

There will be a guided tour of the Arthur Secunda Museum which is in the Commons Building. This will be conducted by Curator Suzanne Fisher.

A short business meeting and a discussion of members art work will follow. All artists and those interested in the arts are invited. See our web site at: lifefineart.com or find us on Facebook.

What I find so cool about Daniel is that he has clarity amidst the chaos. He knows who is in charge and is very comfortable in it, even if it isn't popular. He doesn't care if he is wearing the new \$300 Nike shoes, he'll wear the \$10 sandals from the thrift store because it isn't about the money. It's about doing the right thing. Helping others and being a good person.

We all could be like Daniel today, by praying, fasting and detaching from things that don't serve a purpose. When I talk about fasting, I'm not talking a 16/8 food fast. I'm talking about detaching from social media and listening to those who have not a clue on what is going on in the world. They take snippets of information and create their own scenario and many times it is a scenario of doom and gloom.

Removing ourselves from the noise and messaging of the world and turning towards the universe and God to find peace in humanity is what we need in times like these. We become poisoned by the chaos to the point of hate and bitterness towards others, just because they obtained something we don't have.

When we fast from the things of this world we can find clarity, we hear more clearly, we feel more deeply, and we see others as our brothers and sisters.

Like I explained further up what the message was to the King... This world, this kingdom is ending, it's passing

away... the writing is on the wall, we just must learn to read it and understand what is being said to us. Then the question becomes, as Ezekiel said, "How then shall we live?" What will/doe that look like? Removing the chains of this world that has captured our hearts and created a culture that isn't of us.

This is a time for courage, virtue and morality. We need to take the time to read the Jesus parts more often and turn off the evening news, Tiktok, Instagram and Facebook and go out into nature. Listen for the sounds of the wind, the birds and crickets. Then ask, where in your life do you need clarity?

Take a breath, close your eyes and listen... "The answer my friend, is blowin in the wind, the answer is blowin in the wind..."

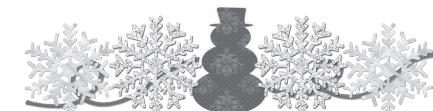
Thanks Bob...

Til then...

Stay kind and LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY

Songwriter: Bob Dylan

Blowin' In the Wind lyrics © Special Rider Music, Universal Tunes



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Kreeger Elementary News

CALENDAR OF KREEGER EVENTS

1-28-26	Music Club Meeting 3:40-4:40pm
2-05-26	Student Council Meeting 3:40-4:40pm
2-11-26	Spring Count Day
2-11-26	KPTN Meeting 3:40pm
2-12-26	Super U Assembly
2-16-26	No School
2-17-26	No School
2-19-26	Student Council Meeting 3:40-4:40pm
3-2 thru 3-6-26	Spring Book Fair
3-05-26	Spring Conferences 5:00-7:30pm ***

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

LOST AND FOUND: Our lost and found is overflowing! If your child is missing sweatshirts, coats, boots, gloves, hats, etc – please have them check the lost and found!

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 before 3:00pm

Thomas Parker named to Kettering University's Fall 2025 Dean's List

Thomas Parker, a Fowlerville student, has been named to Kettering University's Fall 2025 Dean's List. He is majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

The Dean's List recognizes overall academic performance based on the student's term grade point average (GPA). To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must satisfy the following requirements: be a degree-seeking student with a minimum term grade point average of 3.5, no grades below B, and a minimum of 16 earned credits for the term.

“Being named to the Dean's List is a testament to the dedication and excellence of our students,” Kettering University Provost James Zhang said. “It reflects their hard work and their ability to thrive in a challenging academic environment. Our rigorous programs are designed for driven students to push boundaries and inspire growth. I am very proud that so many of our students have risen to that challenge with remarkable success.”

More than 300 Kettering University students were named to the Fall 2025 Dean's List.

Since 1919, Kettering University has pioneered unique educational experiences that blend classroom instruction with real-world wage-paying work at cooperative employer partners. The Flint, Michigan-based private nonprofit university is world-renowned for its engineering, mathematics, business, and science programs that produce some of the brightest, most successful entrepreneurs and business innovators. Leaders in the fields of autonomous vehicles and robotics, Kettering is consistently ranked among the country's best universities for return on investment and career preparation. Learn more at kettering.edu.

Williamston Area Senior Center

500 Williamston Center Road - 517-655-5173

January-February 2026 Events

Monday, Jan. 26th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Exercise 10:30am, CADL Tech Help 10:45am, Lunch 11:45am

Tuesday, Jan. 27th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Lunch 11:45am, Cards & Games

Wednesday, Jan. 28th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Chair Exercise 9:30am, Exercise 10:30am, Lunch 11:45am, Nurse Chat w/Michelle, Needle Work Group 1-3pm

Thursday, Jan. 29th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Exercise 10:30am, Lunch 11:45am, Bingo 12:30pm

Monday, Feb. 2nd - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Blood Pressure Check 10am, Mobile - MI Secretary of State 10am – 1pm, Exercise 10:30am, Lunch 11:45am

Tuesday, Feb. 3rd - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Lunch 11:45am, Cards & Games 12:30pm

Wednesday, Feb. 4th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Chair Exercise 9:30am, Exercise 10:30am, Lunch 11:45am, Chair Volleyball 12:30pm, Needle Work Group 1-3pm

Thursday, Feb. 5th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Exercise 10:30am, Lunch 11:45am, BIRTHDAY BASH, Senior Class Band 12:30pm

Monday, Feb. 9th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Exercise 10:30am, Lunch 11:45am, Craft with the W.S. PALS 12:30pm

Tuesday, Feb. 10th - Cards 9am - 11:45am, Lunch 11:45am, Cards & Games 12:30pm, WASC Board Mtg 12:30pm



JUST for KIDS



* Winter Word Scramble *

Unscramble the words below to spell words related to winter.

The first one has been done for you.

KTASE	SFCRA	MTNTIE
skate		
ILCEIC	MWSNNOA	TESLE
LEGVO	EWRASET	IYLCHL
LSVHOE	IETWH	DZLZBRIA

 education.com

Crack the Code: Winter Joke

Use the key to fill in the blanks and crack the code.

t	w	o	i	s	y	a	u	d	l	m	h	c	e	r	p	n
																

W			
			

Answer:



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Why choosing a full-service funeral home matters, even for cremation

By Aaron Franks,
'Aaron the Funeral Guy'

Over the last several weeks, we've been digging into what your options are when it comes to cremation and burial. Today, I want to shift gears a bit and talk about something I get asked more often than you might think:

"Why would I choose a full-service funeral home for cremation when there are cheaper options out there?"

It's a fair question. We've all seen ads for low-cost cremation providers, some even quoting prices hundreds of dollars below traditional funeral homes. And yes, those providers are real, and they serve a purpose.

But like most things in life, what you *pay* and what you *get* don't always line up the same way. There's real value in using a full-service funeral home for cremation, and I want to explain why.

Let's start with the most basic difference: service doesn't stop at paperwork.



Bridge Michigan

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Why consistent literacy policy matters

Commentary by Alicia Urbain
Bridge Michigan

In December, I had the opportunity to serve on a literacy panel at the Michigan Charter School Symposium, a conference built for charter professionals that pushes the boundaries of innovation. The data we discussed was sobering. According to the most recent results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), Michigan ranks 44th in the nation in fourth-grade reading proficiency. Only six states perform worse.

Later that same month, I attended the Governor's Literacy Summit. The message there was consistent and urgent: Michigan has a reading crisis, but we also know what works. Other states have improved dramatically by aligning instruction to evidence, training teachers effectively, and holding systems accountable.

Those policy conversations matter to me not just as a policymaker and advocate, but as a parent.

My oldest daughter practically taught herself to read. Reading came easily and early. My middle child did not love reading as much, but he still became a strong student. While their school had begun using some cueing strategies, a solid foundation of traditional phonics-based instruction remained.

My youngest daughter's experience was very different.

By the time she entered school, her classroom relied heavily on picture cueing and balanced literacy approaches associated with Lucy Calkins' curriculum. Explicit phonics instruction that had been foundational for her siblings was largely absent. She skipped many of the decoding rules her older siblings learned and was instead encouraged to rely on pictures and context clues.

She appeared to be reading. In kindergarten, she even made a YouTube video proudly explaining how she used pictures to figure out words. As a parent, I was proud too. But by first grade, cracks began to appear.

At the end of that year, her DIBELS assessment, which measures early literacy skills, showed she was significantly below grade level on nonsense words, a key indicator of phonics and decoding ability. No one had raised concerns. When I asked, I was told not to worry. "Sometimes bright kids struggle with nonsense words."

In second grade, she excelled in math but struggled more noticeably with reading. She received an Individual Reading Improvement Plan, required under Michigan law, but it was generic and failed to address her specific needs. I refused to sign it for weeks, but eventually gave in.

The pattern repeated. She would show small gains, intervention would stop and then she would fall behind again.

By fourth grade, I pushed for further evaluation. A reading specialist trained in the science of reading finally identified the issue: significant gaps in phonemic awareness that years of picture cueing had masked. When the pictures went away,

When you choose a discount cremation provider, you're usually choosing a business that operates Monday through Friday, 9 to 5. If a death happens outside of those hours, and let's be honest, most do, the family may wait for a callback, or wait for someone to be available. There's usually no funeral director on staff overnight, and often there's no opportunity for questions in the moment they're needed most.

At a full-service funeral home, help is available 24/7, nights, weekends, holidays, whenever that phone rings. You'll always reach a real funeral professional, even after hours, when calls go to an answering service. A licensed funeral director returns your call within 15 minutes or less. Families deserve real support, not business hours.

Another major difference? The opportunity to see your loved one, one last time.

This is something discount providers almost never offer. With a full-service funeral home, if the family chooses, there is typically the chance to see your loved one privately before cremation takes place. It may not be a formal viewing or a ceremony, but that simple moment to sit beside them, hold their hand, and say goodbye can make all the difference.

I've seen more healing happen in that quiet space than almost anywhere else.

Here's something many families don't realize: When you use a low-cost cremation provider, you may never see your loved one again until the cremated remains are returned. No last glimpse, no moment to say goodbye, and no chance to

she could not read.

Then COVID hit.

Because her standardized scores remained "average," no further help was offered. On paper, she was fine. In reality, she was struggling, and reading had become something she hated.

We hired a tutor trained in phonics-based instruction. She worked with that tutor weekly, including summers, for four years. My daughter did not independently read a chapter book without audio support until the second semester of sixth grade.

We were fortunate. We knew what to look for, and we had the resources to intervene.

Most families do not.

This is why literacy policy matters.

Michigan has taken steps in the right direction. In 2016, the state passed the Read by Grade 3 law, which included early screening, parent notification, intervention, and retention for students not reading proficiently. Research consistently shows that early intervention is critical. But COVID disrupted implementation. When testing resumed, the Legislature repealed the law's accountability and retention provisions. As one educator described it to me, the state removed the "gift of time" for students to receive the instruction they needed before moving on.

Other components of the law remain, but implementation is uneven. Too often, schools comply on paper with generic reading plans and minimal intervention rather than delivering targeted support.

In 2024, Michigan passed dyslexia-related legislation aimed at improving early identification and encouraging science-based instruction. Recent budgets have also funded free science of reading training for teachers who choose to pursue it.

These are meaningful steps. But they are not enough.

Michigan still lacks statewide accountability tied to reading outcomes and there is no requirement that elementary teachers be trained in the science of reading. While policy gaps remain, schools do not need to wait to do what is right for students.

Other states have shown what sustained commitment can accomplish. Mississippi, once ranked near the bottom in reading, spent more than a decade aligning curriculum, teacher training, and accountability. Its fourth-grade reading gains on NAEP now outpace most of the country.

Michigan is a politically divided state where education policy often shifts with elections. That makes discipline and consistency even more important. Reading improvement does not happen in one budget cycle or one administration. It takes time, evidence, and resolve.

In 2026, Michigan will mark 10 years since the passage of Read by Grade 3. Too many systems have not stayed the course.

The path forward is clear: train elementary teachers in the science of reading; adopt high-quality, evidence-aligned curriculum and supplement where it is weak; create real accountability for reading outcomes; and commit to consistency, even when leadership or politics change.

Every child can learn to read. Every child should be taught how. Literacy is not a privilege. It is a right.

Alicia Urbain is vice president of government and legal affairs for the Michigan Association of Public School Academies. This column was printed with permission of Bridge Michigan, an online media outlet.

www.bridgemichigan.com

confirm that the person is being treated with dignity before the process begins.

For some families, that works. But for others, that missed moment becomes something they quietly carry for years.

Full-service funeral homes also offer continuity from beginning to end. More times than not, the same team who transfers your loved one from the place of death is the team who handles the paperwork, guides you through decisions, communicates with the crematory, and helps you afterward if you want to create a service later. You're not bounced from office to office, or to different people who never knew who you were or who your loved one was.

And here's one more piece that matters: relationships.

Whether a family wants direct cremation, a memorial, or a full traditional service, a full-service funeral home builds a connection, not just a transaction. They talk. They answer questions. They help with Social Security, veterans' benefits, death certificates, obituaries, and all the pieces families don't always know they're suddenly responsible for.

A discount cremation provider typically offers the bare minimum because that's what they're built to do, and again, there are times when that's exactly what a family wants.

But many families choose cremation not because they want "nothing done," but because they want a simpler way to honor someone without losing the chance to say goodbye, to gather, or to take their time. A full-service funeral home gives you that flexibility. You're never locked into a package. You're never pushed toward more than you need. You're simply given options, and the support to choose what feels right.

As I say in every arrangement conference: "I'm not a salesman. My job is to present the options and help your family do what's best for you."

Cremation doesn't have to mean less value, less time, or less care. When you choose a full-service funeral home, you're choosing a guide, someone who will walk with you from the first hour to the last detail, day or night, with dignity, respect, and compassion.

If you ever have questions about cremation providers, funeral homes, or what makes them different, I'd be honored to talk with you. There's no pressure and no commitment, just answers when you need them.

Aaron Franks is a Funeral Director at Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes



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Gladiator Gazette

Fowlerville Community School News

Student PCD Policy 5136 Now in Effect

Last Tuesday, January 20, with the start of second semester, Board Policy 5136 – ‘Personal Communication Devices’ went into effect at Fowlerville Community Schools. This updated policy establishes a bell-to-bell device-free learning environment at the secondary level and reflects the district’s commitment to a safe, focused and engaging learning environment that maximizes instructional time and supports student well-being.

As a reminder, families may continue to reach students during the school day by contacting the school’s main office. Office staff will ensure messages are delivered or students are connected as needed. In the event of a school emergency, the district will continue to follow established safety and communication protocols.

To support families and staff, the district has centralized all information related to Policy 5136 on the Families page of the district website. The “PCD Policy Parent Information” section includes an overview of the policy, frequently asked questions, implementation procedures and expectations, and guidance for students and families.

We appreciate the cooperation of students, families, and staff as this policy is implemented. Establishing consistent routines

Village of Fowlerville Now Hiring: Full-Time DPW Supervisor

The Village of Fowlerville is accepting applications for a **Full-Time Department of Public Works (DPW) Supervisor**. This position oversees daily DPW operations, works along with DPW employees, equipment, and maintenance of village infrastructure.

Complete job description, qualifications, and application details are available on the Village of Fowlerville website.

www.fowlerville.org

The Village of Fowlerville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

(1-25-26 FNV)

HANDY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 19, 2026 SYNOPSIS

The regular meeting of the Handy Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Hinton at 7:00 P.M. in the Handy Township Board Room. Members present: Clerk Eisele, Trustee Redinger, Treasurer Shear and Trustee Munsell. Absent: None. Also present: Twp. Atty. Homier (via Zoom), Township Auditor-Tom Jury, CPA/Manager, and resident: Chuck Wright. Meeting was opened with a Moment of Silent Reflection followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

To approve the agenda as presented

To accept the Handy Township 2024-2025 fiscal year Audit Report as Presented

To proceed with well efficiency testing at Red Cedar Crossing Water Plant

To proceed with backflow inspection for cross connection program at Red Cedar Crossing

To approve the regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2025 as presented

To approve the Special Meeting Minutes of December 22, 2025 as presented

To pay the bills in the amount of \$120,771.02

To proceed with the gravel road improvement projects for 2026

To contribute to the Fowlerville Senior Center for the year 2025-2026 in the amount of \$6,000.00

To adjourn meeting at 8:09 P.M.

Laura A. Eisele
Handy Township Clerk
(1-25-26 FNV)

takes time, and the district remains committed to supporting a smooth transition while maintaining a focused, safe, and engaging learning environment for all students.

Invitation to Participate: Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) Survey

Fowlerville Community Schools invites parents/ guardians to share their interest in serving on the district’s Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) by completing a brief interest survey.

The SEAB is a state-required advisory committee that reviews Michigan’s Health Education Standards and examines district health curriculum to ensure instruction is age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate and compliant with state law and Board-approved policy. The SEAB serves in an advisory role only and makes recommendations to the Board of Education; it does not make decisions.

SEAB members engage in respectful, collaborative discussion and work within established legal and educational guidelines, always keeping students’ well-being at the center of the work. From the submitted surveys, four parents/guardians will be recommended to the Board of Education to serve on the SEAB.

Please complete the interest survey by January 28, 2026. Thank you for your continued partnership and support of Fowlerville Community Schools.

Mid-Year i-Ready Data Showing Student Growth

We are excited to share strong academic progress across Fowlerville Community Schools based on our Mid-Year i-Ready results. In mathematics, 57% of students have already met at least half of their annual typical growth, with students who began the year at two or more grade levels below showing especially strong gains, achieving 83–92% of their expected annual growth by midyear. Students who consistently engaged in personalized instruction (30+ minutes per week with high lesson pass rates) demonstrated even stronger outcomes, reaching a median of 61% of their annual typical growth so far.

Reading results show similarly encouraging trends. Districtwide, 61% of students have met at least half of their annual typical growth in reading, with students who started three or more grade levels below making exceptional progress—reaching a median of 133% of their expected growth by midyear. Students who regularly used personalized reading instruction with fidelity achieved a median of 69% of their annual growth, underscoring the positive impact of targeted supports and strong instructional practices. These results reflect the collective efforts of our students, staff and families. We look forward to continuing this momentum into the second half of the school year.

Unified Basketball Team to Play at Little Caesars Arena on March 23

The Fowlerville Unified basketball team will take on the Stockbridge Panthers in a game at Little Caesars Arena in downtown Detroit on Monday, March 23, at 1:00 PM as part of the Unified Showcase. Your ticket to that game will also be good for the Detroit Pistons vs. Atlanta Hawks game on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 7:00 PM. Lower-Level tickets are \$39 and Middle-Level tickets are \$23 and include: access to the entire Unified Showcase, access to the Pistons game, a donation to the Unified program and a Unified Showcase T-shirt. Purchase your tickets today and come out and support our Gladiators!

DECA Participants Advance to State Competition

Fowlerville High School (FHS) offers a wide variety of clubs and extracurricular activities that enrich the overall high school experience and allow students to explore their interests, develop leadership skills and apply classroom learning in meaningful ways. One example of this is the FHS DECA program, where students recently competed at the regional level, demonstrating outstanding professionalism, preparation and leadership. Their dedication and hard work paid off, with three students – Sam Shrader, Travis Wroblewski and Aubrey Farris, earning advancement to the DECA state competition.

Through opportunities like DECA, FHS continues to provide students with real-world business experiences that build confidence, career-readiness and pathways to future success. Congratulations to all of our DECA competitors on an impressive showing and for representing Fowlerville High School with pride.

After School Clubs & Sports Available at Junior High

After school clubs and sports are underway at Fowlerville Junior High, so students are encouraged to cheer on their peers in girls basketball or wrestling. We also have several clubs after school each week including the Chess Club on Mondays in Mr. Campbell’s room, Theater Club on Wednesdays with Mrs. Spisz in the Auditorium and Farm Club on Thursdays in the Media Center with Ms. Krebs. If your child has other interests and wants to start a club, please have them speak to an administrator in the Main Office.

Exciting Winter Events at Fowlerville Elementary

As we wrap up January and head into February, Fowlerville Elementary School has several fun activities planned to celebrate our students’ creativity and milestones. Take a moment to mark your calendars and join in the spirit!

Kindergarten Color Week

Our Kindergarteners will be exploring the rainbow. We encourage students to dress in the daily colors to help us celebrate:

- Monday, January 26 - Red Day
- Tuesday, January 27 - Yellow Day
- Wednesday, January 28 - Green Day
- Thursday, January 29 - Blue Day
- Friday, January 30 - Purple Day

School Milestone Celebrations

We are also reaching exciting milestones in our school year! We look forward to seeing how our students celebrate being “100 (and 101) days smarter.”

- Thursday, February 5 - 100th Day of School, Kindergarten
- Friday, February 6 - 101st Day of School, 1st Grade
- Parents - Keep an eye out for specific classroom communications regarding special activities or dress-up ideas for these milestone days. We look forward to a vibrant and joyful few weeks at Fowlerville Elementary!

MSU Engineering Exploration Day – February 21

The College of Engineering at Michigan State University is offering a free engineering exploration day for students in grades 4-8 on Saturday, February 21, at the MSU Engineering Building and Anthony Hall. Students will rotate through five hands-on activities. Activities are prearranged in tracks. Upon registration, you will choose your top five track choices and then one will be assigned to you prior to your event. The schedule will be as follows:

- Check in: 12:10-12:40 PM
- Welcome: 12:45-12:55 PM
- Activities: 1:10-4:00 PM

Registration is required by January 30, and participants must be chaperoned. If you have questions, please call 517-432-1273 or email the engineering department.

What’s Happening at Alverson?

Rehearsals are well underway for our spring musical, *School of Rock!* If you are interested in assisting with set builds, please contact Jill Martin, Manager of the Alverson Center for Performing Arts.

In February and March, the Alverson Center will be hosting some dance events. The HIVE National Dance Challenge will take place February 20-22, and Maria’s Dance Express will showcase its recital on March 2. Reach out to these organizations if you are interested in attending.

Application for MSU Gifted & Talented Education Programs Now Open

The Outreach & Engagement Department at Michigan State University will host an Information Meeting Webinar with live Q & A chat regarding their Gifted and Talented Education programs on February 1, 2026, from 1:00-2:30 PM. You must RSVP by January 28 to attend the webinar.

There are a variety of academic year programs that allow students currently in grades 7-10 to complete 4 years of high school in 2-3 years. Some of the programs include:

- ASCEND - Accelerated study in Composition, English and Narrative Discourse
- CHAMP - Cooperative highly accelerated Mathematics program
- MANGA - Michigan’s Accelerated NihonGo for Americans

In addition to these academic programs, they offer a variety of summer programs as well for students in grades 4-10.

What’s Coming Up in our Schools

February

- 03 - Board of Education Meeting, Junior High Auditorium, 7:00 PM
- 05 - 100th Day of School at Fowlerville Elementary
- 06 - Junior High Winter Dance, 2:30-4:00 PM, sponsored by NJHS
- 12 - Kindergarten Information Night for Incoming Parents, Fowlerville Elementary, 5:00-7:00 PM
- 16 - No School, President’s Day
- 17 - No School, Teacher Professional Development Day
- 27 - Daddy/Daughter Dance (registration information coming soon)

March

- 02-06 - Book Fair at Fowlerville Elementary School
- 03 - Board of Education Meeting, Junior High Auditorium, 7:00 PM
- 05 - Full Day for Students K-12, Parent/Teacher Conference K-12, 5:00-7:30 PM
- 23 - Unified Basketball Game at Little Caesars Arena, 1:00 PM
- 27 - First Day of Spring Break (March 27 - April 3)

—Area Deaths—**Michael Lee Schuchaskie**

April 17, 1945–January 18, 2026

Michael Lee Schuchaskie born April 17, 1945 in Stockbridge, MI. He died peacefully on January 18, 2026 at Swank Assisted Living, Swartz Creek, MI. Mike was a resident of Williamston, MI area for 53 years. He was a member of Williamston Free Methodist Church. Mike was a devoted Christian who loved his family dearly.

Mike's favorite past time was fishing with his uncle Thomas Workman (dec) and his son Mike. He and Mary enjoyed playing cards with his brother-in-law, Ernie and Caroline Corser. He enjoyed the challenge of teaching Ernie how to play. After high school, Mike worked for Olds in Lansing, earning a journeyman's as a pipefitter and retired as a foreman in maintenance in 1997.

Mike met Mary Louise Corser while going to Fowlerville Schools. They had a strong relationship and they became soulmates and were married right after high school in 1963. They had a blessed life having three children. They enjoyed operating their antique business and traveling the country. He could tell you the best places to eat in Michigan.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years Mary; his parents, Mike and Bernice Schuchaskie; and sister, Ara Himelick.

Surviving are his children: Eric (Janice) Schuchaskie, Michael Lee Schuchaskie Jr., and Amy Ellsworth. Grandchildren: Gavin Carpenter, Ben (Lauren) Persinger, Chase (Emma) Carpenter, Kegan (Daeja) Schuchaskie, Cameron Ellsworth, Alexis Ellsworth, Dustin Ellsworth; great-grandchildren, Eric James Schuchaskie, Dennis Gary Schuchaskie, Lawton Daniel Fulvi, Ariella Ellsworth, and Amari Arjona. Siblings: Billie (Dale) VanAmberg, Russel (Cheryll) Schuchaskie, Jackie (Dan) Alling, and Pat (Sid) Smith.

A visitation was held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 from 4 to 7 pm at the Gorsline-Runciman Funeral Home, 205 E Middle St, Williamston, MI.

Funeral services were being held on Friday, January 23, 2026 at 1 pm at Williamston Free Methodist Church, 4400 N Williamston Rd, Williamston, MI with visitation one hour prior at church.

Fowlerville News & Views

“Weekly Community & Business Guide”

Published on Sunday
by H&H Publications LLC

Stephen L. Horton - Publisher & Editor
Dawn M. Horton - Assistant Publisher
Lisa Tomczyk - Advertising Designer
Tarah Wasilewski - Advertising Designer



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Lawmakers in Michigan & other states push to end data center sales tax breaks

By Sophie Quinton
Gongwer News Service

Lawmakers in at least four states —Michigan, Arizona, Virginia and Washington — are pushing for legislation that would end sales tax breaks for data centers, a sign of the growing backlash to so-called hyperscale facilities under construction across the country.

Supporters of the legislation say massive facilities financed by wealthy tech companies don't need a tax discount. They argue that data centers drive up electricity prices and harm the environment while adding few permanent jobs.

Plus, their constituents don't want data centers in their communities.

“These data centers are universally opposed by the people,” said Michigan Rep. James DeSana, a Republican. “I have not found a town that they’re going into that wants them.”

DeSana has teamed up with Rep. Dylan Wegela, a Democrat, to file three bills that would repeal Michigan’s sales tax break for data centers.

At least 32 states exempt data center equipment from sales taxes, according to a 2024 survey by corporate law firm Husch Blackwell. The details vary, with most states requiring businesses to hire a certain number of people or make a certain level of investment to qualify for the tax break.

At least 10 states offer other incentives, such as property tax abatements or income tax credits, the law firm survey found. An additional state, Kansas added a sales tax break last year.

Some state leaders in recent years have expanded tax incentives to attract mega-projects from tech companies such as Google, Meta and OpenAI, which are racing to build the infrastructure needed to power artificial intelligence. Today’s data center projects can be as large as dozens of football fields.

States that repeal or shrink data center tax breaks risk losing projects to neighboring states, tech industry advocates say, which would mean losing out on construction jobs, property tax revenue and economic growth.

“Data centers are the backbone of the 21st century economy,” said Dan Diorio, vice president of state policy at the Data Center Coalition, a trade group.

Investments in data centers helped drive U.S. economic growth last year, economists have found. Investments in information processing equipment contributed as much to GDP growth in the first half of 2025 as consumer spending, according to research from Apollo Global Management, an asset management firm.

Diorio said he expects more state leaders to consider expanding data center tax breaks this year than to consider shrinking them, similar to previous years.

“For as many states that we’ve seen look at potential repeal,

or other potential modifications, we’ve seen many more states continue to expand and add sales tax exemptions,” he said.

Sales tax breaks for data center equipment purchases are a logical extension of tax breaks states typically offer manufacturers and other businesses to encourage investment, said Jared Walczak, a senior fellow at the Tax Foundation, a free market think tank based in Washington, D.C.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, a Democrat, last year signed a law, passed by the Legislature, exempting certain data center equipment purchases from the state’s 6% sales tax from 2016 through 2050.

“The jobs created and increased tax revenue could provide Michigan communities with tens of millions of dollars for schools and operating costs,” the governor’s office said in a news release at the time.

Whitmer later cheered OpenAI’s plan to build a 2.2 million-square-foot data center in a rural area near Ann Arbor, heralding it as “the largest economic project in Michigan history.”

But the mood could be shifting this year.

Public opposition to data center projects is growing in Michigan and elsewhere. Many lawmakers are concerned about the facilities’ impact on electricity prices and water use. And some are looking for ways to raise revenue as budgets tighten.

Sales tax breaks for data centers are already costing states such as Texas and Virginia about \$1 billion a year in foregone revenue, according to Good Jobs First, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that scrutinizes corporate tax breaks.

Data centers “should be paying the same sales tax that everyone else has to ... in the commercial sector,” Virginia Sen. Danica Roem said.

The Democrat said she plans to introduce a budget amendment to repeal Virginia’s sales tax exemption for the facilities.

Washington Gov. Bob Ferguson, a Democrat, has proposed ending Washington’s sales tax exemption for replacement server equipment starting on July 1.

Eliminating the tax break could raise \$63 million next fiscal year and \$203.5 million through Fiscal Year 2029, Ferguson’s budget plan estimates. Washington and most states begin their fiscal years on July 1.

Ending data center sales tax breaks will likely not be a big revenue-raiser for states, Diorio said, as approved projects typically have already claimed multi-year exemptions and investors may choose to build future projects elsewhere.

In Michigan, DeSana and Wegela’s bill package could face an uphill climb. State lawmakers narrowly approved the tax break just two years ago with Whitmer’s support.

But the two bill sponsors say opposition to data centers has grown since then, both among lawmakers and the public.

DeSana said he expects opposition to data centers to be a winning issue in the November midterm elections.

“Let them run on that and see how that works out for them,” DeSana said of his colleagues who back subsidizing the facilities.

Humberto Sanchez contributed to this report.

Chiropractic Health Center of Fowlerville

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Webberville Cribbage Report

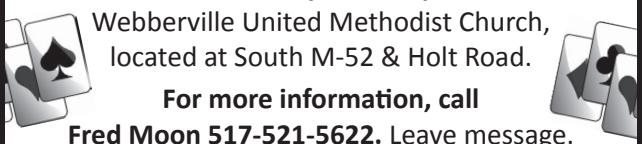
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All are invited to join the fun!

We meet Mondays, 6:30-9pm at the Webberville United Methodist Church, located at South M-52 & Holt Road.

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Webberville Report



Webberville FFA launches fundraising campaign for greenhouse/agriscience facilities improvements & repairs

Webberville FFA is raising funds through a new national crowdfunding platform to support the repairs and enhance our agricultural greenhouse to better support student learning, FFA activities, and community engagement.

The current facility has aging infrastructure and outdated systems that limit safety, efficiency, and educational use. With targeted upgrades, we can transform the greenhouse into a modern, productive learning environment that supports hands-on agricultural education for years to come. The project will benefit FFA members by allowing students to engage in skill-based, hands-on learning aligned with agricultural education standards and SAE programs.

“This project will help us improve facilities creating an inviting learning environment that helps recruit and retain FFA members while fostering pride and ownership in our program,” said Sasha Glover, Chapter Co-Advisor.

The campaign is live now and accepting donations at ChapterBoost.FFA.org.

For more information, contact Sasha Glover at sglover@webbervilleschools.org.



Senior Spotlight—Ethan West

“Today is an opportunity”

Ethan West is the son of Tiffany West and Dustin West, and brother to Nathan West and Alanah West. Having attended Webberville since pre-school, Ethan has dedicated a large part of his life to the Webberville community.

Ethan’s favorite core class has been Math with Mrs. Vogel, who was always there to answer his hundreds of questions and encouraged him to take multiple math classes and start college algebra. He has always found math to be interesting and enjoyable, particularly when figuring out problems and helping others who need it.

For athletics, Ethan has participated in basketball, baseball, varsity cross country, and varsity track and field. One of his favorite memories from cross country is qualifying to run at the state meet at Michigan International Speedway every year of high school.

Ethan reflected that “The feeling of racing in such an amazing facility with the adrenaline high, the competition tough, and with all of my friends with me, is like no other.”

Ethan would like to thank all his coaches (Coach Chapman, especially) for encouraging him and helping him to become his best. Fellow athlete and friend, Shawna says, “Ethan is a dedicated student and a hardworking athlete. He is my best friend and I’m so proud of all he has done.”

Involvement in the arts has been a staple of Ethan’s time at Webberville, as he has been involved in band all throughout middle and high school, and choir for all of high school. This includes attending festivals, solo and ensemble, and honors choir, as well as serving as choir president and the marching band’s drum major. He would like to thank all of his music educators past and present, most especially Mr. Franks and Ms. Tredway for inspiring and supporting him.

Ethan has been an active member of the FFA, serving as Treasurer, Co-President, and President for the chapter. He has also been a member and officer in groups such as Student Council, Student Advisory Committee, and National Honor Society. He also attends the Wilson Talent Center in the Construction Technologies program and is an officer in their National Technical Honor Society Chapter.

In his free time, Ethan raises animals and exhibits them through the Tri-County Kids 4-H Club at the Fowlerville Fair. He enjoys spending time with his friends and family, whether it be by playing games, watching movies, or just laughing and enjoying time together. Ethan has also enjoyed working at Diederich’s Berry Farm and Produce for the past four summers, and has loved learning about the farming process and connecting with the community. He is very grateful to the Diederich family for having him, for their kindness, and for teaching him all that they have.

Student Services Advisor, Ms. Scifers said that “Guiding Ethan through his educational journey has been a rewarding experience. From our initial meeting, Ethan presented a clear vision of his goals and sought my support in achieving them. Notably, Ethan has successfully balanced a wide range of extracurricular activities with his academic responsibilities. Ethan, your dedication to your educational goals and your resilience in the face of challenges are truly admirable.”

After graduation, Ethan plans to attend Michigan State University for Music Education, while participating in the Spartan Marching Band, the cross country team, and more. Once he has achieved his degree, he plans to teach at the secondary level or higher. One day, he would like to get a nice piece of land and continue pursuing music, as well as running and raising animals.

Win a Valentine’s Day Prize at the Webberville Library

Visitors to the Webberville Public Library can win a box of candy by coming to the Library and completing an entry for a drawing. Several winners will be selected for this drawing sponsored by Friends of the Webberville Library.

Entries will be accepted starting Wednesday, January 28 until Thursday, February 12 at 5:00 pm. **One entry per visit and only one winner per family.** Please enter and have a happy Valentine’s Day.



GO

SPARTANS!



Korbin Matiyow goes for a layup while teammates Zayden Wienman, Hank Marshall, Xavier Kaleward, and Riley Carson are ready to move in for a rebound.

Webberville Middle School Boys Basketball Teams pull out wins

Written in collaboration with Xavier Kaleward

This past week was the start of the Webberville Spartans Middle School Basketball season where they faced off against Mt. Morris Middle School. The 7th grade team began the evening, coached by Blake Braudrick. The Spartans took an early lead at the end of the first quarter.

Going into halftime, the Spartans had a comfortable eight-point lead. However, going into the 4th quarter they were down by two with two minutes left to play. That's when Mason Cimba hit a three-pointer followed by Hunter Van Nortwick stealing the ball in the next possession to go for a layup, making it 42-39. The Spartans secured their first win of the season with a score of 42-41.

Leading scorer was Kingston Pressel with 12 points. Mason Cimba and Hunter Van Nortwick each had 7 points,

Izaiah Smith had 6 points, Lucas Braudrick had 5 points, Mack Marshall had 3 points and Easton McClellan had 2 points.

Following the amazing 7th grade win, the 8th graders played next, coached by Dan Demitroff. Again, the Spartans took an early lead and kept the momentum leading into half time. In the second half, the Spartans kept the energy levels high and continued to get bucket after bucket.

The fourth quarter came around and the team kept their lead. As the Spartans pushed through the last few minutes of the game, they pulled off another incredible win against Mt. Morris Panthers. The final score was 46-43.

Tyler Kubiak led the team with 14 points, followed by Korbin Matiyow with 13 points, and Xavier Kaleward with 10 points. Kelly Wilder scored 4 points, Hank Marshall and Riley Carson each had 2 points, and Keegan Budden, 1 point.

calls. Three calls were in the City of Williamston with all being medical responses. One call was in Williamston Township also for a medical response.

On Monday January 19, 2026 NIESA responded to four calls. One call was in the City of Williamston for medical response. One call was in Wheatfield Township for a utility response. One call was in Williamston Township for a medical response. One call was in the Village of Webberville for a medical response.

On Tuesday January 20, 2026 NIESA responded to six calls. One call was in the City of Williamston for a utility response. One call was in Leroy Township for a vehicle accident. One call was in Locke Township for a fire response. Two calls were in Wheatfield Township with one a vehicle accident and one a medical response. One call was in Williamston Township for a citizen assist.

On Friday January 21, 2026 NIESA responded to three calls. Two calls were in the City of Williamston with both being medical responses. One call was in Williamston Township for a vehicle accident.

On Saturday January 22, 2026 NIESA responded to two calls. One was in the City of Williamston for a medical response. One call was a fire response mutual aid to Dansville.

On Sunday January 23, 2026 NIESA responded to four



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Office: 517-219-2054

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LEROY TOWNSHIP OFFICES BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS JANUARY 13, 2026

The regular meeting was called to order by Supervisor Griffes at 7:00 P.M. at the Leroy Township Office Board Room at 1685 N M-52 in Webberville, MI.

Members present: Supervisor Earl Griffes, Clerk Gina L. Whitehead, Trustee R. Scott Diederich.

Absent: Treasurer Heide Ream and Trustee Loretta K. Benjamin.

Approval of December 9, 2025, meeting minutes APPROVED

ITC Presentation – Project is on the Township website under Public Notices

MiChem Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring APPROVED

NIESA meetings - PRESENTED BY DIEDERICH

Payment of Bills APPROVED \$173,746.41 (Ingham County Road Department contribution \$142,352.24)

Adjournment at 8:08 P.M.

Next Board Meeting is on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.

Gina L. Whitehead
Leroy Township Clerk
(1-25-26 FNV)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Village of Webberville VILLAGE COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING February 10, 2026

The Village of Webberville Village Council has scheduled a public meeting on February 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Village of Webberville Town Hall at 115 S. Main St., Webberville, MI 48892.

The purpose of this hearing is to review and consider zoning definitions regarding Data Centers.

Details regarding the proposal can be viewed at the Village Office.

Interested parties may make comments at the meeting or submit them in writing to Jessica Kuch. Clerk/Treasurer, P.O. Box 389, Webberville, MI 48892 or by email at jkuch@webbervill.com, prior to the meeting.

The official minutes of all meetings are stored and available for inspection at the Village Office located at 115 S. Main Street, Webberville.

Notice: People with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact please contact Samuel Schulte., Village of Webberville, Village Council President at (517) 521-3984 at least two (2) working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to provide reasonable accommodations.

Jessica Kuch, MiCPT, MiPMC
Village of Webberville
Clerk/Treasurer
(1-25-26 FNV)

Williamston Farm & Artisan Market Bottle-Can Fundraiser on Feb. 1st

The Williamston Farm & Artisan Market holds twice-monthly bottle and can collection fundraisers, located in the large parking lot of McCormick Park, 123 High Street in Williamston, from 11am to 1pm, no matter the weather. The next one is on Sunday, Feb. 1st.

Load up the car, pull up to the *Can Van*, pop the trunk, and volunteers will cheerfully accept your generous donation. It's that easy, and every dime helps defray the costs of running the Market.

Upcoming collection dates are: February 1 & 15; March 1 & 15; April 5 & 19 and May 3rd. The 2026 Market Opening Day is Sunday, May 10th, Mother's Day.

Vendors are invited to follow the Market on Facebook and get on the mailing list for the 2026 season: Williamston

Farm & Artisan Market-Vendor Info. Look for postings on Facebook and emails in late January or February 2026, with info about vendor applications for the 2026 Market season!

If your business collects bottles and cans, consider donating them as well. Special collections can be made directly at business addresses during the week. Just call Jane Reagan (517-525-4177) to make arrangements for special pick-ups.

Interested in becoming a *Market Day Supporter*? For any individual, business or friend of the Market, a \$100 contribution funds expenses unique to a Market day theme. The 2026 Market Opening Day is Sunday, May 10th, *Mother's Day* providing 23 Sundays available for your support.

For more information about Sowing Growth, the non-profit organization that operates the Williamston Farm and Artisan Market, to apply to become a vendor, to become a Market

Day Supporter, to become a yearly Market Sponsor, to be added to the newsletter email list, to volunteer or to donate to the Market, contact MarketManager@SowingGrowth.org.

Livingston County Concert Band to perform 'Passport to Music' Feb. 22nd

The Livingston County Concert Band will be under the direction of Dale Marzewski for their upcoming concert 'Passport to Music' at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 22, 2026. The concert will be presented at the Rod Bushey Performing Arts Center, Howell High School, 1200 West Grand River Ave., Howell. This concert features music from around the world. Admission is \$10. 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.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 25, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael R Fluhart and Kristina Fluhart, Husband and Wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns

Foreclosing Assignee: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC

Date of Mortgage: July 30, 2016

Date of Mortgage Recording: August 12, 2016

Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: \$348,605.78

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Hartland, Livingston County, Michigan, and are described as: A part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 19, Town 3 North, Range 6 East, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of Section 19, Town 3 North, Range 6 East, thence South 01 degrees 00 minutes 20 seconds East 165.05 feet along the West line of Section 19 and the centerline of Hacker Road to the East 1/4 corner of Section 24, Town 3 North, Range 5 East, Oceloa Township, Livingston County, Michigan, thence continuing South 01 degrees 00 minutes 20 seconds East 451.08 feet along said Section line and Centerline for a Place of Beginning; thence North 88 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds East 468.60 feet; thence South 01 degrees 00 minutes 20 seconds East 200.00 feet; thence South 88 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds West 468.60 feet; thence North 01 degrees 00 minutes 20 seconds West 200.00 feet along said Section line and Centerline to the Place of Beginning. Commonly Known as: 2362 N Hacker Rd., Howell, MI 48855

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies.

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

Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: 01/18/2026

Potestivo & Associates, P.C.

251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307
248-853-4400
320468

(01-18)(02-08)

(1-18, 1-25, 2-1 & 2-8-26 FNV)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 25, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michelle Rhyne and Alexander Brown, wife and husband

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

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC

Date of Mortgage: October 12, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 20, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$160,408.31

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Genoa, Livingston County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 75, Grand Beach No. 3, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 16 of Plats, Page 9, Livingston County Records

Common street address (if any): 6915 Rink Dr, Brighton, MI 48114-9440

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

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

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

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 25, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1582461
(01-25)(02-15)

(1-25, 2-1, 2-8 & 2-15-26 FNV)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE -

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement.

Notice is given under section 49c of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1449c, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Jessica Arkwright, a single woman

Original Mortgagee: Flagstar Bank, FSB

Date of mortgage: February 26, 2019

Recorded on March 13, 2019, in Document No. 2019R-005654, and re-recorded via Loan Modification recorded on September 29, 2022 in Document No. 2022R-025947

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Michigan State Housing Development Authority

Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Eighty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-One and 31/100 Dollars (\$181,831.31)

Mortgaged premises: Situated in Livingston County, and described as: LOT 6 OF NEWMAN'S POST LANE FARMS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN LIBER 8 OF PLATS, PAGE(S) 42, LIVINGSTON COUNTY RECORDS. Commonly known as 11915 Post Ln, South Lyon, MI 48178

The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 125.1449v, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 125.1449v(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238.

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

Michigan State Housing Development Authority

Mortgagee/Assignee

Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.

23938 Research Dr, Suite 300

Farmington Hills, MI 48335

248.539.7400

1582468
(01-18)(02-08)

(1-18, 1-25, 2-1 & 2-8-26 FNV)

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(01-18)(02-08)

(1-18, 1-25, 2-1 & 2-8-26 FNV)

Letter to the Editor

I'm Exhausted

I'm exhausted! Trump, his MAGA misfits and their persistent attempts to dismantle our democracy have worn me out. For the last 10 years, rarely a day goes by without a new estranged event to consider. Is it merely unbridled stupidity or a sophisticated series of diversions designed to keep us from focusing on the promises that got him elected?

Never let it be said that I didn't give the President and his squad their due. To give us a "Greater America", preparations were made for Trump to sign a record-setting number of executive orders in his first 100 days in office (143; Oregon Public Broadcasting).

Elimination of independent agencies like the Institute of Museum and Library Services and USAID made us domestically more cultured and internationally more respected. Less money for libraries and the starvation of millions, a small price to pay.

75,000 government jobs were eliminated cutting fat and government spending (Office of Management and Budget).

Who needs better service at Social Security offices anyhow?

Significant restructuring and funding for public education. If the states want strong programming like special education, advanced placement classes, early childhood and expanded vocational education, well, they can pay for it; right?

Promises of lower costs for groceries, affordable housing, gas, electricity, safer cities, no more "forever wars" and low-cost comprehensive health care for all. All in all, we feel "greater", don't we?

Come on, after nearly 50 years of "set up" by conservative Republicans (Heritage Foundation, Contract with America, Freedom Caucus, DOGE, Project 2025) we all know what the end game is meant to be. "Making America Great Again" means making the already rich richer and the working class less great. Ah, but the worm appears to have turned. Increasing numbers of Americans including members of Congress are expressing their displeasure with "MAGA Mania". More importantly and daily, it becomes more evident to the architects of MAGA and their loyalists that "we the people" are not stupid and uninterested. Dissent continues to grow with each act of abomination.

It's always important and difficult to sort through the clutter that characterizes the news that Trump consciously creates daily. Purposefully, it creates an environment of fear of life in Trump's authoritarian world and distracts us from the issues that, at least for now, are most important for valued existence: physical safety and economic security. Our primary focus, therefore, must be to exercise our right to peacefully demonstrate our disdain with Trump's escalating paramilitary presence in our cities and the dismal economic policies that continue to negatively impact the overwhelming majority of Americans regardless of political affiliation.

I believe, at the end of the day, with the obvious exceptions excluded, we have much more in common with each other than not. Let it be known to all that we are strong because of our commonalities, our needs and our vision. Continue (or start) demonstrating our collective wisdom with positive and relentless actions.

Roy Neal
Linden

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on FEBRUARY 25, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on MARCH 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Russell William Jinkens, a married man

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

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

Date of Mortgage: August 20, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 20, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$523,071.56

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Tyrone, Livingston County, Michigan, and described as: Parcel B: A part of the Southwest fractional 1/4 of Section 31 Town 4 North, Range 6 East, Michigan, described as follows: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of said Section; thence South 01 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds West along the West line of said Section and the centerline of McGuire Road, 736.32 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel to be described; thence South 89 degrees 38 minutes 16 seconds East 500.00 feet thence South 01 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds West 200.00 feet, thence North 89 degrees 38 minutes 16 seconds West 500.00 feet thence North 01 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds East along the West line of said Section and the centerline of McGuire Road, 200.00 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to easements, right of ways and restrictions of record.

Common street address (if any): 6140 McGuire Rd, Fenton, MI 48430-8963

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

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

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

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 11, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1581608

(01-11)(02-01)

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

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Livingston County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on MARCH 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Ronald R. Kregoski AKA Ronald R. Kregoski, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for American Advisors Group, Mortgagee, dated November 23, 2020 and recorded December 10, 2020 in Instrument Number 2020R-045703 Livingston County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Carrington Mortgage Services LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Three Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Two and 3/100 Dollars (\$377,892.03).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Livingston County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on MARCH 4, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Green Oak, Livingston County Michigan, and are described as:

Part of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 and part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 29, Town 1 North, Range 6 East, Michigan, described as beginning at the Southeast corner of the North 1/2 of the North 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 29; thence North 677 feet; thence West 289 feet; thence Southwesterly along a line parallel with and 249 feet Easterly of the centerline of Old Highway U.S. 23, a distance of 680 feet; thence East 357 feet to the point of beginning; subject to the rights of the public over the Westerly 70 feet in Old Highway U.S. 23.

10425 Fieldcrest Dr, Brighton, Michigan 48116

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: January 11, 2026

File No. 25-015482

Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(01-11)(02-01)

(1-11, 1-18, 1-25 & 2-1-26 FNV)

Dated: January 25, 2026

File No. 25-015499

Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(01-25)(02-15)

(1-25, 2-1, 2-8 & 2-15-26 FNV)

(1-11, 1-18, 1-25 & 2-1-26 FNV)

NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIED SECTION

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After 48 years A&J Cartage is winding down. Al & Jane are retiring. All equipment, trucks, trailers, and parts are for sale, plus the 2-acre industrial lot in Howell. Call or Text Al @ 517-861-0515.

* * *

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James Sylvester Scott Pettis Nathan Dolman

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE CIRCUIT COURT SALE BELOW WILL BE
ADJOURNED FROM 01/28/2026 TO 02/04/2026
Case No. 25-32668-CH Circuit Court Sale

In pursuance and by virtue of an Order Granting Motion for Default Judgment and for Judicial Foreclosure as to All Defendants in the Circuit Court for the County of Livingston, State of Michigan, made and entered on the 27th of June, A.D., 2025 in a certain cause therein pending, wherein Michigan State Housing Development Authority was the Plaintiff and Travis A. Hernandez and The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development were the Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I shall sell at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the Livingston County Courthouse (that being the place of holding the Circuit Court for said County), on the 19th of November, A.D., 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: A certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Oceola, County of Livingston, State of Michigan: Lots 4 and 5 and the South 50 feet of Lots 1, 2, and 3, Block 1, of OAKWOODS COUNTRY CLUB SUBDIVISION, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page(s) 77, Livingston County Records. 4707-30-301-367 c/k/a: 1487 Butler Blvd, Howell, MI 48843

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale. Except 1 year redemption ONLY for the United States of America.

John Whitehurst, Deputy Sheriff /s/ Gregory MacKay
Gregory MacKay of Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.
Attorney for Michigan State Housing Development Authority
Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.
23938 Research Dr, Suite 300
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
1573188
(01-25)

(1-25-26 FNV)

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* * *

FOR SALE: POWER WHEELCHAIR. Less than 10 hours usage. Pride Jazzy EVO 614 HD. Paid \$4,078 new. \$700 firm. Call 517-798-9620 for specification sheet, pictures, original invoice, and sales receipt—’take it for a ride!’

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FURNITURE FOR SALE: Solid oak bunk bed, round dining table, entertainment center, dining room set. 517-861-0515.

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News that State of Michigan can expect reduced revenues of \$1 billion in General Fund drew various responses

By Nick Smith
Gongwer News Service

News last week that the State of Michigan can expect reduced revenues of \$1 billion in the General Fund drew various responses.

Republicans called for reining in state spending following a significant downward revision in expected revenues by budget officials, saying the revision proves that their stance on cutting government is correct.

Democrats and budget officials were by contrast aligned in saying the downward revision was not unexpected due to significant federal funding changes being factored into last year's budget negotiations. They said they expected tough decisions in this year's budget talks but anticipated that the state can continue funding the state's top priorities.

During Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference that took place on Friday, Jan 16th, officials with the Department of Treasury, the House Fiscal Agency and the Senate Fiscal Agency agreed on a \$779.4 million downward revision of expected revenues between the General Fund and School Aid Fund for fiscal year 2026.

This was down about 2% from the conference's May 2025 estimate. The decrease for General Fund was \$980.5 million and for School Aid Fund the increase was \$201.1 million.

For fiscal year 2026-27 combined General Fund and School Aid Fund revenues were revised downward by about \$1.1 billion. The decrease for General Fund was by \$1.27 billion and the increase for School Aid Fund was \$169.7 million.

State Treasurer Rachael Eubanks told reporters following the revenue conference that her main takeaways on the revised estimate were that there is stability in the economy and consistency in the state's budget forecasts.

“None of these revenue adjustments were a surprise,” Eubanks said. “These impacts are being included in the revenue estimates for the first time, but those changes began at the start of the fiscal year back in October and these fund shifts were known about and included in the enacted fiscal year '26 balanced budget.”

Budget Director Jen Flood told reporters the past year has “been a rollercoaster” with actions on the federal level by the current administration including the federal tax cut law changes and attempts to freeze or revoke federal funds to the state.

“The federal government is passing the buck and handing the tab to states across the country, including Michigan, and we've taken some important steps to mitigate that damage here in our state, but it's going to continue to apply pressure to the state budget for fiscal year '27 and beyond,” Flood said.

Flood added there will be tough decisions that need to be made in the upcoming budget.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will use the January CREC numbers as the basis of her recommendation for the 2026-27 fiscal year budget she will unveil in February.

Total General Fund revenue for fiscal year 2026 under the estimate was \$14.13 billion and for 2027 the estimate was \$14.07 billion. For the School Aid Fund, 2026 revenue was estimated at \$19.13 billion and for 2027 revenue was estimated to be \$19.57 billion.

Flood said despite the challenges facing the state in addressing the effects of federal funding changes and the slowdown in revenue, the state should be able to craft a strong budget.

“Getting the budget done this year won't be a cakewalk, given some of these unique challenges that we're facing, but we can do hard things,” Flood said.

She echoed Eubanks' point that the revised estimate largely stems from addressing federal funding changes as well as passage of a long-term road funding deal.

“Those changes that we made impact the revenues going forward in different ways including sending more money to state and local roads, but we have baked those numbers into our balance sheet, and so they're showing up at CREC for the first time, but they're not a surprise to any of the parties that have been at the table,” Flood said.

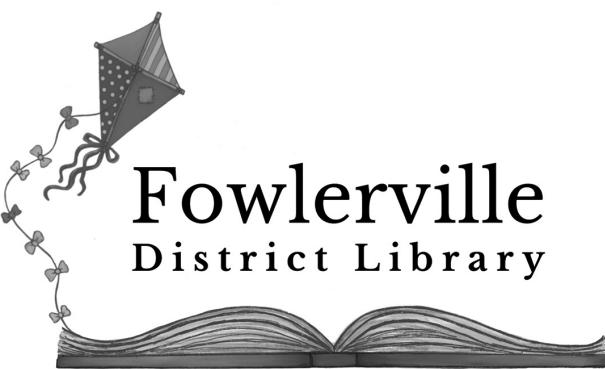
House Speaker Matt Hall, R-Richland Township, in a statement issued prior to the end of Friday's CREC gave himself a pat on the back regarding the agreed-upon revenue projections, saying his approach to the budget since last year in pushing for deep budget cuts had been proven correct.

“When House Republicans cut \$800 million in waste, fraud, and abuse, eliminated 2,000 ghost employees, and stopped the \$645 million in government slush fund spending, we took the correct, responsible approach to fixing our state budget,” Hall said. “We now have to keep doing what House Republicans did in the last budget. Eliminate more ghost jobs. Stop the Democrat pork spending. And slash even more waste, fraud, and abuse.”

When asked about Republican lawmakers stating that the revenue estimate was a justification for their views on spending levels and waste, fraud and abuse, Flood repeated that the numbers were expected due to last year's negotiations.

She added the governor's budget proposal will continue to focus on funding past priorities including improving student

Continued on page 24



Where your *imagination* soars

Upcoming Events

Monday – Wednesday: 9:30 am to 7:00 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am to 8:00 pm

Friday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

For any questions, or to register for programs, call us at 517-223-9089.

KIDS & FAMILY

Homeschool Hangout

This is a fun drop-in program for homeschoolers to connect with one another over games and activities. Each session includes a STEAM activity. Wed, Feb 4 & 18 • 1-2pm

Family Storytime (Ages 1-5)

For families with “littles” to learn, play and grow through a variety of stories, songs, rhymes, movements, and activities. Playtime and crafts included! Tues • 10-11am

Toddler Storytime (Ages 0-3)

A storytime for the “littlest littles” to learn, play, and grow through a variety of stories, songs, rhymes and movements that appeal to short attention spans. Wed • 10-11am

Kids Club (Ages 6-12)

All the fun of Lego Club, but with more! Now you can play a game, complete a craft or activity, and still build with your favorite bricks. Thurs. • 4pm

Graphic Novel Book Club

Read the book and then come to discuss it. Snacks provided. Books are available at the front desk and are yours to keep. We will be discussing DETECTIVE BEANS ADVENTURES IN CAT TOWN. Mon, Jan 26 • 4pm

Book Boxes (All ages)

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

Reading Dragons (All Ages)

Game on! Read to earn creature cards to collect and play games! Can you collect them all? Stop by the library to grab a reading log and a starter set to begin your adventure.

Reading Dragon Break-In Bags (Ages 6+)

Our library dragon, Paige, has been kidnapped and locked up! Follow the clues with the help of Detective Magnum to figure out how to break her out. Participants will earn the exclusive Magnum card and Paige family pack. Second grade reading proficiency is needed to participate. Registration is Required. Tues, Feb 17 • 1-2pm & 4-5pm

Live Homework Help

Free with your library card! Log on to HelpNow, click “Live Help”, Enter subject and grade level and enter the online classroom for expert assistance. You can find a link on our homepage.

Sensory Playtime (Ages 2-5)

This is a drop-in playtime filled with unstructured, sensory fun! Watch your littles use their imaginations to turn everyday things into toys. Caregiver supervision is required. Friday, Feb 20 • 10-11am

Spark Club (Ages 10-13)

Find your spark in a variety of creative ways at one of these programs, just for pre-teens (sorry, no younger siblings). Come to make things with polymer clay.

Sat, Feb 28 • 1-2pm

TEENS

Origami (Teens Age 13+)

Learn or practice origami skills. Instructions are provided for those without prior experience or who need a refresher.

Thurs, Feb 5 • 3-4pm

Button Making (Teens Age 13+)

Create your own unique pinback buttons, or build one from an existing design. Thurs, Feb 12 • 3-4pm

Murder Mystery Puzzle Boxes (Teens Age 14+)

Immerse yourself in the mystery as you try to solve one of these puzzle boxes. Handle clues, profile suspects, and find the killer with your deductive reasoning.

Thurs, Feb 19 • 3-4pm

Dungeons & Dragons (Ages 12-18)

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

Switch Free Play (Ages 10-18)

Open gaming time with the library's Switch.

Fridays • 2:30-5pm

Maker Space Open House (All Ages)

Join us for a Maker's Space Open House. Connor will be on hand to help with the 3D Printer and Glowforge. What will you create? Tues • 4-5 pm

Make Your Own Bookmarks (Age 13+)

Make a bookmark of your own design, whether to use for yourself or to donate to others.

Tues, 1/27 • 3-4 pm

Investing 101 for Teens (Ages 13+)

You're a teen; you have a job, and you work hard for your money. Come and learn the basics of investing to make your money work for you. Presented by Steve MacDermaid from Edward Jones. Thurs, Jan 29 • 3-4pm

ADULTS

Find Your People at the Library (Adults)

We are thrilled to continue this popular working group to explore the Ancestry Library Edition and other valuable genealogy resources. Bring your laptop or use one of our computers. Wed, Feb 18 • 2-3:30 pm

Cardmaking (Adults)

Enjoy camaraderie and cards at this popular program. You will make four different cards to take home. All supplies included. Registration is required.

Thurs, Feb 26 • 6:00 pm & Fri, Feb 27 • 11am

Scrapbooking (Adults)

Make the most of your memories and join us for a fun day of scrapbooking your favorite photos. Stay the whole time or for just a few hours. Everyone gets their own table. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration is required. Sat, Feb 21 • 10:30 – 3:30pm

Shelf Indulgence Book Club (Adults)

Members take turns facilitating the discussions. Come and enjoy some literary camaraderie! Register to get a free copy of the book, while supplies last. Registration begins one month before each scheduled meeting. Next up we will discuss THE BANNED BOOKSHOP OF MAGGIE BANKS by Shauna Robinson. Thurs, Feb 19 • 2-3pm

Sewing (Adults)

Bring your sewing machine and learn from a master seamstress. All levels of skill are welcome. Registration is required. Wed, Feb 18 • 5:30pm & Fri, Feb 13 • 10-2 pm

Paper Bag Junk Journal (Adults)

Follow along with the Craft & Hobby Artist's Academy to make a paper bag junk journal. Quick and easy, totally customizable and so much fun! Supplies provided.

Friday, Feb 6 • 11 am

Holistic Wellness (Adults)

Lyndsey Johnson from Natural Roots and Wellness presents workshops for promoting health and vitality through holistic practice. She will be discussing hormones.

Mon, Feb 2 • 5 pm

The Library Lounge (Adults)

Bring your own book, or read one of ours, and come to our monthly after-hours silent reading ungroup for adults 18+. Enjoy a “mocktail”, pub snacks and find a comfy chair for uninterrupted, delicious silence for an hour. We will have a book discussion area for those who want to talk about what they are reading, but the rest of the library is for those who want to read in peace. Registration is required. Adults only. Tues, Feb 10 • 7-8:30 pm

Senior “Appy Hours”

Learn how to use that app, cancel subscriptions, register for telehealth, or anything else tech related on your phone or computer. Sign up for a 30-minute one-on-one help with an expert. Call the front desk at (517) 223-9089 to reserve a spot. Wed Feb 11 • 2-4pm

Talking Cars with Automotive Journalist Robin Warner

Robin Warner, from CAR AND DRIVER, talks cars. What's it like to drive a super car from McLaren or the new minivan from Kia, Chevy Silverado, Corvette, or anything in between? As a 20-year veteran journalist, Robin Warner has reviewed them all and looks forward to answering your questions about the cars of today. He will be here right after attending the North American Auto Show with the latest scoop. Thurs, Jan 29 • 6pm

Peace Corps: “Make the World Your Classroom”

Discover how the Peace Corps sends young people around the globe to teach, support communities, and learn new cultures from the inside out. Learn how the Peace Corps can turn those dreams into reality. Tues, Jan 27 • 6pm

So You Think You Can Puzzle! Puzzle Challenge

Register your team of up to 4 people to compete to complete an identical puzzle in the fastest time. Single registrants will be paired with other singles. Prizes will be awarded, and refreshments will be served. This month's puzzle features a Valentine theme. Thurs, Feb 12 • 6pm

Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald 50th Anniversary

Shipwreck historian, Ric Mixter, is one of only a handful of people who have visited the wreck personally. He explored the site for over an hour at a depth of 550 feet. It was the beginning of over 20 years of research for Mixter. Join us to mark this grim anniversary. Registration is required.

Thurs, Feb 19 • 6pm

Repair Cafe

Don't throw it away! Bring your broken items here for repair and advice from handymen. Sat, Feb 28 • 10-12pm

Did You Know?

Did you know that we are a food collection location for the Family Impact Center? Non-perishable foods may be dropped off in the cafe area, and we thank you!

A Friendly Reminder

We are happy to be fine-free, however after a book is 8 weeks overdue the item will be withdrawn from our system and can no longer be returned. A library lost/replacement fee will be applied to the account. Please return your items on time so that others can enjoy them too.

IOSCO TOWNSHIP SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES January 15th, 2026

The regular meeting of the Iosco Township Board was held on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. Members Present: Dailey, Harman, Miller, & Parker. Bonville was absent. The following action was taken: 1) Motion to approve the agenda as amended. 2) 1st. Call to the Public: The public was heard from 3) Motion to adopt the proposed Regular Meeting Minutes from 12/18/2025 4) Clerk's report. 5) Treasurer's report. 6) Motion to pay \$43,216.44 in Township bills. 7) Fire Board update was heard. 8) Planning Commission update was heard. 9) Assessor & Zoning Administrator's report was heard. 10) Motion to accept the Agreement for the Collection of Summer School Property Taxes for Fowlerville, Howell, Ingham County, and LESA at a rate of \$4.00 per parcel. 11) Motion to approve the 2026 Iosco Township Board Meeting Dates. 12) Motion to approve the quote from Midstate Recreation for the reapplication of playground engineered wood fiber safety surfacing for \$2,585.00. 13) Former Clerk Dan Delmerico presented the Board with a check for the purchase and installation of an eight-foot stainless steel slide for the Iosco Township Hall park. 14) Motion to accept the Amended Master Deed for Arcadia Estates Site Condominium. 15) 2nd Call to the Public: The public was heard from. 16) Motion to adjourn at 7:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Dailey
Iosco Township Clerk
(1-25-26 FNV)

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Support for literacy improvements among Michigan Dept. of Education's 2026 legislative priorities

Support for literacy improvement efforts and adequate and equitable school funding are among the requests the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has for the Michigan Legislature in 2026.

Today the department sent its annual legislative priorities letter to all state legislators.

"If we want to put Students First and address the priority of improving student literacy, we must all work together on the same team," State Superintendent Dr. Glenn Maleyko said. "I am looking forward to collaborating with our partners in the State Senate, House, and with Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Doing what's best for our children is a bipartisan issue. I really look forward to collaborating with the legislature and governor to get things done in 2026."

The priorities are aligned with Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan and MDE's efforts to put Students First.

The legislative priorities include:

- Support on further implementation of the historic October 2024 literacy and dyslexia laws to build upon those laws and the recent Michigan Literacy Summit hosted by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Maleyko. Among other improvements, MDE is calling for legislative support in making Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training in the science of reading mandatory for all elementary educators in Michigan.
- Continued legislative support for adequate and equitable school funding. The letter notes important progress in increasing school funding in recent budgets and calls for a continuation of that trend, particularly in funding for economically disadvantaged students, English learners, students with disabilities, early childhood education and pupil transportation.
- Ensuring that students who are experiencing homelessness or are involved in the juvenile justice system are protected from having their education disrupted—as is the case with students experiencing foster care under new laws from 2024.
- Expanding learning opportunities, including summer programs that combine academic support, enrichment and social and emotional development.
- Establishing a balanced statewide assessment system to ensure that the statewide tests are aligned to instructional goals and meaningful data to support teaching and learning.
- Technology funding, including funding for statewide guidance regarding the use of artificial intelligence in schools and to establish a statewide technology and innovation framework with hands-on learning opportunities and professional learning for educators.
- Continued investment to expand career and technical education.
- Modernizing state policies related to the educator workforce to protect students, reduce unnecessary burdens on educators and districts and ensure that accountability measures are targeted, effective and aligned with today's educational realities.
- Better supporting students' health and well-being, including by codifying into law the Michigan School Meals program that provides one breakfast and one lunch daily at no cost to all Michigan public school students. Currently the program is subject to approval in the budget every fiscal year.
- Funding the Blue Ribbon Schools program, which had been operated by the U.S. Department of Education to recognize outstanding schools prior to the federal government eliminating its program last year and asking states to take over the recognition.
- Making changes to the retirement system for Michigan educators so that it's easier for educators to transition from local districts to the Michigan Department of Education without losing retirement funds.

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Reduced revenues of \$1 billion, continued

literacy, lowering costs for residents and improving access to health care.

House Appropriations Committee Chair Rep. Ann Bollin, R-Brighton, told reporters after the vote that the \$1 billion hole supports the House Republicans' approach to the budget for the current fiscal year, staying "very prudent."

Going into the next budget cycle, she said it's important to have a united front in cutting more expenses and a "return to prosperity for the state."

"It's one thing to cut waste, fraud and abuse," Bollin said. "It's another one that when we're really going to have to draw back, and I think that's what we're going to see next year. I do think that there's probably more waste in state government." One standout from the forecast, Bollin is focused on is "people fleeing the state," wanting to find more ways to attract people. She said she will be monitoring the reduced number in school population presented on Friday, seeing if it's parents leaving, a decline in birth rates or having an overall aging population.

When it comes to the possible risks outlined by economists that could change the forecast like geopolitics or the possibility of pulling out of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, she said she remains optimistic, saying the economy looks to remain at status quo, and seeing that so far, the tariffs are not having that harmful outcome that was predicted outright.

"Our businesses are smart," Bollin said. "They adjusted beforehand."

Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Sen. Sarah Anthony, D-Lansing, in a statement said Democrats in recent years had produced a structurally sound budget with a focus on spending on key long-term priorities.

"As revenue growth flattens, we will remain committed to governing with discipline and maturity, always keeping the needs of the people and the financial health of the state top of mind," Anthony said. "Thanks to the smart investments and extremely accurate forecasting of our state economists, I am confident in our state's ability to create another fiscally responsible budget that delivers real results for the people of Michigan."

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