

Fowlerville NEWS & VIEWS

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FOWLerville, MI
PERMIT NO. 3

Postal Customer ECRWSSDDM

www.fowlervillenevsnandviews.com
fowlervillenevsn@gmail.com

"Serving the Local Communities"

Volume XXXVIII No. 7

Sunday, February 13, 2022

Published Weekly



These members of the Fowlerville Fire Department were among those who received recognition at the department's recent Awards Banquet & Program. From left, are Assistant Fire Chief Mike LeMieux who was among those receiving a Meritorious Service Award; Ethan Wilt, a probationary firefighter who received a Meritorious Service Award and a Life Saving Award; Nathan Meloche, who was named the Firefighter of the Year for 2021 and also received a Meritorious Service Award and a Life Saving Award; Sgt. Mike Takovich, who chairs the Awards Program and also received a Meritorious Service Award and a Life Saving Award; and Fire Chief Bob Feig, who received a Meritorious Service Award and a Life Saving Award.

Fowlerville Fire Department holds annual awards banquet

The Fowlerville Fire Department held its annual Awards Banquet & Program at the Olden Days Café on Jan. 29. Most of the department members were in attendance, along with their guests, a couple of fire board members, and state Senator Lana Theis.

The main award was for the 2021 Firefighter of the Year, which was presented to Nathan Meloche. Eleven members were given Meritorious Service Awards—also called Challenge Coins—nine were given Life Saving Awards, and there was a Special Recognition Award.

Sgt. Mike Takovich, who chaired the event, said that at least

two nominees are considered for the Firefighter of the Year award, with the Association voting on who they feel best meets the criteria of meritorious service, including their dealings with the community.

"We had three nominees this year and Nathan received the most votes," Takovich said,

Meloche, a 2020 graduate of Fowlerville High School, has been with the local department for the past two years. He currently works as a part-time firefighter and EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) during the afternoon shift. He is also a full-time firefighter and EMT with NIESA at their Williamston station, working 24-hour shifts.

While in high school, he attended the Howell High School

continued on page 4



YOUR Safety is OUR #1 Priority!

FOWLerville DENTAL CENTER

Emergencies
seen same
day!

175 W. Van Riper Road, Fowlerville, MI 48836

CALL US TODAY AT: 517-223-3779 OR VISIT US AT: WWW.FOWLervilleDENTAL.COM

- 💧 Surgically Clean Air Purifiers
- 💧 99.995% Aerosol & Droplet Removers
- 💧 Proper PPE

\$50 OFF NEW PATIENT TREATMENT*

*Must present ad at appointment.
Some restrictions may apply. Expires 2/28/2022.

FREE EMERGENCY EXAM AND X-RAY*

*Must present ad at appointment.
Some restrictions may apply. Expires 2/28/2022.

ALL KIDS WITH APPOINTMENTS IN FEBRUARY WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN A \$50 GIFT CARD!

February is Children's Dental Health Month!



Fowlerville High School CTE Student of the Week



Kylie Steffee

Congratulations to this week's Career Technical Education Student of the Week at Fowlerville High School, Kylie Steffee! Kylie is being recognized for her efforts in the Agriscience program through Livingston Career & Technical Education. This program, held on campus at Fowlerville High School, brings in students from around Livingston county who share an interest in agriculture, food, and natural resources. Students have the opportunity to be a part of FHS's local FFA chapter which provides opportunities to participate in leadership, skills, and public speaking contests hosted by FFA.

Kylie recently participated in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking contest through FFA. This is a contest where students are provided with a topic having to do with agriculture and must answer off the cuff. Kylie first competed against her classmates and took first place. She then moved on to the district competition and won there as well. She is one of two students moving on to compete in the regional competition next week! Kylie's topic in the district competition was agricultural literacy. She spoke of her desire to educate the public about the agricultural field and bring hands-on experiences to others, so they can understand the opportunities and misconceptions.

When asked about her favorite part of class, Kylie shared she enjoys how this class goes above and beyond learning only about agricultural science. She shared that there are a number of other skills students learn through the program. These include public speaking skills as well as social skills. Students receive practice on these skills by collaborating daily with students from other high schools, as well as attending FFA workshops and events with students located throughout the state.

Kylie is undecided on which specific career path she is going to take, but did share that she is positive this is the field she wants to be in. A definite highlight for her has been how through this program students have been exposed to the many career opportunities available in the industry. Kylie stated, "This program, specifically the teacher, Mr. Refior, has inspired me so much and showed me that there are numerous job opportunities in the ag industry."

When asked about some specific things she has learned in class this year, Kylie shared, "This year we have done so many cool projects. From working with the bee hives, to restoring old furniture, to raising market birds, and growing fresh crops. Not only do we do physical labor, we also have worked on preparing for leadership contests, and learned about the hydroponic plant systems."

To those considering adding this program to their schedule in the future, Kylie advised, "I would tell them to definitely take this class, there is something for everyone in this course. Most people assume this class is only for people who have past experience in farming or have raised animals, but this course prepares you for a plethora of job opportunities. The FFA standpoint helps you expand your public speaking skills and really helps you feel comfortable when speaking in front of others."

Congratulations once again to Kylie Steffee!

Sponsored by:



**127 N. Grand Ave., Fowlerville
517-223-8014**

Investigation reveals that Fowlerville basketball player made a racial slur, prompting retraction by superintendent

By Steve Horton

After initially denying that a racial slur had been made by a Fowlerville basketball player during a recent game with Haslett, School Superintendent Wayne Roedel said that further investigation revealed that the incident had occurred. This new evidence prompted him to send a letter to the news media, retracting his earlier statement.

A story about "an alleged racial incident" had originally appeared on the *Lansing State Journal's* web site on Feb. 2 and was reported by the *Fowlerville News & Views* in last week's issue. The articles noted that 'the slur' was one of three allegations that had been made.

The *Journal* reported that a Haslett couple had contacted that school's administrators and coaches, stating that their son and his teammates "faced racial slurs and heckling by Fowlerville players and fans at the Jan. 27 game" that was played in Fowlerville.

According to the *Journal's* story, the couple accused Fowlerville players of directing anti-Black racial slurs toward their son and other Haslett players. They further accused fans in the Fowlerville student section of "standing up (and) making loud monkey motions and sounds" while black Haslett players shot free throws.

It was noted in the article that these sounds could be heard in a video of the game.

The couple, in their email, also accused the Fowlerville athletic director and police liaison officer of allowing the students to remain at the game "after being alerted to their behavior," calling it "dismissive and blatant inaction."

Roedel had responded to the allegations with a letter sent to the *Journal* reporter and shared with the *News & Views* in which he denied that Fowlerville players used racial slurs, based on a preliminary investigation. He did say that Fowlerville School officials were "investigating conduct in the student section," agreeing that some monkey noises were made and that he had discussed the incident with Haslett administrators.

Roedel, in his letter, defended the manner in which the complaint by the Haslett parent was handled at the time, going into detail on how the police liaison officer contacted the high school athletic director Brian Osborn who was elsewhere in the building. Roedel explained that Osborn pulled the accused students aside to talk to them but felt he didn't have enough evidence to remove them from the game. With the contest nearly over, he decided to report the allegation to the Haslett athletic director and the Fowlerville High School principal, with a plan to follow up the next day with an investigation.

Roedel noted that it was that investigation that confirmed racial taunts and gestures had been made by some student fans.

This past Tuesday, Roedel shared a follow-up letter he had sent to the *Journal* reporter, retracting his earlier denial that (he said) was "based on my incomplete understanding of the allegations and facts of the incidents that occurred during two separate games while Haslett was competing in basketball against Fowlerville High School."

"I still contend that the building administration acted promptly on this matter at the time," Roedel said in answer to one of the allegations, but added, "It is accurate that one of our players used a racial slur in the JV game."

The Haslett parent had approached the police liaison officer during the second half of the varsity game, accusing the student fans of making the racial taunts and gestures during that latter contest.

In his follow-up letter, the superintendent stated:

"Upon completion of a thorough investigation by Fowlerville High School administration, the following was found to be accurate:

1. Racist slurs were directed toward at least one Haslett player from a Fowlerville athlete during a JV basketball game, and
2. Monkey noises were made from the student section while a Haslett player was shooting free throws at the varsity game.

"This is unfortunate and totally unacceptable behavior from individuals from Fowlerville High School and runs contrary to Board policy and approved behavior standards in the FHS student code of conduct," Roedel said.

"After a complete and thorough investigation, students that were involved in this behavior have been given consequences for their actions per the student code of conduct and the situation has been used as a learning opportunity for others in the school," he continued. "The Fowlerville High School administration and I have reached out to Haslett's administration and communicated our deepest apologies for this incident and have offered to address the teams involved if they feel that is appropriate.

"It is my understanding that prior to the next contest with each other, the teams will be working together to promote a greater understanding of the impact of racial slurs and other

racist behaviors on individuals of color by openly supporting each other with sportsmanship, team handshakes and by wearing unity t-shirts," Roedel noted. "It is our hope that this show of support for each other will illustrate our willingness to learn from mistakes as well as help those individuals heal that may have been hurt by these actions."

While initially denying two of the allegations, the Fowlerville superintendent did say that the behavior by the student fans would be dealt with.

"...we will use this incident to continue to educate our students on appropriate behavior and how best to treat guests who come to our school," he stated in his original response. "We do not condone this type of racist behavior and find it unacceptable. It will not be tolerated."

Michiganders who test positive for COVID-19 urged to talk to their health care providers about oral medications

As the supply of oral medications to treat COVID-19 is expanding across the state, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is urging Michiganders to talk with their health care provider if they test positive for COVID-19 to determine if this is the correct treatment for them.

Paxlovid and molnupiravir, which recently received emergency use authorization by the FDA, are designed for the outpatient treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19. Both medications may only be prescribed for patients by physicians, advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants.

When administered to non-hospitalized patients with conditions that put them at high risk of severe illness within five days of symptom onset, these antivirals may reduce symptoms and the risk of hospitalizations and emergency department visits associated with the virus.

Although Michigan has received additional courses of the medications, Priority Eligibility Criteria for therapeutics, including antiviral medication and monoclonal antibody therapy, will remain in effect until the limited supply is able to meet demand and will be periodically reviewed as appropriate. MDHHS continues to strongly recommend getting vaccinated and boosted for the best protection against the virus.

"We urge Michiganders to talk to their health care provider if they test positive for COVID-19 to determine the best treatment course. However, it's important to remember these drugs are still in limited supply and are not a substitution for protecting yourself by getting vaccinated and wearing a mask in public places," said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive.

"Getting vaccinated continues to be the best protection against severe illness and hospitalization, and we urge all Michiganders over age 5 to get vaccinated as soon as possible," he added. "Continue to wear well-fitting masks over your nose and mouth, test and social distance to prevent the spread of COVID19, avoid large gatherings and get vaccinated and boosted if you haven't already."



FRIENDLY, HONEST SERVICE
ANDY SHOWERMAN, OWNER

YOUR FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR SHOP

OIL CHANGES, TUNE UPS, BRAKES,
TIRE REPLACEMENT & BALANCING,
ROUTINE MAINTENANCE, SUSPENSION,
EXHAUST, ELECTRICAL, TRANSMISSION
REPAIR, A/C & HEAT, HEAVY ENGINE
REPAIR, DIAGNOSTICS AND MORE

ANDY'S ACCREDITATIONS:

ASE MASTER CERTIFIED &
STATE OF MICHIGAN MASTER CERTIFIED
GM WORLD CLASS TECHNICIAN
OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

115 SOUTH ANN STREET
(517) 223-7930
showermansgarage.com

Caleb Jenkins Column



A Definitely Non-Political Olympics

I hope you caught the sarcasm in the title of this article. Prior to the start of this year's winter Olympics, China warned athletes and visitors about protesting or making political statements, threatening unspecified punishment for those critical of China's laws and actions. According to Chinese officials, unfavorable political activism would detract from the Olympic spirit, and it seems the International Olympic Committee agrees with this position. Rule 50 of the organizing body bans political, religious, or racial "demonstration" or "propaganda" at the international games. The idea is that the Olympics are a time for nations of the world to set aside differences and compete in a friendly environment of sportsmanship.

Rule 50 has been in place for decades, so why did China feel the need to emphasize the point? What is different this year? Why are athletes, commentators, and public officials walking on eggshells? Well, significant controversy actually surrounded Rule 50 long before the 2022 Olympics. Officials invoked the rule several times over the past fifty plus years to sanction activist athletes, and the policy prominently returned to the spotlight of controversy last year when athletes from the U.S. and around the world demonstrated against inequality and racism.

At that time, some called for Rule 50's abolishment to protect the free speech of athletes wishing to send a message, and others called for stricter policies against activist Olympians to limit politicization of the games and/or deter what they viewed as anti-American sentiment. Your opinion on the matter probably depends on your perspective of the underlying issues and your view on the nature of sports.

Fast forward not quite a year, and we come to China's declaration of a non-political Olympics. Are the Chinese officials truly trying to preserve the spirit of Olympic sportsmanship by preempting any demonstrations?

I suppose the answer is up for debate, but China's actions certainly seem to indicate less altruistic intentions. As you are hopefully aware, China operates a severely repressive regime with intrusive surveillance to maintain tight domestic control. It is not hyperbolic to say the Chinese government manipulates the people of China through a range of coercive policies and technologies to ensure adherence to government control.

Included in this mechanism of repression are the numerous

human rights abuses against the minority Uyghur population in western China. Through intense surveillance, reeducation, propaganda, psychological manipulation, social control, and other unscrupulous tools, the Chinese government is actively seeking to force submission from the Uyghur people. For these and other abuses, many nations diplomatically boycotted the Beijing 2022 Olympics.

This is the main reason why China saw the need to reemphasize a ban on demonstrations. China did not want to risk losing any political influence, especially while performing on the world stage through hosting the Olympics. However, this policy did not eliminate politics from the games. To the contrary, China messaged its own tainted narrative of the Uyghur issue via the Olympic platform, and President Xi Jinping used the opportunity to promote China's worldview, including a show of solidarity with Russian President Vladimir Putin amidst growing tensions near Ukraine.

China did not eliminate politics at the Olympics. China banned unfavorable politics at the Olympics. Despite the goal of friendly sportsmanship, the Olympics have always included significant international political undercurrents. It is good to be aware of them.

Livingston County United Way holding 'Spirit of the Community' on March 2

The Livingston County United Way will be celebrating the 'Spirit of the Community' Annual Meeting in person on Wednesday, March 2, at Crystal Gardens in Howell. The event was held virtually last year, and even though it had some creative and fun parts, it was nothing like getting to celebrate with our community over breakfast. If you have attended this event in the past, you know it will be fun!

Jeff Blagg, the Pastor at SonRise Church and current United Way Board President, will host this year's event. Each year we take the time to celebrate Livingston County and how collaboration and partnership strengthens our community. The program will remind us all that the last couple of years have felt like climbing a mountain, and that thankfully there are community supports available to help each of us on our journey up that mountain.

The 2021 Volunteer of the Year Awards will be presented to local individuals, businesses and youth organizations for their outstanding service to the community in leadership, compassion, and volunteerism. It is inspiring to see the number of people who went above and beyond during this uncertain year.

This year's Spirit of the Community Annual Meeting will take place from 7:30-9 am. Breakfast will be served. Tickets are \$25 and the deadline to register is February 23rd. Please reserve your spot by registering at www.lcunitedway.org, by calling 810-494-3000 or emailing lcuw@lcunitedway.org.

Medicare questions?
We can help!

Debbie Holmes
Medicare Plan Specialist
Livingston County



FARM BUREAU HEALTH SERVICES MICHIGAN
(517) 546-8124 | MFBHealth.com

Jane's Garage New Hours:
Mon, Wed, Fri 8am-5pm
Tues, Thur 8am-6pm
Closed Sat & Sun

Mechanic Shop & Oil Change
(Formerly Randy's Mechanical Shop) Oil Changes
First Come, First Serve

\$3.00 OFF Any Oil Change

- Alignments
- Suspension & Steering
- Brakes • Flushes
- A/C & Heating

Call for an Appointment www.janesgarage.com
(517) 223-5989 • 75 Fowlerville Rd. • Fowlerville

ION
ELECTRIC SERVICES, LLC
COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, RESIDENTIAL
517-223-2302
305 E GRAND RIVER AVE
FOWLERVILLE, MI 48836

Authorized Generator Sales & Service Dealer

GENERAC
AUTHORIZED DEALER

Generator Financing Now Available!

(517) 223-2302 • ionelectric.org

Fowlerville Feed & Pet Supplies Inc.

120 Hale Street • 517-223-9115

“Keep Your Feet Warm”

Dryshod Boots
Rated to -50 degrees
Mens & Womens Styles
Tall & Short

Assorted Winter Gloves

Michigan Wood Fuels
Wood Pellets

\$257.50 full pallet
\$133.75 half pallet
\$5.50 40 lb bag

Check Out our Heated Products for Livestock & Pets

“Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!”

NEW HOURS: Monday - Friday • 8am - 5pm
Saturday • 8am - 1pm

Great Lakes Family RESTAURANT

FOWLERVILLE

FREE WI-FI

FREE WI-FI

Great Food & Friendly Service You won't go away hungry! **Open at 6:00 AM & closing at 9 PM**
7 days a week

NOW HIRING:
2 COOKS AND A DISHWASHER.

Fresh soups made daily!

TUES. - Tomato Soup
FRI. - Clam Chowder
THURS. & SUN. - Goulash
Other Soups Made Daily

IT'S BACK! DAILY AND NIGHTLY SPECIALS!

COME IN AND CHECK THEM OUT ALONG WITH ONE OF OUR DELICIOUS DESSERTS.

WE NOW HAVE LOTTO! Play a Game While You Wait!

963 South Grand • Fowlerville
517-223-1441

5834 Highland Rd • Waterford
248-742-1846

Fowlerville Fire Department holds annual awards banquet, continued

Fire Academy during his junior year and took a Livingston County EMT course during his senior year.

Meloche said that he has been taking online college classes and is considering a career as a conservation officer.

Takovich, in discussing the Meritorious Service Awards, noted that “We’re doing the Challenge Coins as an ongoing project and this is our second year. For a member to receive a coin, they need to have performed 100 hours or more of meritorious service above and beyond their job description over the course of the year.”

The recipients for the 2021 Fowlerville Fire Department Awards Banquet were:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Chief Bob Feig, Assistant Chief Mike LeMieux, Capt. Sean Donohoe, Capt. Tim Kuch, Sergeant Mike Takovich, Sergeant Julie Dailey, Medical Officer Eric Lardie, Firefighter Dale Morey, Firefighter Nathan Meloche, Probationary

Firefighter Ethan Wilt, and Probationary Firefighter Deagun Gonzalez.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS (given for saving a human life on December 28, 2021)

Chief Bob Feig, Captain Sean Donohoe, Captain Tim Kuch, Sergeant Mike Takovich, Sergeant Julie Dailey, Firefighter Nathan Meloche, Firefighter Chris Joseph, Probationary Firefighter Deagun Gonzalez, and Probationary Firefighter Ethan Wilt.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Medical Officer & FF/Paramedic IC, Eric Lardie. This was given for his development of the Fowlerville Fire Department EMS training and continuing education program.

Some Special Recipes

By Dawn Horton

This week’s recipes are from the Before The Blessing Cookbook of the First United Methodist Church of Hastings, Michigan.

The Ham Loaf was always popular at U.M.W. Luncheons and was submitted by the late Bessie Smith who chaired many lunches and dinners at the church.

The Tuna Cashew Casserole was also served at luncheons and was submitted by my late mother Rhea Church. Note: It was served at a W.S.C.S. Luncheon in August 1959.

Hope that you enjoy these recipes from the past!

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

HAM LOAF

- 2 lbs. pork and 1 lb. ham, ground together
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 2/3 cup catsup

- 1/2 cup brown sugar
 - 1 Tbsp. dry mustard
- Mix ground meats, bread crumbs, eggs and milk together and put in 9x13 inch pan.

Mix catsup, brown sugar and dry mustard; spread over meat. Bake 1 1/2 hours at 350 degrees.

—Bessie Smith

TUNA CASHEW CASSEROLE

- 1 (3oz) can chow mein noodles
- 1 can mushroom soup (undiluted)
- 1 can chunk-style tuna
- 1 cup (1/4 lb) cashew nuts
- 1 cup finely diced celery
- 1/4 cup minced onion
- 1/4 cup water
- salt and pepper

Reserve 1/4 cup noodles. Combine all ingredients and place in greased baking dish, adding the 1/4 cup noodles on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 55 minutes.

—Rhea Church

Smith Elementary School News

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

IMPORTANT DATES:

February – Kindergarten Round Up Begins Immediately! (See More Info Below)

- February 21- NO SCHOOL (President’s Day)
- March 4 – End of 2nd Trimester K-5
- March 10 – K-5th Gd ½ Day of School (Dismissal 12:02)
- March 10 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:00 – 4:00 & 5:00 – 7:30
- March 28 to April 1 – NO SCHOOL (SPRING RECESS)
- April 4 – School Resumes
- April 15 – NO SCHOOL (GOOD FRIDAY RECESS)

FEBRUARY IS CELEBRATE MATH MONTH!

- 2/7- Math Read Alouds in Class
- 2/8-Math Related Brain Breaks
- 2/9-100s Day & Work Problem Wednesday
- 2/10-Pattern Day: Dress in Patterns
- 2/11- STEM Activity in Class

Throughout the month there will be an estimation jar in a Specials Classroom and students will have an opportunity to guess how many items are inside!

It’s Time For 2022/2023 Kindergarten Round Up! – To begin enrolling your child for Kindergarten this fall, go to our main webpage at fowlervilleschools.org and click on the “Kindergarten Enrollment” link. That will walk you through the pre-enrollment and will direct you to a “Kindergarten Questionnaire” at the end. When you have the online portion submitted, call the Smith office at 517-223-6430. You will then schedule an appointment to complete the enrollment process. For the scheduled appointment please bring in your child’s state issued birth certificate, current immunization record, vision screening (anything after 3 years of age), and 2 proof of residency items. This includes your driver’s license and 1 other piece, such as, a purchase agreement, rental agreement, electric bill, piece of mail, etc. Something that has your name and address included. *You will receive a goodie bag after the completion of enrollment!

Vision Screening for 2022 Kindergarten Entry – The Livingston County Health Department is pleased to offer no-cost Vision Screening for children entering Kindergarten in fall 2022. Please call for an appointment at 517-546-9850. Face coverings are required when entering LCHD and measures are in place to ensure social distancing and safety among clients and staff. Appointments will be available for these dates and times:

- Wednesday, March 16th, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 13th, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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

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

NOW HIRING!
WE ARE HIRING FOR ALL SHIFTS. Must be able to work some weekends. \$11/hour plus tips. (Total averages \$15-\$18/hour)

Our front lobby is NOW OPEN.

OR \$1.00 OFF BOGO FREE
(BOGO=Buy One Get One of equal/lesser value) any grande/super specialty beverage
Upgrade your drink with FREE SHOT FRIDAYS! (No coupon needed.)

8097 COUNTRY CORNER DRIVE • FOWLERVILLE
Expires 2/23/22. Applies to favorite lattes, creme freeze smoothies, tea lattes and hot chocolates. Good at this location only. Coupon must be printed out. Not good with any other offer, including BIGGBY® loyalty card programs. For franchise information visit biggby.com.

Dick Scott MOTOR MALL

Fowlerville High School’s “ATHLETES” OF THE WEEK



Jud Scott



Varsity Cheer

Emmalee Shull - Emmalee has shown a relentless work ethic throughout this season. She has stepped up for her team to keep back walkovers in round 2, and is always willing to do what is best for the team. Emmalee represents a true Gladiator and is very deserving to be named Athlete of the Week. The cheer program is so proud of you Emmalee!

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

www.DickScott.com

Dick Scott MOTOR MALL

1-96 and Fowlerville Road, Exit 129 • 3030 Fowlerville Road
1-877-467-4201

SHOWROOM OPEN: Mon. & Thurs. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. • Tues., Wed. & Fri. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. • Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SERVICE DEPARTMENT OPEN: Mon. & Thurs. 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. • Tues., Wed. & Fri. 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
BODY SHOP OPEN: Mon. thru Fri. 8am-6pm

DODGE CHRYSLER
Jeep RAM

GORMLEY & JOHNSON LAW OFFICES, PLC
LOCAL ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW



JOHN L. GORMLEY, ESQ



CHRISTOPHER S. JOHNSON, ESQ

Divorce / Family Law • Estate Planning
• Bankruptcy • Criminal Defense • Personal Injury • Real Estate
• Municipal Law • Probate • Corporate • Business • Zoning • Land Use

101 E. GRAND RIVER AVE., FOWLERVILLE 517-223-3758
GORMLEYLAWOFFICES.COM

FREE Initial Consultation We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy under the bankruptcy code.

DISCOVER MasterCard VISA

Fowlerville Junior High News

IMPORTANT DATES:

No School- Mon. February 21st
 Parent Teacher Conferences- Thurs. March 10th
 End of Third Nine Weeks-Fri. March 25th
 Spring Break-No School- Mon. March 28-Fri. April 1st
 * * *

SPORTS NEWS

SPORTS FOR WEEK OF FEB. 14, 2022

Mon., 2/14; GBB VS DEWITT-4:30; 7H, 8A
 Tues. 2/15: WREST @ Mason-4:30; vs Mason, Williamston, & St. Johns
 Wed., 2/16; GBB VS ST. JOHNS-4:30; 7A, 8H
 Sat., 2/17: WREST @ White Lake Invite-9am
 Reminder: MASKS REQUIRED FOR ALL BUS RIDES. SOME SCHOOLS REQUIRE MASKS OF PLAYERS, COACHES & SPECTATORS. PLEASE— follow host school's protocol!

COMP. CHEER has now completed its season. Good hard work by Coach Beth Rowe & her team brought our cheer program back on track at FJH. Congratulations team! Reminder—if questions, at this time please contact the coach and/or Brian Osborn at FHS.
 * * *

8TH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL

The 8th grade girls toughest opponent is Haslett which they historically lose by 30 or more as Haslett is a great team. On Jan. 26th, we lost to Haslett by 3, 50-47 which was a great moral victory for us. Every single girl scored in our game which was awesome! With the brand new 5th quarter rule in place, we won that 18-2, putting our overall season total at 37-2 in the 5th quarter.

The 8th grade girls won Jan. 31st, against Eaton Rapids. We played a great team game on both ends of the floor. On offense we had Ella Olrich, Bella Pierfederici, McKenna Maybee, and Izzy Cox all score 6 or more points.

The 8th grade girls got a good win on Feb. 7th against Okemos. Mariah Kirby, Ella Olrich and Izzy Cox all scored in double digits for us, with nearly every one of our players scoring. Our next game is at our rival Williamston.

The 8th grade girls won their game against rival Williamston. Our leading scorers were Ky Dillingham with 10 points, and Mariah Kirby and Ella Olrich had 9 points.

Next week is a tough week as we play Dewitt and St Johns, 2 very good teams.
 * * *

WRESTLING NEWS

The first week of competition for the Junior High wrestlers kicked off on January 25th, when we traveled to St. Johns to face the host Redwings and the Grand Ledge Comets. Winners and pinners for the night were Tony Bergin (1-0), Kielly Davis (1-1), Justin Gutierrez (1-0), Jacob Hodge (2-0), Ryder Kleinschmidt (1-0), Alex Loomis (1-0), Dylan Loomis (1-1), Jaxon Murray (1-0), Layne Oneil (2-0), Liam Oneil (2-0), Vince Saunders (2-0), Connor Stankov (1-1) and Cayden Tayler (1-0). Overall, we took 10 of the 13 matches vs St. Johns and 7 of the 12 matches versus Grand Ledge.

On Jan. 28th, we hosted our annual Fowlerville Junior High Invitational versus 10 other teams. The team wrestled great all night and showed great improvement from Tuesday night. First place finishers for the Glads were: Jacob Hodge, Jaxon Murray, Layne Oneil, Liam Oneil and Gavin Stankov, all going undefeated for the night. 2nd place finishers were Tony Bergin, Justin Gutierrez, Ryder Kleinschmidt, Vince Saunders and Connor Stankov all going 2 and 1.

On Feb. 1st, the wrestling team hosted their only home dual meet of the season. We welcomed the Mason Bulldogs, the Williamston Hornets and the Charlotte Orioles into the gym. The team had a very successful night winning 5 of the 6 matchups against the Bulldogs and taking 7 of the 12 matches against the Hornets. Winners and pinners on the night were: Tony Bergin (1-0), Anna Burma (2-0), Kielly Davis (1-1), Jacob Hodge (2-0), Ryder Kleinschmidt (1-0), Alex Loomis

(1-0), Jaxon Murray (1-1), Layne Oneil (1-0), Gavin Stankov (1-0) and Connor Stankov (1-0).

On Feb. 8th, the wrestling team traveled to Holt to face the Rams, the Eaton Rapids Greyhounds and the St. Johns Redwings. It was a good night on the mats for the team winning 14 of the 25 total matches. Winners and pinners on the night were: Brecon Aeschliman (1 pin), Kielly Davis (1 pin), Justin Gutierrez (1 pin), Dylan Loomis (1-0), Vince Saunders (1 pin), Connor Stankov (1 pin). Our overall leaders for the night were: Ryder Kleinschmidt, Jacob Hodge, Liam Oneil and Layne Oneil each securing 2 pins on the night.
 * * *

LET IT SNOW

The Fowlerville Ski and SnowBoard Club began in January. The club is open to 5th through 12th grade students and families. We ski/board at Mt. Brighton every Wednesday throughout the month of February. For further information, please contact Ms. DeLuca 517-223-6250 or delucac@fowlervilleschools.org

Fowlerville Fire Department Report

February 3

1:08 p.m. Medical response on W Allen Rd in Conway Township.

3:26 p.m. Medical response on Iosco Rd in Iosco Township.

February 4

12:30 p.m. Medical response on S Collins St in the Village.

9:48 p.m. Medical response on Willow St in the Village.

February 5

12:54 p.m. Motor vehicle accident on S Grand Ave in the Village.

February 6

2:58 p.m. Outdoor equipment fire on Marissa Ln in Iosco Township.

February 7

5:59 a.m. Medical response on Lange Rd in Iosco Township.

3:48 p.m. Medical response on School Dr in the Village.

5:58 p.m. Fire alarm investigation on N Grand Ave in the Village.

9:26 p.m. Carbon monoxide alarm on S Kane Rd in Iosco Township.

February 8

2:05 p.m. Medical response on Weller Rd in Iosco Township.

4:00 p.m. Fire alarm investigation on N Gregory in Handy Township.

4:11 p.m. Mutual aid to NIESA for motor vehicle accident on I-96 in Ingham County.

11:51 p.m. Medical response on Nicholson Rd in Handy Township.

February 9

12:28 a.m. Medical response on James Dr in Handy Township.

2:40 p.m. Medical response on Hidden Knoll Ct in Conway Township.

3:51 p.m. Medical response on Red Rock Dr in Handy Township.

Advertise in the...

FOWLERVILLE NEWS & VIEWS

Call
(517) 223-8760
 for details

* * *

YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks are on sale now for \$32 and can be ordered online or in person for this year.

On our Junior High Website page, there is a spot that is labeled 'yearbook'. If you click that link, you should be able to order from there. In case you are having trouble, here is the link: <https://www.balfour.com/michigan/fowlerville/fowlerville-junior-high-school>
 * * *

FEBRUARY'S POP TAB CHALLENGE

The Student Council is sponsoring a Pop Tab Challenge. Students are to collect and bring in pop can tabs for the month of February to their 1st hour teacher. The tabs will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. The class that brings in the most tabs wins a prize! Please spread the word.

McKenzie's Accounting & Tax Service

IRS Registered Tax Return Preparer
Sherry McKenzie Prevo
 3090 Glover Road
 Fowlerville, MI 48836
 517-223-4076 Fax 517-223-4448

Kevin Scherer, 517-223-2200
 Owner

SCHERER
PERFORMANCE
AUTO REPAIR & ACCESSORIES

7050 W. GRAND RIVER FOWLERVILLE

Hours:
Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm



Maria's School of Dance Spring Classes!

Ballet, Tap, Jazz And Hip Hop
 Ages 3-8yrs

Classes April 16th - May 21st (6 weeks)
 Saturday Mornings

Register online:

www.mariasschoolofdance.com

Or call for more information:

(517) 223 0036

THE PIZZA BOX

STONE BAKED GOODNESS

12-4 PM SPECIAL
 4 slices of pizza & can of pop
\$5.00

4-8 PM SPECIAL
 1 large pizza with 3 toppings
\$8.99

MON-FRI SPECIAL
 2 large, 1 topping pizzas and a full order of breadsticks
\$19.00

307 W. Grand River Ave, Fowlerville • 517-223-2222

Order online at www.fowlervillepizzabox.com

Regal Auto Parts

517-304-8414

**Buying all scrap vehicles -
All makes / models**

Licensed and Insured

**Paying over scrap value
on most vehicles**

Free towing with vehicle purchase

**Available for large
clean ups / scrap**

Dick Scott COLLISION & AUTO GLASS

3030 Fowlerville Rd.
Fowlerville Exit 129

HOURS:
Monday - Friday
8am-6pm

517-223-3721
jamiestjohn@dickscott.com

WINTER'S ARRIVED!

**TIME TO MAKE
YOUR CAR
OR TRUCK
SPARKLE!**



YOU CHOOSE YOUR COLLISION CENTER BECAUSE...

• FREE Estimates	• Lifetime Warranty on Repairs & Paint
• FREE Loaner	• We Repair ALL Makes & Models
• FREE Pick Up & Delivery	• Towing Service
• Environmentally Friendly Paint System	• Fast & Affordable Cosmetic Repairs

COUPON

FREE

Loaner with Collision Repair

DickScottCollision-Fowlerville.com

*"Over 20 Years Serving
The Local Community"*

Chiropractic

Health Center of Fowlerville

103 W. Grand River Ave., Fowlerville



"Dr. Tim" Tersigni

517-223-9276

DEEP LASER THERAPY NOW OFFERED

WE OFFER MANY TYPES OF ADJUSTMENTS INCLUDING
IMPULSE INSTRUMENT ADJUSTMENT

The no "popping, no cracking" adjustment.

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

(517) 223-9276

MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED





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

Fowlerville District Library

Upcoming Events

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

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

* * *

ALL AGES

Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom
Saturday, February 26, 12:00 to 2:00 pm

Kevin Wood, performing as Mr. Lincoln, presents on the historical period from Independence through the Civil War. Join us to celebrate Presidents' Day by learning more about our beloved Abe Lincoln.

* * *

ADULTS

Fitness/Yoga with Belinda

Mondays, 10:00 am– 10:45 am

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

* * *

Line Dancing

Wednesday, February 16, 6:30 pm

In celebration of country music, learn to line dance.

Registration required.

* * *

Monthly Cardmaking

Thursday, February 17, 6:30 pm

Join Mary to create four beautifully designed Get Well themed cards. All supplies included, guaranteed hands-on fun. Classes fill up super fast, call to reserve your spot.

Registration required.

* * *

Monthly Beyond the Book

Thursday, February 24, 6:30 pm

Join Zoe in the evening for a book discussion of *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd, followed by some extra materials. **Registration required.**

* * *

Monthly Book and Coffee

Monday, February 28, 1:00 pm

Join Zoe in the afternoon for a traditional book club that includes coffee and dessert. This month's selection is *Emma* by Jane Austen. **Registration required.**

* * *

LIFE SKILLS

CPR & First Aid (Teens and adults)

Saturday, February 12, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Fowlerville Firefighter Chris Joseph will teach CPR and First Aid skills. American Heart Association certificates will be provided at the end of training. Free lunch served. **Registration required – limit of 20 participants.**

* * *

TEENS

Tabletop Wednesday

Wednesdays, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

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

* * *

Teen Craft Wednesday

Wednesdays, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

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

* * *

Friday Gaming

Fridays, 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Drop in anytime to join Connor and other gamers for free play on the Nintendo Switch. Enjoy multiplayer classics like Smash and Mario Kart or choose games from the library's collection.

* * *

Magic the Gathering Draft

Saturday, February 19, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Join Connor's free MTG booster draft. Assemble decks, challenge other participants, win prizes, and take home the cards you open! The best deal in town. Drop in, or pre-register to hold a guaranteed spot.

* * *

Teen Book Club (Ages 11-18)

Tuesday, February 22, 4:00 pm

This month's theme is Book with a One-Word Title. Read a book that fits that theme and then join Zoe after school for a lively discussion accompanied by snacks and a craft.

* * *

KIDS

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

* * *

Preschool Storytime (ages 3 to 5 with caregiver)

10:00 am Tuesdays & Wednesdays

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

* * *

Toddler Storytime (ages 1 to 3 with caregiver)

10:00 am Thursdays & Fridays

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

* * *

Baby Lap Sit (ages 0 to 2 with caregiver)

9:30 am Fridays

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

* * *

Facebook Live Storytime (ages 2 to 8)

12:00pm Thursdays on Facebook

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

* * *

K-5 Book Club (Ages 5 -12)

Tuesday, February 15, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

This month's theme is Book with a Red Cover. Choose your own book that fits the theme and then join Zoe after school for a fun discussion accompanied by snacks and a craft.

Who has the right to decide?

By Jace Arledge

While watching TV (which I don't do very often), I have seen many speakers/interviewers talk about how others should be viewed or seen. My question is: Who decided what is true and what is false?

Is it what we are taught? Or could it be for the fact that our own discriminate minds can't see beyond what could be? For example, you are walking down the street at night and see someone else walking. It's late, and there is no one else around. What makes us choose our behavior? Is it television shows, the voice of our parents warning us, news outlets bringing fear?

That's a hard question to answer. Many would look at this situation as a "Stranger Danger" scenario, due to the fact that "nothing good happens after dark" or "Only bad people are out in the night." Who decided those were the only choices when faced with a scenario like this?

I grew up during the 70's when the Oakland County Child Killer was present. I lived in rural area, perfect for someone to have the opportunity to grab me and I would have never been seen again. The hysteria that was ever present in all communities: Was it warranted? Was it hype? Who decided?

Let's go back to the 1950's to a young 14-year-old Black boy from Chicago, visiting family in Drew, Mississippi. Someone decided to take this boy's life, because it was decided by them that this young boy did something wrong. Again, who decided?

All through history we can see this very same thing happen. Someone decides that they are unhappy with the way things are going and takes matters into their own hands, many times at the cost of other's freedom of life.

Who gave them this right to decide? Is there a written code somewhere that says "If you don't like something or someone, then you can decide what to do with them?" There are many people today in this world, for whatever reason, feel the need to draw upon their feelings to dictate the rules that society should live under, and most times it isn't in the best interest of all parties involved. It is in the selfish realms of their beliefs and ideas.

I try hard not to stereotype based on color, creed, nationality or belief because I have always believed that it is an individual's freedom to decide. We were all created to be different; to bring our personal light, experiences, ideas and thoughts to the world. The easiest way if you don't agree is to walk away, because that is YOUR right to decide, decide who you surround yourself with or not, and it's also very distressing to work at changing someone else to believe as you do. The energy you exude to "fix" something you think is wrong is wasted, so better to spend it somewhere else.

We, as individuals, should take a long look at our own lives and both evaluate and decide what is best for us, not what we think is best for others. Let's stay in our own lanes. For if it isn't hurting or affecting you or yours, why does it matter? And if you are living your life, spreading love and joy to others and loving your neighbor as yourself, then I believe you are doing exactly what Jesus did. That's a true test of Christianity. Think about it, and decide for yourself.

Till Next time...



Michigan House Report

By Bob Bezotte, 47th District

This week, I voted in support of a bill that would provide \$1.2 billion in COVID-19 relief for our health care systems and schools.

We are providing immediate relief for short-staffed hospitals and clinics, helping these dedicated professionals provide COVID-positive patients with proven and promising treatments, and continuing our state’s vaccination efforts. We are also providing the testing and screening supplies needed to keep students in school so they can catch up on learning lost during the pandemic.

Thousands of Michigan health care jobs remain unfilled, leaving those still on the job overworked and stretched dangerously thin during high-demand times such as a surge in COVID cases. The shortage of workers is one of the biggest crises we face as a state.

- \$300 million for health care employee recruitment, retention, and training
- \$114 million for nursing homes and long-term care facilities, including adult foster care

Monoclonal antibodies and other early treatments improve the chances of a faster, fuller recovery for COVID patients. We are providing needed funds to buy and administer these drugs, including the establishment of eight regional testing and treatment centers across Michigan.

- \$175 million to buy and ramp up distribution of early treatments and COVID-19 therapeutics
- \$83 million for local health departments to continue vaccination and treatment efforts
- \$10 million for state lab capacity upgrades (including study of needs)

Learning loss during the pandemic will have far-reaching consequences. We must do all we can to help kids catch

up and increase their chances for success. That starts with keeping students healthy and ensuring schools remain open for in-person instruction.

- \$150 million for rapid testing and screening in schools
 - \$367 million to continue outreach, testing and other efforts in Michigan communities
- Additional support for homeless shelters, child welfare, respite care and other services

Last week, I had the chance to attend the Tyrone Township meeting to answer some of their concerns. It was so great seeing everyone involved and curious about what is going on in our community. I am always available to hear any residents’ issues and ways to help our community even more.

With it now being tax filing season, the Michigan Association of CPAs has provided a website link with sources that can help with filing your tax refund. You can visit www.micpa.org/resources for more information.

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

State Rep. Bezotte invites residents to virtual coffee hour on Feb. 25

State Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Marion Township) announced he will host a virtual coffee hour on Friday, Feb. 25 at 4 p.m.

The main topic of the meeting will be no-fault car insurance, and recent reforms made to insurance coverage and benefits. In the meeting, Bezotte will be joined by several guests, including other legislators and medical providers.

A registration link to join the meeting will be made available on Bezotte’s website, along with his Facebook page and the WHMI website.

Those who are unable to join but would still like to share their thoughts with the legislator may call his Lansing office at (517) 373-8835 or email RobertBezotte@House.MI.gov.

Bezotte represents the 47th House District, which includes the western and northern portions of Livingston County.

Questions about Social Security that can help you plan your retirement

By Vonda Van Til,

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Social Security benefits are part of the retirement plan of almost every American worker. If you’re among the many people covered under Social Security, you should know what your future benefit may be. These monthly payments are likely to be an important part of your retirement income.

We base your benefit payment on how much you earned during your working career. Higher lifetime earnings result in higher benefits. If there were some years you didn’t work or had low earnings, your benefit amount may be lower than if you had worked steadily. Even if you never worked and did not pay Social Security taxes, you may be eligible for spouse’s retirement benefits. You must be at least 62 years old, and your spouse must already be receiving retirement or disability benefits.

Our online retirement portal at www.ssa.gov/retirement is a great place to start mapping out your retirement plan. For example, have you considered:

- What is the right time for you to start receiving your retirement benefits?
- What documents you may need to provide SSA for your retirement application?
- Which factors may affect your retirement benefits?
- What you should remember to do after you apply for retirement benefits?

You can use your personal *my* Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to get an instant estimate of your future retirement benefits. You can also see the effects of starting your retirement benefits at different ages.

- You may also be wondering about:
- Benefits for a spouse or children.
- How work affects your benefits.
- If you will have to pay taxes on your benefits.

Medicare.

You can learn more at www.ssa.gov/retirement. Please share this information with family and friends to help them prepare for their retirement.

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

ACAPULCO

Tanning

(517) 223-9400

8079 Country Corner Drive, Fowlerville

Next to Fowlerville Ford - Just South of I-96 Off Fowlerville Road

Exclusively Featuring

Australian Gold

CALIFORNIA TAN®

DESIGNER SKIN™

swedish beauty.

Tanning Products

Monday - Friday 10am - 9pm • Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

Time to Get Spring Break Ready

(Valid Feb. 15th - 28th)

5 WEEK UNLIMITED MONTHLY FOR \$65 + TAX

Buy Australian Gold Intimidation

(dark dual bronzer w/invigorating cooling essence) and receive any Australian Gold SPF for **50% OFF.**

(1 per client, while supplies last.)

NEW Hemp Nation Kiwi & Cactus Water

(Kiwi Extract is an excellent source of antioxidants. Cactus Extract helps store and retain moisture to the skin.)

15% OFF

15% OFF Upgrades

WE WILL BE DOING A SPRING BREAK BASKET GIVE AWAY!

SPEND \$50 OR MORE, RECEIVE A TICKET FOR THE DRAWING!



Sunlight filters through trees to shine on the forest floor on a Commercial Forest property in Michigan. Credit: Michigan Department of Natural Resources



Loggers are shown working on Commercial Forest property. Credit: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Showcasing the Michigan DNR— State’s Commercial Forest Program has numerous benefits

By Kathleen Lavey

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Charles E. Nebel loves to talk about forests – about planting jack pine on 40 acres of his family’s land holding a quarter-century ago, about red pines planted on former farmland near Chatham in Alger County.

“There were five 40-acre parcels there, and we planted that to red pine,” he said. “That was about nine or 10 years ago, and the trees are over our heads now. They’re 6 feet tall or more.”

Nebel’s family has owned forest lands in the Upper Peninsula since the 1920s, when his father began buying tax-reverted land.

Today, more than 3,200 acres of the family’s holdings are enrolled in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources’ Commercial Forest Program. It offers a property tax break to private landowners who are required to offer foot access to the public for hunting, fishing and trapping and manage their land strictly for long-term timber production.

“Our lands are available for people to use during the hunting seasons, and we have no objections to that,” Nebel said. “We don’t put up fences, we don’t put up gates.”

The Nebel family’s properties in Alger, Schoolcraft, Delta and Marquette counties are among about 2.2 million acres in Michigan enrolled in the program.

Approximately 1,800 entities – families, corporations and individuals – are enrolled, with land taxed at a rate of \$1.35 per acre in 2022.

“The Commercial Forest Program makes it possible to grow timber profitably,” said Gary Willis, a DNR service forester based in Baraga who works with landowners in the program.

“It’s like any other agricultural endeavor. The forest products industry is a huge economic sector.”

Michigan’s forest products industry generates more than \$21 billion a year and supports more than 91,000 jobs, from logging to lumber and paper mills to manufacturing wood products.

The Commercial Forest Program started in Michigan in 1925, when forests were recovering from the pine lumbering boom of the late 19th century.

“By 1925, the lumbering era had left Michigan. To encourage landowners to begin reforestation, the Commercial Forest Program was created, which provided a property tax incentive due to the cost of the property taxes,” said Karen Maidlow, Commercial Forest Program leader, who administers the program.

The program has been modified over the years to serve the needs of landowners and the people of Michigan.

A landowner must have 40 contiguous acres to apply for the program, although some owners have enrolled more than 200,000 acres. Applications are accepted from Jan. 1 through April 1 each year. After an application is submitted, a field review and a hearing are conducted.

A forester conducting a field review of the property looks for several things during the review. For example, since lands are open to foot traffic to the public for hunting, fishing, and trapping, “no trespassing” signs are forbidden.

Foresters look to see if there is recent activity, such as a new trail road or a timber harvest, whether the management taking place on the property matches the plan filed by the property owner and whether the land is reasonably accessible to the public.

No structures – even deer blinds – are allowed on Commercial Forest property. Nothing can be left behind on the lands without permission of the landowner, except traps placed by licensed trappers.

Landowners must have a forest management plan in place to allow for timber harvests and regeneration well into the future.

“CF landowners must contract with a professional forester to write their management plan,” Willis said. “Because there is much flexibility in silvicultural prescriptions for timber management, landowners can work closely with a professional forester to obtain a management plan tailored to their goals and objectives for ownership.”

“Commercial Forest landowners must harvest timber in accordance with their management plan. The DNR reviews all management plans to assure adherence to program requirements.”

If approved, landowners sign a listing certificate, which the DNR records at the county Register of Deeds office. The DNR notifies township assessors to move the land from the ad valorem (based on the property value) tax roll to the Commercial Forest-specific tax roll.

“In many counties, especially in the Lower Peninsula, that amounts to a huge tax break,” Maidlow said.

DNR research shows that Michigan residents are nearly unanimous in their love of forests, with 98% of people surveyed saying forests keep Michigan beautiful, 97% agreeing that forests provide important homes for wildlife and a vast majority agreeing that forests are important for clean air and water. A total of 87% of survey respondents agreed that healthy forests are important to provide wood products society needs.

The Commercial Forest Program touches on all those interests and helps ensure that Michigan’s forests remain.

“Land that is enrolled in the CF Program is enrolled in perpetuity until which time a parcel is withdrawn,” Nebel said. “The program is designed to encourage forest legacy – the passing down of well-managed forest resources to future generations.”

“There are many factors in play today that discourage forest legacy. However, what we have repeatedly observed is that families that work and love the land and its resources together tend to stay together. The Commercial Forest tax rate makes that legacy affordable.”

Nebel said he wouldn’t hesitate to recommend the program to other landowners.

“We’ve been able to maintain the property, use it for timber, and not lose our shirts keeping the taxes paid,” he said. “If we had not used this to give us the ability to own the property, we would probably not own any of it. We really wanted to find a way to use it and preserve it.”

Program at a Glance

There are 2.2 million acres enrolled in the Commercial Forest program in Michigan.

Owners receive a property tax reduction in exchange for required forest management and public access for hunting, fishing and trapping.

Fishing, hunting and trapping access is allowed on foot. Use of motor vehicles for access is at the property owner’s discretion.

The owner may restrict public access during logging for safety reasons.

Commercial activity is not allowed for any purpose other than forestry or oil and gas extraction.

Respect the lands

The right to fish, hunt and trap on the land does not extend to associated activities such as, but not limited to: littering; camping; cutting shooting lanes, or cutting or destroying brush, trees or other plants for any purpose; using nails, bolts, wire, tree steps or other material or activities which can damage trees or create potentially hazardous wood-harvesting conditions; leaving behind property, including tree stands or other hunting apparatus; constructing blinds or other structures, except for gathering dead materials found on the ground; target shooting or sighting-in firearms; using off-road vehicles or other vehicles on private property. If the property owner allows vehicles, visitors should take care to avoid blocking access to roads or parking areas.

If you have questions about the program or specific Commercial Forest lands, call Karen Maidlow, at 517-284-5849. Information about the program can also be found at Michigan.gov/CommercialForest.

CASH 4 CARS

AUTO SALES

810-691-5030

BUY - SELL - TRADE

cash4carsautosales.com

WE BUY CARS

2005 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LT 4X4, AUTO, 6CYL, 4.2L, 200K, POWER L/W, AC, CD, CLEAN, RUNS GREAT**\$3499**

2004 SATURN VUE, AUTO, 6CYL, 3.5L, FWD, POWER L/W, 159K MILES, CLEAN, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION, RUNS GOOD**\$2500**

2004 HONDA PILOT EX 4X4, AUTO, 6CYL, 3.5L, 238K MILES, POWER W/L, AC, CD, CLEAN, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION - SOME RUST, RUNS GOOD.....**\$3299**

2006 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS, AUTO, AWD, 6CYL, 3.4L, 140K, POWER W/L, CLEAN, RUNS GOOD.....**\$4499**

2007 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4, AUTO, 6CYL, 3.7L, POWER W/L, 200K, CLEAN, RUNS GOOD**\$2999**

2000 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500 4X4, AUTO, EXT. CAB, 8CYL, 6.0L, POWER L/W, 220K, RUNS GOOD, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION - RUSTY.....**\$2499**

1997 FORD F150 4X4 OFF ROAD, EXT. CAB, AUTO, 8CYL, 5.4L, 172K MILES, POWER L/W, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION - RUSTY BED, RUNS GOOD**\$2499**

2000 HONDA ODYSSEY VAN, AUTO, 6CYL, 3.5L, POWER L/W, CD, 218K, CLEAN, RUNS GOOD, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION - SOME RUST.....**\$1699**

2001 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE, 5 SPEED MANUAL, 4CYL, 1.8L, POWER W/L, 121K, AC, HEATED SEATS, CLEAN, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION, RUNS GOOD.....**\$3899**

2009 FORD FOCUS SE, AUTO, 4CYL, 2.0L, POWER L/W, CLEAN, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION, 195K MILES, RUNS GOOD**\$2999**

2008 HYUNDAI SONATA, AUTO, 4CYL, 2.4L, POWER L/W, CLEAN, RUNS GREAT, AC, CD, 191K, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION - SOME RUST.....**\$2499**

2002 CHEVROLET IMPALA, AUTO, 6CYL, 3.4L, POWER L/W, 167K MILES, CLEAN INTERIOR, RUNS GOOD.....**\$2499**

2010 FORD FOCUS, AUTO, 4CYL, 151K, POWER W/L, BODY IN FAIR CONDITION, CLEAN, RUNS GOOD**\$3599**

***If You Don't See What You Want - Stop In
And Let Us Know And We Will Look For You.***

2200 N BURKHART • HOWELL

1/2 mile north of the Tanger Outlet Mall Entrance

810-691-5030

We Have Cars/Trucks Arriving Daily. Come Take a Look!!!



**Smith Elementary highlights
‘Classroom of the Week’**

The ‘Classroom of the Week’ at Smith Elementary School are the students in Ms. Emmy Frederick’s kindergarten class. From left, front row- Jonah Field, Charlie Bergin, Patricia Sanom, Brantley Burpee, Ronan Larson; middle row- Brooklyn Treichel, Alice Johnson, Jaxson Burghardt, Lyanna Larson, Clayton Cassel, Daniel Brough; back row- Ms. Frederick, Sawyer Murphy, Cooper Collins, Decker Eberhardt, Brooklyn Grundman, Bentley Sorensen, Maycee Coleman, Thomas Pick, Sarah Murray. Not Pictured - Aiden Shay, Presley Tatarian, and Kinzley Sipka.

**Getting to the Heart of Parenting
being offered by Family Impact Centers**

Parenting is hard, but there are few things in life that rise to this level of importance. God has chosen parents to be primary instruments in the shaping of a human soul. Join us as pastor and best-selling author Dr. Paul David Tripp reveals on video how when the heart of a child changes, their needed behavioral change will be lasting. Then learn how to be an instrument of heart-changing grace in the lives of your children, whether they are toddlers or teens.

This 5-week class will be held from **6:30 – 8:30 p.m.** every Thursday starting on **March 3 and ending on March 31, 2022.** Location is the **Family Impact Wellness Center**, just west of Fowlerville at 9430 W. Grand River Avenue. It is free of charge, but pre-registration is requested.

For more information or to sign up, please call Barb at 517-223-4428.

**Fowlerville Varsity
Boys Basketball
Team loses to top-
ranked Williamston**

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team lost to top-ranked Williamston on Thursday, Feb. 3, by a score of 78-40. Brendan Ray led the Glads with 12 points. Greg Wilkinson had 9 points and Carter Young added 8. The Glads are now 7-5 overall and 3-3 in the CAAC Red Division. They were scheduled to play at Mason this past Thursday (past the newspaper deadline).

**St. Agnes Welcome Table resumes
in-person dining March 3**

St. Agnes Catholic Church (855 East Grand River Avenue, Fowlerville) will resume in-person dining for the March 3rd Welcome Table. Dinner will be served in the parish’s LPC at 6:00pm. For guests who prefer, curbside pick-up will be offered at 5:30pm.

To participate, guests must call 517-499-5690 to make reservations by Tuesday, March 1, 2022, letting us know if you will be joining us in person or prefer your meals ‘to go’. This invitation is open to all.

SUD-Z-PET Hours: Open Wed. thru Sun. 9am until the last dog goes home. Closed Mon. and Tues.

142 N. Grand Downtown Fowlerville

Bring your 4-legged love of your life in for a Valentine’s spa treatment.

517-292-2215 facebook.com/sudzpet SUDZPETGROOMING.COM

NELSON'S 517-223-7593 Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm

Collision • Mechanical • Auto Glass • Storage

COLLISION
Body Work • Collision
Baked-On Factory Finish
Frame Work • State Certified

FREE LOANERS

AUTO GLASS
Auto Glass
Stone Chip Repair
Truck Accessories

STORAGE
24 Hour
Video Surveillance
Well Lit Area
Gated Property
24/7 Access

MECHANICAL
General Automotive Repair
Brakes • Tires
Suspension & Alignments
Electrical
New Car Maintenance
ASE Certified Technicians

9177 W. Grand River, Fowlerville • www.nelsonsinc.com

**Buying or Selling
a Home?**

LET’S TALK!

GUY VILLET
(734) 368-2500
Guy@HomeCraftTeam.com
“An agent you can trust”

ALL listings include our blended marketing strategy, staging, professional photography, exclusive highlight video, 3D Zillow tour and more!

HomeCRAFT REAL ESTATE TEAM
HomeCraftTeam.com

**VICTORY MECHANICAL
HEATING & COOLING**

Affordable Pricing ALL the Time!

“Installed my first furnace in October of 1977!”

Victory Mechanical is a family based operation. Run by Father, Son and Grandson, along with some help from knowledgeable, honest, dedicated employees.

**(517) 223-0203
FEEL FREE TO CALL!**

**“NO Games,
NO Gimmicks”**

WWW.VICTORYMECHANICAL.COM

- SERVICE
- FURNACES
- AIR CONDITIONERS
- WATER HEATERS
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- REPLACEMENT
- LIGHT COMMERCIAL

LICENSED & INSURED FOWLERVILLE & BEYOND

TRANE It’s Hard To Stop A Trane.

Kreeger Elementary School News

ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

All enrollments can be done online www.fowlervilleschools.org.

After you complete those documents please print and sign areas marked. Bring your child's original raised seal birth certificate, 2 proofs of Fowlerville Schools residency and if your child attended a school in Michigan his/her immunizations will be on the MCIR website.

CALENDAR OF KREEGER EVENTS

2-14-22	Valentine Candy Gram Sales
2-16-22	5 th Grade Yearbook Club
2-18-22	Deadline to opt out of Reproductive Health Unit 5 th Grade
2-21-22	NO SCHOOL K-12
2-23-22	5 th Grade Yearbook Club
2-28-22	5 th Grade Health Class Begins
2-28-22 thru 3-4-22	Kreeger Spring Book Fair
3-2-22	5 th Grade Yearbook Club
3-9-22	5 th Grade Yearbook Club
3-10-22	Spring Conferences
3-16-22	5 th Grade Yearbook Club

KREEGER VALENTINE'S DAY CANDY GRAMS

Kreeger will be selling candy grams for Valentine's Day. Candy Grams will be sold for .25 cents each and will be delivered to the receiving students classroom after lunch. If your child needs an extra form, we have more in the office.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH UNIT FOR 5TH GRADE

The Fowlerville Board of Education has approved the Reproductive Health Unit with HIV/AIDS as part of our 5th Grade health curriculum. All public schools in the state are required to teach about HIV/AIDS under Michigan law. In order to be approved, this curriculum has been through a process that included our district Sex Education and Reproductive Health Advisory Board (SERHAB), two public hearings to address any concerns, and finally, the Fowlerville School Board.

The health unit will be covered during a four-week period for 5th grade students beginning the week of Monday February 28th. The following are the topics that will be covered throughout the four-week period:

- 2/28/22-3/4/22 Introduction to Puberty
- 3/7/22 Human Reproduction. The girls and boys will be separated from one another on this date. Mr. Brown is with the boys and Ms. Faucher with the girls.
- 3/8/22 – 3/14/22 HIV/AIDS

- 3/15/22 – 3/21/22 Sexual Harassment/Technology Safety.

You are welcome to preview the material that we will be using throughout the unit prior to February 28th. Please email Ms. Faucher @ faucherk@fowlervilleschools.org if you would like to see the material beforehand.

If you would like to excuse your student from this instruction please fill out the form that went home and return to the office by Friday, February 18th.

Student Absences

If your student will be absent for any reason please call the attendance line at 517-223-6333. Attendance calls are generated at 10:05 a.m., any messages regarding absences after that time will receive the automated message regarding your child's absence.

Student Medication

If your child requires any prescription or non-prescription medication during the school year, a parent or guardian must bring the medication in to the Kreeger Office to drop

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



Master Media
SUPPLY

Smart
Business Source
everything for your workplace

We are still your local office supply store.
Call Chris or Tammy at our Fowlerville location.
Our company is ready to take care of many of your supply needs.



517-223-9320 Phone
517-223-9324 Fax

HANDY TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR SITE READINESS CDBG GRANT

Handy Township will conduct a closeout public hearing on February 21, 2022 at 7:00 pm at 135 N Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, MI 48836, Board Room entrance at rear of building for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to submit comments and receive a final report on the completion of the Site Readiness CDBG grant.

The CDBG grant provided funding to assist the Township in investigating to determine whether the 190-acre former "Mitch Harris Site," is suitable and ready for industrial development. The project included site investigations to determine site boundaries, well water testing, soil testing, water capacity analysis, coordination with other local agencies regarding rail spur access.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the project in person at the public hearing or in writing through February 21, 2022 and addressed to Laura Eisele, Clerk at the address below.

Citizen views and comments on the CDBG project are welcome.

Handy Township
Laura A. Eisele, Clerk
135 N Grand Avenue
Fowlerville, MI 48836
517-223-3228.
(2-13 & 2-20-22 FNV)



It's time for a
NEW you.

**Michael lost
183 pounds**



"Bariatric surgery changed my life."
~ Michael ~

After college, Michael's weight was at an all-time high and he knew something needed to be done. He chose bariatric surgery with the support of his family. After losing 183 pounds, Michael can now run, jog, complete outdoor activities and keep up with the kids.

"Thanks to MBI, I have my life back and it's the best thing I could have ever imagined."

Sign up for a free virtual seminar today!

stjoeshealth.org/mbi-seminar • 517-545-6011

BeRemarkable.
A Member of Trinity Health

NIESA Fire Report (Northeast Ingham Emergency Service Authority)

On Wednesday February 2, 2022 NIESA responded to three fire calls. One response was an assist to Stockbridge Fire Department for a structure fire on South Williamston Rd, in Bunker Hill Township. The second response was in the City of Williamston for a utility pole issue, and third response was to the Village of Webberville for a structure fire at Nada's Mobile on M-52.

Thursday February 3, 2022 NIESA had two emergency medical calls. One response was in Wheatfield Township, and the second was in Locke Township.

On Friday February 4, 2022 NIESA responded to five calls. Three were emergency medical calls with one occurring in Wheatfield Township, one in Williamstown Township, and another in the City of Williamston. NIESA also responded to two fire calls, one was in Williamstown Township for a smoke detector activation because of burnt food on the stove. The second was a smoke alarm activation in the City of

Williamston, which was the result of forgetting to open the flue on the fire place.

Saturday February 5, 2022 NIESA responded to one emergency medical call in Locke Township.

On Sunday February 6, 2022 NIESA had four calls. One was a vehicle accident in Locke Township, and the remaining three were emergency medical responses. Two of the medical responses occurred in Williamstown Township, and one occurred in Leroy Township.

Monday February 7, 2022 NIESA responded to four calls. One response was a burning complaint in Williamstown Township. The remaining three calls were emergency medical responses, with two calls occurring in the City of Williamston, and one was an assist to Lansing Mason Ambulance in Ingham Township.

On Tuesday February 8, 2022 NIESA had four calls. One was a vehicle accident on I-96 in Leroy Township. The remaining three calls were emergency medical calls, with two occurring in the City of Williamston, and one was an assist to Lansing Mason Ambulance into Ingham Township.

Crossroads United Methodist Church holding Swiss steak dinner on Feb. 26

Crossroads United Methodist Church will continue its monthly Swiss steak dinners for the public on Saturday, February 26. Dinner will start at 4 p.m. and last until supplies are gone. The cost is \$9 per person, regardless of age.

Due to Covid-19 protocols, all dinners will be boxed. People will pay inside, pick up their dinners and carry them home or take them to a table in the fellowship hall to eat, picnic style. Masks are encouraged. On the menu will be Swiss steak, mashed potatoes with mushroom gravy, vegetables, coleslaw, rolls and cookies.

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



The History of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a holiday celebrated each year on February 14th. Its origins date back thousands of years ago to the Roman festival of Lupercalia. It was held mid February. The festival celebrated Faunus, the Roman god of agriculture and the Roman founders Romulus and Remus. It would pair off women with men for the duration of the festival.

The holiday may have gotten its name from a priest named Valentine who was martyred around 270 CE, however there were several St. Valentines. The exact origin is unknown but there are several legends. One legend states the priest signed a letter "from your Valentine" to a woman. Another legend says he defied the emperor who banned military men from marrying because he thought soldiers that were married would care more about their families than serving the army. St. Valentine secretly married the couples. When the emperor found out, he was thrown in jail and sentenced to death.

Pope Gelasius declared February 14th St. Valentine's Day but it wasn't until much later that it became associated with love. Valentines were popular as far back as the Middle Ages but written valentines didn't appear until after the 1400's. Valentines commonly display heart and Cupid, the Roman god of love in the form of a winged baby with a bow and arrows.

1. The holiday was dated back to _____.
2. The festival Lupercalia celebrated _____.
3. The emperor banned military men from _____.
4. The name of the Roman god of love is _____.

www.allkidsnetwork.com

Be Mine

A-Pink B-Light Blue C-Red D-Green E-Yellow Orange

www.allkidsnetwork.com

Q: What did one bee say to the other?
A: I love bee-ing with you, honey!

Q: Why did the sheriff lock up her boyfriend?
A: He stole her heart.

Q: What kind of flowers should you NOT give on Valentine's Day?
A: Cauliflowers!

Q: What did the raspberry say to his valentine?
A: I love you berry much.

Q: Why was the rabbit happy?
A: Because somebunny loved him!

Q: What shade of red is your heart?
A: Beat red!

JUST for LAUGHS

Just for Kids page is sponsored by:

Check off the Savings with a Farm Bureau membership!

- Health insurance
- Dental insurance
- Member life insurance
- Hearing aid discount
- LASIK eye surgery discount
- Eyeglasses discount
- Prescription drug discounts
- Grainger discount
- Amerigas propane discount
- Auto insurance
- Roadside assistance
- Car rental discounts

LIVINGSTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

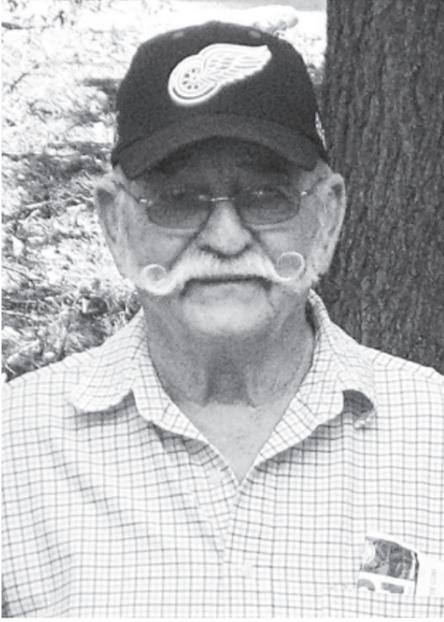
Call Deb Holmes at (517) 546-8124 for more information or email dholmes@ctyfb.com.

- Hotel discount
- Golf Michigan discounts
- Theme park discounts
- Discounts at local businesses
- And much, much, more!

Compliments of

Hank & Cathy Vaupel

—Area Deaths—



Kyle Woods
Fowlerville, MI

His Legacy... Kyle Paul Woods, age 87, passed away January 30, 2022. He was born on September 28, 1936, in Bluff City, TN to Dental and Ollie (Hodge) Woods. Kyle married the love of his life, Clara Craft, on April 13, 1956 in Auburn, IN. He liked being outdoors, woodworking, working on many projects around the house, listening to Loretta Lynn and other country music, and watching old westerns. Kyle's favorite flowers were marigolds and geraniums. His favorite color was blue. Kyle enjoyed collecting and reading Archie comics. He was a good cook. Most of all, Kyle loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Kyle will be remembered as a wonderful and caring husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who will be greatly missed by his entire family.

His Family... Kyle leaves behind his wife, Clara; children, Randy (Sue); Sandy (Edward J.) Cebery, Tammy, Scott (Amanda); grandchildren, Jamie (James) Fredenburg, Kyle Pryce, Joshua (Aubrey), Edward (Ashley) Buczkowski, Jenny Pelkey, Kari (Kevin) Bancroft, Sara, Adam; and great-grandchildren, Kylie, Bella, Celia, Madeleine, Gavin, Juniper, LaVerne, Easton, Lola, Kason, and Elle.

His Farewell... Memorial contributions may be given to the family for future designation. Please leave a message of comfort for Kyle's family at 1-877-231-7900, or sign his guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.

Fowlerville High Alumni Association seeks donations for Scholarship Fund

In 1974, officers of the Fowlerville Alumni Association established the FHS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP program. Monies are raised yearly to enable the organization to present scholarships to members of the current Fowlerville High School graduating class. For nearly 50 years, well over 150 graduating seniors have been recipients of this scholarship. The organization hopes to continue this tradition. Again this year, the alumni association will present four scholarships at the 2022 Senior Awards Night. The recipients will also be recognized at the Alumni gathering to be held Saturday, June 11, at the Fowlerville Fairgrounds.

The scholarship fund is maintained through the many donations received in memory of loved ones who either were graduates of FHS or who maintained strong connections to the school such as teachers, coaches, bus driver or friends of the school. Please feel free to make donations in any amount at any time of the year. Some send donations yearly; for some, it is a one-time donation.

Donations can be sent to FHS Alumni Association, Box 446, Fowlerville, MI 48836. Donations for 2022 should reach the Alumni by May 5, 2022. Alumni treasurer & advertising chair Meghan Swain-Kuch can be contacted at 517-672-1747 or meghanmswain@gmail.com if you wish to recognize family & friends by making a donation for either a business card size or a larger entry (ex. 1/4 page in program) rather than the traditional listing.

Your generosity will not only help maintain the scholarship program but will help a graduating senior with college expenses. The FHS Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) organization. Please know that a Memorial list will be published in the NEWS & VIEWS in late spring.

Fowlerville students named to Dean's List at Central Michigan University

The following Fowlerville students were named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester at Central Michigan University.

Hunter Stobierski, a junior; Kira Buyers, a junior; Andrew Coe, a senior; and Mallory Heath, a sophomore.



Ingham County Comments

By: Randy Schafer,
District 13
Commissioner

***9-1-1 Alert:** The Director of 9-1-1 has sent several news releases concerning 3G Networks. It is important to re-visit the issue.

Wireless phone carriers are in the process of decommissioning 3G networks. This means that if you currently have a mobile or cellular device that still utilizes 3G technology, it will no longer work once the carriers shut down the 3G service.

As 3G is phased out, it will also affect your ability to dial 911 via your 3G mobile phone in the event of an emergency. Some carriers may still allow emergency 911 calls with the 3G devices, while other carriers and devices may not work at all.

How do you know? Check the phone's IMEI (international Mobile Equipment Identity) serial number. You can find the IMEI in one of the following ways: under the "About" tab or pressing *#06# on the phone's keypad. Once you have found the IMEI, enter the number at <https://www.imei.info>. It will provide the details.

The 3G network uses frequencies at 900Mhz or 2100Mhz.

Verizon has a shut-off date of December 31, 2022. AT&T has a shut-off date of February 2022. T-Mobile has a shut-off date of April 2022.

Ingham County Central Dispatch asks everyone to check their devices or contact their carriers to ensure you remain connected to each other and so you will always be able to reach 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency.

***Senior Center:** I will be speaking at the Williamston Senior Center on Feb. 16 for the last time as an Ingham County Commissioner. It is a great place and it has always been a joy to share with the Seniors.

Ingham County has resources and guidance that are invaluable. In addition, a recent millage passed in Leroy and Wheatfield Townships and the City of Williamston has enabled an increase in services. The concept of organization was identical to NIESA. Perhaps Locke and Williamstown Townships will participate in the future.

Tri-County Office of Aging is located at 5303 South Cedar Street, Lansing. The web site is: www.tcoa.org. The phone number is 517-887-1440.

***MAC:** Ingham County is a member of the Michigan Association of Counties. A conference is scheduled for March 21-23 at the Lansing Center.

It is an opportunity to meet legislatures and learn how other counties are dealing with issues such as workforce development, technology, road/bridges, drains, legalities, medical care facilities, etc.

The County functions are complex. The smarter one becomes, the more he/she realizes how little they know. So, there is always a need to learn, study and be open minded.

***Broadband:** It is exciting for the County to have established a Broadband Task Force using ARP funds.

A lack of broadband accessibility in Ingham County has a significant impact on economic development, property values, personal prosperity, education, health and safety and simply the overall quality of life.

The Board has appointed members across the county to represent the committee. The out-county is very well represented and the Board is committed to every resident having access; regardless of location.

The last few years have certainly demonstrated a need.

Bradley L. Horton

Associate Attorney

- Estate Planning
Wills • Trusts • Administration
- Business Law
Formation • Litigation

517-655-6380
www.tsgraypc.com



TINA S. GRAY 102 W. Middle St.
ATTORNEY AT LAW Williamston, MI



Change pays.

Katie Pikkarainen, Agent
215 E Grand River Avenue
Fowlerville, MI 48836
Bus: 517-223-4173
katie.pikkarainen.rale@statefarm.com
8:30 to 5:30 M - F

Switch and save an average of
\$480*

Talk to me about saving more than pocket change.
Get to a better State®.
Get State Farm.
CALL ME TODAY.



*Average annual per household savings based on a 2010 national survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm.

1201245

State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

DANCE EXPRESS
Maria's School of Dance competition dance troupe is proud to present its 25th annual spring show...

"Shake Your Groove Thing"

Dance Express 2021 - 2022 Members

Sunday, February 20th, 2022
2:00 pm

Fowlerville High School Alverson Performing Arts Center
700 N. Grand St., Fowlerville, MI

Tickets are available at Maria's School of Dance: \$15.00

Honors School:
Sara Johnson

Fowlerville High School:
Lottie Moonhouse

Webberville Schools holding Pre-K & Kindergarten Round-Up March 3

The Webberville Community Schools is holding its Pre-K and Kindergarten Round-Up on March 3 from 5-7 p.m. at the Elementary building.

Call the Elementary Office at 521-3071, Ext. 7935 to pre-register your child for this event.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIEDS

Call (517)223-8760

Your Local Shopping Bazaar



HARTMAN SEPTIC, LLC
RESIDENTIAL CLEANING
Serving Livingston County & Surrounding Areas

Flexible Schedule or at Customer's Convenience
Multiple Rate Job Discount
License #47-27

517-294-8433 Gary Hartman
Owner/Operator

Webberville Report



Webberville Ag Issues Team earns District Gold

The Webberville FFA Ag Issues Team earned a District Gold last week for its presentation on Enbridge Line 5 and will move on to the Regional Contest this Thursday February 17 in Corunna. Team members are, from left, Coach Sasha Glover, Michael Fraley, Micayla Wick, Cassie Bosworth, Maddie Derian, and Lucas Wisuri.

The Ultimate Wood Heat.

Set the thermostat where you want for a more comfortable home.

26% tax credit*
on qualified models & installation



Westmoreland Construction
Webberville, MI
517-468-3685

CLASSIC EDGE
TITANIUM HDX
Outdoor Wood Furnace
CentralBoiler.com



Senior Spotlight—Maxin Thomas Mills

By Emma LeBoeuf

Maxin Mills is a person of many skills, always keeping busy with sports, school, and work. Mills is both an excellent scholar and athlete.

“Keep that drive you have developed over the years and good things will come your way,” said Physical Education teacher Joshua Weaver.

Maxin Mills is the son of Dan Mills and Amy Driver, along with being the younger brother to Aaron Driver (Class of 2013), Sammie Driver (Class of 2014), and older brother to Tatum Mills (Class of 2023), all who have attended or are attending Webberville High School.

“My family means a lot to me, they are always supporting me,” said Mills.

Mills has participated in football, baseball, basketball, golf, FFA, Wilson Talent Center, and was on the homecoming court his sophomore and senior years.

“I want to go into the trades and the Wilson Talent Center has helped narrow down which career path I want to go down,” said Mills

Mills is in automotive technology at Wilson Talent Center and has been doing this program since his junior year. After high school Mills plans to go into the trades as either an automotive technician or electrician.

“I see Max working a great job and accomplishing whatever he puts his mind to,” said friend Kolson Lycos.

Mills has been awarded Most Improved and given the Spartan Award for football. In basketball Mills was a part of the league-winning team who also won districts and regionals. During baseball, Mills achieved all-league and the team won the league championship.

“I think the future is very bright for Max. He just needs to set some goals and go chase them,” said coach Esteban Rubio.

Mills’ has laid a strong foundation and gained so much knowledge in both sports and academics that he wants to share this knowledge by giving some advice to the underclassmen: “Do your schoolwork and also participate in sports because doing so will be the best experience in your life.”



Thomas Fairfield

Webberville student named to Dean's List at Ferris State University

Thomas Fairfield, a freshman at Ferris State University, was named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester. He is a 2021 graduate of Webberville High School. To make the Dean's List, a student must be taking a fulltime schedule of classes and earn a 3.5 or higher grade point average.

Fairfield earned a 4.0 GPA. He is majoring in information security and intelligence in the College of Business.

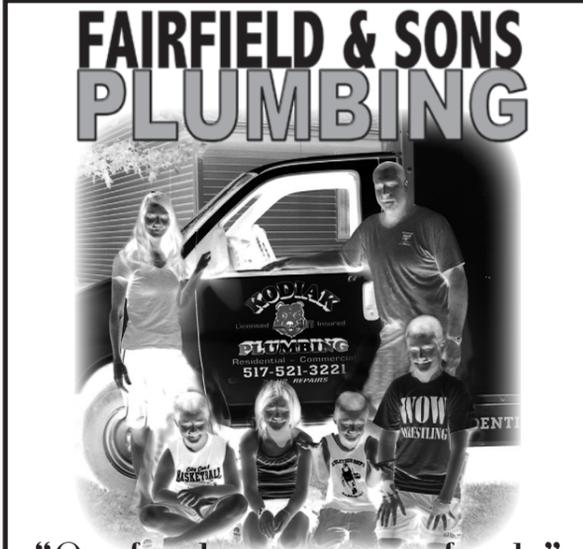
Williamston Eagles announce upcoming February Events

The Williamston Eagles are hosting a Euchre tournament February 18th. Registration begins at 6:15 and play starts at 7. Cost is \$10 per person and you don't have to bring a partner, you will draw for one. Dinner specials are available for purchase from 5 to 8 pm. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, along with set cup prizes. Everyone is welcome to attend. The club is located at 835 High St. Phone 517-655-6510 after 3pm for more info.

Join us for Trivia Night with Dj Nick Chase on February 25th at the Williamston Eagles Club. Cost is \$10 per person with up to 8 person teams. Bring your own team or join one at the club. Dinner special available from 5-8pm. The Eagles club is located at 835 High St in Williamston.

Kathy Ford and Friends return on Sunday, February 27th at the Williamston Eagles Club. Join us for a relaxing Sunday afternoon of dancing and socializing. Kathy starts at 5pm and plays until 8. There is a \$5 requested donation at the door to help cover costs. Dinner special is available 5 to 8pm. Doors open at 3pm.

FAIRFIELD & SONS PLUMBING



“Our family serving your family”

- Water Softeners, Service & Installation
- Water Heaters (Standard & Tankless)
- Well Tanks • Sump Pumps
- New Construction • Remodeling

Senior Discounts
ED FAIRFIELD
MASTER PLUMBER

517-521-3221 Cell 517-404-4150
LICENSED & INSURED



The new administrative team at the Williamston Senior Center are, from left, Beth Schrader, executive director; Dawn Harris, administrative assistant; Julie Rudd, assistant executive director; and Mickie Manley, kitchen coordinator.

Williamston Senior Center’s new administrative team expands offerings

By Steve Horton

There have been a number of changes at the Williamston Senior Center during the past few months, much of it due to area voters having approved a special dedicated millage levy in the 2020 election that is funneling more funds into the overall operations.

The Center is located at 201 School Street, on the second floor of The Commons, which previously served as a school building. It’s just east of the school’s current football stadium and track facility.

As a result of the extra money, a new administrative team has been put in place to run the Center’s day-to-day activities on behalf of the board. This includes Beth Schrader who took over as the executive director last November; Julie Rudd who serves as the assistant executive director, Dawn Harris who is the administrative assistant, and Mickie Manley who is the kitchen coordinator.

While the executive director’s position had been compensated prior to Schrader’s arrival, the rest of the staff was brought on as part-time paid employees. Before that, much of the organizing of activities and oversight at the Center was supplemented by volunteers, including board members.

Schrader pointed out that volunteers still play an important part, but noted that having a paid staff to assist her has allowed the Center to expand its offerings for area seniors.

Schrader brought a good deal of experience to her new position. She worked for the Howell Recreation & Parks Department for nearly 18 years—from July 1992 to March 2015. Her duties included serving as the Director of the Howell Senior Center, housed in the Bennett Center, along with a variety of other assignments. That background has given her a number of ideas for enhancing what’s being done at the Williamston Center.

As for the other three members of the administration team, Rudd had been on the board for three years, starting out as a volunteer who helped with the Center’s web site. She became more involved when working to secure the millage levy—both by convincing the City of Williamston and Leroy and Wheatfield townships to put it on the ballot and then promoting the successful passage of the quarter-of-a-mill levy. She left the board to assume her new position and to be part of turning the extra funding into tangible results. She and her husband own a horse farm south of Williamston.

As for Harris, she is now receiving some compensation and more specified duties for what she had previously done as a longtime volunteer. She started bringing her father, Joe Spano, to the Center and, through that association, began to help out more and more. While her father has passed away, she and her husband, Ron Harris, who is a vice president on the board, have continued their assistance. After a long career with the State of Michigan’s Dept. of Education, Harris is now retired.

Manley is no rookie to her position. She’s been a volunteer in the kitchen for over nine years, starting shortly after moving to the community and seeing a sign seeking volunteers at the Center. She also works at Michigan State University in the dining halls, having started that job in the Fall of 2017.

“One of the major changes is that we’re now open four days a week compared to the previous three-day schedule,” Schrader said. “We’re open Monday-thru-Thursday, with plans of going to five days some time this year.”

In addition to being open an extra day, she and the staff also expanded the calendar of daily activities.

“We offer something every day,” she said. “We have guest speakers come in to talk about services that they provide. We have musical performers, birthday celebrations, and we’re into arts and crafts, with instructors coming in to teach the class.”

Euchre and bingo are popular activities, as are exercise classes and special-event days. The Center also has knitting and needle-point groups.

An example of the latter was holding a Betty White Day, in memory of the late TV star, with staff and seniors wearing all-white outfits. Other special observances have included National Cheese Day, Australia Day, and ‘Wear Your Pearls’ Day.

“People love it when we dress up for a theme day,” said Schrader, adding that many of them are willing to join in.

Harris noted that Beth set the stage for what lies ahead when she showed up at the Center’s Halloween Party dressed as Mary Poppins, just prior to starting her executive director duties.

Rudd pointed out that the Center now has a Community Puzzle that members can work on. She also noted that the Williamston Rotary donated money that was used to purchase an Alexis device, which plays all kinds of music along with answering questions.

“The seniors have been having a ball with it,” she said.

“We’ve had great response for several things we’ve done,” Rudd continued. “One time we did bingo, using small rubber ducks. We had a hot chocolate day and we hosted a tea party. People, by themselves, wouldn’t do most of these things, but as a group they are having a good time.”

But it’s not all fun and games. The staff also looks for ways that seniors can be part of the larger community and to lend their assistance to good causes.

“We took part in preparing greeting cards that are distributed to area residents living in assisted living facilities and nursing homes,” Schrader pointed out. “It’s part of the ‘Smiles for Seniors’ project that a local resident does. We also hosted the PALS group from the high school who sat at the tables with the seniors, had lunch together, and visited. The high school girls basketball team came at Christmastime.”

The Williamston Senior Center also has had an entry in the community parades, runs the concession stand during the summer music concerts at McCormick Park, and participates in some of the Chamber of Commerce events.

While many of the programs are done for entertainment purposes, several have a more serious aspect.

“We had the fire department come in for winter safety and a police officer who warned about scams,” Schrader said, adding that attendees learned that the fire department will install fire alarms for seniors and that Consumers Energy will come into your home and evaluate the efficiency of your lighting. We also have a number of health professionals and governmental officials do presentations.”

Harris noted that providing noontime meals is an important component in what the Center does.

“We don’t have a commercial kitchen, so the food has to be brought here,” she said. “On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the meals are furnished by Tri-County Commission on Aging, but on Mondays the lunches come from area restaurants.”

Along with plans to add Friday to the schedule, the Center also plans to start a Travel Series where seniors can take a guided bus tour to different venues and events.

“That’s something I organized when I worked in Howell and we want to offer these day trips here as soon as possible,” Schader said.

The Senior Center had already offered meals as well as various programs under the leadership of previous executive directors, but the lack of guaranteed funding limited what could be done.

“Most senior centers and their programs are funded by a millage,” said Rudd. “We were relying mainly on donations. We serve the northeast area of Ingham County, basically the same residents as NIESA does. These municipalities—the City of Williamston and the townships of Williamstown,

Wheatfield, Leroy and Locke—gave us some money, we also obtained some grants, did fundraising, and received money from individuals and businesses in the community. While this financial amount helped keep the doors open, we were limited in what we could do and our future prospects. The grants, for example, couldn’t be used to add paid staff.”

With a goal of changing that scenario, Rudd and others on the board approached the local municipalities about putting a quarter-of-a-mil levy on the 2020 ballot for a duration of three years.

“Three of them agreed,” Rudd noted.

The passage generated around \$100,000 in 2021, with a similar amount expected this year. That, in turn, prompted the board to undertake a more ambitious program at the Center, both now and in the future.

Rudd said she is hopeful Williamstown and Locke townships will agree to putting the levy before their voters in the future, adding that both boards have donated money to the Center in their annual budgets.

The board of directors includes: Pastor Mike Black, president; Ron Harris, vice president; Marilyn Thompson, secretary, Steve Arends, treasurer; and trustees Karen Bollman, Roxanne Houghton, Ann Lemmen, and Karleen Dimick.

Governmental liaisons on the board are: Tammy Gilroy, City of Williamston; Wilma Whitehead, Leroy Township; John Allen, Wheatfield Township; Glenda Turner, Locke Township; and Wanda Bloomquist, Williamstown Township.

GEYER
Farm & Auction Service

HAY • LIVESTOCK • PRODUCE

Every Saturday starting at 9:45 am
February 5, 2022 Prices

Auctioned Item	Quantity	Price
Square Hay	823	\$4.00-\$9.00
Large Square Hay	10	\$60.00-\$72.50
Round Hay	118	\$30.00-\$70.00
Round Straw	12	\$7.50 each
Square Straw	25	\$3.25-\$4.00
Wood	8	\$62.50-\$82.50
Eggs (Dozen)	62	\$1.25-\$1.75
Rabbit	3	\$5.50-\$7.00
Chickens	4	\$6.00-\$11.50

Live Outdoor Consignment Auctions
2nd & 4th Sunday of each month starting at 10:00am

Online Auction
3rd Sunday of each month starting at 7:00pm

3040 DIETZ RD. • WILLIAMSTON, MI 48895 • 517-655-6343

**IOSCO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF REVIEW**

The Organizational Meeting of the Iosco Township Board of Review will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at the Iosco Township Hall, 2050 Bradley Rd, Webberville, MI 48892.

The Board of Review will meet to hear appeals of 2022 assessments, by appointment, on Monday, March 14, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 517-223-9545 ext. 104.

Resident and non-resident property owners may protest by letter. Letter appeals must be received by the last date of March Board of Review (March 15, 2022).

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for each class of property for 2022 are as follows:

CLASS	TENTATIVE RATIO	ESTIMATED FACTOR
Agricultural	49.71	1.0058
Commercial	47.81	1.0458
Industrial	46.97	1.0645
Residential	45.83	1.0910
Personal	50.00	1.0000

The inflation rate multiplier (CPI) for use in calculating 2022 capped values is 1.033

Pete Miller
Secretary to Board of Review
Anne Allen
Assessor
(2-13, 2-20 & 2-27-22 FNV)

NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIED SECTION

Call (517)223-8760

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



-DEADLINE THURSDAY BY 3PM-

DIRECT CARE STAFF NEEDED: To take care of disabled adults in Howell. DL/ID, GED/Diploma needed. Call Shelby at 810 588-3724.

EVANS GARAGE DOOR REPAIR AND INSTALLATION. Spring replacement. Wayne Dalton garage doors and Lift Master garage openers. "Our Business is Up & Down." Call anytime 517-223-9905.

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

PAINTING/POWER WASHING. Houses (Interiors and Exteriors), Decks, Trailer Homes. New Construction, Repaints, References, Written Contracts. Free Estimates. Guarantees. 517-599-6166.

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

CASH 4 CARS!!!

WE BUY ALL CARS/TRUCKS/SUV'S

-RUNNING OR NOT-

2200 N BURKHART. HOWELL MI

(810) 691-5030 stop by or we can come to you

CASH4CARSAUTOSALES.COM

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

FREE TIMBER INSPECTION. Buying timber, logs & property. Please text 989-319-8307 or email: lcruzetrod@gmail.com

HELP WANTED- Acorn Motel, Williamston. Room cleaner needed, flexible hours, 1-2 days week. Apply in person.

WANTED – vacant ground suitable for farming. MSU grad. Cash rent or share. References, insured. 517-204-2587 text preferred.

KING SIZE BED FOR SALE! – You get an always protected, very clean and stainless mattress, two box springs, and metal frame for only \$425. This will go fast call Cliff 517-294-3311.

LOOKING FOR USED MOTORCYCLE priced between \$1,000 and \$1,500 that runs goods. Enduro or Cruiser. Ask for Will. 517 993-4504.

10% OFF Senior Day on Wednesday
Easter & Spring Items 'Now Available'
Man Cave 'Save!'
HIS 'N HER RESALE SHOP
120 W. Grand River
Downtown Webberville

Williamston Area Senior Center

201 School Street - 517-655-5173

February 2022 Events

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BUSINESS SERVICES

TRASH REMOVAL: Estates, Pole Barns, Houses, Mobile Homes, Basements, Garages, Commercial Buildings. Full service. "We do all the work." Also, tearing down sheds, garages, mobile homes, and RVs. Call Jay at 517-980-0468.

AUSTIN HARDWOOD FLOORING: 25 years experience. Refinishing. Veteran owner, local contractor, affordable rates, senior discounts. Free Estimates! (517) 375-6143

BRENDA'S PET GROOMING--Quiet home setting. Saturdays only. Iosco Road, Webberville. By appointment only. Please call 517.294.0209.

BOB'S HANDYMAN SERVICE 517.604.0138 "I can fix it". Remodeling, frame/trim/tile work, roofing, painting, bathrooms etc.

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

EXCAVATION SERVICES—

Driveway Grading & Stone,

Debris Removal & Cleanups

Trenching, Grading Topsoil & Seeding

Ditch Cleaning & Brush Hogging & Site Clearing

Stump Grinding

517-375-2789.

WANTED: Junk or Disabled vehicles or scrap metal. Paying up to \$1,000 depending on what you have. Call John 517-225-8291.

Livingston County Concert Band celebrating 50th year with concert

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

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (age 62 and older) and children and students are free. Refreshments served following the concert.

Please visit the band's website (www.lccbmusic.org) or check out the Livingston County Concert Band Facebook page for more information.

Lenten Friday Fish Fry being hosted at Old St. Pat's of Ann Arbor

Old St. Pat's of Ann Arbor will host their 44th Annual Lenten Friday Fish Fry, starting March 4 and continuing thru April 8, 4:30-7:00pm. Inside dining and take-out are planned to include Alaskan Pollack, choice of potato or mac & cheese, salad bar/roll/beverage, and dessert (extra cost). Adults \$12, discounts for Seniors and Children. 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105; 734-662-8141; stpatricka2.org.



NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on **February 22, 2022 @ 11:00 a.m.** to dispense of the items stored in:

Unit #140 - Mark Guy
Unit #9 - Shannon Holbrook
Unit #203 - Amanda Callahan

THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE.

NELSON MINI STORAGE

9177 West Grand River • Fowlerville, MI 48836
(517) 223-0137

In My Father's Footsteps A Walk from Hell to Paradise

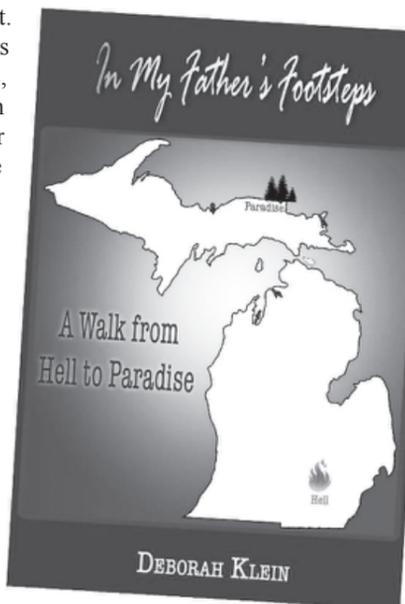
Discover the Beauty of Michigan on Foot. Explorer Clayton Klein spent many days walking the state of Michigan. Into his 90s, he regularly logged over 1,500 miles each year. To raise awareness and funds for Hospice, he trekked from Paradise in the Upper Peninsula to Hell in Southeastern Michigan each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

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

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

120 Pages • Route Maps • Over 40 color photos

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



Advertise in the...

FOWLerville NEWS & VIEWS

Call

(517) 223-8760

for details

Fowlerville Mini Storage

7074 W. Grand River • Fowlerville, MI • (517) 223-9090

NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on **Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 10am** to dispense of the items stored in the following unit:

Heather Moore Unit K-237

This sale is subject to cancellation without notice.

NOTICE OF DISPOSAL

The following people who have units at Webberville Mini Storage will have their units auctioned on or after **February 21, 2022** for non-payment of their unit. Units must be paid on or before February 21, 2022 to reclaim.

Austin Haydu	Lisa Bennett	Adam Dunn	Emily Miller
Chris Coltrain	Sean Sneath	Carly Stenfelt	Scott Pettis
Jeffrey Tisdale	Paul Burton		

WEBBERVILLE MINI STORAGE
517-521-3078



Livingston County Comments

By: Doug Helzerman,
District 4
Commissioner

Here are three news items that appeared in a recent Livingston County newsletter that I wanted to share with you.

In December 2021, Chief Deputy County Clerk, Kristi Cox, was honored by the Michigan Supreme Justice Megan Cavanaugh during a virtual ceremony for the graduates of the National Center for State Courts Institute of Court Management. At the ceremony, Kristi received recognition for completing the Certified Court Manager (CCM) course. To become a CCM, Cox had to take six courses that focused on accountability and court performance, caseload and workflow management, budget and fiscal management, project management, purposes and responsibilities of the courts, and workforce management.

In addition to the honor of her CCM status, Kristi also completed the requirements to become a Certified Court Executive and was accepted as a Fellow for the Institute for Court Management. Being named a Fellow is quite a prestigious honor as only 1,200 people worldwide have completed the program. We congratulate Kristi on all of her achievements and wish her continued success as she works through the Fellow program!

Brian Jonckheere, who became Livingston County Drain Commissioner in 1996, has been recognized as a Life Member of the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners (MACDC). MACDC selects one individual each year to receive this prestigious award. Brian was selected based on his contributions to the association and his state-wide efforts that have positively impacted Drain Commissioners.

He is a past president of MACDC and has also served on the Legislative Committee. He initiated a strategic planning initiative which has led to educating legislators and affecting policies. He also has many accomplishments in Livingston County that have positively impacted thousands of residents within the County. Brian, congratulations on receiving this well-deserved award!

The LETS (Livingston Essential Transportation Service) has taken a huge step into the future of providing timely rides to the residents of our county.

They are excited to announce that their LETS GO Mobile App is now live! With the scheduling app you can now book and pay for your trip using your mobile device. For anyone who hasn't used LETS' services in the past, download the app by scanning the QR code or search for "LETS GO" in your mobile app store. After the app downloads, sign up to get started booking trips!

If you are a current LETS customer, please call the Dispatch Office at 517-546-6600 and login information for the app will be provided to you.

By the time you read this article, over 2,500 rides will have been booked with the new app! This is a quick and easy way to get wherever you need to go. While the phone line to schedule rides is open from Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., the app is available for use 24/7. Just like Uber and Lyft, the LETS GO app shows you where your bus is, so you know when to expect it. This is one benefit of the app that family members and caregivers will find helpful when they want to verify that their loved one has arrived at a destination or has been picked up.

Most round-trip fares within the county range between \$4-\$12. You can take a look at the route map and fare list at <https://www.livgov.com/lets/Pages/route-mapandfares.aspx>.

Need to get to the Detroit Metro Airport? You can book a connection with Michigan Flyer directly through the LETS GO app. Michigan Flyer picks up and drops off passengers on the south side of the Brighton Meijer parking lot and you have the option to leave your car there during your trip for a low daily price.

The next time you need to get somewhere without worrying about the stress of traffic and the hassle of parking, count on LETS to get you there!

Regular Service Hours
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Limited Saturday Hours
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

I look forward to your input for good government:
dhelzerman@livgov.com or 517-375-4869.



U.S. Congress Report

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

New Federal Program can Lower Monthly Internet Bill for Eligible Households

I want to let you know that there is a new federal program that gives families a discount on their monthly internet bill and helps them with the cost of electronics. It's called the **Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)** and it's administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

How can it help?

- Up to a **\$30/month** discount on your internet service
- A **one-time discount of up to \$100** for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)

Am I eligible?

According to FCC, a household is eligible if *one* member of the household meets at least *one* of the following criteria:

- Participates in assistance programs such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline
- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines
- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school year
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income program

How do I apply?

There are two steps in the application process. First, go to ACPBenefit.org to **submit an online application or print a paper form, then contact a participating provider and select a plan.** If applying via mail, mail the application that you printed from ACPBenefit.com and send it to the ACP Support Center at P.O. Box 7081 London, KY 40742.

I've heard time and time again from folks in the district about their lack of access to affordable broadband internet. While there is still work to be done on broadband expansion in Michigan, this program is a great opportunity for working families to get some relief.

If you're having trouble submitting an application to the FCC or dealing with any other kind of issue with the federal government, don't hesitate to reach out to my office at 517) 993-0510 or Slotkin.house.gov. We have experienced caseworkers that can help you navigate federal agencies.

New Livingston County High-Quality Natural Areas Assessment available

The Livingston County Planning Department is excited to share a new publication that was researched, written and produced in-house by Principal Planner Rob Stanford. The approximately 100 page document is chock-full of analysis and corresponding beautiful and informative maps created by Livingston County GIS Technician Sandon Lettieri.

The publication identifies, ranks and maps High-Quality Natural Areas throughout Livingston County. The assessment represents an extensive update to the County Planning Department's initial 2004 study entitled "Livingston County High Quality Natural Areas."

Computing technology, data availability, and mapping products and processes have improved tremendously since 2004, which has allowed us to do much more in depth analysis than was previously available.

The process utilized for this publication was established by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI). MNFI recommends that local municipalities throughout the State of Michigan, incorporate this information into their master plans and zoning ordinances.

The site map and ranking data can be used by local municipalities, land trusts, and other agencies to prioritize conservation efforts and assist in finding opportunities to establish an open space system of linked natural areas and habitats in the region.

A new mapping application for high-quality natural areas will be developed and added to the Livingston County GIS

Fowlerville Police Report for the Village of Fowlerville Council Meeting for Monday, February 14, 2022

The Fowlerville Police Department responded to 573 calls for service over the past two weeks. Tickets used during past two weeks **10**.

Warrant Authorized/Declined

Incident #22-00045 – No Valid Operator's License and Violation of Controlled Substance Act – Warrant Furthered

- 36 y/o male, Owosso, January 18, 2022 at 2329 hours

Incident #22-00077 – Operating While Intoxicated, High B.A.C. – Warrant Furthered

- 24 y/o female, Pinckney, February 1, 2022 at 2241 hours

Incident #22-000 79 – Operating Under the Influence of Drugs 2nd and No Insurance – Warrant Furthered

- 56 y/o male, Stockbridge, February 2, 2022 at 0215 hours

Incident #22-00085 – Domestic Violence – Warrant Denied

- 34 y/o female, Fowlerville, February 4, 2022 at 0230 hours

Incident #22-00091 – Operating While Intoxicated 3rd and Open Intoxicants – Warrant Authorized - FELONY

- 32 y/o male, Whitmore Lake, February 6, 2022 at 0208 hours

Incident #22-00003 – Criminal Sexual Conduct – Under Review

- 23 y/o male, January 2, 2022 at 1337

Officers Investigated the Following Types of Complaints:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • 12-Assist to EMS/FAFD | • 1-911 hang up |
| • 1-Abandoned vehicle | • 1-Admin duties |
| • 2-Alarms | • 108-Area check |
| • 88-Building/property check | • 9- Citizen assist |
| • 7-Community policing | • 3-DHS referrals |
| • 1-Court prosecutor activity | • 1-DWLS |
| • 2-Disturbance | • 1-Family trouble |
| • 2-Domestic | • 11-Follow up |
| • 6-Foot patrol | • 1-Fraud |
| • 59- General Non Criminal | • 2-Hazard |
| • 1-Intimidation/threats | • 3-Larceny |
| • 4-Juvenile complaints | • 1-K9 training |
| • 9-Liquor investigations | • 1-Loud party |
| • 1-Lost/Found property | • 4-Motorist assist |
| • 1-Meetings | • 3-OWI |
| • 11-Ordinance investigation | • 5-PDA |
| • 1-Patrol/traffic complaint | • 14-School events |
| • 79-Subdivision patrol | • 4-Suspicious Situations/Vehicle/Person |
| • 4-Suspicious Situations/Vehicle/Person | • 10-Subpoena service |
| • 10-Subpoena service | • 34-Traffic details |
| • 60-Traffic stops | • 3-Traffic complaints |
| • 1-Warrant att/search | • 4-Warrant arrest |
| • 3-Welfare check | |

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

Additional Information:

Well, Fowlerville we made it through a record-breaking snowfall over the last two weeks. DPW did a great job clearing the streets! I would also like to thank the citizens and business owners for working so well with us keeping the streets and parking lots clear so DPW could remove snow safely and efficiently. And on another note, thank you for clearing the sidewalks in front of your houses and businesses in record-breaking time.

I know I have said this before but we have such a great community here in Fowlerville. ☺

Respectfully Submitted,
Chief John J. Tyler

Map Gallery.

Highlights of the plan include:

- The identification of over 980 High-Quality Areas in Livingston County ranked as Low, Medium or High priority.
- Conservation data for each Livingston County municipality such as total High-Quality Area acreage and acreage upgraded, degraded or lost over the 17 year time period.
- A comparison of County Planning's 2004 Livingston County High Quality Natural Features Report with the new 2022 assessment, documenting the loss of 9,839 acres of conservation lands.
- Numerous maps such as land use, land cover, green infrastructure, biological rarity, Livingston County High-Quality Areas, and High-Quality Area changes over time.

This beneficial new Potential Conservation Areas Assessment can be found on the Livingston County Planning Department website at: www.livgov.com/plan/Pages/County-Plans.aspx

Gov. Whitmer unveils state budget recommendations to Legislature

The following news release was issued by the Governor's Office, detailing her spending proposals for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer on Wednesday released her fourth executive budget recommendation, once again making strong investments in education and putting Michiganders first by putting money back in their pockets and delivering on the issues that matter most to Michigan families.

State Budget Director Christopher Harkins outlined the recommendations at a joint session of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The budget recommendation, it was stated, invests in the success of students and teachers, accelerates Michigan's economic momentum and supports our workforce, rebuilds the state's roads, bridges, and pipes, improves the health of residents, and bolsters public safety.

"Just two weeks ago, I delivered my State of the State address, where I outlined the bipartisan accomplishments of the past three years and shared my vision for the future. I laid out plans to cut taxes for seniors and working families by rolling back Michigan's retirement tax, giving more than 500,000 households an average of \$1,000 a year, and raising the Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit, putting an average combined refund of \$3,000 back in the pockets of 730,000 working families," said Gov. Whitmer. "The budget I put forward today delivers on those tax cuts and makes strong investments in the kitchen-table issues that make a real difference in people's lives."

"This is a fiscally responsible budget that provides the type of investments that will move Michigan forward, with very strong support for our schools and for our economy," said State Budget Director Christopher Harkins. "With the added revenues available to us and the strong support we have received from the federal government, this is a unique opportunity to transform our state for years to come. I look forward to working with the legislature over the next few months to ensure we get a budget into place by the June 30 deadline that makes the most out of this opportunity."

The budget plan accounts for the proposal announced in Governor Whitmer's State of the State address to roll back Michigan's retirement tax and cut taxes for working families by raising the Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit. Given current revenue projections, these tax relief measures are responsibly absorbed into the base budget without creating projected shortfalls and without creating future budget constraints.

The budget recommendation totals \$74.1 billion, including a general fund total of \$14.3 billion and a school aid budget totaling \$18.4 billion. It provides a significant amount of one-time funding while maintaining balance in future years and does not utilize one-time funds for ongoing purposes.

Enhancing Education

The budget recommendation provides for a school aid budget that marks the biggest state education funding increase in more than 20 years-without raising taxes.

- \$580 million to increase base per-pupil funding from \$8,700 to \$9,135, a five percent increase that equates to \$435 per student.
- \$222 million to fully fund supports for economically disadvantaged students by providing an additional 11.5% of the base per-pupil amount per student and eliminating proration, increases total to \$746.5.
- \$150 million to increase supports for special education students by increasing the reimbursement of costs for special education students by five percentage points, bringing the reimbursement rate up from 31% to 36%.
- \$31 million for additional supports for vocational education and career and technical education. This includes an increase in state reimbursed costs, additional funding for equipment purchases, and additional funding for millage equalization payments.
- \$5.3 million for increases for intermediate school district funding, English language learners supports, and students in rural and isolated districts. This amount represents a 5% increase in combined appropriated levels.
- \$1.6 billion for educator retention programs that make sure our educators have the supports they need and the recognition they deserve for the work they do, including:
 - \$1.5 billion for payments to eligible teachers, administrators, and support staff who continue working in their school district over the next four years.
 - \$50 million annually for teacher onboarding and mentoring programs.
 - \$75 million for innovative approaches to addressing regional educator retention needs.
 - \$600 million for educator recruitment programs to ensure the teacher talent pipeline continues to provide the education system with the best possible educators.



Programs funded include scholarships for future educators, stipends for student teachers, training opportunities to create and improve school leaders, and expanded programs in school districts to recruit, train, and retain teachers from their communities.

- \$361 million for student mental health to ensure students with mental health needs can be identified and provided with the right support.
- \$66 million for school safety programs, building off existing school safety grant opportunities for districts and implementing cross-sector approaches to prevent mass violence through partnerships between schools, public safety, mental health professionals, and communities.
- \$72.6 million for pre-K education programs, including \$56 million for the Great Start Readiness Program, which provides free preschool for income-eligible four-year-olds, to increase the full-day allocation from \$8,700 to \$9,135 per student and provide start-up funds for new programs and classrooms. The budget also includes increased funding for early identification and intervention services for younger children through the Early On Program as well as through home visitation and early childhood collaborative efforts.
- \$1 billion for the creation of a school infrastructure modernization fund to provide \$170 million annually in future years, awarded to districts for significant infrastructure projects to offset the cost for districts.
- \$50 million for before and after school programs to help students with unfinished learning needs, provide a safe place outside of school hours, and provide the extra-curricular activities that foster academic success.
- \$94.4 million for literacy-related programs and activities in Detroit Public Schools.
- A 5% ongoing increase plus a 5% one-time increase for university and community college operations as well as \$200 million for campus infrastructure, technology, equipment and maintenance (ITEM) funds.

Allow Michigan National Guard members to transfer tuition benefits to their children and dependents.

Growing Our Economy and Investing in Workers

The budget recommendation calls for funding centered on economic and workforce development, including:

- \$500 million deposit into the Strategic Outreach and Reserve Fund to provide funding for economic development projects that invest in Michigan's future and attract transformational projects that keep Michigan at the forefront of manufacturing.
- \$50 million for Electric Vehicle Rebates to provide a \$2,000 point-of-sale rebate for the purchase of a new electric vehicle and a \$500 rebate for at-home charging equipment for a new or used electric vehicle.
- \$40 million to provide aid to communities that have experienced significant economic impacts from the departure or disinvestment of large-scale employers and their workforces from their communities.
- \$500 million to provide hero pay for our frontline workers in support and recognition of their sacrifice during the pandemic.
- \$230 million for Transformational Education Infrastructure to promote new collaborative approaches among higher education institutions and other partners in

health science and medical education, and the electrification of vehicles and mobility.

- \$200 million for the Michigan Regional Empowerment Program to support the growth, development, diversification, and resiliency of regional economies through a competitive grant program.
- \$88 million to strengthen Michigan's Unemployment Insurance System.
- \$25 million for the Mobility Futures Initiative to support a statewide effort advancing Michigan's position in the rapidly evolving mobility sphere.
- \$85.8 million for innovative workforce development programs for a range of new investments in Michigan's workforce to address businesses' needs for talent and to ensure Michigan residents have the skills, training, and opportunities they need for good-paying jobs.
- Fund the Office of Rural Development to help rural communities meet workforce, education, infrastructure, and connectivity needs through a \$10 million investment for rural development engagement and support.
- A major investment of \$200 million is recommended for the Michigan Regional Empowerment program to provide matching funds for regional empowerment programs that support the development and resilience of regional economies across the state.
- A further \$30 million in support for economic development in food and agricultural industries plus \$10 million for rural development grants.

Improving Public Health

The budget recommendation calls for funding centered on the health of Michigan families, including:

- \$243.3 million for increased access to dental services for Medicaid enrollees that replicates the success of the Healthy Kids Dental program for adults by procuring Healthy Kids Dental, HMP dental, and fee-for-service adult dental services through a single combined managed care contract. Another \$4.3 million is provided to increase Medicaid reimbursement for outpatient hospital and ambulatory surgical centers.
- \$8.3 million to provide ongoing increase for family independence payments, \$100 per month per child ages five and under to assist low-income families with the unique costs of caring for very young children.
- \$10.5 million for a child welfare services rate increase, which increases state rates to residential child caring institutions serving foster children by 5% and private residential juvenile justice providers by 12%.
- \$20 million for to address racial health disparities.
- \$50 million for statewide nutritional and food bank support to assist with infrastructure improvements to distribute food more efficiently to families in need of assistance, including the creation of an emergency stockpile of food in each food bank warehouse.
- \$25 million for student loan reimbursement for behavioral health providers.
- \$325 million for a new State Psychiatric Facility Complex, funds construction on a single campus, serving to replace facilities for the Hawthorn Center and Walter Reuther Hospital to increase inpatient capacity and improve efficiency of services provided.

continued on next page

Gov. Whitmer unveils state budget recommendations, continued

- \$15 million to the Jail Diversion Fund to be used by the Mental Health Diversion Council to distribute grants to local entities to establish and expand jail diversion programs in partnership with local law enforcement and behavioral health services providers, ensuring that individuals with mental illness receive appropriate treatment.

Rebuilding Our Infrastructure

The budget recommendation calls for historic investments in Michigan's infrastructure, including:

- \$578 million in funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to provide resources for several Michigan infrastructure projects that will continue to fix roads, bridges, railways, and local and intercity transit, while also providing capital improvements at airports.
- \$480 million in fiscal year 2022 to increase road and bridge construction for state and local roads, highways, and bridges.
- \$150 million to support projects that are economically critical, carry high traffic volumes, increase the useful life of key local roads, or will be completed in conjunction with bridge replacement projects.
- \$66 million for generators for pump stations to ensure reliable generator backup power is available at all 164 MDOT-owned pumping stations, increasing public safety measures for highway flooding events.
- \$60 million for rail grade separation to support projects at key congested local rail crossings that impede efficient movement of commercial and passenger vehicles and jeopardize timely public safety response in an emergency.
- \$3.9 million for the Michigan Automated Weather Observation System Replacement Plan to increase public safety by replacing the state's automated weather observations, some of which are 30 years old.
- \$5 million to fund and staff the newly formed Michigan Infrastructure Office to effectively and efficiently implement federal infrastructure funding and serve as an interagency coordinating body across state government and stakeholder groups.

Investing in Safe Communities

The budget recommendation calls for funding centered on safe communities, including:

- \$50 million for first responder retention, to provide payments to law enforcement officers and public safety personnel, including state troopers, conservation officers, firefighters, EMTs, and local and state corrections employees who have performed hazardous work related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- \$9.2 million for a state police trooper recruit school to graduate 50 new troopers in addition to the 120 troopers that are anticipated to be hired and trained using existing attrition savings.
- \$1 million for state police trooper recruitment to help broaden the racial, ethnic, and gender makeup of the Michigan State Police to make it more representative of the communities it serves.
- \$48 million for community technical assistance for lead line replacement projects.
- \$40 million for home plumbing to provide grants to households earning up to 200% of the federal poverty level to make minor home plumbing repairs to ensure safe drinking water and help make homes eligible for weatherization assistance.
- \$34.3 million for high water infrastructure grants to local units of government for high water level and climate resiliency planning and infrastructure needs, focused on addressing flooding, coastline erosion, transportation networks, urban heat, and storm water management.
- \$69.3 million for cleanup of contaminated sites and to improve the ability to identify, assess, and cleanup sites of legacy contamination plus additional funds for rapid response.
- \$10 million to begin the conversion of the state government fleet to electrical vehicles.
- \$1.6 million for food and agriculture preparedness and response to address gaps identified during the pandemic, helping create and maintain disease response plans.

The budget recommendation also proposes a \$51.8 million deposit to the Budget Stabilization Fund, which would bring the rainy day fund balance to nearly \$1.5 billion.

There is \$49.8 million included to provide a 5% increase in both ongoing and one-time statutory revenue sharing to help counties cities, villages and townships.

Legislature should approve a sustainable budget for Michigan

Commentary by James M. Hohman & Vance Ginn, Mackinac Center for Public Policy

While Michigan employs 205,200 fewer people than in February 2020, a 4.6% decrease, the state government's budget continues to grow.

To keep the government from spending more and further crowding out the productive private sector, the Mackinac Center has created the Sustainable Michigan Budget. This plan would set a maximum limit on what lawmakers can spend, based on changes in population and inflation. The next state budget would be allowed to grow by 3.15% under this formula, limiting spending of revenue from state taxes and fees to \$39.1 billion.

Spending restraints should make it easier for lawmakers to lower tax rates. If state revenues exceed what needs to be spent, lawmakers should let individuals keep more of their hard-earned income. This would encourage job growth, provide more opportunities for Michigan residents and make the state more competitive economically.

Over the past two years, 14 states have cut their tax rates — including Ohio, which now taxes income at lower rates than Michigan. Lawmakers in Indiana are also looking to



Michigan Senate Report

By Lana Theis, 22nd District

Reaction to Governor's FY 2023 budget recommendation

Sen. Lana Theis, R-Brighton, issued the following statement Wednesday, after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration presented lawmakers with her fiscal year 2023 state budget recommendation:

"Perhaps the only thing worse than a governor drunk on power is one drunk on power with a fat wallet. Sadly, that is what we have today in Michigan.

"It seems Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is hoping Michiganders will forget everything she got wrong over the past two years with her failed policies that caused people to lose their livelihoods and even their lives, and instead look at all the money she wants to give away.

"We the people aren't having it. Certainly, there are important areas that need investment — K-12 education and infrastructure, for example— but growing government while people's budgets are stretched thinner and thinner in this economy is a terrible idea.

"The state's wallet is flush with cash and it is up to us to ensure taxpayers' money is spent effectively and efficiently in ways that don't cause financial problems down the road. Instead of a spending spree, we need to reduce hardworking families' tax burden and give them a refund while we're at it."

Tax relief for residents a priority for next state budget, says Rep. Bollin

State Rep. Ann Bollin (R-Brighton), a member of the House Appropriations Committee, on Wednesday issued the following statement after Gov. Whitmer's administration detailed its budget proposal for the state's next fiscal year:

"A historic increase in government spending — that's the highlight of the governor's ideal state budget for next year. Thankfully, she doesn't get to make budget decisions unilaterally."

"The proposal put forth by the governor's office today is just the first step in the state budget process. I am already working with my colleagues on the House Appropriations Committee to put together our own plan, with a heavier focus on responsible year-to-year spending and tax cuts."

"While her proposal doesn't go far enough, I'm glad to see that tax relief is on her radar. Cutting taxes is a top priority. Michigan families are feeling the pressure as gas and grocery prices skyrocket. They deserve relief that makes a real difference in their bank accounts."

"Our state's finances must also be an area of focus. Paying down debt and investing more into the state's rainy-day fund remain a priority."

"I remain committed to working with my legislative colleagues to develop a responsible state budget that respects the priorities and the pocketbooks of Michigan taxpayers."

cut income taxes and business taxes as well as eliminating two state utility taxes. Limiting spending can help the state compete with its neighbors while providing a better economic environment for residents.

When lawmakers limit spending, they can use the extra revenue raised by the state to improve Michigan's financial prospects by paying down long-term debt. Lawmakers accidentally made school employees the state's largest creditors by severely underfunding the school pension system. This is a disservice to teachers and expensive to taxpayers. Paying down this debt would save billions of dollars in interest costs over time.

Spending limits also encourage lawmakers to prioritize effective government programs. They must balance devoting state resources to their highest priorities while keeping government affordable to taxpayers. This increased prioritization can help ensure that residents receive more effective services from government each year, not just more expensive services.

Michigan's initially approved FY 2021-22 budget included \$37.9 billion in spending. U.S. CPI inflation was 3.32% in FY 2020-21, while Michigan's resident population declined 0.17%. That comes to 3.15% in population growth plus inflation. Based on the Sustainable Michigan Budget, the FY 2022-23 budget should be no more than \$39.1 billion.

2023 Sustainable Budget

Year (Billions of \$)	State Funds
FY 22 Base	\$37.93
FY 23 Limit	\$39.12
Change	\$1.19
Increase	3.15%

The Sustainable Michigan Budget does not apply to the large amount of federal funds recently sent by Congress to Michigan, as these should be only one-time appropriations. This is because fiscal transfers to the state budget are made primarily by federal lawmakers for restricted purposes. The funds cannot be used to lower state taxes or pay down state debts, for instance.

It's an appropriate time to limit state spending. Michigan suffered through a one-state recession in the 2000s and these losses affected the state budget. Since then, however, state revenue has steadily increased. Spending grew faster than the rate of population growth plus inflation for eight out of the past 10 years.

The Sustainable Michigan Budget would provide further protections than exist in the state's current spending limit, which was put in place in 1978 by the Headlee Amendment. The current limit, based on personal income growth since 1977, would allow lawmakers to ratchet up spending by 35% before meeting this threshold. As such, it provides no real constraint on the size of the state budget.

Legislators find themselves with more taxpayer dollars at their disposal than ever before. They have been in the habit of spending every one of those dollars. As anyone who manages a household budget should know, that's not a long-term, fiscally responsible practice. A Sustainable Michigan Budget would change this tendency. It would help ensure state funds are devoted to highest priorities, bolster the state economy, and, more importantly, ensure that residents have more opportunities to flourish in the productive private sector.

James M. Hohman is the director of fiscal policy at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

Vance Ginn, Ph.D., is chief economist at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, and served as the associate director for economic policy of the White House's Office of Management and Budget during the Trump administration, 2019-20.

Article reprinted with permission of Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

**“Fowlerville News & Views”
Neighborhood Classifieds**

\$8 for the first 20 words
...then 10¢ a word after

Call (517)223-8760
206 E. Grand River - Fowlerville

Two slave owners once represented Michigan in U. S. Congress

By Eric Freedman
Capital News Service

When the Civil War erupted, Michigan was one of the first –perhaps *the* first – state to send troops to Washington in response to President Abraham Lincoln’s urgent plea for help.

“Thank God for Michigan,” Lincoln supposedly said when the 1st Michigan Infantry arrived.

The savage war that followed cost the lives of almost 15,000 Michigan soldiers from combat and disease.

Yes, the state’s price in blood, sweat, tears and taxes that helped save the Union was steep.

But it doesn’t wipe out the fact that two former slave owners—one famous, one virtually forgotten—once represented Michigan in Congress.

The famous one was U.S. Sen. Lewis Cass, whose career also included service as secretary of State, secretary of War, ambassador to France, Michigan’s territorial governor and failed Democratic nominee for president.

In 2020, his name was stripped from a state office building in Lansing. It was renamed the Elliott-Larsen Building in honor of the two legislators who sponsored the state’s most important civil rights law.

But Michigan’s other ex-slave owner is little remembered.

His name? George Wallace Jones, a lawyer born in Indiana, raised in Missouri and educated in Kentucky who moved to a small mining town in what was then the Michigan Territory in 1827.

His slave-owning father was actively involved in efforts to expand the reach of slavery in Indiana, according to a 1913

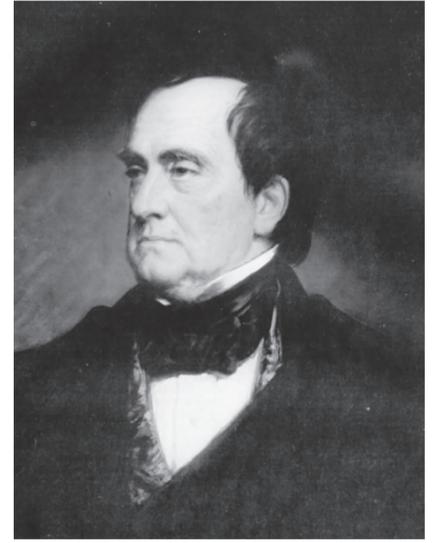


George Wallace Jones, a delegate to the U.S. House from Michigan Territory, formerly owned two slaves.

biography.

Data compiled by the *Washington Post* shows Jones was among more than 1,700 members of Congress serving in the 1700s through the early 1900s who “owned human beings at some point in their lives.” The newspaper used census and historical records to compile a searchable database, made public in January, of slave-owning members of the House and Senate.

In 1835, Michigan territorial voters elected Jones as their delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressional



Lewis Cass, a former Michigan Territory governor, U.S. senator, Secretary of State and Secretary of War, had owned slaves.

delegates were elected from territories, while representatives were elected from states.

When Congress allowed Michigan to become a state as of 1837, it split off the western portion of the territory, where Jones lived, to become Wisconsin Territory. He was then elected the House delegate from Wisconsin Territory.

“A Democrat of the old tradition, Jones had strong Southern sympathies and at one time had been a slave owner himself,” according to the Wisconsin Historical Society. A 1973 history of the state described him as “a one-time slaveholder (who) enjoyed political and social prestige and for two decades wielded a strong influence in the affairs of Wisconsin Territory.”

Details are sparse, but a 1900 newspaper article in the historical society’s collection cited county records showing that Jones brought an enslaved “young man and a young woman” to Michigan Territory when he relocated from Missouri. The bill of sale shows that Jones had paid \$500 for the man.

“There is nothing to indicate what became of the woman,” the newspaper reported, but the man was identified in court documents as “a man of color” named “Paul Jones.” His mother had been a slave in Illinois and had bought her own freedom for \$200 in 1827.

In 1846, “Paul Jones” sued his master for wages for “all the time he was held in slavery by (George) Jones,” the newspaper reported in an article describing an “interesting lawsuit in territorial days.”

The suit claimed that George Jones had allowed “Paul Jones” to “work in the neighborhood until he had earned enough to purchase himself. So in suing his former owner he not only claimed wages for his services but demanded a return of the money he had paid for his freedom,” the newspaper said.

A jury found in favor of George Jones, so “Paul Jones” got nothing.

After losing a reelection campaign as a delegate, Jones moved to Iowa, where he was elected to the U.S. Senate. He later became President James Buchanan’s minister-ambassador—to what is now Colombia until Lincoln recalled him.

“On his return to the U.S., Jones was imprisoned (for 64 days) by order of Secretary (of State William) Seward for allegedly writing a treasonable letter to Confederate leader, Jefferson Davis,” the historical society said. “Although indiscreet in writing to his old schoolmate, Jones’ letter was far from treasonable, and he was released by order of President Lincoln after serving two months.”

As for Cass, some Democrats are pushing ahead to have his statue removed from the U.S. Capitol, where it has stood since 1899.

The National Statuary Hall holds statues contributed by individual states, two per state, in honor of notable people in their history. Former President Gerald Ford is the other Michigan honoree.

Eric Freedman is professor of journalism and former associate dean of International Studies and Programs. During his 20-year newspaper career, he covered public affairs, environmental issues and legal affairs for newspapers in New York and Michigan..

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

www.Fowlervillenewsandviews.com

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

LIKE US ON **facebook.** @ Fowlerville News Online