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Volume XXXIV No. 1

Sunday, January 7, 2018

Published Weekly

Fowlerville student featured artist at Michigan Music Conference

By William Vliek

Director of Bands at Fowlerville Schools

Later this month, Maura Drinkert, a 10th grade student at Fowlerville High School, will be attending the Michigan Music Conference, the state's largest event focused on music education. Maura, however, will not be attending as an educator, but rather she'll be there as a featured artist.

Maura has been selected as one of 14 student composers for the annual Honors Composition Concert. The concert, sponsored by the Michigan Music Education Association, takes place in the ballroom at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids.

Any student, from grades kindergarten to twelfth grade, may submit a composition to be considered. All entries are then forwarded to collegiate music composition faculty to be reviewed and evaluated. The faculty then selects the best of the best to be featured at the annual concert in January.

Maura's piece "The Ticking Clock", written for percussion ensemble, was selected this past December.

Maura has been creating her own music for the past three years, ranging from wind band compositions to her own songs. She takes great pleasure in pushing herself musically and feels that composing original music is a natural extension of her desire to

Continued on page 5

Handy Township may be home of new electrical power plant

See page 3 for story



Maura Drinkert wrote her musical piece for the marimba, an instrument that she plays. The composition will be performed at the upcoming Michigan Music Educators Honors Composition Concert on two marimbas, a vibraphone, and a glockenspiel.



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5 Generations pose for family photos over the holidays

Here Mary Larson sits with her great great granddaughter Annabelle Wineinger on her lap. In back from left are her great granddaughter Jenifer Fortson, her grandson Chris Fortson and her daughter Judy Fortson.

Shown seated here is Mary Larson holding her great great grandson Erik Neff. In back from left are her grandson Chris Fortson, her daughter Judy Fortson and her great granddaughter Rachel Neff.

Sitting in front is Jim Derr holding his great great grand-nephew Erik Neff. In back from left are his grand-nephew Chris Fortson, his nephew Bob Fortson, and his great grand-niece Rachel Neff.

Here Jim Derr sits with his great great grand-niece Annabelle Wineinger on his lap. In back from left are his grand-nephew Chris Fortson, his great grand-niece Jenifer Fortson and his nephew Bob Fortson.

Why the small things matter
It starts with your shoes

We do something very odd and unique at our karate school – we take off our shoes. Did you ever wonder why?

Well some of it is because of tradition. Another reason might be because it helps keep the dojo floor clean. But I think there is an even more powerful reason we take off our shoes and I would like to share it with the sincere hope it changes how you think and what you do. In the end, I think you will discover, this one seemingly simple task can profoundly change your child.

Okay, so why all this fuss and bother over shoes?

A good way to answer this is with some advice Navy Seal Admiral William McRaven gave as the 2014 commencement speaker at the University of Texas. The video of his speech went viral and you can easily view it on YouTube. Many say it was one of the best graduation speeches ever given. In it he shared the 10 life lessons he learned as a Navy Seal. The very first lesson was:

1. "If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed!"

The reason - this is the very first thing you do each day. He went on to say "If you can't do the little things right, you will never do the big things right." To change the world and be a leader you have to be able to do the small repetitious mundane things well.

Back to the karate school. We are here to help you develop the attitudes and character traits of the highly successful in your child. You can talk to your child until you are blue in the face. You can teach or show them what to do but most will never develop or embody these attitudes and character traits unless they experience them. Kids can only learn by doing. Can you imagine your child focused, intentional and driven to do everything, and especially the small things, perfectly every time? You get them started strong at the dojo and we will do the rest. After their class, hold them to a high standard in how they leave. No throwing their uniforms at you! No lost belts or gear! Remember the last thing you do at the dojo – put on your shoes!

How can you develop this "small things" lesson at home? How anyone starts their day is huge. Is your home where everything goes like clockwork all the way until you kiss them good bye in the morning. Or, does your morning start with you having to nag them repeatedly to get up? Do they complain or struggle as they get dressed and ready? Is it a challenge to get them to eat breakfast? Are you looking for lost things? Are you typically in a state of stress as you realize they are going to be late for school or the bus? Have you ever had a child that just starts the day badly and this same energy/emotion stays with them the rest of their day?

So, back to what you can do. Do they make their beds? One of my pet peeves is waking themselves up for school. Get them their own alarm clock. Teach your child the process and routine of starting strong. Do the small things well. Is this hard work on your part? Yes it is!

How about school? Ask your child or their teacher – what are the small repetitive but important things my child needs to do especially at the start of their school day? What are your routines and procedures for home-work/reading at home?

In your child's karate class we do new things but if you notice we do many, many small things over and over the same way in almost every class. There is a method to our madness. Do you know another word for these simple mundane tasks done repeatedly over time? They are your "HABITS"! ... What habits are your child developing?

It is worth repeating this quote from Mahatma Gandhi:

"Your beliefs become your thoughts, Your thoughts become your words, Your words become your actions, Your actions become your habits, Your habits become your character, Your character become your destiny."



Master the Mundane, Sensei
Sam Larioza

How can you develop this "small things" lesson at home? How anyone

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Lee Hamilton Column

Taking Stock As We Begin a New Year

This may seem odd, but as I look ahead to a year we all know will be momentous, you want to know what I feel most strongly? Gratitude.

I'll tell you in a moment how much work we have ahead of us to strengthen our country. But I'm mindful of just how strong we already are. A resilient economy has been performing well for several years now, avoiding both rampant inflation and recession. Despite its flaws, we have a remarkable education system that has allowed more people to enroll in college, make dramatic gains in lifelong learning and — especially in the case of racial minorities — get an education that a generation ago would have been much harder to secure.

We have a more diverse, educated workforce than ever before, and we're making progress on issues from climate change to social equality. We remain wealthy, powerful, and blessed with perhaps the strongest governing institutions of any country in the world — despite the challenges of the moment.

We possess an immense, deep pool of talented people, who have made us a leading example of unity out of diversity, or as our motto has it, "out of many, one."

However, we have to work to retain and buttress our strengths. And as I suggested, we have our work cut out for us.

For one thing, we've always been an open country, welcoming a great diversity of people and remaining open to their aspirations and ideas. But we've been losing this. Immigration has been cut back sharply. A large and vocal group of Americans want to "take back America" to some more homogenous ideal that never actually existed.

At the same time, too many Americans also feel excluded and alienated from economic opportunity and what should be shared institutions. There are fewer places where different classes of people can mix and where our institutions can become more heterogeneous. We tend to associate with our own, which is natural and not to be criticized, but it carries costs in reinforcing our own biases.

And as economic inequality rises, smaller and smaller groups of people corner an ever larger share of wealth, political power, and communal influence.

All of this has been straining our politics. We are more polarized and politically divided than I've seen in my lifetime. Excessive partisanship, the permanent political campaign that marks policy-making at the federal level, the strength of narrow interest groups, the outsized role of money in politics, the decline in the quality of public debate — all are cause for great concern.

I hope 2018 sees a turn toward addressing the defects in our political institutions and political culture — a shift in political life toward seeking the common good and focusing on the national interest.

This would allow us to re-focus on one of the defining features of our country's history: that what we're about as a nation is providing opportunity for all. That everyone has a role to play in contributing positively to a better neighborhood, a better community, a better state and nation, a better world. That as Americans, we devote ourselves to something larger than ourselves.

This sense of beckoning opportunity has been waning. We're not investing in our future as we used to, in basic infrastructure like roads and bridges, in social infrastructure like schools, health clinics and libraries, or in the research and development that are crucial to a next-generation economy. Our optimism as a country — so characteristic of our past — seems hard to locate these days. Americans are troubled, uneasy, and alarmed by everything from the quality of presidential leadership to Russian meddling to the rise of income inequality to the decline of traditional families.

Yet here's the thing. While I understand our problems, I utterly reject the idea that we can give into them. From its start, this nation has been about resolving problems. We did so by embracing our simple, core virtues: humility, hard work, a welcoming attitude, inclusivity, neighborliness, consensus-building, and above all, a recognition that freedom has been given to us and we have an obligation to lead constructive lives.

That's what we're about as a country. Not decline, or division, or insurmountable obstacles. Let's remember that in 2018.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Fowlerville student, continued

artistically express herself.

It's not always easy, though. When asked what the hardest part of composing is, she states that there are moments of insecurity when she doesn't know where the piece is going to go next.

"Trust your ears" is the best advice she can give to fellow composers when that moment of insecurity rears its head. She says that many young composers get too hung up on the battle between their advanced performance skills and their young composition skills. She urges them to "create first, edit later."

When asked what she is looking forward to most about the concert, Maura replied "the chance to meet fellow student composers and be inspired by listening to their compositions."

The MMEA Honors Composition Concert will take place at 11am on Saturday, Jan. 27, in the Amway Grand Hotel ballroom in Grand Rapids.

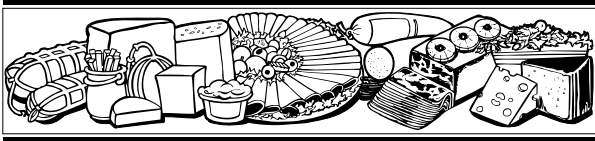
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TO RESIDENTS OF HANDY TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE HANDY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN

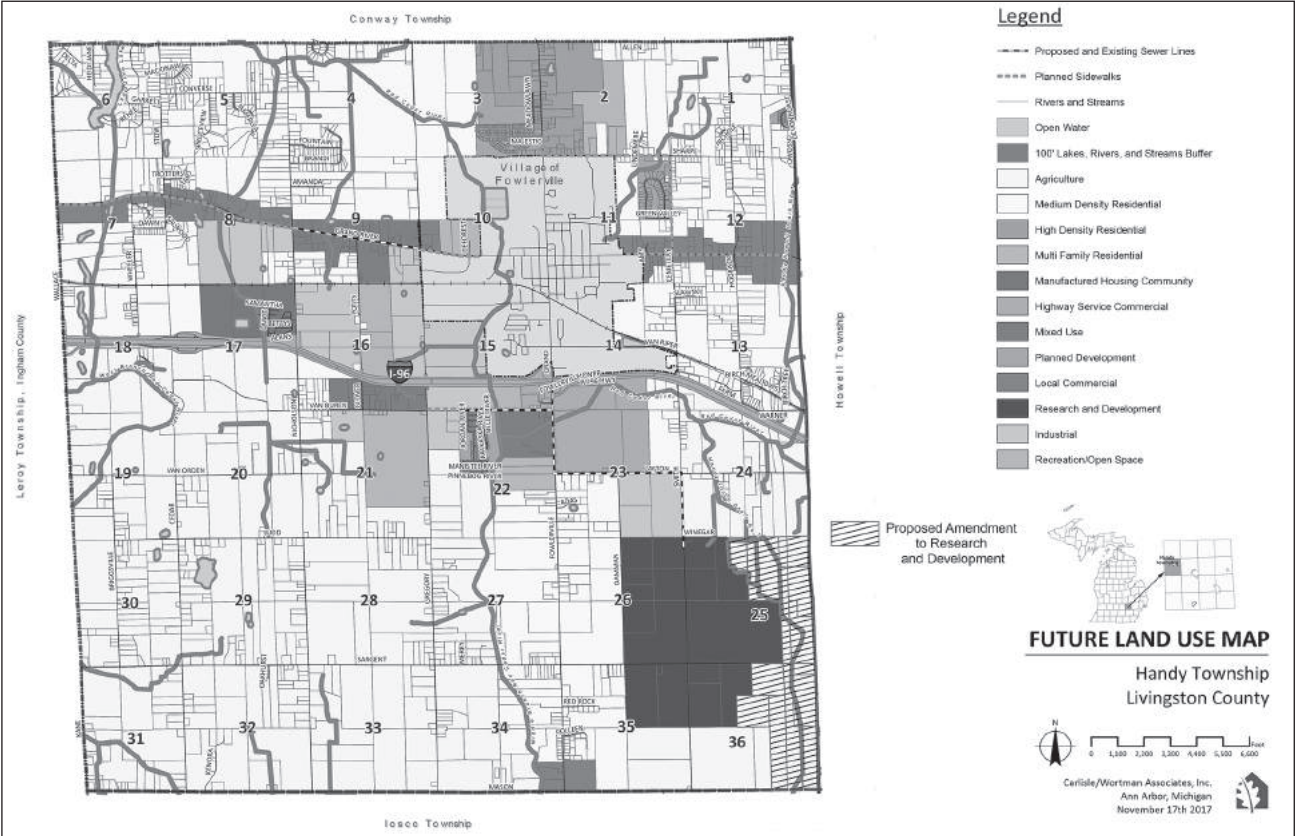
PLEASE BE NOTIFIED THAT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP HALL LOCATED AT 135 N. GRAND AVENUE, FOWLERVILLE, MICHIGAN 48836 (USE REAR ENTRANCE) ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HANDY TOWNSHIP MASTER PLAN THAT ARE IDENTIFIED BELOW.

The proposed amendment to the plan includes changes in the Future Land Use Map (Attached) showing expanded areas for research and development land uses and new text describing the intent of the Research and Development land use shown below.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Research and Development land use designation is intended to provide large areas intended and oriented toward research, emerging technologies, energy innovation and enhancement, testing facilities, high technology manufacturing operations and similar uses that are characterized by a high degree of scientific and technical input, and the employment of professional and technical staff. The standards established for these areas should be designed to promote sound, permanent installations and also to protect any nearby residential areas from undesirable aspects of these operations.

The public is invited to submit written comments



on any, or all, of the amendments which comments should be directed to the Township Clerk at the Handy Township Hall, P.O. Box 189, Fowlerville, MI 48836 at any time before 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled public hearing. The tentative text and Master Plan may be examined at the Handy

Township Hall, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, MI 48836 (517-223-3228) on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Cathy Elliott, Secretary
Handy Township Planning Commission
(1-7-18 FNV)

TO THE RESIDENTS OF
HANDY TOWNSHIP
REZONING OF LAND

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED THAT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON JANUARY 25, 2018, AT 7:40 P.M. AT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP HALL, 135 N. GRAND AVENUE, FOWLERVILLE, MI 48836 (USE REAR ENTRANCE) ON THE FOLLOWING REZONING OF LAND IN HANDY TOWNSHIP:

PROPOSED REZONING AMENDMENTS

The Township of Handy has received a request from CPV Mason Road, LLC and the following property owners to rezone the following properties within Handy Township that are zoned AR Agricultural Residential from AR Agricultural Residential to RD Research and Development. This land is generally described as vacant land between Mason Road on the south, Truhn Road on the east and Sargent Road to the north. The legal descriptions for the parcels to be rezoned are as follows:

Land situated in the Township of Handy, County of Livingston, State of Michigan, described as follows:
The East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Livingston County, Michigan. (Parcel A)

AND ALSO:

The West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Livingston County, Michigan. (Parcel B)

AND ALSO:

The Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4. EXCEPTING beginning on the North line of the Section, 983.05 feet Westerly of the Northeast corner of Section; Thence West 350.15 feet, South 1,320.65 feet East 350.12 feet North 1319.45 feet to point of beginning. ALSO EXCEPTING the Easterly 983.05 feet of the North 445 feet of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan.

Also Described As:
Beginning at the Northeast corner of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, South 445 feet to the point of beginning; Thence West 983.05 feet; Thence South 875 feet; Thence East 983.05 feet; Thence North 875 feet to the point of beginning. (Parcel D-1)

Owner: Munsell Family Trust
Tax Codes: 47-05-36-100-001; 47-05-36-200-001; 47-05-36-200-004, respectively

AND ALSO:

Land situated in the Township of Handy, County of Livingston, State of Michigan, described as follows:
The North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4. EXCEPTING beginning on the North line of the Section, 983.05 feet Westerly of the Northeast corner of Section; Thence West 350.15 feet, South 1,320.65 feet East 350.12 feet North 1319.45 feet to point of beginning. ALSO EXCEPTING the Easterly 983.05 feet thereof, Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan. (Parcel D-2)

Owner: Catherine Proulx
Tax Code: 47-05-36-200-004

AND ALSO:

Land situated in the Township of Handy, County of Livingston, State of Michigan, described as follows:
The East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4, Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan. (Parcel C)

AND ALSO:

The East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any part of lands conveyed to The Detroit Edison Company described as: That part of the East 1/2 of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, described as: Beginning at a point in the South line of Section 36, said South line also being the centerline of Mason Road; Thence North 88 deg. 58' 08" West 978.72 feet from the Southeast corner of said Section; Thence continuing North 88 deg. 58' 08" West along said South line 350.06 feet to a point; Thence North 0 deg. 02' 48" a distance of 2637.46 feet to an iron in the East and West 1/4 line of said Section; Thence North 0 deg. 06' 03" West a distance of 1320.65 feet to an iron; Thence South 88 deg. 36' 02" East a distance of 333.06 feet to an iron; Thence South 0 deg. 05' 08" East a distance of 1319.50 feet to an iron in the East and West 1/4 line of said Section; Thence South 88 deg. 47' 48" East along said 1/4 line 17.33 feet to an iron; Thence South 0 deg. 02' 48" East a distance of 2636.40 feet to the point of beginning.

ALSO EXCEPT that part conveyed by Deed at Re-

ording No. 2015R-035085, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan; Thence South 88 deg. 18' 18" East, along the South line of said Section 36, 663.86 feet to the West line of the East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 36 and to the point of beginning; Thence North 00 deg. 35' 40" East, along said West line of the East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 36, 1651.33 feet; Thence South 89 deg. 24' 56" East, 420.00 feet; Thence South 00 deg. 35' 40" West, 1413.66 feet; Thence North 89 deg. 24' 20" West, 320.00 feet; Thence South 00 deg. 35' 45" West, 240.06 feet to said South line of Section 36; Thence North 88 deg. 18' 18" West, along said South line of Section 36, 100.02 feet to the point of beginning.

ALSO EXCEPT that part conveyed by Deed at Recording No. 2016R-007073, being a part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 36, Town 3 North, Range 3 East, Handy Township, Livingston County, Michigan, more particularly described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of Section 36; Thence South 88 deg. 18' 18" East along the South line of Section 36 and the centerline of Mason Road (66 foot wide public right of way) 763.87 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel to be described; Thence North 00 deg. 35' 45" East, 240.06 feet; Thence South 89 deg. 24' 20" East, 320.00 feet; Thence South 00 deg. 35' 40" West, 246.21 feet to a point on said South line of Section 36 and the centerline of Mason Road; Thence North 88 deg. 18' 18" West along said South line of Section 36 and the centerline of Mason Road, 320.06 feet to the point of beginning. (Parcel E)

Owner: F.M.K. Properties, L.L.C.
Tax Codes: 4705-36-200-00-2 and 4705-36-400-006 respectively

The text of the zoning ordinance, the zoning map, and the proposed rezoning application may be examined at the Handy Township Hall, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, MI 48836 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The public is invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed rezoning to the Township in care of Laura A. Eisele, Handy Township Clerk, before 5 p.m. on the day prior to the hearing.

Cathy Elliott
Handy Township Planning Commission Secretary
(1-7-18 FNV)

TO THE RESIDENTS OF HANDY TOWNSHIP

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED THAT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON JANUARY 25, 2018 AT 7:35 P.M. AT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP HALL, 137 N. GRAND AVENUE, FOWLERVILLE, MI 48836 (USE REAR ENTRANCE) FOR THE FOLLOWING:

AMENDMENT 1. AMENDMENT TO ZONING TEXT

1. Amendment to “**CHAPTER 20, RD Research and Development District, Section 20.3**” a new Subsection 20.3 B shall be added and shall read as follows:
- B. Qualified Fuel Power Generation Facilities.

AMENDMENT 2. AMENDMENT TO ZONING TEXT

2. Amendment to “**CHAPTER 1, DEFINITIONS**” a new Definition to Chapter 1.2 shall be added and shall read as follows:

QUALIFIED FUEL POWER GENERATION FACILITIES - an electric generation facility which utilizes petroleum or any fraction thereof, natural gas, natural gas liquids, liquefied natural gas or synthetic gas to generate electricity, and related accessory uses, including, but not limited to, fuel and water storage, cooling systems, substations, switchyards, and transmission and control facilities.

AMENDMENT 3. AMENDMENT TO ZONING TEXT

3. Amendment to “**CHAPTER 16, SPECIAL USES**” Section 16.6 “Special Land Use Specific Design Standards” a new subsection 16.6 AAA shall be added and shall read as follows:

AAA. QUALIFIED FUEL POWER GENERATION FACILITIES (“QF Power Plant”)

Purpose.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide a regulatory scheme for the designation of suitable locations and zoning districts for the construction and operation of qualified fuel power generation facilities in the Township, to protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public and to ensure compatible land uses in the vicinity of the areas affected by qualified fuel power generation facilities. The Township has determined that qualified fuel power generation facilities are appropriate as a special land use in the RD, Research and Development zoning district, subject to the requirements and regulations set forth in this Ordinance and in addition to those otherwise cited in Chapter 16 of the Township's Zoning Ordinance.

QUALIFIED FUEL POWER GENERATION FACILITIES (“QF Power Plant”) shall be permitted as a Special Land Use in the RD Zoning District subject to the standards and conditions set forth in this Chapter and the following:

1. Application Requirements.

- A. In addition to any established fee for an application for a special use permit and site plan review, an escrow account shall be established when the applicant applies for a Special Use Permit for a QF Power Plant. The amount of the required escrow shall be a good faith estimate by the Zoning Administrator to cover all reasonable costs and expenses associated with the special use permit review and approval process, which costs and expenses may include, but are not limited to, fees of the Township Attorney, Township Planner, and Township Engineer, or other consultant as the Township deems necessary, including, but not limited to, any reports or studies which the Township anticipates are reasonably necessary for reviewing the application. At any point during the review process, the applicant may be required to place additional funds into escrow with the Township if the existing escrow amount is deemed by the Zoning Administrator to be insufficient to cover any remaining anticipated or actual costs and expenses of completing the review. If the applicant fails or refuses to deposit additional funds in escrow within thirty (30) days after receiving notice, the review and approval process shall cease until and unless the applicant makes the required escrow deposit. Escrow funds remaining after payment of all costs and expenses shall be returned to the applicant within a reasonable time. An itemized billing of all costs and expenses shall be provided to the applicant upon request. The Township may enter into a separate escrow agreement meeting the requirements of this section.
- B. An application for special land use permit approval of a QF Power Plant shall also include a site plan meeting all of the following requirements and the requirements of Chapter 15, except to the extent of any conflicts or inconsistency with the terms and conditions of this section:
1. A map of the property subject to the application and all existing and proposed buildings, improvements, uses, parking, access roads, existing and proposed utilities, interconnection locations with the power grid, and any other intended structures or facilities.
 2. The project area boundaries within the Township (“project boundary”). If the project boundary is part of a larger project area that extends outside of the Township's jurisdictional boundaries, the overall boundaries of the project area shall also be indicated on a separate sheet of the site plan.
 3. Approximate location and height of all major, proposed permanent buildings, structures, and other above-ground structures which are designed and intended to be permanently affixed to the real

property within project boundary (e.g., turbines, stacks, boilers, administration and control structures and facilities, condensers, steam generators, and the like), provided, however, that there may be other, less significant improvements located on site which are not depicted.

4. Approximate locations and height of all existing permanent buildings, structures, and above ground utilities located upon property located within 300' of the project boundary.
5. Approximate elevations of all major, proposed permanent buildings, structures, and other above-ground structures which are designed and intended to be permanently affixed to the real property within the project boundary (e.g., turbines, stacks, boilers, administration and control structures and facilities, condensers, steam generators, and the like) and the relationship to the elevation of all existing and proposed structures within 300 feet of the project boundary. This part of the plan must include visual simulations of how the completed project will look from the public roadway in at least four different viewable directions; north, south, east and west, from ¼ of a mile from the project boundary.
6. Access roads and driveways to the QF Power Plant within the project boundary, together with a detailed narrative regarding dimensions, composition, and maintenance of the proposed roads and driveways. Construction of access roads and driveways to serve a QF Power Plant shall comply with all existing Township ordinances regarding construction of the same. Private roads and driveways shall be inspected by an engineer chosen by the Township. Any costs and expenses for inspections shall be paid by the applicant.
7. Proposed security measures to prevent unauthorized trespass and access.
8. A lighting plan shall be provided as part of the site plan. The lighting plan must describe all lighting that will be utilized, including any lighting that may be required by the FAA. The plan shall include the planned number and location of lights, light color and whether any lights will be flashing. Strobe lights are discouraged and must be shielded from the ground.
9. A landscaping and buffering plan depicting the landscaping and buffering described in Section 16.6.AAA.1.D shall be provided in connection with the site plan application submitted with the special use permit application.
10. The site plan shall depict the fencing described in Section 16.6.AAA.1.E.
11. The improvements depicted on the site plan shall satisfy the bulk and dimensional requirements described in Section 16.6.AAA.1.F.
12. The parking improvements depicted on the site plan shall satisfy the parking requirements described in Section 16.6.AAA.1.G.
13. The applicant shall also submit a written statement confirming that all permanent structures and improvements shall comply with all applicable laws, codes, rules, regulations, and ordinances pertaining to design and engineering of the same.
14. The applicant shall also submit a written statement confirming that the applicant shall secure and comply with all licenses, permits, consents, approvals, and similar authorizations required by applicable laws, codes, rules, regulations, and ordinances pertaining to applicant's construction, installation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and operation of the QF Power Plant (the “Applicant Licensing”).
15. The applicant shall provide a process to resolve complaints from nearby residents concerning the construction or operation of the project. The proposed process must be satisfactory to the Planning Commission.
16. The applicant shall provide a narrative on the useful life of the QF Power Plant including a description of potential decommissioning of the QF Power Plant. After a QF Power Plant has been in operation for at least 15 years, the current owners shall review potential decommissioning with the Planning Commission, such review may require the QF Power Plant to post adequate security to ensure decommissioning.
17. Insurance. Prior to commencing construction, the applicant shall provide proof of liability insurance at all times for at least \$5,000,000 and shall name the Township as an additional insured. The applicant shall agree to hold the Township harmless and indemnify, but not defend, the Township against all claims, losses, liabilities, causes of action, demands, judgments, decrees, and costs and expenses of any nature (including without limitation reasonable attorney fees and expert witness fees) resulting solely from the negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of the applicant or the applicant's officers, agents, employees, contractors, successors, or assigns in connection with the construction, operation, maintenance, or decommissioning of the QF Power Plant; however, provided the Township diligently

continued next page

defends itself utilizing claims, counterclaims, third party claims, and defenses available to it, in its sole discretion. Applicant shall reimburse the Township on a monthly basis its reasonable defense costs and expenses (including any reasonable costs and expenses on appeal) of any nature (including without limitation reasonable attorney fees and expert witness fees) for such defense. Applicant shall not be permitted to withhold or setoff any of the foregoing costs and expenses to be reimbursed to the Township, even if the applicant asserts the costs and expenses incurred were unreasonable. The applicant's obligation to indemnify the Township against all claims, losses, liabilities, causes of action, demands, judgments, and decrees (other than the reimbursement of defense costs and expenses as stated above) shall only arise upon entry of a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction and after the Township has exhausted its ability to appeal the final judgment. The Township may enter into a separate indemnification agreement meeting the requirements of this section.

18. The applicant shall submit a written narrative, estimating of the applicant's anticipated and estimated economic impact of the QF Power Plant upon the Township and the County. The narrative shall include the applicant's estimate of financial impact regarding temporary and permanent jobs, tax revenue anticipated to the Township, the County and local schools.

19. Any and all additional information reasonably requested by the Planning Commission related to the application for special land use or site plan approval.

C. Required Studies.

1. The applicant, at its sole cost and expense, shall deliver to Township copies of all environmental assessments, impact studies, and/or other relevant report(s) or studies (including, but not limited to, assessing the potential adverse effects or impacts on the public, endangered species, and/or other wildlife), which applicant is required to undertake or secure in connection with the Applicant Licensing. These materials shall be submitted with the site plan application if available at the time of application. If the environmental assessments, impact studies, and/or other relevant report(s) or studies required by this subsection are not available at the time of application, such assessments, studies and/or report(s) shall be provided immediately upon completion. The site plan may be conditionally approved pursuant to Section 15.1.C.4, but such condition shall not be deemed satisfied and such approval shall not be deemed final until and unless the Zoning Administrator notifies the Planning Commission that all of the conditions have been satisfied by the applicant in connection with the Applicant Licensing.
2. A Sound Pressure Level study showing the ambient sound and modeling and analysis report of sound expected to be produced from within the project boundary, including sound generated cumulatively from all of the activities in the project boundary during full operation of the QF Power Plant (i.e. excluding such sound produced during construction, transient conditions and startup). The sound pressure level study shall, at a minimum, show the expected maximum sound pressure level measured at the nearest point on the nearest property line of any property located adjacent to the project boundary.
3. The traffic study pertaining to permanent operations (i.e. excluding construction and startup) described under Section 15.1.D.1.c (2) of the Ordinance shall be required.
4. The applicant shall submit a detailed description of information and training that applicant will provide to local fire departments in the vicinity of the QF Power Plant to address capability and preparedness, or lack thereof, of first responders to an emergency, including the release of natural gas, fire or explosion, as a result of the operation of the QF Power Plant. Such summary shall include the following:
 - a. Training. The applicant shall offer an emergency response training program for local enforcement, fire, and hazardous material response personnel of the authority having jurisdiction. The applicant shall offer, at applicant's cost, relevant training prior to commencing operation of the facility and annually thereafter using an appropriate training program.
 - b. Equipment. The applicant may offer to provide any additional equipment, structures and/or real property to ensure a timely and adequate response to emergencies at the facility.
 - c. The applicant shall provide the contact information of the individual or individuals responsible for the operation and activities at the QF Power Plant. Such information shall include a phone number where such individual or individuals can be contacted twenty-four hours per day, three-hundred sixty-five days a year. Annually, or upon any change of relevant circumstances, the applicant shall update such information and provide it to the Township and all emergency service providers.

d. The applicant shall provide copies of operation and safety manuals relating to the QF Power Plant and the same shall address the potential for and response to emergency conditions, including fire, explosion and collapse of any structures as well as safety perimeters required or recommended. The summary must also explain notification and emergency action plans for adjacent landowners, residents and the Township. The application shall also include a detailed evacuation plan for the QF Power Plant and how the applicant intends to implement such a plan in the case of an emergency. These materials shall be submitted with the site plan application to the extent the same are available at that time. To the extent the same are not available at the time of the site plan application, the site plan shall be approved with a condition requiring applicant to submit such materials when the same become available.

e. The applicant shall commit to providing Manufacturers' Material Safety Data Sheet(s), when the same are determined by applicant (which may be after site plan review), detailing type and quantity of all materials used in the operation of all equipment including, but not limited to, all lubricants and coolants. These materials shall be submitted with the site plan application to the extent the same are available at that time. To the extent the same are not available at the time of the site plan application, the site plan shall be approved with a condition requiring applicant to submit such materials when the same become available.

D. In satisfaction of any greenbelt and buffer requirements of Sections 2.17, 15.1.D.1.g and 15.2 of this Zoning Ordinance, all off-street parking areas, exposed storage areas, exposed machinery installations, service areas, truck loading areas, utility buildings and structures, and similar accessory areas and structures including all QF Power Plant bases and related equipment shall contain landscaping and buffering designed and intended to minimize visual impact to the extent practicable from adjacent public roads and the boundary of adjacent properties zoned for single-family residential use as a permitted use, provided, however, that any required screening may be satisfied by the use of topography. In addition, open space or undeveloped land, including tillable acreage which may be used for agricultural purposes, shall be considered in satisfaction of any required screening.

E. All QF Power Plant bases and related equipment shall be surrounded by a full perimeter fence to prevent unauthorized access which shall surround the area of the vertical improvements constructed upon the project site. The fence shall have lockable gates and shall be a chain-link fence at least eight (8) feet in height but not more than ten (10) feet in height, inclusive of any security features on the fence, but excluding any security cameras. The applicant may propose alternate means of access control which may be approved at the discretion of the Planning Commission. Warning signs shall be placed on the fence providing notice of the potential dangers and the contact information in case of an emergency.

F. Project sites for QF Power Plants and all buildings thereon shall comply with Chapter 14 of the Zoning Ordinance, including all height and setback requirements, except as follows:

1. Minimum Area: 10 acres
2. Minimum Road Frontage: 200 feet
3. Maximum Height and Setback: Structures, towers, stacks and appurtenances that would otherwise be exempt from height restrictions under Section 2.8 of this Zoning Ordinance and condensers and heat recovery steam generators, shall be permitted on project sites but shall not exceed 300 feet in height and any such items which exceed 80 feet in height shall be set back at least 100 feet from the project boundary.
4. Parking & Drives: Parking areas and drives may be located within the side and rear yard setbacks provided that such drives and parking areas shall be no closer than 10 feet from a property line.
5. Access & Utilities: The foregoing setbacks do not apply to structures located completely underground and do not apply to structures, such as pipelines, electric transmission and telecommunication poles, towers, and lines, walkways and roadways above ground, provided such above ground structures are immediately and entirely adjacent to property owned by an electrical transmission company, natural gas transmission company or public utility and where such structures are necessary in order to provide access, interconnection and/or service from the subject property to the property owned by an electrical transmission company, natural gas transmission company or public utility.
6. Buffering in Setbacks: All required buffering, greenbelts, and screening shall be permitted within the foregoing setbacks. In addition, open space or undeveloped land, including tillable acreage which may be used for agricultural purposes, shall be considered in satisfaction of any required screening.

Fowlerville High School Wrestlers defeat Ionia in conference meet

The Fowlerville High School Wrestling Team traveled to Ionia for a conference meet this past Wednesday and came home with a win. “We are now tied for second in the CAAC White and are undefeated for 2018,” said Dan Coon, the wrestling coach.

The meet score was 45-25. Individual winners and pinners were Jordan Devota, Houston Hough, Wyatt Daniel, Deagun Gonzalez, Ashton Philburn, Tom Salois, Hunter Wilson, and Caleb Medina. “Man of the meet was Caleb taking on the heavyweight role for the night and wrestling a great match that inspired the team to a victory,” Coon noted.

The Glads next Varsity action is this Saturday, Jan. 6, at Warren Fitzgerald and then the team starts its home series of duals this Wednesday, January 10.

OWNER:
JOHN FORD JR.

JOHN'S
ALUMINUM
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
27 COLORS
VINYL SIDING • AWNINGS
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DECKS & ENCLOSURES • GARAGES
517-404-1336
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Fowlerville Fire Department Report

Thursday, December 28th, at 3:35 a.m. a medical emergency on Layton Road in Handy Township was reported. At 1:40 p.m. the department was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on I-96 in Handy Township. Personnel assisted at a medical emergency on Free Street in the Village at 3:49 p.m. and at 4:59 p.m. firefighters responded to a reported vehicle fire on I-96 in Handy Township.

The department was called to a medical emergency on Coon Lake Road in Iosco Township at 12:20 a.m. Friday, December 29th. At 4:44 a.m. personnel assisted EMS on Lance Lane in Handy Township. Firefighters were dispatched to a medical emergency on Kalamazoo River Drive in Handy Township at 9:54 a.m. At 6:44 p.m. personnel responded to a request for mutual aid from the Howell Area Fire Department at the scene of a structure fire on Chase Lake Road in Cohoctah Township. A medical emergency on Nicholson Road in Handy Township was reported at 10:20 p.m.

Saturday, December 30th, at 9:42 a.m. personnel assisted at a medical emergency on Nicholson Road in Handy Township.

Sunday, December 31st, at 4:37 a.m. the department responded to a medical emergency on Odell Road in Iosco Township. Firefighters were dispatched to a medical emergency on Riverbend Drive in Iosco Township at 4:49 a.m. and a third medical emergency was at 5:17 a.m. on Hazelnut Street in the Village.

Monday, January 1st, at 1:35 a.m., the department was dispatched to Grand River Ave. for a medical emergency. Firefighters were called to S. Grand Ave. in the Village at 4:21 for an environmental cleanup at a motor vehicle accident. A medical emergency on N. Grand Ave. was reported at 11:28 p.m.

At 3:50 a.m., Tuesday, January 2nd, personnel assisted EMS on Ann Street in the Village.

Kreeger Elementary School News

1-15-18: NO SCHOOL

1-17-18 & 1-18-18: Hearing Screening for 4th grade

1-29-18, 1-30-18 & 1-31-18: Hearing Rescreening 4th grade

3-13-18, 3-14-18 & 3-15-18: Vision Screening 3rd and 5th grades

Please call 517.223.6330:

*If you **do not** want your child screened for hearing and or vision. Leave your child’s name and teacher.

*Your child has hearing aids, but cannot remove/replace themselves.

*You have a concern for your child and your child is not in the above grades.

Please call the Health Department 517.546.9850 and ask for the Hearing and Vision Coordinator if:

*Your child has a programmable shunt (child **should not** be screened due to the magnets in the audiometer headphones).

*You have questions regarding Hearing Screening.

* * *

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.

- G. All parking requirements shall be in compliance with Section 15.2 of the Zoning Ordinance, except that Section 15.2.B.5 shall be satisfied pursuant to Section 16.6.AAA.1.D.
- H. Any damage to a public road located within the Township resulting from the construction, maintenance, or operation of a QF Power Plant shall be repaired at the applicant's or owner's sole cost and expense.
- I. Applicant shall arrange for proper permitting and agreements with the Livingston County Road Commission concerning the applicant's use of the county roads.
- J. Regulatory Compliance:
- Any combustible or flammable liquids, solids, or gasses shall be stored in a manner in compliance with all federal and state laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and orders that are properly applied to the QF Power Plant.
 - All Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations that are properly applied to the QF Power Plant shall be met.
 - All requirements and regulations that are properly applied to the QF Power Plant of any and all regulatory bodies having jurisdiction, including the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (“MDEQ”) shall be met.
 - The storage and management of any fuels, raw materials, byproducts, or wastes shall comply with all MDEQ regulations that are properly applied to the QF Power Plant.
 - All materials or wastes which might cause fumes or dust or which constitute a fire hazard shall be stored and managed in compliance with all Michigan laws, rules, regulations, and orders that are properly applied to the QF Power Plant.
- K. Any emissions of air pollutants shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations applicable to the QF Power Plant.
- L. During construction and startup of the QF Power Plant, prior to full operation, the conditions herein relating to screening and fencing shall not apply, such conditions being intended to apply to the permanent facilities, improvements, and operations. Similarly, during the construction and startup phases, the typical work period will be from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except various construction activities may be performed outside of the typical work period (i.e. nights and weekends) to the extent required by the contractor.
- M. If the provisions of this Section 16.6.AAA conflict with any other provision of the Township Zoning Ordinance, then the provisions of Section 16.6.AAA shall control to the extent of such conflict.

2. Standards of Review and Approval.

The Planning Commission shall not approve any QF Power Plant unless it finds, based on the information provided by the applicant, that the application requirements set forth in paragraph 1, above (including all of its subparts), have been met and all of the following:

- A. The QF Power Plant will not pose a safety hazard or unreasonable risk to the public health, safety or welfare and will not have any

unreasonable harmful effects on any other persons, property or the environment, including any wildlife.

- B. The QF Power Plant complies with Section 16.6.AAA.1.D regarding greenbelts/buffers.
- C. The QF Power Plant complies with the setbacks and other regulations set forth in Section 16.6.AAA.1.F, except as provided below:
- Exemption from the setbacks and other regulations set forth in Section 16.6.AAA.1.F, including maximum building height, may be approved by the Planning Commission upon a showing by the applicant that it is not feasible to meet the requirements and that adequate safeguards have or will be provided to justify the exemption.
- D. Sound from the QF Power Plant operations as shown by the Sound Pressure Level Study is no greater than 70 dba when measured at the nearest point on the nearest property line of any property located adjacent to the project boundary which is located in a zoning district wherein single-family residential use is permitted as a permitted use. A waiver to said levels may be approved, provided that the following has been accomplished:
- Written consent from the affected property owner(s) has been obtained stating that they are aware of the QF Power Plant and the noise limitations imposed by this Section, and that consent is granted to allow noise levels to exceed the maximum limits otherwise allowed.
 - The written consent obtained under paragraph 1, above, shall be in the form of a permanent sound impact easement and shall be recorded in the Livingston County Register of Deeds office. The easement shall describe the benefited and burdened properties and shall advise all subsequent owners of the burdened property that sound levels in excess of those otherwise permitted by the ordinance may exist on or at the burdened property.
- E. The applicant has committed to provide adequate additional training, information, personnel or equipment necessary for local fire response services to effectively respond to an emergency as a result of the operation of the QF Power Plant.
- F. The QF Power Plant otherwise complies with all of the requirements listed in Subsection (1) “Application Requirements” above.

3. **Severability.** The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

The tentative text and proposed zoning map may be examined at the Handy Township Hall, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, MI 48836 on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Written comments regarding the proposed amendments may be submitted in care of Laura Eisele, Handy Township Clerk at 135 N. Grand Avenue, P.O. Box 189, Fowlerville, MI 48836 before five o'clock P.M. the day prior to the hearing.

Cathy Elliott, Secretary
Handy Township Planning Commission
(1-7-18 FNV)



Pastor
Tom
Tarpley

New Year’s Greetings!

It’s time for new beginnings! It’s time for a fresh start! It’s time to make some resolutions! These are often statements that are made by most people at the beginning of a new year, and we as Christians are not really all that different! Who wants to remain the same as before? I know I don’t, because I want to continue to grow in the Lord, as well as put off some of those things that have held me down for being all he wants me to be. Yet, we all struggle just a bit in our endeavor to move forward as failings and difficulties from the past create a “drag” on the vision for the future!

I’m reminded of a wonderful scripture that helps me each time those thoughts come into my mind:
Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already

been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:12 NIV)

In Paul’s declaration of forgetting, he said he does one thing; however we see that one thing is actually broken down into three parts.

Forgetting what is behind is the first one. It seems that the more difficult a situation is, the harder it is to “forget!” Paul wasn’t saying there’s no way we would remember these things, but he was simply saying those things would not be enough to hold us back from forward progress!

The next thing he said was that he would “strain toward” what is ahead. Yes, there are times serving God, and even moving forward in life takes some “straining!” Yet, be reminded today that it will truly be worth it all one day!

Lastly, he said he would “press on toward the goal to win the prize.” We need to remember also that we will be rewarded one day. We must keep our eyes focused on the prize, and the greatest prize we will know one day is to see our Savior face to face!

Last Saturday during my daily devotional time, I was reminded of how easy it is to be distracted from straining and

pressing on toward the goal to win the prize that Jesus has for all who believe in him and have committed their lives to him. As I sat and tried to meditate on the scriptures, my mind kept wandering and I found myself struggling to stay focused on Christ.

I know that every time I sit down to spend time with God in his Holy Word, the enemy will try to distract me. He will do everything in his limited power to keep me from moving forward in my desire to grow more spiritually in unity with the will of God. He is a shrewd and cunning adversary who will stop at nothing to keep God’s people from spending time with him in quiet meditation.

But with the power of the Holy Spirit and the truth of God’s word to help us, we will find that we can effectively resist the temptations of Satan. I thank the living God that “*greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world*” (1 John 4:4 KJV).

It is the power of the Holy Spirit that enables us to overcome the sin and temptations that bombard us each day. If we have the spirit of Christ residing in our hearts, then we have what it takes to resist the flaming arrows the devil sends our way.

The Word of God has always been our best defense against Satan’s. So, the better we know the word the easier it will be for us to claim victory over our daily struggles. The psalmist tells us: *I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you* (Psalm 119:11). When Jesus was tempted by Satan at the beginning of his ministry, the first thing he did was to quote scripture, which eventually caused the devil to leave him.

So, it is important and necessary to be faithful and diligent in studying God’s Word because, in order for us to keep our hearts pure and focused on Christ, we must live according to what we learn from the Word of God.

As we begin this new year, we need to take Paul’s words to heart. *Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead*, It is hard to move forward if we are constantly looking back. There is nothing we can do about our past hurts, hang-ups or habits that have caused us to struggle and stumble along on our faith journey.

We must focus on the future! *We must press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 3:12 NIV).

Celebrate Recovery (CR) kicked off the new year with its first lesson last week. What a great opportunity for anyone who may be struggling with some unwanted circumstance in their lives, to check out our CR program. A six-week commitment will help you decide if CR is right for you.

Purpose-Statement. The **purpose** of the **Celebrate Recovery** ministry is to fellowship and **celebrate** God’s healing power in our lives through the “8 **Recovery Principles**.” This experience allows us to “be changed.” By working and applying these Biblical principles, we begin to grow spiritually.

If you are having difficulty making a decision to attend CR, let me ask you a question: “Since you’ve tried everything else and nothing worked, why don’t you try CR?” Not only will it help you work through your habits, hurts, and hang-ups, it will also draw you into a closer relationship with Jesus, our one and only higher power.

So, as we open up this new year, let’s move forward! Let’s dream dreams! However, let’s do it all within the safe confines of God’s will.



 Area Church Listings
 

Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene
 8040 Country Corner Drive,
 Fowlerville, MI 48836
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
 Rev. Gary Griffin
 (517) 223-7111
www.fowlervillenazarene.org

Calvary Bible Church
 1389 Elm Street • Box 298
 Cohoctah, Michigan 48816
WELCOMES YOU TO
 Sunday School 9:45am
 Morning Service 11:00am
 Sunday Evening Service 6:00PM
 Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 7:00PM
Pastor Oliver Allbright
 517-375-5777
“A Warm and Friendly Country Church”

Fowlerville First United Methodist Church
 201 S. Second St.,
 Fowlerville
 517-223-8824
www.fowlervillefumc.org
 Pastor Scott Herald
Sunday Worship Service
 Nursery available
 10:30am
Sunday School
 September - May
 9:30am

Trinity United Methodist Church
 8201 Iosco Rd, Fowlerville
 (Corner of Bull Run & Iosco Rd)
 517-223-3803
 Pastor Mark Huff
Sunday Worship Service
 9:30am
Sunday School 9:30am
 Youth Group (6-12 grade)
Visit us on Facebook
 Trinity United Methodist Church


St. John’s Lutheran ELCA
 132 S. Benjamin, Fowlerville
 PO Box 218
 517-223-9108
 Pastor Diane Greble
 Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
 Sunday School at 10:30 am
 Coffee Time at 10:30 am
 More information available:
www.stjohnsfowlerville.org
All are welcome here in Jesus Christ!

Place of Refuge Ministries
 6909 Grand River, Fowlerville
 (across from Greenwood Cemetery)
 Pastor Bob Storey
Sunday Worship 10:30am
Wed. Evening Bible Study 7:00pm
 (517)223-3660
 Psalm 46:1
“God is our refuge and strength.”
www.psalms461.com


 9300 W. Grand River,
 Fowlerville
 223-9490 • www.fowlervilleub.org
Saturday Service Time
 6pm
Sundays
 9:15am
 10:45am
Infant, Toddler, and K-8th grade programming at all 3 services

Webberville United Methodist Church
 4215 E. Holt Rd.,
 Webberville
 Pastor Martin Johnston
All Ages Sunday School 9:30am
Worship Service 11:00am
 Church: 521-3631
www.webbervilleumc.church

Wayside Baptist Church
 2567 Elm Rd.
 Webberville
 Sunday School
 10:00am
 Sunday Morning Service
 11am
 Sunday Evening Service
 6pm
 Wednesday Bible Study 7pm

Antrim Baptist Church
 4509 E. Lovejoy Rd., Byron
 Youth Pastor Josh Middaugh
 517-223-3126
www.antrimbc.org
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 Sunday Evening Service 6pm
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Upcoming Programs at the Fowlerville District Library

All Programs are intended for Fowlerville School District residents only unless otherwise stated.

Registration usually opens 2 weeks prior to the event. Follow us on Facebook & www.fowlervillelibrary.org. Phone: 517-223-9089

Beyond the Book: The Outsiders - Thursday, January 11th at 7pm

Adults. Featuring a book and its film adaptation, and some great discussion! Movie-style refreshments will be served. *Register in person to attend. Registration begins December 21st. Books will be given while supplies last.

Steampunk Craft Night - Friday, January 12th at 5-8pm
Teens 6th-12th grades. Come celebrate the invention of steam power at the library! We'll make some awesome steampunk crafts and watch an adventure-filled steampunk movie! *Registration is required and includes a 2017-2018 signed Program Permission Form. Registration begins December 29th. Register by January 10th to attend.

Pop-Up Library - Monday, January 15th
10am at Rolling Meadows
11am at Livingston Greene
12pm at Glenwood Apartments

We bring the library to you! You can get a library card; check in and out large print or audio books; get help with the Axis 360 app and eBooks; get your library questions answered; and get one-on-one technology help with your tablet or other small device. You can also visit with Lola, our Therapy Dog.

Snowman Craft - Thursday, January 18th at 7pm
Adults. Make a one-of-a-kind snowman that you can display

Workshop being held Tuesday, Jan. 9, on obtaining diploma or GED

Were you aware that people with a high school diploma or GED are more likely to work full time? People with a high school diploma or GED average 20% higher earnings than those without a diploma. Join us at Pathways Adult Education to improve your skills and complete your GED or high school diploma. Learn more at a free workshop on Tuesday, January 9. It will be held in the Curwood Building on the main campus of Baker College from 9:30 am - 10:30 am in room 1421 on the second floor.

For more information, contact Troy Napier at 989-729-3616.

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at home and share with a friend! You are welcome to bring some personalized "bling" if you'd like, however all materials for the class will be provided. *Register in person to attend. Registration begins January 4th and includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit.

Author Visit: Ruth Barshaw - Wednesday, January 24th at 5:30-6:30pm

Kids 2nd-8th grades. Meet the author of the popular Ellie McDoodle series and learn how she creates cool doodle diaries in a hands-on workshop! A limited supply of books will be available for purchase at this event. *Participation is limited. Register in person to attend. Registration begins January 10th.

Stained Glass Heart Hanger Workshop - Thursday, January 25th at 2:30pm

Adults. No experience required for this hands-on workshop taught by an instructor from Delphi Glass. You will be taught basic stained glass construction including cutting, foiling and soldering from an expert. Create a stunning heart shaped suncatcher with a bevel center. *Special time and class size. Registration begins January 11th and includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit.

Fowlerville Library Writers Group Begins Wednesday, January 31st at 2:30pm

Meets Weekly January 31st-March 21st

Adults. Do you want feedback on your writing projects? Are you interested in exploring different writing exercises? If so, then join our 8-part Winter 2018 session. You are invited to bring a 1-page sample for feedback from the group.

*Registration begins January 17th. No late entries.

Chili Cook-Off All You Can Eat
January 13, 2018 at 5:00pm
Adults \$10.00
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Registration at 6:00pm
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Acoustic Café to feature the Paul King Trio on Jan. 12 at Howell Opera House

Acoustic Café is an annual music series held at the historic Howell Opera House that features outstanding Michigan performers, now celebrating its 11th year. This year's series continues with the big band smooth jazz sounds of the Paul King Trio. With Rob Bourassa on guitar, Mike Karoub on bass, and Paul King on vocals, these three Michigan natives combine their considerable musical talents into a fabulous evening of jazz and swing.

The concert will be performed on Friday, Jan. 12, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Paul King is well known to audiences around the Midwest as the vocalist of the swinging and award-winning big band, the Rhythm Society Orchestra. He has performed since childhood and continued singing throughout his life with a passion for fine tuning his style, technique and jazz chops, but always with a nod to the swingin' crooners of big band era.

Mike Karoub has toured as a bassist with several jazz orchestras with appearances at the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center, Hollywood Bowl and Garrison Keillor and been a featured cellist in numerous symphony orchestras.

Rob Bourassa has played and taught guitar for a living since his youth, as well as working as a featured performer at Greenfield Village and a session guitarist, arranger

The Breathers' Club meeting Jan. 9 at St. Joseph Livingston Hospital

The Breathers' Club is a community service support group for patients affected by heart and breathing (cardio-pulmonary) diseases and their caregivers, family and friends. Everyone interested in learning how to live a better, fuller life or how to care for those with these conditions is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon (12:00 p.m.) in the Board Room (2nd Floor: January only) at St. Joseph Livingston Hospital in Howell. An informational speaker and pertinent topic are featured each month. Our next Breathers Club is scheduled for Tuesday, Noon: January 9, 2018: Our Pulmonary Rehabilitation Therapist is available to assist and answer questions. For recorded meeting information call: (517) 545-6020.

and producer, working with many artists including Maria Maldaur, Brian Setzer and Drake Bell. Rob has performed many shows with cellist Mike Karoub, and though the two usually work as an improvisational duo, they always look forward to accompanying their favorite singer, Paul King.

The Acoustic Café series runs every Friday night from January 5– March 9. Doors will open at 7:00 pm and the show will begin at 7:30 pm. Open to the public, the cost is \$8.00 at the door, \$6.00 for Livingston Arts Council members.

Annie & Rod Capps to perform album 'Searching for Neverland' Jan. 19

Annie & Rod Capps will be performing songs from their new album 'Searching for Neverland' at a concert on Friday, Jan. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Acoustic Café. The Acoustic Café is an annual music series held at the historic Howell Opera House that features outstanding Michigan performers and is now now celebrating its 11th year!

Annie and Rod Capps are on a musical journey that began in 1982, culminating into a symbiotic sound that reflects their deep and intuitive understanding of each other. Annie's disarming, earthy voice and solid command of her guitar are punctuated by Rod's effortless, accompaniment and beautiful solo work. Together they weave unforgettable melodies that are at once intricate and sparse – musically completing each other's sentences.

Songs about broken things and poignant little ponderings are delivered with a rootsy vibe, a touch of twang and a soulful groove. Over the years, Annie and Rod Capps have done it all; from rock to musical theater and while they continue to draw from a wide range of genres and influences, what comes out is a hybrid sound all their own. Genuine and playful; effortless and endearing; this duo has been enchanting audiences in quality music venues, house concerts, coffeehouses and festivals throughout their home state of Michigan and beyond.

"Searching for Neverland" is The Capps' newest album; they took their time writing this album and it delivers songs that have been road-tested, finely crafted and meticulously arranged over the past six years.

The Acoustic Café series runs every Friday night from January 5th – March 9th. Doors will open at 7:00 pm and the show will begin at 7:30 pm. Open to the public, the cost is \$8.00 at the door, \$6.00 for Livingston Arts Council members.



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Savvy Senior Column

By Jim Miller

Don't Eat This If You're Taking That

Dear Savvy Senior,
If the prescription label says "take with meals," does it matter what you eat? I currently take eight different medications for various health problems and would like to know if there are any foods I need to avoid.

Over Medicated

Dear Over,

It depends on the medication. Many meds should be taken with food – any food – to increase their absorption and reduce the risk of side effects. But some foods and medications can interact, reducing the medications' effectiveness or increasing the risk of harmful side effects.

To stay safe, you should always talk to your doctor or pharmacist to learn the ins and outs of your prescriptions, along with what foods and beverages to avoid while you're on it. In the meantime, here are some foods you should stay away from for some commonly prescribed drugs.

Cholesterol Medications: If you take a certain statin drug to control high cholesterol like Liptor, Zocor, Altprev, Mevacor, or generics atorvastatin, simvastatin or lovastatin, you should avoid grapefruit and grapefruit juice. Grapefruit can raise the level of the drug in your bloodstream and increase the risk of side effects, especially leg pain.

Blood Pressure Medicine: If you take an ACE inhibitor drug like Capoten, Vasotec, Monopril, Zestril and others to lower your blood pressure, you should limit food that contain potassium like bananas, oranges, tomatoes, spinach and other leafy greens, sweet potatoes, and salt substitutes that contain potassium. ACE inhibitors raise the body's potassium levels. Eating too many potassium rich-foods while taking an ACE inhibitor can cause an irregular heartbeat and heart palpitations.

Blood Thinning Medications: If you are taking Coumadin, Jantoven, or the generic warfarin, you should limit kale and other greens, including broccoli, cabbage, spinach, and brussels sprouts that contain vitamin K. These foods can block the effects of these blood-thinning medications putting you at risk for developing blood clots. You also need to watch out for garlic, ginger, vitamin E and fish oil supplements because they can increase these medications blood-thinning abilities putting you at risk for excessive bleeding.

Antidepressants: If you take a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) antidepressant like Marplan, Nardil, Emsam, Parnate, or generic isocarboxazid, phenelzine, selegiline or tranylcypromine, avoid aged cheeses, chocolate, cured meats and alcoholic drinks. These contain tyramine, which can raise blood pressure. Normally, the body controls tyramine levels with an enzyme called monoamine oxidase,

but the MAOI antidepressant block that enzyme.

Thyroid Medications: If you take a medication for hypothyroidism like Synthroid, Levoxyl, Levotheroid or generic levothyroxine, you should avoid eating tofu and walnuts, and drinking soymilk. All these can prevent your body from absorbing this medicine.

Anti-Anxiety Medications: If you take medication for anxiety like Xanax, Klonopin, Valium, Ativan, or generic alprazolam, clonazepam, diazepam or lorazepam, you should avoid alcohol. These medications act as sedatives, binding with the brain's natural tranquilizers to calm you down. But when you mix these drugs with alcohol, the side effects intensify, and can cause you to feel lightheaded, sleepy and forgetful.

Antibiotics: If you're taking an antibiotic like Sumycin, Dynacin, Monodox, or generic tetracycline, doxycycline or minocycline, you should avoid dairy – milk, yogurt, and cheese, and calcium supplements and fortified foods – for a couple hours before and after taking the medicine. Calcium in dairy products binds to the antibiotic and prevents your body from absorbing it, making it ineffective.

To find more dietary guidance on the drugs you take, see reliable health sites like MedlinePlus.gov or MayoClinic.org, or consider the excellent new AARP book "Don't Eat This If You're Taking That: The Hidden Risks of Mixing Food and Medicine" available at Amazon.com and BN.com for \$13.

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

'Unmasked Gala' to present at The Historic Howell Opera House on Jan. 9

The Key Project, a non-profit organization with the goal of raising awareness about human trafficking in our area, will present the 'Unmasked Gala' on Saturday, January 6th from 7-10 PM at The Howell Opera House.

The evening will be a formal/ semi formal dance focused on a fun night for all ages in the community to learn how to stop human trafficking from thriving. There will be booths for informational guides on how human trafficking advances, how to prevent it, and how to stop it, if you see it. Organizers will even have fair trade product available for purchase.

This event is an opportunity for the public to better understand human trafficking and its effects, with speakers who understand the particular challenges and possible solutions to this problem in the state of Michigan.

"This night is designed for you to feel confident about how to be a freedom fighter," noted Mariah McDonald, President of the Key Project.

The event is free to the public but reservations are required – please contact info@thekeyproject.org or visit <http://unmaskedgala.eventbrite.com>. Any money donated will go towards the effort to stop human trafficking in Michigan.

Webberville Masonic Lodge to serve pancake breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 14

The Webberville Masonic Lodge will be serving an "all you can eat" pancake breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 14. Members will be serving from 8:00 to 11:00 A.M. Adults \$8. Over 65 \$7. Children 5 to 12 \$5. Under 5 free. The Webberville Masonic Lodge is located at 113 E. Grand River in Webberville.

Letter to the Editor

I have been involved in a program every summer for the past three years that is run by Student Statesmanship Institute called LEAD. LEAD is a leadership camp where teens get to experience real life experiences by role playing as legislators and senators as well as role play in different tracks such as media, campaign, mock trials, business, and a few more. Not only does this camp teach great leadership skills, there are great speakers who give presentations on different Biblical worldviews. This camp is a Christian camp where everything is solidly grounded on the Bible. Teens get privileges that average people do not get to do at the Michigan capitol building such as go on the House Floor of the capitol building and sit at the legislators desks where normally no one but themselves are allowed to sit in.

I believe that it is important to have leaders in the community. This camp will help develop strong leaders that will be able to help lead our country now and in the upcoming decades. I strongly urge anyone who has teens entering 9th grade through just exiting 12th grade to send them to this camp. Even if they are reluctant to go at first, they will end up loving it! You can find out more information at SSI's website here: <https://ssionline.org/>

Student Statesmanship Institute also runs a program called Ambassador League which is a year-long program that I am currently doing that is for teens up to one year out of high school. It is a program that puts teens outside of their comfort zone and into their community. Some of the requirements of this program are to write several letters to the editors, interview local leaders, volunteer for 30 hours, and write reports on different leadership books.

Sincerely, Sarah Kaake

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January 24, Wednesday, 2:30-4pm
January 28, Sunday, 10-11:30am
February 3, Saturday, 10-11:30am
February 11, Sunday, 10-11:30am
February 17, Saturday, 10-11:30am
February 18, Sunday, 10-11:30am
February 21, Wednesday, 2:30-4pm
February 25, Sunday, 10-11:30am
March 3, Saturday, 10am-12pm
March 4, Sunday, 10am-12pm
March 10, Saturday, 10am-12pm
March 11, Sunday, 10am-12pm

*Set up for sale will be Friday, March 16 starting at 2pm. At that point we can still take in items until 10pm. If these dates and times do not work for you, please contact us and we can work out a time to meet.
Maylene Turnbo 517-304-3976 or
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*If you are a business and would like to donate for the raffle or anyone wanting to donate to the bake sale please contact us.

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* FJHS is located at 7677 Sharpe Rd., within the Fowlerville Community Schools complex, between Kreeger Elementary and Fowlerville High School.



Maison



By Beth Lowe, MLIS
Programming Director

A new year is a good time for reflection and resolutions. Many resolutions involve creating a better life; which libraries support every day from offering free internet access to a safe place for entertainment, study, business, to connect with others or learn a new skill. Reflecting upon 2017, to support our 14,571 active patrons, we offer:

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In 2017, our library supported many of our patron's resolutions; from 'reduce, reuse, and recycle' to saving money. Many of the crafts offered through programs are either based on recycled products or use materials recycled from other programs. We assisted 26 adults realize their resolutions to become better with computers through one on one tutorials. Our patrons **saved** themselves almost **\$1 MILLION** in 2017 by borrowing materials from the library; \$903,233 to be exact! We are looking forward to offering you more materials and programs in our current and future home in the upcoming year! Resolve to visit us this year... We are open Monday through Thursday from 9:30am to 7pm, Friday from 9:30 to 5pm, and Saturday from 10am to 2pm to help you in 2018!

George W. Lee Civil War Round Table to meet Jan. 10 in Howell

The fourth meeting of the George W. Lee Civil War Round Table will be this Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 7 PM. We have a new meeting location: the Livingston County EMS Headquarters Building (aka John E. LaBelle Public Safety Complex), 1911 N. Tooley Rd, Howell. This building is located on the east side of Livingston County Airport. Tooley Road is accessed off of M-59, about a quarter mile east of the intersection of M-59 & Grand River Ave. Park in the main parking lot, and enter through the front main doors, then go to the 2nd floor.

The subject of our meeting will be the Annual Show 'N Tell. Members are encouraged to bring in Civil War related items that they have discovered over the past year or so and talk about them. As in years past, please be able to say a few words about the item, and maybe pass it around.



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THE CONVERSATION

For richer or poorer: 4 economists ponder what 2018 has in store

Editor's note: We asked four economists to offer their thoughts and insights on what they expect to be a key theme or issue in 2018.

The Gilded Age Returns

By Greg Wright, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of California, Merced

Income and wealth inequality are currently at levels last seen during the Gilded Age – when the top 10 percent of Americans owned nearly three-fourths of overall wealth, and the bottom 40 percent had virtually no wealth – and 2018 will see things get a whole lot worse.

Now, the richest 1 percent of Americans own 40 percent of U.S. wealth, more than the bottom 90 percent of Americans combined.

In spite of this, Congress just significantly reduced taxes on capital and on high-earning individuals. Other income earners got smaller, temporary cuts.

Meanwhile, the government has yet to renew federal funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, a program affecting 9 million poor families, and the tax bill repealed the Affordable Care Act's individual insurance mandate, which may ultimately lead to a loss of coverage for millions of low- and middle-income Americans.

Other policies that will be enacted or pursued in 2018 that could further widen the income gap include cuts in important programs like Social Security and Medicare and a continuing rollback of financial, environmental and other regulations that benefit a few companies at the expense of all Americans' living standards.

Why does widening inequality matter?

While some argue that inequality is irrelevant as long as all incomes are rising, even that has not been true in the U.S. for decades. The average income for the bottom 50 percent of Americans has been unmoved at US\$16,000 since 1980. In addition, recent evidence indicates that family income in childhood is a strong predictor of the likelihood that an individual will produce innovations as an adult. Poverty and social inequality thus lead to "lost Einsteins."

Not long after accepting the Nobel prize in economics in 2014, Robert Schiller stated, "If we wait until income inequality is much more severe, we will have a whole class of new superrich who will ... feel entitled to their wealth and will have the means to defend their interest."

In 2018 we may begin to put these fears to the test.

War on poverty, revisited

By Patricia Smith, Professor of Economics, University of Michigan

By many measures, such as GDP, income and wealth per household, the U.S. is among the richest countries in the world.

At least one measure, however, makes the U.S. look not so rich: its poverty rate. The share of American households living on less than half of the national median income, a commonly used measure for international comparisons, is the second-highest in the developed world, at 17.5 percent. While the official U.S. poverty rate puts that lower, at 12.7 percent, even by that measure over a quarter of children under 5 lived in poverty in 2016.

Past presidents have tried several ways to fight poverty. Lyndon Johnson declared "unconditional war" in 1964 and championed anti-poverty programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. Bill Clinton changed the battle strategy 32 years later by pushing people to work more.

House Speaker Paul Ryan has once again reopened the debate on how best to win the fight by declaring poverty will be a focus in 2018. The rhetoric of the Republican plan sounds promising, beginning with "If the American Dream isn't true for everyone, it isn't true for anyone." It would make work more rewarding in anti-poverty programs and improve education and training.

But Ryan has also made clear he plans to cut Medicaid, Medicare and other anti-poverty programs to reduce the national debt, all of which were central to reducing the official poverty rate from 22 percent in the early 1960s.

Part of the argument supporting a focus on cutting debt is that it spurs growth, which in turn reduces poverty. The U.S. did experience this prior to the mid-1970s, when growth appeared correlated with less poverty. Since then, however, the poverty rate has responded little to economic growth.

In fact, the correlation may work the other way around because research suggests that lowering poverty rates cuts health care costs and federal spending and boosts growth. Specifically, improving health and nutrition for the poor is critical to long-term growth, leading to higher productivity and incomes. For example, economists estimate that the cost

of childhood poverty in terms of lost economic productivity approaches \$294 billion annually.

Economic optimism & health care

By Christos Makridis, Ph.D. Candidate in Labor and Public Economics, Stanford University

Americans began 2018 more optimistic about the economy than they've been in at least a decade.

How can the government sustain and build on this hopefulness – a key driver of consumer spending – among individuals and small businesses in 2018?

In my view, one of the most important ways to do this is by reforming health care in a financially stable way. Rising health care costs and the tax plan's repeal of the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate mean it's urgent that Congress tackle this in 2018. Health care exchanges may implode without the mandate.

Health care spending made up a record 18 percent of U.S. gross domestic product in 2016, up from 17.3 percent five years earlier. While spending has slowed a bit from previous decades, it's beginning to accelerate and is forecast to reach 20 percent of the economy by 2025.

Following last year's tax cut, some in Congress – perhaps ironically – are arguing that the focus now needs to be on reducing the budget deficit in the short term. But the deficit is a long-term problem that is nearly impossible to balance without figuring out a way to rein in health care spending in part because it makes up so much of the economy.

Scholars from both sides of the aisle agree the status quo is problematic: There is far too little competition, and incentives are too weak. While there is no easy answer, structural changes like introducing penalties for poor hospital performance in Medicare reimbursement claims could help.

Health care is one of the few items that matters to literally everyone, from small business owners and corporate executives to households of all incomes. It's also one of the trickiest because of its life and death nature, with quality of service difficult to gauge and costs often not borne directly by patients.

I believe the tax cut President Trump signed into law in December will help turn the current economic optimism into tangible reality for tens of millions of families. By tackling health care next, the government could continue that momentum. Delaying reform will only make things tougher down the road.

Trade takes center stage

By William Hauk, Associate Professor of Economics, University of South Carolina

President Trump made it clear during the 2016 presidential campaign that he intended to either renegotiate or withdraw from most of the United States' international trade agreements. In 2018, he may finally focus his energy on these campaign promises, which would put our prosperity at risk.

Early on in 2017, he announced the U.S. withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership. We're already beginning to see the negative impact of that decision. Our economic and political influence in Asia may decline in 2018 and the years ahead.

He has also set his sights on the North American Free Trade Agreement and began renegotiating its terms. Talks are likely to accelerate in 2018, with the pact's unraveling a real possibility.

And in interviews, he has declared the World Trade Organization "a disaster."

International trade deals are an often misunderstood part of U.S. economic policy. However, they can have a large impact on the economy.

Cleary University to honor Martin Luther King Jr.

On Monday, January 15, Cleary University will host its first Martin Luther King, Jr. event focused on creating solutions and addressing social injustice. A day of programming will begin with a screening of Ava Duvernay's Emmy-winning documentary 13th, at the Historic Howell Theater. Following the film, Cleary University will host an on-campus luncheon and panel to discuss the themes explored in 13th and discuss how mass incarceration impacts communities and explore potential solutions. Visit the website for more information. www.cleary.edu/mlk-jr-day-event/

Since the end of World War II, the U.S. has taken the lead in setting up a multilateral, rules-based system of international trade. Central to this system was the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. In 1994, this agreement was transformed into the WTO.

Under this system, world trade has expanded dramatically over the last 70 years. In 1947, trade accounted for approximately 6 percent of U.S. gross domestic product, whereas it now accounts for approximately 15 percent. Today, U.S. exports support over 11 million jobs, while imports of many staples from overseas increase the purchasing power of domestic households.

A retreat from a multilateral rules-based system of trade brings with it many problems. Domestically, it increases the probability of "trade wars" with our major trading partners. Relatively minor disputes could easily escalate into trade sanctions and counter-sanctions, like in the aftermath of the Depression-era Smoot-Hawley Tariff, which raised tariffs on hundreds of imports.

Internationally, it could make it more difficult for developing countries to engage in trade relations with their much larger and wealthier counterparts.

While the Trump administration has drawn attention to the U.S.'s large trade deficit, most economists agree that trade agreements have little to no effect on that.

Certainly, some aspects of institutions such as NAFTA and the WTO can be questioned. However, a general retreat from the postwar system of trade could be a dangerous path for both the U.S. and the broader world economy.

This article is reprinted from TheConversation.com

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**Webberville United Methodist Church
to serve Chicken Dinner on Jan. 20**

The Webberville United Methodist Church is having its monthly chicken dinner on Saturday, Jan. 20, with oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, vegetables and biscuits. The meal will include coffee, lemonade, and dessert. The dinner will be served 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$9 per adult, \$4 for children 12 and under, preschoolers eat free. Webberville United Methodist Church is located on the corner of Holt Road and M-52.



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REGULAR BOARD MEETING
RESCHEDULED MEETING
DATE FROM TUESDAY,
JANUARY 2, 2018
TO TUESDAY
JANUARY 9, 2018**

The Leroy Township regular Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, 2018, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, January 9, 2018. The meeting will still be at 7:00 p.m. in the Leroy Township Board Room, 1685 N. M-52, Webberville. The Public is welcome to attend.

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Township Clerk
(12-31-17 & 1-7-18 FNV)

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Webberville Report

Webberville Community School News

Webberville Community Schools will hold half day sessions on Thursday, January 11 and Friday, January 12. Students will be released at 11:15 AM. Additionally, school is not in session on Monday, January 15 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

The annual silent auction and benefit sponsored by the Webberville Girls’ and Boys’ Varsity basketball teams is Friday, January 12 from 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM. This year the fundraising goal is to purchase and install an electronic sign for in front of the school. A silent auction, t-shirt sales, 50-50, and other fun events are scheduled. All proceeds for the evening will go to the start of this fund established to acquire an electronic announcement board for the district.

Please consider donating items for the silent auction. Donations can be dropped off in the high school office. Please put your name on the items. Monetary donations for this project are being accepted at the school as well.

Purchase a yearbook for Webberville High School online at <https://yearbookforever.com/#>. Many personalized features can be added. Orders can also be turned into the high school office.

WJAA baseball and softball registration is open until March 31. Sponsorship is available for registration fees only. Uniforms will be purchased separately and order information will be announced soon. WJAA is seeking a 12u softball coach. Free softball clinics are Sundays from 1:00-3:00 PM in the Spartan Center for the 8u, 10u, 12u and 14u age groups. Questions about the leagues? Please email Andrea Nims at nims_andrea@live.com regarding softball or Heather Stiffler at feelinlove92@gmail.com. Visit <http://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=wjaasports> for more information about WJAA.



Shown here are Austin Wakeman, Madeline Derian and Leah Nichols with choir director Alex Ellul at the high school holiday concert in December. Not pictured are Maeve Chapman and Maggie Monroe

Webberville High School junior Leah Nichols and senior Austin Wakeman auditioned and were selected to sing with the MSVMA Region B District Honors Choir in December. They performed with about 150 other high school choral students from the region at Western Michigan University. Austin indicated that he would take an additional audition to potentially be qualified for a state choral ensemble. We are very pleased to share that Austin was selected for the High School State SATB Honors Choir and will be performing in January at the Michigan Music Conference.

Webberville Community Schools also belongs to an organization called Michigan Music Educators Association. They host a variety of events throughout the school year, including the Elementary Honors Choir which is open to 3rd through 6th grade students. All three Webberville students who auditioned were accepted including Maeve Chapman (5th grade), Maggie Monroe (5th grade) and Madeline Derian (6th grade). They will be performing with the elementary honors choir in March.

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Senior Spotlight—Joe Stanley By Akeina Valera

Welding has become a focal point for senior Joe Stanley. At age 16, he was influenced by a friend to look further into this career. Today, Stanley is taking steps towards this lucrative career in the welding field, while still in high school.

When it comes to choosing a job career, Stanley has some advice. “Whatever you decide to do, make sure it makes you happy,” said Stanley. “In high school you have plenty of time to decide on what you truly want in life-- your choices reflect your decisions.”

Although he’s lived in Webberville his whole life, he is excited to move on.

“I’m ready to start a new chapter in my life,” said Stanley. “Webberville is home. I believe we all grow as a family”

After graduating Webberville High School, Stanley is considering going to LCC to continue his passion for welding. Stanley, knowing that his skills are needed in the world, considers himself lucky. “It’s great having skills that are of high demand,” he said.

Through the years, Stanley has learned how to be more organized with his work. From school life to work life, he’s learned how to manage his time. No more procrastinating and no more forgetting to do homework. “Thank God I’ve learned how to manage my time,” said Stanley. “Having a job and going to school is a lot of work, actually. It’s tiring. But, I’m slowing learning about what it’s like to be an adult.”

“Hardworking, level head and easy-learner” are three words that describe Joe Stanley, said close friend Zach Cook. “Joe Stanley is definitely the guy you would want to be friends with. His positive attitude, outgoing personality and quirky jokes are what make people adore him.”

Cook and Stanley have been friends for quite some time. The pair enjoy helping each other out. “I’m really going to miss having classes with the guy,” Cook said. “The only positive thing about Stanley leaving is that he’s off to do better in his career. He’s going for his goals, and as his friend I’m proud of him.”

Stanley’s competitive nature is what motivates him on a daily basis to learn as much as he can from others so he can apply it at work and in everyday life.

“Take advantage of good opportunities while taking time to create friendships. Branch out of your comfort zone,” said Stanley.

Although Stanley is ready to go off to college, he mentions that he will miss his family.

“I hope my family encourages me and pushes me to do better. Yeah, we argue but, we’ve got each other. My sisters, Julia and Lauren, are finishing up high school, which means I can give them advice for when they’re about to go to college, too. When my younger brother, Logan, finishes high school, we all can give him advice. That’s what family is about. We all count on each other,” said Stanley.

Dansville Community Center to hold Euchre & Bunco Nights this month

Do you like to play Euchre or Bunco? The Dansville Community Center at 1317 Mason Street in Dansville will be having Euchre Night on Saturday, 20th starting at 7pm and Bunco on Saturday, January 13th at 6:30pm. A donation of \$5 per person is asked to help pay for expenses for the night. Prizes will be awarded. Beginners are welcome. For more information contact 517-521-4547.

Crossroads United Methodist Church encourages daily Bible reading

If you’ve ever wanted to read the Bible all the way through, you can start the new year with a plan being offered by Crossroads United Methodist Church.

Pastor Marty Johnson has challenged his congregation at Crossroads to follow a schedule of daily readings put together by the *Discipleship Journal*, by Mark Bogart and Peter Mayberry. There are built-in breaks in every week’s schedule for reflection and rest, and Pastor Johnson says not to worry if you fall behind.

“Just start again wherever you left off and keep going,” he reassures. “Each reading will advance your knowledge and understanding, regardless of where you are in the schedule.”

For a copy of the *Book at a Time Bible Reading Plan* and advice in following it, please call the church at 517/655-1466, email at officeumccrossroads@gmail.com, or find the church on Facebook.

Capital Area Library Events

WEBBERVILLE

Family Storytime (Ages up to 6)

Engaging stories, songs and activities to help build early literacy skills

Jan. 10, 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Drop-in LEGO Club (Age 4 & up)

Imaginative play helps develop skills used for reading.

Jan. 18, 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

* * *

WILLIAMSTON

Senior Book Chat (Held at Williamston Senior Center)

Join us as CADL staff share favorite titles and reading recommendations.

Jan. 10, 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Family Storytime (Ages up to 6)

Engaging stories, songs and activities to help build early literacy skills.

Jan. 17, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Book Discussion Group (Adults)

Today: *Small, Great Things* by Jodi Picoult

Jan. 17, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

* * *

SYSTEM WIDE

CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

All CADL branches are closed Monday, January 15 in honor of Martin King Luther, Jr. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Tadpole Storytime at 15 (Held at Impression 5 Science Center)

Our literacy experts have teamed up with Impression 5 for monthly science storytimes.

Jan. 16, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events at St. Agnes Catholic Church

St. Agnes office hours: Monday thru Thursday 8am-4pm; Friday 8am-12noon. For the full schedule of events, visit our parish calendar at this link: <http://parishcalendar.com:8080/4/4447/>

*****Weekday Mass Schedule:** What a blessed way to bolster your ‘Spirit Fitness’! Wednesday evening at 6:30pm, Thursday and Friday morning at 8:00am.

*****Weekday Communion Service Schedule:** Monday and Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the Chapel.

*****Fit Club:** Is your New Year resolution to lose weight and/or get fit? FREE workout class, open to anyone who desires to add more fitness to their life. Upcoming dates: 7:00-8:00pm January 9, 10, 12. Classes meet in LPC A/B.

*****Adoration:** A great opportunity to thank Jesus for the blessings in your life! Monday at 6:30pm, Tuesday at 6:00pm, and Wednesday at 7:00pm.

*****His Merciful Heart Prayer Group:** Praise the Lord every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm in RE 6.

*****Reconciliation:** Every Wednesday at 7:00pm-8:00pm. Every Saturday at 3:00-3:45pm.

*****Morning Rosary:** Every Thursday at 10:00am in the Chapel.

*****Welcome Table:** Every Thursday evening at 6:00pm in our LPC-Gym. Great home cooking!

*****Chili Cookoff and Euchre Tournament:** January 13 in our LPC-Gym. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council #8605. A chili for everyone’s taste: Mild, Medium, Hot, and Blazing! Come and taste-test Fowlerville’s chili cuisine and have a vote for the People’s Choice! Chili Cookoff begins at 5:00pm. Euchre Tournament registration begins at 6:30pm. If you would like to enter the chili cooking competition or would like more information about either activity, contact Nelson Cypher (517-294-6366) or Todd Conte (517-223-1405). Put some ‘Cayenne & Cards’ into this chilly January!

*****Parish office will be closed Monday, January 15th, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr’s birthday.**

*****Feast of St Agnes:** Sunday, January 21

St Agnes Catholic Church is located at 855 East Grand River Avenue, Fowlerville - Phone: 517-223-8684.

Caleb Jenkins Column



Understanding in Office

I hope you all had a very splendid and enjoyable Christmas and New Year, and I trust that your 2018 is starting out right. With that being said, it is now time to return to our previous series on the proper traits of those in office. This time, I wanted to focus on understanding, and I think this is particularly relevant at this time due to what I believe is a common misperception concerning it. When we are looking at potential officeholders, we want those who are smart. The problem is that there are different interpretations of what it means to be smart. What should they be smart about?

That is why I used the more general term of “understanding.” For many, they want their government officials to be knowledgeable. In some circumstances, they look to candidates who are well-educated on a particular topic. For example, they would prefer that a person running for Attorney General has had legal training. In other cases, they desire a candidate who is just knowledgeable in general in that he or she is academically accomplished. They may look to see if the candidate is a college graduate for example.

However, there is also the area of common sense. A person can have extensive educational training and still not be able to use simple reason or logic to determine what should be done in circumstances that pop up. Knowledge and common sense should work hand-in-hand so that the official can provide a better and sounder decision. I think wisdom can also be closely tied to this point. Government officials must also be discerning and know the difference between right and wrong. They need to be able to grasp the facts through knowledge, reason through them using common sense, and apply wisdom to determine what is the right course of action.

As I’m sure you can now tell, we are putting these blocks together to build what I dubbed “understanding.” They all work together to provide a bigger picture and a better perception, and there is one more that we must add: experience. Sometimes, experience can come through the previously

Williamston Area Senior Center

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JANUARY EVENTS

Williamston Area Senior Center Game Night – come join us at the Williamston Area Senior Center Monday, January 8, from 4:00 – 6:30 pm. Pizza and Salad at 4:30. Enjoy cards and other games with friends new and old. Cost: Free for members and \$3.00 for guest, all welcome adults only please. Reservations requested, call 655-5173. Please bring a nonperishable item that we will donate to the food bank.

Free Basic Computer Class for Seniors – Thanks for a grant from the Capital Area Community Foundation we will be conducting two free computer classes in January for seniors. The first one will be on Saturday, January 6, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and the second one will be held on Saturday, January 13, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon where we will conduct an open computer session in which you can bring your I-pads, lap tops, phones and we will provide assistance on their use.

Sing Along with Dewey Longuski on Monday, January 15, from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm at the Williamston Area Senior Center. No registration, no fee, just the magical music of Dewey. You may have heard him play around town with his band, the Red Cedar River Boys.

Movies at the Williamston Senior Center – On, Thursday, January 25, at 12:30 pm the Senior Center will be showing “*The Court Jester*” with Danny Kaye. Free Popcorn. Open to all Seniors.

Other January Activities at the Senior Center – On Wednesday, January 10, at 12:30 pm Commissioner Randy Schafer will provide an update on Senior Issues that are before the County Commission and on Tuesday, January 18, there will be a presentation from Habitat for Humanity at 12:30 pm.

On any January Wednesday at the Senior Center join us for the following activities:

EUCHRE – 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

NEEDLE CRAFT GROUP - meets after lunch between 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

mentioned elements. For example, academic (knowledge) experience can be very useful. However, practical experience also adds to the trait of understanding. Officials are going to have a much greater grasp on the situations presented if they have had adequate life experiences. Previous jobs, hobbies, activities, and other day-to-day actions can all help to put the knowledge, common sense, and wisdom in context. In essence, the question becomes: does the theory actually work in practice?

Overall understanding as explained here is something worth having in elected officials. As I mentioned at the beginning, the exact criteria of what kind of understanding might be most desirable could change depending on the position and other circumstances. Perhaps a certain situation would require more academic knowledge, and practical experience would be less important. Or any combination of the above. That is why we, as citizens, must be wise when looking at candidates for office. We must decide what is best for the particular situation at hand, and we, too, should demonstrate understanding.

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Conway Township will receive proposals from qualified network and engineering design and consulting contractors for professional design, engineering, and consulting services for the development of a Township owned fiber broadband network capable of providing internet and optional communication services to all current residents and businesses within the township (“Project”). Intent to Bid notifications must be completed and turned into the Township by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2018. Proposals compliant with the Township’s issued Request for Proposals (“RFP”) are due by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 29, 2018. A full RFP packet may be obtained from Todd Anderson, Conway Township Clerk at the Conway Township Hall located at 8015 N. Fowlerville Road, Fowlerville, Michigan 48836, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, by email at clerk@conwaytownship.com, or on the Conway Township website at www.conwaytownship.com.

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The Salvation Army still working on Christmas Campaign Goal

The Salvation Army’s Christmas Campaign is its largest fund-raising effort each year and these donations support year round programs. The campaign’s fundraising goal for the 2017 season is \$385,000.00, to be raised from November 1st through January 31st. To date, the campaign has not yet hit their goal and still seeks to raise over \$40,000.

The Christmas fund-raiser helps The Salvation Army of Livingston County with services such as shelter and utility assistance. It also helps with Pathway of Hope; a program that mentors, councils and educates families along with providing connections to resources and services putting them on the path to regain self-sufficiency.

“Meeting the goal is especially important this year. Due to the unexpected weather the second weekend of October, our annual Car Show fundraiser was canceled.” Says Major Prezza Morrison “This event typically brings in over \$14,000 that day; this made an impact on our overall budget. Without these funds, services and programs may have to be altered. We want to meet people’s needs to their fullest so they can get back on their feet, however without the funds we may not be able to do that.”

With less than four weeks remaining, The Salvation Army of Livingston County is reaching out to the community for help. Donations can still be made several ways:

- Online at www.SalvationArmyLivingston.org
- Via US mail – P.O. Box 647, Howell MI 48844
- Dropped off at the Corps - 503 Lake Street, Howell, MI 48844
- By texting HopeLC to 41444

Monetary donations may be brought in to: The Salvation Army Corps Community Center; 503 Lake Street; Howell, MI 48844 during business hours Monday- Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm. To learn more about what The Salvation Army of Livingston County does please visit www.SalvationArmyLivingston.org or call April Dertian at 517-295-4344.

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Michigan House Report

By Dr. Hank Vaupel, 47nd District



Rep. Vaupel and former Rep. Cindy Denby (right) thank longtime staffer Sue Dolato (left) for her service to Livingston County and the state of Michigan.

Cindy Denby and I want to thank Sue Dolato for her many years of service, not just to my office, but to the 47th House District and the Michigan Legislature. Best wishes as she embarks on a new chapter of her life, spending time with family and grandchildren and dedicating her time to community events and special projects. Thank you Sue!

I’m looking forward to the publication of our mental health task force report which is scheduled to be released to the public on Jan. 17. This report will encompass all of the information we gathered from our task force meetings, as well as the many suggestions we received from specialists, stakeholders and members of the public.

As we ring in the new year, I’ve been looking back on the many legislative accomplishments the Michigan Legislature has made this year. I’m especially proud that two of my bills were signed into law by the governor during 2017.

First, I sponsored a bill to ensure the anonymity of birth mothers who wish to surrender their child. This bill will protect the safety of both the mother and the child by making them feel safe when they make responsible decisions and choose adoption. Especially in cases where women are forced to make this decision because of an abusive relationship or religious beliefs. This law encourages safe drop offs of newborns at an appropriate location.

Second, I was pleased to have the opportunity to take part in the sponsorship in a package of bills to honor patient wishes during end-of-life care. The Physician Ordered Scope of Treatment (POST) form is an advance-care planning tool intended to guide emergency medical personnel and health-care providers in whether to administer life-sustaining measures.

As your state representative, I take my responsibilities very seriously when it comes to voting on your behalf in the House. That’s why I’m proud to report that during the 2017 legislative session I have 100 percent attendance for floor votes. In addition, my conservative spending allowed me to return \$9,000 of my annual office allotment to the state.

I look forward to another year of representing your interests and values at the Capitol in 2018.

January is National Radon Action Month. This is a great time to test for radon in your home. Radon is an invisible and odorless radioactive gas that poses a serious health risk to families. In fact, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. and one in eight Michigan homes is likely to have an elevated radon level.

The Livingston County Health Department offers free short-term radon test kits through Jan. 31. Test kits are available at the Environmental Health Division office, located at 2300 E. Grand River Ave. in Howell. For more information, contact the LCHD at (517) 546-9858.

If you have any ideas, comments or questions for my office, please do not hesitate to call us at 517-373-8835 or send an email to HankVaupel@house.mi.gov. We are happy to hear from you!



Michigan Senate Report

By Joe Hune, 22nd District

Winter Safety

Winter has arrived with a roar. Even though it has only been officially the winter season for a couple of weeks, we are experiencing winter weather like we haven’t seen in several years.

Snow and frigid temperatures have been the norm in our area for several weeks now. It is important to remember that even though the winter season is incredibly beautiful, conditions can often be very dangerous. I figured now is a good time to remind everyone of some tips that can help us all make it to the spring season safely.

Remember to pay close attention to the temperature. Exposing skin to freezing temperatures for even a few minutes can lead to frostbite. Wearing gloves, several layers of clothing, and keeping your head and ears covered with a hat and earmuffs can help prevent frostbite.

Remember to drive carefully. Icy and snowy roads make for dangerous travel conditions. Make sure your vehicle is in good working order. There is almost nothing worse than being stranded on the side of the road on a cold, winter day. Always be sure you have working windshield wiper blades, enough antifreeze and windshield-washer fluid, proper tire inflation, and sufficient charge in your vehicle battery. Always keep an emergency kit in your vehicle. It is important that you have what you need to get out of a situation when you may not be able to call for help.

Remember that shoveling snow can be dangerous. The strain of shoveling can be strenuous on the heart. So ease into shoveling and remember to not over-exert yourself. According to the Harvard Medical School, shoveling snow can lead to increased threat of heart attack. Here are some tips to help you shovel safely this winter:

- Warm up your muscles before starting by stretching.
- Shovel light loads of snow instead of heavy ones.
- Take frequent breaks and don’t over exert yourself.
- Head indoors right away, if your chest starts hurting, you feel lightheaded or short of breath, your heart starts racing or some other physical change makes you nervous. If you think you are having a heart attack, call 911 or your local emergency number.

Winter is one of the best times of year in Michigan. Let’s all stay safe and enjoy all that a Pure Michigan winter has to offer! If you would like a Winter Pure Michigan Guide, please contact my office.

As always, if you have any questions or need more information please contact my office toll-free at 855-JOE-HUNE or email my office at SenJHune@senate.michigan.gov and my staff will be happy to assist you. My website, www.SenatorJoeHune.com, is also a good resource for information.

Fowlerville News & Views

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 Published on Sunday
 by H&H Publications LLC

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Member of the Michigan Press Association



Member of the Fowlerville Business Association

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 Fowlerville, Michigan 48836

Fowlerville Junior High School News

IMPORTANT DATES:

No School-- Mon. Jan. 15th
End of Semester-- ½ day of school - Thurs, Fri. Jan. 25, 26
Student Count Day-- Wed. Feb. 14th
Semi-Formal Dance-- Fri. Mar. 2nd
* * *

SPORTS FOR WEEK OF JAN. 8:

GIRLS' BASKETBALL: 7th & 8th tryouts/practices continue daily. 7th-4:30-6:30 & 8th-2:30-4:30 in FJH gym
Coaches are Michele Quigley-7th & Jon Jolin-8th.
PHYSICALS REQUIRED.

WRESTLING practice begins on Mon., Jan. 8 for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade boys & girls. Practice is 2:30-4, Monday thru Thursday; Friday practice if a Saturday meet.
PHYSICALS REQUIRED. Coach: Craig Zube

Sat., 1/13: **COMPETITIVE CHEER @ PINCKNEY INVITE**-10:00; **BUS**-8:30

Parents are encouraged to arrange to pick up their athlete from practice w/in 15 minutes of practice ending.
* * *

NEW YEAR'S POP TAB CHALLENGE

Student Council is sponsoring a New Year's Pop Tab Challenge. Students are to collect and bring in pop can tabs for the month of January to their 6th hour teacher (6th Grade to their homeroom teacher). The tabs will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. The class that brings in the most tabs wins a pizza party! Please spread the word.
* * *

YEARBOOK INFORMATION

Yearbook is underway- order yours today! Personalized books are available through March 2nd. Order on our website under order yearbooks here and it will take you to the smart pay site. You may also send a check made out to Fowlerville Community Schools with name and grade of your child on memo line. A basic yearbook is \$32.

If you have taken pictures that you would like considered for use in the yearbook. Upload them to our Imageshare app or email them to Mrs. Spisz at spiszm@fowlervilleschools.org. Search for "Balfour Image Share" at the App Store on iTunes or on Google Play. It's SO easy! Students or parents simply download the iOS or Android app, enter your yearbook's information and they're ready to go. Photos can be selected from an existing gallery or taken using the app itself. Each submitted photo includes contributor information, photo identifications and a caption. Our Project number is 823649.
* * *

BOX TOPS

Please clip and send in Box Tops to Mrs. Laesch (Room D1) or the main office. Money earned from box tops collected will be used for Math and Science supplies. Thank you!
* * *

LET IT SNOW-SKI CLUB

The club is open to 5th through 12th grade students. We ski/board at Mt. Brighton every Wednesday beginning on January 3rd and throughout the month of February. For further information, please contact Ms. DeLuca at 517-223-6250 or delucac@fowlervilleschools.org

Fowlerville Garden Club hosting Orchid Speaker this Wednesday, Jan. 10

The Fowlerville Garden Club is hosting guest speaker Jerrie Nichols from the Greater Lansing Orchid Society at our upcoming Wednesday Jan. 10 meeting. Many people buy or receive orchids as gifts but after they are done blooming, what then? Jerrie will offer tips on common (such as phalaenopsis) orchid care. If you wish, you can bring your orchid in (just be sure to bundle it up well if this cold weather continues) or bring pictures for Jerrie's review.

The public is invited to this free event to be held at the Fowlerville VFW Post 6464 Hall located at 215 Veterans Drive. Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 PM and our presentation will begin at 7:00 PM. Join us for an informative session on orchid growing, one of the most beautiful and popular indoor plants for the home.



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... ➔ **ATTENTION LOW BACK PAIN & SCIATICA SUFFERERS** ⬅ ...

MAKE 2018 A PAIN FREE YEAR!

A FREE Back Pain & Sciatica Workshop Which Reveals How To Successfully Treat Back Pain & Sciatica WITHOUT Drugs, Injections or Surgery!


Do YOU Want to Know The Most (Proven) Effective Treatment For Low Back Pain?

- ➔ Do YOU have back pain that is not 'going away' and you are concerned it's getting worse?
- ➔ Do YOU take medication to help mask your low back pain on a regular basis?
- ➔ Does your low back pain or fear of low back pain limit YOU functionally?
- ➔ Have YOU sought out treatment for your low back pain - but it was not effective?
- ➔ Are YOU starting to think, that you might have to live with your low back pain for the rest of your life?
- ➔ Have YOU given up hope, that anyone can help you?

If you have answered YES to any of the above questions (or have a stubborn spouse who is in denial) – the Lower Back and Sciatica Workshop may be a life changing event for you...

Hello, back pain and sciatica can completely ruin your life...I've seen it many times,

- It can make you lean on the shopping cart when walking through the grocery store...
- It can take your focus away from enjoying your life... like spending time with your children or grandchildren...
- It can mess up your work or force you to do a job you don't want to do...
- It can ruin your travel plans...
- And it can take away your ability to live life... having to rely on others... or having to wait for you to sit down for a minute.



John Dean DPT
Board Certified
Orthopedic &
Sports PT

Here at Mid-Michigan Physical Therapy Specialists, over the past 10+ years, with our expertise, we've helped literally 1000's of people from right here in Livingston County... and the surrounding communities... who have suffered needlessly with lower back pain and sciatica... it's our specialty!

'I cannot say enough about my "Healing Experience" at Mid-Michigan PT. I literally came in on a mattress and after PT, my life returned to normal. I had an excellent experience at Mid-Michigan PT and will be forever grateful' - Dana B.

SO BY REQUEST, I'M HOSTING A FREE SCIATICA AND LOWER BACK PAIN WORKSHOP!

Saturday, January 20, 10:00am – 11:00am

Where: Mid-Michigan Physical Therapy Specialists (Howell Location)

2810 W. Grand River, Suite 100 (¼ Mile East of Tomato Bros. Restaurant)

If you're unsure about what to do and are looking for answers, here's some of what you'll learn:

- ✓ The Single Biggest #1 Mistake back pain and sciatica sufferers make which actually stops them from healing...
- ✓ The 3 Most Common Causes of Lower Back Pain and Sciatica...
- ✓ A Sure-Fire Way to Pick the Right Treatment for the Cause of Your Pain (and save a ton of time and money)
- ✓ How a problem in your back can cause pain, numbness or tingling in your leg...
- ✓ What successful treatment and permanent relief looks like without the side effects of medications, injections or surgery.

Also, everyone attending will receive the following 3 FREE Reports:

1. The Top 5 Exercises To Do If YOU Have Back Pain (Note - Not the same for everyone!)
2. The Answers To The Top 10 Burning Questions About Sciatica!
3. What YOU Can Do TODAY To Relieve Your Back Pain!

How Do I Register for the Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Workshop?

Call our office to register at 517-545-3200

When you register, we will mail you The Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Worksheet which you will bring with you to the event. **We only have a limited number of seats available for the event...** while news of this event will also be announced in our Patient Newsletter and On-Line. So if you would like to attend, be sure to register now... **Call 517-545-3200**

How Much Is It to Attend? The Workshop Is FREE!


As a Special Bonus... the first SEVEN people to call and register for the event will receive a FREE EXERCISE GYM BALL!

Looking forward to seeing you there,

John Dean PT, DPT, OCS, SCS - Co-Owner, Mid-Michigan Physical Therapy Specialists

PS – The first SEVEN People to call and register at 517-545-3200 will receive A FREE EXERCISE GYM BALL!

PPS – We have a limited number of seats for this event, but when you register, you can bring a guest (we do this because many people request to bring their spouse or other family member).



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Fowlerville News & Views



-DEADLINE THURSDAY BY 3PM-

DIRECT CARE STAFF NEEDED: To take care of disabled adults in Howell. Valid driver’s license required with clean driving record. Call Sam (517) 548-4495 or (517) 545-9921.

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

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BLAINE TRASH REMOVAL: Why rent a dumpster? Call us for full service garage & house cleanouts. Tree & brush removal, yard clean-up. Home, business & commercial. “Insured.” Call 517-980-0468, ask for Jay.

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DUPLEX- WILLIAMSTON, 2 bedrooms, laundry, roomy. John Kane, Broker, 517-204-2451, application fee \$25.

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HARTLAND HORSE TACK SALE: Jan. 27, 10am to 2p.m, 9525 E. Highland Rd. (M-59), Howell 48843. Buy & Sell—New & Used. Selling spaces available. Call Paula for info at 517-404-4544.

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Secretary of State Johnson encourages lawmakers to take action on driver fees

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson last week made the following statement about Driver Responsibility Fees as lawmakers return from winter break.

“Michigan residents have waited long enough for relief from these burdensome fees that are hurting families and job growth across the state,” Johnson said. “I encourage House and Senate members to work together with the governor to reach a deal right away to forgive the fees. Driver Responsibility Fees are not enforcing traffic safety. Because of this automatic double-penalty, too many Michigan residents have lost their licenses because of Driver Responsibility Fees. They can’t take their kids to school or get to work, disrupting their families and harming local businesses who can’t find enough qualified employees.”

As a state representative in 2003, Johnson voted against Driver Responsibility Fees. As secretary of state, she has pushed for repealing the Driver Responsibility Fee law, successfully advocating that lawmakers eliminate the most common fees in 2011, create a community service option for certain fees in 2015 and begin phasing out all fees.

Driver Responsibility Fees are an additional fee automatically charged for various traffic violations, including non-moving violations, on top of regular traffic citation fines and court costs. Unlike traditional court fines and fees in which a judge can take into consideration a driver’s ability to pay and order alternatives, such as payment plans or community service in lieu of payment, the automatically assessed Driver Responsibility Fees cannot be waived or reduced by a judge.

Storytelling artists to present ‘The Lost Diaries of Eve & Adam’ on March 10

If you like a good yarn, then mark your calendar for this upcoming event. Storytelling artists Ingrid Nixon and Jeff Doyle, members of the Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild, present “The Lost Diaries of Eve & Adam” at the Howell Opera House on Saturday, March 10.

Inspired by Mark Twain’s “The Diaries of Adam & Eve,” join Ingrid and Jeff for an evening of stories including their wonderful twist on the creation story told from Eve and Adam’s point of view.

Doors will open at 7 PM, performance begins at 7:30. Tickets are \$15 and seating is limited so please reserve your spot now by visiting www.howelloperahouse.com or calling our office at 517-540-0065.

SYNOPSIS
PROPOSED
IOSCO TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
DECEMBER 21ST, 2017

Supervisor Miller called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:00PM. Trustees Parker and VanHouten, Treasurer Bonnville, and Clerk Delmerico present. Also present was Zoning Administrator/Assessor Allen.

Motion to approve the Agenda.

There was no response to the 1st Call to the Public.

Motion to adopt the proposed Board Minutes of November 16th, 2017; with corrections.

Heard the Treasurer’s report.

Motion to pay \$30,347.30 in Township bills.

Heard the Fowlerville Fire Authority, Planning Commission, and Zoning Administrator’s reports.

Motion to approve the rate of 150% above the 2018 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines, for the purposes of Board of Review activity.

Motion, seconded by Bonnville for the Board to review, at the February meeting, an Opt-Out Medical Marijuana Facilities Resolution.

Motion; seconded by Miller to authorize the Clerk to purchase a replacement printer for Qualified Voter File Computer.

Motion to authorize the Clerk to purchase up to \$500.00 in stamps.

There was no response to the 2nd Call to The Public.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:47PM.

Respectfully Submitted by
Dan Delmerico
Iosco Township Clerk
(1-7-18 FNV)

Social Security Questions
Answered

By Vonda Vantil,
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist
Celebrating Our Nation’s Diversity

January 15 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a federal holiday and a day of remembrance. Martin Luther King, Jr. dedicated his life to creating and fostering equal rights for African Americans, and he died during his efforts to make his dream a reality.

Diversity of skills, knowledge, and perspective is what you want when putting together a strong team. In a way, America is a super team of diverse members, all of whom dream of prosperity and success. Many people honor Martin Luther King, Jr. for dedicating his life to showing us that diversity is a strength.

Social Security’s “People Like Me” website has custom information for preparing for your future. Our diverse country is made up of countless backgrounds, ethnicities, and nationalities, yet we all want the same thing — a secure future. You can see the many diverse people we serve at www.socialsecurity.gov/people.

Younger people need to know that the earlier you start saving, the more your money can grow. Our website for young workers at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/youngpeople/saving.html has many resources that can help you secure today and tomorrow.

Veterans and wounded warriors, as well as their families, sometimes face unique obstacles when saving for their future. Our website has great resources and information at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/veterans.

Social Security values your diverse skill set and knowledge. That’s what makes our country a world leader. Now you can take the lead and show your friends and family what Social Security has to offer.

Question: I want to sign up for a Medicare Part C and D plan, but I’m not sure which plan I want. Is there a resource to help me find a plan?

Answer: Yes. Medicare.gov has a plan finder available on their website as well as instructions on how to use the plan finder. To access the Medicare Plan Finder, please visit www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx.

Question: I have medical coverage through my employer. Do I have to take Medicare Part B?

Answer: You are not required to take Medicare Part B if you are covered by a group healthcare plan based on either your employment or the employment of a spouse. When your coverage ends, you may contact the Social Security Administration to request a special enrollment for Medicare Part B. We will need to verify your coverage through your employer in order for you to be eligible for a special enrollment. For more information, visit www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/get-parts-a-and-b/when-sign-up-parts-a-and-b/when-sign-up-parts-a-and-b.html.

—Area Deaths— Charles Marin Hicks

Charles Marion Hicks, 87 of Crestview, FL, passed away peacefully at his home with family members surrounding him on Monday, January 1, 2018. Charles was born November 11, 1930 in Schell City, Missouri, the youngest son of John Shelby and Geraldine Florence (Church) Hicks. He moved to the Crestview area from Gladwin, Michigan in October of 2012.

Charles was a retired truck driver with Bent Tube Inc. in Fowlerville, Michigan, as well as a farmer. He raised and bred draft horses in the Fowlerville and Gladwin, Michigan areas. He enjoyed many hours working with his horses in the fields, choosing them over modern farm machinery. He was a longtime member of The Percheron Horse Association of America. He was a lifelong fan of the Detroit Tiger Baseball team, spending many hours watching them play.

Charles was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many positions throughout his membership. He served two full time missions in the Arizona Tucson Mission during his second marriage. He loved his large family and felt blessed to be loved by them. He enjoyed visiting and having them visit him whenever the opportunity came. He was a firm believer that “Families are Forever”.

Charles is preceded in death by his parents: John and Geraldine Hicks, two wives: Jean Gladys Eaton Hicks whom he married 07/18/1947, who passed 03/19/1988 and Mary Frances Jones Hicks, whom he married 11/25/1989, who passed 03/22/2002; a daughter: Victoria Evelyn Watson, six brothers: Mike, Herbert, John, Ben, Lee, and Glenn Hicks, and two sisters: Faye and Jo, one grandchild: Mary Jean Hicks and one great grandchild: David Jurvelin III.

Charles is survived by five children: sons, John of Bath, NC, Charles II (Fay) of Fairmont, WV, Paul (Nancy) of Charlotte, MI, and Joseph (Debra) of Crestview, FL and daughter, Jean Ann Howe (Brian) of Crestview, FL; two step-daughters: Christine (Chuck) Rayner of Hale, MI, and Donna (Gary) Pagel of Port Huron, MI; two sisters: Dorothy Driver of Mount Pleasant, MI and Alice Lukenbill of Garden City, MO, 24 grandchildren, 48 great grandchildren and 3 great great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in Florida on Saturday, January 13th at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, beginning at 10:00 AM with Bishop William Mozina officiating. The family will receive friends Friday, January 12 from 6:00 to 8:00pm at Brackney Funeral Service. Flowers are appreciated or contributions to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints missionary fund.

You may leave your condolences at www.brackneyfuneralservice.com

St. Agnes Catholic Church to host Chili Dinner & Euchre Tournament

Winter is here and it's time for an evening of the best chili in town. Join the Knights of Columbus #8605 at St. Agnes Catholic Church this Saturday, Jan. 13, for an all-you-can-eat Chili Dinner followed by an evening of Euchre.

In addition, those attending will have an opportunity to meet celebrity guest Dan Petry, a pitcher with the 1984 World Champion Detroit Tigers.

Feast on the best saucy, spicy and blazing hot chili recipes around and help decide who wins the cook-off. For those looking for more variety, there will be nachos, hotdogs and dessert. Dinner will be served from 5:00 until 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 years of age.

Registration for Euchre begins at 6 p.m. and card play starts at 7 o'clock. Teams of two will play 5 games of euchre with the top four teams competing for prizes in double elimination. Cash bar will be available and snacks will be provided. Cost to enter is \$10/person.

Proceeds raised will support council projects and to help area residents with winter heating bills through LOVE, Inc. St. Agnes Church is located at 855 E. Grand River, Fowlerville.

Contestants can enter their best chili recipe for the cook-off by calling Nelson Cypher at 517-294-6366 or Todd Conti at 517-819-7330 before Saturday January 13th.



Rosemary McGill

Rosemary McGill, age 72 of Fowlerville, passed away on December 26, 2017. She was born to Larry and Rose (Rubino) Laverdi on December 6, 1945 in Detroit. She married John McGill on December 12, 1963 in Farmington. Rosemary loved to decorate all kinds of cakes and enjoyed arts and crafts.

She is survived by her husband: John; one son: John McGill Jr. and a daughter: Cheryl McGill-Browe and one grandson: T.J. Browe. Cremation has taken place and a memorial service was held on January 3, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Herrmann Funeral Home. Please leave the family a condolence at pjherrmannfuneralhome.com.

Plans underway for upcoming ‘Salute to the Stars Celebrity’ Dance Competition

The Livingston County Catholic Charities 14th annual ‘Salute to the Stars with the Celebrity’ Dance Competition will be held on Saturday, March 3, starting at 6:30 pm at Crystal Gardens in Howell. Join us for an exciting evening including strolling food stations, cash bar, 50/50 raffle, honoree presentation, exciting dance competition and goodwill offering with an open dance floor after the competition. 2018 Dance Teams are: Leslie & Sam Johnson, Tracy Patterson & Branden Cathey, Lynne Smelser & Michael Gackler, Kelly Roth & Eric Guerin, and Peggi & Michael Bourke.

Dance competition and voting proceeds support Liv. Cty. Catholic Charities programs serving low income and home-bound county seniors.

Great music, fun and entertainment! Visit our website to view dance team videos and vote for your favorite dance teams starting on Feb. 11 - Mar. 2 (\$5/vote). Tickets can be purchased now at www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org through Feb. 23rd.

Platinum Sponsors: St. Joseph Mercy Health System, Dr. Edward Loniewski, Garrison Enterprises LLC

Foster Parent Informational Meeting to be held on Jan. 15 this month

Livingston Catholic Church Charities is seeking to increase the number of available foster homes in Livingston County to serve the growing number of children entering foster care. Currently there are not enough local homes to accommodate abused and/or neglected children to keep them close to their home of origin in order to maintain stability in their lives.

The informational meeting is held the 3rd Monday of each month, 5pm–7pm, at LCCC, 2020 E. Grand River #101, Howell. This month's meeting will be on Jan. 15. R.S.V.P. with Amanda to reserve your spot by calling 517-545-5944.

Livingston Acoustic Music Society to gather for jam session on Jan. 20

The Livingston Acoustic Music Society (LAMS) Jam Sessions are open to interested musicians, singers and listeners. We include many different instruments, styles of music and levels from beginners to accomplished.

Location: Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene; 8040 Country Corner Dr.; Fowlerville, MI: In the strip mall just south of the I-96 (overpass) bridge on Fowlerville Rd. We are a fun, no obligation, family friendly, music sharing, relaxed, informal group. Open to the public.

Our next LAMS Jam Session is: Saturday, January 20, 2018. Starts: 7 p.m.

Smith Elementary School News

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 7-13- The Pizza Box fundraiser: don't forget your coupon!! Extras available in the school lobby.
January 10-PTC meeting 6:00pm
January 11- Applebee's Dining to Donate
January 15 – School of Choice Window Reopens
January 15- NO SCHOOL
January 22 – 1st Grade Vision Screening by LCHD
January 23 – 1st Grade Vision Screening by LCHD
January 26 – School of Choice Window Closes
January 26- Early Dismissal: 12:00noon
February 2-PTC Popcorn

The Livingston County Health Department Will be Vision Screening – The LCHD will be at Smith Elementary on January 22 & 23 to vision screen 1st grade students. If for any reason you would not want your child to have their vision screened by the Health Department, please contact the office at 517-223-6430 so your child can be placed on the DO NOT SCREEN LIST.

DINING TO DONATE AT APPLEBEE'S HOWELL:

The second Thursday of each month, Applebee's Howell is holding a fundraising event for our PTC during the hours of 11:00am – 10:00pm. 20% of the proceeds will benefit the school. All you need to do is bring in a copy of the flyer or a phone picture of the flyer which was sent home. You may also pick up additional flyers on the front table at school.

H.T. Smith Is A Latex Free Building! – Our building is a latex and latex balloon free zone. We cannot have any product containing latex in our building. Signs have been posted at the entrance doors as a reminder. Please be aware of this when you are planning birthday surprises or classroom parties. ONLY MYLAR BALLOONS ARE PERMITTED! Thank You!

Please do not park in the drop-off (Kiss & Go) lane in front of the school. This lane is to be used for parents to drop off their children and move ahead so the next car can do a drop-off. **During the school day, this is the fire lane- DO NOT PARK THERE!**

Medication –Just a reminder that ALL medications must be delivered to the office by an adult/parent/guardian. The prescription medications must have a current prescription sticker with instructions for dispensing the medication, doctor's name, and child's name. *Parents will have to complete a form in the office for both prescription and non-prescription medications.

Medicare questions?
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Debbie Holmes
Medicare Plan Specialist
Livingston County





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NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on **January 23 at 10am** to dispense of the items stored in the following units:
Jeff Pringle J-218, Anita Baker H-173
Joshua Taulbee E-106, Jeanine Dowling J-215
Richard Robertson O-279
This sale is subject to cancellation without notice.

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Steve Horton Column

Social Media: Good or Bad? Or Both

Surveying the programming offered to television viewers in 1961, the newly appointed chair of the Federal Communications Commission, Newton Minow, used the phrase “vast wasteland” and, in doing so, put himself in the history books. The headline writers loved it.

However, as with many famous (or infamous) quotes, his intent was more nuanced and, in this case had an ulterior motive beyond mere condemnation.

Minow’s phrase was part of a speech he gave to the National

Association of Broadcasters shortly after being named to head the FCC by President John F. Kennedy.

Taken in context, what Minow said was: “When television is good, nothing — not the theater, not the magazines or newspapers — nothing is better. But when television is bad, nothing is worse. I invite each of you to sit down in front of your own television set when your station goes on the air and stay there, for a day, without a book, without a magazine, without a newspaper, without a profit and loss sheet or a rating book to distract you. Keep your eyes glued to that set until the station signs off. I can assure you that what you will observe is a vast wasteland.”

Having issued that challenge, Minow went on to say: “Television and all who participate in it are jointly accountable to the American public for respect for the special needs of children, for community responsibility, for the advancement of education and culture, for the acceptability of the program materials chosen, for decency and decorum in production, and for propriety in advertising.

“This responsibility,” he continued, “cannot be discharged by any given group of programs, but can be discharged only through the highest standards of respect for the American home, applied to every moment of every program presented by television. Program materials should enlarge the horizons of the viewer, provide him with wholesome entertainment, afford helpful stimulation, and remind him of the responsibilities which the citizen has toward his society.”

Years later, commenting on his speech, Minow noted that the two words it’s remembered for are “vast wasteland,” but that he would have preferred they be “public interest.”

His remarks did have an impact, but only to a degree. The type of programming he advocated did occur and does still exist—thanks in large part to the creation of public television that came about a few years later in the 1960s, along with the proliferation of channels that has occurred— first, with the introduction of the UHF frequency that allowed more channels (including those for public TV), followed later by cable and satellite channels that provide specialty shows—some of which might meet Minow’s standards of excellence.

At the time he made his speech, television consisted of local stations affiliated with the three major networks—with the latter providing much of the entertainment and nearly all of the national and world news.

While the broadcasters might have paid attention (then as now they are ever mindful of the views of the FCC that regulates them) and responded by offering some “more responsible programming,” the majority of the viewers did not rally to this cause and demand better programming. Most of the American public, then as now, does not seem to have an appetite for the spinach that they are encouraged to eat.

Granted, those ‘cotton candy’ programs of yesteryear and today might offer little-to-no education nourishment, they have the advantage of being popular. And in the TV business, popular translates into higher profits via higher advertising rates.

Interestingly, nowadays an oft-heard criticism of television is that there’s “too much choice” and that the public does not have a common, shared denominator of programming and information.

Where once millions of us sat in front of our sets and watched the aftermath of the Kennedy assassination or watched ‘The Beatles’ make their American debut on ‘The Ed Sullivan Show’ or watched Neil Armstrong walk on the moon or enjoyed ‘The Fonz’ on ‘Happy Days’ or got our news from one of the three network anchors, now there is a potpourri of choices—many of them tailored to appeal to a select audience. As a result, a common context is being lost amid the din, along with shared social and cultural assumptions and beliefs.

WHAT’S THE CASE WITH CURRENT TV, as far as a balkanization of choice, with programming based on “different strokes for different folks” rather than the largest possible audience, is mirrored with social media. In fact, television has gotten a bit of a reprieve in the past few years, with concerns about social media taking the forefront.

It’s no secret that more and more people spend more and more time on their computers and smart phones to interact with family and friends, to learn about what’s happening, and to both find information and share it. Companies that have been in the forefront in using this new communication technology—comparable in its revolutionary impact to the invention of the telegraph and the telephone as well as motion pictures and radio—have become so pervasive that we’ve turned their brands into descriptive verbs, as in ‘googling’ for an answer to a question or ‘facebooking’ with a relative or sending a message to someone by ‘twittering’ them.

The main concerns expressed include: Are we spending too much time on social media and the virtual world? By doing so, are we missing out in better observing the real world around us? Do such social virtues as conversation and listening to others—social graces learned and enhanced through face-to-face interactions—suffer as a result?

Are we inadvertently insulating ourselves from differing viewpoints and contrary opinions? Does this encourage a fragmentation of our society and culture at the expense

Dick Scott
MOTOR MALL

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"ATHLETES" OF THE WEEK**

Jud Scott

Freshman Boys Basketball

Jack Lampman - Jack is a starting forward on this year's Freshman boys basketball team and a defensive specialist. Jack's hustle and effort is second to none and he is one of the Freshman Glads best rebounders and defensive players. Jack's free-throw shooting and scoring ability recently paid big dividends in a victory over Haslett. We expect great things from Jack this year on both offense and defense!

Kaleb Chappell - Kaleb is a starting point guard and co-captain on this year's Freshman boys basketball team. Kaleb's strength is his quickness, which he uses to effectively run the Freshman Glads offense and to shut down opposing players on defense. Kaleb is a vocal leader on the floor and in the locker room. We are excited to watch Kaleb's continued growth and look forward to a great season!

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of shared assumptions and a common identity? Does the anonymity or at least not being in close physical proximity allow us to be less civil in our remarks and less courteous in our demeanor?

Well, those are good questions and worthy of concern. I do think the ‘bells and whistles’ can be addictive. The young folks have often been accused of a preoccupation and absorption with this emerging media and technology—and like a lot of new cultural phenomenon—be it music, movies or TV—history has shown that the newer generation is often in the vanguard. But, that said, I notice a lot of their parents and even my ‘grandparent’ age group have become equally preoccupied and absorbed.

People of all ages carry their phones everywhere, constantly checking them out, be it walking, jogging, shopping, dining, at holiday gatherings, on a boat or plane or car, at sports events, and (what really bothers me) when they’re in conversation with someone else.

It’s not that, in doing this, we’re completely missing out on what’s going on around us, or who we’re with, but that the attention is divided. There is no ‘undivided attention’ occurring.

The observation that social media—or to be more precise, those we’re sharing information with and texting back-and-forth to—is creating ‘filter bubble’ or ‘echo chamber’ has merit as well.

That ‘birds of a feather tend to flock together’ as far as people finding comfort and encouragement with others who share similar views on such matters as politics and religion is hardly a new occurrence. It certainly predated these new devices. That’s why such groupings as political parties and church denominations came to be.

Still, what is being discovered is that the technology of the internet aids and abets this human tendency, even exploits it by targeting certain news, information, and advertising to the individual’s site after having tracked their movements and gleaned their interests and apparent beliefs.

Former President Barak Obama touched on this during a recent interview when he “warned that the internet risked reinforcing people’s prejudices and leading to a fractured society,” adding that “All of us in leadership have to find ways in which we can recreate a common space on the internet.”

“One of the dangers of the internet is that people can have entirely different realities,” Obama said. “They can be cocooned in information that reinforces their current biases.”

Of course one of the realities of our current affairs is the polarization that exists in our political and other cultural discussions—of two sides talking past each other and embracing wholly different sets of presuppositions. The interview with Obama was conducted by Britain’s Prince Harry on the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) and

made headlines due to it being perceived as an implicit criticism of President Donald Trump who, as most Americans by now know, likes to communicate with Twitter statements and, when doing so, criticize those he disagrees with or has taken offense against.

Obama may well be guilty of this motive, but his observation about the adverse impact of social media on our national ‘common space’ has been offered by others.

So is social media a “vast wasteland?” Or does it have its merits? Is it good or bad?

Not to be evasive, but I’d say “Both.” Social media, the entire breadth of computerized technology, has offered and demonstrated great potential. It has brought far flung family and neighbors in closer communication. It has given easier access to information, varying news sources, and made research easier. It has widened the entertainment venue and provided a forum for aspiring writers, musicians, and artists. It has changed the paradigm of business—providing a new means for shopping, shipping goods, and offering new opportunities for entrepreneurs.

On the other hand, many of the concerns that I’ve listed, ones noted by others and based on my own observations, support a ‘bad’ answer, too. There is a coarsening, a polarization, and an empty chatter that this media did not cause, but does seem to encourage. And, like so many other new technologies, there are ‘winners and losers’. The ease of on-line shopping is coming at the expense of many brick-and-mortar stores.

My guess is that hand-wringing won’t have much effect on people’s use. The ‘public interest’ effort by the high-minded among us will not change how people use this media anymore than Newton Minow’s admonition back in 1961 caused TV broadcasters to completely abandon their popular shows or, more importantly, for viewers to demand less fluff and more substance.

My answer of “both” is also based on my own uses of social media. Like a lot of other newspapers, I have a web site, complete with an E-Edition and Facebook. The former gives readers a different way of reading the paper, while the latter offers me an additional means of providing information and features and a unique way of interacting with readers.

On my own Facebook page, I follow the timelines of family and friends and share certain posts and videos that reflect my political and social viewpoints. I communicate with friends, including high school classmates, who live in other parts of the country; many of whom I haven’t seen or talked to in years. I also make frequent use of the research sources available on line when writing my articles.

On the other hand, I spend a good deal of time browsing various sites that reinforce my prejudices, and I confess to having engaged in some “empty chatter” and of ‘flocking with birds of my own feather.’ And every now and then I

realize I’ve gotten a bit addicted to what’s happening on line and whether anyone has responded to my latest post.

But I don’t approach this as an ‘either-or’ choice. As in all things, moderation and a sense of proper balance are advisable. The virtual world may have its appeal, but we still ought to ‘stop and smell the real roses’ and remember that the ‘person at hand’ ought to engage our interest, have the loyalty of our attention, rather than wondering who just texted us.

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FINALLY - Straight talk About Sciatica

Are you suffering from back pain or sciatica? Then it's likely your biggest problem is pain. But there's another major problem: bad information.

To end sciatica misery you must have the right information. Pay close attention because I'm going to destroy sciatica myths and give you the facts.

MYTH: Sciatica will just “go away” with some rest.

FACT: If you are dealing with back pain, buttock pain or leg pain, then you must seek help from a sciatica specialist *immediately*. Left untreated, sciatica can lead to permanent nerve damage - and lifelong pain.

MYTH: Pain is the only problem associated with sciatica.

FACT: In severe cases, sciatica can lead to the inability to control your bowels or bladder - leading to embarrassing situations.

MYTH: You must take pain medications to deal with sciatica.

FACT: Drugs like muscle relaxants, pain killers, narcotics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications have serious potential side-effects and do not cure the root cause of sciatica.

MYTH: “I must have done something wrong to get sciatica.”

FACT: Physical work or simply sitting at a desk for long periods can lead to sciatica. Accidents and trauma can also

be the culprits. Pregnancy can cause sciatica. Sciatica can affect anyone - including super-fit celebrities like Tiger Woods, Sylvester Stallone, and British Olympic medalist Ian Wynne.

MYTH: Stop exercising and get several weeks of bed rest to overcome sciatica.

FACT: Staying active can help to relieve sciatic pain and prevent the pain getting worse. Staying inactive in bed could be the worst advice - based on a recent study in the Netherlands.

MYTH: Sciatica requires surgery.

FACT: NO! There's been a huge breakthrough in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain. It's a new procedure called Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results from this treatment have been published in major medical journals. Success rates are up to 90%.

MYTH: “There's nothing anyone can really do. I'm just stuck with this for the rest of my life.”

FACT: With the correct treatment from a healthcare professional who specializes in sciatica, you can find relief from the core cause - and the symptoms.

MYTH: Getting Sciatica properly diagnosed is expensive.

FACT: Not true. Dr. Ann Pushies of Pushies Chiropractic in Williamston is currently offering an initial consultation

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in Williamston**

Dr. Pushies is one of the greater Lansing's leading sciatica experts. Dr. Pushies has helped over 1,537 patients find relief from agonizing back pain and sciatica. She's one of the first professionals in the area to use Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

This procedure does not require a hospital stay. The focus is on finding - and correcting - the original cause of the back pain and sciatica.

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Patient Jeff P. from Williamston wrote, “My back pain was unbearable but the worst thing was the searing burning pain I felt in my buttock and leg... my wife insisted I see Dr. Pushies. I'm 95%



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