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Volume XXXIV No. 50 Sunday, December 16, 2018 **Published Weekly**



From left were George Wygant, a VFW member and the co-chair of the program; Robert Bilyk, the Voice of Democracy winner; Katie Bigos, the winner of the Patriots Pen Contest; Morgan Declare, the second-place finisher in the Patriots Pen Contest; Annie Beach, the third-place finisher in the Contest; and Carol Johnson, the co-chair of the program and the Auxiliary President.

Local VFW honors essay winners, teachers at annual ceremony

By Steve Horton

Fowlerville VFW Post 6464 and its Auxiliary honored four essay finalists and two teachers at its annual Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony held on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

The emcee of the program was George Wygant, a VFW member who co-chaired the event with Carol Johnson, the VFW Auxiliary president.

The theme for the Patriots Pen Contest was "Why I Honor the Longest Night Worship Service this Friday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. American Flag." Area students, grades sixth-thru-eighth, were invited to submit a written essay of between 300-to-400 words. "This year we had 13 submissions," noted Wygant.

Katie Bigos was the first-place winner. She received a certificate, a medal, and a \$150 cashier's check. She also read her essay to those in attendance.

Placing second was Morgan Declare. She was given a certificate, a medal, and a \$100 cashier's check. Annie Beach, meanwhile, finished in third place and took home a certificate, a medal, and a \$50 cashier's check.

All three of the girls are eighth graders at Fowlerville Junior High.

The Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program, which is open to students in high school, had the theme of "Why My Vote continued on page 10

Fowlerville First United Methodist to hold Longest Night Worship Service

The Fowlerville First United Methodist Church is holding a

"Longest Night is a worship service that acknowledges that, for many people, Christmas is a time of loneliness, sorrow, alienation and sadness," said Pastor Scott Herald. "This service offers a way for people to claim those feelings and still feel surrounded by the compassionate love of God. In some churches it is also known as Blue Christmas. If you know of someone that might benefit from a service like this please invite them to attend. All are welcome."

Fowlerville First UMC is located at 201 Second St, Fowlerville. Questions please call the office at 517-223-8824.





By Beth Lowe, Director

December is a month of reflection in many industries and the "Best of 2018" lists are compiled. I love the "best of" lists! Looking at the "50 Best [Adult] Books of 2018" list complied by the editors of Bookpage, I see that the library staff have already collected many of the titles that made the list in a variety of formats, from Large Print to audio eBooks, for your reading or listening pleasure. Here are our current offerings from the Bookpage Editors' selections.

BEST FICTION, MYSTERY, and ROMANCE

- 1. Circe by Madeline Miller available as a print book or eBookthrough AXIS360
- **2.** There There by Tommy Orange available as a print book or a Book on CD
- 3. The Overstory by Rachel Kushner available as a print book
- **Transcription** by Kate Atkinson available in Large Print or eBook through AXIS360
- Warlight by Michael Ondaatje available as a print book or eBook through AXIS360
- An American Marriage by Tayari Jones available as a print book or eBook through AXIS360 Virgil Wander by Lief Enger available in Large
- Washington Black by Esi Edugyan available as a
- print book The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai available as a print book
- 10. The Witch Elm by Tana French available as a print book, Book on CD, eBook & audio eBook through
- 11. The Word is Murder by Anthony Horowitz available as a print book, Book on CD, and eBook through AXIS360
- 12. Kingdom of the Blind by Louise Penny available as audio eBook through AXIS360
- 13. Lethal White by Robert Galbraith available in Large Print
- 14. A Necessary Evil by Abir Mukherjee available as a print book
- **15.** The Infinite Blacktop by Sara Gran available as a print book
- **16. Baby Teeth** by Zoje Stage available as a print book, Book on CD, and audio eBook through AXIS360 17. Dark Sacred Night by Michael Connelly available
- in Large Print, Book on CD, eBook & audio eBook through AXIS360
- 18. Sunburn by Laura Lippman available in Large Print, Book on CD, and audio eBook through

AXIS360

- 19. The Proposal by Jasmine Guillory available in Large Print
 - **BEST NON-FICTION**
- 1. Educated by Tara Westover available as a print book or eBook through AXIS360
- There Will Be No Miracles Here by Casey Gerald available as a print book
- Frederick Douglass by David W. Blight available as a print book
- Calypso by David Sedaris available as a print book
- The Library Book by Susan Orlean available as a print book
- **6. Dopesick** by Beth Macy available as a print book

You can download numerous titles from the AXIS360 app in the comfort of your own home! If you are like me, and love to curl up in a cozy spot with a good book on a wintery day, consider one of these titles, the best books of 2018. My endof-the-year vacation will include games, movies, family, and friends. I will also curl up with a tea while enjoying books. Savor moments that bring you happiness at the end of the year and throughout!

"Year's end is neither an end or a beginning but a going on." - Hal Borland

Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team beats Lansing Eastern, 69-52

The Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball team beat Lansing Eastern on Friday night (Dec. 7) by a score of 69-52. With the win, the Glads are now 2-1 overall and 1-1 in the CAAC Red Division.

Geoffrey Knaggs led the way with 25 points and 8 rebounds. Brendan Young chipped in 17 points. Josh DuFore also had 17 points. Billy Hutchins had 5 points and 6 assists. Diante Smith led the Quakers with 14 points, while Lerone Hall added 13.

Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team beats Perry in non-league game

The Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team beat Perry 70-66 this past Tuesday night in a non-league game. Brendan Young led the way with 31 points and 7 rebounds, while Geoffrey Knaggs had 16 points and 13 boards, Billy Hutchins added 11 points, Josh DuFore had 8 points, and Shaw Sova played great defense.

The Glads are now 3-1 and played at Williamston in a CAAC Red contest this past Friday (past the newspaper deadline). The team hosts Charlotte this coming Tuesday and are at Haslett for a league game on Friday, Dec. 21.





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Pastor Tom Tarpley

The Reason for the Season

"For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

What is Christmas? Just what does it mean to you? The real Christmas story is the story of God's becoming a human being in the Person of Jesus Christ. Why did God do such a thing? Because He loves us! Why was Christmas necessary?

Because we needed a Savior! Why does God love us so much? Because He is love itself (1 John 4:8). Why do we celebrate Christmas each year? Out of gratitude for what God did for us, we remember His birth by giving each other gifts, worshipping Him, and being especially conscious of the poor and less fortunate.

The true meaning of Christmas is love. God loved His own and provided a way—the only Way—for us to spend eternity with Him. He gave His only Son to take our punishment for our sins. He paid the price in full, and we are free from condemnation when we accept that free gift of love. "But God demonstrated His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

I enjoy watching Hallmark movies. One reason is because I know they will always have a happy ending, and I like happy endings. Last week, as I was watching one of the Christmas movies, it suddenly came to mind that Hallmark Christmas movies are hardly ever based on the main reason that we celebrate Christmas. The themes are usually about a love interest where the nice guy always gets the girl.

The movies are very touching and make you feel warm and happy at the end. Whereas these things in themselves

are not bad things, Christmas is about a lot more than that. Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Jesus, the Savior of all humankind. It is about showing deep respect, praising and worshipping God for the wonderful gift He has given us.

Many people have allowed their reason for celebrating Christmas to drift away from Jesus. Following the tradition of our ancestors, without keeping in close community with the holy word of God, has gradually taken Christ out of Christmas. Christmas should be a time of joyful celebration with our focus on Jesus and sharing the love of Jesus with others; Giving thanks for His grace and mercy. A time of rejoicing and giving honor to God.

Instead, it has become one of the most commercialized holidays of the year. Even before Thanksgiving, business owners actively engage in advertising and promotions that will grab our attention and relieve us of our finances. The saddest part for me in all of this is that throughout the entire Christmas season (which by the way gets longer each year), very little thought is given to the Christ Child. In almost everything we do it is about us and making ourselves feel good. It is about making our kids and family members happy. But what about Jesus? When we celebrate Christmas without Jesus being present in our hearts and minds, how does that make Him feel?

The things of the world have blinded us to what is really important in life. There is a song I used to sing when I led a congregation as a full-time pastor. The chorus says:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full in His wonderful face

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim

In the light of His glory and grace.

The things we value most in life have distorted our vision for what is really important about celebrating Christmas. Time and tradition has taken away our passion for appreciating Christ. The longer Christ delays His return, the farther away we get from the things that please God.

It is time we put Jesus back into Christmas. It is time for us to turn our eyes back to the cross and remember the price Jesus paid for our sins. It is time to make Christmas about Christ and not just another time of partying and gathering together for the sake of merely having fun.

Then the Lord said, "Because this people draw near with their words and honor Me with their lip service, but they remove their hearts far from Me, And their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote (Isaiah 29:13).

Rote is simply doing something from memory or continuing to participate in a routine activity.

Reverence means showing deep respect and highest esteem to someone. Deep respect and obedience is what God wants from us. God doesn't want our half-hearted efforts of worship and acts that look like we are following Him when our hearts are really trained towards self-satisfaction and personal achievements in life.

Half-hearted devotion to God is worthless. Ask yourself this: "In all of my preparations for Christmas this year, how much of my time, money and energy has been focused on honoring Jesus, and how much has been spent on having fun and following tradition?"

"Is Jesus pleased with the way I celebrate His birthday?"

We should celebrate Christmas because, as the angel said, the birth of Jesus Christ is "good news." Good news is meant to be celebrated. In fact, the angel said the news of Jesus' birth would cause "great joy" and would be "for all the people"—the joyful celebration would be universal. People around the globe would be glad for this occasion.

The angel who appeared to the shepherds the night of Jesus' birth said, "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord" (Luke 2:10–11).

This is what Christmas is supposed to be about. The coming of a Savior! A Savior who has delivered us from death. Now that is worth celebrating!

Christmas would be a lot less stressful on us if we "Turned our eyes upon Jesus" and made it about Him.

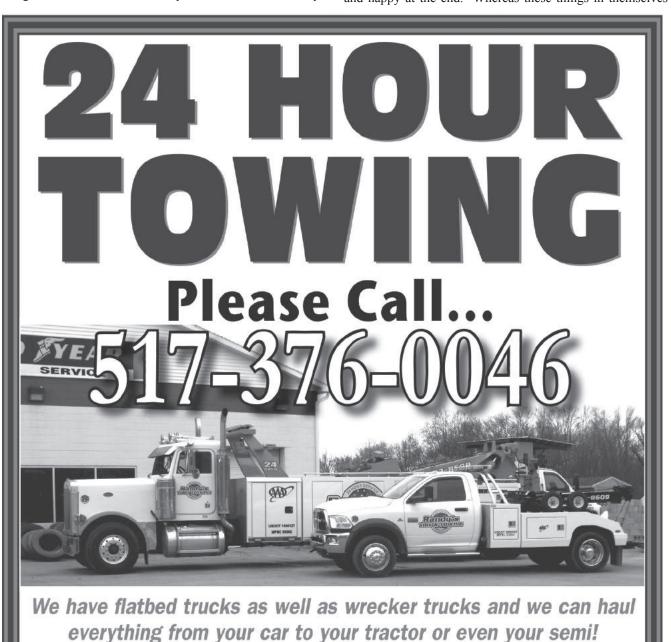
"For unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is given." That is the greatest gift of all time.

As you prepare for Christmas this year, remember to keep your eyes on Christ. He is the real reason for the season.

NOTICE CONWAY TOWNSHIP

The Conway Township office will be closed on Tuesday & Wednesday December 25th and 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday. Tax payments may be dropped in the secure box at the township hall and First National Bank will be accepting tax payments.

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Caleb **Jenkins Column**



Potholes on the Road to Civility

The road to civility is filled with many potholes. Of that, I am certain. In American politics and life in general, we have gone too far down the wrong path when it comes to being civil with one another, and it is now a long journey to get back where we should be with a civil discourse. And that road back is not plain and simple. There are many varied hurdles that need to be crossed, and those hurdles are not easy. It is a challenging and often discouraging process. Far worse, we sometimes do not even know what those hurdles are. We know what the end goal needs to be (civil, mature, and responsible discourse), but it's not always clear how to reach that goal.

It's a struggle, but it's an objective worth pursuing anyway. Even if we only manage to move the needle a little bit in the right direction, at least we are closer than we were before. I mentioned a couple weeks ago one of the things I think would help civility, and I wanted to share another thought on it this week. We are not going to see civil discourse until we teach ourselves to stop going from 0 to 100 over every

Being active in the political arena, I see a lot of emotion and passion. That can be good because many of the issues we face today are extremely important and deserve a lot of attention. Emotion can motivate a person to get involved or continue working toward a policy objective. I, too, am very passionate about certain issues and will not lower my guard when it comes to fighting for them. However, this passion should be used in a measured, responsible way. It's not going to do me any good to jump to conclusions or fly off the handle when one of my pet issues comes up. I'm going to quickly lose credibility and turn people away from me and my principles.

I have seen time after time someone read a headline or hear a rumor and immediately take it as Gospel truth. Without even the slightest bit of research, they just go into full attack mode. They never stop to give the benefit of the doubt. They don't consider maybe there's more to the story. I have seen this destroy relationships and splinter organizations of people who are on the same side. They are all working toward the same thing, but when one of them hears a rumor about the other, it's suddenly a war zone. They didn't stop to consider.

It's good to be a staunch defender of what you believe. But we have to stop blowing up over things when we don't have all the facts. If you know something or someone is wrong, then find the facts and prove why they are wrong. Build a case and develop a game plan for how to counter it. If you discover that your initial thoughts are validated, then you are now prepared to press your point in a successful and mature manner. But maybe, just maybe, you might find there's more to the story. And if that's the case, then you'll be glad you didn't make yourself look like a fool.

Smith Elementary School News

IMPORTANT DATES:

December 19-Jan 1- Winter Break January 2 – School Resumes

Holiday Spirit Week

Mon 17th- Ugly Sweater/Christmas Wear Day Tues 18th- Candy Cane/Santa Day Wed 19th- Wear PJs /Polar Express Day

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.

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

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

There are Preschool Openings for the 2018-2019 school year! -Livingston Educational Service Agency Early Childhood Programs continue to enroll for the 2018-2019 school year. There are many 4-year-old openings in the Fowlerville program located at Munn Early Childhood building. Head Start and Great Start Readiness Programs offer no cost/low cost preschool to income eligible or children "at risk" who qualify under federal and state guidelines. Families meeting eligibility guidelines have access to learning opportunities, health and wellness, social and disability services, and other community resources. Children of all abilities are encouraged to apply. To find out more information

about applying and to see if you are eligible, call 517-548-2100 or go to www. LivingstonESA.org.

Plans underway for **Annual Fowlerville Alumni Banquet on** Saturday, June 8

The Fowlerville High School Alumni Committee has begun organizing for the 126th Annual Banquet on Saturday, June 8, 2019. It was once again be held at the high school cafeteria. Any class planning to gettogether before the banquet, please call Cinday (Ruttman) Krebs at 517-223-8747 for information.

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Fowlerville Fire Department Report

Thursday, December 6th, at 8:26 a.m. the department responded to a medical emergency on Bull Run Road in Iosco Township. A motor vehicle accident on Mason Road in Iosco Township was reported at 12:54 p.m. and at 1:00 p.m. personnel assisted at a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Grand River in Handy Township. The department was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on I-96 in Handy Township at 1:36 p.m. and to a medical emergency on Gregory Road in Iosco Township at 5:05 p.m.

Personnel were called to a medical emergency on Chase Lake Road in Conway Township at 9:15 a.m., Friday, December 7th. A dispatch to a medical emergency on Brookdale Street in the Village was received at 10:34 p.m.

A medical emergency on Van Buren Road in Handy Township was reported at 1:18 a.m., Saturday, December 8th. The department assisted EMS on S. Grand Ave. in the Village at 1:15 p.m.

Firefighters were dispatched to a medical emergency on Mason Road in Handy Township at 7:25 a.m., Sunday, December 9th, and at 10:11 p.m. assisted at a medical emergency on Sistek Drive in Iosco Township.

Monday, December 10th, at 10:10 a.m. the department was called to a motor vehicle accident on I-96 in Handy Township. A medical emergency on Valley Meadow Lane in Iosco Township was reported at 11:06 a.m. and at 7:54. p.m. firefighters responded to a medical emergency on Free Street in the Village.

Personnel assisted EMS on Spruceview Lane in Handy Township at 8:26 a.m., Tuesday December 11th. The department was dispatched to a possible structure fire on Julie Court in Conway Township at 9:10 p.m. Firefighters arriving on scene found only a burning log in a container.

At 8:32 p.m., Wednesday, December 12th the department

was called to a medical emergency on Munsell Rd. in Iosco Township.

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Michigan Senate Report

By Joe Hune, 22nd District

Right-to-Work, Six Years On

Six years ago this past week, legislators approved bills that would make Michigan—a union stronghold and center of the auto industry—a right-to-work state. Looking back, it was a momentous occasion, with national press and thousands of supporters and protesters gathered at the Capitol. It was one of my favorite days in the Senate.

As you can imagine, I strongly supported the legislation. Simply stated, public-and private-sector workers should not have to join a labor union if they don't want to. That is what right-to-work is and that is all the laws enacted. Objectively, passing these laws was a matter of fairness and equality in the workplace. It also presented an opportunity to open Michigan to potentially new business and more jobs. Right-to-work was an important step in a series of moves, including the new corporate tax structure, that were made to improve our state's jobs climate.

So how are things now, six years on? According to a Mackinac Center report from earlier this year, union membership has declined by about 11 percent. Contrary to detractors, the sky has not fallen and the unions haven't been busted.

What has seen significant gains, though, is the economy. Recent figures from the Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information showed the state unemployment rate at only 3.9 percent—the lowest rate in 18 years. There also was significant year-over-year job growth, with 62,000 new jobs since last October. Nearly half-a-million private-sector jobs have been created since December 2010.

I'm not saying right-to-work solely led to Michigan's economic improvements, but I bet it has helped, and I am proud that the Legislature and governor had the courage to think differently. I believe our state is a better place for it.

Sen. Joe Hune is chair of the Senate Agriculture and Insurance committees. He represents the 22nd state Senate District, which includes all of Livingston County and western Washtenaw County.











Varsity Girls Basketball

Elie Smith - Senior - Elie had a great week averaging 15.5 points in the first three games helping Fowlerville go 2-1 with its only lost to #1 Detroit Edison.

JUD'S FOOTBALL FORECAST

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 Washington 10 at Tennessee 24

Baltimore 23 at LA Chargers 27 SUNDAY, DEC. 23

Minnesota 20 at Detroit 23 Cincinnati 17 at Cleveland 31 Buffalo 20 at New England 33 Tampa Bay 17 at Dallas 31 Atlanta 23 at Carolina 30 NY Giants 17 at Indianapolis 24

Jacksonville 16 at Miami 23

Green Bay 27 at NY Jets 19 Houston 17 at Philadelphia 23 Chicago 30 at San Francisco 17 LA Rams 34 at Arizona 16 Pittsburgh 27 at New Orleans 34 Kansas City 30 at Seattle 24

MONDAY, DEC. 24 Denver 19 at Oakland 17 LAST WEEK: W - 7 L - 9 **SEASON:** W - 148 L - 83

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Fowlerville High School News

OFFICE HOURS

Administration Office 7:00 - 3:30 p.m. Counseling Office 6:30 - 2:30 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES TO NOTE:

Dec 20 1st day of holiday break Jan 2 Return to school

Doors at FHS will be open at 6:30 a.m. on school days. After school hours if your student is not participating in a sport, math lab, credit recovery or meeting with a teacher they should make arrangements to leave the building by 3 p.m.

Money for College Filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as the FAFSA, is one of the most important steps students and their families can take to pay for college. The FAFSA became available on Oct. 1. That's the first day an applicant can complete the form for the upcoming academic year. While deadlines vary for each school, awards are often granted on a first-come, first-served basis with some colleges having their own deadlines for scholarship consideration. Go to FAFSA.gov to complete your FAFSA today!

Still looking for a last minute Christmas gift? How about the 2018-2019 yearbook? Be sure to order your award winning yearbook so you do not miss out on this years' memories. Yearbooks will be \$55.00 until 1/11/2019, after that date, the cost will go up to \$65.00 until 3/08/19. You can order at www.balfour.com or see the school's website for an order form to customize your book.

SENIORS...senior pictures are due on January 15th. Please send them to FHSyearbook@fowlervilleschools.org and follow the instructions for cropping and sizing. If you do not turn one in, your school ID picture will be used. Any questions, see your senior ELA teacher or Mrs. Hardenbrook (D214) for more info.

I urge you to read these articles regarding vaping and the impact it has on the human body. I strongly encourage a conversation at home regarding vaping after reading the articles. Along the same line as the article, recently the Village of Fowlerville passed Ordinance No. 466 which deals with Tobacco Use and Vaping. Effective Nov. 18, 2018, a minor in possession of a vape pen or vape related products will be issued an ordinance ticket which results in a fine. Please contact the Fowlerville Police Department for information regarding Ordinance No. 466.

Articles to read:

FDA launches new anti-vaping campaign aimed at teens: https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/fda-launchesanti-vaping-campaign-aimed-teens-n910691

Teens inhale cancer-causing chemicals in e-cigarettes: Fruit flavors have the most chemicals, study finds.

https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/teen-inhalecancer-causing-chemicals-e-cigarettes-n853611?icid=related FHS is concerned about the health and wellbeing of our stu-

dents and will continue to update you with information such as this when it becomes available.

Mr. Lusk FHS Principal

HOURS: Monday - Friday 8am-6pm 517-223-3721 3030 Fowierville Ka. BrianBehnke@dickscott.com **Fowlerville Exit 129 WINTER'S ARRIVED!** TIME TO MAKE

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The Youth Activation Committee (YAC) is a group of student leaders with and without intellectual disabilities that work to promote inclusion. YAC students strategize and plan school wide games and activities. The YAC educates, motivates and activates youth to become agents of change in their communities through advocacy for respect, inclusion and acceptance for all people. We just finished up our bowling season and are starting basketball for December/January. The FHS YAC meets every Wednesday after school 2:15-3:15. See Mrs. Connor if you are interested in joining or if you would like to help our students with basketball practice.

German students at Fowlerville High School are traveling to Germany in June 2020. We are raising money to offer a full, half, and partial scholarship to three lucky travelers. Please considering donating to the Scholarships for Germany fund at https://goo.gl/XP6TcJ

Dear FCS families, The District has been working to install a new door access system throughout the District that will get phased in over the next several months.

Smith Elementary School is nearly to a point where the system will be up and running. I'm sure we will learn much when the system is operational and we all need to remind ourselves that increased security is not always convenient but it is always comforting.

When the systems become operational in a school, this is what you need to know.

15 minutes after the start of the regular school day, all doors will be locked, including the Main Entry.

All visitors will need to push the video doorbell to request

After you are greeted, please state your name and why you are entering the building. You MAY be asked to show a picture ID if the office staff does not recognize you. PLEASE have your photo ID out and ready to show, especially early in the year when everyone is trying to learn who our regular volunteers are. Our intention for checking a photo ID is to help make sure our buildings are as safe as possible.

Lastly, when the door unlocks to let you in, PLEASE DO NOT hold the door open for the next visitor. Doing so diminishes the effectiveness of the buzz in system and consequently makes the building less secure.

Thank you for your patience and understanding

Ordering Transcripts (Michigan eTranscripts) please visit the Fowlerville High School website for more information.

Parents having trouble using Zangle to view grades, e-mail questions to connect@fowlervilleschools.org

School Mission: Focus on every student, every day. School Vision: Empower students to be productive citizens in a global society

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Move in condition for this spacious farm home on 2.3 acres with natural gas and paved road. Plenty of room for the family with over 2,000sq.ft. of living space. Features 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, large family room, 1st floor laundry, central air and large open kitchen. Updates include new furnace, hot water heater and carpet. Plenty of storage in the 36x86 hay barn and 12x24 outbuilding. \$239,900.



Nice location in high traffic area for this 1500sq.ft. office building with a 450 sq. ft apartment. Current zoning is business center which allows for retail, office and service use. Large 1.43 acre lot with space to expand \$269,900. Also offered for lease at \$1,500. per month call for details.



Excellent location in Town Commons with easy access to I-96 and M-59 for this 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath condominium with 2 car attached garage .Spacious kitchen with center island & appliances included, master suite with cathedral ceiling, and large deck.

to town and schools. \$24,900.

- VACANT LAND

Nice 3.4 acre build site within ½ mile from pavement. This property has been surveyed and the seller will
provide a perc test upon on acceptable purchase agreement. There is an existing well on the property. \$27,500.

Beautiful 21 acre parcel in the Hartland schools, with some woods, stocked pond and huge 40x50 outbuilding. This building has 2x6 construction with 16ft, walls, concrete/epoxy floors and a 2rd floor. Nature lover's paradise ready for your dream home. \$189,900.

Great location for this nice ¾+ acre build site with natural gas and electric at the road. Paved road, close



on just over 1 acre close to town and schools with natural gas. Features 1700sq.ft, with 3 bedrooms 21/2 baths, entry level master suite, 1st floor laundry and full daylight basement roughed plumed for 3rd bath. Great room with vaulted ceilings, tray ceiling in the dining, nice granite counters in the kitchen and large rear deck.

Nice attached 2 car garage, covered porch and central air. A Must

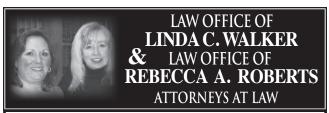


Nice location in the Village of Fowlerville for this 3 bedroom, 1 bath home walking distance to shopping, schools and parks. Features updated roof and water heater. Rear deck and shed for storage, bring your ideas and make this your home.

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Fowlerville Junior High School

News

IMPORTANT DATES: Holiday Dance- Fri. Dec. 14th 2-4pm

Candy Cane Conundrum-Wed. Dec. 19th

Winter Recess- Thur Dec. 20-Jan. 1st

School Resumes- Wed. Jan.

No School- Mon. Jan. 14th 1/2 day of school-Exams-Thurs. Jan. 17 & Fri. Jan. 18th



Tues., 11/18: BBB vs Howell St. Joe-5:00; 8th only--1 **GAME ONLY** ALL uniforms are due to the coaches immediately. There

is a fine for any school issued item not returned. Plan to turn uniform into coach immediately after final game. 7th & 8th GIRLS' BASKETBALL TRYOUTS WILL

START ON Monday, Jan. 7 @ 2:30pm in FJH gym; PHYSICALS REQUIRED to try out.

OPEN GYM - Friday, Jan. 4-2:30-4:30--FJH gym

6th-7th-8th WRESTLING PRACTICE begins Monday, Jan. 7 @ 2:30 in FHS Wrestling Room; Conditioning will be held W'k of Jan. 2. (Watch/listen for announcements on times.) PHYSICALS REQUIRED.

GIRLS' COMPETITIVE CHEER continues w/ practices on Mon. & Tues. in preparation for first invite on Sat., Jan. 5.

HAVE A SAFE, HAPPY, & HEALTHY CHRISTMAS SEASON.

8TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL

Both teams lost to Williamston on Dec. 5th at home, the B team played a great first half but could not hang on, losing 37-62. Luke Henry had 2 points, Jacob Chapman and Connor Tochman each had 3 points, Mason Kirby added 5 points, Owen Browne had 7 and Jacob Yarbrough led the Glads with 17 points. The A team lost as well, 28-62, Caleb Shermoe had 2 points, Ben Winiarski had 3 points, Lucas Anderson 4 points, Jacob Addington 8 points and Brady Hanna led the Gladiator A team with 11 points. The boys will be playing again Monday night against Haslett, good luck boys.

Both teams lost at home against Haslett on Dec. 10th, the B team a close game 37-44. Alex Jonas had 1 point, Zachary Snyder, Jacob Chapman, Owen Browne and Nick Petri each added 2 points, Luke Henry had 3, Jacob Yarbrough had 7 points and Mason Kirby led the Glads with 17 points. The A team had a tough match up, losing 17-54. Breylin Tschirhart, Jacob Addington, Brady Hannah and Jacob Loveland each had 2 points, Caleb Shermoe had 3 points and Blake Nogafsky topped the Gladiator scoring with 6 points.

SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB INFORMATION MEETING

Our first outing to Mt. Brighton is scheduled for January 9, 2019 (weather permitting). The club will meet for 7 weeks every Wednesday. For further information, please contact Mrs. DeLuca at 223-6250.

WE HAVE SPIRIT – YES WE DO!

Holiday Spirit week will be Monday, December 17th, through

CSI WINNERS - The CSI Friday Winners from Dec. 7th are Joslyn Cox, Cameron Pick, Cheryl Hinojosa and Garrett DeWitt

Wednesday, December 19tht.

12/17 Monday – Holiday Headwear / Sockwear

12/18 Tuesday – Deck the Halls / Creative Holiday Attire 12/19 Wednesday – 6th Grade wear Red, 7th Grade wear Green, and 8th Grade wear White

YEARBOOKS ON SALE

in need.

Yearbooks are now on sale. Don't delay and order today! See Mrs. Spisz in room D-13 or order online at https://www.balfour.com/shop/yearbook?smi=107958 The cost is \$32 and there is an option to donate a book to those

Personalized yearbook orders are due by March 1. Final sales are March 8th

BUS PASSES FOR ELEMENTARY BUSSES

For planning purposes, the Junior High and High School are no longer able to issue late bus passes for JH and/or HS students to ride the elementary bus home. Therefore, if a student plans to stay for an after school activity, they will need to arrange their own transportation home. This will be in place for the entire school year.

GENTLY USED BOOK SALE

Please consider donating your gently-used books to the Fowlerville Junior High Gently-used Book Sale. Books that are appropriate for teens/young adults, on down to elementary and preschool are acceptable. Other good donation considerations would be magazines, comics, howto books, dictionaries and cookbooks. Please do not send in adult books, as our primary audience for the sale will be the junior high students.

Books may be dropped off in the office or your child may bring them to his or her 7th or 8th grade ELA teacher. We will collect books now- February 14th. The proceeds will be used to further our literary needs in our classrooms- replacing and purchasing new books, writing and reading supplies, journals, etc.

Any questions please contact Katie Bowling- 7th ELA teacher at bowlingk@fowlervilleschools.org

GINGER BREAD HOUSE COMPETITION

The 2018 Gingerbread House Competition entries are on display in the High School Main Entrance outside the Main Office through Friday, December 14th. Please stop in to view the houses and vote for your favorite house by Friday. The winning team will be announced on Monday, December 17th.

Vote for your favorite house here: https://goo.gl/forms/ bbFN6b7DqYuodgaG3 * * *

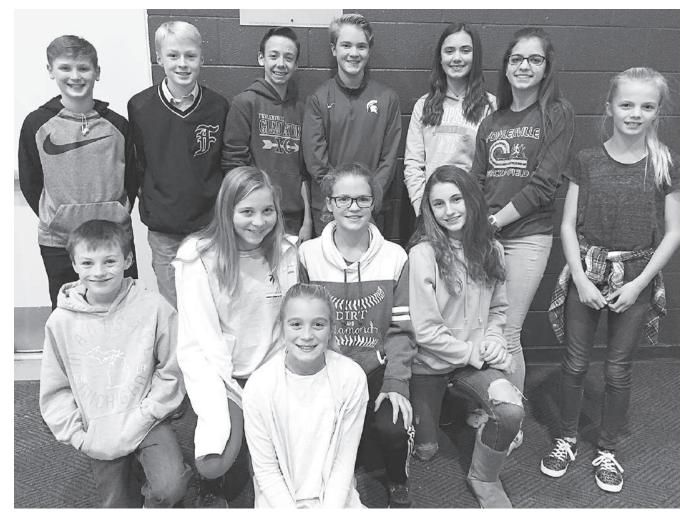
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JUNIOR HIGH CROSS COUNTRY STUDENTS

This past fall, twelve young Gladiators at FJH earned a spot on the FJH Cross Country record board. This is the largest group to earn the recognition since the board was established in 2013.

Boys must run the 2 mile XC course in 13:00 or less to get their name 'on the board' and girls must run the 2 mile XC course in 14:30 or less for the recognition.

were Karrie Lukasik, Julie Dailey, and Kristine Esch.

Fowlerville High Class of 1969 seeking contact information for classmates

The Fowlerville High School Class of 1969 is making plans for its 50th year reunion. A class party is planned on Friday, June 7, at the Woodshire Place, and the class will be honored at the annual Fowlerville Alumni Banquet the following evening, Saturday, June 8, at the high school.

Contact information is sought for several classmates. If known, please contact Steve Horton at 517-223-8760 (the Fowlerville News & Views office) or email: <u>fowlervillenews@</u> gmail.com

Those classmates include: Lynda Bicker, Jack Bell, Lorraine Blanton, Carol Breslin, Carol Brown, Richard Bush, Rodney Caskey, Karen Darnell, Katherine Dendel, Roberta Dyko, Lynda Dysinger, Terry Gunsell, Thomas Heilner, May Lou Higdon, Andrew Johnson, Nancy Kelly, William Kozma, Denise Lang, Roy Melvin, Mary Lou Nelson, Gordon Nichols, Michael Phillips, Christopher Roy, Gordon Saunders, Charles Scott, Shelia Thompson, Jimmy Walker, Michelle Walters, Darlene Watters, James Wegienka, and Allen Wright.

Guaranteed Installation

Fowlerville Girls Varsity Basketball Team tops Perry in non-league game

The Fowlerville Girls Varsity Basketball Team topped Perry in a non-league game this past Tuesday, winning by a 59-40 score. Elie Smith scored 21 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead the team, while Jackie Jarvis had 12 points and five rebounds. The Glads are 2-1, having defeated Lansing Eastern earlier in the season and then losing to No. 1-ranked Detroit Edison.

The team traveled to rival Williamston this past Friday (past

the newspaper deadline) for a key conference game. They are at Charlotte this Tuesday, Dec. 18, for a nonleague game and then head to Haslett this Friday, Dec. 21 for another CAAC Red Division showdown.

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Molly Lamar, Annie Beach. Standing....Will Shrader, Dillon Wieas, Brett Marschall, Harrison Lamar, Avery Copeland, Allie Davis, and Molly Kilpela. Stars after the individual name indicates the number of times the runner met the standard. Coaching the Fall, 2018 FJH Cross Country team

Checking out the board in the FJHS gym are: L-R front

row....Addi Dumont, Kneeling...Ben Durbin, Kaitlyn Seiter,



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• • • • RESULTS ARE IN! • • • • INDEPENDENT SURVEY ABOUT FOWLERVILLE

First, I'd like to thank everyone that participated in the survey! Answers were obtained by calling residents, emails received from residents and from residents who stopped into Keller Williams Realty.

Congratulations to Jill Jenkins who was randomly drawn from all participants, and has been awarded a gift card to a local Fowlerville merchant!

Now for the results! The top 3 answers will be listed in order of most votes. Honorable mentions will be noted for those answers that did not make the top 3, yet were popular among participants.

Q. What do you like best about Fowlerville?

- 1. Small Town / Tight community
- 2. Friendly residents and merchants
- 3. "Phenomenal schools"

Honorable mentions: Rural setting, community library, community park/ walking park.

Q. If you could change anything about Fowlerville, what would it be?

- 1. Gas prices to come down in Fowlerville
- 2. Stop the growth / keep it small
- 3. More downtown small businesses / fill vacant buildings Honorable mentions: Expansion of transportation for seniors, Internet availability, no biker rally at fairgrounds, good old fashioned bakery in downtown.

Q. Why did you choose to live in Fowlerville?

- 1. Family roots "I bleed Purple and Gold"
- 2. Affordable and small community
- 3. Rural setting

When asked where you would move next? Most answered NOWHERE, with South coming in a close second.

One participant answered that the best is a small town where everyone helps with your kids, then followed up with "It takes a village, or a 'Ville!"

Merry Christmas Fowlerville, From My Home to Yours!

Lori Killen, Associate Broker/Realtor

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Local VFW honors essay winners and teachers, continued

Matters." Participants record an essay that is three-to-five minutes long and also submit a written copy of their speech.

Robert Bilyk won the contest and received a certificate, a medal, and a \$300 cashier's check. He also read his submission to the audience.

Robert is a senior at Fowlerville High School.

The Teacher of the Year Award is presented to the educator who "promotes Americanism and Patriotic Principles." There are three categories: K-5th grades, 6th-8th grades, and 9th-12th

"There were three submissions. Andrea Hart was the K-5th grade winner and received a certificiate, a medal, and a \$100 cashier's check. Michelle Spisz was the 6th-8th grade winner and was given a certificate, a medal, and a \$100 cashier's check. There weren't any entries from high school teachers.

The judges for the three contests were State Rep. Hank Vaupel, Cindy Denby, and Bonnie Phibbs.

Wygant also recognized three teachers who, he noted, "inspired our students to participate in the Patriots Pen program and who hopefully will incorporate next year's theme "Why My Vote Matters" in their curriculum next year." They were Kelli Miller, Jason Donoghue, and Carla Smith.

Wygant pointed out that the first-place winners in both the student and teacher contests have moved onto the next round of judging, with a national award being the goal.



Why I Honor the Flag

By Katie Bigos,

Winner of the Patriots Pen Award

The American flag shows us that we all have freedom, rights, and independence. Many countries do not have as much freedom as we do and we should be extremely honored that we have independence. That is why we should honor the

The flag show our independence and rights that we have as citizens in the United States of America. Someone in my class once asked during our daily Pledge of Allegiance if we had to stand. My teacher said of course you don't have to, our military has fought for us to have the right to do anything that we want to do. I choose to keep standing, even on days where I don't feel like standing, because I know that it is the right thing to do. People fought and died for our country, and we should honor them and the flag.

Secondly, the flag reminds us of how strong we can be if we work together. Many people died for our country by choosing to enlist in wars to win freedom and independence for America. Commoners, farmers, and experienced soldiers all came out to fight for their country, even if they didn't have fighting experience. Many people forget that people died to protect our rights as Americans, and we should honor them instead of just forgetting their sacrifices and the past. People are still fighting for our country and it will never stop.

Lastly, the flag shows us that all the fifty states are united together. This makes all Americans, including me, feel a sense of pride. For example, when I look at the flag and say the Pledge of Allegiance, or listen to the Star Spangled Banner, I think of what it all means and I know that the flag is a symbol of our freedom and rights.

I honor the American flag for many reasons and everyone has different reasons for their respect. The flag represents a lot of things and we should honor every reason, all of the time. People fought and died for our country and we should take time to remember them. Soldiers, past and present, do things that not many of us nowadays would do. I will always honor the American flag no matter what changes in our country.



From left were George Wygant, a VFW member and the co-chair of the program; Michelle Spisz, the junior high Teacher of the Year recipient; Andrea Hart, the elementary Teacher of the Year recipient; and Carol Johnson, the co-chair of the program and the Auxiliary President.



Why My Vote Matters

By Robert Bilyk,

Winner of the Voice of Democracy Award

Almost 250 years ago, shots were ringing out all along the original thirteen colonies of our nation. They were fighting against the greatest power at the time, the British army. As the Americans stunningly defeated Britain, they followed this up by creating the oldest living democracy to date, which was centered around The Constitution.

Contained in *The Constitution* was the right for every male citizen to vote. Throughout our history, this right has been extended to include all American citizens. The right to vote is one of the most important aspects of our country because, with it, each individual has the opportunity to change their government how they want it to be changed. They can participate in the American experiment that has been occurring ever since Thomas Jefferson penned our Declaration of Independence. An experiment that is constantly changing as America has evolved from a small fractured group of states to a global superpower in only 200 years.

However, over time, people have begun to ask, "Does my vote even matter?" Many even fail to exercise their right to vote with the belief that their vote doesn't matter. For a democracy, this is very harmful and not even true. An individual vote DOES matter; in fact, 18 years ago this was perfectly illustrated.

During the 2000 Presidential Election, George W. Bush, who was running for the most powerful office in the nation, in a country of more that 300 million people, was elected into office with a mere 537 votes from Florida. Do you think people who wanted Al Gore to win but didn't vote wish they had? When millions of Americans fail to show up, the people that are elected may not have the approval of most

The sign of a healthy democracy involves all citizens voting to ensure all elected officials have the consent of the people. If people aren't willing to exercise their right to vote, then there will be a threat it can be taken away if the

government feels like that right isn't even being used.

Voting in an election shows you are striving to make your country a better place; no matter who you vote for, you want the people who are receiving your vote to improve your country. America is all about allowing your voice to be heard and what better way to speak directly to officials than by voting for or against them?

Finally, casting your vote pays respect to the people who fought and died to secure that right for you. Thousands of Americans died during the Revolutionary War to establish this right and thousands more continued to fight to protect it. Even today, there are men and women fighting to protect your right to vote in this country.

When you cast your vote, you are respecting the rights secured to you by the people that protect us. You're also respecting the many people who worked to secure these same rights for minorities and women. These people fought long and endured many hardships to ensure that every citizen of the United States has a say in the government. Casting a vote respects all of these people by allowing you to express your opinions to your officials.

A single vote has incredible value to it. With it, you're helping progress the American experiment as it moves forward on its course. You're expressing your viewpoint to your elected officials in a meaningful way. You're exercising your rights and you're honoring the people that fought hard to establish and protect this right for all Americans.

When the founding fathers first wrote out *The Constitution*, they found it incredibly important that citizens be able to vote for their officials and they were willing to die in order to secure representation. Today is no different from back then, every vote is powerful and you can be happy knowing that YOU have the ability to wield it for change.

Christmas Tree, continued

Matt White, assistant director of facility operations at the Capitol, recalls the 2012 tree, a 75-foot concolor fir from Jackson, which was done in a red-and-green-striped motif that some said resembled an ugly holiday sweater.

"There was a small percentage of people who liked it,"

People also complained about the 54-foot tree from Sault Ste. Marie in 2016. That year, decorative barriers known as bollards were installed in front of the Capitol, moving the tree closer to the street, and although it bore more than 7,500 red, green, white, purple, blue and yellow lights, people perceived

The work isn't over once the tree is up and glowing. Squirrels sometimes gnaw the electrical wires, and strong winds can cause trouble, White said. Capitol grounds staff keeps an eye on the tree throughout the season.

White, in principle, agrees with Lawler's 1994 memo: The tree is a lot of work. But, he said, totally worth it.

"I like the way the community comes together all over the state," he said. "School bands show up when the tree is being harvested. We have big signs on the truck as it's moving to Lansing. We've got the big ceremonial switch that is flipped when the tree comes on. It's really quite the production."

Learn more about trees and forestry in Michigan at www. michigan.gov/forestry.

Showcasing the DNR

Michigan's Christmas Tree: Celebrating a Tradition

By Kathleen Lavey

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

It's just after 5 p.m. on a Friday in Lansing. Streets are slushy, the wind is cold, and darkness is falling.

But the cluster of friends gathered in front of the Capitol discussing their evening plans don't seem to notice – they talk cheerfully in the white, red and green glow of the state Christmas tree, a 62-foot spruce brought in from Alpena.

The tree – officially lit each year at the 'Silver Bells in the City' event the Friday before Thanksgiving – is a beacon of holiday cheer throughout the season.

But it also serves as a Michigan icon.

The state has 20 million acres of forest, 4 million of those designated as state forests. Majestic spruces and firs grow from the state's southern border all the way to the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

And every year, just one of many nominated trees gets selected to grace the front lawn of the State Capitol for the holiday season, just like many Michigan families choose their own trees at tree lots and you-cut farms.

Although the state tree is the crown jewel of fresh Christmas trees in Michigan, the state's tree growers send out 1.7 million fresh-cut firs, spruces, balsams and more each year to markets around the country.

You might think that the tradition of a Capitol Christmas Tree would date back to when the building was inaugurated, in 1879. But the tradition is much newer than that, according to Capitol historian Valerie R. Marvin.

"There are trees that have been on Capitol Square since at least 1913, but those were considered city trees, placed by City of Lansing workers," Marvin said.

The first official state tree went up in 1987, after thengovernor James Blanchard visited New York City and liked the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center. Michigan was celebrating its sesquicentennial, or 150th birthday, and the tree seemed like a festive addition to round out a year of celebrating.

In addition to the ceremonial tree-lighting in downtown Lansing, the City celebration includes an electric light parade, carolers, chestnuts, horse-drawn wagon rides and sometimes fireworks.

But it takes a statewide effort to get to the ceremonial lighting of the tree.

Marvin keeps a couple of folders full of clippings and correspondence about the tree, which reveals the nomination criteria, for one: The tree, procured each year by the state's Department of Technology, Management and Budget, needs to be a spruce or fir, at least 55 feet tall with a maximum crown of 24 feet and maximum trunk diameter of 30 inches; within easy access to a road, with no interference from power lines and available at no cost.

The clippings contain a history of the controversy over calling the tree a "holiday tree" instead of a Christmas tree. The Senate voted to officially call it a "Christmas tree" in 2005. The Michigan Capitol Committee voted on Nov. 29, 2006 to rename it the "State of Michigan Christmas Tree." Marvin's clippings also include letters to the editor of the *Lansing State Journal* criticizing the very idea of cutting down a new tree every year instead of leaving the trees to grow.

They tell the story of an Oneida Township woman who had originally planted the 1995 tree in 1957 at a home she later sold. To ease her distress, a wood carvers' group got hold of part of the tree trunk and used it to carve a remembrance for her.

The clipping file also contains a memo from the late Jerry Lawler, former executive director of the Michigan Capitol Committee, admitting that a lot of effort goes into the tree.

"Quite frankly, the tree is a lot of work ...," Lawler wrote. "However, the thousands who come to see the lighting, and the thousands who view it during the season, make it worthwhile."

Once identified, the tree is cut down with some pomp and circumstance. A crane is put in place to keep the tree from crashing to the ground, which could break its branches. The tree is carefully laid onto the back of a flatbed truck provided by the Michigan Association of Timbermen, with stands supporting its trunk and branches trussed together with rope to keep it compact and reduce breakage.

After the tree arrives at the Capitol, local Boy Scouts practice their knife skills and cut the ropes that trussed the tree for travel. The tree is placed by crane into a permanent stand that goes 6 feet into the ground. (It looks like a manhole cover during the off-season).

Then City of Lansing workers use branches from the bottom of the tree or from other trees to fill in any gaps in the branches.

Lansing Board of Water and Light workers string the tree with thousands of lights. The 2011 tree, a 61-foot blue spruce



from Houghton Lake, had 3,500 lights; last year's tree, a 58-footer from the Upper Peninsula city of Stephenson, had more than 9,000.

Colors of the lights vary by year, and not every tree is a

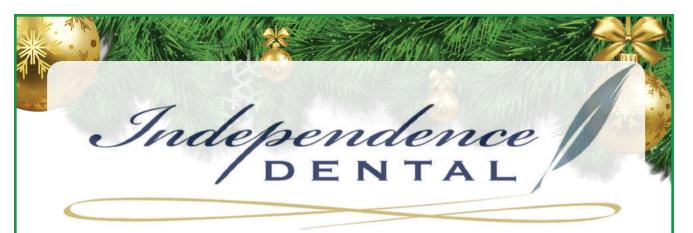
continued on page 10

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Theatre troupe entertains Rotary & FBA at holiday party

'The Unfettered', a troupe of area performers and production staff, entertained members of the Fowlerville Rotary and the Fowlerville Business Association on Friday, Dec. 7, at the Woodshire Place. Over 50 members and guests were in attendance for their annual holiday party, with the play serving as the featured entertainment. The troupe performed a comedy entitled "Virgil's Family Reunion."

'The Unfettered' is a group of volunteers who work together on individual theatric productions and other events to raise money for the benefit of specific recipients. The group has done productions to benefit the Fowlerville High School Tech Club, Fowlerville Family Impact Centers, and has helped with monetary support for other causes and individuals. 'The Unfettered' does not have a board or other governing body, but collaborates and contributes their talent and ideas during these productions. Their stated purpose is to bring a pool of performers together to help organizations meet their fundraising goals.

Michigan DNR Fishing Tip—

How to target popular fish species in the winter

Are you getting anxious for enough ice to head out fishing? Consider using the following tips when targeting four species popular with anglers in the winter.

Walleye-- Early-ice walleyes are known to be active and aggressive. Use tip-ups at varying depths around the lake (anywhere from 15 to 35 feet deep) to appeal to this species. Regardless of the depth, always set the live minnow under the tip-up to swim 12 to 15 inches off the bottom.

Crappie-- Consider using plastic bait, rather than live bait, when fishing for crappie. Focus on weed lines to find them. A lot of times crappie will hang out in the middle of the water column, half-way between the ice and bottom.

Northern Pike-- You'll find these aggressive fish near offshore structures and weed lines, so try these types of spots on your favorite pike lakes first.

Yellow Perch-- Attract bigger perch by using tip-ups with minnows, that's what they're primarily eating this time of year. Sticking a minnow on an ice fishing rod is also very

For more information on fishing during Michigan's winter, visit Michigan.gov/fishing.





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St. Agnes Knights of Columbus selling tickets to **New Year's Eve Party**

Tickets are now on sale for the 7th Annual New Year's Eve Party "Rocking' in the New Year" to be held at the St. Agnes Church's Parish Hall.

The Knights of Columbus will again be hosting the holiday event, set for Dec. 31. Happy Hour will be from 7-7:30pm, dinner will be served from 7:30-8:15pm, and Live Music will be provided by 'The Sea Cruisers' during the evening hours leading up to midnight.

Tickets are \$30 per person and include dinner, dancing, snacks, and party favors. A cash bar will also be available.

For tickets, call Jerry Corbat at 517-474-2002 or Eugene Gierlach at 517-294-2605. The church is located at 855 E. Grand River, Fowlerville.

Trinity United Methodist holding Cookie Walk TODAY (Sunday, Dec. 16)

Trinity United Methodist Church is having a Cookie Walk TODAY (Sunday, December 16th) from Noon to 2 PM.

What makes the Cookie Walk unique is that you are in charge. You "take a walk" around tables laden with cookies and hand-pick your favorites to fill an empty box. Price is \$5/pound of cookies. Free: coffee, tea and hot chocolate; children 10 & under can create their own sweet masterpiece.

The church is west of Bull Run Road at 8201 Iosco Road

Making preparations for the New Year's Eve party at the St. Agnes Parish Hall in Fowlerville are these members of the Knights of Columbus. From left are Jerry Corbat, Gerry Byrne, and Lou Glubzinski.







Pet Food Donation Box available at Fowlerville Biggby Coffee

A Pet Food Donation Box is available at the Fowlerville Biggby Coffee. Any donation of cat or dog food that people in the area would like to give would be appreciated. The pet food will be given to feed the pets of Meals on Wheels seniors in the area that ask for help. This program is community driven and needs donations to keep going. Please and thank you to everyone that helps us feed our seniors pets and thank you to Biggby for being the drop off site.



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Jayson Simpson, shown here with his family, will speak at the Fowlerville First United Methodist Church this Monday, Dec. 17.

Former area resident to speak about missions work at Methodist church

A former area resident will be speaking at the Fowlerville First United Methodist Church this Monday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. The church is located at 201 S. Second St.

Jayson Simonson, a 2001 graduate of Fowlerville High School, will be speaking about his missions work and leading worship music. Jayson and his wife, Annette, serve in the Child Sponsorship ministry of New Mission Systems International, overseeing various community transformation projects designed to eliminate poverty and spread the gospel. They are also involved in raising awareness through multiple church and concert events to help eradicate poverty in developing countries worldwide. Their goal is to see an end to extreme poverty by 2030.

Caughtcha DOING SOMETHING GREAT

Howard brothers among best cyclers in state

By Ashlee Buhler

Early mornings, six-hour school days, practice, sporting events and long nights of homework. That's the life of Fowlerville High School students Blake and Brock Howard. However, they wouldn't have it any other way.

Sports have been a big part of the brothers' lives ever since they were young. Their father raced mountain bikes for fun during his college years and, naturally, the boys followed suit when they became old enough.

Blake, 18, is now a senior and Brock, 15, is a freshman. They keep their schedules busy with sports year-round.

In the spring through fall, they race for the Brighton High School cycling team. For Fowlerville High School, they run cross country in the fall, play basketball in the winter, and run track in the spring.

"It's a lot of time management," Blake said. "I don't have free time at all. I don't really hang out with friends because I'm always doing sports."

Having to sacrifice time with friends might not sit well with most teenagers, but the sacrifice has been worth it for the Howard brothers. They are now among the top mountain bikers in the state.

In October, they raced at the Michigan Scholastic Cycling Association State Championships. They helped the Brighton High School team secure its fifth consecutive title.

Individually, Blake won the "Varsity Male" category for the second year in a row, while Brock came in second in the "Junior Varsity" category.

Brock said he hopes to follow in his brother's footsteps

when he moves into the varsity ranks next season.

"Next year, hopefully, I can finish first in the state for mountain biking," Brock said. "There's a couple of fast guys that I raced with in JV this year, and we're all going to be moving up to varsity."

Added Blake: "He's there. He's just got to get a little bit quicker."

While the brothers have never actually competed head-to-head because of their age differences, their competitiveness and love for sports keep them bonded.

"We're pretty close," Blake said. "We're both really competitive. We don't really go against each other, but when we're out riding and training, we push each other. I'm always like, 'Come get me Brock.' We always race all the time ... just brother competitiveness."

Blake will graduate from FHS in the spring and said he hopes to continue mountain biking in college.

"I don't know exactly where I'm going yet, but the goal is Michigan State," Blake said. "I want to go for a degree in mechanical engineering. I have about four schools that want me for sure. I'm just trying to find somewhere I can get my education, do mountain biking, and also see my future."

Even though mountain biking is not currently in season, the boys still practice three days a week. They will kick off the season in the spring at the Rust Shaker Race at Mid-Michigan Community College.

FOWLERVILLE HIGH S
RENOVATIONS & ADDIP

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Something Great

Brock and Blake Howard.

Blake and Brock live in Howell with their parents Dar and Kaelyn Howard.

Caughtcha Doing Something Great is a feature that appears courtesy of the June and Edward Kellogg Family Dental Foundation. The goal of this feature is to recognize good deeds, positive behavior and accomplishments that make our community a better place to live.





These community members were mentors for this fall's program. From left are Tom Couling, Steve MacDermaid, Rick Hill, Debbie Hill, and James Gray.



Pictured from left are James Fitzgerald, the junior high assistant principal; Vanessa Duke, an at risk para pro at the junior high and member of the Reaching Higher staff; instructor Michelle Spisz, a junior high teacher; and Myriah Lillie, the junior high principal.

Reaching Higher program holds graduation at Fowlerville Junior High

Reaching Higher held its graduation ceremony at Fowlerville Junior High last Tuesday, Dec. 11. Twenty-six students completed the eight-week program. The motto for Reaching Higher is "The power of Hope. The skills to Cope."

Reaching Higher is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping young people live healthier and happier lives. The character-building leadership program is designed to "inspire and prepare students to succeed and to reach their potential!"

The nine session program is designed to:

- --Increase Self Confidence and Self Esteem
- -- Teach Goal Setting Strategies
- --Strengthen Decision Making Abilities for School and Life
- --Enhance Public Speaking and Interpersonal Communication Skills
- -- Learn Effective Stress and Coping Skills

The class meets once per week for two-hours. Seats are limited to twenty-five students.

SESSION 1 - YOU ARE A MIRACLE

Discover the Leader within You

Students explore their miraculous and unique nature and begin to create a positive community within the group.

SESSION 2 – **REMEMBERING**

Develop Self-Awareness

Students put away negative messages they have "learned" about themselves and re-discover the precious parts of who they are.

SESSION 3 – PURPOSE IN LIFE – SETTING

GOALS

Set and Achieve S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Students look at their unique gifts and explore how to set and attain realistic goals.

SESSION 4 –**MANAGING STRESS**

Reduce Stress and Overcome Worry

Students learn techniques for impulse intervention and stress relief, as well as ways to overcome worry.

SESSION 5 – CHANGING LIMITING BELIEFS

Identify Negative Beliefs that Hold You Back

Students look at negative beliefs about themselves and learn practical techniques to replace these images with positive beliefs.

SESSION 6 – FEAR TO FREEDOM

Gain Strength, Courage and Confidence

Students explore the impact of fear in their lives and learn techniques for releasing fear.

SESSION 7 – POSITIVE LIFE CHOICES

Strengthen Decision Making Abilities

Students hear testimonials of real "poor life choice" experiences and are taught how to make good choices for themselves.





Front row, from left: Dalila Hurd, Cailyn Cockerill, Kody Sweet, Keegan Roberts, and Dominic Campbell. 2nd row, from left: Madelyn Lubin, Audrey Phifer, Cheylynn Estes, Jesse Woods, Gabby Wakeman, Lucas Anderson, and Kyler Blixt. 3rd row, from left: McKenna Patterson, Autumn Mulheron, Adrianna Locke, Shawn Hotelling, Kyla Durbin, Gracie Hancock, Jesse Johnson, and Wyatt Soli. Back Row, from left: Aiden Fountain and Ethan Petrovich. Missing from the picture but participated in all of the training: Brendan Cassel, Kurt Clark, Cameron Hudson, and Alexis McKee.

SESSION 8 – HAPPINESS THROUGH GIVING AND LOVING

Lead with Compassion and Understanding

Students give to one another and through kind action/communications they are able to experience the true happiness that results.

SESSION 9 – GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Mark Your Calendar

On this life changing evening the Reaching Higher Graduates will share their 8 week accomplishments with family, friends and faculty. A celebration that many will remember for a lifetime!

Card of Thanks

The Fowlerville High School's Alverson Center for Performing Arts and Theatre Tech Club would like to thank The Fowlerville Business Association, Rotary Club, Webberville United Methodist Church and The Unfettered

for supporting our recent fundraiser performances of Virgil's Family Reunion. It is wonderful to be given the opportunity to practice the art we love to earn money for our scholarship program. Our scholarship program could not exist without generous supporters like you. Thank you again for helping to ensure the future of the performance arts in our school.

Kimberly Sergent Theatre Manager and Tech Club Advisor





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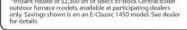




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Webbervisse Report



Senior Spotlight—Ashlee Weeks By Hayley Williams

Ashlee Weeks is known for her hard working and selfless attitude, but most of all her sense of humor. She makes everyone laugh, and she is an outstanding student, athlete, and person.

"Ashlee is very kind, super nice, and the funniest person I know," said sophomore Savana Stiffler. "But the thing I like most about her is how passionate she is about everything she does."

Weeks is the daughter of Sarah Morrow and James Weeks, and a sister to her two siblings: Amber, who is currently in 8th grade at Webberville Middle School, and Sean (32). Weeks loves her family and how supportive they are in everything she does.

"My mom always has helped to push me out of my comfort zone," said Weeks. "My dad would probably be my role model. He has shown me that you can always move up, no matter where you are, if you work hard enough."

Throughout high school, Weeks has been involved in many activities. Along with attending the Wilson Talent Center, she is involved in volleyball, softball, and track. Weeks loves playing volleyball the most, because she loves the people and the sport itself.

Teammate, friend, and fellow senior Taylor Dettling has been friends with Weeks since 2nd grade. Dettling has loved all of the late nights they have spent binge watching Netflix together and all of the laughs that Weeks has given her.

"If I had to describe Ashlee in one word it would be *extraordinary*," said Dettling, "She is the best person I know, and she is extremely selfless."

Weeks has been an excellent student throughout middle and high school. Her teachers have noticed her amazing work ethic, plus an ability to do well at everything that she puts her mind to. Weeks always does the right thing, whether everyone is watching or no one is watching.

"Ashlee inspires me, the way that she carries herself even with the adversity she is faced with," said science teacher Stephany Bohlmann. "And I know that no matter what her goals are, she will not only accomplish them, but she will exceed her expectations."

In the future Weeks hopes to attend Grand Valley State University and earn a degree to be a pediatric oncology nurse. Weeks studies in the Medical Assistant program at the Wilson Talent Center and hopes to use this experience in college. She really enjoys the city-like environment at Grand Valley State University and a career that will assist children.

"I have always loved working with children," said Weeks. "And I want to help children with cancer, any and every way that I can."

Weeks has been at Webberville since first grade and has loved elementary school the best out of all of those years she's been here. She will miss all of the close friendships she has made, and encourages underclassmen to follow in her footsteps.

Weeks would like to give this advice, "Just keep pushing through, it may be hard, but you can get through it."

She treasures the close, small, family-like environment at Webberville. Weeks hopes that Webberville schools will add more advanced classes in the future to give other classes a chance to reach their full potential.

"I've enjoyed all of my years at Webberville and the close friendships I've made," said Weeks. "And I know I'll miss it when it is all over, but I am very excited for what the future has for me."

Williamston Area

Senior Center

201 School Street - 517-655-5173 DECEMBER 2018 EVENTS

Senior Citizen Potluck— come join us at the Williamston Area Senior Center Monday, December 17, 2018 from 5:00-7:00 pm. Please bring a dish or desert to pass and a nonperishable item that we will donate to the food bank. If you forget to bring a dish to share that is OK, just bring your check book for a donation to the Center.

Christmas Party – On Thursday, December 20, 2018. Christmas music by the Senior Class Band.

New Year Celebration - Thursday, December 27, 2018. Bring in the new year with a toast at the Williamston Area Senior Center.

Other December Activities at the Senior Center - On

-- **Tuesday December 18, 2018** *Beltone* will provide hearing test,

--Wednesday, December 19, 2018 there will be a presentation on *Energy Saving Tips*. The presentation will be held at 12:30 pm at the Senior Center. Free coffee for all seniors Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.

Enhance Fitness Class on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Class fee is \$2.00 a session if paid all at one time or \$3.00 drop in fee for each class. Enhance Fitness is an evidence-based fitness class designed to improve endurance, flexibility, strength and balance. The class contains an aerobic portion, strength exercise using ankle weights, flexibility and balance exercises. No pre-registration required. The Williamston Community Programming Office is located at 3939 Vanneter Rd. Williamston, MI.; telephone number 517-655-7510. (The Enhance Fitness Class benefits not only your health but also the Senior Center)

Reminder any Williamston Area Senior can take advantage of using our computer lab any time the Center is open.

Tuesday Knitters Group – meets from 1:15 pm -3:00 pm.

On any October 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.

Webberville Varsity Boys Basketball Team dominates Genesee Christian

The Webberville Spartans Varsity Boys Basketball Team turned in a dominant performance last Friday night (Dec. 7) at Genesee Christian High School with a 67-52 victory. The Spartans were led by junior Hunter McGowan's 17 points. McGowan also snagged a team-leading 8 rebounds for the Spartans to go along with 2 assists.

Senior Kayson Lycos was a force in the lane while depositing 14 of Webberville's 32 points in the paint on the night. Freshman Nathan Lott handed out a team-high 7 assists to go along with 6 points and 4 rebounds to aid the Spartan's victory effort.

Head Coach Nate Lott was pleased with the overall team effort, noting the 84% free-throw percentage for the game as a step forward for the team.

Williamston Eagles offering live country music on New Year's Eve

Williamston Eagles Club will be ringing in the new year with live country music from the Potts Road Band. A light dinner of smoked brisket or pulled pork sandwich with slaw and chips will be available for purchase from 6 pm until gone. (Kitchen closes at 9 pm so volunteers can enjoy the night.) Table snacks provided, also a champagne toast and balloon drop at midnight.

Potts Road plays a great selection of modern country music and is sure to please everyone! Gift basket raffles, card board game, Jello Shots, and fun! The New Year's Eve party is open to the public with no cover charge. Doors open at 3 pm. Band takes the stage from 8:30 until 12:30 am. Club is located at 835 High Street. Call the club after 3 pm at 517-655-6510 for more info.



Michigan House Report

By Dr. Hank Vaupel, 47nd District

Last Monday, I had the opportunity to attend the Conway Township Planning Commission meeting and congratulate Chair Dennis Bowdoin and Vice-Chair Dennis Sommer upon their retirement from the board. Both have dedicated many years of service to the township, ensuring stability and conscientious planning. Through their tireless and oftenthankless efforts, Conway Township has a solid vision for the future. To recognize their significant contributions, it was my pleasure to present them with state tributes alongside state Senator-Elect Lana Theis.

As we move toward the end of this legislative session, the House Health Policy Committee has remained busy reporting legislation to the full House. The following bills were among those referred this week:

--Senate Bills 1245-47: Assists law enforcement with criminal investigations by giving Michigan State Police 24/7 access to the Michigan Automated Prescription System, while providing safeguards against a data breach.

This package allows our law enforcement to quickly respond to and better address drug-related crimes and investigations as they occur. It will be a great tool in combatting the opioid epidemic and preventing prescription drug-related overdoses and deaths.

If you have questions or ideas about these or any other bills being considered by the Legislature, then please feel free to contact my office. We would be happy to discuss them with you.

A big congratulations to Coach Melissa Leonard and the Fowlerville High School Dance Team on winning the school's first dance team championship! The team was formed five years ago to give Fowlerville High students a chance to demonstrate their artistry and athleticism. They participate in multiple competitions each year and provide performances for Fowlerville High basketball games. During the Coopersville High School Dance and Pom Competition earlier this month, the team made school history by taking first place in the jazz competition. Congratulations again to Coach Marissa Leonard, Assistant Coach Kim Leonard, and the entire team. You have much of which to be proud!

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!

Calvary Baptist Church to present Christmas musical on Sunday, Dec. 16

Christmas is a time for joy and bringing hope to a hurting world – which is what the staff at the Bethlehem Inn strives to do every day of the holiday season for its guests! Throughout this musical, the theme of hope shines through as various characters face difficult, real-life circumstances. From a couple struggling financially, to a teenage runaway needing help when she finds herself homeless,.

WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM encourages us to remember a timeless truth... "when it seems you just can't go on, there's always hope." There will be two free performances Sunday, Dec. 16, at 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM. All ages are welcome and nursery care will be provided. Calvary is located at 500 N Howard St in Webberville. You can find more information at www.webbervillechurch.org or call 517-521-4700.

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The late Dale Harter started the Christmas dinner at the Howell American Legion 37 years ago.

Christmas dinner at Howell American Legion to honor founder of event

Thirty-seven years ago, a newly-divorced man decided there must be others in the same boat as him, namely being alone on a holiday. That day he cooked a dinner and invited friends who otherwise would be alone to join him. He pledged that day to make it an annual event and fill the day with food and fellowship for those who needed a boost of Christmas spirit as well as a hot meal.

Sadly, in November of this year, the dinner lost Dale Harter, the event founder, who was also past post Commander and past club manager.

True to Harter's initial goal, the event will live on and bring cheer in his honor on Christmas Day. Hosted at the American Legion Devereaux Post 141 in Howell Township, the event has grown in size year after year and also includes delivery of Christmas dinner for the Senior Nutrition service, *Meals on Wheels*, along with other shut-ins throughout Livingston County serving nearly 500 meals last year.

After delivered meals have been sent out, a free traditional Christmas dinner is served in-house at the Post to anyone who wishes to join. If you know anyone who may need a hot meal or fellowship on Christmas day, let them know about us. If meal delivery is needed, please call for reservation. Walk-ins are welcome. The in-house dinner is served from noon to 4 pm.

Charlie Bates of Howell, one of the 30-plus volunteers, has worked at the Legion dinner for 22 years, starting in 1996 as a driver for meal delivery, then moving recently into the kitchen. Today the eighty-something Bates cuts up the turkeys cooked for the event and usually ends the day with "dishpan hands". It is a family affair for him as his daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter join him as volunteers each year.

"I'm doing it to give back to the community," he said. Bates said he finds satisfaction in the smiles of those spending time with friends at the Legion hall. He also enjoys hearing from the

Brighton Attorney-Regent Nielsen is offering scholarship to U of M

Livingston County High School Seniors who expect to attend the University of Michigan in the fall of 2019 may apply for a \$1000.00 scholarship being offered by Brighton Attorney, Neal D. Nielsen, a Regent Emeritus of the University of Michigan.

The deadline for entries is May 1, 2019 and the applications are available in Nielsen's office located at 2000 Grand River Annex, Suite 200, Brighton, Michigan 48114.

The scholarship is "not intended to go to the smartest person or the person who is poor," Nielsen said. "It is intended to go to the people in the community that show concern, leadership and academic ability."

The application includes questions on employment, experience, intended major, as well as awards and accomplishments. It must be verified by a principal or counselor. Applicants will also be asked to write an essay describing their value systems.

The scholarship is being offered to any eligible student in Livingston County. This will be the 33rd year it will be offered.

Nielsen said he started the scholarship because he is concerned about the Livingston County community stating "I think those of us who work here should reinvest ourselves to give back to the community."

"Our future is in our youth," he said, and the scholarship encourages those who are actively pursuing higher goals to bring their advanced education back to benefit the community. drivers who return to the Legion hall after delivering meals.

"The stories that they tell you ... how people were so happy they started to cry, stories about (helping) the needy and the invalid," Bates said.

Bob and Melissa Beck, auxiliary members of the post, have assisted Mr. Harter for more years than they can count. According to Melissa Beck, "All the volunteers and those who come for dinner are like family. They return each year to spend the day together. But it couldn't happen without the generosity of local businesses. Bordine's Nursery provides the beautiful Poinsettias for the tables, Meijer has been a major supporter for many years, Pepperidge Farms and Costco are wonderful partners, along with many others who support our service to the community."

Please contact the post to make a reservation or delivery request at 517-546-2534. Gift cards or certificates are always welcomein support this event.

Upcoming Events at St. Agnes Catholic Church

St. Agnes Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9am-5pm; Friday 9am-1pm. For the full schedule of events, visit our website at http://stagnesmi.weconnect.com and click on the 'Parish Calendar' tab.

***Canticles in Candlelight: St Agnes Music Ministry invites you to "Canticles in Candlelight: A Cantata for Christmas" Sunday, December 16 at 3:00pm. This Christmas music program features the adult and children's choir, hand bell choir, and youth ensemble. Following the program will be a reception in our Higgins Hall. This music program is St Agnes' Christmas card of hope, peace, love, and joy to the community. All are welcome to share in this magnificent Christmas celebration!

***Sunday Mass Schedule: Saturday 4:30pm. Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am.

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

***Weekday Mass Schedule: Wednesday evening at 6:30pm, Thursday and Friday morning at 8:00am.

***REFIT: FREE workout class, open to anyone who desires to add more fitness to their life. Here's the schedule: 7:00-8:15pm December 17, 18 and January 4, 7, 8, 2019. Classes meet in LPC A/B.

***Mom's Group: A social and support group for moms, meeting in RE 7/8 from 4:15-5:50pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Share joys and challenges and pray for one another.

***Adoration: Thank Jesus for the blessings in your life! Monday at 6:30pm, Tuesday at 6:00pm, and Wednesday at 7:00pm.

***Intercessory Prayer Group: Every Tuesday morning at 9:30am in the Chapel. Praise Jesus!

***His Merciful Heart Prayer Group: Every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm in RE 6. Bless His Holy Name!

***Reconciliation: The opportunity to get yourself right with God. Every Wednesday at 7:00pm-8:00pm. Every Saturday at 3:00-3:45pm.

***Morning Bible Study: Meets every Wednesday from 10:00-11:30am in LPC A/B.

***Men's Bible Study: *NEW DAY AND TIME!*Meets 1st and 3rd *SATURDAY* of the month at 9:00am in the LPC Youth Room.

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

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

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

Webberville Girls Varsity Basketball Team falls short against Durand

The Webberville Girls Varsity Basketball Team was in action last Tuesday, Dec. 11, against the Durand Railroaders. The Spartans fell short in the contest 44-39. Taylor Dettling led the Spartans, contributing 19 points and 6 rebounds. Carli Ross chipped in 6 points and hauled down 14 rebounds while Ashton Lott helped with 8 points and 7 rebounds. Coach Bohlmann complimented the girls second- half hustle and effort, but noted a slow start in the first half put them in a tough spot.

Webberville Lady Spartans win a nail-biter at Genesee Christian

The Webberville Girls Varsity Basketball team picked up a 34-33 win over Genesee Christian last Friday night (Dec. 7). The Spartans were led by Carli Ross' 9 points and 9 rebounds. Hannah Fairfield was also team leader with 14 rebounds to go along with her 6 points. With the game on the line, however, it was Reagan Tyler who came up big with a game-winning jumper to put the Spartans ahead and seal the win.

Happy holidays begin with food on the table. Please give to those less fortunate.

Family Impact Center food drop-off at Heritage Real Estate at 621 S. Grand, Fowlerville.



CONWAY TOWNSHIP LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF TEXT AMENDMENT TO CEMETERY ORDINANCE

The Conway Township Board of Trustees, at its November 20, 2018, meeting has amended the Conway Township Cemetery Ordinance (Ordinance No. 22) effective December 20, 2018, as follows:

- 1. To revise Definitions Section 3 to add definitions for burial right, contractor, memorial, monument, foundation, lot, cremains, and interment.
- To remove the primary requirement that purchaser of a burial right shall be a resident of Conway Township and allowing for the purchase of burial rights by any resident or non-resident.
- 3. To permit the assignment of a burial right without township re-purchase.
- 4. To remove provisions related to indigent burials and fee waivers.
- To clarify language regarding permanent and temporary markers, monuments, and memorials throughout.
- To add a requirement providing repairs are to be done by an insured contractor approved by the Township Board.
- 7. To increase the time required for prior notice of a funeral from 24 to 48 hours.
- 8. To add certain consent provisions relative to the timing of winter burials and storage.
- To allow the planting of annuals with certain conditions.
- To provide certain timelines for allowing grave blankets.
- 11. To allow the use of the provisions of 1931 PA 46 to terminate the rights of a record owner of a burial right.
- To allow the Township to post signs at the site displaying cemetery hours, maps, and/or applicable rules at the Township's discretion.
- 13. To delete duplicative provisions.
- 14. To require that purchasers of burial rights be given a copy of this ordinance and acknowledge receipt.
- 15. To prohibit the use of weed killer around memorials or headstones.
- 16. To provide for no littering or dumping.
- 17. To remove the Township Supervisor and Zoning Administrator from persons identified for enforcement of the ordinance.

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

Todd Anderson, Clerk Conway Township 8015 N. Fowlerville Road Fowlerville, MI 48836 517-223-0358 (12-16-18 FNV)

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

The Fowlerville District Library will be closed Monday, December 24th and reopening Thursday, December 27th at 9:30am to observe Christmas. We will also be closed Monday, December 31st and reopening Wednesday, January 2nd to observe the new year. We wish you joyous and safe holidays. The Little Free Library is available for your reading needs during this time and any materials to be returned can be placed in the green drop box. Thank you.

Keep an eye out for our Winter/Spring 2019 Newsletter coming to your mailbox in late December! If you are not a Fowlerville resident, you can pick up a Newsletter at the library when they become available!

Cardio Drumming - Tuesdays at 7pm

Adults. Increase your physical literacy with a fun workout from instructor Kim Griffes. Please remember to bring water and wear comfortable clothes. Spaces are limited to 20 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. *There is a small cash-only fee for this class of \$6 if you bring your own equipment or \$8 to rent a ball, bucket, and drumsticks. Drop-in class.

Due to the Christmas and New Year's Holidays, the Cardio Drumming class will not be meeting Tuesday, December 25th, nor Tuesday, January 1st.

Yoga with Erin - Fridays at 9:30am

Adults. Join Erin, co-owner of *SoulShine Yoga* for weekly sessions at the Library. Yoga is accessible for adults of all ages through modifications. Please remember to bring water to drink and your own mat to practice on. *Spaces are limited to a first come-first served basis. There is a small \$5 cash-only fee for this class. Drop-ins are welcome.

Registration for A to Z with Mrs. D begins Wednesday, January 2^{nd} at 9:30am

There are currently spaces available in the Tuesdays at 10am& 11am groups.

This preschool program is designed for the 2-4 year old child and is taught in a small play-based group setting. The program not only focuses on early literacy and social development, but also includes many activities such as science, small and large motor skill play, stories, and songs based on a chosen theme, and all while having fun! Classes begin January 8th and 9th.*Registration is required. Register in person to participate.Spaces are limited and filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Beyond the Book: The Da Vinci Code - Thursday, January 10th at 7pm

Adults. Featuring a book and its film adaptation. Movie will begin at 7pm followed by discussion. Movie-style refreshments will be served.*Register in person to participate. Registration begins December 20th. Books will be given while supplies last.

Toothpick Art - Friday, January 11th at 5-7pm

Teens 6th-12th Grade. Bring your creativity and join us at the library to design your own uniquely painted toothpick art! Snacks and beverages will be provided.*Registration is required and includes a 2018-2019 signed Program Permission Form. Registration begins December 28th. Register by January 9th to attend.

Winnie the Pooh Day - Wednesday, January 16th at 5:30-6:30pm

Families. Join us at the library to celebrate A. A. Milne's birthday, the creator of Winnie the Pooh! We will read a Winnie the Pooh story and play birthday party games!*Space is limited. Register in person to attend. Registration begins January 2nd. Preference will be given to families with children first, and registration will open to adults and teens the day of the program.

Foster Parent Information meeting being presented by Catholic Charities

Livingston County Catholic Charities (LCCC) is holding an informational meeting for persons interested in learning more about 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. Do you have room in your heart and home for one more child? Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month from 5pm–7pm at LCCC, 2020 E. Grand River #101, Howell. Call Amanda today to reserve your spot 517-545-5944.

—Area Deaths—



Ronald William Sampey

Ronald William Sampey of Fowlerville passed away December 8, 2018. Ron was born on December 24, 1937 to Dale and Geraldine Sampey. On August 30, 1957 Ron married the love of his life, Donna. They were married for 52 years until her passing in 2010. Ron was a loving Son, Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Great Grandfather.

Ron was an engineer and retired from work in 2002. He loved playing softball with the church, jogging, golfing, and racquetball. He loved the Lord and that was evident in his life. He was very active with the church and always volunteered when he could.

His 5 children survive Ron. They are: Dennis (Liza) Sampey, Diane (Joe) Garlow, Tim (Mary) Sampey, Bob (Heather) Sampey, and Dan. Many grandchildren and great grandchildren also survive him. His wife Donna Louis Sampey, his son Ronald Stephen Sampey, his sisters Shirley Justice and Sharon Corser, and his parents Dale and Geraldine preceded him in death.

Visitation and funeral services were held at Herrmann Funeral Home in Fowlerville. Visitation was held from 2-8pm on Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, and also from 10-11am on Wednesday Dec. 12, 2018 with the service beginning at 11am. Internment followed at the Sanford Cemetery. Please leave the family a condolence at pjherrmannfuneralhome.com



Sue Anne Perroud Osborn

Sue passed away on December 1, 2018 at home in the loving care of her family after a brave 19-month battle with brain cancer.

She was born June 15, 1950 to Clarence and Catherine Trierweiler. She is survived by silblings: Juleen Henry and Daryl (Stacy) Trierweiler; husband: Ron; children: Angela, Vince (Luyu), Carla, and Greg; grandchildren: Daniel and Rachel Martin and one grandchild on the way; also many extended family members.

Sue's first husband, Danny, passed in 1981, leaving Sue to raise her four young children as a single mother. She will be remembered as a very strong, kind, nurturing, and generous woman who put others' needs before her own.

Sue was very energetic and kept herself busy with many projects around the house. She was a good cook, known for her wonderful pies and dinner rolls. Sue loved gardening, animals, listening to music, camping up north, attending local concerts, visiting the Howell Library, and enjoying many family activities.

Sue was preceded in death by her parents, brothers: Ron and Joe; and first husband: Dan Perroud. Cremation has taken place and a private celebration will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks you to consider honoring Sue's memory by donating a new book of your choice to the Howell Carnegie Library.



From left are State Rep. and State Senator-Elect Lana Theis, Dennis Sommer, Dennis Bowdoin, and State Rep. Hank Vaupel. Theis and Vaupel presented Sommer and Bowdoin with State of Michigan Special Tributes, thanking the two departing planning commission members for their dedication and long service.



From left, are Dennis Sommer, Kathleen Kline- Hudson, the Director of the Livingston County Planning Department, and Dennis Bowdoin. Kline-Hudson, on behalf of the department and the county planning department, presented Sommer and Bowdoin with engraved letter openers as a 'thank you' for their time on the Conway Township Planning Commission.

Two departing members of Conway **Planning Commission honored**

By Steve Horton

Two longtime members of the Conway Township Planning Commission who are both leaving office this month were honored at last Monday's (Dec. 10) meeting.

Dennis Bowdoin and Dennis Sommer were each cited for their service to the township. Bowdoin, the commission chair, has been on the board for over 20 years, while Sommer has been a member for over 19 years.

At the start of the meeting, Londa Horton (a fellow commission member) read a tribute that thanked Bowdoin for his dedication and leadership. She was followed by Larry Parsons (also a member) who read a similar tribute that thanked Sommer for his many contributions. Other members who signed the two letters were George Pushies, Chuck Skwirsk, and Mike Stock. Also signing them was Todd Thomas, the zoning administrator.

At the conclusion of the meeting, State Rep. Hank Vaupel and State Rep and State Senator-Elect Lana Theis presented the two men with State of Michigan Special Tributes that they signed, along with Gov. Rick Snyder, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, and State Senator Joe Hune.

The two departing members also received engraved letter openers from Kathleen Kline-Hudson, the Director of the Livingston Planning Department, who presented the gifts on behalf of the department and the county planning commission.

Other officials present included Cindy Denby, who is a legislative aide for Vaupel and was a former state representative for the Fowlerville area, Conway Township Supervisor Mike Rife, and Conway Township Trustee Rick Kreeger.

Bowdoin, in a comment made after Horton's tribute, said, "One of the reasons I decided to step down was that, in doing this last master plan, we were making plans for what might happen 20-to-25 years from now. I realized that I won't be here to see the fruits of that labor. In the planning classes I've taken, we're told that it is very important to get young people involved. Let them start guiding their future. They will be around 20-to-25 years from now."

Bowdoin added that he would still be residing in the community and would help if needed.

The State of Michigan Special Tribute that he received stated:

.That it is with sincere gratitude that we offer this tribute as a 'Thank you' to Dennis Bowdoin for over twenty years of service on the Conway Township Planning Commission. His leadership as Chairman brought together diverse residents of this township for the common good of preserving the rural character of the community.

"Dennis Bowdoin's forward thinking alleviated potential land use hurdles and resident conflict when faced with the hard decisions brought before the Planning Commission. Dennis continually gave of his own time and energy to work for successful solutions for the residents of Conway Township.

"The leadership style Dennis demonstrated during his tenure as Chairman of the Planning Commission was collegial. He valued each and every member's opinion as well as that of public comment, and guided fellow members in reaching solutions that improved the overall outcome on behalf of the people of the township. His dedication to this Commission evidenced by his endless presence at the Township Hall to informally address issues with the Township Supervisor, Clerk and other staff is unparalleled. Dennis will leave behind very big shoes to fill."

The State of Michigan Special Tribute given to Sommer stated

"...That it is with sincere gratitude that we offer this

tribute as a 'Thank you' to Dennis Sommers for nineteen years of valued service on the Conway Township Planning Commission. His tenure, beginning in April 1999, helped to preserve and shape the rural character of this township.

"Dennis Sommers' duties began in the old Township Hall under the oversight of Township Clerk Chet Dietrich back when this Planning Commission was known as the Zoning Board. What is historically significant is his direct lineage to the original township leader, Levi Parsons.

"The pioneering efforts of the Parsons' families became synonymous with settling Conway Township. In fact, the first township meeting was held at the home of Levi Parsons in 1838. Additionally, the assessment of 1837 reveals that Frederick Parsons, Levi's eldest son, owned 160 acres of land at the time, valued at \$480. Dennis Sommers' strong heritage to continue the work began by his forefathers over 180 years ago is commendable."

Also at the conclusion of the meeting, Mike Rife introduced two township residents—Caleb Jenkins and Keith Wasilenski—who are being recommended as replacements for Bowdoin and Sommer. Both men were present at the meeting.

Pet Loss Support Group offering Special Holiday Prayer Session on Dec. 23

A pet loss support group, "Lost Paws," is meeting at the Plainfield United Methodist Church. The group is designed for animal lovers:

Who's pet has passed away (recently or years ago). Who's pet is missing.

Who has a pet that is having health issues or is getting on

Who wants to connect with other animal lovers in the community.

Who thinks of their pets as family which includes any and all pets, whether they have hooves, talons, paws, fins, fur, or feathers, and may range from a mouse to an elephant.

The purpose of this support group is to reach out into the community and offer comfort and companionship to those who are grieving or suffering, or anticipate that they will be due to the loss of a pet.

There will be a special Holiday Pet Loss Session of the "LOST PAWS" Pet Loss Support Group that will be offered at Plainfield United Methodist Church on Sunday December 23rd at 12:30pm. Names of lost pets will be read in remembrance and tribute.

The church is located at 17845 M-36, west of Bradley road. Everyone is welcome. You may wish to bring a photo of or an item that belonged to your pet to the meeting. Questions: Contact Terry Melton at (517) 468-0113 (leave message) or visit us on Face Book (https://www.facebook. com/umcplainfield/).

Arc of Livington Parent Support Group to meet on Monday, Dec. 17

Arc of Livingston Parent Support Group, parents supporting parents of children and adults with disabilities, meet every month. Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month and will include presentations and/or discussions on topics of interest to parents. Attendance is free. Meetings are held at Two Brothers Coffee Brew and Eatery 423 W Main St, Brighton, MI 48116 10am-11:30am. To RSVP visit www.arclivingston.org/parentsupportgroup or call The Arc at 517-546-1228. Next meeting: December 17th.



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-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.

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NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on January 3rd, 2019 @ 11:00 a.m. to dispense of the items stored in:

Unit #15 & 280 Tkay Guldi Unit #190 Jon Don Unit #100 Heather Russell Unit #197 Michelle Allbright Unit #127 Amber Monroe Unit #215 Brandon Cassell Unit #261 Corey Beaudry

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NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on **December 26** at **10am** to dispense of the items stored in the following units:

> Thomas Huey O-273 P-252 Joyce Rose

This sale is subject to cancellation without notice.

Kreeger Elementary School News

DATES TO REMEMBER:

12-20-18 -1-1-19: NO SCHOOL-WINTER RECESS

1-2-2019: SCHOOL RESUMES

1-18-19: ½ DAY OF SCHOOL 12:02 DISMISSAL

1-21-19: NO SCHOOL

2-14-19: 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PARENT MEETING

2-15-19: 8:00 - 9:00 A.M.: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

END OF DAY NOTES

PARENT MEETING

2-18 THRU 2-21: 5TH GRADE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

2-22 THRU 2-25: NO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS' DAY RECESS

3-1-19: END OF 2ND TRIMESTER

3-7-19: ½ DAY OF SCHOOL - DISMISSAL AT 12:02 P.M. PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES 1:00-4:00 AND 5:00 -7:30

3-8-19: $\frac{1}{2}$ DAY OF SCHOOL – DISMISSAL AT 12:02 P.M. 3-25 THRU 3-29: SPRING BREAK RECESS

Please call before 3:00 p.m. If you have a note that needs to get delivered to your child before the end of the day. *Thank*

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 an are interested in more information on special services, contact his/her building Principal.

Reminder on Kreeger Door Security System:

--15 minutes after the start of the regular school day, all doors will be locked, including the Main Entry.

--All visitors will need to press and release the video doorbell to request entry. It is the illuminated white button.

--Wait until someone greets you. After you are greeted, please state your name and why you are entering the building. You MAY be asked to show a picture ID if the office staff does not recognize you. PLEASE have your photo ID out and ready to show, especially early in the year when everyone is trying to learn who are our regular volunteers. Our intention for checking a photo ID is to help make sure our buildings are as safe as possible.

-- The person greeting you will buzz you in by unlocking the door.

-- Lastly, when the door unlocks to let you in, PLEASE DO NOT hold the door open for the next visitor. Doing so diminishes the effectiveness of the buzz in system and consequently makes the building less secure.

Thank you for your patience and understanding!

GriefShare seminar offered to the community starting in January

Griefshare is a hope-filled support group for grieving adults designed to assist in healing and rebuilding your life after the loss of a loved one. Healing is generated by providing a safe place for you to share your grief story and to experience the relief of knowing that you are not alone.

Join our 13-week Griefshare seminar, which will be held on Monday', January 14th – April 15th, from 10am to noon. The cost is \$15 for your workbook. Seminar will be held at Shepard Of The Lakes Lutheran Church, 2101 Hacker Rd., Brighton, in Room 200. For additional information, or questions, contact Judy Gamary at (248)231-0922.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE SEMINAR

Are you grieving the death of a spouse? Or do you know someone that is? Find help at our NEW seminar: LOSS OF A SPOUSE. You'll hear: practical advice from others who have been there; what to expect in your grief; how to cope with life without your spouse; and why it won't hurt as much.

It is being offered only one morning on Monday, January 7, from 10am – noon. It will be held at Shepard Of The Lakes Lutheran Church, 2101 Hacker Rd., Brighton, in Room 200. For additional information, or questions, contact Judy Gamary at (248)231-0922.

St. Mary's of Pinckney hosting country style breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 6

St. Mary' Catholic Church is hosting a Country Style Breakfast on Sunday, January 6th at the Parish located south of M-36 on Dexter Pinckney Road. Breakfast is served 8:30-11am and is a free-will donation. Proceeds will be used to help support the funding of a new Parish road sign. A D.J. & raffles add to the fun. For further information call Heather at Parish Office 734-878-3161.

New public-private partnership being formed to fight opioid deaths

As opioid addiction rates rise to unprecedented levels in the state and around the country, a new public-private collaborative including the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and key funders has formed with the goal of decreasing opioid overdoses and deaths. The Michigan Opioid Partnership will address the growing opioid epidemic through prevention, treatment, harm reduction and sustained recovery.

The collaborative will make available up to \$2.6 million to support efforts on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), from the first point of medical contact in a hospital emergency room to continued treatment in a hospital or communitybased program focused on long-term treatment of opioid use disorder. MAT is an evidence-based treatment for opioid addiction that includes both medication and behavioral therapy.

The Michigan Opioid Partnership includes the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, the Ethel and James Flinn Foundation, the Superior Health Foundation, The Jewish Fund and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

"Opioid deaths are growing at an alarming rate," says Larry Scott, Director, Office of Recovery Oriented System of Care, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, one of seven Michigan Opioid Partnership organizations. "The partnership was formed to address the growing opioid epidemic by supporting innovative projects that create change."

In 2017, drug overdoses killed nearly 2,700 people in Michigan, with 1,901 of those deaths attributed to opioids, according to the latest Michigan Department of Health and Human Services statistics. According to a Centers for Disease Control report, overall drug overdose deaths in Michigan exceeded traffic and gun deaths combined in 2017, a figure that is likely underreported by about 8 percent in Michigan, as some deaths are still pending investigation, according to the

The partnership will invite hospitals and organizations from counties across the state to apply for funding. Grants will be distributed to organizations working to address a wide range of factors fueling the drug epidemic. The funding will pay for planning, training and/or coordination of treatment. Recipients will be announced in early 2019.

"Collaborating with community groups, public health officials and providers across the state has been critical to Blue Cross' efforts addressing the opioid epidemic," said Daniel J. Loepp, president and chief executive officer of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. "Through these partnerships, we hope to continue improving addiction treatment, enhancing awareness of options available to those in need and ultimately saving lives."

An Annals of Emergency Medicine study published earlier this year showed emergency department-facilitated transitions to outpatient care are more likely to lead to healthier patient outcomes when they begin with MAT in emergency departments. In addition, expanding patient access to MAT helped avoid potential treatment gaps and eased entry into appropriate outpatient care, according to the study.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved drugs used to treat addiction include methadone, buprenorphine and naltrexone. While they have been shown to reduce cravings and withdrawal symptoms and prevent overdose, the drugs are difficult to access. Institutions in California, Massachusetts and Iowa have found success offering Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid addiction in emergency rooms and then connecting patients directly to managed treatment. Efforts have shown to reduce relapse and overdose. The drugs are most successful when combined with regular therapy.

About the Michigan Opioid Partnership: A publicprivate collaborative including the state of Michigan and key nonprofit funders, the Michigan Opioid Partnership's mission is to decrease Michigan opioid overdoses and deaths through prevention, treatment, harm reduction and sustained recovery. The partnership is made up of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, the Ethel and James Flinn Foundation, the Superior Health Foundation, The Jewish Fund and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. For more information about the Michigan Opioid Partnership, visit CFSEM.org/opioid.

Crossroads Church of God to host Family Friendly Night New Year's Eve

Crossroads Church of God will host a Family Friendly Night of playing a variety of board games and cards on New Year's Eve. Event is 6pm-9pm and we are located at 3940 Pinckney Road, Howell. Call 517-546-0722 for more information.





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Webberville holds Christmas celebration with tree lighting, parade & Santa visit

Webberville held a Christmas celebration last Saturday night, Dec. 8, with a tree lighting in the Village Square on East Grand River, a small lighted parade from the park to the Leroy Township Fire Hall, and then a chance for area youngsters to visit with Santa at the hall.

The Webberville Downtown Development Authority organized the tree lighting and parade, while the Leroy



Enjoying the festivities at the Village Square were, from left, Reggie Talbot, JoDee Showerman, and Tina Dodson.

Township Fire Association hosted its annual party that includes refreshments along with the visit by Santa Claus.

The Webberville School Choir sang several holiday songs at the park, and members of the high school band led the parade that included several decorated vehicles and floats.



Getting ready for the parade were, from left, Samantha Peach, Kimber Peach and Nelson Cypher. Kimber, a Webberville area resident, is the current Livingston County Homemaker of the Year, having received this honor at last July's Fowlerville Family Fair. She and her daughter, Samantha, rode in a vehicle donated by Dick Scott Motor Mall and driven by Nelson Cypher, a sales associate at the Fowlerville dealership.



Lighting the Webberville Community Christmas Tree was Bill Wheeler, former ag teacher and FFA advisor and longtime community and school volunteeer. Wheeler also drove the Webberville United Methodist Church float.



 $The \,Webber ville \,High \,School \,band \,led \,the \,parade \,through \,down town.$



The Webberville High School choir performed a variety of Christmas songs at the Village Square.



 $\label{thm:many-lighted} \mbox{Many lighted firetrucks drove through downtown. This one featured a minion onboard.}$



 $\label{thm:continuous} \mbox{Mount Hope Church of Williamston had this float in the parade with a Nativity scene.}$



Shown here are members of the Webberville United Methodist Church on their float.



Genevieve Brown of The Balloon Guys was handing out different creations at the fire hall to area youngsters. The Balloon Guys are from Haslett and were sponsored by the Webberville Area Library.



Enjoying the evening event were Suzanne and Gordon Cloudman of Webberville.



Collecting food donations on behalf of the Webberville High School Student Council were, from left, Matthew DePue, a 2017 WHS graduate; Josh DePue, with the school transportation department; Tanja Scifers, the student council advisor; and Katee Elzerman, with the National Honor Society.



Making her visit with Santa Claus was Ada Radzwion, the seven-and-a-half-month-old daughter of Webberville residents, Kari and Brendon Radzwoin.



Colton Anderson, the son of Kelsey Body of Webberville, was among the many area children who visited with Santa at the Leroy Township Fire Hall.



Hailey Ratza of Williamston gave her Christmas list to Santa. She was accompanied by her father, Tim.



The Kubiak family of Webberville were at the fire hall, From left, front row, were Tyler, Jason and Cheri and in back, Katelyn and Kyle.



Serving cookies, donuts, popcorn, and refreshments were Pam Gardner, left, and Neve Holzhausen.



Simon Grund, a middle schooler at Williamston, gave a "thumbs up" on the holiday party at the Webberville Fire Hall. He is the son of Moraya Andrews.



Donating food items on behalf of the Webberville Elementary Boosters were the Derian family. From left were Owen, Heather, Alex, and Maddie.

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