

Fowlerville NEWS & VIEWS

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Published Weekly



This year's Grand Marshals of the Fowlerville Christmas Parade are, from left, Racquel, Scott, and Kim Nelson. Scott is the owner of Nelson's Collision, a local business located west of Fowlerville.

Nelson family to serve as Grand Marshals of Christmas Parade

By Steve Horton

In the summer of 2017, Scott Nelson had a lot to be proud of. He had started Nelson's Collision, located at 9177 W. Grand River, in his early 20's and in November the firm would be observing its 30th year in business.

He and his wife, Kim, had recently observed their 24th wedding anniversary, having been married in June of 1993 and his daughter, Racquel, was starting her senior year in the fall.

In addition to his business, Scott and his family resided in a beautiful home just north of Fowlerville.

As a business owner, Scott was used to "doing whatever it takes to get the job done." This determination—self-discipline if you will—extended to maintaining his home.

Part of that ongoing effort included mowing the large lawn. He was in the midst of this routine task when his world suddenly stopped being routine.

Scott suffered a massive stroke that left him paralyzed on his

right side and unable to speak. On that date, July 28th, he went from an extremely active lifestyle to being unable to walk or talk.

But the inner drive that made Scott a successful businessman has been evident in his recovery. During the nearly year-and-a-half since the stroke, Scott (his wife and daughter noted) has "worked hard and made a lot of progress."

"Being the strong and determined individual that he is, he has been working diligently to regain the use of his arm and to improve his walking and speech," Kim and Racquel said. "He has made tremendous self-progress as he continues to improve himself each day due to his immense drive and strong mindset."

In June, he was able to attend his daughter's graduation from Fowlerville High and a few weeks later helped host her open house, greeting the many guests with a handshake and smile.

He has also returned to the office.

"Scott enjoys being back to work and seeing all his friends and customers that stop by Nelson's Collision," said Kim and Racquel, adding "Please stop in for a quick 'hello.' It will truly

Continued on page 13

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Olden Day's Café

Parrish Carpet Company LLC
Save-on Family Foods
Shear Image
The Feed Bag



For a schedule of events please visit our website at www.christmasintheville.com and also our facebook page!

West – Fowlerville Fair Grounds



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Gary Hartman
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Caleb Jenkins Column



Civility Through Understanding

I hope you all had a tremendous Thanksgiving, and I hope you managed to avoid any awkward conversations about politics with your family. At any rate, that's what we all say leading up to Thanksgiving, right? For those who face such a situation, we all take a deep breath, put a smile on, and try our best to dodge conversations that could lead to fights. It's become such a common trope that it has evolved into a running joke year after year. People write articles, make videos, or share their stories on how to best avoid difficult political confrontations over Thanksgiving dinner.

I'm not sure why Thanksgiving is usually the targeted holiday for this sort of thing. Probably because it's the most likely holiday for people to see more distant relatives. Even Christmas is usually a more tight-knit affair. I think another contributor is the fact that it comes right after election season. Strongly-opinionated family members are still either riding that victory high or trying to recover from that disappointing defeat. Whatever the reason, I have to stop and ask how we got to this point. I have to wonder how we arrived at a place where civility is such a foreign concept that many families have to mentally brace themselves before sitting down together for what used to be a time of close, familial bonding and fellowship.

I have avoided addressing the cause of this incivility because I think it is a very deep and multifaceted problem that cannot be solved with a few quick talking points. It's something that has evolved and built up over a long period of time, so it is difficult to reverse in an instant. Of course, the simplest and most accurate solution is for everyone to start showing more civility. Take it as a personal responsibility that you will show more decency to others. That would be

great, but it's probably not very realistic unfortunately. (But don't let that stop you from doing your part!)

However, I do want to highlight at least two of the reasons why I think civility is so difficult today. First, I don't believe our opinions on politics, society, and even life in general have ever been farther apart. Perhaps not even during the Civil War. We used to have at least some foundational principles that most people could agree upon, but in most instances today, we differ on how the very basic elements of society should look. With such vast differences, it is hard to 'reach across the aisle' with those who disagree with us because the stakes have never been higher.

Second, I think this is at least partially due to a declining understanding of government, its purpose, and how we should interact with it. When America was formed and throughout its burgeoning, formative years, the average citizen had a keen understanding of the purpose of government and his or her role within society. That is not the case anymore, and it terrifies me. Instead of understanding how, and more importantly why, government works, most people rely on talking points. Their lives are too busy with other matters, so they depend on talking heads to inform their decision-making. Talking points are fine in certain circumstances, but they should not form your entire set of views on government and society. You should have something deeper.

Would this completely fix civility? I don't know. But it would be an extremely helpful step in the right direction.

United Way's 25th Annual "Filling Wishes" Booklets now available

It is Livingston County United Way's 25th year of gathering "wish lists" from area nonprofit organizations! With the holidays quickly approaching, now is the time of year people start considering ways to get involved and help local families and agencies. Thirty-seven local nonprofit organizations hope to be considered during the holiday season, and throughout the year! The "Filling Wishes" booklet, can be obtained online at <http://www.lcunitedway.org/give/>

Many lists include practical items needed to help local organizations provide strong community programming, while offsetting operating costs. In some cases, "gently" used items may be donated such as office equipment, furniture or supplies.

For more information about the Livingston County United Way, local programs and initiatives, visit <http://www.lcunitedway.org>.

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Segment 1	
12/3/18 - 12/20/18	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
12/22/18 - 1/5/19	10:00 AM-12:00 PM
1/7/19 - 1/25/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
2/11/19 - 3/1/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
3/18/19 - 4/11/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
4/29/19 - 5/16/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
Segment 2	
1/29/19 - 2/5/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
3/5/19 - 3/12/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
4/16/19 - 4/23/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM
5/21/19 - 5/28/19	3:30 PM-5:30 PM



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Smith Elementary School News

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 26 – School Resumes
November 26-30-Book Fair
November 27- Kindergarten Lunch with Someone Grand
November 28-First Grade Lunch with Someone Grand
November 28 & 29 – Hearing Rescreening (K & 2nd)
November 29-Second Grade Lunch with Someone Grand
November 29 – P/T Conferences 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm (Full Day of School K-5th)
November 30 – P/T Conferences 9:00 am – Noon & 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm (**No School K-5th**)
December 7- Holiday Dance
December 10-14- Santa Shop
December 12 & 13- First Grade Musical
December 19-Jan 1- Winter Break

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 non-prescription 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.

Kreeger Elementary School News

DATES TO REMEMBER:

11-26-18 – 11-30-18 Kreeger Book Fair
9:00 - 3:30 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00 - 3:30 & 5:00 – 7:00 Thursday
9:00 - 12:00 Friday
We are looking for Parent Volunteers to help work during our Book Fair. If you would like to donate your time please sign in by going to the following link:
www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4DA8AA2DA6FC1-fall
11-26-18 & 11-27-18: Hearing Screening for 4th grade
11-27-18: Picture Retake Day
11-29-18: Parent Teacher Conferences 5:00-7:30 p.m.
11-30-18: K-5 NO SCHOOL. *Parent Teacher Conferences:* 9:00 a.m.-12 noon & 1:00-3:30 p.m.
12-10-18 – 12-14-18 9:00 – 3:30 Kreeger Santa Shop
12-20-18 -1-1-19: NO SCHOOL-WINTER RECESS

END OF DAY NOTES—*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 you*

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!

Happy holidays begin with food on the table.
Please give to those less fortunate.
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Map showing location of Great Lakes Family Restaurant at the intersection of S Grand Ave. and M-43 Grand River Ave., near Exit 129 on I-75. The map also shows the location of Waterford relative to the restaurant.

St. John’s Episcopal Church to hold
Cookie Walk & Grandma’s Attic

St. John’s Episcopal Church is holding its Cookie Walk & Grandma’s Attic sale on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The church is located at 504 Prospect Street, Howell.

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Howell Carnegie District
Library Adult Events
TUBA CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 8, 2018, 5:00pm-6:00pm, Library Lawn

Join us for a festive Christmas tuba concert on the front lawn of the library. Are you a tuba or baritone player interested in playing? Contact Dale Marzewski at 517-548-1603. Drop In, no registration required.

HOLIDAY COOKIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD
Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 6:30pm-7:30pm, Meabon Room

The Christmas cookie as we know it today can be traced back to Medieval Europe, but many locations around the world have their own traditional holiday sweet treat. Learn about the Korean Yakgwa, the Dutch Pepernoten, the Alfajores of South America, and many more. Recipes will be available and free samples for those who register. Registration is recommended, though not required to attend, and begins

Wednesday, November 28, 2018 online, by phone, or in person.

For more information, visit the Information Desk at the Howell Carnegie District Library at 314 W Grand River Ave, call 517-546-0720 x106, or see the library’s website at www.howelllibrary.org. The library’s hours are Monday-Thursday 10am-8pm, Friday-Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sunday 12pm-4pm September through May.



Jud Scott



Michigan
Senate
Report

By Joe Hune,
22nd District

Grateful for the Opportunities

This past week we celebrated Thanksgiving. As I reflect on the holiday and on my time as Livingston County’s State Senator, I am thoroughly grateful for the opportunities I have had to be your conservative voice in Lansing over the past eight years in the Senate.

It is remarkable how far our state has come in such a relatively short timeframe. Today, our economy is strong — unemployment is at its lowest point in 18 years with more than 4.7 million Michiganders working. I am confident the many reforms we have enacted, like smart budgeting, a new, simple, fair, and efficient business tax and freedom-to-work laws, have contributed to this rebound.

Better still, there’s no sign of this growth slowing down. A recent study from the University of Michigan indicates our state economy is poised for its longest period of sustained job growth since World War II, and small business economic optimism is the highest it’s been in generations.

With just a few weeks left in this legislative session, there are more important reforms that we should approve to continue the momentum, including improving auto no-fault insurance — something I have fought to fix my entire legislative career.

In this time of thanksgiving, and as we look ahead to the Christmas season and a new year, it is my hope that you can take time to spend with your families and friends to relax and reflect on God’s many blessings.

I am very thankful for my beautiful wife and son, my wonderful family, and friends, and for the constituents of the 22nd Senate District. Serving you has been the honor of my lifetime, and I am so thankful that, together, we have helped make our state a better place to work and raise our families.

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

Howell United Methodist Women
to present holiday event on Dec. 8

The United Methodist Women of the Howell First United Methodist Church present «Holly Treats and Crafts», Saturday, Dec. 8, 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. The event will feature a Cookie Walk, apple dumplings, homemade crafts, “Once Loved” booth, as well as their traditional peanut brittle. . The “Cafe Noel” will be open for morning coffee and lunch. The church is located at 1230 Bower Street in Howell, across from Northwest School.

United Methodist Men to host Chicken
Dinner during Christmas in the Ville

The Fowlerville First United Methodist Men will be hosting a Chicken Dinner with all the fixin’s this Saturday, Dec. 1 from 4-6pm at the church. Free will offering.

Dick Scott
MOTOR MALL

Fowlerville High School’s
“ATHLETES” OF THE WEEK



Boys Cross Country

Zach Curd - Zach just completed his freshman season on the boys cross country team. Zach was an instant contributor to the varsity team consistently finishing second for the Gladiators. Zach ran his personal record at the Final CAAC Red Jamboree in Williamston finishing the 5000m course in 17 minutes and 45.5 seconds. His performance in the three Jamborees earned CAAC Red All League Honorable Mention and his time placed him as the 3rd fastest freshman in FHS history. Zach will be an exciting runner to watch over the next three seasons. Congratulations on a great season!

Jack Shrader - Jack recently completed his freshman season on the boys cross country team. Jack was a consistent point scorer this season for the varsity team. His season record came at the Laingsburg meet running the 5000m course in 17 minutes and 52.5 seconds. This time placed Jack 4th on the FHS All-Time Top Ten list for freshman. With Jack’s work ethics, positive attitude, and leadership, he will continue to improve and be a large factor in the team’s success over the next three seasons. Congratulations on a great start to your high school athletic career.

JUD’S FOOTBALL FORECAST

THURSDAY, NOV. 29
New Orleans 34 at Dallas 24

SUNDAY, DEC. 2
LA Rams 37 at Detroit 24
Baltimore 30 at Atlanta 27
Denver 24 at Cincinnati 28
Arizona 13 at Green Bay 27
Buffalo 16 at Miami 23
Chicago 24 at NY Giants 20
Carolina 30 at Tampa Bay 24
Indianapolis 20 at Jacksonville 23

Cleveland 19 at Houston 27
NY Jets 10 at Tennessee 23
Kansas City 41 at Oakland 16
Minnesota 23 at New England 31
San Francisco 20 at Seattle 28
LA Chargers 24 at Pittsburgh 31

MONDAY, DEC. 3
Washington 19 at Philadelphia 24

LAST WEEK: W - 7 L - 8
SEASON: W - 120 L - 62

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

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Michigan House Report

By Dr. Hank Vaupel,
47th District



State Rep. Hank Vaupel (right) joins VCAT Region 9 Coordinator Josh Parish at the Harvest for Heroes event.

Last Monday, I had the privilege of joining the Region 9 Veterans Community Action Team (VCAT) in passing out free turkey baskets to veterans and their families as part of the Harvest for Heroes event. Sadly, there are many veterans throughout our county who each year do not have the opportunity to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner. Through this event, 150 baskets were available for those veterans in need. Thank you to Region 9 VCAT and everyone who volunteered to help our local veterans enjoy this Thanksgiving!

This past week, I introduced a resolution to declare Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) a critical health issue in Michigan. ACEs include childhood abuse, neglect, and various family dysfunctions, and they can have a major effect on a child's development and future well-being. Extensive research has proven this kind of toxic stress on a child can even lead to serious health issues, and surveys show as many as 70 percent of Michigan adults had at least one ACE during their childhood with 20 percent experiencing four or more instances.

This issue has worsened to the point that it needs to be treated as a major public health crisis, and this resolution calls on the Governor and the state Legislature to actively

seek ways to significantly reduce ACEs in Michigan. Since I was first elected to the House of Representatives, I have been committed to addressing public health issues, and this is a fundamental problem that needs our attention.

Recently, I was asked by our local VFW to serve as a judge for the annual Patriot's Pen essay competition. Each year, more than 125,000 students in grades 6-8 submit 300- to 400-word essays on a patriotic topic chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief, and this year, that topic is "Why I Honor the American Flag." The first-place winner for the state will receive a minimum of \$500, and the national first-place winner receives \$5,000 and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in March.

Patriot's Pen is a great way to encourage young people to practice and improve their writing skills while honing their critical thinking and giving them a chance to examine American history. I was honored to support this opportunity, and it was impressive and encouraging to read the thoughts and ideas shared by our local youth. Thank you to our area VFW volunteers who helped organize the competition, and great work by our junior high students!

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!

Card of Thanks

The family of Barb Warner would like to express our extreme gratitude for the thoughtfulness, love, and prayers we have received in our time of sorrow. A special thank you to Barb's second family, the Fowlerville Walmart, for the outpouring of support and affection given to us in our time of need.

A heartfelt thank you,
The Warner-Russell Families

St. Mary Men's Club in Pinckney hosting Christmas Breakfast Dec. 2

St Mary Men's Club in Pinckney will host their annual Community Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Parish, located south of M-36 at 10601 Dexter Pinckney Road. Breakfast is served 8:30-11am and is a free will donation.

Proceeds provide food baskets for our neighbors in need and funding for our Community Food Banks, Gleaners, Love Inc and St Mary's Food Pantry. All donations are welcomed and tax receipts are available upon request.

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Showcasing the Michigan DNR--

Saving Michigan’s bats

By Hannah Schauer
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Maybe you’ve noticed fewer bats active during those warm, buggy summer evenings and wondered why?

This situation is not unique to Michigan. In fact, many places throughout North America have seen declines in bat numbers.

The reason for the reduction in numbers for many species of bats is a fungus named *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* – responsible for a disease called white-nose syndrome that is killing bats in parts of America and Canada.

Many insect-eating bats survive winter by going into hibernation, during which they lower their body temperature and fat deposits accumulated during autumn months are used to sustain them.

Places where bats hibernate, such as caves or underground mines (known as hibernacula), are ideal environments for this fungus, as it thrives in cold, damp conditions.

The fungus disrupts hibernation, causing bats to prematurely and repeatedly awaken, quickly depleting their fat reserves and diminishing their body condition.

“Bats weakened by the loss of fat reserves are unable to replenish themselves due to lack of insects to eat in winter and die before spring,” said Dan O’Brien, veterinarian at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources’ Wildlife Disease Laboratory. “Infected bats often exhibit abnormal behavior such as flying during daylight hours or gathering outside of caves in cold weather.”

The disease is called white-nose syndrome because of a white powdery appearance on exposed skin, like the muzzle and wings, of affected bats.

Transmission of the fungus associated with white-nose syndrome primarily occurs through bat-to-bat contact but can also be transmitted by humans visiting infected caves and mines without decontaminating their shoes and equipment.

While there is no evidence that white-nose syndrome is infectious to humans, the loss of large numbers of bats may have an indirect impact on people.

Bats are a primary predator of nighttime insects and large-scale losses of bats may lead to an increase in insect populations, some of which cause crop damage or spread diseases.

Efforts to help Michigan’s bats

“The DNR has been on the leading edge of bat conservation and research for a long time,” Bill Scullon, DNR Wildlife Division field operations supervisor, said. “Working with partners and researchers is as critical as ever in the battle to save our bat species from white-nose syndrome.”

One such effort is the gating of entrances to important bat hibernacula to minimize human disturbance to hibernating bats. Custom steel structures are designed and put up to ensure public safety while allowing the bats to come and go freely from the hibernacula.

“These gates have been built on both public and private lands,” said DNR wildlife biologist John DePue. “Some of

these gated sites house large populations of bats in the winter and are important locations to protect.”

Michigan is also one of the few states that participates in field trials of potential treatments to combat white-nose syndrome.

Researchers and students from Western Michigan and Ball State universities, working with the DNR, have been applying an organic compound – derived from shellfish, called chitosan – to bats and the inside of hibernacula. This chitosan compound appears to help bats combat the effects of white-nose syndrome.

Additionally, in some of Michigan’s hibernacula, University of California, Santa Cruz researchers have been treating sites with chlorine dioxide. Treatment is applied to the site when bats are not present to reduce the number of spores that cause white-nose syndrome.

“Chlorine dioxide is used to kill all the fungal spores throughout a mine during the summer, before bats return for the winter,” said DePue. “This will disinfect the site and reduce infection rates and mortality rates.”

DNR staffers, along with researchers from Eastern Michigan University, also conduct annual bat monitoring. Hibernation sites are visited during the winter to learn about places where bats are experiencing higher survival rates, and to monitor population trends.

Status of bats in Michigan

Nine species of bats are found in Michigan.

Little brown and big brown bats are the species most often seen by people. Silver-haired, red and hoary bats are also found in Michigan.

The tri-colored bat (or eastern pipistrelle) is a species of special concern in Michigan and the evening bat is listed as a threatened species.

Indiana bats have been under the protection of the federal Endangered Species Act since 1967. The northern long-eared bat was added to the List of Threatened and Endangered Species as a threatened species in recent years.

“Due to the severity of the decline in population from white-nose syndrome, the northern long-eared bat was listed as a threatened species by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in April of 2015,” said Dan Kennedy, DNR endangered species coordinator.

Allen Kurta, a professor of biology at Eastern Michigan University, said recent surveys of hibernacula in Michigan indicate an 83-percent decline in bats at those survey sites, compared to data from surveys conducted before white-nose syndrome’s arrival.

“The data indicate a 77-percent decline in little brown bats, a 93-percent fall in eastern pipistrelles, and a 96-percent decrease in northern long-eared bats,” Kurta said. “It is getting very difficult to find a northern long-eared bat anywhere in the state.”

Although these numbers are dire, not all bats seem to be as heavily impacted by white-nose syndrome.

In addition to caves and mines, some bats may use man-made structures, like buildings, as hibernacula. These places may not provide appropriate conditions for the growth of the white-nose syndrome fungus, allowing for higher bat survival rates.

“Big brown bats and silver-haired bats do not seem to be experiencing major declines,” Kurta said.

For now, we will continue to see fewer bats dotting the night’s sky in Michigan, but the DNR and its partners are working hard to ensure those numbers increase and that bats will not be eliminated from the landscape.

How to help bats

Installing bat houses can be helpful for bats. Various factors are important when putting up a bat house, including location, color and height. Bat houses should not be in areas frequented by people or domestic animals. To learn tips and tricks for bat houses, check out Bat Conservation International’s website, filled with bat house resources.

Maintaining bat habitat is another way to help bats. Some bats like to roost in trees that have loose bark. Maintaining these types of trees can provide additional roosting locations. Many bats prefer forested areas near a water source, as these places are often abundant with insects.

Those exploring caves or mines should be sure to abide by closures and follow decontamination guidelines to reduce the spread of white-nose syndrome. Avoid visiting these locations during the winter months when bats may be hibernating.

Other ways to help bats:

- Minimize the use of insecticides as these can impact a variety of animal species, including bats.
- Do not attempt to help injured bats. Because of concerns for disease transmission, rehabilitation of bats is illegal in Michigan.
- Donate to the DNR’s Nongame Fish and Wildlife Fund and talk to others about how to help bats.

Learn more about Michigan’s bats by visiting michigan.gov/bats.



Lee Hamilton Column

The Coin of the Realm

Debate in Congress has always been contentious. The levels of vitriol may seem especially acute these days, but confrontation is not new. I can remember times on Capitol Hill when “debate” was actually more of a screaming match than a civil discussion.

Back then, we had a colleague who invariably stepped forward at these times to remind each side that if we wanted to get anything done — rather than just shout at each other for the cameras — we had to have a measure of trust in one another. We used to call this his “Trust is the coin of the realm speech.” And though we joked about it, we appreciated it. Because he was right.

Representative government depends on trust. It depends on trust among policy-makers in Congress, even when they don’t agree with one another. It depends on popular trust in the people who make decisions on Capitol Hill and in the White House. It depends on trust in those who are charged with implementing those laws. And it requires trust in the institutions in which those decisions are produced and implemented.

We might have joked about my long-ago colleague’s speech, but trust really is the coin of the realm. It is a bedrock requirement of democratic governance. If there’s nothing but cynicism, deep suspicion, and lack of confidence in the system, it cannot work.

To understand how interwoven trust must be within the system, think about it from the point of view of ordinary citizens. We have to believe that our voices will be heard, listened to, and taken into consideration in the halls of power.

This means that those in power must be accountable, and that the institutions they serve in will function in predictable, rule-based ways. Which is why it is so damaging when government acts in ways that diminish trust.

If you feel that government is just helping corporations and rich people, you lose confidence in the system. If people see a government that tolerates a high degree of economic inequality in the country, and great disparities in opportunities between rich people and middle-class people, they no longer trust that system.

Yet for representative democracy to work, public officials, politicians and policy makers have to have a sufficient level of support from ordinary people. You and I have to believe that our representatives will in fact level with us rather than present half-truths and distortions, and will act in our interests. Similarly, for government to have any standing in our lives, we have to have confidence in the experts, technocrats, and frontline staff who make the system work.

This means, in turn, that government has to be able to deliver the goods, the services, the protections that people expect. So the performance of the government — its efficiency and effectiveness — is fundamental to the success of representative democracy.

The same with our elected representatives. If they can’t show they’re able to function according to the rules, traditions and norms that we expect, if they are unable to demonstrate durability in the face of adversity, if they are unable to acknowledge the facts, if they cannot rise above division and gridlock and negotiate to get things done, then we lose faith. Which may explain why so many have become suspicious not just of our government, but of one another.

Ironically, one cure for this lack of trust is more exposure to the system, through engagement and participation in politics or in civic life. If people are regular participants in political parties, clubs, organizations, or associations of all kinds in their communities, they are much more likely to carry some level of trust in government. And to the extent they don’t do these things, public life seems more distant and less trustworthy.

There is no doubt that my colleague was right. If the various levels of government don’t enjoy the trust of the people, if within each level the participants don’t trust one another, then representative democracy doesn’t work.

Which is why the low levels of trust we see in the United States today are so worrisome. How far down this road can we go before we lose the ability to function effectively as a democracy?

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



What Gretchen Whitmer proposes to do as Michigan’s next governor

By Linsay VanHulle & Riley Beggin

As Michigan’s next governor, Democrat Gretchen Whitmer has promised to invest heavily in roads and schools, while also making it easier for Michiganders to afford college and get training for in-demand jobs.

Here is a list of Whitmer’s campaign promises — on everything from infrastructure, to schools, jobs and the environment — on which she’ll be evaluated after she takes office Jan. 1.

ROADS

Infrastructure arguably became Whitmer’s signature campaign issue, once her “fix the damn roads” slogan caught fire.

She has pitched an infrastructure bank with \$2 billion in state funds that would offer loans and grants to help local governments pay for infrastructure repairs, and Whitmer also said the bank could be used to leverage an additional \$1 billion from the federal government.

Yet Whitmer has not specifically said how she would raise billions of dollars, aside from new user fees and — if the Legislature doesn’t act — asking voters to pass a statewide bond. If bonding is necessary, Whitmer has not said how she would pay it back.

Jay Rising, a state treasurer under former Gov. Jennifer Granholm who helped the Whitmer campaign develop its roads plan, has told Bridge part of a bond could be repaid with money saved as corporate tax credits start to expire. Yet that won’t happen for years.

She also has said she wants to coordinate road projects with other infrastructure needs, like fixing sewer systems, through a statewide infrastructure council.

PRESCHOOL AND K-12 EDUCATION

Whitmer wants all 4-year-olds in Michigan to be eligible for state-funded preschool. Just about a third of 117,000 Michigan 4-year-olds receive that instruction now. That’s up more than 60 percent in the last six years, following Bridge reporting that showed tens of thousands of preschool-age kids who qualified for free pre-school but couldn’t enroll because the state didn’t have enough funding.

Whitmer wants to spend up to \$600 million per year without having to raise taxes, including by using anticipated increases in the state’s School Aid Fund. She also has said she wants to end the practice of using some K-12 school dollars to pay for colleges and universities, which typically are paid for out of the state’s general fund. New tax revenue from the expected passage of Proposal 1, which would legalize recreational marijuana, and elimination of (as yet undefined) state government waste are other potential funding sources.

Yet some experts have questioned whether those funding sources will generate enough money without new tax revenue.

Whitmer said in a recent interview with Bridge and the Detroit Journalism Cooperative that she believes the per-pupil funding estimates laid out by the School Finance

Research Collaborative — a group of educators and business and community leaders that studied whether K-12 funding levels were sufficient — are accurate and that Michigan needs to do more to create equity between the wealthiest and poorest school districts by addressing higher costs associated with students with disabilities or who are in high-poverty districts or learning English.

Whitmer also wants to expand access to high-quality day care by helping more families become eligible for subsidies and increase reimbursement rates to child care providers. She has proposed tripling the number of literacy coaches in Michigan schools, expanding the numbers of support staffers in schools and finding a reliable funding source to help provide early intervention services to families with babies and toddlers with disabilities or developmental delays.

Whitmer also wants to nix Michigan’s third-grade “read-or-flunk” law that would hold third-graders back a grade if they are reading below a second-grade level — a law set to go into effect in 2020.

COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

Whitmer wants the state to offer scholarships worth about \$3,000 per year to Michigan high school graduates so they can attend two years of community college, university or postsecondary vocational education debt-free.

Her proposed scholarship program is estimated to cost \$100 million annually, and Whitmer says potential funding sources could include new revenue from sales tax collections on online purchases.

JOBS

Whitmer supports a \$15 hourly minimum wage, phased in over three years. Michigan’s minimum wage is \$9.25 per hour today and is set to rise with inflation in January 2019, though lawmakers recently adopted a citizen-initiated law to raise it to \$12 an hour by 2022. She also said she supports requiring employers to offer paid sick leave. (Some have speculated whether the Republican-controlled Legislature will try to scale back both proposals in lame-duck session after the election.)

Proponents say a higher minimum wage will help lift people out of poverty, while many business leaders oppose a higher wage in part because they say it would curtail Michigan’s economic competitiveness against other states.

Whitmer’s plan also calls for creating a program, Michigan Reconnect, that would help adults earn a technical certificate and expanding a program that offers job training to food assistance recipients. She also said she would sign a bill to reinstate Michigan’s prevailing wage law — repealed this year by the Legislature — and repeal right-to-work laws adopted in December 2012 that prohibit labor unions from collecting dues as a condition of employment.

She has emphasized Michigan’s role in developing self-driving vehicles, said she would support innovation in the agriculture and healthcare sectors and would create more opportunities for “angel investors,” who invest in early-stage startups.

TAXES

Whitmer has said she wants to eliminate a controversial tax on some retirement income, including pensions, that Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law in 2011 as part of a broader tax package that included roughly \$2 billion in tax cuts for businesses.

The result of the tax package in practice has meant that much of Michigan’s revenue burden has shifted from business to individuals.

Whitmer voted against the 2011 tax plan while in the Senate. She is campaigning to repeal the retirement tax, which fiscal analysts pegged at \$270 million; a loss of that revenue could put pressure on the general fund at the same time Whitmer wants to expand other services.

She also has proposed restoring tax credits for historic and brownfield redevelopment projects, which also went away in 2011. Her campaign said she would work with the Legislature to come up with details about capping the amount that could be given away in credits and how to balance the economic effects with the state budget costs.

CLEAN WATER

Whitmer has said she intends to create a Department of Great Lakes and Freshwater within state government and create a state infrastructure bank that could help fund replacement of lead drinking water pipes.

She recently told the Bridge and the Detroit Journalism Cooperative that Michigan needs to address threats to drinking water, including the discovery of harmful chemicals known as PFAS that have contaminated residential drinking water around the state, but said she would rely on scientists’ evaluations on recommended strategies before taking action.

Whitmer also has vowed to challenge Snyder’s plan to build a tunnel underneath the Straits of Mackinac to replace the aging Enbridge Inc. Line 5 pipeline, a plan that would fall to her administration to implement. Whitmer told the DJC she finds the tunnel agreement “troubling” and has said she supports shutting down the Line 5 pipeline.

HEALTH CARE

Whitmer has touted her work as Senate Minority Leader in 2013 to help create a Medicaid expansion program in Michigan. That program, called Healthy Michigan, since has helped nearly 680,000 adults in the state get health insurance.

She stopped short during the campaign of advocating for single-payer health care, which her Democratic primary challengers Abdul El-Sayed and Shri Thanedar both said they supported. She calls for better transparency and consumer protections around prescription drug pricing and repealing a law co-sponsored by her Republican rival, Attorney General Bill Schuette, while he was in the Legislature, to grant pharmaceutical companies immunity from being sued in Michigan.

And she has advocated for improving recovery programs for people addicted to opioids, including specialized treatment courts that would send people with addiction into treatment programs rather than to jail.

WOMEN’S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Whitmer vows to repeal a state law that makes abortion criminal in the event that the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 case that legalized abortion. She also said she intends to increase state funding for family planning services.

Whitmer, herself a survivor of sexual assault while in college, said she also intends to repeal a state law that requires women to purchase an insurance rider for abortion coverage. She has said she wants to require sex education instruction in Michigan to include discussion about consent as part of an effort to prevent sexual assault.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

Michigan ranks among the bottom of states for open-government laws. Whitmer said she would expand the state Freedom of Information Act to include the governor’s office and the Legislature, impose a five-year “cooling-off” period for former legislators before they become lobbyists, repeal the 2012 emergency manager law and a separate law that loosens campaign spending rules, and require candidates and senior government appointees to complete conflict of interest and personal financial disclosures. (See what Whitmer disclosed to Bridge when it asked all candidates for governor to voluntarily share details of their personal finances earlier this year.)

URBAN POLICY

Whitmer’s plan to combat urban poverty contains few specific funding details, but has identified three main goals related to employment, housing and ending racial disparities.

She has said her priorities include: Lowering Michigan’s highest-in-the-nation auto insurance rates, committing to expanding regional transit in metro areas, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit, appointing an executive in her cabinet to focus on solutions to poverty, protecting municipal revenue sharing from budget cuts, supporting the use of police officer body cameras, creating universal criminal background checks for gun purchases, supporting the development of affordable housing, protecting renters and improving public health outcomes.

This article appeared in Bridge Magazine, an online publication.

(News & Views Editor’s Note: While Governor-elect Whitmer outlined these proposals during her campaign, the Republicans maintained control of both chambers of the State Legislature, so they’ll have an impact on this agenda.)

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Fowlerville Firefighters Association hosts annual Buck Pole

The Fowlerville Firefighters Association hosted its annual Buck Pole on Sunday, Nov. 18, at the fire hall. The event drew a record 90 entries. Winning first place was Wayne Riser of Gregory. Placing second was Jeff Cox of Byron and third was

John Pidd of Stockbridge. Winning the Youth Category was Luke Whitney of Howell. Those who entered the contest also had a chance to win one of the 170 prizes that were donated by area businesses and individuals.



Wayne Riser of Gregory won the Buck Pole Contest with this entry.



Jeff Cox of Byron earned second place with his buck.



John Pidd of Stockbridge placed third with his buck.



Luke Whitney of Howell had the top buck in the Youth Category.

The Fowlerville Firefighters Association wishes to express our thanks to the following sponsors for their generous gifts that have, once again, made the 2018 Buck Pole a great success. We gave away 170 prizes to area hunters and had a record year with 90 bucks entered.

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Madelyn Donal, age 14, bagged this 8-point buck late in the afternoon on Opening Day in northern Handy Township. It was her second year of deer hunting.



Hunter Kupniewski, age 15, of Webberville, shot a 7-point buck in Livingston County on Opening Day in the afternoon.



Alan DeBuck of Davison heard about the Buck Pole Contest from his cousin, Donna McLeod of Fowlerville, and entered this 8-point deer he shot at 4 p.m. on Opening Day (Nov. 15) on property he owns in Howell Township.



This Fowlerville family has had a successful hunting season. From left are Lillian, Derek, and Jessica Sproull, shown here with the 8-point buck that Derek bagged in Genoa Township on Opening Day. Jessica had gotten an 8-pointer on Oct. 25 during the bow season. Lillian, meanwhile, sports this back pack, donated by Kleinschmidt Well Drilling, that she won in the drawing. Lillian, age 11, began hunting last year and is next in line to get a deer.



Ed Lybrink of Fowlerville shows off the 6-point buck he got on Opening Day in Cohoctah Township.



Tracy Dietrich of Byron was able to enter the contest when he shot an 8-point buck at his site between Byron and Morrice on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 18. "I got it at the last minute," he noted. "Actually my wife, Cindy, had a chance, but she didn't shoot for safety's sake, not knowing where I was standing."



Mike Adams won one of the 170 prizes given away during the Buck Pole Contest. This pop-up hunting blind was donated by Asahi Kasei Plastics, a Fowlerville manufacturer. Mike entered an 8-point buck he shot in Conway Township on Opening Day in the morning.



Bob and Lynne Tykoski of Fowlerville are shown here with the 10-point buck Bob brought down earlier in the day—at 9 a.m. on Sunday—giving him a chance to enter the contest. He shot the deer in Cohoctah Township. Bob was also observing his 57th birthday, so the deer and being in the contest added bonuses to his special day.

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Grand Marshals, continued

make his day.”

Kim and Racquel, while crediting Scott’s drive and inner strength for his progress, also pointed to his family, friends, and staff for their part in aiding his recovery.

“Scott has great employees that have worked hard and pulled together to keep the business going strong,” they said. “We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the friends and family who have continued to offer support and encouragement with cards, brought food and provided help. We really appreciate all of you and everything that you have done!”

This Saturday (Dec. 1), Scott, Kim, and Racquel Nelson will serve as the Grand Marshals of the annual Fowlerville Christmas Parade.

The parade steps off at 6 p.m. and culminates the day-long Christmas in the Ville celebration. Participants will gather at the school grounds at North Hibbard Street, head south to Grand River, then turn west and proceed through the downtown to Veterans Drive. Over 70 entries have signed up.

In naming the Nelson family to head the parade, the organizing committee cited Nelson’s Collision having been in business for over 30 years, plus all of the support they have given to different community and school groups and events over the years.

The committee also wished to pay tribute to Scott and his family for the example they’ve set in facing—and now overcoming—adversity.

“Scott and Kim Nelson have supported this community over the years—as a family and through Nelson’s Collision,” said committee co-chair Steve MacDermaid. “Given what happened to Scott, we thought it would be an honor to have him and his family as our parade Grand Marshal.”

NELSON’S COLLISION WAS ONE OF THE BUSINESSES THAT WAS FEATURED in the 2017 edition of the *Fowlerville Business Directory and Community Guide* (published annually in April by the *Fowlerville News & Views*). During the interview, Scott recalled how the business had started nearly 30 years earlier, chronicled the highlights along the way, gave an assessment of current conditions, and offered some personal background.

He started by saying that “the genesis” of Nelson’s Collision stretched back much further than when the doors opened in November 1987.

“I knew what I wanted to do when I was 14 years old,” he said.

Scott explained that he grew up on Crandall Road in Cohoctah Township, a half-mile from the White Barn Body Shop owned by Bob Reilly. His parents are Dave and Bonnie Nelson.

“I was about nine when I started riding my bike to Bob’s place,” Scott recalled. “He let me sweep and do other cleaning and within a couple of years I was helping sand and doing other tasks on the vehicles that came into the shop.”

By 14 he had graduated to helping with the body work and painting and, he noted, had decided this was the career for him. “I continued working there while in high school,” Nelson said. “I enrolled in the co-operative program and was able to use the work to earn credits. Bob taught me the trade. I also learned a lot from Bob Warner, who was a body man at the shop.”

Nelson was still in high school when his ambition to own and operate an automotive collision shop took a major step. “I was 17 and purchased this (West Grand River) site for \$11,000 on a land contract,” he explained.

After graduating from Fowlerville High in 1982, Nelson took a job in town at Mitchell Chevrolet-Oldsmobile’s auto body shop.

“The first six months I did body work and painted, then I took over as a working manager,” he said. “I ordered parts, did the paper work, and managed the crew.”

Within five years he was ready to realize his dream and proceeded to have a 2,100 square-foot building erected on his land. The facility included the body shop and an office. “The first six months I worked with two employees, then hired more people,” he said. “My goal from the start was that I didn’t want to be the biggest, rather I wanted to be the best.”

That desire to create a reputation for quality work, however, did not mean the young man wasn’t interested in expanding. Over the course of time he would add several auxiliary businesses as well as expand his work force. “We grew to where at one time we had 24 employees and six businesses,” he pointed out.

The economic slowdown that occurred after the 9-11 attack in 2001 and later the Great Recession of the late 2000’s along with a desire to cut back on his work load resulted in various changes and reductions, Nelson noted. “I’ve spent a lot of time finding the right balance for this business and for me,” he said. “I’ve gotten to the age where I want to enjoy my life and have time for my family.”

As for the chronology that unfolded, Nelson noted that he

added an Auto Glass business a couple of years after his start. “We had been subbing out the work and this, at times, caused delays, so I decided we’d do the work ourselves,” he said.

About five years later a second 3,600 square-foot building was added for the purpose of doing auto repair and maintenance work. He called this new enterprise Nelson’s Mechanical. A few years later he bought some adjacent land with the goal of installing mini-storage units.

“I’d always wanted to have a mini-storage facility but didn’t have enough land when I was younger,” he said. So, Nelson’s Mini-Storage was added to the portfolio.

Soon after he added a truck accessory retail outlet and a 24-hour towing service to the list. To accommodate these various arms of the business and his larger crew, he moved part of the operation to a nearby building on South Gregory Road.

Nelson’s also expanded to Stockbridge, opening a combination truck accessory store and auto glass shop next to the local Ford dealer.

That proved the high-water mark of his growth. “After 9-11 slowed the economy down and like a lot of businesses, we did some restructuring,” he said.

Part of that downsizing was his decision to sell the auto-repair shop that was now at South Gregory Road. He also decided not to renew a lease on the Stockbridge building, ending that venture.

During the subsequent years, Nelson ended up getting the auto repair business back and returned it to the West Grand River site and expanding the number of mini-storage units a couple of times. More recently, he ended the towing service.

Through it all, he added, the collision shop has been and remains “the core business.”

“That’s my baby,” he said. “That’s what I love.”

In the interview, Scott said he enjoyed playing golf and,


“during the warm weather, play in my yard, either mowing the lawn or doing landscape work,” adding “That and family activities keep me busy away from work.”

Reflecting on his soon-to-be 30th anniversary, Scott said the business has been “a team effort.”

“All of us are doing this for a living,” he said. “We live close by and have our families to take care of. I feel stressing quality work has been and still is important. And as an owner, I’ve learned you need to adapt. The big thing, though, is our customers. Repeat customers are what keep us in business. We appreciate that. We don’t regard them as just numbers, but as our friends and neighbors. We try to do our best to take care of them when they come to us.”

* * *

Kim works at Fowlerville Smith Elementary, along with helping at the business. Racquel is currently a freshman at Lansing Community College.



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Pastor Tom Tarpley

The Most Important Thing

When I accepted Christ as my Savior, it became my responsibility to warn others about what will happen to them if they do not repent and believe in the Lord Jesus.

This was a responsibility I rejected for many years because I felt inadequate and unqualified to teach on something I didn't fully understand. Trying to interpret the scriptures and share with others as to what the scripture says and means has always been difficult and hard for me. I always felt intimidated and afraid to speak up when my friends and colleagues would bring up the subject of Bible interpretation.

Not too long ago I came across a teaching on Revelation chapter eleven, where it talks about "The Two Witnesses." It

has been my understanding that "The Two Witnesses" were two individual men. In this study the leader says that "The Two Witnesses" are symbolic for "Two Nations of Believers," Jews and Gentiles. He gives several compelling arguments and examples for believing the way he does, and I must admit that I see much merit in what he says. Does that mean it's true? Not at all. What it means is that as long as there are people on the earth and as long as we continue to study the writings of scripture, there is going to be new theories as to what the scriptures means to us in this day and age.

The wisdom of God contained in the scriptures is written down for our benefit. There is really no reason for anyone, at least in America, not to be informed about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We have more opportunities to gain access to the Word than at any other time in history. Almost any translation, commentary, dictionary, and concordance is available to us in Libraries, on the Internet, and Christian bookstores. We have bible apps for our cellphones, tablets and iPads. We can download almost any subject found in scripture and get several different views from qualified biblical scholars. There is really no good reason for anyone to be ignorant about the scriptures.

I get several different devotions emailed or texted to me on a daily basis. So many in fact that I don't have time to read all of them. But one I read recently started me to thinking

I find myself doing something else that only requires the participation of the body and not the Spirit.

As a Christian, I have been called to stand out and be separate from the world. I am supposed to be representing Christ and, therefore, everything I do should reflect that I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and I am living my life according to what Jesus taught, and in the same way that He lived. That means I have to be continually focused on the will of my heavenly Father. I cannot afford to let the cravings of a sinful human mind and body deter me from my responsibility to share what I know about Jesus and the consequences for those who do not accept Him.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matt. 28:18-20) These were the marching orders, better known as the Great Commission," that Jesus gave His disciples before ascending up to heaven. The Great Commission was not just for the immediate disciples but it is given to all believers. That includes you and me if you're a Christian.

Jesus was a human being, just as we are. He was tempted and subjected to all the things we face today. But he never flinched. He always remained faithful to His mission. He rebuked the devil and resisted the temptation to sin. He loved the unlovable, healed those who were sick, made the lame walk, and raised Lazarus from the dead. Everything He did, He did by faith. Faith in God who has unlimited power and who rewards all those who are faithful and love Him. Jesus was faithful. Jesus loved His Father and kept His eyes on Him. We are called to do the same thing. To Love God with all of our heart, with all of our minds, and with all of our strength. This is the only way we will be able to serve God in the way He requires us to serve Him. By giving Him our all. By surrendering our will to His Heavenly Will. We cannot have it both ways.

If we are going to serve God, we must do it with all that is in us. We must turn away from what the world deems as important and set our sights on a higher goal in life.

We rationalize that being comfortable and living a good life are important. We strive to achieve certain things that give us pleasure, and we spend a countless number of hours on the trivial things in life while neglecting the things that really matter.

We spend a lot of time satisfying our flesh, but how much time do we spend increasing our knowledge of the scriptures and following in the footsteps of Jesus?

The most important thing we can do in life is to imitate Christ. How are you doing?

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Donate to Decorate Sign-up is open!

This fundraiser will help support library services for children and teens.

Two sizes of holiday trees will be available to be decorated with your own favorite book-themed decorations! The trees will be trimmed in time for Christmas in the Ville and remain outside the library for the community to enjoy until New Year's Day. *For a list of guidelines, donation requests, and how to participate, contact the library starting November 1st. Number of trees are limited, so hurry in to sign up! Decorating will take place November 16th-30th during regular library hours.

Food for Fines - November 1st-December 14th

This food drive benefits the Family Impact Center. Each item donated equals \$1 in fines removed from your account, up to \$5. Donations are always welcome, even if you do not owe fines!

Toys for Tots Collection - November 24th-December 14th

We are collecting toys for children and teens. Please bring your new, unwrapped toy to donate and drop it in our Toys for Tots box.

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.

Yoga with Erin - Fridays at 9:30am

Adults. Join Erin, co-owner of *SoulShine Yoga*, and your host, Ms. Beth, 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.

Book Sale - Saturday, December 1st at 10:00am to 1:00pm

This book sale will take place inside the library in one of our storage areas. There will be signs to direct you once you get inside. We've already had many generous book donations since our last sale, so come check out the fresh selection!

Stained Glass Class - Thursday, December 6th at 2-4pm OR 7-9pm

Adults. No experience required for this hands-on workshop! Learn the ins and outs of stained glass crafting and create your own stained glass star ornament to take home. Program is open to those who have **not** previously attended a stained glass workshop at the library. *Special time and class size. 8 participants per class. Register in person to participate. Registration begins November 15th and includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit. **Registration for the 7-9pm class is now full.**

Teen Holiday Party - Friday, December 7th at 5-8pm

Teens 6th-12th grades. Bring your friends for some holiday fun at the library! Make a cool craft and watch a holiday movie. Pizza and a beverage will be served. *Registration is required and includes a 2018-2019 signed Program Permission Form. Registration begins November 16th. Register by December 5th to attend.

Reading with Reindeer - Wednesday, December 12th at 5:30-6:30pm

Families. Welcome *Rooftop Landing* to the Fowlerville District Library! Indoors we will read and have parent-child stations. Outdoors we will visit and pet reindeer! *Space is limited. Register in person to attend. Registration begins November 28th.



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St. Joseph Mercy Livingston celebrates 90th anniversary

Only full-service hospital in the county has long history

St. Joseph Mercy Livingston hospital, located in Howell, is marking its 90th anniversary with colleague and community events to take place in the coming months.

“Ninety years have passed, and our dedication to the Livingston County community still thrives thanks to our leaders, caregivers and volunteers,” said John O’Malley, president of St. Joseph Mercy Livingston and Brighton. “Our history as a pioneering health care provider that responds to evolving needs is a testament to our Mission to be a compassionate and transforming healing presence to those we serve, and I thank the community for entrusting their care to us.”

The hospital’s healing ministry began in 1928, with a generous donation from one of Howell’s most prominent families – the McPherson family – that allowed the city to convert a three-story home into a community hospital. Until then, people were typically treated in their homes while a growing number of travelers were treated in the only place suitable – the Livingston County Jail.

By the 1950s, the hospital was over capacity, and The Hospital Authority – a nonprofit organization formed to raise funds and construct a new facility – purchased 10 acres of land on Byron Road for \$10,000 from the McPherson family. The McPherson Community Health Center opened in 1958, and became the first hospital in the state to staff both medical and osteopathic physicians. The hospital’s pioneering spirit was also evident in its foray into “progressive patient care.” McPherson was the first hospital in the country to fully implement the phases of intensive, continuing, intermediate, self, outpatient and home care.

By the late 1980s, the hospital board of trustees decided to pursue an affiliation with a health system to ensure continued success and access to more diverse health services. In 1988, McPherson Hospital merged with Catherine McAuley Health Center in Ann Arbor, which was founded in 1911 by a group of women who belonged to the Sisters of Mercy, and would later change its name to St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor.

Today, St. Joe’s Livingston remains the county’s only full-service hospital, and together with St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland and St. Mary Mercy Livonia, comprises Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, a member of Trinity Health.

CONTINUED GROWTH IN THE COMMUNITY

Over the last 15 years, St. Joe’s Livingston has undergone multiple extensive renovations and expansions to meet the evolving needs of the times and the area’s growing population, including a 2004 renewal campaign which funded the Cancer Center addition to St. Joe’s Brighton.

The two-year Transformation Livingston project, launched in 2015, invested \$41.1 million into numerous care delivery and facility enhancements at St. Joe’s Livingston and Brighton. The capital project funded the construction of a new state-of-the-art surgical suite at St. Joe’s Livingston, and the addition of a da Vinci robotic system that enabled minimally-invasive advanced general surgery, hernia surgery, bariatric surgery, gynecological, colon and urological procedures.

St. Joe’s Livingston also opened a new Sleep Disorders Center, Michigan Bariatric Institute clinic, a renovated Probiotic Physical Therapy clinic and a new café, marketplace and gift shop as part of the transformation campaign.

Across town, St. Joe’s Brighton opened the state’s first short stay center in 2017, which provides overnight stays for patients who don’t require inpatient hospital admission.

And in early 2018, the health center celebrated the opening of its comprehensive breast imaging center, making advanced imaging services, including 3D screening and diagnostic mammography, locally available.

DEDICATION TO EXCELLENCE

With an award-winning 24-hour emergency department that sees more than 47,000 visits a year, a state-of-the-art operating suite equipped for advanced surgical procedures, a wide array of diagnostic and outpatient services, and a medical staff of nearly 500 physicians, St. Joe’s Livingston continues to be recognized for its dedication to patient safety, quality and excellence.

In 2017, St. Joseph Mercy Livingston was named to Truven’s elite list of Everest Award winners for achieving the highest levels of sustained performance over five years.

The hospital was also one of just eight Michigan hospitals in 2017 to receive the Economic Alliance for Michigan (EAM) Hospital Patient Safety Award, for consistently receiving high marks in patient safety and quality of care. It was recognized again in 2018 with the EAM Improvement Award.

“We moved to the Livingston community in the 1970s and raised two boys here—between stitches, broken arms and surgeries, we definitely have been frequent users of the hospital over the years,” said Rich Perlberg, former general manager of The Livingston Daily, and previous

board member and chair of St. Joseph Mercy Livingston and Ann Arbor hospitals.

“The value of having a high quality hospital in the neighborhood is enormous. St. Joe’s has been an anchor in our local community, serving as a large employer and supporter of community events. The hospital is such an asset with its world class cancer center, robotic surgery, telemedicine, and continued push to keep bringing more services and physicians to the local area.”



St. Joseph Mercy Livingston hospital, located in Howell,

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Savvy Senior Column

By Jim Miller

What You’ll Pay for Medicare in 2019

Dear Savvy Senior,

I know there will be a small 2.8 percent cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits next year but what about Medicare? What will our Medicare Part B monthly premiums and other Medicare costs be in 2019?

Curious Jim

Dear Jim,

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently announced their cost adjustments for 2019, and you’ll be happy to know that the standard Medicare Part B monthly premium for most beneficiaries starting in January will be \$135.50, a modest increase of just \$1.50 per month over 2018’s standard premium.

There are, however, a small group of Medicare beneficiaries (about 2 million people) who will actually pay less than \$135.50 because the 2.8 percent cost-of-living increase in their Social Security checks will not be large enough to cover the full premium increase. Thanks to the Social Security Act’s “hold harmless” provision, Medicare cannot pass along premium increases greater than the dollar increase in their Social Security checks.

In addition, there are also a small group of high-income beneficiaries (about 3 million people) that will pay higher Part B premiums because their income is above \$85,000 as a single, or \$170,000 as a married couple filing jointly.

Medicare uses modified adjusted gross income from your tax return from two years ago to determine your premiums, which means that 2019 Part B premiums are determined by 2017 income.

So, if your income was \$85,001 to \$107,000 (or \$170,001 to \$214,000 if filing jointly), your monthly premium will increase from \$187.50 to \$189.60. Monthly premiums for singles with an income of \$107,001 to \$133,500 (joint filers with income of \$214,001 to \$267,000) will rise from \$267.90 to \$270.90. And premiums for singles earning \$133,501 to \$160,000 (\$267,001 to \$320,000 for joint filers) will increase from \$348.30 to \$352.20.

If you had higher income than that, your monthly premium for 2018 was \$428.60. In 2019, there will be an extra surcharge tier for people with the highest income.

If your income is between \$160,001 and \$499,999 (\$320,001 to \$749,999 for joint filers), you’ll pay \$433.40 per month. Single filers with income of \$500,000 or more (\$750,000 or more for joint filers) will pay \$460.50 per month.

If you fall into any of these high-income categories and you’ve experienced certain life-changing events that have reduced your income since 2017, such as retirement, divorce or the death of a spouse, you can contest the surcharge. For more information about contesting or reducing the high-income surcharge, see “Medicare Premiums: Rules for Higher-Income Beneficiaries” at [SSA.gov/pubs/EN-05-10536.pdf](https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10536.pdf).

In addition to the Part B premium increases, the annual deductible for Medicare Part B, which covers physician services and other outpatient services, will see a mild bump from \$183 to \$185 in 2019. The deductible for Medicare Part A, which covers hospital services, will increase from \$1,340 in 2018 to \$1,364 in 2019.

For more information on all the Medicare costs for 2019 visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) and click on “Find out how much Medicare costs in 2019,” or call 800-633-4227.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](https://www.SavvySenior.org). Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.

Does state impose unconstitutional fees on criminal defendants?

State Supreme Court to rule on fees in criminal cases
By Tyler Arnold

The Michigan Supreme Court heard oral arguments last week in a case that could decide whether imposing certain court costs on individuals found guilty of crimes is constitutional.

In the case, People v. Shawn Loveto Cameron Jr., the defendant claims that the court costs he was ordered to pay were not authorized by the Legislature. This means that the court violated the separation of powers between the legislative and judicial branch.

Cameron’s attorney argues that the costs amounted to a tax, rather than a fee. But the judicial branch does not have the authority on its own to impose such a levy. Rather, only the Legislature does.

In the June 2014 case of People v. Cunningham, the Michigan Supreme Court decided that courts could apply costs to those found guilty of a crime if the costs are expressly authorized by the Legislature. In October of the same year, state lawmakers amended the law to allow courts to impose costs that are “reasonably related” to certain costs of prosecution. (A 2017 law extended the sunset on those provisions to 2020.) Cameron’s attorney argues that the change allowed courts to retroactively impose costs that were not expressly authorized by the Legislature.

Cameron was found guilty of assault charges in 2014 and ordered to pay \$1,611 in court costs in addition to serving time in jail. He challenged the sentence of court costs to the Michigan Court of Appeals, which ruled against him. The Michigan Supreme Court decided to hear the case.

“The legal issues go to whether the cost is categorized as a fee or a tax and, if it is a tax, whether it is an unconstitutional tax,” Kahryn Riley, director of criminal justice reform at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, said.

“A fee must be voluntary, proportionate and not for the purpose of generating revenue,” Riley added. “Assigning costs to a criminal defendant seems to fail each of these three criteria. Costs aren’t voluntary because the defendant isn’t asking to be prosecuted for his own benefit. They’re not proportionate because defendants pay the same amount of money regardless of whether their trial took a full jury two weeks, or never saw the inside of a courtroom. And costs do seem to generate revenue for the courts.”

According to The Oakland Press, Michigan’s courts have collected \$38 million statewide from individuals found guilty of crimes. Riley said that in 2015 and 2016, circuit courts charged defendants in about 33,000 cases. But they collected in just 24 percent of those cases in 2015 and 33 percent of them in 2016. District courts collected in 70 percent of cases in 2015 and 85 percent in 2016.

In addition to questioning the practice on legal founds, Riley criticized the practice as bad public policy, as did the District Judges Association.

“Saddling defendants with criminal justice debt is bad for public safety because it is discoverable on background checks, making it difficult to find employment and harder to get back on track,” Riley said. “This can create a vicious cycle of reoffending and incarceration that creates massive social and financial costs.”

In an amicus brief, the District Judges Association said that the practice provides incentives for judges to find defendants guilty in order to collect revenue.

“Because the statute only affords the courts a portion

Michigan DNR Fishing Tips—

Will you be targeting steelhead?

While many people are preparing to head into the woods for the next several weeks, others are taking advantage of another activity: fall steelhead fishing.

There are two great strategies to try when targeting steelhead this month, surf fishing the piers and beaches of the Great Lakes and/or river fishing.

If you choose to target the Great Lakes, consider using a slip sinker rig and live bait, such as spawn bags, night crawlers or shiners. You can also try casting small spoons, spinners or body baits with great success. Focus on depths of 12 feet or less as steelhead are hanging in the shallows looking for food.

If you choose to target the rivers, consider using wigglers, caddis or wax worms drifted under a slip bobber. The depth below the bobber should be set to present the bait just off the river bottom. Anglers can also be successful this time of year casting spinners and medium diving crank baits into holes or other holding water that provides steelhead with some depth for cover. The retrieve should be as slow as possible to get the lure down to the bottom without snagging up. Many anglers like a downstream cast for these techniques. For anglers looking for an added challenge, they can also use fly fishing techniques and see some great results!

of revenue if the court convicts a defendant, the court will have a direct incentive to find as many defendants guilty as possible,” the brief states. “This will be the only way for judges to alleviate the relentless pressure they are under from their municipalities to raise more revenue.”

This article appeared in Michigan Capitol Confidential, a nonprofit news service published by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

Fowlerville Fire Department Report

Thursday, November 15th, at 1:37 a.m. personnel responded to Bradley Road in Iosco Township to assist at a medical emergency and assisted at a car vs: pedestrian accident on Grand River Ave. in the Village at 5:23 p.m. A motor vehicle accident with injuries was reported on I-96 in Handy Township at 7:11 p.m. The department was dispatched to a medical emergency on Free Street in the Village at 9:58 p.m. and at 10:08 p.m. assisted EMS on Layton Road in Handy Township. At 10:19 p.m. personnel responded to a medical emergency on Frank Street in the Village and at 10:44 p.m. were called to assist the ambulance on Converse Road in Handy Township.

Firefighters were called for a gasoline spill resulting from a rollover vehicle accident on Owosso Road in Conway Township Friday, November 16th, at 3:20 p.m. The department was dispatched to a medical emergency on Pinegate Drive in the Village at 4:34 p.m.

Sunday, November 18th, at 12:50 a.m. firefighters investigated a smoke alarm activation in a residence on Meadowview Lane in the Village. Personnel assisted EMS on Fowlerville Road in Conway Township at 7:04 a.m. and responded to a medical emergency on Layton Road in Handy Township at 9:49 a.m. A dispatch to a medical emergency on Dutton Road in Iosco Township was received at 5:26 p.m.

The department was called to a medical emergency on Meadowview Lane in the Village at 11:56 a.m., Monday, November 19th. A second medical emergency, on Damman Road in Handy Township was reported at 3:03 p.m. and at 7:17 p.m. personnel assisted at a medical emergency on Bull Run Road in Iosco Township.

Tuesday, November 20th, at 3:28 p.m. firefighters were called to a medical emergency on Renee Court in Handy Township and returned to Renee Court at 1:35 p.m. for another medical emergency.

Livingston County Salvation Army Red Kettles: Helping those in need

The traditional sound of bells ringing at The Livingston County Salvation Army Red Kettles are as much a part of the holiday season as snow on Christmas, midnight church services and presents under the tree.

The Salvation Army Red Kettle season is one of The Salvation Army’s largest fundraising events that bring in almost a third of the Livingston County Corps annual budget. Money raised during the campaign helps the Army serve thousands in need each year in Livingston County through a wide array of programs including mentoring and education for kids, shelter for the homeless, energy assistance for the elderly and food for the hungry.

The Salvation Army of Livingston County will once again have bell ringers at Red Kettles all over Livingston County. Why so late we have been ask. Due to national agreements and volunteer fatigue, a decision was made to hold off putting kettles out until the day after Thanksgiving, which means they are going out two weeks later than they have in the past. We know that our volunteers and donors will appreciate this; however now is the time that we need you! Individuals, organizations, families, and corporations will be able to schedule a date right online 24/7. We are encouraging ringers to start now and plan the rest of their holiday season around bell ringing!

“With the goal of \$385,000 and 11 less days of bell ringing we really need volunteers to help us ring.” Says Major Prezza Morrison “An unmanned kettle is an empty kettle. This is why it is so vitally important that we have all of our Red Kettles manned at all times! If everyone took just a 2 hour shift and every organization took 1 location for an entire day, we could accomplish this.”

Anyone interested in volunteering to bell ring may sign up online, www.SalvationArmyLivingston.org. Organizations wishing to take an entire day of bell ringing at one or several locations should contact Darlene Howard directly at 517-295-4347 or Darlene_Howard@Usc.SalvationArmy.org

Donations accepted via mail The Salvation Army P.O. Box 647 Howell, MI 48844, online or text GiveLC to 41444 |visit our website for more information www.salvationarmylivingston.org

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206 E. Grand River - Fowlerville



With Michigan at a crossroads, here's a roadmap for Lansing

By Eric Scorsone

The Michigan and national economies have been growing for over a decade now, though state and local government finances are still recovering from the Great Recession. Michigan's next governor and legislature must act now on the biggest challenges facing the state, while the economic wind is at the state's back.

To help inform policy discussions about these challenges, this month the Center for Local Government Finance and Policy, which is part of Michigan State University Extension, is introducing a series of white papers on its Michigan at a Crossroads website (www.canr.msu.edu/michiganpolicyguide/). Michigan at a Crossroads is supported in part by funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

The white papers are written by experts who cover topics such as the state economy and taxes, future challenges for the state budget, Great Lakes management and use, municipal water quality, demographics and workforce development, and local government finances. Video interviews with the authors accompany the white papers.

Michigan has faced both economic turmoil and economic renewal in the past two decades. The 2000s started with the so-called one-state recession, which ended in 2008-09 when

Beware of scammers pretending to be from Social Security

By Vonda Vantil

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

In the digital age, frauds and scams are an unfortunate part of doing business online. During the holiday season, Social Security has traditionally seen a spike in phishing scams, and we want to protect you as best we can.

We urge you to always be cautious and to avoid providing sensitive information such as your Social Security Number (SSN) or bank account information to unknown individuals over the phone or internet. If you receive a call and aren't expecting one, you must be extra careful. You can always get the caller's information, hang up, and — if you do need more clarification — contact the official phone number of the business or agency that the caller claims to represent. Never reveal personal data to a stranger who called you.

Please take note; there's a scam going around right now. You might receive a call from someone claiming to be from Social Security or another agency. Calls can even display the 1-800-772-1213, Social Security's national customer service number, as the incoming number on your caller ID. In some cases, the caller states that Social Security does not have all of your personal information, such as your Social Security number (SSN), on file. Other callers claim Social Security needs additional information so the agency can increase your benefit payment, or that Social Security will terminate your benefits if they do not confirm your information. This appears to be a widespread issue, as reports have come from people across the country. These calls are not from Social Security.

Callers sometimes state that your Social Security number is at risk of being deactivated or deleted. The caller then asks you to provide a phone number to resolve the issue. People should be aware the scheme's details may vary; however, you should avoid engaging with the caller or calling the number provided, as the caller might attempt to acquire personal information.

Social Security employees occasionally contact people by telephone for customer-service purposes. In only a few special situations, such as when you have business pending with us, a Social Security employee may request the person confirm personal information over the phone.

Social Security employees will never threaten you or promise a Social Security benefit approval or increase in exchange for information. In those cases, the call is fraudulent, and you should just hang up. If you receive these calls, please report the information to the Office of the Inspector General at 1-800-269-0271 or online at oig.ssa.gov/report.

Remember, only call official phone numbers and use secured websites of the agencies and businesses you know are correct. Protecting your information is an important part of Social Security's mission to secure today and tomorrow.

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

the state joined the nation in its worst period of economic decline since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

During that period, the state's largest corporation, General Motors, and largest city, Detroit, filed for bankruptcy protection and faced truly calamitous outcomes, while the state government faced a cash crisis. Nearly a decade later, Michigan's economy looks quite different in many ways.

Today, many of the jobs lost in the first decade of the 2000s have been replaced, the auto industry has been on a strong run since 2009, Detroit is on its way to becoming a vibrant and growing city once again. State government has begun addressing decades' of legacy cost liabilities and has rebuilt its reserve and cash funds.

However, underlying structural problems remain. The Flint water crisis is only a symptom of the much larger water quality crisis that is brewing in the state. Michigan's overall infrastructure remains a critical challenge, we still have serious social problems, and the economic recovery has yet to reach far too many households.

I encourage you to read all of the white papers in the Michigan at a Crossroads series, starting with "Michigan's Post-Recession Spending," by Sara Wycoff McCauley, see accompanying article. This important paper discusses the state budget, which has increased by almost \$6 billion (not including federal funds) since 2011.

Sharply differing proposals and counterproposals for addressing these and other challenges have come from both sides of the political aisle. What I hope we can agree on is the extent and nature of the problems we face, so that our next governor and state legislature can take the steps needed to address these critical issues.

Eric Scorsone is associate professor and director of the Extension Center for Local Government Finance and Policy at Michigan State University.

This article appeared in Bridge Magazine, an online publication.

Michigan's Post-Recession Spending

By Sara Wycoff McCauley

Strategic Policy Consultants

Leaders throughout Michigan are heralding its status as the "Comeback State", citing better than projected private-sector job growth, increased per-capita income and an unemployment rate that is the lowest the state has seen in more than a decade. This is a far different position than the state found itself in during fiscal year 2010-11.

Coming off a national recession largely precipitated by the burst of the housing bubble and a lack of available credit for businesses, the Michigan economy was in a perilous condition. In October of 2010, the unemployment rate was 12.8%. The labor force was shrinking. Michigan housing values had fallen, on average, by 20% across the state. Michigan's average median household income fell to just over \$45,000 in 2010, 4% below pre-recession levels. Jobs were scarce and the state's poverty rate was climbing, topping out at 17.5% in 2011.

As one might expect, the beleaguered economy had a substantial impact on the state's budget. Decreased revenues resulted in cuts to state spending of more than \$3 billion from FY 2009 to FY 2011.5 As a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), federal spending in the Michigan budget grew during that time. Increased federal funds were provided in an effort to meet the increased demand for social support programs and spur economic growth. However, increased funding that resulted from ARRA was temporary and targeted at specific social programs and economic stimulus strategies, rather than supplanting lost revenue.

Over the past 8 years, the state's economy has seen significant improvements. Policymakers have enjoyed rebounding revenues and, as a result, have made sizable increases in state appropriations. While the increases have not been equally disbursed across the state budget, most departments have seen meaningful increases, many nearing pre-recession levels of state spending.

Even with these increases, there remain significant concerns regarding funding for key public policy priorities in the state. Issues that often receive attention, as it relates to funding needs, include public infrastructure, outstanding debts at all levels of government, K-12 education, higher education, and numerous social safety net programs. This list is not exhaustive but demonstrates the broad scope of perceived or demonstrated funding needs.

As the state moves rapidly toward fall elections for both legislative and executive branches, opposing parties are advancing competing narratives about the state's budget. Many of those aligned on the political left claim there has been a significant and damaging disinvestment in state government. Meanwhile, many on the political right claim that the improved economy is producing growing revenue, which is not needed by the state and should be returned to taxpayers. This paper will examine these claims and show that neither is one hundred percent accurate.

Whether the current claims are a byproduct of political rhetoric or genuine policy disagreement is unclear. However, what remains clear is that regardless of who wins, the next Governor and Legislature will be faced with some difficult financial decisions. This paper is intended to help inform those decisions and provide needed context for incoming state officials as they navigate the critical tasks of developing, debating and passing the state's budget.



Healthy food access is still a need for Michigan families

By Mariam Noland

Of the 1.5 million people in Michigan who struggle with hunger, nearly 400,000 are children. The toll that food insecurity takes on families - especially those with children and seniors - is acute, particularly for those who rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

SNAP, one of the most effective and efficient federal programs, provides low-income families money to purchase food, and has historically received bipartisan support. In fact, 45 million families in the United States rely on SNAP benefits, and two thirds of those benefits go to families with children. In our state of abundance, one in six Michiganders struggle with hunger each year.

Luckily, here in Michigan, there are organizations that work every day to make sure more children and seniors get the healthy food they need. Children who lack adequate nutrients are more likely to experience developmental delays, learning difficulties and lower educational attainment. For seniors, food insecurity complicates already-present diseases and limits their ability to complete basic daily activities.

Healthy Food Connect, a 2016-2018 initiative of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, has helped organizations like Elder Law of Michigan, Fair Food Network, Gleaners Community Food Bank and Forgotten Harvest, among others, to provide healthy, fresh food to more children and seniors.

By providing programming and investments that allowed organizations to purchase new food trucks, build community gardens at senior living facilities, transport students from rural and urban communities to farmers markets, and support a host of other projects, Healthy Food Connect grantees reached more than 15,000 children and seniors. They also served nearly 130,000 meals and transported 4,000 people to healthy food access sites. Many of these programs have been able to continue or expand even after the initial grant period ended.

In Temperance, when medical professionals at the Family Medical Center of Michigan realized that their patients' health was being compromised by a lack of access to healthy food, MCOP came in and built a "food pharmacy" inside the health center. This "pharmacy" stocks vegetables, fruit, protein and grains, and is now receiving 75-85 visits each week. In total, more than 1,500 children and seniors benefitted from the program during the lifecycle of the Healthy Food Connect initiative.

Through this initiative, we were able to see what works. In partnership with the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, we invested in innovative solutions. We now call on fellow funders and partners to come together and scale these successful efforts. The need in our state demands it.

And there is more that our citizens can do to support our neighbors. We encourage you to engage with organizations that work to promote food security in your community. Lend a hand at incredible local pantries; serve meals as food shelters and soup kitchens; and ensure our neighbors have access to adequate, affordable and nutritious food in southeast Michigan and across our great state.

No person should have to go hungry on a nightly basis. This fall, let's remember the children and seniors that struggle to eat and find a way to protect our most vulnerable neighbors.

To find an organization to volunteer or partner with, see the full list of Healthy Food Connect grantees at HealthyFoodConnect.org.

Mariam Noland is president of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

This article appeared in Bridge Magazine, an online publication.

Williamston Area

Senior Center

201 School Street - 517-655-5173

DECEMBER 2018 EVENTS

3rd Annual Charity Chili Challenge – Wednesday, December 12, 2018 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Old Nation Brewing 1500 W. Grand River, Williamston, Michigan. Old Nation Brewing is the winner of our first two Chili Challenge now the competition is between their five great cooks. Cost: \$8.00 for one large bowl or \$11.00 for a flight of 5 small bowls. Please come and support your Williamston Area Senior Center.

Monday, December 3, 2018 *Cookies with Santa* at the Williamston Area Library.

Tuesday, December 4, 2018 participate with “*Joy and Sadness during the Holiday*” *A Guided Meditation* with Vicki Potter. This is a half-hour meditation to reflect upon and embrace the feelings of joy and sadness that you experience during the holiday season

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 non-perishable 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 –

--**Thursday, December 6, 2018** have your blood pressure check by *Willows of Okemos*;

--**Wednesday, December 12, 2018** the Williamston Area Library will conduct *Mind Games for Seniors*; On

--**Wednesday, December 5, 2018** a presentation on *Living Safely at Home*,

--**Wednesday, December 12, 2018** the *Williamston High School PALS and Choir* will perform Christmas Carols for the Williamston Seniors,

--**Thursday, December 13, 2018** the elementary children from the *Memorial Lutheran School* will also sing Christmas Carols for our Seniors,

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

--**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, Thursday and Friday 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.

Webberville School News

Webberville Middle and High School will hold a Parent Informational Meeting on Monday, November 26 at 6:00 PM in the high school library.

The Webberville Music Programs invite you to the following December performances:

--Webberville Elementary Holiday Concert. Wednesday, December 5, 6:00 PM in the Webberville Middle School Gym.

--Webberville Middle and High School Choirs Holiday Concert. Monday, December 10, 7:00 PM in the Webberville Middle and High School Cafetorium.

--Webberville Middle and High School Bands Holiday Concert. Wednesday, December 12, 7:00 PM in the Webberville Middle School Gym.

Friends of Webberville Library holding Gloves, Mittens, Hats & Scarves Drive

The Friends of the Webberville Library is sponsoring their annual Children's Gloves, Mittens, Hats and Scarves Drive from now until Dec. 10. All donations will be given to the Webberville Area Food and Clothing Bank.

You may bring your new items to the library during the following times: Monday 1 to 6 p.m., Tuesday or Thursday 2 to 8 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 2 to 6 p.m. or Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Your donations will help some Webberville area children stay warm through this winter.

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. Registration is required. To register call: The Williamston Community Programming Office at 517-655-7510 3939 Vanneter Rd. Williamston, MI. (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 to 3:00 pm.

On any 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.

NOTICE TO HANDY TOWNSHIP VOTERS PRECINCT 2, VILLAGE OF FOWLerville

WE HAVE LOCATED THE HEARING AID THAT WAS LOST BY A VOTER. PLEASE CONTACT THE HANDY TOWNSHIP CLERK IF THIS HEARING AID BELONGS TO YOU. 517-223-3228 MON., WED., THURS. FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

Laura A. Eisele
Handy Township Clerk
(11-18 & 11-25-2018 FNV)



**7th Annual
New Year's Eve
Party**

**“Rockin’ In the
New Year”**

December 31, 2018

Happy Hour 7:00 – 7:30 pm

Dinner 7:30 – 8:15 pm

Live Music by The Sea Cruisers

**Includes party favors, snacks, dinner,
dancing, cash bar and fun!**

Tickets: \$30 per person

**Call Jerry Corbat at 517-474-2002 or
Eugene Gierlach at 517-294-2605
for tickets or more info**

St. Agnes Catholic Church

855 E. Grand River Ave., Fowlerville, MI 48836

Sponsored by:

Knights of Columbus, Fowlerville Council 8605



Ladies Night Out was held last Thursday at various businesses around Fowlerville



Despite the wintry weather, Ladies Night Out in Fowlerville last Thursday, November 15th was well attended. Shown here at Uptown Alure are, from left, Kallie Mead of Uptown Alure, Jordan Fuller of Daisy Jo Designs and Maureen O'Hare of Fowlerville. Also featured was art by Ellen Diaz Décor.



KW Realty hosted a couple vendors. From left, Stacey Fafinski of Wine Shop at Home; Kelly Vogel of Charlie K Design; Jenny Collins of KW and her grandson Trae Millbocker; Lori Killen of KW and Jim Lasota of Huron Valley Financial.



Several vendors were at Maximus Fitness including Scentsy who sells warming lamps, wax warmers and 80 different Scentsy Buddies. Pictured here are, from left, Maggie Jacobs, Loretta Benjamin, Cassity Benjamin and Holly Brown, owner of Maximus Fitness.



Also at Maximus Fitness was Matilda Jane Clothing and Wild Tree Spices. From left were Korinna Waters and vendor Michelle Spisz.



White Barn is all decked out for Christmas. Pictured here, from left, were Nancy Forster and Kate Marotta both of Fowlerville and owner Ashley Van Gilder.



Twisted Sugar was one of the vendors at White Barn. Shown here in back is owner Trish Adams and, from Fowlerville, residents Emily Lane, Kennedy Lane and Jenny Williams.



These gals were first time visitors to White Barn and enjoyed looking at all the beautiful décor. From left, Cola Miles and Darlene Huck.



Harmon Real Estate hosted several vendors. From left, Tammy Adams of Magnolia Vine, Michelle Sladick of Color Street Nails, Jane Mills and Lauren Mitter of Do Terra Essential Oils.



Kodet's Hardware served refreshments and Bonnie Barnard of Fowlerville Chiropractic Center gave chair massages. Pictured here in back, from left, were Jimmy Kodet, Jeff Kodet owner, and, in front, Denise Brown, Ellen Gates and Mary Burnie.



Ladies Night Out Gift Basket Winner

Winning this beautiful Ladies Night Out gift basket was Maureen O'Hare of Fowlerville at right. Presenting the basket to her was Dawn Horton on behalf of the organizing committee. The basket contained numerous items and gift certificates from area businesses.

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:

Nov 26 Return to school
Dec 11 Balfour – taking grad orders at lunch

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.

Balfour representative will be at school lunches Dec 11th to collect orders and help with measurements if needed for graduation caps and gowns. Packets were given to seniors 11/12, if your student was not here for the meeting they can pick up information in the counseling office.

Parents of seniors, reminder that senior ads for the year-books are due Dec. 1st. Please pick up a form from the office, online, or from Mrs. Hardenbrook. This is a hard deadline and space is limited.

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>.

The German Club is hosting a Gingerbread House Competition for the Junior High and High School to raise money for the 2020 Trip to Germany. The competition is open to groups, individuals, classes, clubs, and teams. Registration cost \$5. Winners will receive a 50/50 cash prize. Entries will be displayed in the high school from December 10th-14th.

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.

FHS announcements: <https://goo.gl/VxuWJC>

FHS Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FHSGlads>

FHS YouTube channel: <https://goo.gl/iaJC3H>

BIGOS
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- *Antiques
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- *Unique Gifts

Christmas Market

Dec. 1st -10 am-5 pm

11021 W. Grand River Fowlerville

(At the corner of Grand River & Stow Rd.)

Christmas Carolers!

Santa will be coming 1:15-3:30!

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2004 FORD EXPEDITION XLT SPORT, 4X4 AUTO, 3RD ROW, V8, 5.4L, 144K, POWER L/W, AC, CD, CRUISE, RUNS EXCELLENT, CLEAN	\$3999
2001 DODGE CARAVAN AUTO, 6CYL, 173K, POWER W/L, AC, CD, CRUISE, CLEAN, RUNS GREAT	\$1299
2004 FORD EXPLORER AUTO, V6, 4X4, 163K, AC, CD, CRUISE, POWER L/W, CLEAN	\$2999
2004 FORD RANGER EDGE AUTO, V6, 3.0L, POWER W/L, 200+K, CLEAN, RUNS GOOD.....	\$1499
2002 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS AUTO, V6, FWD, POWER L/W, AC, CD, CRUISE, CLEAN, 154K, RUNS GREAT	\$1999
2003 ACURA TL AUTO, V6, 3.2L, SUNROOF, 185K, AC, CD, CRUISE, CLEAN, RUNS EXCELLENT, HEATED SEATS, SUNROOF, SMOOTH RIDE.....	\$2999
2002 FORD FOCUS ZX5 AUTO, 4CYL, 159K, AC, CD, POWER L/W, RUNS GREAT, CLEAN.....	\$2250
2007 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS AUTO, 2.0L, 190K, POWER L/W, AC, CD, CRUISE, DRIVES GREAT.....	\$1999
2006 CHEVROLET COBALT LS AUTO, 4CYL, 2.2L, 2 DOOR, 167K, FRONT WHEEL DRIVE, DRIVES GREAT, CLEAN	\$1699
2005 PONTIAC VIBE 4CYL, 5 SPEED MANUAL, FRONT WHEEL DRIVE, AC, CD, CRUISE, POWER L/W, 161K, RUNS AND DRIVES GREAT, CLEAN	\$2200
2002 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF TDI AUTO, FWD, 4 CYL, DIESEL, HEATED SEATS, AC, CD, CRUISE, 40MPG HWY, 220K, POWER L/W, CLEAN, RUNS GREAT	\$2999

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2004 MITSUBISHI GALANT GTS 6CYL, AUTO, 179K, POWER L/W, AC, CD, CRUISE, DRIVES GREAT, CLEAN, DRIVES SMOOTH	\$1999
2006 CHEVROLET COBALT LS AUTO, 4CYL, 2.2L, 2 DOOR, 167K, FWD, 34MPG/HWY, RUNS, CLEAN	\$1699
2002 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LS 4X4, AUTO, 6CYL, 190K, VERY CLEAN, RUNS GREAT, POWER L/W, AC, CD	\$2499
1999 GMC SONOMA SLS EXT. CAB, AUTO, 128K, RWD, V6, POWER L/W, AC, CD, SOME RUST, RUNS GOOD	\$1299
2002 SATURN VUE MANUAL, 4CYL, FWD, 181K, POWER W/L, SUNROOF, AC, CD	\$2499
2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT AUTO, 4X4, 3RD ROW, V8, 5.3L, 163K, POWER W/L, AC, CD, HEATED SEATS, CLEAN, RUNS GREAT	\$4499
2005 HONDA CIVIC AUTO, 4CYL, 180K, POWER W/L, AC, CD, CRUISE, DRIVES EXCELLENT, CLEAN.....	\$3299
1997 SATURN SC COUPE AUTO, 4CYL, ONLY 92000 MILES, 2 DOOR, AC, DRIVES EXCELLENT, CLEAN	\$1999
2003 SATURN VUE AUTO, AWD, POWER W/L, AC, CD, CRUISE, 6CYL, 176K, RUNS GREAT	\$2799
2000 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT AUTO, 4X4, 6CYL, ONLY 98000 MILES, POWER W/L, AC, CD, CLEAN, DRIVES GREAT	\$4999
2002 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 AUTO, 4X4, V8, 194K, EXT. CAB, POWER W/L, AC, CD, CRUISE, RUNS GREAT	\$4999
1995 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 8CYL, AUTO, REG. CAB, LONG BED, 200+K, RUNS GREAT	\$1399

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Fowlerville Junior High News

IMPORTANT DATES:

Vision Screening-- Mon-Tues Nov. 26, 27th
Family Game Night-- Fri. Dec. 7th
Holiday Dance-- Fri. Dec. 14th 2-4pm
Winter Recess-- Thur Dec. 20-Jan. 1st
* * *



CSI WINNERS from 11/16/18

Gabby Wakeman, Caitlyn Larson, Riley Thomas, Jonny Shea, Wyatt Soli

* * *

YEARBOOKS ON SALE

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

* * *

BUS PASSES FOR ELEMENTARY BUSES

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.

* * *

GAME BOARD CLUB

The Cardboard Colosseum Gladiator Board Game Club at Fowlerville Junior High is hosting the 2nd annual Gladiator Family Board Game Night on Friday, December 7th at the Junior High from 3:30pm to 7:30pm. All members of the Fowlerville Community Schools family are welcome to

attend. The event is free, and board games of all different types will be available for people to play.

From old favorites like Sorry! and Trouble, to some of the new generation of strategy board games like Catan, and Ticket to Ride, as well as many others that families and individuals will be able to discover. Local businesses will be on site, with BC Comix of Howell present to help facilitate games, and provide an options for families to purchase or order some of the games they are playing.

Crepes and Games of Howell will also be helping to manage and teach games, as well as be selling mini-crepes for \$5 and bubble tea for \$2. Both BC Comix and Crepes and Games, as well as many board game publishers have donated games and other items to be raffled off with the proceeds going to help maintain the game library for the board game club. For any details or questions contact Mr. Donoghue at the Junior High at donoghuej@fowlervilleschools.org

* * *

8TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL

Both boys 8th grade teams lost their home opener against Charlotte. They played hard and kept it interesting but lost in the end. The B team lost 29-48 despite good effort and improved performance. Zachary Snyder, Jacob Chapman, Josh Rowe and Owen Browne each scored 2 points, Nick Petri and Alex Jonas added 4 points each and Jacon Yarbrough led the scoring with 13 points. The A team also fought hard but came up short, 34-49. Lucas Anderson had 1 point, Jacob Addington and Jacob Loveland each had 2, Breylin Tschirhart 4 points, Cole Jones added 5, Blake Nogafsky and Brady Hanna each added in 6 points and Ben Winiarski led the Gladiators with 8 points.

Both teams lost to Mason on Nov 12th in Mason. They played hard but were outmatched by the bulldogs. The B team lost 14-38. Alex Jonas, Nick Petri and Mason Kirby each had 2 points and Owen Brown and Jacob Yarbrough had 4 points. The A team lost 40-65. Jacob Loveland and Ben Winiarski each had 2 points for the Glads, Jacob Addington his a 3 pointer in the third quarter, Brady Hanna had 8 points and Cole Jones and Lucas Anderson led the Gladiator scoring with 9 points each.

Both teams lost on Nov. 19th versus Eaton Rapids, playing at home. They played hard but just could not finish. The B team lost 31-45, Josh Rowe had 1 point, Alex Jonas and Zachary Snyder each had 2 points each. Jacob Chapman had a 3 pointer in the first quarter, Tyler Hyden had 6 points, Mason Kirby had 8 points, and Jacob Yarbrough lead the Glads with 9 points. The A team lost 28-56, Ben Winiarski had 2 points, Owen Browne had a 3

pointer in the 4th quarter, Jacob Anderson added 7 points and Brady Hanna led the Gladiator scoring with 14 points. They will be playing again on Monday 11/26 after the holidays away in Ionia.

‘Holiday in the Park’ Grand Opening being held Dec. 7 at Howell City Park

This year Howell Area Parks & Recreation is lighting up the City Park with 12 different classic holiday movie scenes, as well as Christmas trees decorated by local families. People will be able to drive around and view everything that is on display in the park. On Friday, Dec. 7, there will be a Grand Opening from 6 to 9 p.m. where people can take pictures with Santa, write letters to the North Pole, and enjoy some hot cocoa and cookies. The cost is \$5 per vehicle.

**HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY
ON NOVEMBER 21ST
TO DOREEN CARBARY!**
*An amazing Mom,
Grandma &
Great Grandma!
Your loving
& grateful kids.*

746 S. GRAND AVE.,
FOWLERVILLE, MI 48836
(517) 715-6500

MARION TOWNSHIP

This home has one of the BEST floor plans which makes it a MUST see home! There are 4 bedrooms that include a large Master Suite, 3 1/2 baths, the open Great Room has 10' ceilings plus a gas fireplace, and the finished daylight basement offers additional space.
MLS 218110070 \$254,000

CRESTWOOD SCHOOLS

Welcome home to this move in ready 2 bedroom ranch home! Spacious family room features a full brick fireplace, the kitchen has oak cabinets & all appliances are included. Huge attic for additional storage. A fenced yard with private patio area plus a detached 2.5 car garage offers plenty of extra space.
MLS 218087821 \$100,000

DANSVILLE SCHOOLS

Here's a great opportunity for under \$120K in Ingham County. Check out this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on 1 acre with full daylight basement & over-sized 2 car garage. First floor laundry, open kitchen and dining area and decks on front & back of home. Home has beautiful landscaping. Is on a paved road & surrounded by state land.
MLS 218013053 \$117,500

FOWLERVILLE SCHOOLS

Looking for a home that is in the country but not far from town? This large 3 bedroom home has 1st floor master, wood burning fireplace in living room w/ bay window & 2 sky lights. The 3.35 acres offers space for farm animals, along with a 26x30 barn & 30x70 6-bay pole barn.
MLS 218080220 \$179,000

FOWLERVILLE SCHOOLS

CUSTOM-CUSTOM-CUSTOM!! Why build when this gorgeous home offers upgrades that include a Chef's Kitchen with stainless steel & glass backsplash, master suite with stone shower and the split floor plan is great for entertaining. Vaulted ceilings, natural gas & much more.
MLS 218106866 \$329,899

FOWLERVILLE SCHOOLS

Beautiful farm views from the front & back yard of this stick built ranch on 1 acre. This 4 bedroom home includes a generous master suite with private bath, additional full bath and is priced to sell quickly in AS-IS condition. Property has over-sized 2 plus car detached garage.
MLS 218106103 \$139,900

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Christmas
In the Ville
Presents...

Balloons Over The Ville

Meet the Pilots!

Flights will take place at 8AM and 2PM weather permitting!



"Jabberwocky"
Andrew Barnum



"Mickey's Rainbow"
Tom Bergeon



"Tomfoolery"
Tom Brown



"Hot Ziggity"
Craig Campbell



"Superfluous"
Larry Coan



"Finally Flying"
Chad Crabtree



"The Flash"
Jeremy Droscha



"Celebration"
Mark Enszer



"Bazinga!"
Darrin Fall



"Joseph's Coat"
Joey Gauthier



"Candy Corn"
Travis Gauthier



"Firefly"
Dustin Hansen



"Lumos"
Lauren Hanson



"Sugar Bear"
Tyler Jaques



"Stars Aligned"
Tamara Jett



"Reflections II"
Derrick Jones



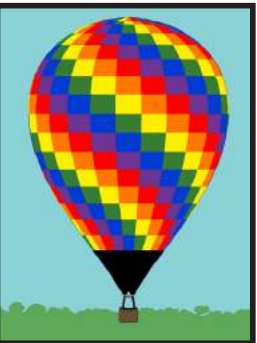
"Michigan CAT
The Rental Store"
Rick Kerber



"Horizon"
Adam Kirby



"Afterglow"
Jeff Knapp



"Rainbow Skittles"
Preston Lama



"Wanderer"
Larry Lankenau



"Jack"
Rob Lykins



"Rerun"
Mark Lytle



"Kaleidoscope"
Denny McGuire



"Autumn Splendor"
Steve Miller



"Shenanigans"
Michael Moore



"R2"
Ken Myer



"EZY RYDER"
Mike O'Brien



"Disturbance"
Earl Parker



"Storm Chaser"
Harry Perry



"Sullair"
Shawn Raya



"Mesmerized"
Eric Reeder



"Firewalker"
Pat Rolfe



"Shining Light"
Dave Seekell



"Dream Catcher 3"
Chris Smart



"Northern Lights"
Al Smith



"God's Promise"
Bill Sterner



"Rejoice II"
Mandalyn Sterner



"Red Headed Step Child"
Joey Strutz



"Lucky Max"
Chuck Walz



"Compromise"
Wayne Warren



"Two Fun"
Deanna Wennberg

Balloons Over the Ville • Saturday, December 1st



“Fore”

Mike Wennberg



“Viper”

Don Wertman II



“Seventh Heaven”

Dale Wilson



Event History

Ten years ago, as part of the expanded & renamed Fowlerville Christmas parade that had taken place since 1990, eight pilots entered a float in that parade. The float was created by strapping their baskets to several trailers and it lit up the town during a very chilly evening.

Parade director and announcer, Steve MacDermaid, knew of the float but was utterly & delightfully shocked by the absolutely incredible sight! That night at the post parade gathering, the Fowlerville Rotary Club, still amazed by what they had just seen, invited the pilots to return the next year.

Since its inception, the pilot participation has quite literally taken off! With over 40 pilots, and now two flights, it has certainly become a bucket list event for pilots and crew alike!

Cookie Walk Soup Lunch

Hot Soup Lunch \$5.00

Bowl of soup,
bread, beverage
and a cookie.

Huge variety
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Sat. Dec. 1
11 a.m.
to 2 p.m.

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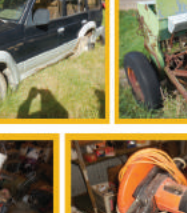
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in Fowlerville**



**THE ALL NEW
2018 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED JL SPORT 4X4**
Stk.# J72418. Granite Crystal, cloth seats, 6 speed manual, air, anti-spin axle, 3.6 V6, deep tint sunscreen windows, Sirius radio, much more.

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