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Volume XXXIII No. 50

Sunday, December 10, 2017

Published Weekly

Fowlerville celebrates Christmas in the Ville

Santa arriving in town and the holiday parade going through the downtown were two of the main events at the recent Christmas in the Ville celebration in Fowlerville. The event, held on Saturday, Dec. 3, drew several thousand participants and on-lookers.

Activities began in the morning with the Hot Air Balloonists making their launches, an arts & craft show at the Place of Refuge, followed by St. Agnes Catholic Church's 'Breakfast with St. Nicolas and the 'Soup Luncheon & Cookie Walk' at St. John's Lutheran Church. Later that afternoon saw the Pet Parade, Storybook Reading, hayrides, various special events at downtown stores, reindeer petting, the 5-K Run, a warming station at First Baptist Church the chili dinner at the Fire Hall, the chicken dinner at the First United Methodist Church, and the creation of an ice sculpture.

Occurring after the parade was a Live



Nativity at the Fowlerville United Brethren

The parade included this year's Grand Marshals, Steve and Dawn Horton, owners of the Fowlerville News & Views. Over 70 entries were in the parade, including all sorts of floats, the high school marching band, bikes, lighted trucks and machines, the hot air balloonists lighting their burners, and Santa Claus. Among the floats was this one entered by Roo's Corner Child Care, a local business.

Visiting Santa Claus prior to the evening parade were, from left, Lucas Tefft, age 9, and Blake Tefft, age 4. They are the sons of Lesley and Josh Tefft of Fowlerville.

Additional Photos are inside this issue.



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CHIPS

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMITED QUANTITIES AND CORRECT PRINTING ERRORS. SOME ITEMS NOT ALWAYS AS PICTURED.



It is with much gratitude that we take this opportunity to thank all those who made the 2017 Christmas in the Ville such a huge success!

Without the tireless efforts of the Christmas in the 'Ville committee members and the sponsorships by the following people and companies, this event would not have been the largest and most successful one we have seen in Fowlerville. From the balloons flying overhead to Santa Claus and his fantastic new sleigh finishing the parade, the day couldn't have been more perfect. We give sincere thanks to our committee members: Dawn Horton, Sherry & Ed Prevo, Nadia Freeman, Cathy Elliott, Patt Hansen, Gabi Bresett, Ken Myer, Karl Witt, Carrie Newstead, Judy Recker, Jim Mayhew, Chief John Tyler, Jeff Kodet, Mark Sutcliffe and Mary Tumbarella.

We also would like to thank all the Activity Sponsors, including: Parade Coordinators – Sherry & Ed Prevo and staging crew; Pet Parade Sponsor – Kern Road Veterinary Clinic; Christmas Market – Nadia Freeman.

Scavenger Hunt – Harmon Real Estate, Maria's School of Dance, Fowlerville Pharmacy, Sweet Sensations Homemade Chocolates, Reggie's Barber & Beauty Salon, Fowlerville Library, Shear Image, Save-On Family Foods, Coldwell Banker Town & Country Real Estate, Olden Days Cafe, Aleta's Flower Shop, Duke's Pizza Plus, Chase Bank, Grille In The Ville, First Baptist

Church, Druckers General Store, Fowlerville Police Department, Village of Fowlerville, Kodet's True Value Hardware, Farmer Development, Kate's Coin Laundry, Carpet Depot and Fowlerville News & Views.

Our beautiful Christmas Tree was provided by the Glover Family and set up by Jim Mayhew and Mayhew Tree Farm & Nursery, Karl Witt from KW, Ray Decator of VanGilder Farms, and Allan's Tree Service. Also thanks to the Village DPW staff who decorated the tree for all of us to enjoy throughout this Christmas Season.

We want to thank the Village of Fowlerville staff, the DPW employees, the Fowlerville Police Department, the Fowlerville Fire Department, and all other community volunteers who stepped up to make this a wonderful event.

Last but not least, we would like to thank the people of our community and visitors for attending the event, participating in the various activities and supporting our local businesses.

With heartfelt thanks,

Steve MacDermaid, Paul Harmon & Patti DuFore

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Smith Elementary School News

IMPORTANT DATES:

December 11 - 1st Grade Christmas Music Concert (See Below)

December 12 - 1st Grade Christmas Music Concert (See Below)

December 14-Dining to Donate @ Applebees Howell

December 11 to 15—PTC Santa Shop

December 21 thru January 2 – Winter Recess: NO SCHOOL

January 3 – School Resumes

January 10-PTC meeting 6:00pm

January 15 – School of Choice Window Reopens

January 15- NO SCHOOL

January 22 – 1st Grade Vision Screening by LCHD

January 23 – 1st Grade Vision Screening by LCHD

January 26 – School of Choice Window Closes January 26- Early Dismissal: 12:00noon

Family Impact Center Food Collection! - Smith Elementary is once again collecting food for the "Family Impact Center". They are the local food bank in Fowlerville. We will be

collecting from 11-27 to 12-19. Contact Mr. Wedesky @ 223-6460 for more information. What a wonderful teachable moment! A special surprise (sledding/hot chocolate) will be given to the top two collecting classes at each grade level!

The Elves' Impersonator - The First Graders will present their Holiday Musical, The Elves' Impersonator on Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7:00pm in the Alverson Center for Performing Arts. There will also be two daytime performances (which family members are welcome to attend) on Monday, Dec. 11th at 2:00pm, and on Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 10:00am.

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

DINING TO DONATE AT APPLEBEE'S HOWELL:

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

Fowlerville High Wrestling Team competes in M-52 Battle last week

Last Wednesday the Fowlerville High Wrestling Team traveled to Williamston to compete in the M-52 Battle. "We did not take the trophy but we fought with Gladiator pride and will improve," said Coach Dan Coon. "We wrestled Owosso first. We spotted them with 12 points to start, because of two open spots in the line-up and then walked away with the score of Fowlerville 25 Owosso 42. A couple of those matches were definitely upsets and the next time we see them the score will be different.

"After that match we wrestle a short-handed Dansville team and once again we lost a couple of upsetting matches but we ran away with a score of Fowlerville 63 Dansville 12," Coon noted.

Undefeated Individual performances of the night were: 130 Wyatt Daniel, 145 Evan Kennedy, 171 Tom Salois 2 pins, 215 Hunter Wilson, and 285 Caleb Medina. Those going 1-1 were 103 Jordan Devota, 125 Brendon Bickley, 152 Nathan Gendron, 160 Zach Davis, 189 Jack Brady.

The JV winners were Noah Salois 2 wins and Joe Aeschliman with pin.

Tryouts are still open for one more week to fill the two open spots on the team, said Coon. "Wimps need not apply."

The team's next battle was this past Saturday, Dec. 9, at Warren Lincoln.

Howell Choirs to perform holiday concert at The Opera House on Dec. 18

Enjoy holiday classics and new favorites performed by the Howell High School "Highlander Chorale," accompanied by "Ladies First" from Parker Middle School, under the direction of Brendan Closz. This annual concert -is always a popular community event for the holidays!

The concert will be performed on Sunday, Dec. 18. Doors will open at 7 PM and the show will begin at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$5 per person at the door. The event is sponsored by the Livingston County Arts Department.

HOWELL, MI 48843

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From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, HOUSEHOLD WASTE INCREASES BY MORE THAN 25%.

According to the Michigan Recycling Partnership, increasing

recycling in Michigan from 20 percent to 30 percent would create between 6,800 and 12,986 jobs, generate \$155 to \$300 million in income, \$1.8 to \$3.9 billion in receipts and about \$12 to \$22 million in state taxes. Each year 50 million Christmas trees are bought in this county and about 30 million end up in a landfill. An estimated 38,000 miles of ribbon are thrown away each year, enough to tie a bow around the earth.

Michigan is the No 3 importer of interstate municipal solid waste, behind Pennsylvania and Virginia. Municipalities pay an estimated \$25 to \$30 a ton to dispose of solid waste in Michigan landfills. The national average for the service ranges from \$40 to \$50 a ton. New York and California municipalities typically pay \$100 or more a ton. Michigan charges waste haulers 36 cents a ton to help pay for its solid waste management and recycling programs. Wisconsin's fee is \$13 per ton, the highest in the nation.

Plastic can take up to 1,000 years to degrade in a landfill. A banana takes four weeks. The United States produced 827,000 to 1.3 million tons of plastic PET water bottles in 2006, requiring the energy equivalent of 50 million barrels of oil. And most bottles are not recycled. The average American generates 4.43 pounds of waste per person a day, totaling about 1,617 pounds per year.



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Peace

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

Peace is directly related to the actions and attitudes of individuals; but it is ultimately a gift from God. Jesus told his disciples as he was preparing them for his departure, "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give..." (John 14:27 NLT)

The presence of peace indicates God's blessing on us for our obedience. God will keep in perfect peace all those who whose minds are fixed on him (Isaiah 26:3). There is nothing the world has to offer us that will ever give us the lasting peace of heart and mind that hearts crave, apart from being in a close relationship with Jesus.

Like so many others, before my eyes were opened and I realized that Jesus was the answer to all my problems, I tried to find peace of heart and mind in things, people and activities. But none of these gave me the kind of peace that my heart hungered for. The Bible says: "But for the wicked or those who refuse to follow God, there is no peace for them (Isaiah 48:22 NLT).

In a large majority of cases, the word peace in the Bible is the Hebrew word shalom. While the literal translation is peace—the meaning of shalom is far more than simply the absence of conflict. In the Hebrew understanding, shalom is being in harmony with God and all of God's creation.

As we enter this second week of Advent, let us turn our focus to 'peace', something almost everyone wants but very few achieve. Before we can experience the *peace of God*, we must first experience *peace with God* and the only way to have *peace with God* is by keeping our minds focused on Christ and walking humbly alongside him.

Among the names of Jesus is that of Prince of Peace. Such verses as Isaiah 9:6, and Luke 2:14, make it clear that Jesus came to bring peace, but that peace is between man and God. Those who reject God and the only way of salvation through Jesus (John 14:6) will find themselves perpetually at war with God and they will never experience lasting peace. But those who come to him in repentance will find themselves at peace with God. Because of Christ's sacrifice, we are restored to a relationship of peace with God. "Therefore, since we have been declared righteous in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus our Lord has done for us" (Romans 5:1 NLT).

In a little over two weeks we will celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ For someone who loves God and is grateful for the sacrifice Jesus made for me and all humankind, this time of the year is very special and I try to make sure that sharing Jesus is the focus of everything I do.

In case no one else has noticed, Jesus is no longer the center or the focus of why we celebrate Christmas. We celebrate December 25 because we like to give and receive gifts. We like to party and entertain and we like to get days off from work and get a break from school. By the time Christmas arrives, we are worn out from shopping and taking care of all the things we have do to get ready for the big day. When it is all over and the day has passed, all we have left are overused credit card bills to pay, and the tasks of taking down all the decorations and lights which drove utility company stock up 30 percent for the month. We also have a sense of relief because all the running around and acting like we love everyone is over, and we can resume our normal way of life. Meanwhile Jesus looks down on us from heaven with tears in his eyes because we just celebrated his birthday, but he wasn't invited to the party.

It is not my intention to sound like the Grinch who stole Christmas. However, it is my intention to try and turn the focus of Christmas back to Jesus. It's my intention to help us recognize that this season of Advent is a time for joyful expectation of the second coming of Christ. And that is what we need to be excited about.

In closing, I want to share a personal story which brought me the kind of peace that can only come from God. A little over month ago, when I learned that my longest and closet friend had suffered a stroke and was probably not going to make it, I drove down to Georgia, where he was hospitalized to see him. He and I grew up together, and we remained friends for over 67 years even though we traveled different

roads after I gave my life to Christ. When I arrived he was conscious and able to communicate. So, I had everyone leave the room and he and I had a long talk. I was deeply concerned about his relationship with Jesus. I am so glad I made that trip. After I left, he suffered another stroke which rendered him unresponsive.

I know my friend is in heaven today because during our conversation he recognized that he was a sinner, saved by grace. He repented and asked God to forgive him for the way he had lived and accepted Christ as his Savior.

When I left the hospital, I had a sense of peace which could only come from Jesus. Jesus told his disciples that the peace he was leaving them with is not like the peace the world gives. The kind of peace Jesus gives us is beyond our human understanding. This is the kind of peace that comes from knowing Jesus, not just knowing about Jesus.

This Advent season take some time to pause in the midst of all the activities and read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke, chapter 2. Instead of focusing on activity, focus on Christ, and read the story to your children.

Howell Eagles Club & the Blue Notes to present dance music on Sunday, Dec. 17

The Howell Eagles #3607 and the Blue Notes band unite to present their last dance of the 2017 schedule on Sunday, Dec. 17, from 3 to 7 p.m. The club is located at 171 Schroeder Park Drive in Howell.

A \$5 admission fee will open the doors to an afternoon of pure enjoyment of a wide variety of musical selections from our talented musicians, including Big Band sounds, Latino, country, waltzes, and 'yes' even some rock and roll.

Membership is not required to attend. Food and beverages are available for purchase. We have great cooks!

A BIG THANK YOU to all our loyal dancers and a special THANKS to Steve and Dawn Horton of the 'Fowlerville News & Views' for running these articles.

Additional information is available at 517-548-1630 or 517-548-4313. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in March!







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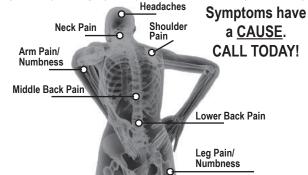
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Upcoming Programs at the Fowlerville District Library

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

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

The Fowlerville District Library will be closed Saturday, December 23rd and reopening Wednesday, December 27th at 9:30am to observe Christmas. We will also be closed Saturday, December 30th and reopening Tuesday January 2nd to observe the new year. We wish you joyous and safe holidays. The Little Free Library is available for your reading needs during this time and any materials to be returned can be placed in the blue drop box. Thank you.

Food for Fines: Food Drive benefitting the Family Impact <u>Center</u>

November 13th-December 15th

Each item donated equals \$1 in fines removed from your account, up to \$5. Please donate nonperishable food items that are NOT past their expiration dates. Donations are always welcome even if you do not owe fines!

Toys for Tots Drive

November 27th-December 15th

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.

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

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

Reading with Reindeer - Wednesday, December 13th at 5:30-6:30pm

Preschool-Adults. Welcome Rooftop Landing to the Fowlerville District Library! Indoors, we will read and have parent-child stations. Outdoors we will visit and pet reindeer! *Participation is limited Register in person to attend. Registration begins November 29th.

Stained Glass Heart Hanger Workshop - Thursday, December 14th at 7pm

Adults. No experience required for this hands-on workshop taught by Steena, an instructor at Delphi Glass. You will be taught basic stained glass construction including cutting, foiling and soldering from an expert. Create a stunning heart shaped sun catcher with a bevel center. *Registration is FULL. Registration includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit.

Travel Talk: Iceland - Thursday, January 4th at 7pm

Adults. Highlighting the sights, sounds, life-changing encounters, and humorous stories of world travel while at

New Christmas Picture Books available at Fowlerville District Library

Come check out some of our new Christmas picture books at the Fowlerville District Library! Enjoy these heartwarming stories for all ages!

Missile Toe: A Very Confused Christmas by Devin Scillian – When a young boy misunderstands a few classic holiday traditions and songs, it results in some hilarious misadventures.

Finding Christmas by Lezlie Evans - Squirrel, Hare, and Mouse are getting ready for Christmas when Mouse finds a sick Swallow in the forest. When the three friends decide to take her in and nurse her back to health, they'll discover that the best presents aren't always the ones in packages.

The Little Reindeer by Nicola Killen - An adventurous little girl named Ollie absolutely loves reindeer! When she follows the sound of jingle bells on Christmas Eve what kind of surprise will she discover?

The Nutcracker in Harlem by T. E. McMorrow - Filled with music and magic, this charming retelling of the classic Nutcracker story will warm your heart. When Marie is shrunk to the size of her nutcracker doll, she will have to help him and the toy soldiers defeat the evil mouse army.

A Christmas for Bear by Bonny Becker – Bear and Mouse are having a Christmas celebration. They have everything they need: gingerbread bears, candy canes, pickles and poetry—But where are the presents?

Check out these and many more, great new books at the Fowlerville District Library! Happy Holidays!

the library! Start the journey with an inexperienced first-time traveler and end with an around the world year-long seasoned traveler! Presentations will include question & answer sessions and refreshments. *Register in person to attend. Registration begins December 21st and includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit.

Fowlerville Fire Department Report

Thursday, November 30th at 2:08 a.m. the department was called to a medical emergency on Arlene Court in Iosco Township. Firefighters responded to a mutual aid request with a tanker to a structure fire on Howell Road in Ingham County at 9:55 a.m. Downed power lines on Fowlerville Road in Handy Township were reported at 10:17 a.m. Personnel assisted EMS on Garden Lane in the Village at 4:08 p.m. At 7:40 p.m. the department was dispatched for a mutual aid request from the Howell Area Fire Department to assist with a tanker at a structure fire on Oak Grove Road in Cohoctah Township. This call was cancelled prior to arrival on scene. A motor vehicle accident with injuries on I-96 in Handy Township was reported at 11:55 p.m.

At 9:25 a.m. Friday, December 1stpersonnel responded to assist the ambulance on Gregory Road in Handy Township. At 11:44 a.m. firefighters were dispatched to a medical emergency on Ann Street in the Village. A medical emergency on Nicholson Road in Conway Township and was reported at 12:15 p.m. with a fourth medical emergency being at 9:07 p.m. on Judd Road in Handy Township.

Saturday, December 2nd, at 7:58 a.m. the department responded to a medical emergency on Stow Road in Handy Township. Firefighters were called to a medical emergency on S. Grand Ave. in the Village at 3:25 p.m. Personnel assisted EMS on Nicholson Road in Handy Township at 6:18 p.m. and, at 7:24 a medical call on Grand Ave. in the Village

The department was dispatched to I-96 in Handy Township for a motor vehicle with injuries and requiring extrication of the patient from the vehicle at 12:18 p.m., Sunday, December 3rd. At 7:51 p.m. a medical emergency on Layton Road in Handy Township was reported.

Personnel responded to a report of a tree blocking Fowlerville Road in Conway Township at 2:06 p.m., Tuesday, December 5th. A second call reporting a down in the roadway on Fowlerville Road in Handy Township was received at 2:49 p.m. At 5:50 p.m. the department was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Nicholson Road in

At 3:13 p.m. Wednesday, December 6th firefighters were called to a grass fire on Sargent Road in Handy Township.

GED & Pathways Adult Education Workshop to be held Dec. 12 at Baker

Pathways Adult Education is here to help you improve your reading, writing, and math skills. Each student works in an individualized program tailored just for them and the areas that they need. Do you wish to complete your GED or high school diploma? Learn more at a free workshop on Tuesday, December 12. It will be held in the Curwood Building on the main campus of Baker College from 9:30 am - 10:30 am in room 1421 on the second floor.

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

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS HANDY TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING RESCHEDULED MEETING DATE FROM TUESDAY, **DECEMBER 12, 2017** TO MONDAY, **DECEMBER 11, 2017**

The Handy Township regular Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017, has been rescheduled to Monday, December 11, 2017. The meeting will still be held at the same time at 7 p.m. in the Handy Township Board Room, located at 137 N. Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, (please use rear entrance). The Public is always welcome to attend.

> Laura A. Eisele, Handy Township Clerk (11-26-17, 12-3 & 12-10-17 FNV)



Michigan Senate Report

By Joe Hune, 22nd District

Property Tax Season Is Coming

It's hard to believe, but it's time once again to start thinking about your property tax assessment.

The general property tax is an important part of our state's tax structure. Money raised goes toward financing local services, such as police and fire protection; public education; the operation of local governments; and projects such as sewers, streets, and parks. All property taxes collected by local units of government, other than the state education tax, which is sent to the state School Aid Fund for distribution, are kept locally, and no other part of that revenue is sent to or used by the state.

Did you know that you can appeal your property tax assessment?

If, for any reason, taxpayers disagree with the assessed value, taxable value, or taxable status of property, they may appeal to the local governmental board of review. Township review boards meet in the week containing the second Monday in March to hear protests. Boards of review also meet in July and in December to correct qualified errors in the roll, including adjustments for property incorrectly listed as having had a transfer of ownership or certain other errors regarding the taxable status of the property.

For more information about the process of appealing your property tax assessment at the board of review, visit www.SenatorJoeHune.com and click on Publications located under the Customer Service tab to download a copy of the Michigan Taxpayer's Guide, which has all of this information and more about the process.

If you're not satisfied with the judgment of the board of review, you may appeal the decision to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

To appeal an assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal, an appeal must be filed on or before July 31 of the tax year involved for residential or agricultural property, and by May 31 for other property. An appeal must be filed within 35 days after the assessor, county treasurer, or county equalization director denies a claim for exemption. An appeal of a claim for a poverty exemption must be filed by June 30, if the claim was denied at the March board of review. A claim must be filed within 30 days if the July or December board of review (meetings held to correct errors in the roll) denies a claim of exemption.

An initial letter of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal should be addressed to the Michigan Tax Tribunal, P.O. Box 30232, Lansing, MI 48909. The letter should state: (1) that the assessed value has been protested this year at the local board of review (if residential or agricultural property); (2) the number of assessments that are being appealed; and (3) the location of the property by village, city, or township and county.

As always, my office is available to help. For Michigan taxpayers interested in obtaining a Michigan Taxpayer's Guide, watch our web site and your mailbox in early 2018 for an updated version of the guide. If you have any questions, please call my office toll-free at 855-JOE-HUNEor visit www.SenatorJoeHune.com and click Publications located under the Customer Service tab. If you have any further questions, please email my office at SenJHune@senate.michigan.gov and my staff will be happy to assist you.

Letter to the Editor

I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the 9th annual *Christmas in the Ville* parade so great. My family and I have been going to the parade for many years and it is always a disappointment when we are unable to go. We use to go the Fantasy Light's parade in Howell, but we all believe that it is nothing compared Fowlerville's parade.

My personal favorite in the parade, and I am sure I am not alone in this, is the hot air balloon baskets that go down the street and warm up areas on the sidewalks. Please continue adding more balloons to the parade as they are the best part!

This year I thought that the gates along the streets were a good addition. Everything felt more safe because people, mostly young children, stayed back off the street. It is always nice when a town gets together to support community events, especially events that are geared towards the family. The Christmas spirit was high and there were a lot of people from surrounding areas that came to join in the fun during the *Christmas in the Ville* events.

Every year that Fowlerville has their Christmas parade it has improved more and more. I enjoyed seeing the new participants in the parade, it shows more community involvement when parades get new participants. Again thank you to everyone who spent the time to make the *Christmas in the Ville* parade wonderful and I am excited to see it again in 2018.

Sincerely, Sarah Kaake





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Student of the Week--Maddie Thomas By: Jacie Devota

Congratulations to this week's Student of the Week: Maddie Thomas! Maddie is the oldest of 2 daughters and her parents have been married for 17 years. She loves going on family vacations and having family movie night. Maddie is an outstanding student at Fowlerville High School. Her schedule



27 COLORS VINYL SIDING • AWNINGS

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517-404-1336 LICENSED & consists of the following classes: Honors lit, German III, Math, Art, History, and Ag science. Her favorite class is German III because she enjoys learning about different cultures and their people. Maddie's favorite teacher is Mrs. Miller because "she makes you feel loved and puts a ton of effort into our education." Her favorite thing about FHS is how "we are able to bounce back from anything."

Maddie was nominated by several different teachers. Mrs. Collins commented, "Maddie is an outstanding student who leads by example with her positive attitude and work ethic. She truly understands what it means to be a scholar and loves learning for learning's sake. She is such a great addition to my classes and I've been blessed to have had her for multiple years!"

Outside of school Maddie is a part of the German Club, a church life group and is also a member of the tennis team. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, going to the movies and, of course, binge watching Netflix. Maddie also enjoys going on vacation with her family and having family movie nights. One of her favorite memories is seeing Wonder-Women. One piece of advice she has for underclassmen, "is to follow your dreams and don't let anyone get in your way."

After high school she plans on attending college and finding a well-paying job. Some interesting facts about Maddie are that her favorite movie is The Hunger Game: Catching Fire, her favorite TV show is Stranger Things, and her main



motivation in life is to help other people.

Overall, Maddie is a hard-working, empowering student at Fowlerville High School. "She has such a positive attitude and is very considerate of others. Beautiful inside and out," commented a close friend. Big congratulations are in order to Maddie for achieving FHS' Student of the Week. She feels very accomplished and proud that others recognize her hard work and determination.



Fowlerville High School's "ATHLETES" OF THE WEEK



Jud Scott



Boys Varsity Basketball

Caden Collins Sr (PG) - Caden is in his 2nd year with the varsity and will be our primary ball handler this year. We will also look for him to be one of our key scorers. Caden was elected as a captain and will be leaned on heavily this year for leadership. Congratulations Caden!

Mitchell Bishop SR (C) - Mitchell is in his 2nd year with the varsity. Mitchell will be our only true Center this winter. Mitchell has the ability to guard the opponents biggest player and will be one of our leading rebounders this year. Mitchell was elected captain by the team and he is one of our best leaders.

JUD'S FOOTBALL FORECAST

THURSDAY, DEC. 14 Denver 20 at Indianapolis 23 SATURDAY, DEC. 16 Chicago 19 at Detroit 24 LA Chargers 20 at Kansas City 16

SUNDAY, DEC. 17 Miami 16 at Buffalo 24 Baltimore 23 at Cleveland 10 Cincinnati 13 at Minnesota 27 NY Jets 20 at New Orleans 30 Philadelphia 27 at NY Giants 16

Arizona 19 at Washington 26 Green Bay 13 at Carolina 27 Houston 14 at Jacksonville 27 LA Rams 30 at Seattle 24 New England 27 at Pittsburgh 23 Tennessee 23 at San Francisco 20 Dallas 25 at Oakland 27

MONDAY, DEC. 18 Atlanta 31 at Tampa Bay 16 **LAST WEEK:** W - 12 L - 4 **SEASON:** W - 141 L - 73

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.



1-877-467-4201

SHOWROOM OPEN: Mon. & Thurs. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. * Tues., Wed. & Fri. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. * Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. SERVICE DEPARTMENT OPEN: Mon. & Thurs. 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. * Tues., Wed. & Fri. 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bon. Service Department of the Tri 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Service Department of the Tri



Breathers' Club meeting to be held on Dec. 12 at St. **Joseph Mercy** Hospital

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

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon (12:00p.m.) in the Community Room at St. Joseph Livingston Hospital in Howell. An informational speaker and pertinent topic are featured each month.

Our next Breathers Club is scheduled for Tuesday, Noon: Dec. 12. Our Pulmonary Rehabilitation Therapist is available to assist and answer questions. For recorded meeting information call: (517) 545-6020.

Livingston Acoustic Music Society to gather on Dec. 16 at Fowlerville church

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

Location: Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene; 8040 Country Corner Dr.; Fowlerville, MI: In the strip mall just south of the I-96 (over pass) bridge on Fowlerville Rd.

We are a fun, no obligation, family friendly, musicsharing, relaxed, informal group. Open to the public. Our next LAMS Jam Session is: Saturday, Dec. 16, starting at 7 p.m.



Great Lakes Restaurant owner wins \$1 million prize in Powerball game

Winning \$1 million playing the Michigan Lottery's Powerball game left a Fenton man jumping for joy!

Edmond Nicaj, 41, of Fenton, matched the five white balls draw Wednesday (Nov. 29) - 24-26-28-59-63 - to win the big prize. He bought his winning ticket at the Great Lakes Family Restaurant, located at 963 South Grand Avenue in Fowlerville. He is the owner of the business.

"I buy a Powerball ticket every once in a while, and it really paid off this time," said Nicaj. "I checked my ticket the morning after the drawing, and couldn't stop jumping around.

"My kids heard me and came running upstairs to check on me and then they started jumping around. My six-year-old asked me how many zeros would be on my check."

Nicaj visited Lottery headquarters to claim his prize last Friday, Dec. 1. With his winnings, he plans to pay bills and set some money aside for each of his six children.

"Winning feels good because it helps. It takes away so much stress and pressure," Nicaj said.

Powerball plays may be purchased for \$2 each at Lottery retailers across the state and online at *MichiganLottery.com*.

A "Power Play" option that multiplies non-jackpot prizes by up to 10 times to a maximum of \$2 million may be added to any Powerball play for only \$1.

The Powerball drawing takes place at 10:59 p.m. on Wednesday and Saturday and may be watched live online at: http://www.powerball.com. Powerball tickets are sold in 44 states, Washington D.C., U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto

–Area Deaths—



Donald Gordon McVay

Donald Gordon McVay, born February 7, 1941 in Stockbridge Michigan to Gurneth and Harold McVay, passed away on December 7, 2017. He graduated from Stockbridge High School and went on to work at a factory but then spent the majority of his life farming with John Linn in Williamston.

Don is preceded in death by his wife Linda Lee McVay nee Snyder, as well as his brother Dennis. His brother Doug lives in Stockbridge. Don leaves two sons from his first marriage to Fay Etta Cottongim nee Shepherd named Eric and James. He also was a devoted father to Linda's children Sandy Penrod nee Jenkins, Scott, Kevin and Ken Aubuchon. He also leaves behind 2 grandchildren and 7 step grandchildren as well as 3 step great grandchildren.

Don was a fun loving, hard working, all around good guy who was friends with everyone. He spent his final days talking about the next truck he was planning to buy and the chores that still needed to be done. He is now driving the vehicle of his choice as he speeds across the open fields in heaven.

Visitation will be held on Monday, Dec. 11, from 4-8 p.m. A Memorial service will be held on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. at Herrmann Funeral Home. Please leave the family a condolence at pjherrmannfuneralhome.com

The Salvation Army looking for contributions to reach goal

The Salvation Army's Red Kettle and Christmas season here in Livingston County is in full swing. The joyful sounds of bells can be heard by The Salvation Army Bell Ringers as they greet shoppers at 15 locations around the county.

As the days to Christmas draw closer, The Salavation Army is looking for contributions to reach its goal. As of December 4, a total of \$133,917.14 had been raised, which is a little over 34 percent of their overall goal of

There are three ways to help:

- 1) We are still in need of families or organization to volunteer to man a Kettle for two hours or more.
- 2) Financial donation can be contributed in one of the kettles, dropped at the corps community building (503 Lake Street, Howell) or place them in the mail
- 3) Donations can be made online www.

SalvationArmyLivingston.org

"As we draw closer to Christmas and experience the spirit of it we hope people will realize that some of our neighbors, friends, and strangers may not have the same opportunity to feel that Spirit without our help." says Major Prezza Morrison "We can give them hope that the people of Livingston County do care and want to give them a Christmas to remember."

Those wanting to bell ring can sign up online at www. <u>registertoring.com</u> | Donations can be mailed directly to P.O. Box 647, Howell MI 48844 or dropped off at 503 Lake Street, Howell 48844

About The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army, an evangelical part of the universal Christian church established in London in 1865, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination for more than 130 years in the United States. Nearly 30 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through the broadest array of social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless, and opportunities for underprivileged children. 82 cents of every dollar The Salvation Army spends is used to support those services in 5,000 communities nationwide. For more information, go to salvationarmyusa.org.



Thank you to all who have supported us in the past and who will continue to do so in the future. We wouldn't be who we are if it wasn't for you.

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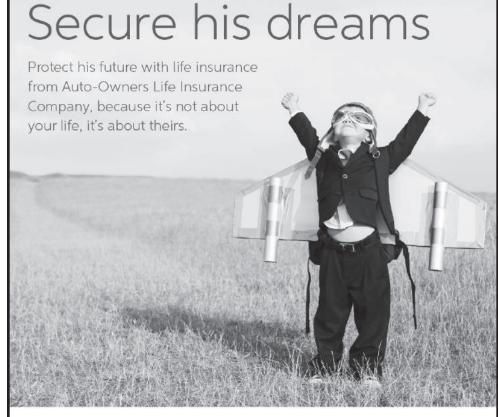
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Area veteran serves as member of Marine Corps League honor guard Takes Part in Over 100 Funerals a Year By Steve Horton

In the latter part of 1969, newly graduated from Southfield High School, Dave Mester received his expected draft notice and subsequently volunteered for service in the U.S. Marine Corps. He headed off to San Diego, California for boot camp and then—like several hundred thousand other young men of his generation—he spent a year in Vietnam during the height of the war.

"I was a NCO in charge of a squad," Mester noted. "My rank was Lance Corporal (E3). We were a support company, but I did experience some combat during my tour there."

After his two-year active enlistment ended in 1971, he was assigned to inactive duty for another four years before receiving his final discharge in 1975.

Nowadays, Mester-a Fowlerville area residentvolunteers for a different kind of service. As a member of the Marine Corps League's David Murnigham Detachment in Howell, he is part of the honor guard that travels every third Monday to Mt. Holly National Cemetery for the scheduled funerals. In addition, his group performs that same task, when requested, at the funerals of veterans in Livingston County and surrounding communities.

"An honor guard is made up of seven members that include the bugler who plays 'Taps', the flag carriers, and the riflemen who do the three-gun salute," Mester explained. "We have a solid group of 15 guys who take turns doing this—some more often than others."

Mester falls into the 'more often' category. "Our honor guard did over 130 funerals in 2016," he noted, "and I was at well over 100 of them. This year we're on track to exceed that number."

He added that the monthly duty at Mt. Holly is an allday affair. "Any honorably discharged veteran can be buried there. It's a large cemetery of 600 acres and they have two areas where funerals can take place simultaneously, and they go every half hour, five days a week. We take our turn along with other area veteran organizations-including the VFW and American Legion."

The Marine Corps League's honor guard is equally busy at area funerals for veterans. "We average about one every three days," Mester said. "Most of them are at burial services held in Livingston County, with quite a few in Fowlerville and Howell. But we've gone to places beyond the county."

He noted that the funeral home usually contacts his group when an honor guard is needed for a service, while other times the family will make the request.

"There's no charge for what we do," he pointed out. "However, many families will make a donation to our organization."

The honor guard also takes part in parades held on Memorial Day and July 4th in Howell and Brighton and are part of the Fantasy of Lights Parade in Howell held on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

Mester's other major involvement with the Murnigham Detachment is organizing the annual U.S. Marine Corps Birthday Ball. He was the chair of this year's event, held this Nov. 10 at Crystal Gardens in Howell and served as the emcee.

"We had over 550 people attend including veterans of all branches of our armed services as well as guests from the community," he said. "We don't make a profit from the event. We purposely keep the tickets cost low at \$20 per person and our sponsors, who generously support us, help defray the overall expense."

The Birthday Ball featured a prime rib dinner, live music, a guest speaker, and other entertainment. Guests, who were requested to dress in semi-formal attire, were asked to bring a toy for the League's Toys for Tots holiday campaign. During the evening a ceremony took place and Mester gave a speech. Mester joined the Marine Corps League about three years ago, explaining that he found the group to be "very active in the community."

"We have an outreach program with Judge Carol Reader of the Livingston County District where a few of our members have volunteered to be mentors for veterans who have been incarcerated or are experiencing legal difficulties," he explained. "The goal is to give them a second chance and get their lives back on track.

"Others from our detachment offer assistance on contacting the Veterans Administration to obtain benefits or medical treatment," Mester pointed out. "We have members who visit the VA hospital in Ann Arbor, while others operate our bingo game that raises money to support our different programs."

Prior to his current involvement, Mester served for two years as the chaplain for VFW Post 6464 in Fowlerville and, in that role, gave the main address during the Memorial Day service

OF THOSE ALLANTLY THE WARS COUNTRY GE OF

Dave Mester is a frequent visitor to area cemeteries in his role as a member of the Marine Corps League Honor Guard. The group plays "Taps' and does the rife salute for the funerals of veterans.

at Greenwood Cemetery. In earlier years, he served as the Director of the American Legion Riders, a motorcycle group comprised of veterans and their spouses and at one time held the office of Vice Commander for the Legion Post in Howell.

Like other veterans, he's visited local schools on Veterans Day for their programs and taken part in various special

He noted that he still belongs to both the VFW and American Legion, but serving with the honor guard and helping with the Birthday Ball takes up much of his time.

Asked 'why' he's undertaken this commitment, Mester replied, "It's my way of giving back to the community and our country," adding that "Less than three percent of Americans belong to the armed services. When someone puts on the uniform, they're seeking to help preserve our freedoms and rights. We have those currently in the military doing that, as well as all of the veterans who did that in earlier times. I want to do what I can to support those now serving our nation and also support those men and women who previously protected our freedoms."

DAVE GREW UP IN DETROIT, at 14th and Buchanan, and initially attended Highland Park High School. His father, Frank, was a carpenter, and his mother, Violet, worked at Sanders Bakery in Downtown Detroit.

"Our neighborhood included both blacks and whites and none of the families had a lot of money," he said. "While I was in the service, I got off a bus in South Carolina with the other Marines—both white and black—and saw the 'Colored Only' sign. That really got me. There were black Marines with me on that bus, also serving our country. Souls don't

His family included two sisters and four brothers. "I'm the fifth of the seven children," he said. "My older brother, Dennis, also served in the Marines and was wounded in Vietnam in 1966 by a mortar round."

His older brother was not Dave's only example of military service within his family. "My six uncles on my dad's side were in World War II," he said. "The family lived on a farm in Coleman which is located in Isabella County. The newspaper back then did a story of them, entitled 'The Isabella Boys.'

My dad tried to enlist a couple of times, but he had been hurt in a farming accident when he was young and was turned down."

While in high school, Dave worked for a shoe store in the Southfield Mall. After his stint in the Marines, he worked in construction jobs for a few years. He then attended Michigan Career Institute, a trade school, with the goal of being a motorcycle and diesel mechanic. It was the latter training that helped secure a position with Detroit Diesel in 1977.

"I worked there for 32 years, retiring in 2009," he said.

To further his skills and career opportunities, he attended Schoolcraft College and earned an Associate's Degree in Applied Science in 1981 and a few years later secured a Bachelor's Degree in Business from Cleary College. At the end of his tenure at Detroit Diesel, he held the position of project engineer.

His training as a motorcycle mechanic was not wasted, though. "I rode bikes for many years," he said.

Dave resided in Livonia before moving to the Fowlerville area in 1984. "I wanted to live in the country," he explained.

He and his wife, Yvonne, were married in 1996. She was born and raised in Roseville, but had also moved to Fowlerville. "We met at the Fowlerville Fair during the Travis Tritt concert," the couple noted.

Yvonne worked at the Howell-Brighton office of the Michigan Secretary of State until her recent retirement.

Dave has two children from his first marriage. "Robert lives in Fowlerville and works for Ameritech Heating & Cooling, while Jenny is a homemaker in Ypsilanti," he noted.

Yvonne and he have a son, James, who is now at Central Michigan University, studying to be an electrical engineer.

"All three of the kids graduated from Fowlerville High School and were in the band," Dave pointed out.

He also has six grandchildren. The Mesters attend St. Joseph Catholic Church in Howell where Dave is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Kreeger Elementary School News

12-14-17: Kreeger Elementary Family Holiday Fun Night. 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Join us for a night of fun!

12-21-17: Winter Recess begins

1-3-18: School Resumes

1-15-18: NO SCHOOL

1-17 & 1-18-18: Hearing Screening for 4th grade **1-29, 1-30& 1-31-18:** Hearing Rescreening 4th grade

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

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



In 1944, with World War II still raging, the daily newspaper in Mt. Pleasant published two pages with photos of the young men serving in the military from the county and headlined it "The Boys From Isabella." This row was part of that spread and is of the six Mester brothers—all of them uncles of Dave Mester of Fowlerville. He made copy of the newspaper pages and framed them. From left are Alex, John, Theo, Samuel, Delzell, and Art. All of them, Dave noted, returned from the war.

Fowlerville Vision Center in WalMart recently completed first year in business

The Fowlerville Vision Center in WalMart recently completed its first year in business. The Center includes two optometrists who are independent contractors—Dr. Beth Cudworth, who owns the business, and her associate, Dr. Jeanne Smithbauer.

They lease the exam rooms and equipment from WalMart. The company, meanwhile, hires and trains the Vision Center opticians who operate the adjacent retail area. These staff members work with any patients of the doctors who wish to use their services or purchase eye glasses or contact lenses, as well as any non-patient customers who chose to come there to fill their prescriptions or buy new glasses.

Drs. Cudworth and Smithbauer are familiar with the setup, having already operated out of the Howell WalMart. "The Howell Vision Center started around 1987 with Dr. Cudworth," noted Dr. Smithbauer. "I approached her in 1993 to see if she was looking for an associate. As it turned out she was and we've been practicing together since then.

"For us, it has been a good mode of practice," she added. "As independent contractors we are able to concentrate on patient care. We don't profit from the sale of glasses or contact lenses, so we can make honest recommendations."

Dr. Smithbauer said that she and Dr. Cudworth lease "the most up-to-date equipment" and that their specialty "is custom glasses and soft lens prescriptions for patients 8 to 108," but added that "we have also personally invested in a state-of-the-art retinal camera and electronic medical records system."

This added equipment, she explained, "helps us detect eye problems such as macular degeneration, cataracts and glaucoma and, when doing so, be able to refer our patients for medical care when necessary."

The Fowlerville Vision Center came about when WalMart, after doing a survey of the demographics of the area, decided to open a vision center at this location. Dr. Smithbauer said that when they became aware of this plan, they decided to include a second location to their practice.

"A lot of our patients are from this area," she said, "so we felt we could better serve them by having this office and that we would pick up additional patients. Both of us were ready to take on this challenge. Our kids are in college, allowing us to have the necessary time to give."

The two doctors take turns working at both of the centers. A third doctor of optomoetry, Marie Gannon, works at the



Dr. Jeanne Smithbauer, left, is an optometrist along with Dr. Beth Cudworth, while Nicole Snider, right, is the office manager.



The opticians at the Fowlerville Vision Center are, from left, Penny Valentine, Kelly Bowen, and Mackenzie Watson.

Howell store.

Assisting them in operating the Fowlerville location is the office manager, Nicole Snider. She had served as the manager of the Howell Vision Center for several years. "We are happy to have Nicole come here to manage the Fowlerville store," said Dr. Smithbauer. "Her experience and truly caring nature are a blessing to us and our patients."

Nicole noted that she works for WalMart as do the three opticians who staff the retail area. They include Kelly Bowen, a local resident who worked at the Howell store for 17 years; Penny Valentine, who transferred to the Center from the Pharmacy; and Mackenzie Watson, who had been a cashier.

"We've been working for the past year to build the business and have been doing a lot of community outreach," said Snider. "We feel that by providing good service and affordable prices, this will create customer satisfaction and favorable word-of-mouth."

She noted that brand names offered at the Vision Center include Hard Candy, Covergirl, Flower, Lauren Ashley, Randy Jackson, and Sketches.

Check us out on our website!

The Fowlerville News & Views is on the web!

www.Fowlervillenewsandviews.com

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



ONLINE-ONLY AUCTIONS: December 12

(a) Fowlerville News Online

Fowlerville High School Dance Team competes in recent event

The Fowlerville High School Dance Team competed in Coopersville last weekend. The team earned a second place for their Jazz number and a fifth place for their Hip Hop routine. On top of that, the team earned best choreography for Jazz. The routine was choreographed by the coach, Marissa Leonard.

The team will compete again December 9th in Brighton. The event is open to the public – come support our team! The dancers will also be performing at both the girls and boys high school basketball games in Fowlerville on December 15th and 19th, January 9th and 19th and February 9th.



Dancers are from left to right: Front row, Willow Yon, Brittany Bush, Janiah Mather, Maddie Hogbin, Sydney Bush, Breanna Wallner; Middle: Lauren Murray, Bekah Leonard, Coco Simons, Shelby Walter, Ava Yon; Back Row: Erin Canfield, Marla Rose, Stephanie Krueger, Lydia Luark, Coach Marissa Leonard, Brianna Davison, Gabby Shields, Abbey Hinton, Aubrae Miller





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TRACT 2: 4.71 Acres with 2 buildings

TRACT 3: 51.81 Acres with 1 well

TRACT 4: 35.85 Acres with storage

building TRACT 5: 1.9 Acres

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Fowlerville celebrates 'Christmas in the Ville' with plenty of 'fun' activities



Taking part in the Scavenger Hunt were, from left, Jonathen Davis, 13; Richard Davis, 11, and Kiely Davis, 9. They are the children of Aaron and Anne Davis of Fowlerville. One of their clues was to find out what year the 'Fowlerville News & Views' started.



Coldwell Banker Real Estate's agents hosted a special activity during the afternoon—'Make & Take Reindeer Craft. Shown here, from left, were, from left, in front, Lauren Varga, Mackenzy Bishop, Presleigh Bishop, and Terry Bishop II, while in back were Lyndsey Johnson, Marie Horgan, Amanda Varga, and Stacey Fountain.



Santa Claus greeted over 250 children at the Fowlerville Fire Hall, both before and after the Christmas Parade. Among the kids were Oliver Paskeuric, 9 months old, and Brandy Toms, age 12. They are the children of Melissa and Joe Paskeuric of Fowlerville.



Mrs. Claus (Pam Couling) with the help of Grant the Elf (Grant Kargel) entertained these children during 'Reading in the Window' at Chase Bank.



The Fowlerville Police had one of their patrol cars at the Main 4 Corners and were accepting donations of food and other products for the Family Impact Center. From left were Village President Carol Hill, Officer Eric Sorenson, Officer Dylan Lorenz, Sgt. Jeff Soli, and Officer Brad Feister.



The Pet Parade, sponsored by Kern Road Veterinary Clinic, had 18 entries. The top three finishers were, from left, Denise Boucke of Fowlerville with her English Bull Terrier 'Coco Bean' who placed second, Suzanne Green of Fowlerville, the winner, with her Shetland Sheep Dog 'Lassie', and Natalie Loomis of Fowlerville with her Yorkshire Terrier 'Tucker' who finished third.



Once again several children from 'Make a Wish' got to ride with Santa Claus in his sleigh during the Christmas Parade. Joining them were Mrs. Claus and Grant the Elf. Shown here prior to the parade, were, from left, Mrs. Claus, Logan, Noah, Leila, Santa, Kinley, and Grant the Elf.



Katie Pikkarainen, the local State Farm Insurance agent, hosted kids games at her business. From left were Madison Pikkarainen, Ella Pikkarainen, Mara Browne, Nick Harmon, Joslyn Rosalez, Anna Buurma, Maggie Buurma and, in back, Santa and Courtney Steffee.



Donating items for 'Stuff the Cop Car' were Paul and Jon Harmon. Accepting them was Office Dylan Lorenz.



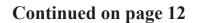
Elizabeth and Terry Howery of Fowlerville brought these two pets to the Pet Parade, held at the Rotary Centennial Park. Elizabeth entered their La Mancha goat 'Blue Bell', while Terry brought their Great Pyrenees dog 'Posey'.



Ordering some of the food offered at the Fowlerville Fire Hall were, in front, from left, Taron Finley and Brayan Smith. Serving the entrees—which included chili, chicken soup, and hot dogs—were Tyler Dailey, Gary Cameron, Julie Dailey, and Mike Le Mieux.

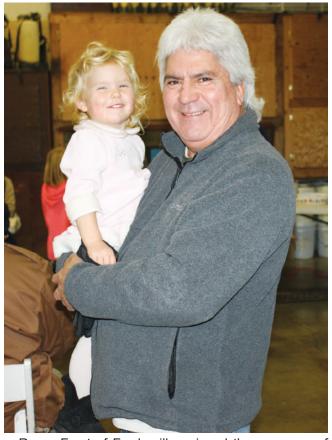


Having her face painted at Brideau's Apparel & Gifts was Hayley Olrich, age 12, of Fowlerville. Doing the painting was Kristin Graham of Happy Brushes. Kristin also offers glitter tattoos, balloon twisting, and 'Happy the Clown' for all sorts of parties and special events. Hayley is the daughter of Clark and Jenny Olrich.





Enjoying the many activities were, from left, Kenley Dillingham, age 7, Kylan Dillingham, age 9, and Ella Olrich, age 10—all of Fowlerville. Kenley and Kylan are the children of Ken and Tanya Dillingham, and Ella is the daughter of Clark and Jenny Olrich.



Roger Frost of Fowlerville enjoyed the company of his granddaughter, Adrea Kiley, at the Chili Supper held in the fire hall.



Having gotten their faces painted and looking for more adventures were Carter Davis, age 3, and Dom Davis, age 6. They were with their grandmother, Diane Dillingham of Fowlerville. Carter and Dom are the sons of Jason and Alma Davis of St. Louis.



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St. Agnes Catholic Church hosted 'Breakfast with St. Nick' during the morning of the local holiday celebration. Greeting him were Sophia, age 9, and Emett, age 12, of Howell. They are the children of Trudy and Jimi May and the grandchildren of Judy Recker of Fowlerville.



St. Nicholas assured Judy Recker that she'd been good this year when the two met at St. Agnes' special event.



Aleta's Flower Shop offered a Coloring Contest for the children. Taking part were Kaylee, age 3, the daughter of Jamie and Jon Lecureux, and Abby, age 7, the daughter of Tiffany and Mark Rhine—all Fowlerville residents.



At Brideau's Apparel & Gifts were, from left, Cindy Lou Who (aka Deb Nabozny) and store owner Cheryl Brideau.



Cookie Decorating was offered at White Barn Designs. Shown here, from left, were Audrey Dzierwa, age 4; Gracie Hesselgrave, age 9, and Elizabeth Dzierwa, age 7. Audrey and Elizabeth are the daughters of Melisa Dzierwa of Fowlerville, while Gracie is the daughter of Rachel Hesselgrave, also of Fowlerville.



The 2017 Livingston County 4-H Queen, Makayla Smith, stopped by Chase Bank prior to the parade.





From Left: Becky L., Appointment Coordinator; Heather R., Office Manager; Dr. Brian Petersburg, Dr. Wendy Jativa; Dr. Brian Giammalva; Nick Z., RDH; Kelly G., RDH; Kayla N., Dental Asst.; Karen C., Dental Asst.; Becky H., RDH.

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Heather Kile of Blue Jean Acres had her homemade Goat Milk Soap, Goat Milk Lotion, and Lip Balm for sale at the Place of Refuge.

'Dashing Through the Snow 5-K race boasted record number of runners

Dashing Through the Snow 5K race had a great turn out on Saturday, Dec, 2, during the Fowlerville Christmas in the Ville, boasting a record number of 139 registered runners. The runners were "fired" up from the start with the help of numerous balloonists who cheered them on throughout the race course. 'Buddy the Elf' was also on hand to spread extra holiday cheer for the runners.

"The race would not have been possible without the help of all the volunteers," said Carrie Newstead, the race director. "A huge thank you to Tom Couling, Matt Martin, Mary Vielbig, Jane Domine, Kathy Arledge, Patti DuFore, Josh DuFore, Nick Reason, Jeff Newstead, Lisa Newstead, Ryker Newstead, Zachary Newstead, Taylor Newstead, Michelle Devine, Doug Burnie, Jackie Wallace, Jerry Harvey, Paul Harmon, and of course 'Buddy the Elf', Mike Newstead!"

Overall winner was Chris Davis, overall male master winner was Brent Dix, overall female winner was Liliana Lehnst, and overall female masters winner was Belinda Spalding. Full race results are on runsignup.com.

"We are adding to the name of the race, making it Dashing Through the Snow and Fire 5K!" said Carrie in recognition to the assistance of the balloonists who created an arc of fire when each runner crossed the finish line.

The event was sponsored by Elliott's Masonry and 1st National Bank of Howell and put on by the Fowlerville Rotary.



Among the vendors at the Place of Refuge craft show was Jane Mills, a Do Terra Wellness Advocate.



Winning the Women's Overall category with a time of 20:23 was 11-year-old Liliana Lehnst. Congratulating her was 'Buddy the Elf' (aka Mike Newstead).



Jasmine (left) and Noel Brake were selling handmade scarves, purses, and hats at the craft show.



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Mike Newstead, (aka 'Buddy the Elf'), left, congratulated three of the top four runners at the 'Dashing Through the Snow' 5K Run & Walk. With him were Brent Dix of Flint who won the Men's Master title with a time of 19:09, Chris Davis of Fowlerville who was the Overall Men's Winner with a time of 16:40, and Belinda Spalding of Fowlerville who won the Women's Master title with a time of 22:12.

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Christmas in the Ville Parade draws huge crowd

The Fowlerville Christmas in the Ville parade drew between 10,000 and 15,000 people and had 72 lighted entries. The Fowlerville High School marching band added to the festivities of the evening. *Photos by Deb Utter*





Chamberlin's Pony Rides & Mobile Zoo were a big hit with their live animals on their float.



One of the Fowlerville school buses was decorated for the parade.



The Fowlerville First United Methodist Church/ Heartstrings Learning Center float featured singers, from left, Brooke Krueger and Mckenna Maybee and students.

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Nicholas Johnson sings the National Anthem before the start of the parade.



The parade Grand Marshals, Steve and Dawn Horton, wave at the crowd.



Members of the "Farmin' It Up" 4H Club had this float in the parade.



St. John's Lutheran Church had their float with a nativity scene.



The Livingston County Historical Village had their barrel train in the parade. Riding in front are Arria Ogden with her grandfather Lenny Ogden.



Fowlerville Family Fair Queen Jenna Kingsley, on right, rides with Mia Stock and other members of her court in the parade.



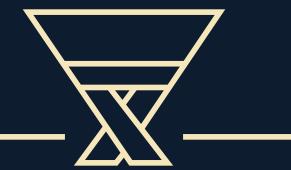
Trish Rife rode in the Mini Monster truck with her grandson.

Continued on page 26



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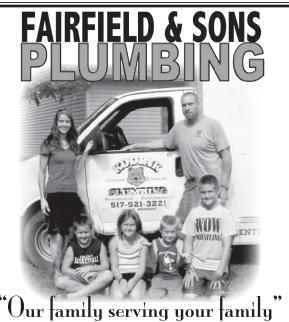


NOTICE TO LEROY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

A special meeting of the Leroy Township Board of Review will be held Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at Leroy Township Hall located at 1685 N. M-52, Webberville at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of correcting any mutual mistakes of fact, qualified errors or clerical errors in the description on the 2017 Winter Tax Roll, Principal Residence Exemptions and Veteran's Exemp-

No public appeals will be heard at this time.

> Earl Griffes Leroy Township Supervisor **Board of Review Secretary** (12-3 & 12-10-17 FNV)



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Webberville Report

FFA earns grants to benefit community

Webberville FFA was awarded the Syngenta 'Grow More Communities' Grant and the National FFA 'Living to Serve' Grant totaling \$4,000 to grow potatoes, fresh produce and protein to give back to the community through the Webberville and Williamston Food Banks.

This year's potato harvest yielded 1,759 pounds with over 1,000 pounds being donated locally to the two food banks which will help over 100 families. potatoes were also donated Program which provides food for the weekend to Webberville School District.



FFA Members and Government/Economics Students partner to help sort potatoes to the Webberville Backpack for donation to the community. Many students district-wide helped with the harvest as a service learning project. Left to right: Haley McDonnell, Jillian Loftis, Alyssa McGallaird, William Thompson, Curtis Robinson, Tyler Wyatt, Nolan Gorski, and school-aged children in the Skylar Byrne sort and bag potatoes.



Chapter Parliamentarian Maddison Stowe and Gracelyn Hull deliver potatoes to the Williamston Food Bank. In addition to potatoes, canned goods and fresh broilers are donated by the Webberville FFA to local food banks.



FFA Chapter Treasurer, Camden Jackson, loads potatoes to be washed, sorted and bagged.

Webberville United Methodist Women to host annual 'Christmas Cookie Walk'

The Webberville United Methodist Women are hosting their annual 'Christmas Cookie Walk and Candy Too' this Saturday, Dec. 16, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$5 per pound. The church is located at 4215 E. Holt Road (corner of M-52 & Holt).



Webberville FFA Chapter Reporter, Dana Gorski, sold potatoes and helped spread awareness about the potato harvest and food scarcity issues at parent teacher conferences.

Capital Area Library Events

*Registration required.

WEBBERVILLE

*Origami Santa (Adults)

Create an origami ornament, card front or place card.*Registration required; call 517-521-3643.

Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Holiday Storytime (Ages up to 6)

Enjoy special stories for the Christmas season.

Dec. 20, 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Drop-in LEGO Club (Age 4 & up)

Imaginative play helps develop skills used for reading. Dec. 21, 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

WILLIAMSTON

Pom Pom Pinecone Ornaments (Ages 9-13)

Craft a pinecone into an ornament for the holiday season. Dec. 11, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

*Decorate a Gingerbread House (Ages 8–12)

Make a mini-gingerbread house using graham crackers and candy. *Registration required; call 517-655-1191. Dec. 14, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Family Storytime (Ages up to 6)

Engaging stories, songs and activities to help build early

Dec. 20, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

SYSTEM WIDE

Tadpole Storytime at I5 (Held off-site)

Our literacy experts have teamed up with Impression 5 for science storytimes for ages 3-6. Today's topic: Elsa & the Ice

Dec. 19, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Williamston Area **Senior Center**

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

December "Find Yourself Through Art" Series -Watercolor Cards has been cancelled because of the lack individuals who signed up for this event. This class was originally scheduled for Monday, December 11, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Free Basic Computer Class for Seniors – Thanks for a grant from the Capital Area Community Foundation we will be conducting one free computer classes in December for seniors. On Saturday, December 16, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm we will conduct an open computer session in which you can bring your I-pads, lap tops, phones and we will provide assistance on their use.

Monday, December 18, A Christmas Sing Along with **Dewey Longuski** from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Williamston Area Senior Center. No registration, no fee, just the magical music of Dewey. You may have heard him play around town with his band, the Red Cedar River Boys.

Tuesday, December 19, at 12:30 pm the Senior Center will be showing "A Christmas Carol" with George C. Scott.

Other December Activities at the Senior Center -

Wednesday, December 13, the County Register of Deeds, Derrick Quinney will be making a presentation on Real Estate Planning. This presentation will take place at 12:30 pm at the Senior Center.

On Thursday, December 14, at 12:30 pm The Senior Class Band with Tom Emery will be playing Christmas music

On any December 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.

New Apprenticeship Program ensures growth strategy for local business

MS Plastic Welders LLC, welcomed their first Apprentices this month. The newly initiated Mechatronics Apprenticeship program, in collaboration with the Lansing Community College, has been certified by the U.S. Department of Labor

The Apprenticeship Program is a four year Program, whereby the apprentices will receive intense "on the job" training in mechanical, electrical and programming applications. The accompanying courses are fairly widespread and include mathematics, technical, safety, and communication courses.

The college tuition and fees are paid by MS Plastic Welders LLC, as well as a working wage which has a predetermined increase on a semiannual basis. Each year the team in Webberville will hire 2-3 new apprentices.

"A continuous investment in Apprentices is the key to close the gap of lacking a skilled workforce in Michigan. This program will strengthen our competitive position and support our continuous growth strategy. It underlines the necessity of higher technical knowledge to ensure local growth," stated Dirk Bareis Vice President MS Plastic Welders LLC.

The MS Ultrasonic Technology Group operates globally (USA, Germany, Brazil, China) and across all Industries. As a leader in innovation in the area of Ultrasonic Technology, it provides customized special machines, innovative servo presses, modular systems and efficient components as powerful integrated solutions in connection and processing technology for thermoplastic materials, films and textiles as well as for cutting food.



Senior Spotlight—Curtis Robertson By Zach Cook and Kelsey Mayville

Throughout his four years at Webberville High School, Curtis Robertson has managed to leave a lasting impression on fellow students and make lifelong friendships. Robertson began attending Webberville Community Schools briefly in elementary before leaving, only to return in the sixth grade to finish out the rest of his education here.

"I am glad I came back to Webberville because of all of the friends I have made," said Robertson. "It's such a close community, so it really feels like a family."

Attending the Wilson Talent Center for the Auto Tech Program his junior year and participating on the varsity track team taught Robertson a lot. They allowed him to always stay caught up with his schoolwork, and to have a good sense of humor no matter how stressed he was.

"Curtis is kind, and I have enjoyed working with him over the past three years in," said English teacher Benjamin Woodcock. "I appreciate his subtle sense of humor and good nature."

Robertson spends most of his free time with friends and enjoys working out, reading, and occasionally playing video games. He also spends a large portion of his free time with his niece and nephews whether it's taking them to and from football practice, watching them or just spending time with them.

"I definitely enjoy Curtis's sense of humor the most and the fact you can always count on him when you need him the most," said friend and fellow senior Nicolas Gutierrez.

After Robertson graduates, he plans to go into the military to help him financially for college and to create a great life experience. He would like to attend college for medical school to pursue his passion for helping people.

"My goal in life is to be happy with what I am doing," said Robertson. "Helping people is a great passion of mine, and I think it would be rewarding to have a career that allowed me to pursue that passion."

Robertson is the son of Mickey and Tina Robertson and is the youngest of five children, all of whom attended Webberville Schools. He is the brother to Heather (2007), Stephanie (2012), Brandon (2013), and Dustin.

As Robertson's time at Webberville High School comes to an end, he would like to leave advice for the underclassmen: "Focus on your grades and don't procrastinate. Time flies and you'll be headed into the real world before you know it."

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Letter to the Editor

My heart 'melted' on Friday, November 10th, as the little children at Fowlerville's Smith Elementary School marched by the veterans and active-duty soldiers standing in line—the little children waving their little handmade flags while our National Anthem was played. This was to commemorate Veterans Day and to say: "Thank you, America's brave soldiers, for your service."

And thank you Mrs. Hart and the staff at Smith Elementary for teaching the children that America is the Land of the Free Because of the Brave and that Freedom Is Not Free.

Sincerely, Olivia Verfaillie



MARKET REPORT FOR FOWLERVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Information provided by: Lori Killen, Associate Broker Keller Williams Realty-Fowlerville 746 S. Grand Ave. • (517) 294-6977



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Junior High WOW Wrestlers open season in dominating fashion

By Dan Coon

The Junior High Wow Wrestling Club opened the preseason tournament in a dominating fashion at South Lyon on December 3. Not everyone could attend, but those eight that did were dominant in their efforts. The season is young. This group is only practicing a couple days a week and they only started the middle of November. We are still adding to the team numbers weekly. If the beginning shows us anything at all, it is an indicator that this is going to be a great team this

The Junior High Club wrestling is different than the Junior High SCHOOL team. Club guys are practicing at their own expense, paying their way into tournaments, buying their own gear (singlets) and paying their good looking coaches. (That is why I have never been paid to work club). Club time is outside of the normal school season. It gives a chance for those that want the extra work to get it.

The tournament on December 3 was the largest of three youth wrestling tournaments in Michigan, and it was most definitely the highest level of competition. There were some that came from as far away as Tawas, Gaylord and the state of Ohio. State Champions were scattered throughout the weight classes and age groups of the tournament. There were 370 plus individuals there before the season has started to clean off the dust and rust since last year's competition.

Individual results for our WOW wrestling club were great. The tournament showed us some things we still need to work on, but it also showed us the basic groundwork has been put

Hanna Arledge-Teran had two really good matches that showed that she has improved over the summer and she is ready to do some great things this season. Her technique is improving every day in the room and she has one of most competitive souls I have ever worked with. Her strength it still has a ways to go and is improving. When her strength catches up to the level of her technique, she is going to be a threat to best in the state.

Jimmy Buurma went 1 and 2 on the day showing some great promise by placing 3rd. He made a couple of small mistakes that he is already working on to "clean-up". He learned that when you are going against the best, even the smallest of mistakes can cost you a match. When you are wrestling the easy competition you can get away with mistakes, here and there, but as you work your way up the ranks, mistakes have to minimized. Jimmy will be someone to watch throughout the season. He is on the threshold of doing some great things

Beau Baker drew two of the toughest guys at his weight and age. It was overheard from another coach that it was probably the toughest draws in the tournament. Beau showed a great deal of character in both his matches, he never gave up. He is one the strongest at his weight and his

athletic ability is hard to match, and as his focus in practice and technique improves he will become the force that many of his opponents will fear.

Ayden Bradberry had some outstanding matches both in his wins and his losses and placed 3rd. He had two big wins on the day over some tough competitors. Ayden is picking up speed and confidence in his wrestling. Ayden is working on a couple small techniques to master to go with his great "bag of tricks" to make him will become one of those guys you can count on. He can already be counted on to be a thrill

Fowlerville News & Views

"Weekly Community & Business Guide" Published on Sunday by H&H Publications LLC

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



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to watch because of his "go get him" attitude. Ayden has a bright future in wrestling.

Richard Davis was 1-2 on the day and had a 3rd place. Younger brother, Jonathen Davis finished 2nd and was 1 and 1. Both brothers are like our secret weapons of the future. They limit their tournament time but practice hard when they have the chance. Both are competitors with big hearts, and will not admit defeat. Their development up to this season has been outstanding and with just a little tune-up on their already strong basics they are going to be leaders in the group that makes Fowlerville Wrestling a team that we can all be proud of.

Parker Christie was 1-2 on the day with 1 pin and finished 4th place. Parker is gaining experience every time he steps on the mat. He faces a disadvantage in our practice room. He is one of those big guys for his age and he has difficulty finding the right partners to work with. He is practicing with older guys that have not let him have too many "free days" in the room. We had another guy just like that a few years ago that turned that disadvantage into an advantage which led to a chance to wrestle in college. Hopefully Parker turns this disadvantage into his advantage soon. We are looking for that next big heavyweight to win a couple of state titles

Austin Wilber is our seasoned veteran on the junior high team. He finished 1st place with a 2-0 record, a tech fall and pin with no offensive points scored on him this week. He has been scored at will and is working on his options during matches. This weekend, 12/8-10, he is off to Virginia to wrestle in a team tournament with all stars from the state of Michigan challengeing the all stars of other states. He has unbelievable potential.

This group of individuals wrestled an outstanding weekend tournament and, as they grow individually, and as a group, we can expect some great successes from this core of Junior High Wrestlers.

The Junior High School Team starts practice on January 8 and will need to fill 19 weight classes from 70 lbs to 260 lbs. A challenge for everyone.

—Area Deaths—

Harvey Benjamin Westerby

Harvey Benjamin Westerby, age 84 of Myrtle Beach, S.C. (formerly of Lake Isabella, MI) passed away on Monday, December 4, 2017.

Harvey was born on May 23, 1933 in Holly, MI to Wilson and Irva (Wortman) Westerby. He grew up in the Holly area and attended the Howell area schools. On June 23, 1956 he married Noreta "Rita" Bartig in Webberville, MI.

Harvey worked for the Fowlerville Lumber Company and he retired after more than 50 years of service. Woodworking, lawn care, volunteering for Commission on Aging "Meals on Wheels" were a few of Harvey's favorite pastimes, but his most joyous part of life was sharing the Lord of his life with everyone he met. Harvey was a member of Chippewa Hills Baptist Church in Remus.

Harvey leaves his dear family to cherish his memory: his wife, Noreta "Rita"; children, Bryan (Jeanne) Westerby, Brent Westerby, Suzanne (Greg) Stoffregen and Cheryl Westerby; grandchildren, Nicole (Keith) Elliott, Bryan "BJ" Westerby, Phillip (Sophia) Stoffregen, and Josiah Stoffregen; 2 great-grandchildren; sibling, Dollie Maas and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Harvey was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Wilson, George and Charles Westerby and sister, Ella Farmer.

A Memorial Service will take place on Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 11:00 A.M. at Chippewa Hills Baptist Church with grandson, Pastor Phillip Stoffregen officiating. The family will greet friends an hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church. Interment will immediately follow at the Bennett Cemetery in Sherman Township

Those wishing to express their sympathy are welcome to consider a contribution in Harvey's memory to the Chippewa Hills Baptist Church Building Fund. Envelopes will be available at the church and funeral home.

The family has entrusted arrangements to Maier Family Funeral Home of Weidman. 989-644-5000. maierfuneralhome.com.

'Breakfast with Santa' to be held Dec. 17 at Fowlerville VFW Hall

A Country-style All-You-Can-Eat 'Breakfast with Santa' will be held on Sunday, Dec. 17, at the Fowlerville VFW Hall. Breakfast starts at 8 a.m., with Santa arriving at 9 a.m. Gifts for kids. Cost is \$7 per person with kids under 12 served free. The hall is located at 215 Veterans Drive, Fowlerville.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIEDS Call (517)223-8760 Your Local Shopping Bazaar



Savvy Senior Column

By Jim Miller

Simple Home Modifications That Can Help Seniors Age in Place

Dear Savvy Senior,

What tips can you recommend to help make a home safer for aging-in-place? My 76-year-old mother wants to stay living in her own home for as long as possible, but she doesn't have the money for any big renovations.

Concerned Son

Dear Concerned,

There are dozens of small adjustments and simple modifications you can do to help make your mom's home safer and more fit for aging-in-place, that won't cost her much if anything at all. Here are some suggestions to get you started.

Eliminate Trip and Slip Hazards

Since falls are the leading cause of home injury among seniors, a good place to start is by arranging or moving your mom's furniture so there are clear pathways to walk through. Position any electrical or phone cords along the wall so they won't be a tripping hazard. If she has throw rugs, remove them or use carpet tacks or double-sided tape to secure them. And pick up items on the floor that could cause her to trip like papers, shoes or clothes.

In the bathroom, buy some non-skid rugs for the floors, and a rubber mat or adhesive nonslip strips for the floor of the tub or shower to prevent slipping, and have a carpenter install grab bars in and around the tub/shower and near the toilet for support.

Improve Lighting

Good lighting is very important for safe aging-in-place, so check the wattage ratings on your mom's lamps and light fixtures, and install the brightest bulbs allowed. Purchase some nightlights for the bathroom and in the hallways that are used after dark. And consider adding under-cabinet task lighting in the kitchen, and motion sensor lights outside the front and back doors and in the driveway.

Hand Helpers

If your mom has hand arthritis or problems griping, install lever-style door handles (or doorknob lever adapters), which are easier to use than doorknobs. The same goes for twist knob kitchen or bathroom faucets, which you can replace with a single lever, touch or sensor-style faucet. And consider replacing knobs on cabinets and drawers with easier-to-grip D-shaped handles.

Easier Living

To help make your mom's kitchen easier to use, organize her cabinets so the things she uses most often are within easy reach without a lot of stooping or using a step stool. Also, consider installing pullout shelves beneath the counter and Lazy Susans in corner cabinets for easier access. And get her a kitchen stool so she can sit down while she's working.

In the bathroom for easier and safer bathing, consider purchasing a shower chair and install a hand-held shower so your mom can bathe from a seated position if need be.

Accessibility Solutions

If your mom uses a walker or wheelchair, you can adapt her house by installing ramps on entrance steps, and mini-ramps to go over high thresholds. You can also install "swing-away" or "swing-clear" hinges on her doors to add two inches of width for easier access.

Safety Improvements

To keep your mom safe, set her hot water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or below to prevent scalds. If she has stairs, put handrails on both sides. Also, install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on all levels of her house, and place a lightweight, easy-to-use ABC-rated fire extinguisher in an easily accessible location in the kitchen.

For more tips, get a copy of AARP's "HomeFit Guide" that's filled with dozens of aging-in-place recommendations. You can access it at AARP.org/homefit, or call 888-687-2277 and ask them to mail you a free copy.

Also note that all the previously mentioned products can be purchased either in local retail stores, home improvement stores, pharmacies or medical supply stores, or online at

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

One year anniversary of I-96 pile-up How the Community Came Together During Tragedy By Ashlee Buhler

Fowlerville Police Chief John Tyler remembers where he was when he received the phone call on the morning of December 8, 2016. While sitting at his desk reviewing reports, the news of a major car accident sounded through his office radio.

What started as a beautiful sunny morning suddenly spiraled into white-out conditions that slicked over the roadways — resulting in a 53-car pile-up on I-96 just west of the Fowlerville exit. The accident occurred around 9:50 a.m. on that date a year ago.

Due to its magnitude — leaving three dead and eleven injured — the accident would become the biggest catastrophe that Livingston County has ever seen.

None of the people involved in the accident were believed to be residents of Fowlerville, Chief Tyler noted, however, that didn't stop the community from welcoming them with open arms. The efforts — both on the scene of the accident and off — were a collaboration between business, organizations and individuals that rose to the occasion to lend a helping hand.

The Fowlerville Police Department worked on scene with the Livingston County Sheriff's Department, Michigan State Police and Livingston County EMS, along with several other emergency personnel. The Livingston Essential Transportation Service (L.E.T.S.) transported those unharmed to the Fowlerville Village Hall where they could fill out witness statement forms and receive support.

Village staff stayed until 7 p.m. working with the accident victims.

"When you're in an accident like that you don't want to be by yourself," said Kathy Arledge, Fowlerville village manager. "You want to know that there's support and somebody to listen to you."

Mark Wilson, pastor of the Fowlerville United Brethren Church, was on hand to counsel those who needed it. Pizzas were donated by Carl Witt and his mother Nancy, Duke's Pizza Plus and Hungry Howies. MR Drucker's donated donuts, brownies and other snacks. Harmon Real Estate supplied water. Red Cross brought donations from McDonalds of Howell. Area residents, along with other local businesses delivered water bottles. These are just a few of the many services and donations provided by members of the community. The Fowlerville Fire Department and other surrounding area departments were on hand to help as well as former Police Chief Tom Couling and his wife Pam.

"It went as smooth as you ever could have asked for a catastrophic situation like that," Chief Tyler said of the way area people responded to the event. "This is truly a very unique community over here. You just pick up a phone and people are here to help. I've been a police officer for 13 years and I've worked for three different agencies and it's not like that anywhere else."

Although an unfortunate circumstance, the accident brought to light how quick the town could come together in a time of need. For Tyler, the community's giving-nature was the biggest take away from the event.

"It doesn't matter what badge you're wearing or where you work, when something like this happens we become one big department and one big family," he said.

Serving the community is something that Tyler said he is very proud of. When he became chief two years ago, finding ways to give back to the community and make a difference became one of biggest priorities.

"The county is going to get nothing but bigger, but I still want to keep that small-town feel where we're a local police department that is here to help," he said. "Obviously when we get called we have to do our job and sometimes we have to be the bad guy, but ultimately we're here for the betterment of the community and to serve the public.

"I can't stress enough how proud I am of my officers, the Department of Public Works (DPW), the village and everybody who works here and lives here. They live here for a reason ... they live here because it's a close knit community. Those of us who work for the village wear many hats and don't do it for the money — we work here for the comradery and to make a difference."

Arledge echoed Tyler's sentiments.

"We kind of want to set a legacy with the level of empathy that we have here in the village," she said. "Whoever steps in my position after me, I want them to keep the community together as much as we try to."

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Among those assisting the stranded motorists a year ago were, from left, front row, Kathryn Arledge, the village manager; Lorraine Ritchie, the police administrative assistant; Jamie Hartman, office staff; back row, Nadia Freeman, office staff; Pastor Mark Wilson of the Fowlerville United Brethren Church; Police Chief John Tyler; Sgt. Jeff Soli; and Michelle Lamb, office staff.

THE CONVERSATION

You must remember this: *Casablanca* at 75 – still a classic of WWII propaganda

By Stephen McVeigh

Casablanca, which brought together the combined star-power of Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, remains one of the best-loved movies ever produced in Hollywood. But the film, which hit the silver screen on November 26 1942, is more than just a love story set in Morocco. Released in the aftermath of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor – which propelled a reluctant United States to enter World War II – the film was actually a classic piece of propaganda cinema masquerading as popular entertainment.

When war broke out in Europe in September 1939, the United States was the only major power with neither an intelligence nor a propaganda agency. But this all changed after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. Just as intelligence would be essential for shaping and directing political and military objectives in Europe and Asia as the conflict spread, propaganda would be vital for supporting the American war effort by shaping and directing American ideas and beliefs in relation to the conflict.

In June 1942, the office of war information (OWI) was set up to promote the war effort and was given the task of developing campaigns to enhance public understanding of the war at home and abroad. A key element of this was the co-ordination of government information activities, as well as liaising with the press, radio, and – crucially – motion pictures.

In effect, the OWI was charged with selling the war. After experimenting with propaganda in the form of posters and documentaries, the OWI turned to more imaginative sources. Its director, Elmer Davis – formerly a reporter with the *New York Times* and *CBS* – made this key observation:

The easiest way to inject a propaganda idea into most people's minds is to let it go in through the medium of an entertainment picture when they do not realize they are being propagandized.

Hollywood would play a significant role in this. For box office reasons as much as political ones, Hollywood was eager to harness the medium of entertainment to support the war effort. And so several popular films made at this time – including *Mrs. Miniver* (1942), *The More the Merrier* (1943), *This is the Army* (1943), *Since You Went Away* (1944) – combined traditional artistic and entertainment concerns with a purposeful political dimension.

The agency issued specific guidelines, as well as reviewing scripts and early cuts of films, making suggestions for insertions or deletions. It required film makers to consider seven questions before producing a movie:

- 1. Will this picture help win the war?
- 2. What war information problem does it seek to clarify, dramatize, or interpret?
- 3. If it is an "escape" picture, will it harm the war effort by creating a false picture of America, her allies, or the world we live in?
- 4. Does it merely use the war as the basis for a profitable picture, contributing nothing of real significance to the

- war effort and possibly lessening the effect of other pictures of more importance?
- 5. Does it contribute something new to our understanding of the world conflict and the various forces involved, or has the subject already been adequately covered?
- 6. When the picture reaches its maximum circulation on the screen, will it reflect conditions as they are and fill a need current at that time, or will it be out-dated?
- 7. Does the picture tell the truth or will the young people of today have reason to say they were misled by propaganda?

A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP

At the heart of *Casablanca* is a concern with the implications of American isolationism in the context of the threat posed to Europe by Nazism.

Elements of the dialogue between characters in the film echo and then argue with contemporary American foreign policy attitudes – offering reasons to engage. Bogart is perfectly cast as cynical bar owner Rick, an American formerly living in Paris who has fled the German occupation to open his Café Americain, which has become a melting pot of wartime nationalities. Rick advances what had traditionally been a popular American justification for isolationism: "I stick my neck out for nobody. The problems of this world are not in my department. I'm a saloon keeper."

But for Roosevelt's administration – and for increasing numbers of Americans – the attack on Pearl Harbor had shattered any lingering illusions that America might turn its back on the world. From this perspective the story of Casablanca is the story of Rick's transition from aloof to engaged. This is made explicit by the owner of the Blue Parrot cafe, Signor Ferrari (Sydney Greenstreet), who tells Rick:

"My dear Rick, when will you realize that in the world today, isolationism is no longer a practical policy?"

But more dynamic than these relatively subtle pieces of dialogue is the famous scene where Rick clearly takes sides, showing the audience who he believes are the heroes and the villains of the European conflict.

A contingent of German officers is singing nationalist songs. Victor Lazlo (Paul Heinreid), a heroic resistance fighter who represents the nobility and sacrifice of the oppressed Europeans, demands that the band play 'La Marseillaise,' the French national anthem. The band looks to Rick, who nods assent and in that nod he relinquishes his isolationism. The anthem is rousingly played and the Nazis, who initially try to sing more loudly, are drowned out by the patrons singing in unison and they give up. By identifying with Rick, moviegoers were encouraged to make the same choice.

Casablanca is a dramatic, heartbreaking movie, an unsurpassed classic from Hollywood's golden era. But it is also an extremely effective piece of propaganda cinema, persuading an American audience reluctant to commit to another European conflict to set aside its isolationism simply by dramatizing the heroism of the European resistance to Nazi Germany.

Stephen McVeigh is an Associate Professor in War and Society is Swansea University located in the United Kingdom. This article first appeared in The Conversation. www.theconversation.com

Fowlerville Junior High **School News**

IMPORTANT DATES:

Candy Cane Conundrum-- Wed. Dec. 20 Winter Break-No School—Dec. 21-Jan. 2

SPORTS FOR WEEK OF DEC. 11:

Mon.,, 12/11: BBB vs Haslett-4:30; 7A,8H; bus-3:30 Wed., 12/13: BBB vs Charlotte-4:30; 7H,8A; bus-3:30 Remember, CMS does NOT have a concession.

THIS IS THE FINAL WEEK OF BOYS' BASKETBALL at FJH. Thank you athletes, coaches, fans, officials, & FJH staff for all your cooperation this season.

Sat., 12/16: COMPETITIVE CHEER @ Walled Lake Western High School-9:00; bus-7:00. Great work Competitive Cheer team for your successful bottle drive last weekend!

Tues., 11/12: COMPETITIVE CHEER PICTURES @ 3:00; bring uniform to practice. EVERYONE is photographed, whether or not a purchase is being made.

CONWAY TOWNSHIP LIVINGSTON COUNTY, **MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC** NOTICE OF DAISEY LANE SPECIAL ASSESSEMENT **PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Conway Township Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on December 19, 2017, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Township Hall located at 8015 N. Fowlerville Road, Fowlerville, Michigan 48836, for an annual review of the costs of regular road maintenance and snow plowing services known as assessment Part A of the Daisey Lane Special Assessment District. The annual cost for year two of assessment Part A is anticipated to be the same as year one, with an assessment amount of \$476.54 per parcel.

Written comments concerning the above matters may be submitted to the Conway Township Clerk, at any time prior to the meeting, and may further be submitted to the Board of Trustees at the public hearing. The costs estimates may be examined at the Township Hall during regular Township business hours, which are 9 am to 3 pm Tuesdays and Wednesdays, after the publication of this Notice and until and including the day of the hearing.

Conway Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, upon ten days' notice to the Conway Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk by writing or calling the following: Conway Township Clerk, 8015 N Fowlerville, Fowlerville, MI 48836 or call 517 223-0358, between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

> Todd Anderson, Clerk Conway Township 8015 N. Fowlerville Road Fowlerville, MI 48836 517-223-0358 (12-10-17 FNV)

REMINDER: GBB (7TH & 8TH) & WRESTLING (6-7-8) begin after the Christmas holiday. Have your (REQUIRED) physical on file to try out!



CSI WINNERS ON 12-1-17 Terrah Shaffner, Alexis Jones, Jacob Toms, Kurt Clark, Christian Brach

We have Spirit - Yes we do!

Spirit week will be December 17th through December 20th.

12/15 Friday – Crazy Holiday Hair

12/18 Monday – Holiday Hat Day 12/19 Tuesday – Holiday Sock Day

12/20 Wednesday - 6th Grade wears Red, 7th Grade wears Green, 8th Grade wears White

New Year's Pop Tab Challenge

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

HOLIDAY GIVING TREE

The Junior High Student Council and The Family Impact Center have joined together to make Christmas brighter for

SYNOPSIS PROPOSED IOSCO TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING **MINUTES NOVEMBER 16th, 2017**

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

Motion to approve the Agenda with addi-

Call to the Public: The Public was heard from.

Motion to adopt the proposed Regular Meeting Minutes of 10-19-2017; with correc-

Heard the Treasurer's report.

Motion to approve the contracts for the School Summer Tax Collection with the Fowlerville, Howell, and LESA school dis-

Motion to pay \$100,887.57 in Township bills. This amount includes \$69,667.61 for road work on Kane Road, \$11,901.60 for the monthly garbage pickup bill, and \$2,281.82 to the Township Planner.

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

Heard a report on the status of the Park Committee.

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

Motion to Adjourn at 8:47PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Delmerico Township Clerk (12-10-17 FNV)

two families. Beginning, November 17th, located inside the office at the Junior High School is a Christmas tree with tags with gift needs labeled on them. Please remove a tag and bring back the unwrapped gift to the office by Tuesday, December 12th with the tag attached. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Any questions, please contact Mrs. DeLuca 223-6250, delucac@fowlervilleschools.org

8TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL

Both 8th grade boys teams lost to talented Okemos teams on Nov. 29 at home. However, both teams played well despite the score. The B team lost 22-49, Micah Keuvelaar and Traven Juopperi each had 1 point, Landon Brockway, Jack Wylie and Calvin Dowker each added 2 points, Zach Waters had 4 points and Korben Bowlsby lead the Gladiators with 10 points. The A team lost 38-57, Zach Curd and Owen Weias each had 2 points, Carter Young added 11 and Jack Shrader lead the Glads with 23 points.

The boys 8th grade teams each lost to DeWitt on Dec. 4th in DeWitt. The A team played first and lost a close match 54-62. Gregory Wilkonson had 2 points, Zach Curd, 4 points, Taiton Eastwood and Owen Weias each added 8 points, Jack Shrader had 14 points and Carter Young Lead the Gladiators with 18 points. The B team lost as well, Josh Quinn had 1 point, Isaac Way had 2 points, Zach Waters and Landon Brockway both split the leading scorer title with 8 points each.

Ski and Snowboard Club Informational Meeting

The Ski and Snowboard Club informational meeting will be on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Junior High Cafeteria. Our first outing to Mt. Brighton is scheduled for January 03, 2018 (weather permitting). The club will meet for 7 weeks every Wednesday. For further information, please contact Mrs. DeLuca at 223-6250.



Area youth bags first buck

An area youth bagged his first buck during the recent firearms deer season. Victor Bailer, age 15, of Williamston shot this 12-pointer in Ingham County on Nov. 19. Victor is the son of Ralph and Jennifer Bailer.



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Livingston County Comments

By: Doug Helzerman, District 4 Commissioner

Several years ago, after a snow storm, when I was stuck in a snow drift at the end of my driveway, a car with several high school boys stopped to help push me out. I offered them some money which they refused, saying that they were just doing the normal thing. That day I felt good about living in Fowlerville and realized there was great hope for the future of our country. This week I had two other reasons to be proud of our home town.

We are at the one-year anniversary of the multiple car pileup on I-96 west of Fowlerville. Kathy Arledge and the village staff opened their arms to the victims of that event and helped organize many people in the community to meet the needs of all those who were bussed into Fowlerville to wait and make arrangements for transportation. There was no plan or prior training for such an event but they knew what to do and who to call for help. All who were called willingly pitched in. Others, hearing of the need, came to volunteer. Help came in so many ways they cannot all be mentioned here. The property loss and number of deaths mark this as one of the worst events in our state for 2016.

I recently attended the debriefing meeting for the Christmas in the Ville committee. This committee's work is another example of people from this community stepping forward to put on an incredible event and parade. Fifteen thousand people coming to the village for any reason is quite a feat. The good weather, allowing for the balloon launches, was

IOSCO TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING DECEMBER 14TH, 2017

There will be a Special Workshop Meeting of the Iosco Township Planning Commission & Township Board at 7:00 P.M., at the Iosco Township Hall, 2050 Bradley Rd., Webberville, MI 48892. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss proposed changes to the Township Zoning Ordinance.

Dan Delmerico losco Township Clerk (12-10-17 FNV)

CONWAY TOWNSHIP LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Conway Township Board will be holding a budget workshop on December 19, 2017 at 5 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss preliminary budget figures for the April 1, 2018-March 31, 2019 fiscal year.

Conway Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing/meeting to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, upon ten days' notice to the Conway Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk by writing or calling the following: Conway Township Clerk, 8015 N Fowlerville, Fowlerville, MI 48836 or call 517-223-0358, between the hours of 9-3 Tuesdays and 9-5 Wednesdays.

Liz Whitt Deputy Clerk (12-10-17 FNV) a factor, but anyone experiencing the parade and the flames blasting from the balloon baskets along the downtown parade route knows that this is a singular experience that is spectacular. It is no wonder that it attracts so many people. Those that are behind the scene organizing, taking care to plan for all of the possible risks, and cleaning up afterwards are to be commended. The Fowlerville Police department and village DPW crew were indispensable to the safety and smooth running of that day.

Fowlerville is a village, a school district, a fire authority, and a telephone area. It has a fair, 4th of July fireworks, an expressway exit, a business district, several industrial districts, a newspaper, civic organizations, churches, parades, and events, etc. People from at least six townships say they are from "Fowlerville". When any group of people aims to do good, it is not long until what they accomplish together turns out to be great. Fowlerville is a place where we see greatness quite often. A special thank and Merry Christmas to all of you that make this town unique.

If you have any comments or concerns, I would be happy to hear from you. 517 540-8717 or dhelzerman@livgov.com.

Bradley L. Horton

Associate Attorney

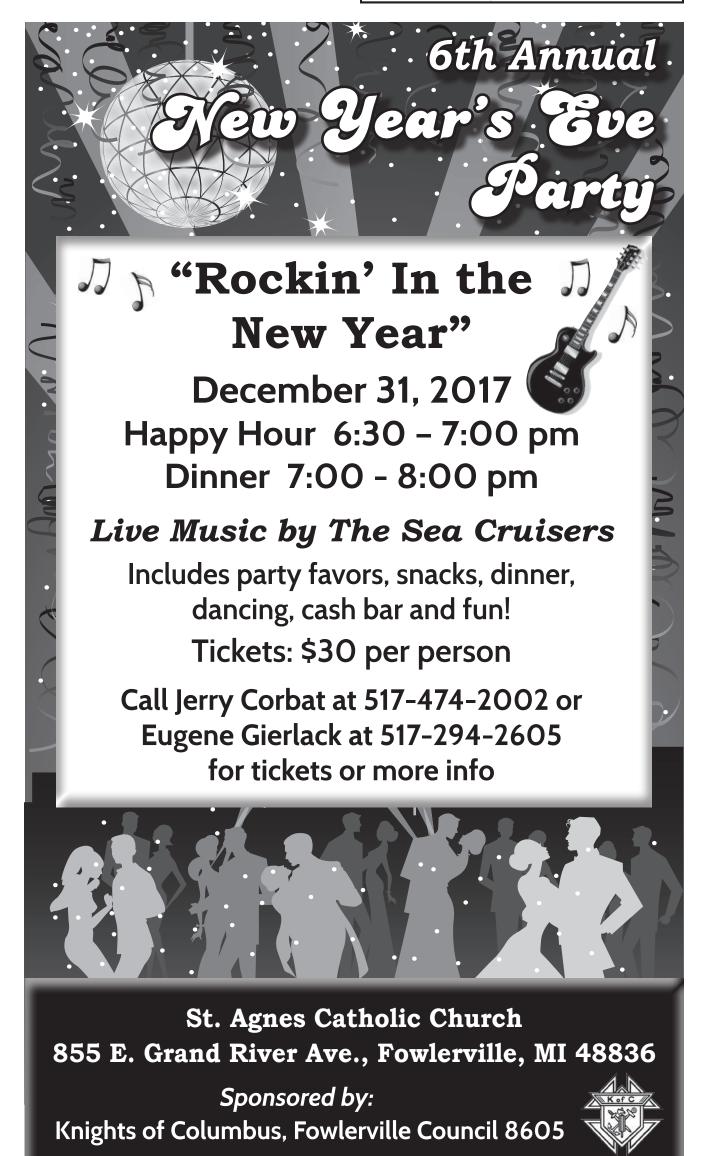
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NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIED SECTION Call (517)223-8760

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



-DEADLINE THURSDAY BY 3PM-

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

EVANS GARAGE DOOR REPAIRAND INSTALLATION. Spring replacement. Wayne Dalton garage doors and Lift Master garage openers. "Our Business is Up & Down." Call anytime 517-223 2005

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

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

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MECHANIC WILL WORK cheap on cars, pickups, and SUVs. (517) 223-8219.

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THE VILLAGE CHAPEL LLC - HISTORIC WEDDING CHAPEL AND CONCERT HALL in Downtown Fowlerville 123 S Second St. 517-223-0517- www.LoveisLoveChapel.com

MECHANIC WILL WORK cheap on cars, pickups, and SUVs. (517) 223-8219.

EARTHSHINE MASSAGE, Kerin Reed, BS, LMT would like to express gratitude for the wonderful clients and any potential clients who entrust my work as part of your health care routine. Thank you for your Continued Support and Happy Holidays! I guarantee to reduce any holiday stress! **Call or Schedule online**: (517) 304-5151/223-8552, www.earthshine.massagetherapy.com

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

FOR SALE:2003 Dodge Caravan, \$1,550. 989-984-4861.

WANTED TO RENT: Good productive farm ground. Rent paid in advance. Please call 517-219-7198.

CAREGIVERS WANTED for small elderly care home in Howell. Second & Third Shifts. 517-861-0176.

BACKHOE FOR HIRE. Call 989-984-4861.

DRIVERS: Dedicated~Home Daily! Great Pay & Benefits! \$180 to \$200 per day (5-6 days/wk)! CDL-A, 6mos exp. 855-419-9941

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J.R. RESIDENTIAL CLEANING: Professional cleaner with 5 years of experience. Attention to detail. Call 517-455-6158 to schedule your next cleaning.

HAY – 1ST **CUTTING:** Square bale \$3.50. Ford 7700 diesel tractor - \$8,200, new clutch and 5 bottom International plow. 517-223-8473.

EXPERIENCED SNOW PLOW DRIVER ONLY - \$12-\$16 per hour. Snow Shoveler - \$12-\$14 per hour. On call 24 hours. May arrange transportation between Fowlerville and Brighton. Text 248-504-7358 or leave message at 248-788-6797.

MURPHY FARMS. 4x5 net wrapped round bales, 850-900 lbs. Timothy, brome, alfalfa, mixed. No rain, stored inside, pick up or delivery. Prices \$65-\$73 per bale. 517-206-7377.

Howell American Legion to once again serve Christmas Day Dinner

The 36th Annual American Legion Christmas Day Dinner will be held on December 25th. Fellow Veteran organizations and volunteers prepare, serve and deliver to the "Meals on Wheels" seniors who are on the county nutrition program and to shut-ins across the Livingston County area.

Beginning at noon and served until 4pm, a free traditional Christmas dinner is available in-house at the Post to anyone who wishes a hot meal or fellowship on Christmas Day. Join

Looking for a way to work off your own Christmas dinner? Dishwashers during the day and help with clean up are welcome. Volunteer sign-up sheet is at the Hall. For reservations or to schedule a meal delivery, call 517-546-2534 or email legionpost141howell@gmail.com. The Legion Post is located at the corner of M-59 and Grand River, Howell Township

Michigan State Police again partnering with Marine Corps-Toys for Tots

The Michigan State Police (MSP) Brighton Post is pleased to announce their continued partnership with the Marine Corps - Toys for Tots program. The Brighton Post located at 4337 Buno Road, Brighton, Michigan 48114 is once again a drop off location for toys during this season of giving. We look forward to seeing our regular Toys for Tots participants and hope to make some new friends this year.

Last year the community's generosity was astounding, and we look forward to how they will out do themselves this year.

Williamston Eagles Club to hold New Year's Eve Celebration

A New Year's Eve Celebration is being held at the Williamston Eagles Club. Ring in 2018 at the Eagles Club on the banks of the Red Cedar River. Featuring Aces High Band for your listening pleasure from 8pm to Midnight. Aces High Band plays a great variety of Rock n Roll. Champagne toast and balloon drop at midnight, free table snacks (Jello shots and food available to purchase.)

Doors open at 3pm. No Cover Charge and Open to the Public. Bring your group for a great time! Club is located at 835 High Street. Call 655-6510 for more info.



Michigan House Report

By Dr. Hank Vaupel, 47nd District

Congratulations to the Fowlerville Business Association and Fowlerville Rotary, along with the many volunteers and participants who made this year's "Christmas in the Ville" possible. This annual event includes activities around town and an excellent parade to kick off the holiday season.

This year's parade grand marshals were Steve and Dawn Horton, owners of the *Fowlerville News & Views*. Over the years, Steve and Dawn have been great community partners and involved in many projects throughout our community. It was great to see them in the spotlight this year.

Lynn Roberts, fondly known as Lynn "Win" Roberts, has been performing professionally since the age of 14. He has memorably performed for many veterans across the United States. He has performed at theaters, military USO shows, on television and in many other capacities to showcase his many talents.

Last Friday, I had the honor of presenting Lynn Roberts with a special State of Michigan tribute that was signed by Livingston County legislators and Gov. Snyder. I joined Lynn at his Howell show and expressed my appreciation of his efforts in bringing happiness to our veterans and active service members.

I had the pleasure of joining a Medicaid Reform roundtable discussion held this week in Lansing by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services. There was interesting information being shared and I look forward to participating in ongoing discussions for Medicaid services in the future

Thank you to all who attended my November office hours! I hope you'll be able to join me for my next round of office hours, happening Friday, Dec. 15 at the following times and locations:

--2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Fowlerville Farms, 941 S. Grand Ave. in Fowlerville

--4 to 5 p.m. at a location to be announced shortly*

--5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at All Star Coney Island, 934 Michigan Ave. in Howell

*You can look for updated coffee hour location information on my website at www.gophouse.org/representatives/southeast/vaupel/ or by calling my Lansing office (see information below).

No appointments are necessary to attend. If you are unable to attend but would still like to share a thought, concern or idea with me, please contact my capital office at (866) 828-4863 or HankVaupel@house.mi.gov.

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank the Christmas in the Ville Committee for selecting us as this year's grand marshals of the parade. It was a great honor and one that we very much appreciate and will always remember with gratitude. We would also like to thank all of those who took the time to congratulate us. Thanks also to Mike Kelly of Champion Chevrolet for the great ride. Finally, we want to thank all those, past and present, who have supported our newspaper over the years. We're proud to be part of this great holiday event and to be part of a great community! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and all of you.

Steve & Dawn Horton Fowlerville News & Views

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Caleb **Jenkins** Column



Decency in Office

The news has recently been flooded with stories of elected officials being accused of promiscuity, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. It is unsettling that anyone would engage in such actions of dominance and indecency, but we traditionally would like to think that our elected officials are functioning at a higher standard. After all, we elected them to be the "best and the brightest," so it is disturbing when they violate that trust and abuse their positions. Sexual promiscuity should be condemned wherever it is found, but I am going to focus on several reasons why such actions by government leaders are particularly disturbing.

First, elected officials are put into positions of leadership, and we should be expecting them to lead by example. It is acceptable for us to be dismayed when we hear such news because there is an expectation associated with the position. Each person is ultimately responsible for his or her own actions, but if our leaders are not upholding moral principles, then it is difficult to encourage the average citizen to do so. These government officials are not practicing what they preach, and they are sending a message that their actions are acceptable.

Second, such government leaders are abusing the power and positions that they possess. Last week, we talked about the importance of who is wielding the power, and if the people in influential positions of government are using that power for their own twisted aims, then there is a serious problem. We entrust these public servants with the power to spend our tax money and to set the direction of the country.

I don't know about you, but I take issue with my tax money being used to promote personal expenditures on sexual promiscuity. As for the latter point, I fail to see how we can entrust the policies and agenda of our country with individuals who cannot even manage their own lives.

Third, it distracts from the issues at hand. We are at a critical juncture in our country's history when we need clear thinking and sincere focus. There are a plethora of important matters that need to be addressed in a timely and thorough manner, yet we keep getting distracted from them by unnecessary and detrimental scandals. If those responsible could simply maintain themselves, then we could keep our attention on the topics and perhaps get something significant done. Our governmental system becomes less and less effective because these instances distract from the issues and reduce confidence in government.

This is where the fourth consideration comes into effect. These instances that keep arising cause people to have less and less faith in their government and in the officials leading the country. Certainly, blame can be placed on those in office who are giving government a bad name. However, we must also do our part of distinguishing the good from the bad. Not all government officials are bad. In fact, most of them are hard-working, responsible people who want what is best for their communities and country. Yes, we definitely need to hold our elected officials responsible when they are acting improperly, but we must not fall into the trap of condemning those who are doing their best to serve us.

Fowlerville High School News

OFFICE HOURS

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Balfour – cap & gown orders Dec 15 Holiday Break Begins Dec 21 Return to School Jan 3

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

Febreze Air Care Recycling Fundraising Opportunity

The Fowlerville High School Life Skills class is proud to announce our partnership with terricycle that will pay us for recycling! The items that we will be collecting are air freshener cartridges and plugs, Air freshener packaging and flexible film, Air Freshener plastic trigger heads, Febreze One bottles with trigger heads and Frebreze ONE refills. We will be paid \$1/lb of waste we send to terricycle. What I love about this is we do not have to sell anything and we can expand our recycling efforts that my class is already highly involved in. The money that we make will go toward more community based instruction opportunities, and cooking supplies for our life skills class. We have drop boxes at the high school in room C201, at Little Glads, UB church in the student center and at the Fowlerville Library. If you have a business or organization that would be willing to promote and have a drop box added to your location, please contact Deanna Ragland at 223-6145 or e-mail raglandd@fowlervilleschool.org

Seniors – Balfour will be here again on Dec 15th for cap and gown orders, you can also order via phone number on the order forms.

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

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Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team earns win over Charyl Stockwell

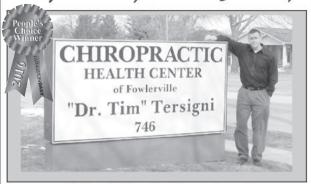
The Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team opened its season last Tuesday, Dec. 5, with a hard fought 74-62 win over Charyl Stockwell. Caden Collins led the way with 23 points, 12 assists and 7 rebounds. Geoffrey Knaggs added 22 points and 7 rebounds. Brendan Young helped out with 19 points and 7 boards. Mitchell Bishop led the Glads with 8 rebounds.

The team hosted Eaton Rapids this past Friday in the league opener. The Glads host Perry this Tuesday and then Portland in another conference game on Friday, Dec. 15.

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This view from above captured by a drone, shows the crowds of people as they watch the end of the parade.



The Fowlerville Family Fair 2017 Homemaker of the Year, Vicki Lobodocky, rode in the parade.



Shown here is one of five different Girl Scout floats in the parade.



Uptown Alure Salon had this "Flintstone" float in the parade.



Reggie's Barber & Beauty Salon put a smile on everyone's face as they rode through the parade.



Shown here with the Fowlerville Dental Center "Warmest Wishes" float are, from left, Colton Denby, Shelby Denby, Adrianna Denby, and Brandon Denby dressed as "Santa".



 $\label{eq:St.Agnes} \textbf{St. Agnes Catholic Church reminded us of the reason for the season.}$



Santa rode in on the "Make A Wish" float at the end of the parade.



Stacy Kim lights up the parade with her hula hoop of fire.



Fowlerville Feed and Pet Supplies had this colorful float in the parade.



Remax Platinum had their lighted gazebo float in the parade this year.

Journey to becoming a pastor a unique one for Diane Greble

By Ashlee Buhler

For Diane Greble, the journey to becoming a pastor has been unique—one that she began after a successful career in another line of work.

At present, she is the pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Fowlerville, a position she has held for over six years now. Altogether she's been in the ministry for around 12 years.

She has two college degrees — one in graphic design and the other in business management — which led to a 16-year career in design and marketing. During that time span, Greble worked for two food companies, including Domino's Pizza where she designed pizza boxes and signs for delivery cars. She later worked for two book publishing companies. It was one of those, namely Servant Publications, which she credits for having a direct impact in her call to ministry.

"What was even more meaningful is that the company had an ecumenical mission," Greble said. "We were publishing books for Roman Catholics as well as for Evangelical Christians. It was a tremendous blessing for me, being a Lutheran, because our tradition can be envisioned as a bridge between those two strong Christian traditions."

While working extensively with editors and proofreaders in the book publishing industry, Greble acquired writing skills that would become beneficial for her future in ministry.

"This was an extraordinary gift because the work of being a pastor requires a great deal of writing and communicating," she said.

Greble said that becoming a pastor wasn't so much a decision, but was rather "a calling from God."

With the Christmas season upon us once again, Pastor Diane Greble of St. John's Lutheran Church is shown next to the Advent Candles in the sanctuary. The church is encouraging members of the community to light their own (electric or battery-operated) candles and place them in a prominent window in their home. Last week, with the start of Advent on Dec. 3, one candle would be shining. This week it would be increased to two, on Sunday, Dec. 17, three candles would be shining throughout the week, and then on Sunday, Dec. 24, the fourth one would be added.



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"I learned a great deal about the life of the church in my twenties and thirties, and life in the church became my own," Greble explained. "It was not so much about the institution but my relationship with God and responding to it by recognizing what was given to me and trying to share it generously.

"When in 1998 my own pastor commented that the church could use a pastor like me, the discernment began," she said. "Ultimately, the church called me into a leadership and I answered that call. I did not wake up one morning and say, 'I'm going to be a pastor'."

After receiving her Master of Divinity from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, Greble first served as a pastor in the town of Kaleva for six years. Then in 2011 she received the call to serve at St. John's Lutheran in Fowlerville.

She said that becoming a part of this close-knit community made her ministry here extra special.

"I appreciated moving to Fowlerville and being a part of this community and getting to know lots of really wonderful people," she said. "I value the relationships that are built and the opportunity to work together in mission and ministry that extends the love of God to others."

Greble noted that "having opportunities for spiritual growth and working with children" are a few of the other perks that come with the job.

"I love working with children," she said. "I wanted to be an elementary teacher once but didn't quite take that route."

Diane Greble was born and raised in Chelsea, where she grew up in a family of six.

"My family's roots run deep in the Chelsea area, with an ancestry of immigrant farmers who relied upon crops and livestock for their livelihoods," she said. "Although my parents were not full-time farmers, we did raise sheep and farm some cash crops on a part-time basis."

Greble lives in Fowlerville with her husband Ken, who is on track to become an ordained minister in 2018. Greble also has two adult step-daughters who both reside in Grand

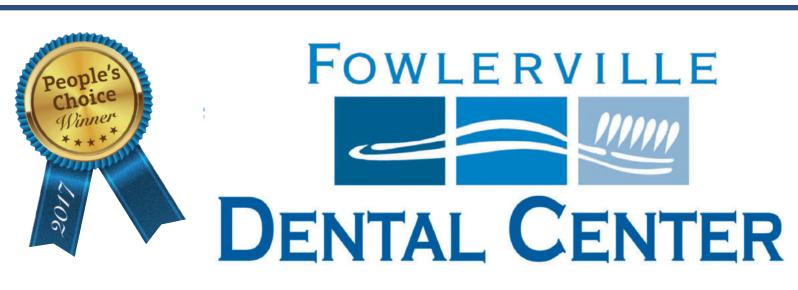
In her spare time, she enjoys drawing, water color painting, practicing piano and singing with the community choir.

As for the future, Greble envisions being a pastor for many

"If God is willing and the people are willing," she said of that goal. "I see that there is a lot of work to do because the presence of church in the communities brings a lot of strength and a place where people can find hope, friendship, and relief from the struggles that are so rampant in our culture."







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