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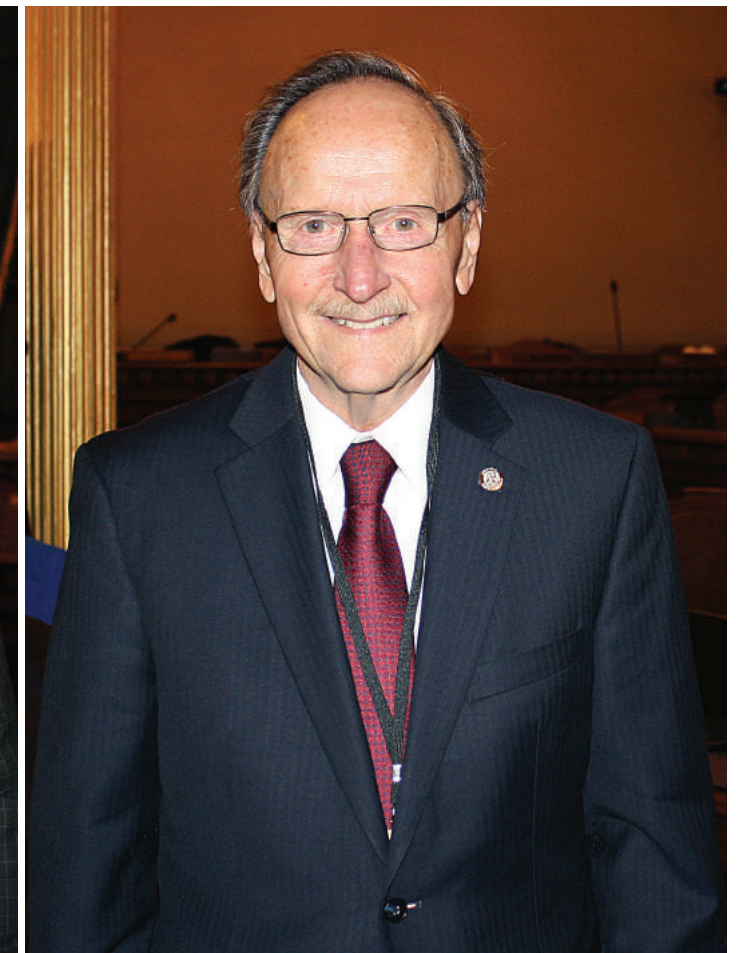
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Published Weekly



State Senator Joe Hune, left, and State Representative Hank Vaupel were at last Tuesday's State of the State Address, given by Gov. Rick Snyder before a joint convention of the Michigan Legislature. The reactions to the speech by the two Fowlerville area lawmakers are part of the coverage of that address and can be found inside this issue.

## Gov. Snyder delivers his final State of the State Address this past Tuesday

*Area lawmakers Rep. Hank Vaupel  
& Sen. Joe Hune offer reactions*

By Steve Horton

Gov. Snyder, who leaves office at the end of this year, gave his final State of the State address to a joint session of the legislature this past Tuesday evening, using the occasion to review the past seven years and to set a few goals for the final months of his administration.

Among those in attendance were state Senator Joe Hune and state Representative Hank Vaupel—both from Fowlerville.

Calling what's happened since 2011 (the year he took office)

"the incredible comeback of Michigan," Gov. Snyder spent most of his nearly one-hour speech comparing and contrasting what happened before he took office and what's happened since.

He began by showing two articles that had appeared in the Wall Street Journal about Michigan. "The headline in 2009 was 'The State of Joblessness'," he said, adding that the article said "to steer clear of Michigan" and described how "the Wolverine state is once again set to run out of money, and it is once again poised to raise taxes even as jobs and businesses disappear." By contrast, he noted that the headline in the Sept. 25, 2017 issue in the newspaper read "The Michigan Comeback Story" and stated how "Michigan offers a case study in the pro-growth potential of business tax reform."

He offered a review of the past seven years in a number of

*continued on page 4*

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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](http://www.fowlervillelibrary.org).  
Phone: 517-223-9089

\*\*\*

## Fowlerville Library Writers Group - Begins Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 2:30pm Meets Weekly January 31<sup>st</sup>-March 21<sup>st</sup>

**Adults.** Do you want feedback on your writing projects? Are you interested in exploring different writing exercises? If so, then join our 8-part Winter 2018 session. You are invited to bring a 1-page sample for feedback from the group.  
\*Registration begins January 17<sup>th</sup>. No late entries.

\*\*\*

## Travel Series: Around the World in a Year - Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm

**Adults.** Highlighting the sights, sounds, life-changing encounters, and humorous stories of world travel while at the library! \*Register in person to attend. Registration begins January 18<sup>th</sup> and includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit.

\*\*\*

## Cartooning Workshop - Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5-8pm Teens 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades. Welcome Lansing area artist LeBaron Rodgers II as he leads you through creating a unique anime or cartoon character of your own design. Pizza and a beverage will be served. \*Register in person to attend. Registration is required and includes a 2017-2018 signed Program Permission Form. Registration begins January 19<sup>th</sup>. Register by January 31<sup>st</sup> to attend.

\*\*\*

## Pop-Up Library – During All Lunches Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at the Fowlerville High School Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Fowlerville Junior High At the Pop-up Library, you can get a library card; check in and out FDL books; get help with the Axis 360 app and eBooks; register to attend FDL Teen Programs; get your library questions answered; and talk about books, movies, technology, and games with some cool librarians. And you can tell us your ideas for FDL Teen Programs—We’re listening!

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## Beyond the Book: Winter’s Bone - Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

**Adults.** Featuring a book and its film adaptation, and some great discussion! Movie-style refreshments will be served. \*Register in person to attend. Registration began January 18<sup>th</sup>. Books will be given while supplies last.

\*\*\*

## Pop-Up Library - Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## Midwinter Coloring Event - Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

**Adults.** Brighten up the night and join your friends at the library to add some color to your life with coloring and conversation at our mid-winter adult coloring event. Light refreshments will be served. \*Register in person to attend. Registration begins February 1<sup>st</sup> and includes a refundable \$5 cash deposit.

\*\*\*

## Share the Love: Card Making - Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30-6:30pm

**Families.** Have some card-making fun with your family and friends! We provide the cardstock, stickers, and envelopes, and you provide the designs! We will deliver the cards to seniors throughout the community at our Pop-up Library visits. \*Participation is limited. Register in person to attend. Registration begins February 7<sup>th</sup>.

## ‘All Grown Up’ Prom on Feb. 10 to raise funds for Family Impact Center

Mark your calendars and order your tickets for this one-of-a-kind fundraiser to benefit Fowlerville’s Family Impact Centers. YES, a “Prom Nite” for adults that includes music by DJ Ron Johnson, dancing, delectable desserts, hors d’oeuvres, punch and coffee. This event is being sponsored by the FHS Theater Tech Club and ‘The Unfettered’, who will also provide entertainment to add to the evening’s enjoyment.

The “Prom” is being held on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 7-10 p.m. in the Fowlerville High School Cafeteria. (Enter Main Entrance of the Alverson Center for Performing Arts.) Dress in your choice of prom attire and bring a spouse, a friend, or a group for only \$15 per person.

Purchase your tickets by February 1<sup>st</sup> to reserve your table/seats. Also please bring personal care items and/or paper products as a donation for the Family Impact Center’s Food Pantry. Each item will count as a vote for your chance to be crowned the “Prom” Queen or King!

To reserve your tickets by February 1, email [sheilalarson67@yahoo.com](mailto:sheilalarson67@yahoo.com) or call Sheila at 517-861-9139. Questions may also be messaged on FACEBOOK@theunfettered or on TWITTER@TUnfettered. See you February 10<sup>th</sup>.



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You get to take one bar & recipe home with you.  
Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. 10 am - 12 pm. \$30 each.

**Goat Cheese Class** - Learn to do’s & don’ts of cheese making. Will cover Chevre & Velveeta recipes!  
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Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. 10 am - 12 pm. \$30 each.



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These guests joined State Senator Joe Hune on the Senate floor. Shown here, from left, were Dawn Horton, Kathi Backhuus, Senator Joe Hune, John Backhuus, Livingston County Register of Deeds Brandon Denby, and Dave Hune (Joe's father).

State of the State Address continued

economic and social sectors. Among them were:

- 540 million new private sector jobs created. "We rank number one in the Great Lakes States (and) number six in the nation," he said, adding, "We, as government, don't create the jobs, we create the environment for success."
- Number one in the creation of manufacturing jobs. He noted that Michigan is the leader in automotive research and development. "Seventy-six percent of all research and development in the U.S. auto industry happens right here in Michigan," he added. "We dominate that field and we're going to keep that leadership."
- Agriculture and Food has grown to a \$100 billion industry and the state is the second most diverse in the nation.
- Tourism has been setting records over the last several years.

--Per Capita Income Growth has increased 28 percent between 2010 to 2017, which, the governor said, "works out to over \$10,000 per Michigander in terms of the amount of increase in just seven years."

"That rates us number one for the rate of growth in the Great Lakes States and again number six in the entire nation," Snyder added.

--A net increase in population. "Last year for the first time since the turn of the century, more people came into Michigan than left," he pointed out.

Gov. Snyder also spoke of efforts that have occurred to improve educational performance, including an emphasis on career tech education, a \$50 million grant to community colleges to purchase capital equipment that's used to train students, an emphasis on pre-school thru third grade reading, and Early Middle College Programs that allow high school students to take college courses. He also pointed to the Career Pathways Alliance, a public-private partnership that aims at preparing and connecting students to jobs that are emerging or will emerge in the future.

"One of my favorite programs is First Robotics," he told the audience. "We have over 500 teams in this after-school program. That's more than New York and California combined."

On the topic of roads and bridges, which the governor described "as central of our quality of life and economic well-being"—he called for additional money. "In our nation we've consistently underinvested," he said, adding that "In 2015 we passed legislation providing for \$1.2 billion more for roads and bridges while also providing \$200 million in lower and middle income tax relief with the homestead property tax credit."

He added that he planned to request additional money in the upcoming budget to "accelerate this spending" on roads and bridges.

Gov. Snyder also said that "2018 will be a big year for the Gordie Howe Bridge" that, once completed, will connect Detroit to Ontario, Canada. "There'll be a contract signed with the builder and ground will be broken," he noted. "I look forward to starting work in Detroit (on the project.) He also thanked Canada for its partnership on the bridge and providing the upfront financials.

He also pointed out that home prices have gone up over the past several years. "The average Michigan home sells for 73 percent more than it did in 2010," the governor noted. "That's an increase of almost \$78,000 in the average home in Michigan. That's a great step forward in showing that we are coming back and we are on the right path to support our families in terms of homeownership (the greatest asset most people have)."

Still other topics reviewed by Gov. Snyder were progress

made in Detroit and Flint to revitalize business districts and neighborhoods and to create jobs. Efforts to help smaller communities become more economically viable with the 'Rising Tide, 10 Communities in the 10 Regions' Program. An increase in Pure Michigan funding that has resulted in more tourism, including the increased use of state parks in the Upper Peninsula. Progress in bringing more Arts & Culture programs and institutions "to all corners of Michigan."

Included in his review was Healthy Michigan which, he pointed out, has an enrollment of 675,000 people. The governor noted that this program provides preventive care along with life-saving treatment, resulting in better medical outcomes for those with major illnesses and also reducing the number of ER visits and giving people an opportunity to hold a job.

At that point in his speech Gov. Snyder shifted gears, noting that "we have an opioid crisis in our state," noting that "It's developed over the past decade involving the abuse of these drugs." He said that the state has "been very active in addressing this terrible situation," but added, "much more needs to be done." He applauded the adoption of the Angel Program by the Michigan State Police where a person suffering from drug addiction can walk into a police post and ask for help. "Instead of being arrested," he said, "they are assigned to someone (an angel) who will work with them to provide help."

Still another area of concern he discussed is Campus Sexual Assault. This is a cause that his wife, Sue Snyder, has focused on in recent years as the First Lady. He noted that grants have been provided to colleges for the purpose of "helping educate (young) men and women on how to prevent assaults, how to provide support when it does happen, and how to help survivors with the healing process."

Gov. Snyder ended his overview of the past seven years on the topic of fiscal responsibility. "We completed structurally sound balanced budgets and very importantly we addressed the long-term debt issue that had gone on for years without proper attention," he said, referring in the latter topic to the future funding of retirement pensions for public employees.

"We've reduced our long-term debt, our unfunded liabilities by over \$20 billion and we put a payment plan in place to say we can move forward to make sure these retirees get the benefits they deserve and at the same time not leave future generations in debt because of past decisions," he said.

**A STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS**, while it looks back, also looks forward. In that regard, the governor—while now having less than a year left in his term—outlined six goals he would like to focus on. These are:

- Mobility. Noting that Michigan is the world's leader in the development and application of driverless technology and electric vehicles, Gov. Snyder urged that more needs to be done this year and in the future to assist in the advancement of that technology because, he said, "it saves lives, will offer more freedom for seniors and people with disabilities, and will provide more efficiency in transportation."
- He added the realistic assessment that this evolution in the automobiles and the automotive industry will cause different job categories to disappear and there is a need to think about how to help people (the displaced workers) with this transition.
- Talent. "The number one priority I believe is Talent," he said "We can do more to get people connected to wonderful careers" he said, adding that he plans "to unveil a Marshall Plan for Talent in February."
- "We're going to lay the groundwork for a new way of developing talent in Michigan," he added. He called for more public-private partnerships and urged schools, colleges, and communities "to do things better and differently" to



State Rep. Hank Vaupel (left), of Fowlerville, is joined by Hartland Township Supervisor Bill Fountain (right) for the governor's State of the State Address on the House floor.

- accomplish this goal.
- Education. "We need to make larger investments," the governor said, telling the legislature that he plans to propose "the largest per-pupil increase in K-12 school funding in the last 15 years."
- Infrastructure including the Environment. Gov. Snyder talked about the need to provide broadband internet service "everywhere in Michigan," dealing more aggressively as a state with the danger of invasive species entering the Great Lakes, given the inaction at the federal level, doing another Clean Michigan initiative since the money from the earlier one has been spent, improving water infrastructure, and emphasizing recycling.
- Maintaining a Fiscally Responsible Government. Using the example that parents don't go out and spend money on themselves and hand the bill to their children, Gov. Snyder stated that this is what's happening in government. "We have a broken culture in where we spend money or cut taxes for short-term gains," he said. "But in making those decisions, it's not just about the consequences of today. We need to also think about how it impacts future generations."
- Civility. "The greatest threat to ourselves is ourselves," he said, adding that "we need to get along with each other." Alluding to the hyper partisanship and virulent rhetoric that's become more and more dominant in public policy discussions and governmental decision-making, Gov. Snyder posed the question: "Who are we fighting," answering, "Ourselves."
- "There's a place for fighting," he continued. "It's the beaches of Normandy, not the beaches of Lake Michigan." He ended with another question, "Aren't we one giant family?"
- Gov. Snyder ended his State of the State by thanking Michigan for this opportunity (to be governor), the legislature for working together with him, and all his partners (the thousands of public employees) in state government.
- "In our effort to Reinvent Michigan, there have been ups and downs," he said, "but there is no doubt Michigan is a better state now than in 2010."

Rep. Vaupel & Sen. Hune offer responses

- Rep. Vaupel described Gov. Snyder's address as "very upbeat," adding that the governor "pointed out how far we've come in job creation and population growth as well as other areas."
  - "Infrastructure is a big issue, and he stated that more funding is needed," Vaupel noted. "He also addressed the problem of opioids. How we need to keep going forward to try to solve these issues one step at a time. We also need to move forward with health care and I'd add mental health care."
  - Vaupel said that part of finding solutions and moving forward is "eliminating the barriers to getting things accomplished."
  - "He talked about public-private partnerships in dealing with infrastructure and education which I think is a good approach," Vaupel said. "I'm optimistic about our getting things done and solving problems. It's nice to be in a position to do that. A lot of good things are going on. I think people are in a mood to go forward. He spoke of the need for more civility, and lately, with some of the accomplishments we've made, I'm seeing more bipartisanship."
  - Sen. Hune was more mixed in his views.
  - "There was nothing groundbreaking or earthshaking in terms of the year ahead," said Hune. "He did highlight with a bunch of metrics, as this governor does, a number of economic accomplishments."
  - Hune pointed to the 540,000 new private sector jobs, Michigan being the first in the nation in manufacturing job growth, the 73 percent increase in home values since 2010,
- continued next page*



and the net population growth that occurred last year.

“These are all great economic indicators that Michigan is doing well,” Hune said.

The senator, in his comments, said that having the state be more aggressive on the issue of preventing invasive species, in particular Asian Carp, from entering the Great Lakes “is absolutely the right thing to do.” He also supported Snyder’s call for expanding broadband to rural areas, noting that this is “so essential to our (rural Livingston County) area.”

In regard to more funding for infrastructure, focused on roads and bridges, Hune said, “It’s hard to argue against that.”

As for Gov. Snyder’s comment that he planned to ask for “the largest per pupil increase in school funding in 15 years,” Hune said: “I’m not sure how that’s going to be done. I guess the devil is in the details. We have invested in education which we don’t seem to get credit for. The education budget is up \$1.6 billion since 2011.”

By way of criticisms, Hune started with the Flint Water Crisis. “His administration has still not adopted the Lead-Copper Rule that would lower the acceptable limits of those two contaminants in drinking water,” said Hune, meaning that progress in providing safe water in that city is being measured by a less stringent standard.

Hune added that he felt the governor should have called for the removal of Lou Anna Simon as president of Michigan State University over her handling and response to the Larry Nassar sexual assault scandal. (A day later Simon resigned her position at MSU.)

Hune also pointed out that No-Fault Auto Insurance Reform was not brought up in the speech and also noted that the governor “has been fighting us (Republican legislators) on an income tax cut.”

**Legislative Democrats respond to Gov. Snyder’s State of the State Address**  
*Sen. Ananich & Rep. Singh call on administration to join the fight for Michigan’s working families*

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) and House Democratic Leader Sam Singh (D–East Lansing) responded to Gov. Rick Snyder’s 2018 State of the State Address, given last Tuesday evening before a joint session of the Michigan Legislature, by calling on him to end (what they described as) “the profits-over-people ideology that has hurt Michigan families and held our state back for the last seven years.”

Speaking on behalf of their fellow Democratic lawmakers, the leaders vowed to continue to fight for working families by championing policies that keep more money in their pockets, provide opportunities to attain new skills and bring high-quality, good-paying jobs to Michigan.

“The governor paints a pretty picture of Michigan, but too many families aren’t seeing it,” Sen. Ananich said. “Instead, they’re seeing crumbling roads, aging schools and dangerous water contamination issues creeping up all over the state. We hear a lot of talk, but action doesn’t follow. Democrats remain committed to righting these wrongs in order to make Michigan a safer, more stable place to live, work and play.”

The leaders noted that this State of the State Address marks Gov. Snyder’s eighth and final address. “It is a tenure that has shown concern for the bottom line instead of those who live here, and has consistently failed Michiganders,” they said.

Their criticisms included:

- Presiding over the Flint water crisis that led to the deaths of at least 12 residents and the lead poisoning of many more;
- Gutting classroom resources to the point where education is now underfunded by nearly \$2000 per student and teachers have to do more with less;
- Falsely accusing tens of thousands of residents of unemployment fraud and then failing to provide restitution after the mismanagement was exposed;
- Celebrating a roads plan and higher taxes and fees for Michigan drivers that will leave our roads worse in 2025 than they were in 2015;
- Allowing dangerous PFAS contaminants to linger in drinking water sources across the state, which has resulted in public health studies of cancer clusters and decreasing home values of those affected;
- Inviting drug and sex scandals into state prisons by privatizing food services and contracting with a company known for its lack of oversight; and,
- Failing to protect the residents of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, where veterans experienced neglect and abuse at the hands of staff.

“Governor Snyder and

Lansing Republicans continue to talk about a ‘comeback’ but they fail to talk about what we are coming back to – lower wages, broken roads, overcrowded schools and struggling communities,” Rep. Singh added. “While the legislation that has been passed in the last seven years may have benefited wealthy donors and out-of-state corporations, it hasn’t helped working families. It’s time for our state’s Republican leadership to readjust their priorities and focus on issues that help working families, and our state, succeed.”

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**Fowlerville High School’s “ATHLETES” OF THE WEEK**



**JV Girls Basketball**

**Haley Curd** - Haley is a sophomore on the jv girls basketball team this season. Hailey is one of the captain’s and a true leader on and off the court. She is such a positive person who gives 110% whenever she steps on the court. Thank you Haley for all you do.

**Jayci Clark** - Jayci is a sophomore on the jv girls basketball team this season. Jayci will give you all she can whether it’s practice or a game. She is one of our best shooters on the outside. Jayci is always positive and works really hard to make herself better. Keep up the great job Jayci.

**JUD’S FOOTBALL FORECAST**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4**  
*Super Bowl LII*  
New England 27 vs Philadelphia 20  
**SEASON: W - 188 L - 96**

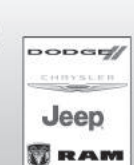
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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**



**FBA General Membership Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 6th at 7:30am**  
(At Fowlerville First United Methodist Church, 201 S. Second St., Fowlerville)

**Guest Speakers:**  
*Livingston County Board of Commissioner update by*  
**Donald Parker - Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Commissioners**

**Sam Larioza**  
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RSVPs are due to the FBA Office  
(517-223-9350) or [membership@fowlerville.biz](mailto:membership@fowlerville.biz)  
**By Friday, February 2nd at 3:00pm**



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# Michigan Senate Report

By Joe Hune,  
22<sup>nd</sup> District

## Michigan Personal Exemption

President Donald Trump and Congress gave Americans a historic tax break with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, putting more money back into the pockets of everyday people and reducing the financial influence of Washington over our lives. I'm proud to see President Trump follow through with yet another campaign promise, and I'm glad that my counterparts in Congress did the right thing for Americans by passing this bill.

Even though the bill passed into law, our work here in Michigan was not quite done. Because The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act lowered tax rates, doubled the standard deduction and increased the child tax credit, it was able to streamline these benefits by essentially doing away with the personal exemption. That was trouble for Michigan. The Michigan tax code ties its personal exemption to the number on the federal returns. Without a change to our law, Michigan taxpayers would have been on the hook for an additional \$1.5 billion.

Obviously a change needed to be made and I'm proud to say that the Michigan Legislature had the solution. My colleague and friend, Sen. Jack Brandenburg, R-Harrison Township, introduced Senate Bill 748 which would not only keep the Michigan personal exemption — but also increase it by \$700 over the course of three years. The bill passed with unanimous support and House members are now hard at work on the next steps to make this bill a law.

This is a perfect example of your state Legislature turning a good idea into a great idea. Now, not only will you see a boost on your federal return, but you'll be getting more back from the state as well.

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

## Fowlerville Girls Varsity Basketball Team earns win over Lansing Catholic

The Fowlerville Girls Varsity Basketball Team earned a 53-23 win over Lansing Catholic in a home game on Friday, Jan. 19. The CAAC White Division victory puts the Glads at 4-1 in league play and 8-3 overall.

Fowlerville held a 14-9 lead after the first quarter, but then pulled away in the second period by blanking the Cougars while scoring 8 points. They added 18 more points in the third period to hold a 44-17 advantage going into the final stanza.

The Glads were hot from long range, making 8 of 10 three-point attempts. Elie Smith led the local cagers with 17 points, while Ollie Updike added 15. Jackie Jarvis aided the win with 10 points, 9 assists, and 8 rebounds.

Fowlerville traveled to Eaton Rapids this past Friday (past the newspaper deadline) in another league game. They host Stockbridge this Tuesday in a non-conference contest, then play at Portland in another CAAC White clash this coming Friday.

## From Unapproved Minutes MEETING CONWAY TOWNSHIP SYNOPSIS OF MEETING January 16, 2018

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm.

Motions:

1. Approve consent agenda.
2. Approve meeting agenda with amendments.
3. Approve Gracon Management Consulting Overseeing Engineering Services Contract.
4. Approve the addition of Notary Services to the fee schedule.
5. Approve a special meeting for February 13, 2018 at 7 p.m.
6. Approve extension of the Execution of Contract date to February 20.
7. Approve 2017/2018 Budget Amendments.
8. Accept a donation from Gracon Management Consulting of an improved wireless access point for the township hall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm. Complete minutes are available at the Conway Township Hall during regular office hours, 8015 N Fowlerville Road, Fowlerville, MI 48836 517-223-0358

Next Board meeting is on February 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Todd Anderson  
Conway Township Clerk  
(1-28-18 FNV)

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# Pastor Tom Tarpley

## Check up Time

...And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8 NIV).

Reading through the Old Testament and reflecting on God’s Word, I can see America making many of the same mistakes that the Israelites made after God brought them out of Egypt.

America has a propensity to sin just like the Israelites did. The answer to our sin problem is not to be found in better government, more dedicated preachers and teachers or more churches. The answer to the sin problem that is destroying America goes much deeper than anything we can do to stop it. What America needs is a change of heart, which only God can do.

America has truly been blessed down through the years, but sometimes blessings can be a curse. Sometimes the blessings we receive from God become more important to us than God. The more good that comes our way, the less time we have for God. Unless we allow God to perform major surgery on our hearts and transform us from the inside out, we will continue down the road to destruction.

In the scripture text above, God speaks to his people, and answers their questions as to what he requires of them. “Act justly” would have been understood by Micah’s audience as living with a sense of right and wrong. In particular, the judicial courts had a responsibility to provide equity and protect the innocent. Injustice was a problem in Israel at that time (Micah 2:1-2; 3:1-3; 6:11). It is also a problem in America today. Corruption in government and businesses has become so common until we hardly know who to trust anymore.

“Love mercy” contains the Hebrew word *hesed*, which means “loyal love” or “loving-kindness.” Along with justice, Israel was to provide mercy. Both justice and mercy are foundational to God’s character (Psalm 89:14). God expected his people to show love to their fellow man and to be loyal in their love toward him, just as he had been loyal to them (Micah 2:8-9; 3:10-11; 6:12). ”

“Walk humbly” is a description of the heart’s attitude toward God. God’s people depend on him rather than their own abilities (Micah 2:3). Instead of taking pride in what we bring to God, we humbly recognize that no amount of personal sacrifice can replace a heart committed to justice and love. Israel’s rhetorical questions had a three-part progression, and verse 8 contains a similar progression. The response of a godly heart is outward (do justice), inward (love mercy), and upward (walk humbly).

The message of Micah is still pertinent today. Religious rites, no matter how extravagant, can never compensate for a lack of love (1 Corinthians 13:3). External compliance to rules is not as valuable in God’s eyes as a humble heart that simply does what is right. God’s people today will continue to desire justice, mercy, and humility before the Lord.

Pastor Mark raised some mind-stirring questions in his sermon two weeks ago. Questions that led me to ask myself, “Am I living for God or just going through the motions?”

When I committed to following Christ, I made three promises. 1. I would do whatever he called me to do. 2. I would be whatever he wanted me to be. 3. I would go wherever he told me to go. I made those promises on the afternoon of October 7, 1989 while attending a Walk to Emmaus weekend.

“Is this what God had in mind for me when he called me

into new life?” This question has come up several times in my daily devotions over the past two weeks. I don’t think it is a coincidence. Instead I believe the Holy Spirit is trying to get me to examine my heart.

What does the Lord require of me? When I promised to faithfully serve God for the rest of my life, I fully expected to live up to that promise. And to this date, I believe I have been faithful in answering whatever call God placed on my life.

I have done all the things I believed I couldn’t do and said I would not do, only because I put my faith and trust in God who has never failed to sustain me in whatever task he put before me. I never thought I could be a pastor. The duties of a pastor required a person to have many talents and gifts that I felt were missing in me. But after discerning that this was what God wanted me to do, I surrendered my will to him and began the process of becoming an ordained minister.

As we move through this life, we get physical checkups yearly, or at least we should. The reason for this is to detect and prevent some disease from taking over our bodies. Doesn’t it hold true that we should also do regular checkups on our spiritual soul?

When we ask the question, “What does the Lord require of me?” -or, as Pastor Mark phrased it, “Is this what God had in mind for me when he called me into new life?”-we must first be willing to take a personal inventory of ourselves and answer the question, “Am I living for God or just going through the motions?”

Celebrate Recovery is a good place to begin your spiritual checkup. CR is a faith-based program of recovery which leads us through a step-by-step process of developing a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, as it helps us deal with the hurts, hang-ups and habits that make life uncomfortable. It also guides us through a process of self-examination and enables us to answer the tough questions that we sometimes avoid.

Please come and check out CR at the Fowlerville UB Church. Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. Spiritual checkups are essential to following Jesus.

## Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team wins game with Lansing Catholic

The Fowlerville Boys Varsity Basketball Team won a big game on Friday night (Jan. 19) vs Lansing Catholic 70 to 53. The victory puts the Glads at 3-2 in the CAAC White Division.

Brendan Young led the way with 22 big points. Geoffry Knaggs added 18 points and eight rebounds, Caden Collins had 14 points and nine assists, Brady Salter scored 12 points and grabbed six rebounds and Josh DuFore chipped in with six rebounds and three block shots .

It was a great win for us,” said Coach Jim Jonas. Fowlerville was scheduled to play at Eaton Rapids this past Friday (past the newspaper deadline). The team travels to Stockbridge this Tuesday in a non-conference and resumes league action this Friday, Feb. 2, at Portland.

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## CONWAY TOWNSHIP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CLEANING SERVICES

Conway Township will be accepting proposals for Township Hall cleaning services during regular business hours, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., until January 31, 2018. Applicants must be insured and bonded. Please forward proposals to the Conway Township Hall, P.O. Box 1157, 8015 N. Fowlerville Road, Fowlerville, Michigan 48836. If you have any questions, please call 517-223-0358.

Todd Anderson  
Conway Township Clerk  
(1-14 & 1-28-18 FNV)

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Nice 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on one acre in the Stockbridge schools. Features hardwood floors in some of the rooms, ceramic tile in the baths, spacious living room with natural stone fireplace. Newer kitchen counters, large deck to entertain and 2 car detached garage for lots of storage space. All appliances included. \$142,500.

Location! Desirable location in Addison Farms for this spacious 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath condominium walking distance to schools, shopping and parks. Features include beautiful hardwood floors in the kitchen and dining room, enclosed Florida room, large master suite on the entry level with 2 bedrooms, full bath and spacious setting area on upper level. Full daylight basement, 2 car attached garage, 1<sup>st</sup> floor laundry and all appliances included. Move in ready. \$215,000.

Well maintained 4 unit investment property in the Village of Fowlerville walking distance to parks, stores and churches. This building features 2-2 bedroom units and 2-1 bedroom units. Many updates over the years include windows, roof, boiler, exterior paint and some flooring. \$259,900.

Wonderful setting on a large lot in the Village of Webberville for this nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home. Features included beautiful hardwood floors in the living room & bedrooms, full basement with finished family room area, fenced yard and 2 car attached garage. Move in condition with all appliances included. \$149,900.

Great location in East Lansing for this nice 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath condominium close to MSU, shopping and entertainment. New furnace, central air, partially finished basement and all appliances included. \$110,000.

Nice location in the Crestwood Subdivision Haslett area. This nice 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home features wood burning fireplace, walkout basement, 2 car attached garage and new carpet on the main level. Beautiful lot with mature trees and close to shopping and Lake Lansing parks. \$154,900.

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- Great build site at the end of a shared driveway. Driveway and culvert are installed, underground utilities, survey and conventional perc completed. Ready for your dream home. \$30,000
- Nice build site in the Village of Fowlerville on a dead end street with mature trees and walkout site. \$19,500.

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**Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Starting at 6:30pm**

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**1500 chips for \$35**





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## Fowlerville High School News

<b>OFFICE HOURS</b>	
Administration Office	7:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Counseling Office	6:30 – 2:30 p.m.
* * *	

The **Fowlerville high school archery teams** competed on January 20th at the Fowlerville Winter Classic. It was a great day for our archers! Team 1 placed 2nd, only 85 points away from 1st. Team 2 placed 6th. The teams were led by Anna Herbert who took 1st place overall with a 292. This is Anna’s third year winning our home tournament! Kenny Kline (287) placed 3rd and Josh Fogo (286) placed 5th in the high school male division. The teams are traveling to Portage on Jan 27 and Swartz Creek on Feb 3.

**Fowlerville Idol** debuts February 2nd at 6:00pm in the Al-verson Center for Performing Arts. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Come out for a fun night of music and Fowlerville talent. Any questions? Please contact Mrs. Tomassi at [tomassia@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:tomassia@fowlervilleschools.org)

### SMART ART AT MSU IS BACK FOR THE WINTER/SPRING SESSION

Do you or your child want more art in their life? MSU Smart Art Program is for you. It is open for 7- 18 year olds, starting February 10th through April 21st from 9-11 am. The cost is \$70.00 and covers all supplies. It is taught by students wanting to be Art Teachers. Please access [art.msu.edu](http://art.msu.edu) for more information and enrollment forms. Applications are due Friday, January 19th. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Hesch at 223-6245 or email at [heschc@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:heschc@fowlervilleschools.org). This is a great program for budding young artists!

**Senior Parents** - If you would like to help with the senior lock-in, please contact Mrs. Collins ([collinsn@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:collinsn@fowlervilleschools.org)) or Ms. Hart ([hartn@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:hartn@fowlervilleschools.org)). Parents are needed to provide both your time or your resources to help make our lock-in after graduation a success! Thank you!

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

**Time is running out** to buy your high school yearbook for the low price of \$55. After Jan. 1st, the price will go to \$65. Go to [smart-pay.com](http://smart-pay.com) and order yours online.

**Febreze Air Care Recycling Fundraising Opportunity**  
The Fowlerville High School Life Skills class is proud to an-

nounce 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 Febreze 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](mailto:raglandd@fowlervilleschool.org)

**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](mailto: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>

### Fowlerville High School 125<sup>th</sup> Alumni News

Plans are well underway for the 125<sup>th</sup> annual Fowlerville High School Alumni gathering and banquet. The event will be held on Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Fowlerville High School. According to president Judy Recker, the alumni will pretty much follow the format of past years. A social hour will begin about 4pm followed by pictures of the “honored classes” and dinner at 4:30. Rooms will be available for the honored classes to meet and socialize. Tickets will be available after May 1<sup>st</sup> at local businesses to be announced.

The FHS Alumni Association plans to continue presenting scholarships to graduating seniors who will be recognized at the banquet. Anyone wishing to make a donation may send the donation to Ed Helzerman, 701 Devonshire, Fowlerville, MI 48836. More information will also be available soon. Classes planning to gather are encouraged to contact Cindy Ruttman Krebs, ASAP.

Recently the FHS Alumni Association lost one of its oldest living grads, Helen Eckhart Reyhl, Class of 1938. “We know of at least one living graduate from the Class of 1937 and a few from the Class of 1938,” commented Recker. “It will be a really special occasion for the Classes of 1938, 1943, 1948, 1958 and 1993,” continued the president. So mark your calendar and make plans to attend the 125<sup>th</sup> annual FHS alumni gathering this year.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VILLAGE OF FOWLERVILLE 2018 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Fowlerville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., in the Village Chambers, 213 South Grand Avenue, Fowlerville, Michigan. Members of the public are invited to attend the meeting and offer their comments. Comments can be submitted in writing to the Village Clerk to the aforementioned address prior to the public hearing.

Copies of the draft Fowlerville Parks and Plan will be available for public review at the Village Offices, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and can be found on the Village’s website: [www.fowlerville.org](http://www.fowlerville.org). The Parks and Recreation Plan is a guide for the future that recommends how the Village should develop in order to meet community goals.

Kathryn M. Arledge, CMMC  
Village Clerk/Manager  
(1-28-18 FNV)

# Chiropractic Health Center of Fowlerville

## Now OFFERING: DEEP-TISSUE LASER THERAPY

### What is Deep-Tissue Laser Therapy?

Laser Therapy is the use of laser energy to create therapeutic results, including, improved healing time, pain reduction, increased circulation, decreased swelling, and faster bone repair.

This Therapy also helps relax tight muscles that create chronic pain, joint problems and decreased mobility.

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- Nerve Pain
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- Whiplash
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- Sciatica
- Skin problems
- Bursitis
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*"10 Years Serving The Local Community"*



**"Dr. Tim" Tersigni**

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New Extended hours:

- M, TU, W 9 am-6:30 pm
- TH 9 am-6 pm
- FRI 9 am-5 pm
- SAT 9 am-1pm





# Savvy Senior Column

By Jim Miller

## Help With Home-Care Bills

Dear Savvy Senior,

Do you know of any resources that can help with my mother's home-care bills? Mom is recovering from a stroke and needs in-home care, but I understand Medicare doesn't cover it, and she doesn't have long-term care insurance.

Stressed-Out Daughter

Dear Stressed-Out,

Depending on your mom's circumstances, there are a number of government and not-for-profit programs that can either subsidize or pay for your mom's home care or offer aid in other ways. Here's where to look for help.

### Medicare Coverage

If your mom is recovering from a stroke, the first thing you need to know is that Medicare does cover a variety of in-home health care services. To be eligible your mom must be "homebound," and her doctor will need to approve a "plan of care" confirming that she needs skilled-nursing care or skilled-therapy services from a physical or speech therapist. Her doctor can also request the services of an occupational therapist and a non-medical home aide to assist with activities of daily living like bathing, dressing and using the bathroom.

But, be aware that Medicare will not pay for non-medical home aide services alone, if your mom does not need skilled-nursing or skilled-therapy services too. Homemaker services, such as shopping, meal preparation and cleaning are not covered either.

For more information on how this works, call 1-800-MEDICARE or see [Medicare.gov/coverage/home-health-services.html](http://Medicare.gov/coverage/home-health-services.html).

### Medicaid Options

If you mom's income is low enough, she may qualify for Medicaid, which offers different programs that can pay for non-medical home care, home health care and other in-home support services. These programs, often referred to as Home and Community Based Services, are state-specific and their eligibility and benefits will vary. To find out if your mom is eligible, contact her state Medicaid agency (see [Medicaid.gov](http://Medicaid.gov)).

### State Programs

If your mom doesn't qualify for the Medicare or Medicaid options, check to see if her state offers any state-funded home-care programs. These programs may provide caregivers or vouchers that can help pay for care. To find out about these services, call the Area Agency on Aging near your mom – see [ElderCare.gov](http://ElderCare.gov) or call 800-677-1116 for contact information.

Also investigate PACE, which stands for "Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly." PACE, which is currently available in 31 states – though not in every community – provides in-home care, including help with activities of daily living, such as meals, dental and medical care, prescriptions, and chaperoned transportation, among other benefits.

Medicaid-eligible patients get PACE for free, but if your mom is not eligible for Medicaid, she may be charged a monthly premium, though far less than she would pay a private service. To see if PACE is available in your mom's area, see [NPAonline.org](http://NPAonline.org).

### Veterans Benefits

If your mom is a veteran, or a surviving spouse of a veteran, the VA also offers some benefits that can help pay her in-home care.

One is "Aid and Attendance or Housebound Allowances," which are supplemental monthly benefits for veterans already receiving a monthly VA pension and requiring healthcare. Veterans and surviving spouses qualify if they have certain disabilities or need help with activities such as dressing, bathing, and feeding, among other criteria. Go to [Vets.gov/pension](http://Vets.gov/pension) for more information.

Another option is the "Veteran-Directed Care" program. This program, available through VA medical centers in 38 states, as well as in Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, provides as much as \$2,000 a month that can be used to pay a professional or family member or friend for home care. The program is open to any veteran who meets the criteria, including requiring help with three or more activities of daily living. Visit the "Home and Community Based Services" section at [VA.gov/geriatrics](http://VA.gov/geriatrics) for information.

To look for additional programs in your area that can help pay your mom's home care, go to [PayingForSeniorCare.com](http://PayingForSeniorCare.com) and use their Eldercare Financial Assistance Locator tool.

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



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& lots more!

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Fri: 10AM-6:30PM, Sat: 10AM-4PM

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## Legal Notice Fowlerville Community Schools

### PROCEDURE FOR FILLING SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Fowlerville Board of Education will accept letters of interest and resumes for a vacant board position. The term will last from the date appointed until December 31, 2018. Letters of interest and resumes should be mailed to the address below and must be received no later than Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 4:00 p.m:

Fowlerville Board of Education  
Sheila Burkhardt, Secretary  
7677 Sharpe Road, Suite A  
Fowlerville, MI 48836

All applicants for this position will receive an interview. Interviews will take place on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the media center at Fowlerville High School.

To be eligible, a candidate must be a registered voter in the Fowlerville School District. In addition, a candidate must be 18 years of age; a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of Michigan for at least 30 days; and a resident of the Fowlerville School District on or before the 30th day prior to the date of appointment.

For additional information please call Wayne Roedel, Superintendent, at (517) 223-6015.

(1-28, 2-4-18 FNV)

# All Grown Up

## Prom Nite Fundraiser

Sponsored by FHS Tech Club & The Unfettered to benefit the Fowlerville Family Impact Centers

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018, 7pm-10pm

Fowlerville High School Cafeteria

Enter via the Main Entrance of the Alverson Center for Performing Arts

Tickets \$15 per person

Reserve your tickets by February 1st

Hors d'oeuvres, desserts, punch & coffee provided

Bring your spouse, a friend, or a group for entertainment provided by Ron Johnson

DJ Service and The Unfettered.

Dress in your favorite prom attire!

Donate personal care items & paper products for the Family Impact Center  
Each item counts as a vote to crown a Prom Queen and King

To Reserve Tickets, email or call [sheilalarson67@yahoo.com](mailto:sheilalarson67@yahoo.com) or 517-861-9139

Questions may also be message on [FACEBOOK@theunfettered](https://www.facebook.com/theunfettered) or on [TWITTER@TUnfettered](https://twitter.com/TUnfettered)

Family Impact Center Information: [FACEBOOK@FamilyImpactCenter](https://www.facebook.com/FamilyImpactCenter)  
LIKE and SHARE our pages!





# Steve Horton Column

## Remembering the Blizzard of 1978

### 40 Years Ago Winter Storm Shut Down Area

Forty years ago, on Jan. 26, a winter storm that featured heavy snowfall, coupled with fierce winds, shut down much of Michigan for nearly two days. Then after this foul weather had subsided, it took another couple of days of plowing, shoveling and snow removal to gets things back to normal.

As a reporter with the *Livingston County Press* and its sister publication, *The Fowlerville Review*, I joined the rest of the writing staff, plus the photographers, providing coverage of the ‘Blizzard of 1978’ in the next issue of those newspapers. The dateline on these editions was Feb. 1, 1978.

The storm had started early Thursday morning, sweeping in from the west and hitting Livingston County with a wallop. It continued until late the next day. During that time frame between 15-to-18 inches fell and winds gusted up to 40 miles-per-hour. Towns, including Fowlerville, became islands, with the main roads between them drifted shut. Thousands of people were stranded away from home or else were at home, unable to get to a vital job. Motorists were forced to leave their vehicles in the middle of highways where they’d become stuck in the snow. Others were stuck on the freeways, left to wait until they were rescued.

The first order of business for the Livingston County Road Commission—as with any winter snow storm—was to plow the main roads, maintaining those vital routes between the communities and such essential services as fire and police protection and medical care. But that proved to be a nearly impossible task.

My colleague, Leo Padot, wrote in his article: “Beleaguered county road commission workers attempted to keep the county’s major road arteries open from the onset of the storm but the drifting snow ended in a losing battle with only a one-lane path down Grand River during the height of the blizzard.”

It was not for lack of trying. The road commission superintendent, Donald Hallowell, said that “the county’s 25 plow units manned by some 35 employees were out in full force from late Thursday afternoon until 3 a.m. the next morning trying to keep Pinckney, Old US-23, Oak Grove, Fenton and Fowlerville roads open.”

Continuing to quote Hallowell, Padot noted that Friday was a repeat with a full work force “braving” the storm, adding that “their efforts were completely fruitless as far as anything getting done, and the attempt to keep the county open was abandoned.

“Instead,” the story continued, “the commission worked closely with Emergency Services Director Richard Winsett, and turned their attentions to assisting emergency rescue operations. In order to reach expectant mothers, heart attack victims, and other emergency requests, snow plowers were sent out to clear evacuation routes for ambulances, fire trucks, and volunteer snowmobilers.”

The work of clearing the roads began in earnest Saturday, after the winds subsided, starting with the primary roads, followed by the secondary roads, and finally subdivision and rural roads.

Clearing routes for emergency rescue vehicles and assisting truckers in hauling milk from the county’s many dairy farms were other priorities.

The volunteer snowmobilers, meanwhile, transported food

and fuel oil to marooned residents and, in some cases, were the emergency rescue vehicle that responded to a call for help from a remote, snowbound residence.

The county had been officially declared a disaster situation on Thursday at 2:45 p.m. by the County Commission Chairwoman Lois Wiles, with an appropriate petition sent to the governor. Several hours later, the governor declared the entire state a disaster area. The next day, President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential emergency declaration for Michigan.

What this did was allow the road commission to hire private contractors to assist with clearing and removing the snow and be guaranteed federal aid in paying 75 percent of the cost for that help.

The article noted that “the western part of the county was the hardest hit by the storm, receiving four-to-five inches more snow than fell on the rest of the county.” But, Padot’s report added, “the eastern part was first pelted with freezing rain before it turned into snow, a factor that hampered the clearing of these roads.

**MY BEAT WAS THE FOWLERVILLE AREA**, that part of the county “hardest hit.” In my follow-up story, I wrote that despite approximately 18 inches of snowfall, coupled with fierce winds, area residents managed to avoid any major troubles.

My quote from Fire Chief Maurice Bohm stated: “We were very fortunate here. There were no serious emergencies.”

The article continued: “A check with other officials turned up similar data. There were no reports of a medical crisis, downed electrical wires, or illegal activities. The only fire run occurred on Saturday and proved to be of minor consequence.”

But, I noted, “The storm did keep local personnel busy. By Monday, four days after the storm struck, police officers, snow removal crews, firemen, along with other assisting workers had logged an enormous amount of man-hours both in opening transportation lines as well as in providing various vital services.”

During the storm, the Village DPW had assisted the county road commission drivers in keeping Grand River and Grand Avenue (Fowlerville Road) cleared for emergency use. Volunteers from the fire department, meanwhile, began coordinating efforts to aid the outlying rural districts. Fuel oil was obtained from Guardian Oil in Webberville and later delivered to a half-dozen homes. Utilizing four-wheel drive vehicles and snowmobiles, the firemen also began delivering groceries to several families.

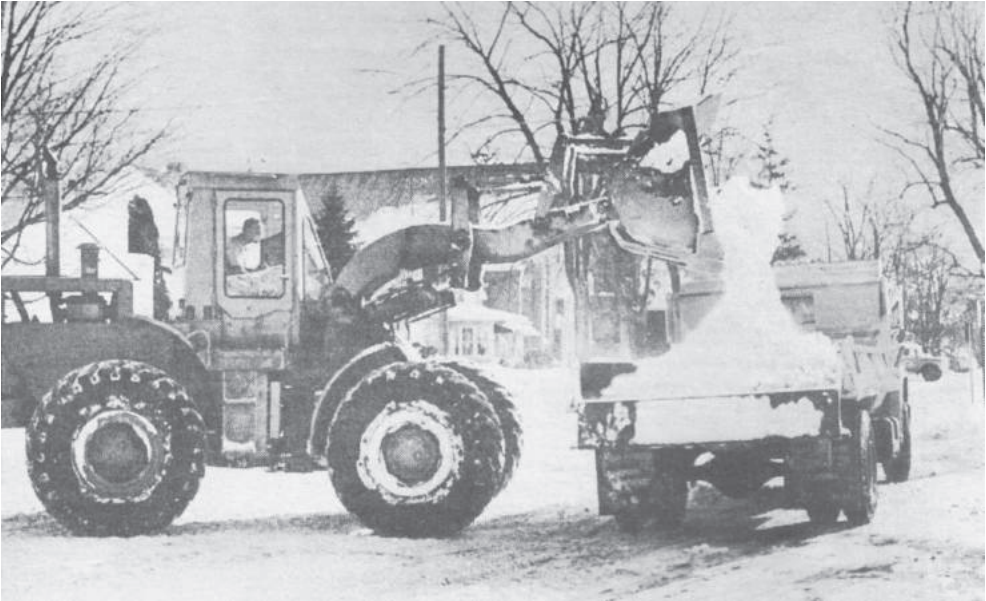
In addition, they transported medical personnel to work and began patrolling the I-96 expressway. The latter effort turned up four stranded Pontiac residents who were picked up and later transported to Brighton.

Local police officers, meanwhile, manned the phones for possible emergencies along with patrolling the village.

In the aftermath of the storm—Saturday, Sunday and Monday—clean-up efforts were underway with roads and streets cleared and then snow being removed from the Downtown Business District.

“The latter effort,” I reported, “was bogged down Saturday night when both of the village’s front-end loaders broke, but with hired personnel and equipment from Copeland Construction, the removal efforts were resumed late Sunday.

“By Sunday and early Monday the situation, in most instances, had returned to normal,” my article continued. “Roads and streets had been cleared and widened, allowing access to homes and businesses by emergency and service vehicles. In addition, residents by then were able to reach commercial and medical establishments, along with being able to return to work.”



Copeland Construction Company was called on to help Fowlerville dig out over that weekend back in 1978. Clare Copeland, loader operator, dropped a few flakes on the back of a city truck. Photos by Jim Jagdfeld in 1978.

I concluded my news story by noting that “while the Fowlerville area was fortunate to avoid any major disasters, the blizzard did take a financial toll.”

In my interview with Village Manager Grant DeForest, he had estimated that expenses in town would run into several thousand dollars. “We had men working around the clock on

the situation,” DeForest said. “We were fortunate though that they were able to get on the streets and keep the town open.”

I also reported that he felt much of the expense of hiring private equipment and personnel to supplement the efforts of the Village DPW would be reimbursed by the federal government’s disaster funds.

I also included a quote by Fowlerville Police Chief Robert Krichke who noted that his five-man department was forced to put in over 80 hours of overtime during and immediately after the storm.

Another article of local interest about the blizzard told of how the school’s new superintendent, David Smoker, had been stranded in Grand Rapids. He was attending a conference of the Michigan Association of School Administrators at the Pantlind Hotel (now the Grand Amway) when the crippling storm arrived.

“The conference got underway on Tuesday and the final workshop was scheduled to end on Thursday noon,” Smoker said in the article. “Of course by then we were snowed in.”

The unexpected extension to the conference was spent productively though, he added. After the official version of the session ended, the administrators began organizing spontaneous workshops and seminars to occupy the time.

Snow removal crews finally dug the conferees out on Saturday and Smoker said that he was back at his Fowlerville residence late that afternoon, only now he was faced with the task of digging the snow out of his driveway.

In that edition of the paper, I also reported that the students had returned to classes on Tuesday and, unless another storm hit before spring, would not have to make-up the three days they had unexpectedly gotten off from school.

In addition to the news stories, I produced a commentary about how the community had responded to this challenge from Mother Nature, titling it: “The best in people.”

“Adverse conditions, such as blizzards, have an uncanny way of bringing out the best in people, as well as the worst. For whatever reasons—pressure, the upheaval of daily routine, or just plain frustration with the situation—they manage to magnify our personality traits; sometimes the good ones, and too often the less flattering ones.

“As everyone knows, things got rather adverse in Fowlerville and surrounding areas last week. With an avalanche of snow, coupled with fierce winds, normalcy ground to a temporary halt, floundered momentarily, and then slowly returned.

“During that intervening time though, people were tested and, for the most part, they came through in admirable style.

“There will always be the grumblers and short-sighted persons around who force one to reluctantly question human nature. It’s also a pretty well-known fact that many of us tend to get nervous and edgy if we’re snowed in for any length of time.

“But all that was overshadowed last week by a different story. A story not about people’s shortcomings, but about their merits.

“There were countless small dramas that took place during the two-day storm and the ensuing clean-up. Dramas of farmers struggling to get their milk to market, of stranded motorists being rescued, and of snowed-in families being supplied with food or heating oil.

“It would be nice to praise all those who participated in those events. It would also be nice to list the dedicated public servants—the snow removal crews, the policemen, the firemen, and others—who put in long, grueling hours to keep transportation lines open and to provide vital services.

“It would be additionally nice to name those who helped their neighbors or kept their commercial establishments open extra hours or volunteered their services or simply greeted the situation with good spirits.

“Obviously none of this can be done. The lists and names would be too long.

“What can be said is that Fowlerville area residents displayed a new height of team spirit. They faced the blizzard as a community and then, as a community, overcame it.”



One particularly bad stretch of road after the blizzard was found just north of Fowlerville on Fowlerville Road. Drivers had to negotiate a road narrowed by high drifts on either side and complicated by the fact that it was located at the crest of a hill.





Smith Elementary announces  
‘December Room Citizens’

1st Row: Kindergarten: **Dillingham:** Max McColl, **Hunt:** Austin Kilpela, **LaPlante:** Annie Miller, **Miller:** Pyrcé Hartke, **Moulton:** Gavin Kantola, **Myers:** Colt Sefton, **Spalding:** Marshall Juopperi, **Woodward:** Brynlee Dobbins

2nd Row: 1st Grade: **Barton:** Mason Vaughn, **Burke:** Norah Hocking, **Devota:** Jayden Duff, **Hart:** Zack Douglas, **Grafstein:** Madison Redford, **See:** Noah Wilson, **K Sweet:** Travis Denman  
3rd Row: 2nd Grade: **Dodd:** Nick Harmon, **Gerecke:** Isabella Ampuero, **Griffin:** Nethya Wilson, **King:** Aiden Roberts, **Randolph:** Cameron Wagner, **Riccio:** Jaxon Murray, **Smith:** Brady Flanery, **Wolff:** Leah LeFave

Fowlerville 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee  
looking for Chili Cook off Contestants

The Livingston County/Fowlerville Fireworks Committee is looking for chili cook-off contestants for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off being held on Saturday, March 10, from 4 to 7 pm. at VFW Post 6464, located at 215 Veterans Drive in Fowlerville. Chili entries will be judged for the following categories: Judges Choice, People’s Choice, Spicy Hot, Best Presentation (of decorated table space), Best Business/Organization Entry and Most Unique Chili.  
If you would like to enter a chili you can request an entry form by emailing [bndbus@aol.com](mailto:bndbus@aol.com), please title your e-mail: Entry Form Request. Entry forms are also available at the Fowlerville Village Office located at 213 S. Grand Ave. in Fowlerville. Rules for entering are on the entry form and pre-registration is required. For more information call Bruce or Denise Brown at (517) 223-1927. All proceeds from this event go to the July 4th Fireworks Show.

Fowlerville Boys JV Basketball Team  
drops game to Lansing Catholic

The Fowlerville Boys JV Basketball Team dropped a tough game to Lansing Catholic on Friday, Jan. 19, by the score of 67-58. Billy Hutchins had a game high 24 points while Wes Latson added 15 points and 11 rebounds. The team record is now 4-5.

**Dick Scott**  
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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday School	10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00pm
Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	7:00pm

*Youth activities from kindergarten thru 12th grade every Wednesday night*

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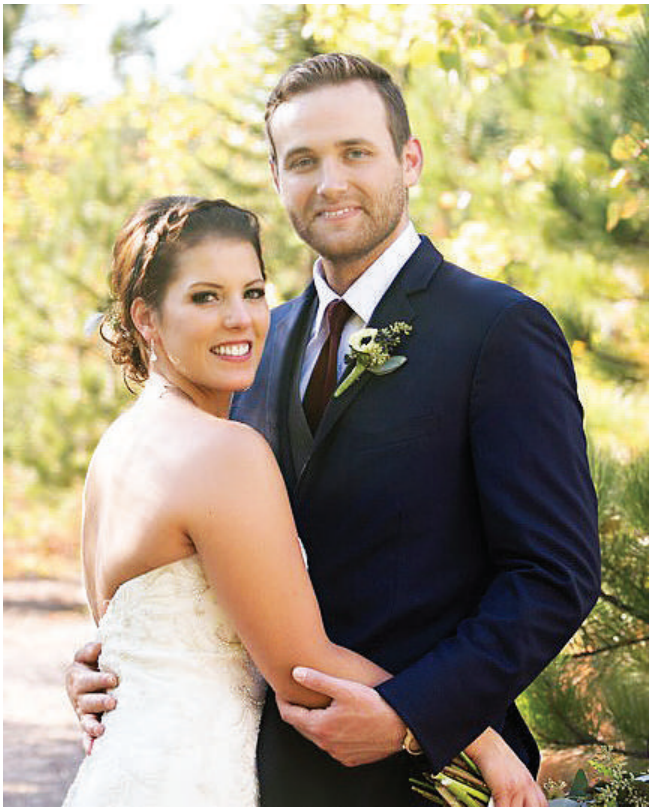
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## Sarah Boyce & Ryan Jarvi united in marriage on Sept. 30

Sarah Boyce, daughter of Brian and Peggy Boyce of Alden (formerly of Fowlerville), and Ryan Jarvi, son of Mike and Marsha Jarvi of Negaunee, were married Saturday, September 30, 2017 at Lakenenland Sculpture Park in Marquette, Michigan.

The bride is a 2006 graduate of Fowlerville High School and graduated from Northern Michigan University in 2012 with a degree in Business and Entrepreneurship. She is a Commercial Lines Account Manager with Vast Insurance & Risk Management Firm in Marquette.

The groom is a 2005 graduate of Negaunee High School and graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2013 with a degree in Journalism. He is City Editor for The Mining Journal in Marquette.

The couple celebrated their wedding with close family and friends at the Marquette Masonic Center. They later honeymooned in Grand Rapids and Chicago and have made their home in Marquette.

## Kreeger Elementary School News

**1-26-18:** K-5 Half Day/Dismissal at 12 noon

**1-29-18:** Presidents' Day Recess

**1-29-18, 1-30-18& 1-31-18:** Hearing Rescreening 4<sup>th</sup> grade

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

**3-15-18:** HALF DAY/DISMISSAL 12 noon

### CONFERENCES

1:00-2:00 P.M. SCHEDULED CONFERENCES BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

2:00-4:00 P.M. PORTFOLIO CONFERENCES/OPEN HOUSE

4:00-5:00 P.M. TEACHER'S DINNER HOUR

5:00-6:30 P.M. PORTFOLIO CONFERENCES/OPEN HOUSE

6:30-7:30 P.M. CONFERENCES BY APPOINTMENT

**3-26-18-3-30-18:** SPRING RECESS

**4-24-18:** Spring Picture Day

\*\*\*

Please call 517.223.6330:

\*If you **do not** want your child screened for vision. Leave your child's name and teacher.

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

\*\*\*

### ARCHERY ANNOUNCEMENT!

On January 20, 2018 the Kreeger Elementary team participated in their first ever archery tournament. It was a great day for our young archers! The team came away with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the elementary division. Zachary Krolczyk placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the elementary boys division with a personal best score of 241 out of 300. Finishing just out of medal position were Owen Smith (234) and Ethan Way (232). The team has two more tournaments this season, Jan 27 in Portage and Feb 17 in Hartland.

\*\*\*

### VALENTINE'S DAY HAPPENINGS

**Kreeger Student Council** will be selling Candy Grams for Valentine's Day this year! They will be sold for 50 cents each from February 5<sup>th</sup> through February 9<sup>th</sup>. They will be delivered on February 14, 2018. Kreeger will also be selling LARGE heart shaped candy suckers and LARGE red lip suckers this year. These will be for sold for \$2.00 each. They will be sold during lunches February 8-Feb 14.



## Fowlerville Jr. Girls Scouts working on empowerment board

These members of the Fowlerville Jr. Girl Scout Troop 30105 have been working on their Girl Empowerment Board. "She believed she could, so she did." If you know of a girl who is interested in becoming a Girl Scout, contact Callie Frey at 517-699-9400 or [cfrey@gshom.org](mailto:cfrey@gshom.org)

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## Livingston Genealogical Society to meet Feb. 1 at Howell UM Church

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday Feb. 1, at the First United Methodist Church of Howell, located at 1230 Bower St.

Topic will be "Blogging Your Family's History" with guest speaker Laura Hedgecock.

Phone number: 517-546-2730. For questions call: 810-227-7745. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. FREE OF CHARGE.

If the Howell Schools are closed, there is no meeting.

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## —Area Deaths—



### Lyle Allbright

Lyle Allbright, age 99, passed away Sunday, January 21 in Hastings, MI. Lyle was born April 23, 1918 to Oliver and Sarah Allbright in Cohoctah Township, Livingston County. Lyle graduated from Howell High School, then worked on the farm of his brother-in-law. Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Lyle enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Europe until the end of the war. He then returned to the family farm in Cohoctah and worked for Michigan Bell until his retirement in 1983. Lyle married Georgiana Lott in 1954 and raised a son and a daughter. Lyle will be remembered fondly by his family, including nieces and nephews and friends from the Cohoctah Township community and Fowlerville United Brethren Church.

Lyle Allbright was preceded in death by his parents, wife Georgiana, four brothers, and one sister. He is survived by his children, Brian (Connie) of Freeport, MI and Jane (Jerry) Robson of Howell, as well as grandchildren, Sarah and Briana Allbright and Aaron Robson.

Services were held at Herrmann Funeral Home on Thursday, January 25 at 11 am. Visitation was on Wednesday, January 24 from 4-8 pm.

Memorial contributions are welcome for either Great Lakes Caring Hospice or Fowlerville United Brethren Church.

### Runway Repurposed holding 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fundraiser on Feb. 25

Runway Repurposed, the annual fundraiser that combines the art of fashion design with the creative use of donated clothing and fabric, will be held on Sunday, February 25, 1:00 p.m. at Oak Pointe Country Club, 4500 Club Drive, Brighton. Runway Repurposed is hosted by Grassroots Arts Initiative, a non-profit corporation dedicated to supporting the arts and individual artists of all mediums.

Registration and clothing selection for participating designers was held on January 13, 15, and 20 at Oak Point County Club. At that time, registered designers of all ages selected their choice of donated clothing to create an original garment that will be showcased on the runway at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual competition. Doors will open at 12:00 for guests to enjoy the silent auction, refreshments, and a cash bar followed by the runway show at 1:00 p.m.

There are six competition categories: Young Beginner (up to age 11); Student (12-18); College Design Student; Adult; Avant Garde; and Advanced. The College Design category is new for 2018. All category winners will receive a cash prize and a trophy designed by local artists.

Contestant designs are critiqued by a panel of judges.

Tickets for the event on February 23 are available on line at [www.grassrootsarts.org](http://www.grassrootsarts.org) or at Bink & Babs, Brighton; J.J. Jinkelheimer, Howell; and Finding Roots, Howell. Ticket price is \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Proceeds from the event provide scholarships for students of all ages in a variety of art disciplines.

For more information, visit [Facebook.com/RunwayRepurposed](https://www.facebook.com/RunwayRepurposed) or [www.grassrootsarts.org](http://www.grassrootsarts.org).

### Fowlerville Gymnastics Team finishes second at Haslett Invitational on Jan. 20

The Fowlerville Gymnastics Team finished 2nd to Howell by another narrow score – 140.125 to 140.4 at the Haslett Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 20. Brighton took 3rd, Grand Ledge 4th, and Haslett/Williamston/Bath 5th.

Izzy Litz placed 2nd All Around, 1st Beam, 4th Floor, 7th Bars. Bekah Leonard took 7th All Around, 7th Beam, 6th Vault, 12th Floor, 9th Bars.

Kenzie Brigham finished 10th All Around, 9th Vault, 5th Floor, 11th Bars.

Maddy Moran was 11th on Beam.

The girls traveled to White Lake for another highly competitive invitational this past Saturday, Jan. 27, and are at Mason this Wednesday, Jan. 31.



### Stephanie Kellenberger

Stephanie Kellenberger passed away at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan on January 13, 2018. She was 46 years old, born January 8, 1972 to Tom and Viola Parsons whom she was reunited with in heaven. She has six siblings, two brothers and four sisters, Ronnie, Greg, Connie, Kim, Fredda and Melissa.

She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She is survived by husband Terrance Kellenberger, children Valerie Stevens and Thomas Kellenberger, step-children Misty, Cory, Lyndsey and Terri Jo and eight grand-youngins as she would say it. She cherished every one of them and the memories they made together. The grand-youngins are Aurora and Reagan Stevens, Daymen, Derin and Dalila Hurd, Kyle and Haley Stevens.

Stephanie drove school bus for 17 years in Howell, Michigan. Nothing meant more to her than family and getting together at the farm. She loved her garden and growing fresh veggies and flowers with the grand-youngins. She will always be in our hearts and memories forever. We will love and miss you always.

Two of her favorite psalms that she lived by are: *I know God has promised no harm will befall me* – Psalm 91:10, *And that I should cast my cares upon him and he will sustain me* – Psalm 55:22

Services were held at Herrmann Funeral Home in Fowlerville, Michigan on January 18, 2018 at 11:30 a.m.

### Residents invited to attend 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Livingston County Community Connect

*Volunteers needed for Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> event in Howell*

Area residents are invited to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Livingston County Community Connect on Saturday, February 3, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Howell Parker Middle School, 400 Wright Road.

The Livingston County Homeless Continuum of Care Committee hosts this free event each year to connect people with needed information, resources, and free services in a family-friendly, convenient environment.

Guests will have access to free health screenings, legal consultation, food, clothing, books, personal care items, haircuts, employment services, and more. The event includes fun activities for the kids, but no childcare. Lunch is also provided on-site, at no cost. No registration is required. Guests are responsible for their own transportation to and from the event.

New services this year include an expanded employment services section, with job opportunities and the Mobile One-Stop Career Center from Michigan Works!, vision and hearing screenings, the Michigan Child ID Program, and a Mobile Mammography Screening Center from Ascension St. John Providence.

Hundreds of dedicated volunteers are needed to welcome guests, help them find resources, keep the facility clean and safe, take-down after the event, and also set-up on Friday evening. Free lunch, snacks, and beverages are also provided to Saturday volunteers.

Community Connect is sponsored by First National Bank and Livingston County United Way. Volunteers may register on-line at <http://bit.ly/2CeexAg>, or access volunteer forms at [www.lcunitedway.org](http://www.lcunitedway.org). Registrations are due by January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Plainfield United Methodist to serve Chicken & Biscuit Supper on Feb. 10

A Chicken and Biscuit Supper will be served at the Plainfield United Methodist Church, 17845 M-36, north of Gregory on Saturday, Feb. 10, starting at 5 pm. Free will donation. Take outs available. All are welcome.

### Grief Share Seminar/Support Group reconvenes starting Feb. 4

Grief Share, which is sponsored by Family Impact Center and held at the Family Impact Center Wellness Center on 9430 W. Grand River just west of Fowlerville, will be starting back up on Sunday, February 4, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. This 13-week faith-based seminar/support group is for anyone who is grieving the loss of someone close. For more information or to register, please call Kathy at 517-223-3239 or contact the Family Impact Center at 517-223-4428.

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**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Maison Z. Wilkinson  
Memorial Scholarship  
Fundraiser**



*Drop-off dates & times:*

**Nelson's Mini Storage  
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January 28, Sunday, 10-11:30am  
February 3, Saturday, 10-11:30am  
February 11, Sunday, 10-11:30am  
February 17, Saturday, 10-11:30am  
February 18, Sunday, 10-11:30am  
February 21, Wednesday, 2:30-4pm  
February 25, Sunday, 10-11:30am  
March 3, Saturday, 10am-12pm  
March 4, Sunday, 10am-12pm  
March 10, Saturday, 10am-12pm  
March 11, Sunday, 10am-12pm

\*Set up for sale will be Friday, March 16 starting at 2pm. At that point we can still take in items until 10pm. If these dates and times do not work for you, please contact us and we can work out a time to meet.

Maylene Turnbo 517-304-3976 or  
Amy Jarvis 517-223-6225.

\*If you are a business and would like to donate for the raffle or anyone wanting to donate to the bake sale please contact us.

**GARAGE SALE & FUNDRAISER DAY  
Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> • 9:00am - 3:00pm  
Fowlerville Junior High School Gym\***

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









Jeannette Kiernan began her duties as the new principal at Webberville Elementary this past July 1<sup>st</sup>.

New Webberville principal says school & community “feels like a family”

By Steve Horton

Jeannette Kiernan had been an elementary teacher in her hometown of Pinckney for nearly two decades when she set her sights on becoming an administrator. As it turned out, she realized this goal in quick fashion.

“I started working on earning my Administration Certificate three years ago at Michigan State University,” she said. “Last year I served as an intern at the building where I taught, but it was part-time since I still was teaching.”

While she could have remained in Pinckney, hoping that an administrative opening might eventually occur, she decided to take a different career direction.

“When I decided to pursue a career as an administrator, I was looking for a position at an elementary building since I’d taught at that level,” Kiernan said. “I also liked the idea of a smaller community. I wanted an opportunity where I could dive into the community and get to know the families.”

The opening for the principal’s position at Webberville Elementary fit both those criteria, so she applied for the job, was subsequently hired, and began her new job this past July 1st. She replaced Suzi Slater who retired after 43 years as a teacher and administrator at the local school district.

As for her impressions after six months? “It feels like a family,” Kiernan said of the school system and the extended community. “It’s not just parents who are involved in the school and volunteer to help, but

Webberville Community School News

The American Red Cross is facing a critical blood shortage and needs our help! The Webberville Chapter of the National Honor Society is hosting a blood drive on Wednesday, January 30, from 8:15 AM to 2:15 PM. Schedule an appointment at redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code WebbervilleHS. Walk-ins are also welcome. For more information, please call 517-521-3422 x7906.

\*\*\*

A Parent Information Night for Webberville Middle and High School parents is Monday, January 29 at 6:00 PM in the high school cafeteria. Among the agenda topics: growth vs. proficiency; tardy and attendance policies; and vaping and E-cigarettes. There will also be a question and answer period.

\*\*\*

The Webberville Class of 2018 is raising funds to support their senior activities in May. They are selling Save Around Coupon Books priced at \$25 each. The class receives a 50% profit for each book sold! Examples of the local merchants supporting the Save Around books are Subway, Barnes & Noble, Applebee’s, Sears, Biggby and many more! The deadline to purchase a book is Friday, February 2. Please contact 517-521-3447 x7958, or email tscifers@webbervilleschools.org or tgrossbauer@webbervilleschools.org if you are interested.

\*\*\*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Casino Bus Trip to the Greektown Casino is Saturday, February 24. The cost is \$45 per person and includes \$20 in free slot play. Proceeds help fund activities for the Webberville Varsity Boys’ Basketball team. For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Sandy Judd at 517-521-3447 x 7969 or Nate Lott at 517-712-3381.

others as well.” She pointed to such examples as the librarian doing a program at the school, the support shown by local businesses, and elderly residents reading to the young students.

“People in the community, even if they no longer have kids in school, still want to help out,” she said. “They support the school and are invested in seeing that the kids grow up in a positive environment.

“The Veterans Day Program we had at the elementary, with the local veterans interacting with the students, made a huge impression on me,” Kiernan added.

Part of her desire to be involved in the community included the family relocating from their home in Pinckney to a closer location and enrolling her two children at Webberville. “My son is a fourth grader at the elementary and my daughter is an eighth grader at the junior high,” she said, adding that she feels having her kids in the school system where she works is beneficial, enhancing her involvement.

Along her impression of the ‘family like atmosphere’ at the school and within the extended community, Kiernan feels having all of the students on one campus is a plus. “The closer proximity allows the high school and junior high students to interact more often with the younger kids,” she pointed out. “There’s a lot of potential in that. It’s also easier for the elementary students to flow into the junior high when they reach that stage.”

As an example of these sorts of interactions and their potential, she noted that students from the high school, including members of the National Honor Society, currently read to and help tutor the elementary students.

As a new administrator, she understandably wants “to make a difference.”

Asked about her goals, Kiernan said: “I want to work

Smith Elementary School News

IMPORTANT DATES:  
February 2 - PTC Popcorn  
February 8-Family Math Night 5:30-7:00  
February 8- Applebee’s Howell- Dining to Donate-don’t forget to turn in our coupon so the school gets credit  
February 14 – Student Count Day  
February 14 - PTC meeting 6:00pm  
February 19 – NO SCHOOL President’s Day Recess  
March 3- MOM2MOM Sale  
March 9 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester for K-5<sup>th</sup>  
March 15 – K-12<sup>th</sup>) ½ Day With Conferences from 1:00-4:00 and 5:00-7:30  
March 26 – 30 SPRING RECESS

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

SAVE THE DATE: MOM2MOM Sale at H. T. Smith Elementary on March 3<sup>rd</sup> Now is the time to reserve a spot as a vendor. For additional information, visit www.mom2momsalesmichigan.com or www.mom2momlist.com .

\*\*\*

Family Math Night is an opportunity for you to bring your child and learn about our fabulous Bridges Math Program. This year it will be held in the cafeteria on Thursday, February 8 from 5:30-7:00. Those attending will leave with some materials and great ideas to work on math learning at home.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

Dansville Community Center holding Euchre Night on Feb. 3 & 17

Do you like to play Euchre? The Dansville Community Center at 1317 Mason Street in Dansville will be having Euchre Night on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 7pm. A donation of \$5 per person is asked to help pay for expenses for the night. Prizes will be awarded. Beginners are welcome. For more information contact 517-521-4547.

collaboratively with the staff, students, and families to increase student success. I also want to be a student and family advocate. I want to see our students succeed, not just academically, but emotionally. I want the school to be a place where the students want to be.

“I know a lot of that existed before I came here, the efforts to help kids succeed,” she added. “I just want to keep moving in that direction.”

One area she’s worked on since the school year started is finding new and different ways to get students “more involved” and to “have a voice.”

“We started a news channel where we film a live newscast,” Kiernan noted. “The kids applied to be news reporters and we rotate them every three-to-four weeks. They film announcements, do a joke-a-day, and highlight a staff member once a week. It’s published on You Tube and can be viewed by the other students, families and community.”

Her goal is to offer similar extracurricular activities, based on student interest. “Since we did the news channel, the kids have suggested other ideas, including a student newspaper and a chess club. They have a lot of ideas.”

Kiernan taught 21 years at Pinckney, including ten years at the now closed Lakeland Elementary, a few years at Navigator School (the upper elementary building for fourth, fifth, and sixth graders), and finally Country Elementary which houses kindergarten thru third grade.

While the Pinckney School District and community are much larger, she pointed out that Country Elementary and Webberville Elementary are similar in student numbers and staff. “We had just over 300 students at Country last year and at Webberville we have 264 students in pre-school thru fifth grade.”

A 1991 graduate of Pinckney High School, she attended MSU and earned a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education. Several years later, she obtained a Master’s degree in Elementary Curriculum Instruction.

After finishing college and before the start of her teaching career—23 years ago—she and her husband, Mike, were married.

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Participating on the Competitive Cheer team this season were 8<sup>th</sup> graders Natalie Beauchamp, Madelyn Donal, Mattie Herren-Thomas, Dana Michalski, Princesse Nzao-Pambou, Elly Philburn, Amelia Raymer, Lauren Vincent, Amber Culbertson, Paige Smith, Mackenzie Estes & Maranda Hancock. 7<sup>th</sup> graders on the team were Elizabeth Gloss, Alexis Kenzie, Lauryn Rodriguez & Sarah Wilkinson. Nice job, Lady Glads!



Holding their team trophy are Alexis Kenzie and Mackenzie Estes.

# Fowlerville Junior High School News

## IMPORTANT DATES:

Student Count Day-- Wed. Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>

Semi-Formal Dance-- Fri. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>

\*\*\*

## SPORTS FOR WEEK OF JAN. 29:

Mon., GBB vs Charlotte-4:30; 7A,8H; bus-3:15

Tues., PICTURE DAY! 3:15--WRESTLERS in wrestling room/FHS

4:00--8th GBB @ FJH gym

4:25--7th GBB @ FJH gym

ALL ATHLETES WILL BE PHOTOGRAPHED. BRING UNIFORM TO PRACTICE. Coaches will distribute packets.

Wed., GBB vs Eaton Rapids-4:30; 7A,8A. BOTH grades will play one (1) game at E.R.M.S. w/ 7th going at 4:30 followed by 8th.

NO concessions at Charlotte; FEED YOUR ATHLETE by purchasing a sack lunch, choice of 2 entrees, from our Hot Lunch Program. Order must be placed by end of 1st hour on day requested.

Please plan to pay admission at ALL athletic events.

\*\*\*

## FJH CHEER TEAM ENDS SUCCESSFUL SEASON-

The Competitive Cheer team traveled to Pinckney on January 13 for the Pirates BlackOut Invite. The team placed 5th out of about 11 teams. This was a unique invite in that all the competitors wore black & were not identified by school until the end of the competition.

The FJH Competitive Cheer Team ended a successful season with a third place finish at the Webberville Spartan Snowflake Invitational on January 22. The team, new this year to FJH has been practicing since Thanksgiving time. They participated in four invitationals, bringing home trophies from two. At the Webberville competition, Coach Ashley Bielous noted the team had its highest point total of the

season, as well as, a Round 2 beat also.

\*\*\*

## 2017 CROSS COUNTRY RECORD SETTERS!

This past fall, nine of the FJH cross country runners turned in times good enough to be listed on the FJH Cross Country record board which hangs in the gymnasium. To make the record board, a runner must record a minimum time at a school meet.

This year, FJH proudly recognizes Jack Shrader, Levee Clark, Tyler Perras, Brock Howard, Zach Curd, Brett Marschall, Molly Kilpela, Kaitlyn Seiter, & Tori Briggs. The team was coached by Karri Lukasik, Julie Dailey, & Kristine Esch. The board was designed a number of years ago by former resident Mike Steinhelper. Thank you to Signature Signs for donating the work for this year's cross country record board.

\*\*\*

## ARCHERY TEAM

Our JH archery teams had a great first tournament of the season! At our home tournament on January 20<sup>th</sup> the teams placed 2<sup>nd</sup> (team 1) and 7<sup>th</sup> (team 2) out of 9 teams. The teams were led by Travis Dittmer (272), Evan Herbert (264), and Madelyn Donal (264). The teams travel to Portage on the 27<sup>th</sup> and Swartz Creek on Feb 3.

\*\*\*

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls opened up their season yesterday with two great games against East Lansing.

Gold (B) Team: Leading the scoring attack for the Gold(B) team was Heidi Curd and Ava Rajala with 9 points each. Teela Theibert chipped in with 2 points and Ava Campbell split at the line to contribute 1 point. Foul trouble and injuries plagued the Glads as they finished the game with only 5 able to play. Kaydence Culbertson and Alexis Horvorka played some great defense for the team, but they fell short at the end.

Purple (A) Team: A true team effort led the Glads to the victory. 7 out of 8 players scored offensively! Their tenacious defense, along with converting at the

free throw line at the end of the game gave them the win, finishing the game with only 4 players, due to foul trouble. Leading the scoring was Brooke Simon with 11, while Julia Johnson chipped in 7. Katie Tait, Ava Kuch and Katie Bigos dropped 4 points for the team while Zaylin Rinehart added 2 points. Although she didn't score, Leyna Baumgartner was a defensive force for the Glads creating turnovers and scoring opportunities for her teammates. In the final minutes, Katie Bigos and Brooke Simon put down some key free throws to seal the win by 2 for the Gladiators!

\*\*\*

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL

Both 8th grade teams lost to E. Lansing last night. Both teams struggled offensively against a very strong East Lansing defense. Halle Dargie had 2 points for the B team, Laela Slrrine and Zoey Yyergens each had 4 points for the A team and Levee Clark lead the Gladiator scoring with 18 points on the night.

\*\*\*

## Fowlerville Community School Student Academic Acceleration Night

**When:** Monday, January 29, 2018 at 6:30- 8:00 pm  
**Where:** Fowlerville High School Media Center

**Why:** To provide information that allows the families of students who have the ability and drive to accelerate or advance their learning beyond grade level to take full advantage of programs and opportunities available to do so.

Quirky, Intense, Perfectionist-How giftedness affects your child's behavior.

**Bring the kids: Free, Fun Child activities and care in the Cafeteria. Refreshments**

**Questions:** please contact Assistant Superintendent Tim Dowker at (517) 223-6027

\*\*\*

## MAKING THE GRADE NOMINATIONS

WHMI, our local radio station in Howell, wants to say a big Thank You to the best teachers in the Livingston County area with the "Making the Grade" contest. They would like to hear about your favorite educator and are seeking

*continued next page*

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nominations of exceptional teachers that are currently working in the Livingston County Area. Name your favorite teacher for them to have a chance to win \$300, a special “Making the Grade” trophy, and a custom coffee mug floral bouquet! This contest is made possible by Hartland Electric, Michigan Educational Credit Union, Stines Family Dentistry, The Elder Care Firm in Brighton, Aubree’s Pizzeria and Grill of Howell, and The Scherff Agency and Meemic Insurance. Go to [www.whmi.com](http://www.whmi.com) and click on the ‘Making the Grade’ icon to access the nomination form. Nominations must be in by February 9<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*

**YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

The Young Scholars Program is a selective pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th grade students with financial need. This program provides scholarship opportunity for extracurricular learning such as camps, art and music private lessons and more. Students who are accepted will be paired with an academic adviser to plan goals, seek opportunities and review potential colleges. This is a 5 year program.

Who: High achieving (A’s and B’s) 7th graders with family income less than \$95,000

When: Apply now through March 21 at noon.

For more information about the program and application instructions please go to <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarship-programs/young-scholars/>

\*\*\*

**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 6<sup>th</sup> hour teacher (6<sup>th</sup> Grade to their homeroom teacher). The tabs will be donated to the

**Fowlerville Fire Department Report**

Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, at 2:13 a.m. a medical emergency on Grand River Ave. in Handy Township was reported. Personnel assisted EMS on White Pine Street in the Village at 10:30 a.m. and at 4:09 p.m. the department was dispatched to a medical emergency on Alans Drive in Handy Township.

A dispatch to a medical emergency on Maple Street in the Village was received at 6:16 p.m., Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Firefighters were dispatched to a medical emergency on Judd Road in Handy Township at 7:04 p.m.

Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1:12 a.m. the department responded to a medical emergency on Grand River in Handy Township. Firefighters were called to assist at a motor vehicle accident with injuries on I-96 in Handy Township at 4:06 p.m.

At 6:37 a.m., Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> a medical emergency on Linda Ray Lane in Iosco Township was reported. Firefighters were dispatched to a pickup truck fire on N. Hibbard Street in the Village at 9:21 a.m. The department responded to a fire alarm in an industrial building on National Park Drive in the Village at 11:02 a.m. Personnel responded to assist at a medical emergency on Samantha Drive in Handy Township at 6:23 p.m.

A medical emergency on Stow Road in Conway Township was reported at 9:59 a.m., Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. At 5:24 p.m. the department was dispatched to a medical emergency on Christopher Street in the Village.

Personnel responded to a standby with EMS on Iosco Road in Iosco Township at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

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

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



**CSI WINNERS** from Jan. 19, 2018. L-R: Bryce Engle, Giorgia Beach, Ethan Kemp, Samantha Grosshans, and Aleaha Foster.

Ronald McDonald House. The class that brings in the most tabs wins a pizza party! Please spread the word.

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**YEARBOOK INFORMATION**

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

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

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**BOX TOPS**

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

\*\*\*

**LET IT SNOW-SKI CLUB**

The club is open to 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. We ski/board at Mt. Brighton every Wednesday now and throughout the month of February. For further information, please contact Ms. DeLuca 517-223-6250 or [delucac@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:delucac@fowlervilleschools.org)

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Fowlerville News & Views



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

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\*\*\*

CONWAY TOWNSHIP  
LIVINGSTON COUNTY,  
MICHIGAN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING TO REVIEW  
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
TO MASTER PLAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Conway Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on February 12, 2017, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Township Hall located at 8015 N. Fowlerville Road, Fowlerville, Michigan 48836, to review proposed amendments to the Conway Township Master Plan.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission Chairperson, or the Conway Township Clerk, at any time prior to the meeting, and may further be submitted to the Planning Commission at the public hearing. The complete draft of amendment Master Plan 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.

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Conway Township  
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**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MOM TO MOM SALE-** We are looking for Mom’s to rent tables for our Mom To Mom sale on Saturday Feb. 24 from 10-3 You can rent tables for \$15 or \$10 if you bring your own table! contact [517-290-8836](tel:5172908836) Amanda

**MOM2MOM SALE MARCH 3RD AT SMITH ELEMENTARY.** Spaces still available to sell please contact Vikki Boyde @ [htsmithptc@gmail.com](mailto:htsmithptc@gmail.com) or (734) 845-6065 for more info. Proceeds from spaces go directly to the school.

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

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Reaching Retirement Age?  
Here’s What You Need to Know  
By Vonda VanTil,  
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Every birthday deserves celebration, but some seem a little more special than others do. Think of a baby’s first birthday. Sweet 16. The “Big 4-0.” Then, before you know it, along comes 65, a milestone especially important to retirees.

For nearly half a century, American workers looked to 65 as the age at which they could stop working and finally reap their full retirement benefits under the Social Security Act of 1935.

Today, however, the full retirement age is increasing based on your year of birth. In 1983, Congress changed the law to increase the retirement age over a 22-year period, citing improvements in the health of older people and increases in average life expectancy. To find out your full retirement age, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/ageincrease.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/ageincrease.html).

Of course, if you’re insured for retirement benefits, you still can claim them as early as age 62 but your monthly payments are permanently reduced for each month that you file prior to your full retirement age.

For help in deciding which age is right for you to start receiving Social Security retirement benefits, read “*When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits*” at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10147.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10147.pdf).

We have also made applying for benefits easier than ever. You can do it online! To apply for benefits, please go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

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[socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits](http://socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits).  
That said, age 65 should still factor in prominently as you prepare for retirement and a stable financial future because that’s when most American workers first become eligible for Medicare health insurance coverage.

To see if you’ve earned enough credits through work to qualify for Medicare at age 65, view your *Social Security Statement* online using your personal *my Social Security* account. Create or log on to your account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

If you’re already receiving Social Security benefits before age 65, we’ll automatically enroll you in Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) and Medicare Part B (supplemental medical insurance) effective the first day of the month you turn 65. Watch your mailbox a few months before your birthday for your Medicare card. Otherwise, three months before your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, you can apply for Medicare Parts A and B online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits).

Your Initial Enrollment Period for Medicare starts three months before your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday month and continues for three months after. To learn more about Medicare enrollment and coverage, please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare). To learn more about Medicare coverage, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

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

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NOTICE OF SALE

A liquidation sale will be held on **February 13** at **10am** to dispense of the items stored in the following units:  
**Jerry Bee Unit #2/39**  
**Robert Gantz Unit #29**  
**Heather Russell Unit #100**  
*This sale is subject to cancellation without notice.*



# Caleb Jenkins Column



## Forward Thought

Since we have finished the government official series of articles, I was considering what topic I should do for my next column, and lo and behold, the federal government shuts down! How convenient. There is certainly a great deal that can be analyzed concerning the motivations, results, and people involved, and it unsurprisingly did receive a great deal of attention from the talking heads and various commentators. So, at this point, it might seem superfluous for me to also chime in, and while I wouldn't want to bore you with something that you've heard a million times already from every other source, I do think there is one aspect to all of this that has not received nearly enough attention. I am talking about the need for forward thinking.

The difference between action and reaction was something that I learned to recognize and implement as a child, and it has served me well in life. When something unexpected or major happens in life, it can feel natural to not think and just react to the situation, but that does not usually lead to the best outcome. It is best when you take a deep breath, carefully examine what is going on, and then proceed with the proper action. It's using your head and controlling the situation rather than letting the situation control you. It allows you to find an optimal end-state and work toward that goal instead of doing what you could call the muddle-through approach.

Unfortunately, in Washington, we are currently seeing precisely that: a continual, panicked reaction to events that often results in subpar solutions. People recognize this, and even those in Washington typically acknowledge that this is what is happening. There is not agreement, though, on what is causing it, and there ends up being a lot of finger pointing involved. Personally, I don't think the fault can be attributed to any one person or cause, but I won't go down the rabbit trail of explaining what I think those reasons are. Regardless of the cause, there is an urgent, imperative need for the federal government to switch from the reactionary decisions evidenced by the recent shutdown to a solid plan of forward thinking.

The effects of this lack of direction and overall forward-looking thought can be seen throughout the government and country. Some examples include the budget, the deficit, military readiness and strategic international policy, technology advancements, and the list could go on. Even seemingly simpler things like government efficiency could be improved by foregoing reactionary, stop-gap decisions.

Instead, there needs to be careful thought and planning put into developing a positive plan for America's future. It does not need to be rigid. After all, I am not talking about a dictatorial program. Not at all. But a republic such as ours should not walk along blindly just trying to survive the next crisis. As in our personal lives, the government should take a deep breath and reevaluate the current situation in America and determine a way ahead. That may require some patience, understanding, and especially input on our part, but it is something that we should all be willing to see accomplished.

## Fowlerville wrestlers wins Mike Kelly Tournament, beating five other schools

Fowlerville's Wrestling Team enjoyed a good day on Saturday, Jan. 20, beating five other schools to win the Mike Kelly Tournament and keep the trophy at home.

The scores in the six duals were:

- Fowlerville 42 St. Louis 28
- Fowlerville 67 Pinckney 12
- Fowlerville 58 Waverly 15
- Fowlerville 63 Eaton Rapids #2 team 15
- Fowlerville. 46 Dexter 27

In individual results:

Finishing 5-0 were Hunter Wilson, Jack Brady, Caleb Medina, Wyatt Daniel,

Finishing 4-1 were Ashton Philburn, Noah Salois, Tom Salois, Houston Hough, Deagun Gonzalez

The JVs were led by Zack Reske, going 3 wins 1 loss on the day.



## Student of the Week—Kourtney Molton

By Autumn Barbour

Congratulations to this week's Student of the Week: Kourtney Molton! Kourtney is the daughter of Wayne and Molly Molton. She has one brother, Kyle Molton, and one sister, Kaylee Molton, both graduated from Fowlerville High School. With her family, she loves going on vacations with them and making lasting memories.

Kourtney is an exceptional student as FHS. Her schedule includes the following courses: Geometry, World History, Sophomore Literature & Composition, Biology, and Yoga. Her favorite class is Yoga. She commented, "Yoga is a great relaxing way to end my day."

Kourtney's favorite teacher is Mr. Rickens because he is "a great coach and wonderful person to learn from."

She was nominated by a number of her teachers and for her hard work ethic and overall kindness to students. Mrs. Mangan, her English teacher, stated, "Kourtney has a variety of great attributes. She works very hard and always does her best work. Beyond that, she can be surrounded by friends in class but stays focused on her work, makes good decisions, and plays a leadership role."

Along with exceeding in school, Kourtney participates on the Junior Varsity Volleyball team, plays travel volleyball, and is also very involved in 4-H with showing her steer.

Her favorite thing about FHS is the spirit weeks during Homecoming, Christmas, and Winterfest. As a sophomore, Kourtney looks forward to graduation because, she said, "It

is the day that all of my hard work will pay off."

Her advice to underclassmen is, "The days are long, but the years are short, don't take your time here for granted."

After high school, Kourtney plans on going to college to study a career involving animals. Some fun facts about Kourtney are that her favorite movie is *The Longest Ride*, she loves watching *One Tree Hill*, her favorite artist is Michael Ray, and her favorite book is *Milk and Honey*. Also, her favorite quote is, "I can and I will, watch me." She likes this quote because she loves to prove people wrong!

Overall, Kourtney is a hard-working, fun loving student in Fowlerville High School. As for being named as FHS' Student of the Week, she said that she feels very honored in receiving this award knowing not everyone receives it, and is happy to know her hard work has been noticed.



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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Village Council hears annual reports from LDFA & DDA officers

By Steve Horton

The Fowlerville Village Council heard the annual reports from LDFA & DDA officers at its meeting last Monday, Jan. 22. Phil Utter, president of the LDFA (Local Development Financing Authority) and Steve MacDermaid and Paul Harmon, the president and vice president of the DDA (Downtown Development Authority) each addressed council and answered questions from trustees. Both of these entities are set up as TIFA (Tax Increment Financing Authority) Districts, allowing them to capture village, Handy Township, and Livingston County property taxes within their respective districts and using those monies for various economic development purposes.

The LDFA district includes the village’s industrial parks, while the DDA spearheads improvement projects within the town’s commercial areas—both in the downtown area and the corridor on South Grand Avenue from the railroad tracks to the I-96 freeway.

The LDFA board is comprised of local citizens appointed by council along with representatives from Handy Township, Livingston County, and Fowlerville Community Schools. The DDA board includes members who own businesses within the district, a resident living within the district, as well as the Village president, and a representative from Handy Township

Along with hearing about the operations and ongoing projects of the two boards and also discussing future projects planned by the LDFA, council discussed the recommendation to use Ann Arbor SPARK as the economic development consultant for both entities at an annual cost of \$2,500 for the next three years. The LDFA will cover \$2,000 of this expense and the DDA will pay \$500 of the annual fee. SPARK is the firm that works with the Economic Development of Livingston County.

Both boards had previously contracted with Livingston Business Development Associates, a local economic development consulting firm owned by Fred Dillingham and Jennifer Balyeat. The company ended its operations last year when Dillingham retired.

The recommendation to hire SPARK appeared on the agenda in the manager’s report prior to the reports by Utter, Harmon and MacDermaid. Council trustee Jerry Bell had asked that it be tabled, explaining that he’d like to have more discussion on other options the village might have, including whether a firm located in the Lansing area might also be available in addition to SPARK.

“I think we should have a broader focus rather than a narrow one,” he said.

One of the concerns expressed was that a consultant located in Ann Arbor might be too far from the Fowlerville area compared to other communities served by the firm.

Upon hearing the reports from the LDFA and DDA officials, which included their reasons for recommending that SPARK be hired and the low cost, Bell made the motion to hire the firm with the caveat that if a Lansing-area firm is available and affordable, then that extra help be considered.

**IN HIS REPORT, UTTER BEGAN WITH A REVIEW** of the past year. “Our major project was Garden Lane Phase II,” he said, noting that this involved repaving and doing our fixes to the stretch from the bridge west to Gregory Road.

“In doing the work, we uncovered problems that were inherited from when the street was put in by the private developer,” he said. “This drove up the cost from what had been estimated.”

Utter explained to the council that some parts of the street were 2-to-2.5 inches thick. “With a daily average of 650

commercial vehicles driving on the street, Wolverine (the Village’s engineer) recommended 6.5 inches of road base,” he pointed out.

As way of comparison, he noted that Garden Lane Phase I, which involved milling off the old asphalt and applying two new layers, along with repairs to the curb-and-gutter and approaches, had cost around \$400,000.

“We still have to apply a second (finish) layer of asphalt this year and there may be cut-outs of areas where settling occurred, but I’ve been assured by Wolverine that the cost would not exceed \$1.24 million, and it may be lower,” Utter said.

He added that the Village manager (Kathryn Arledge) had suggested that routine maintenance planned for the bridge (sealing the concrete) be done at the same time. “The \$14,000 cost for this project had already been budgeted,” he said, adding that it was a separate expense from the road project.

In his report, Utter noted that CZ Cartage, the shipping-and-handling and trucking terminal being built on East Van Riper, “is coming along nicely.”

“As you know, the LDFA purchased that parcel and then sold it to this company,” he said. “The township assessor said that we’ll be capturing some of the property taxes this year.”

He also mentioned the 50,000 square-foot spec building located on National Drive (off West Grand River), pointing out, “There are not very many communities in the county with two new industrial buildings going in. The story for Fowlerville continues to get better.”

Utter informed council that in 2018 there’s a potential of another new building, this one on Garden Lane. “Hopefully, this project will break ground in the near future,” he said. “Since we came out of the recession, we’ve done very well retaining current businesses and siting new ones. “We’re a little further west than many companies would like, but it helps that the property price is more favorable for start-ups.”

Utter also asked for an amendment to the LDFA budget to include an improvement to a section of National Drive, replacing the concrete with asphalt. The cost is ball parked at \$405,500. Other planned projects include upgrading the rest of National Drive by milling off the old pavement and applying new asphalt, and doing the same on East Van Riper Road from Kane Lake to the railroad tracks.

He explained that Wolverine had been asked to access these streets and establish a priority list.

Utter also pointed out that a timetable for the work hinges on future funding, explaining that the personal property tax levy was eliminated by the Legislature. During the transition period, the LDFA has received some of this tax money, but Utter told council that it’s uncertain if this will continue or not, or for how long.

The LDFA in its current budget received just over \$400,000 from this source out of total revenues of over \$700,000. Thirty percent of those revenues came from the township and county property taxes. The board also began the fiscal year with a carry-over surplus of just over \$1.513 million.

The budgeted appropriation for the current year was set at over \$2.161 million, meaning that most of the surplus will be used up.

While the street projects and other LDFA expenses have been earmarked to receive part of this money, the LDFA is also transferring back money to the Village (\$215,000), other government units (\$100,000), the LDFA Mosquito Control (\$6,000), and the Water/Sewer for the Well Project (\$168,407). They also pay the Village \$6,000 for administrative services.

Under state law, a LDFA or DDA can use all of the captured taxes for its projects and expenses; however, any money returned to the Village also has to be returned to the township and county.

Utter said that going forward, he feels the best strategy for the LDFA is to continue seeking new businesses to locate in the industrial parks and thereby increase the real estate valuation of the district and to use the captured taxes to maintain

and improve the infrastructure. “In the future, though, we may have to save up for three to five years to do a major street repair,” he said.

“For every dollar the LDFA gets in Village taxes, it gets another 30 cents from the other municipalities,” he said. “I don’t know any other investment where you can get a 30 percent return. The LDFA has been a great economic development tool, we’ve ended up with two water towers, and other improvements to this area of the village, and with your help we will continue to use it wisely.”

During the discussion, Council Trustee Bell applauded the LDFA board for what it has accomplished. He added, though, that there are other areas of the village in need of infrastructure repairs and improvements as well as having other spending priorities like the police department. He noted that the Village overall finances are “getting tight” and felt that the council and LDFA board will need to look at how the village portion of the taxes are used during the next few years.

**HARMON, WHO SPOKE FIRST, BEGAN** by saying “I just want to share with you what the DDA has been doing and what will continue to do for this great community under the umbrella of the Village of Fowlerville.

“The DDA coordinates and supports activities to promote the economic viability of the downtown area,” he said. “It also acts as an advocate for safe, clean and attractive businesses for our business district. A strong downtown is a major attraction for development and enhances the quality of life for the entire community.”

Harmon also offered details about the Downtown Façade Improvement Program, explaining that its purpose is to stimulate design improvements to downtown buildings in a coordinated fashion, stressing overall compatibility with the historical significance and uniqueness of Fowlerville’s downtown structures.

“The appearance of individual buildings, storefronts, signs, alleys, window displays, parking lots and sidewalks establishes the visual character of the downtown and plays a major role in the success of the business district,” he said. “The purpose of the façade improvement program is to encourage historically accurate improvements to commercial facades visible from the public right of way. It is also the intent of the program to strengthen the economic viability of downtown by improving the exterior physical appearances of buildings. The perception of the downtown has a significant influence on its economic success. By improving its physical appearance, the downtown will have a much greater potential for attracting and retaining business as well as creating an image of strong economic health and vitality.”

In his report, Harmon also listed a number of projects. These include:

- The Strategic Planning Committee (a subcommittee of the DDA) putting on the Fun in the Ville event in June;
- Purchasing extra benches for the downtown, adding that this was at the request of businesses;
- New signage put up by the Michigan Dept. of Transportation. “Through the efforts of past DDA member Darrell Hughes he was able to have the distances to Fowlerville added on to both the signs on I-96 and M-59,” Harmon pointed out.
- Painting of the street poles, benches and flower pots;
- Re-financing of the bonds for the Northwest Quad which saved \$10,000 alone in interest;
- Converting the Christmas tree lighting to LED bulbs;
- Yearly purchase of flowers for the downtown;
- Exploring improvements to downtown sound system used during parades;
- Putting out the Community Calendar in a web site;
- Collaboration with the Village on a Promotional Video;
- Collaboration with the Village on purchasing barricades for use in the downtown during parades,

He noted that the DDA is also looking at sponsoring summer concerts in the park.

“The DDA captures about \$117,000 from other units of government (the township and county) and with those funds,

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plus the village taxes that are captured, the DDA is then able to continue to invest these dollars in the village,” he said.

“As we all do and why we serve in the roles we do for the community is not for personal gain but because we care and love Fowlerville which includes all of the surrounding townships as well,” Harmon concluded, adding that “When we all work together and support each other’s efforts we can accomplish and continue to accomplish great things.”

MacDermaid offered a couple of follow-up comments. “We are all on the same team and have the same goals,” he said. “Since I came to town (as owner of Edward Jones) the town has changed dramatically. There have been a number of improvements. Going forward, we should have collaborative goals. I don’t feel it’s council or the DDA or the LDFA, but the Fowlerville community. In our efforts to improve this community and make it a destination, it’s super important that we are on the same page.”

All three officials urged council trustees to contact them if they have any questions.



## Michigan House Report

By Dr. Hank Vaupel,  
47<sup>nd</sup> District

Thank you to the University of Michigan Orthotics and Prosthetics Center (UMOPC) for giving me the opportunity to tour the facility this past week. The UMOPC is among the few institutional facilities in the country that offer comprehensive orthotic and prosthetic services. Amazing work is being done by this organization to advance the field of prosthetics and better the lives of those who rely on them. I look forward to following the work of the UMOPC.

\*\*\*

I had the pleasure of attending the Howell School Board meeting earlier this week to present school board members with a tribute in honor of School Board Appreciation Month.

While recognizing the board’s many other accomplishments, it was great to be able to highlight the success of its FIRST Robotics programs, KAOS and KILTS. In addition to its recent selection to compete in the regional finals competition, its interest and work in the robotics field has been extremely successful. It is inspiring to hear about the projects these local students are accomplishing.

\*\*\*

This week in Health Policy Committee we begin hearing testimony on legislation inspired by the findings of the House mental health task force which I was proud to co-chair. We started things off with a bill to earmark 4 percent of liquor sales tax revenues to be used for substance use disorder prevention and treatment. Now, more than ever, with the number of opioid related deaths on the rise, more funding must go to treat individuals with addiction. The committee will vote on this measure in the coming weeks.

\*\*\*

It was an honor to again attend Gov. Rick Snyder’s State of the State address. I applaud the governor for the ways in which he has turned our state’s economy around in such a short time. In just nine years, Michigan has gone from worst in the nation to number one in the nation with 122,800 manufacturing jobs created. We’re also number six in the nation for overall private sector job creation. I look forward to continuing the momentum this year.

Thanks to Hartland Township Supervisor Bill Fountain for joining me as my guest for the address.

\*\*\*

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

David Roe, on right, the owner of the Fowlerville Biggby, was inducted into the Fowlerville Rotary Club by President Matt Martin at their last meeting on Wednesday, January 24.

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ATTENTION NECK PAIN SUFFERERS!

Join Us For A FREE Neck Pain & Headache Workshop That Reveals How to Naturally Get Rid Of Your Neck Pain & Related Headaches For Good.

Saturday February 10th • 10:00-11:00 AM

- ➡ Do you suffer with neck pain or headaches every day?
- ➡ Do you find yourself turning your shoulders instead of your head because your neck is stiff?
- ➡ Do you experience pain, numbness or tingling into your shoulder, arm or down your hand?
- ➡ Does your head feel heavy on your neck?
- ➡ Are you afraid your pain will get worse if you don't do anything about it?

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

*‘This is the GREATEST place you can go for Physical Therapy and Total Care! My therapist was always caring and had great expertise treating my neck, while he also taught me many ways to care for my neck including exercises to strengthen the area. Thank you!’ - Lois B.*

Hello,  
Neck Pain and headaches can completely ruin your life...I’ve seen it many times.

- They can make you move like a robot because your neck is so stiff
- They can affect your ability to focus on work and home activities
- They can impact your ability to sleep
- They can take your focus away from enjoying your life...like spending time with your children or grandchildren
- They affect your ability to use your computer or even sit comfortably
- They can ruin your travel plans
- And it can take away your ability to live life...having to rely on medication after medication just to get by

And less movement and enjoyment of life can lead to depression, increased stress and a sedentary lifestyle (mostly sitting...not moving much) which leads to bigger health problems... and life problems.

Here at the Mid-Michigan PT Specialists, we’ve helped literally 1000s of people in Livingston County and surrounding areas who have suffered needlessly with neck pain and headaches...as it’s one of our areas of expertise.

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

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

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

*‘Mid-Michigan PT is an excellent organization and provides amazing service. My therapist worked with my goals and skill level to ensure I achieved a full recovery. All in all, my experience was PERFECT!’ - Sarah S.*

How Do I Register for the Neck Pain and Headache Workshop? Call our office to register at 517-545-3200

When you register, we will mail you The Neck Pain and Headache Worksheet which you will bring with you to the event. Due to the interactive nature of this workshop, seating is limited to 20 attendees only, while news of this event will also be announced in our Patient Newsletter and On-Line.

So if you would like to attend, be sure to register now...Call 517-545-3200.


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

As a Special Bonus...the first 5 people to call and register for the event will receive a FREE MINI-GYM BALL (helpful for some key neck exercises!) while all attendees will receive a personalized copy of my newly published report, “10 Things To Do Today For Neck Pain & Headache Relief”

Looking forward to seeing you there,  
John Dean PT, DPT, OCS, SCS - Co-Owner, Mid-Michigan Physical Therapy Specialists

PS – The first 5 People to call and register at 517-545-3200 will receive a FREE MINI-GYM BALL!

PPS – This event is limited to the first 20 people to register. When you register, you can bring a guest at no additional cost (we do this because many people request to bring their spouse or other family member).

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