

# Fowlerville NEWS & VIEWS

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“Serving the Local Communities”

Volume XXXIX No. 3

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Published Weekly



Jackson Clark plays Jack Kelly, the main character, in *Newsies Jr.* He is a student at Fowlerville Junior High.



David Flores, on left, plays Tommy Boy and Natalya Flores plays Muriel in *Newsies Jr.* They are both dance students at Maria's School of Dance.

### Fowlerville performers part of Prelude Children Theatre's Disney musical

Fowlerville performers are part of the robust cast of 63, 2nd-8th graders that will be putting on the musical Disney hit, *Newsies Jr.*

This visual spectacle, under the production of Jason Eaton and direction of Shannon Egenolf, is sure to impress even the most avid show going critic.

Show dates are Jan 27-29 and Feb. 3-5, with the Friday performances at 7pm and the Saturday-Sunday shows at 3pm at the Hartland Performing Arts Center at 9525 Highland Rd., Howell.

Prelude Children's Theatre has gathered talent from all over Livingston County. With this musical being dance intensive, Prelude recruited the expertise of Maria Usher from Maria's School of Dance in Fowlerville to hone the Tap and Jazz talents of these young performers.

In addition, Prelude has rented a professional set from Crane River Theater.

“We, at Prelude, want to give a Broadway-level experience to our patrons, all the while putting our phenomenally talented kids in the middle of the spectacle!” Eaton explained. “We are really excited to share with the community what we have been preparing for the last six months.”

*continued on page 2*

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From left, Georgia Sbresney plays a scab and is in the ensemble of *Newsies Jr.* She is a student at Fowlerville Junior High School. Elliot Miller and Jenna Pepperman are both part of the ensemble and are dance students at Maria's School of Dance.



Shown here posing on part of the *Newsies Jr.* professional set are top row, from left, Jenna and David. Bottom row, from left, Natalya, Georgia and Jackson. The set was rented from Crane River Theater.

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Wednesday & Thursday 9-6, Friday 9-5 • Saturday 9-Noon

### Fowlerville performers part of Prelude Children Theatre's Disney musical, continued

Prelude is known for pushing the envelope with the production values of their shows. "We view our program as 'Children's Theater with a Broadway edge, meaning we have the production value of Broadway show, with our local, talented young people in the middle of it," Eaton said, adding that "Prelude Children's Theater is best known for their blockbuster productions of the *Lion King Jr.*, *Frozen Jr.*, *Peter Pan Jr.*, *Madagascar Jr.*, and *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*

The upcoming musical is inspired by the rousing true story of newsboys in turn-of-the-century New York City. *Newsies*

*JR.* features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein.

The plot line revolves around powerful newspaper publishers raising prices at the newsboys' expense. The charismatic Jack Kelly rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions. Together, the newsies learn that they are stronger united and create a movement to fight for what's right.

With now-classic songs "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," and "Santa Fe," *Newsies JR.* is a timeless story full of spirit and heart.

With over 1000 tickets already sold, this show is on track to sell out all six of its showings. You can purchase remaining tickets online at <http://our.show/prelude2> For more information call the Hartland Community Education office at (810) 626-2150.

### Fowlerville Junior High School News

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



\*\*\*  
THE COMPETITIVE CHEER TEAM attended their first competition this past Saturday at Brighton. The team competed against 14 other teams. Good job ladies in your first outing. Work hard for this week's meet at Milford.  
\*\*\*

SPORTS FOR WEEK OF JAN. 16:  
PRACTICES continue daily for the 7th & 8th GBB teams.  
PRACTICE continues daily for 6-7-8 G/B wrestling team.  
PRACTICE continues daily for 7-8 CCH team  
Sat.1/21: CCH at FHS INVITE-COLOR WAR IN THE 'VILLE--9:30, Admission: \$5 - Concessions  
WRESTLING @ Chelsea Invite - 9am; bus 7:15

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### Bids for Lawn Mowing Season 2023

Conway Township is now taking bids for the 2023 Lawn Mowing Season, for 5 Cemeteries and the Township Hall. A certificate of Insurance will be required from the winning contractor.

Specifications can be found at the township website [ConwayMI.gov](http://ConwayMI.gov), or in the office during office hours. Bids will be accepted through March 1, 2023. All bids will be reviewed on March 21st at a regular meeting of Board of Trustees at 7:00 p.m.

Please contact Elizabeth Whitt during regular business hours, Tuesday and Wednesday 9 am to 3 p.m. at 517-223-0358. If mailing bids, please mail to P.O. Box 1157, Fowlerville MI 48836.

Elizabeth Whitt  
Conway Township Clerk  
(1-15, 1-29 & 2-12-23)

## Fowlerville Police Report for the Village of Fowlerville Council Meeting for Tuesday, January 17, 2022

The Fowlerville Police Department responded to **684** calls for service over the past two week reporting period.

Total citations issued during this 4 week reporting period is **23** (parking and moving citations)

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### Warrant Authorized/Declined

Incident #22-01207- CSC Report- Warrant Furthered

• 17 y/o male, Fowlerville, December 7th, 2022 at 0900 hours

Incident #22-01196- Threats- Warrant Under Review

• 18 y/o male, Fowlerville, December 6th, 2022 at 1614 hours

Incident #22-01221- Theft- Warrant Authorized

• 36 y/o female, Fowlerville, December 14th, 2022 at 1035 hours

Incident #22-01251 – MDOP – Warrant Under Review

• 18 y/o male, Howell, December 22nd, 2022 at 0931 hours

Incident #22-01271-Assault and Battery/Felonious Assault-Warrant Authorized

• 47 y/o male, Fowlerville, December 29th , 2022 at 1557 hours

Incident #22-01277-Child Abuse and Home Invasion-Warrant Under Review

• 24 y/o male, Livonia, December 30th , 2022 at 1900 hours

Incident #22-01278- Assault and Battery- Warrant Under Review

• 59 y/o male, Fowlerville, December 31st , 2022 at 0915 hours

Incident #22-01266- OUIL/VCSA- Warrant Authorized

• 29 y/o female, Williamston, December 29th , 2022 at 0000 hours

Incident #22-01090- Misuse of 911- Warrant Under Review

• 33 y/o male, Perry, November 11th , 2022 at 2318 hours

\*\*\*

### Officers Investigated the Following Types of Complaints:

- 12-Assist to EMS/FAFD
- 4-Alarms
- 1-Animal complaint
- 1-Assault in progress
- 171-Building/property/vacation check
- 1-Cardiac arrest
- 2-Civic event
- 8-Community Policing
- 44-Criminal Investigations/Follow up
- 5-Court/Prosecutor activity
- 3-Domestic in Progress
- 72-Foot Patrol (Subdivisions and Downtown area)
- 94-General Non Criminal
- 20-Admin Duties
- 262-Area Check
- 9-Assist other agencies
- 2-Burglary report only
- 29-Citizen Assist
- 3-Civil complaint
- 1-Custody dispute
- 3-Disturbance/Trouble
- 3-Domestic verbal
- 1-Hazard

- 2-Info
- 2-Juvenile Complaint
- 33-Liquor Inspection
- 2-MDOP
- 1-Missing person
- 6-Meetings
- 38-Ordinance investigation
- 6-Parking/Traffic Complaint
- 5-PDA
- 1-Public service
- 1-Shooting
- 7-Subpoenas Service
- 15-Suspicious Situations/vehicle/person
- 2-Traffic Violation/Arrest
- 3-Trespassing, Loitering
- 1-Unknown Accident
- 5-Welfare check
- 3-Intimidation/Threats
- 1-Larceny
- 2-Lockout
- 1-Mental/CCH
- 3-Motorist Assist
- 4-Noise Complaint
- 1-Open door
- 5-Patrol Info
- 1-Prisoner Transport
- 5-School Events
- 179-Subdivision Patrol
- 107-Traffic Stops
- 49-Traffic Detail
- 2-Vin checks
- 1-Warrant Arrest

The above statistical information is retrieved using the computer aided dispatching module, provided by Livingston County Central Dispatch. All supporting statistical documentation can be provided upon request.

\*\*\*

### Assist to other agencies:

Officer Austin was requested to assist a Livingston County Sheriff Deputy with a pursuit that was entering the Village of Fowlerville. Officer Austin assisted when the pursuit entered the Village by alerting other drivers and pedestrians in the area. The vehicle then left the Village and was eventually stopped in Brighton.

Officer Edmonds was requested by a Livingston County Sheriff Deputy to assist with traffic control on a two car accident that was blocking the roadway just outside the Village of Fowlerville. Once the accident was secure and adequate personnel was on scene, Officer Edmonds cleared the assist.

Officer Coln assisted a Livingston County Sheriff Deputy with an injury accident just outside the Village of Fowlerville involving a Fowlerville High School student. Officer Coln assisted by making contact with the student and provided traffic safety until the scene was secure to leave.

Officer Edmonds was requested by the Howell City Police Department to assist with a physical domestic, involving a known subject that is combative. Once the incident was deemed secure, Officer Edmonds cleared the call.

Officer Austin was requested to assist a Livingston County Sheriff Deputy on a personal injury accident just south of the Village. Dispatch advised the driver had crashed their vehicle in the ditch and was unresponsive. Officer Austin arrived on scene and was able to awaken the male. Officer Austin relayed the informed to the responding Deputy and cleared shortly after.

Officer Austin met with a complainant who had information pertaining to an incident that occurred

in the County. Officer Austin relayed the information to the Sheriff's Department and documented his interaction with the complainant.

Officer Kuzdek was requested to set up on I-96 at Fowlerville Road for a vehicle pursuit of a stolen vehicle. Officer Kuzdek was prepared to use the stop sticks when the driver of the vehicle observed this, and then drove across the median and began driving the wrong way on I-96. A LCSO Deputy then conducted a PIT maneuver and the driver was arrested.

\*\*\*

### Additional information:

Officer Coln who is the Fowlerville Community Schools Resource Officer attended a three-day training called, "Forensic Interviewing of Children." This training will be instrumental when speaking with a child who has had a traumatic event happen to him/her.

I attended the Livingston County Chief meeting. This is a monthly meeting where command officers from agencies in the County discuss happenings going on in our respected agencies, County, and the nation.

I attended the Fowlerville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) meeting. This group is composed of business owners and community leaders to discuss projects and the future of this great community. This group of volunteers are very passionate about Fowlerville and do so many great things for our town.

I attended the Livingston County AOB (Advocacy Oversight Board) meeting. This is a regular meeting where Police, Fire, EMS, Dispatch, and Emergency Management all come together and discuss topics pertaining to public safety.

With the new year upon us and 2022 in the rearview mirror, let's have a great year. Let's all reflect on all the good and the bad that came with 2022. We at the Fowlerville Police Department had a very busy year. As with many agencies across the nation, mental health is a huge concern and a topic that desperately needs to be addressed. Here in Fowlerville we have noticed an uptick with violence-related calls, mental health commitments to the hospital, drug and alcohol use, and suicidal incidents. If you know of any person struggling with mental health, try and reach out to them and see how they are doing or try and get them some help. It seems that we are losing our way to communicate effectively and to be caring with one another. Let's make a pledge to do better as compassionate people and get back to being kind and respectful to each other.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chief John J. Tyler

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# Caleb Jenkins Column



## A Life Worth Living: Character and Intellect

A persistent theme of my columns, or at least a theme I do my best to address each week, is the pursuit of a life worth living. Last year, I used three principal concepts more than any other to represent this theme. Those topics were national competitiveness, good citizenship, and leadership virtues. Each issue is beneficial in its own right, but they are so much more impactful if we interlace them in opinions, policies, and personalities. To fully appreciate the worth of these priorities, we should contemplate their interrelationship and collective outward effects.

National competitiveness, as I previously defined it, is a high priority for me because of its central importance to future

wellbeing. We cannot take for granted the future security, happiness, and moral character of our communities, states, and nation. We currently enjoy the investments of previous generations, and we should strive to leave an ever-greater legacy for our children and grandchildren. We should be responsible stewards of the freedoms and opportunities we enjoy.

I tend to think and write in somewhat grandiose terms, but actually advancing national competitiveness requires a good amount of technical, analytical work. That is when the vision is applied. In other words, technical application is when the rubber meets the road. To be successful, we must first have a vision, but we cannot be satisfied with only concepts. We must use proper means to connect the priority to reality.

That can hypothetically be accomplished with only cold intellect, and certainly, supporting national wellbeing through economic and scientific development is a part of good citizenship. But I wonder what good hard national competitiveness is without individual character? What good is a technically successful nation if the national spirit and the character of the people are gutted? This is when the abstract elements of good citizenship come into play.

People need to know why they are contributing to national competitiveness. Cold intellect, important as it is, does not answer the why question necessary for a robust vision. Nor does it teach us how best to live in harmony or what constitutes good character. These are fundamental elements of a life worth living. We must never lose sight of their worth as part of what makes people and nations great.

To further tie these points together, we conclude with leadership virtues.

We cannot define a good or bad leader simply by ticks on a résumé. Experience and education can contribute greatly to a leader's effectiveness, so I do not discount those in the slightest. But a leader must be more than simply a calculating résumé builder. When choosing leaders, we should not only consider their accomplishments and skills, which are beneficial, but also their character, commitment, and priorities. Do they embrace the responsibilities of servant leadership? Good leaders promote the education, skills, and technical activities of national competitiveness, but they also present a warm vision of leadership and an example of character. We need leaders who embrace both ingredients of leadership.

All three core themes that we addressed—national competitiveness, good citizenship, and leadership virtues—contain varying shares of cold intellect and warm character. This variation means the themes balance each other, and thus, we must not neglect one in the execution of another. Individual and national wellbeing is important to me, and in my mind, wellbeing comprises both hard development and good character. Such a life, one worth living, is what I desire for each of us.

## Howell Area Chamber of Commerce to hold annual dinner on Feb. 1st

The Howell Area Chamber of Commerce will host its 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner & Citizen of the Year Presentation, February 1<sup>st</sup> at Cleary University-Cleary Commons. The event will recognize community leaders and achievements, as well as spotlight key Howell Area Chamber of Commerce programs and events. The theme for the event is "Onward & Upward, Moving Business to New Heights."

"The Annual Dinner Committee chose this year's theme to highlight the full return of the Michigan Challenge Balloonfest in 2022", said Janelle Best, President of the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce.

"The theme "Onward and Upward" portrays hot air balloons rising above mountains that symbolize the ability to rise above the many hurdles that we've all encountered the past few years," she explained, adding that "We're all very excited to bring together our members, businesses, and community leaders to celebrate and highlight this year's Annual Award recipients and unveil our Citizen of the Year."

Award recipients being honored at the event include: Aludyne (Chamber Innovator of the Year Award), Susan Pomerville, Abovo Visual Communications (Community Excellence Award), Nathan Burd, Livingston County Administrator (Rising Star Award), and Eileen Zilch, Community Catalysts (Game Changer Award).

The announcement of the Citizen of the Year is kept a secret and announced at the end of the evening. The Annual Dinner & Citizen of the Year Presentation is presented by Brighton Ford and Trinity Health.

The annual dinner celebration begins at 5 p.m. with a strolling dinner and networking. The program will commence at 6 pm and will be followed by a celebratory afterglow. Registration is \$85 per person. Reservations can be made by calling the Howell chamber at 517.546.3920 or by registering online at Howell.org.


## Fowlerville Knights of Columbus holding Winter Picnic on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>

The Fowlerville Knights of Columbus is holding a Winter Picnic on Saturday, Jan. 21, at the St. Agnes Church's Life Parrish Center, starting at 5:30 p.m.


Grilled hot dogs will be served, with the meal including mac & cheese, baked beans, potato salad, and lemonade. Cost of Adults \$9, Child \$5, and Family of Four \$25. A beer and wine cash bar is available.

A Corn-Hole Tournament will be held, with the kids starting at 6:15 p.m. and the adult competition at 7:15 p.m. Cost for adults is \$10 per person.


A Euchre Tournament will start at 7 p.m. with \$10 per person.



### Fowlerville High School's "ATHLETES" OF THE WEEK



**Jud Scott**



### JV Wrestling

**Chase Aitchson** - Freshman at 6-0 going into Christmas Break. He is the son of Casey Burger and Billy Aitchison. He took first at both tournaments, Howell and the Fowlerville tournament. He is ready to challenge for the varsity spot real soon. Keep up the good work and keep plugging away at it. Great things don't always happen overnight but it takes time to prepare for the success

**Caleb Cyman** - Freshman at 7-2 going into Christmas Break. Son of Danielle Needhan and Brad Cyman. He is the "Clark Kent" of the team. He is a very quiet young man that makes his presence known on the mat but is not the one to throw his weight around off the mat. He has put himself in a position to wrestle some in the varsity matches. Not many freshmen at most wrestling schools get that opportunity. We are hoping for the best and really looking forward to seeing Caleb continue his quick improvement this year.

### JUD'S FOOTBALL FORECAST




<p><b>SATURDAY, JAN. 14</b></p> <p>Seattle <u>24</u> vs. San Francisco <u>31</u> LA Chargers <u>24</u> vs. Jacksonville <u>28</u></p> <p><b>SUNDAY, JAN. 15</b></p> <p>Miami <u>21</u> vs. Buffalo <u>34</u></p>	<p>NY Giants <u>17</u> vs. Minnesota <u>24</u> Baltimore <u>17</u> vs. Cincinnati <u>31</u></p> <p><b>MONDAY, JAN. 16</b></p> <p>Dallas <u>24</u> vs. Tampa Bay <u>28</u></p>
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Every week through the season two Fowlerville H.S. athletes will be saluted for their efforts. Athletes will be selected by the coaching staff and Athletic Dept. For that "Winning Deal" on a new or used car or truck, see Dick Scott Motor Mall.

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## Savvy Senior Column

By Jim Miller

### A Checklist of What to Do When a Loved One Dies

*Dear Savvy Senior,*

*What steps need to be taken after a loved one dies? My 71-year-old uncle, who's divorced with no children, has terminal cancer. He's asked me to take care of his affairs so I would like to find out what I need to do after he passes away.*

*Unsure Nephew*

**Dear Unsure,**

I'm very sorry to hear about your uncle. The death of a loved one can bring about a host of different tasks and responsibilities. Here's a list of some things you can do now, and after his death, that can help keep a sad event from becoming even more difficult.

#### Before Death Occurs

There are several tasks you can do now while your uncle is still living that will make things easier for you after he dies.

For starters, find out where he keeps all his important papers like his trust and/or will (also make sure it's updated), birth certificate, Social Security information, life-insurance policies, military discharge papers, financial documents, key or combination to a safe deposit box or a home safe. Also make a list of his digital assets (including usernames and passwords) like his email account, online banking accounts, social media accounts, etc.

If your uncle doesn't have an advanced directive, help him make one (see *CaringInfo.org* for free state-specific forms and instructions). An advanced directive includes a living will that specifies his end-of-life medical treatments and appoints a health-care proxy to make medical decisions if he becomes incapacitated. In addition, you should also make a do-not-resuscitate (DNR) order. Your uncle's doctor can help you with this.

You should also pre-arrange his funeral, memorial service, and burial or cremation.

#### Immediately After Death

Once your uncle dies, you'll need to get a legal pronouncement of death. If no doctor is present, you'll need to contact someone to do this.

If he dies at home under hospice care, call the hospice nurse, who can declare his death and help facilitate the transport of the body.

If he dies at home without hospice care, call your uncle's doctor. You'll then need to call the funeral home, mortuary or crematorium to pick up the body. If your uncle is an organ or tissue donor, contact the funeral home or the county coroner immediately.

#### Within a Few Days

If funeral plans were not pre-arranged, you'll need to make arrangements and prepare an obituary. If your uncle was in the military or belonged to a fraternal or religious group, you should contact those organizations too, because they may have burial benefits or conduct funeral services.

You should also notify family members, close friends and his employer if he was still working, and make sure his home is secured.

#### Up to 10 Days After Death

To wind down your uncle's financial affairs, you'll need to get multiple copies of his death certificate, which are typically ordered by the funeral home.

If you're the executor of your uncle's estate, take his will to the appropriate county or city office to have it accepted for probate. And open a bank account for your uncle's estate to pay bills, including taxes, funeral costs, etc.

You also need to contact your uncle's estate attorney if he has one; tax preparer to see if estate or final income taxes should be filed; financial advisor for information on financial holdings; life insurance agent to get claim forms; his bank to locate and close accounts; and Social Security, the VA (if he's a veteran) and other agencies that provided benefits in order to stop payments.

You should also cancel his credit cards, delete or memorialize his social media accounts and, if relevant, stop household services like utilities, mail, etc. His home and personal belonging will also need to be dealt with in the coming weeks.

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.

# Community Connect 2023

Saturday, February 4th  
10 AM - 1 PM

2142 Community Church  
7526 Grand River Ave., Brighton

Come Connect With **FREE** Resources, Services, And Information From 50+ Local Agencies/Organizations

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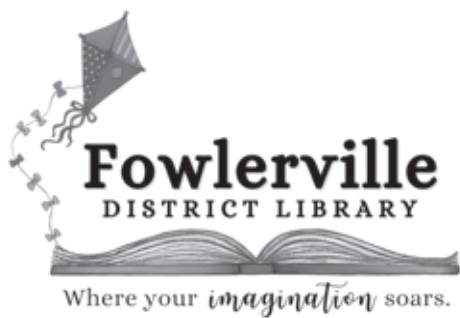
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**FREE Services:**

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- Health Screenings
- Haircuts
- Immunizations
- Hearing Care

**FREE Resources Focused On:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits</li> <li>• Counseling</li> <li>• Utilities</li> <li>• Senior Care</li> <li>• Veterans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Medicare</li> <li>• Mental Health</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse</li> <li>• Substance Abuse</li> </ul>
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## Upcoming Events

Monday – Wednesday: 9:30 am to 7:00 pm  
 Thursday: 9:30 am to 8:00 pm  
 Friday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm  
 Saturday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
 Sunday: Closed

For programs that require registration, please register online at <https://www.fowlervillelibrary.net/attend/#/events/> or call the library at (517) 223-9089. All programs are free!

### STORYTIMES

#### Toddler Storytime (Ages 1-3)

Get ready to move and groove to some cool tunes and stories while developing early literacy skills!

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Jan. 3 - April 26 • 10am

#### Preschool Storytime (Ages 3-5)

Have fun singing songs, reading stories, dancing, and playing!

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Jan. 3 - April 26 • 11am

#### Pajama Storytime (Ages 2-6)

Wear your pajamas for an evening storytime! We'll have hot cocoa and crafts, too. Bring a blanket and a stuffie to be extra cozy! Jan. 17 • 6pm

### KIDS & FAMILY

#### Homeschooling Cooperative (drop-in)

Engage with other homeschooling families for fun educational and social opportunities.

Every Monday • 12:00pm – 1:30pm

#### My First Escape Room: Pokemon! (Ages 5-9) Registration required

Can you catch them all in this interactive escape room? Perfect for younger kids with curious minds who love puzzles! \*registration required. Sign up by visiting or calling the library.

Friday, Jan. 27 • 4pm, 4:30pm, 5pm, 5:30pm, 6pm

Saturday, Jan. 28 • 11am, 11:30am, 12pm, 12:30pm, 1pm

### TEENS

#### Dungeons & Dragons (Ages 12-18)

Come play D&D 5th Edition! No prior experience needed.

Wednesdays, Jan. 4 – Apr. 26 • 2:30-5pm

#### Teen Craft Wednesday

Every Wednesday, Mary will lead you through making fun crafts, such as jewelry. All are welcome.

Program room, West (right) door.

Wednesdays • 2:30-5pm

#### Free Gaming (Age 10-18)

Play Trading Card Games like Magic or Yu-Gi-Oh, crack

open a board game, or fire up the Switch.

Fridays, Jan. 6 - Apr. 28 • 2:30-5pm

\*\*\*

#### Twitch Streaming (Online)

Join Connor and Tally and get sneak peeks at our new games!

twitch.tv/fowlervillelibrary

Mondays Jan. 2 - Apr. 24 • 3:30-4:30pm

\*\*\*

#### Pokemon Go (Age 10+)

Meet up with fellow PoGo players! Win raids, do events, and register friends!

Tuesdays, Jan. 3 – Apr. 25 • 2:30-5pm

\*\*\*

### ADULTS

#### Tea: Tea Sampling Kit

January is National Hot Tea Month! Stop by during open hours to grab a to-go bag filled with 5 different teas with brewing instructions. Inside is also a list of book and movie recommendations to enjoy with your teas and some other tea goodies! While supplies last.

Jan. 9-20

\*\*\*

#### Literary Corner:

##### Weekly Adult Writers Group

Take a break from the busy week and have fun with some creative writing prompts.

Tuesdays, Jan. 10 - Apr. 25 • 2:30pm

\*\*\*

#### Crafting Corner:

##### Scrapbooking (registration required)

Bring your favorite photos and stay for the day or just a few hours.

3rd Saturdays, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 18, Apr. 21 • 10:30-3:30pm

\*\*\*

#### Cozy Crafting by the Fireplace

Bring your own project or learn to knit and work on a beginner project.

Mondays, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, Mar. 6 & 20, Apr. 3 & 17 • 3-5pm

\*\*\*

#### Monthly Cardmaking (registration required)

3rd Thursdays • 6:30pm

3rd Fridays • 11am

Jan. 19 & 20 (Valentines)

## Fowlerville Wrestling Team places 5<sup>th</sup> at Temperance Bedford Tournament

The Fowlerville Wrestling Team placed 5<sup>th</sup> at the Temperance Bedford Tournament, held last Saturday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>. There were eight teams that competed in the event.

Team scores were: Bedford 246.5, Holt 205, Jefferson 193, Fowlerville 158.5, Napoleon 98, Riverview 69, Ida 66, and Sylvania Southview 59.

Individually for Fowlerville: Gavin Stankov 113- 7<sup>th</sup>; Connor Stankov 113- 3rd 2 pins; Caleb Cyman 120- 5th 2 pins; Dalton Daniel 126-1st 3 pins; Levi Baker 132- 2nd 3 pins; Chase Aitchison 138- 7<sup>th</sup>; Jesse Johnson 144- 3rd 3 pins; Ayden Goodwin 150- 6<sup>th</sup>; Brock Foster 157- 2nd. 2 pins; Ben Blyveis 165-1st 4 pins; Waylon Lamkin 175-4<sup>th</sup>; Layne O'Neil 190- 4th. 2 pins; Richard Davis 190- 6<sup>th</sup>; Douglas Braidwood 215- 7<sup>th</sup>; and Jacob Esch 285-4th 2 pins.

## Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team loses league game with Haslett

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team traveled to Haslett on Friday, Jan. 6, for a CAAC Red match-up and came up short against a strong Viking squad, 56-43. Brendan Ray led the Glads with 15 points, while Griffin Gonzalez added 8. The Glads are now 1-5 overall and 0-3 in league play.

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## Smith Elementary School News

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm

School Hours: 8:50 am – 3:32 pm

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 16 – NO SCHOOL – MLK Jr Day

January 17 – School Resumes

January 18 – PTC Meeting (4:00 pm in Cafeteria)

January 20 – K-5th Grade ½ Day (Early Dismissal at 12:02 PM)

January 23-27- Color Week

January 27-PTC Popcorn Day

February 14-16 – Farm Science Lab

February 15- PTC Meeting (4:00 pm in the Cafeteria)

February 20 – NO SCHOOL – President’s Day

February 24-PTC Popcorn

\*\*\*

**Color Week-** Let’s break up the dreary winter by wearing colors the week of Jan 23-27.

Monday- Red

Tuesday – Yellow

Wednesday-Green

Thursday-Blue

Friday-Purple

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

## Kreeger Elementary School News

ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

All pre-enrollments can be done online [www.fowlervilleschools.org](http://www.fowlervilleschools.org).

After you complete those documents please print and sign areas marked. Bring your child’s original raised seal birth certificate, 2 proofs of Fowlerville Schools residency and if your child attended a school in Michigan his/her immunizations will be on the MCIR website. Please call the office at 517-223-6330 when finished so that we may finalize the enrollment.

\*\*\*

CALENDAR OF KREEGER EVENTS

1-16-23	NO SCHOOL – MLK Jr. Day
1-20-23	Half-Day School 12:02 Dismissal
2-8-23	Count Day
2-9-23	Student Council Meeting
2-9 thru 2-14	Valentine Grams
2-20-23	NO SCHOOL -Presidents Day
3-1-23	Flower Fundraiser Begins (more info soon)
3-2-23	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Trimester



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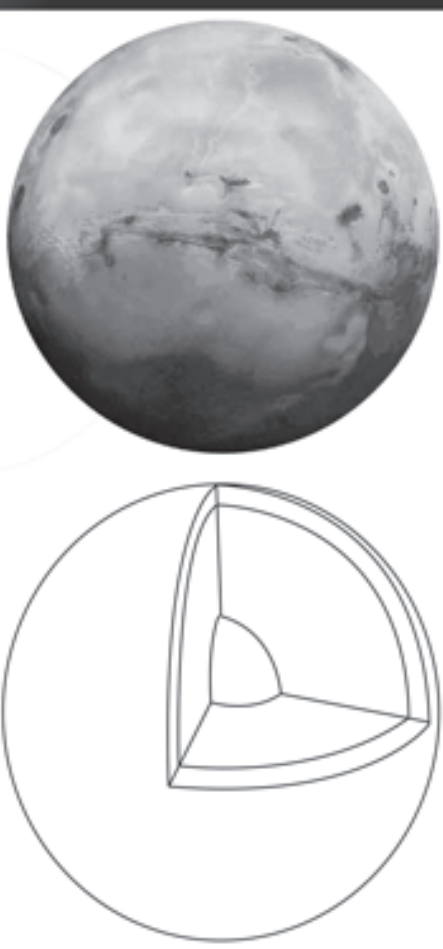
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# JUST for KIDS




## Know Your Planets MARS!

This is a picture of Mars. Color in the cross-section drawing below using what you’ve learned.



**Name:**  
Mars is named after the Roman god of war. It is sometimes called the “Red Planet”.

**Size:**  
Mars is the seventh largest planet. It is about half the size of Earth and slightly larger than Mercury.

**What’s It Made Of?:**  
Mars is called a terrestrial planet, which means it is made mostly of rocks. The outer crust contains ice, soil, and rust, which is what makes it look red. The mantle is silicates and the core is iron.

**Where is It?:**  
Mars is the fourth planet from the sun and the fourth brightest object in the night sky. Earth and Mars are the only two planets that are the right distance away from the sun so that it is not too hot or too cold to support life.

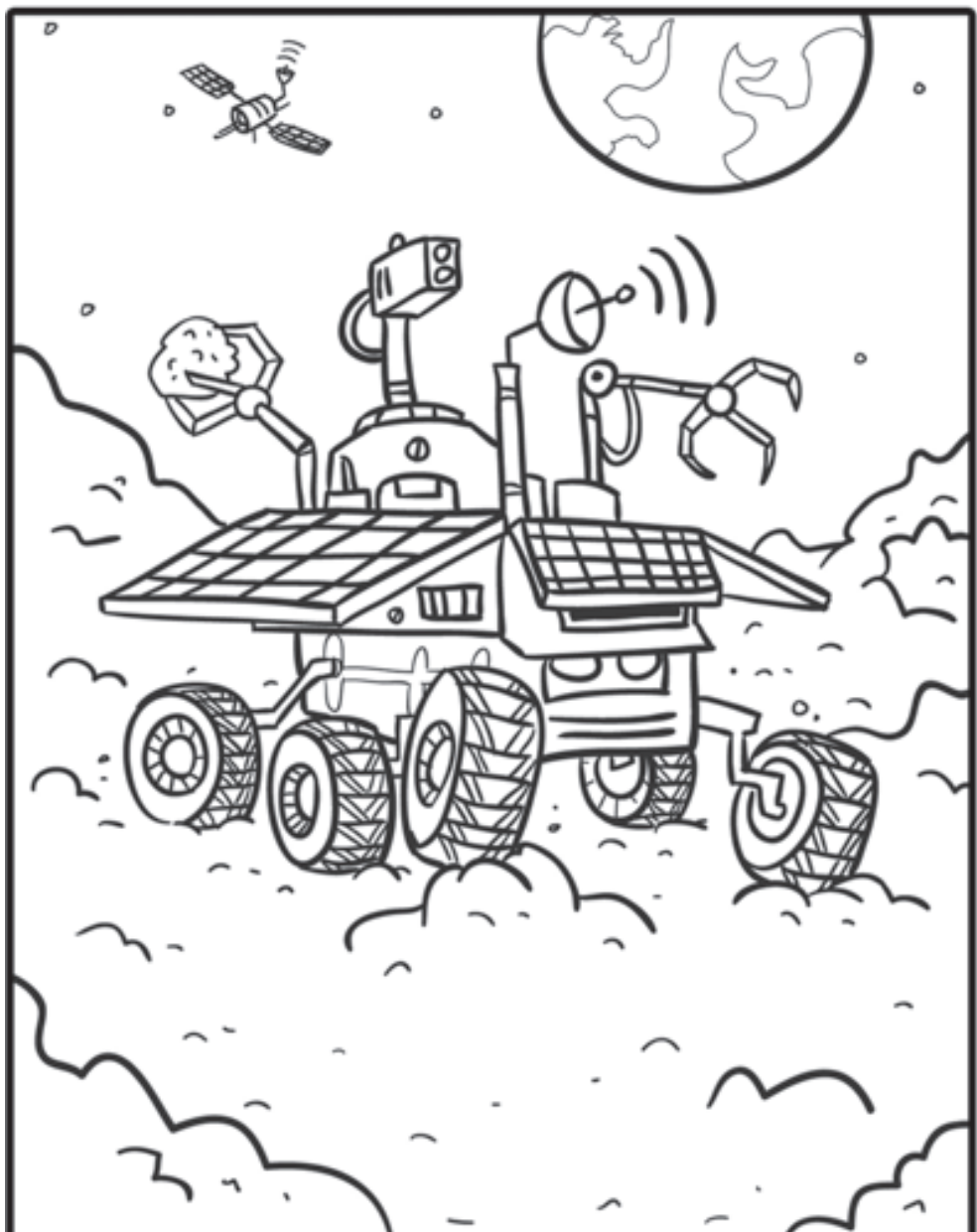
**Water and Ice:**  
At the north and south pole of Mars there are giant sheets of ice, called ice caps. Some scientists believe that there is water beneath the surface. There is evidence on the rocks that at one time there was liquid water on the surface.

**Scrambles:** Unscramble the words for the answer.

This part of Mars is very thin and is mostly carbon dioxide: <b>SOHMAPTREE</b>	The seasons on Mars are most like this planet’s: <b>TRAHE</b>	Rocks called this created the many craters on Mars: <b>ATIREOSD</b>
---	--	--

created by: [education.com](http://education.com)


## Color the Mars Rover



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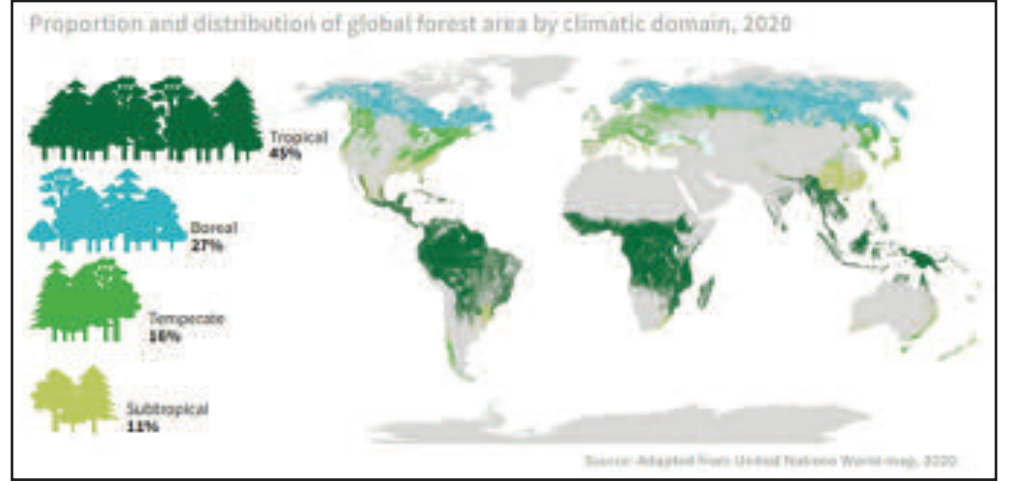
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Researchers find that climate change has deadly effects on trees such as these in a Northern boreal forest. *Credit: Minnesota DNR*



Boreal, temperate, tropical and subtropical forest geographic distribution. *Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

## Global warming having deadly effect on northern tree species

By Mackenzie DeRaad  
Capital News Service

A new study by researchers from the University of Michigan, University of Minnesota Twin Cities and their collaborators shows that global warming is having a deadly effect on nine North American tree species growing in similar habitats.

They looked at balsam fir, white spruce, jack pine, Eastern white pine, red maple, sugar maple, paper birch, bur oak and Northern red oak.

These species make up boreal forests, which, by definition, grow at high latitudes and can withstand freezing temperatures six to eight months of the year. They reach into northern parts of the Great Lakes Basin.

Climate change is causing higher instances of melted permafrost, tree growth rate changes and increased drought and wildfire incidents, according to the International Boreal Forest Research Association.

Boreal forests make up the world’s largest land biome — or ecosystem — so it’s no surprise that climate change is affecting them more rapidly than other ecosystems, scientists say.

Juvenile trees are experiencing increased mortality due to global warming and reduced rainfall, the study stated. Reduced rainfall during the summer, that is.

Peter Reich, the lead author of the study published in the journal “Nature,” said, “If anything, (annual rainfall) has increased.”

Other members of the research team are from the University of Michigan, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and West Sydney University in Australia.

“Recently and in the expected future, more of that annual precipitation will fall in late winter and spring and less in late summer,” Reich added.

Climate change is even leading to increased rainfall in fewer precipitation events, leading to more runoff and, thus, greater periods of soil recharge, according to Reich.

More runoff means more flooding because the soil is too dry to absorb massive amounts of rainfall quickly, but the drought periods give soil time to store water and “recharge.” But rainfall can’t keep up with increasing temperatures.

“Every 1 degree (Celsius) increase in temperature translates into 7% more evapotranspiration (evaporation from soil and transpiration from plants, transferring water from land to the atmosphere), so rainfall would need to increase by 7% to even keep pace with water loss,” Reich added.

More spring flooding and summer droughts are not a good combination for juvenile boreal forests, he pointed out.

The study showed that the nine species differed in how their growth responded to warming temperatures.

Red maple and sugar maple experienced enhanced growth, while balsam fir, white spruce and Eastern white pine experienced severe growth reductions.

The authors concluded that climate change, especially global warming, will shift the demographic of tree species in current boreal forests to more temperate species.

The implications of their findings are clear.

“We sit at the transition from temperate to boreal,” Reich said.

“Boreal species are at their warmer range margins in the Great Lakes region, so further warming places them at risk of poor growth and greater mortality.”

He said he hopes that oak, maple and other temperate species can do well in the same zones, but that spruce and firs may disappear from the Great Lakes region in coming years.

So what can be done to stop the trees from disappearing? “Stopping climate change is priority numbers 1, 2 and 3,”

Reich said.

But that’s a complex solution with many different avenues.

Planting more “climate-smart” trees and thinning forests to reduce water demand and wildfire risk is a start, Reich said.

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**Clement to serve as Michigan  
Supreme Court chief justice**

By Ken Coleman  
Michigan Advance

Elizabeth Clement will continue to serve as Michigan Supreme Court chief justice after a unanimous vote by the seven-member body. The GOP-nominated member has taken over for Justice Bridget McCormack, a Democratic-nominated member who retired in December.

"I am honored to have been chosen unanimously by my colleagues to serve as Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court for the next two years," Clement stated through a statement. "In the new year and beyond, we all look forward to working with judges and court professionals statewide to further our shared commitment to civility, transparency, and accountability. Together, we can achieve our shared mission to ensure courts are independent, accessible, engaged, and provide an efficient

justice system that works for everyone.

Clement was nominated to run for the Supreme Court by the GOP, but the body has a Democratic-nominated 4-3 majority. Clement has served on the state high court since 2017 when she was appointed by GOP former Gov. Rick Snyder. She was elected in 2018 to a full, eight-year term.

In 2019, McCormack was selected as chief justice, even though the court had a 4-3 GOP-nominated majority at the time. Democrats won a majority on the court after the 2020 election.

Clement is a 2002 graduate of Michigan State University Law School and served as Snyder's chief legal counsel. Clement earned a bachelor's and law degree from Michigan State University.

In November, Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer named former state Rep. Kyra Harris Bolden of Southfield as McCormack's replacement. Bolden, who was sworn in on Monday, Jan. 2, is the first Black woman to serve on the court.

Other justices include Democratic-nominated Richard Bernstein, Elizabeth Welch and Megan Cavanagh and GOP-nominated Brian Zahra and David Viviano.

"Our agenda is ambitious, but I know the judicial branch has the passion and energy to meet every challenge," Clement added. "For example, juvenile justice reform is a priority as courts provide the information and expertise necessary to help enact and implement common-sense policy measures that will guide and protect young people at risk. We have the opportunity in 2023 to make Michigan a national leader in positive outcomes for every child who is engaged with the justice system."

Clement added the Michigan Judicial Council will "continue bringing stakeholders together to develop plans to make courts more welcoming, easier to navigate, and staffed by professionals with the latest technology training."

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# Michigan House Report

By Bob Bezotte,  
50<sup>th</sup> District

The 2023-24 Legislative session kicked off on Wednesday, when all the new and returning legislators came together to take our official oaths of office.

At the end of 2022, any bills that were introduced during the previous legislative session that didn't make it all the way through the process and get signed into law by the governor were wiped from the record. That means we start with a clean slate.

The first legislation introduced by Michigan House Republicans on Wednesday were two bills to make Michigan more affordable for hardworking families and retirees. The people of Livingston County have been hit hard by rising prices and inflation, and tax relief remains a priority of mine. I hope this is something we can move forward with quickly and make Michigan a more affordable place to live, work and retire.

\*\*\*

This week, I introduced a resolution to declare Jan. 11, 2023, as Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Michigan.

Many people think of human trafficking as something that happens only in large cities in other parts of the country or the world. What they don't realize is that it's a very real issue affecting Michigan communities.

Michigan gained national attention after passing effective legislation in 2013 and 2014 to help combat human trafficking and strengthen victim rights and was named the most improved state in 2015 for its laws addressing child sex trafficking, according to Shared Hope International. Michigan went from receiving a rating of "F" in Shared Hope



Rep. Bob Bezotte took his ceremonial oath of office, administered by House Clerk Gary Randall, far left, on Wednesday at the start of the new Michigan Legislative session. Rep. Bezotte was joined (from left) by his grandson Ryan, daughter Kelly, wife Sheila, and grandson Luke.

International's 2011 Protected Innocence Challenge study, to a "B" rating in 2019.

While our state has made considerable advances in fighting against human trafficking, we all must understand that there is still work to be done. I encourage people to educate themselves about human trafficking and be aware of

how prevalent it is in our state. Learn what to look for and know that our local law enforcement takes it seriously.

\*\*\*

*If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office by calling (517) 373-3906 or emailing [RobertBezotte@house.mi.gov](mailto:RobertBezotte@house.mi.gov). I am always happy to hear from people in our community.*

## General enrollment period for Medicare Part B

By Hillary Hatch,  
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

If you did not apply for Medicare Part B (medical insurance) within three months before or after turning age 65, you have another chance each year during the General Enrollment Period. The period runs from January 1 to March 31 every year.

If you don't enroll in Part B when you're first eligible for it, you may have to pay a late enrollment penalty for as long as you have Part B coverage. Your monthly premium will increase 10% for each 12-month period that you were eligible for Part B but did not sign up for it. Your coverage starts the first day of the month after you sign up.

To learn more about Medicare, please visit our Medicare

Benefits page at [www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare). You may also read our publication at [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf).

Please share this information with your friends and loved ones who may need it – and share it on social media.

*Hillary Hatch 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 [hillary.hatch@ssa.gov](mailto:hillary.hatch@ssa.gov)*

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The ferry that took us to Catalina Island



## Memories of our visit to Catalina Island

By Karen Grab

My husband Ed and I drove to California in August of 2006 to visit my twin sister Kathy. It was good to see the palm trees and ocean again. As part of our itinerary, Kathy had reservations set up for us to see Catalina Island as she had been there before.

We drove out to the Fisherman's Village (just left of the Lighthouse) in Marina del Rey. We took the 405 freeway to the 90 freeway west to Marina del Rey from Torrance. Turn left onto Lincoln Blvd and right onto Fiji Way.

We took the Catalina-Marina Flyer ferry to the island. It was \$69 for one adult round trip. There are senior discounts and for children and infants. You can bring your own bike and kayaks for a small fee.

It took an hour to get there. It was fun to see the waves and the scenery of seagulls flying above. There was a bartender to entertain us with jokes and drinks.

There are no cars allowed on the island. The air in the town of Avalon is free from smog. You will see many people on bikes or golf carts.

The Catalina Casino is a focal point and landmark and has been on the island for over 80 years. However, it is not for gambling but a place of entertainment. The big bands used to perform there in the 1940's. The casino ballroom has 50-foot ceilings, Tiffany-like chandeliers, an elevated stage, and raised seating areas surrounding the wooden dance floor. It is a twelve-story building and accommodates private parties, weddings, and has a luxurious movie theatre.

Lots of great history and architecture. You need to schedule a tour to get in. There are many photos of the ballroom on their website and booking information.

There is also the Wrigley Mansion, built by the chewing gum magnate, William Wrigley, Jr., for his wife Ada between



Here we are with the bartender on the Marina Flyer. I'm on the left and Kathy is on the right.



Kathy and I (Karen) are shown here under an umbrella.



Ed and Karen (me) on the ferry ride.



This is the beach with the Catalina Casino in the background.

1919 and 1921. The mansion, setting on top of Mt. Ada, served as the summer cottage, allowing them to escape from the Chicago cold winters. Nice views from the Avalon Bay. You can go in with a tour guide and see the beauty.

Many movies have been made on the island. Patty Duke filmed "Falling for the Girl Next Door" with Ken Marino, Crystal Allen and Patrick Duffy. That was 2006.

Famous visitors have been John Wayne, Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, Doris Day and Marilyn Monroe, who lived on the island for a year during World War II.

If you get the chance, go see the island and experience all it has to offer from a sandy beach to seeing buffalo and horses. Take a glass bottom boat and mini-submarine for an undersea adventure!



One of the sights are horses in the hills of Catalina.



Kathy and Ed enjoyed eating a Coney Island hotdog.



Wrigley Mansion sets on top of Mt. Ada. It was built by the chewing gum magnate, William Wrigley, Jr.

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# Fowlerville High School News

## OFFICE HOURS

Administration Offices 7:00 a.m.– 2:30 p.m.  
 Building opens 6:45 a.m.  
 \* \* \*

## IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES TO NOTE:

- January 16** NO SCHOOL, MLK Day, SENIOR PICTURES are due
- January 17** Cocoa & Cram from 2:20-4:00  
\*Transportation is NOT provided
- January 18, 19, 20** 1/2 Days Exams, dismissal at 10:42 am
- February 1** Final Semester grades available in MiStar
- February 11** Winterfest Dance 7:00-10:00 pm  
\* \* \*

**Doors at FHS will be open at 6:45 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.  
 \* \* \*

**Any student who has accrued more than 9 absences** in any class at FHS, may lose credit for a course. Families will have received a letter and an email regarding the appeal process. A student may appeal against this loss of credit by completing the attendance appeal form and returning it to the Attendance/Main office. Parents/guardians will receive an email stating that their student has accumulated absences in one or more classes, and as a result, the student has lost credit. The same email will have a link to the attendance appeal form. To have the attendance appeal considered, the form must be completed and returned to the Attendance/Main office along with supporting documentation by January 24, 2023. As always, we encourage parents to monitor their student’s attendance via the parent connect website at [connect@fowlervilleschools.org](https://connect@fowlervilleschools.org), and if you have any questions, please be sure to contact the attendance office at 517-223-6044.  
 \* \* \*

**NHS is offering Cocoa and Cram** for FHS students to help prepare for Midterm Exams. The dates are Wednesday 1/11, Friday 1/13, and Tuesday 1/17 from 2:20-4. It starts in Mr. Sperry’s room B108 and the students will start working on their exam study guides for the first hour and then snacks will be served at 3:30. Students will also continue to work on study guides after and tutoring and help will be offered from NHS students and teachers. All grades are welcome to come and no sign up is needed. School transportation is not provided.  
 \* \* \*

**The exam schedule is as follows:**  
 Wednesday 1/18 - Hours 1 & 2 (90 min each)  
 Thursday 1/19 - Hours 3 & 4  
 Friday 1/20 - Hours 5 & 6

Please make every effort to be here on those days. If an absence is completely unavoidable, please be sure your student communicates with their teacher ASAP to make arrangements to make up the exam.  
 \* \* \*

**We will NOT be printing, and mailing home report cards** this semester. If you need a paper copy, please contact the counseling office at 517.223.6060  
 \* \* \*

**After School Tutoring Fowlerville High School** is very excited to now offer after-school tutoring Monday-Thursday from 2:20-3:20 in all subject areas starting on Monday 12/12. The tutoring will be held on Mondays & Tuesdays\*\* in Mr. O’Connells Room, Rm D206, and on Wednesdays and Thursdays in Ms. Blythes’s room, Rm B203. There is no sign-up required and all students are welcome. We will have students sign in and sign out when they attend. Transportation will not be provided.  
 \* \* \*

**The Fowlerville Ski and SnowBoard Club** will begin in January. The club is open to 5th through 12th grade students and families. We ski/board at Mt. Brighton every Wednesday beginning January 11th and throughout the month of February. For further information, please contact Ms. DeLuca 517-223-6250 or [delucac@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:delucac@fowlervilleschools.org)  
 \* \* \*

**Yearbooks are on sale now** and selling quickly. Students and parents can purchase a yearbook for \$65.00 through [jostens.com/yearbooks](https://jostens.com/yearbooks) or go to the FHS website and click on the link.  
 \* \* \*

**Spring 2022 Fowlerville High School Local Scholarship Winners:**  
 Attention class of 2022 Senior Honors Night Scholarship winners. Congratulations again for being the recipient of a Fowlerville Community Scholarship as well as successfully completing the first semester of school/training after high school. Scholarship winners from the Spring 2022 Senior Honors Night can claim their scholarships by completing the Scholarship Winners Request Form that can be found on the Fowlerville High School website- click on Counseling

Department- scroll to the bottom and click on 2022 scholarship winners. In addition to the request form, winners must provide a copy of their semester 1 college/trade school transcript showing successful completion as well as evidence of semester 2 enrollment (semester 2 class schedule). Please submit the completed form and required evidence in person to the counseling office or to [hardenbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:hardenbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org). Deadline to complete requests is March 1, 2023.  
 \* \* \*

**Hello Friends, Families and Business Owners.**  
 Are you looking for a great place to donate this year ....? We are looking for donations of all different types for the Senior Class of 2023 Lock-in (All Night Senior Party) the night of June 4th, 2023 after FHS Commencement. The party will be held at Fowlerville High School. We will gladly accept donations for food, bottled water, pop or juice individually packaged in plastic bottles, individually wrapped snacks, subs or pizza can be ordered and prepaid for delivery or sponsored by you or a business. Many items are needed.



The above QR code links to an Amazon Wish List for practical gifts for our drawings that night. If you think of something else feel free to contact Ms. Steffee and we can add it to the list. Lots of sales are currently going on and in the near future. Your help is so appreciated. Still this class and overall fundraising was affected by the covid shut down. WE APPRECIATE YOUR LOCAL SUPPORT IN HELPING US GIVE THE CLASS OF 2023 THE BEST SEND OFF EVER. If you should have any questions, please reach out to Tammy Steffee (Class of 2023 Sponsor) [steefee@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:steefee@fowlervilleschools.org) or 514-223-6134  
 \* \* \*

**Credit Recovery** is designed to help students make up credits while also gaining the knowledge that he/she may have missed in the regular classroom setting. The Odysseyware lesson design fosters ongoing collaboration between learners and teachers, enabling students to progress and practice at their own pace and receive support and guided instruction as needed. Credit Recovery begins in February for Semester 2. Announcements will be made when it specifically begins. Space is limited. Please see the link to the registration form. Completed forms can be turned in to Mr. Hardenbrook in the counseling office  
 \* \* \*


### Juniors and Seniors interested in the Co-op Program for 2022-2023 School Year:

Are you currently working? Are you interested in finding out if you could earn high school elective credit while you work? You may be eligible for the high school co-op program. For more details, requirements, answers to most questions and the application paperwork for the 2022-2023 school year please see the Fowlerville High School website- click on “Co-op information” in the menu on the right side of the page. Applications can be printed from the FHS webpage or picked up in the counseling office. Please follow the procedure flowchart under the link “How to get into the Co-op Program”. Completed applications should be returned to the counseling office. Additional questions should be directed to Mr. Hardenbrook at [hardenbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org](mailto:hardenbrookj@fowlervilleschools.org)  
 \* \* \*

**Anyone wishing to donate to the Micro food pantry** please go ahead and put canned goods etc. into the pantry. Self-serve and self-fill. The pantry is located on 2nd St and Grand River next

to State Farm.  
 \* \* \*  
**Ordering Transcripts (Michigan eTranscripts)** please visit the Fowlerville High School website for more information.  
 \* \* \*  
**Parents having trouble using MISTAR** 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>



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**2 Peter 3:13**

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# Webberville Report



**Senior Spotlight—Drew Peckens**  
 By Maggie Monroe

Drew Peckens is the son of Justin and Holli Peckens. He is a brother to Brendan Peckens who graduated in 2021. He has been involved in band since 6th grade, cross country for three years, Wilson Talent Center for two years, golf for two years, and basketball for two years. After school he wants to work.

“My favorite year was my junior year because I started Wilson Talent Center and discovered that I love construction,” Peckens said, adding that “My favorite memory from Webberville was the Chicago band field trip in eighth grade.

“If I could change anything it would be Covid,” he said. “I wanted to hang out with my friends. Something I had to overcome was not being able to see friends and having online school.

“My favorite sport is golf because it’s pretty easy,” he added.

“My favorite memory with Drew was our car rides to Wilson Talent Center,” said classmate Caleb Howard. “Drew’s friendliness made me want to be his friend. Something that stands out about him is his work ethic and determination.”

“I am going to miss a lot about Drew,” said Band Director Gary Franks. “He is a tremendously talented and helpful leader, but I think I will miss his friendly, laid-back personality and humor,” says Band Director Gary Franks.

“Drew has managed to develop a beautiful sound and he plays everything with a lot of confidence,” Franks added. “My favorite memory with Drew must be how he totally owned his solos in our 2022 halftime show.”

**Williamston Farmers Market Bottle & Can Collection set for Jan. 15th**

Sowing Growth, the non-profit organization that operates the Eastern Ingham Farmers Market in Williamston, will be collecting Michigan-returnable bottles and cans at McCormick Park’s large parking lot this Sunday, Jan. 15th. Collection dates in the off-season are the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month in 2023 from January through April, from 11am to 1pm.

This popular fundraiser is a win-win: you don’t have to do the icky-sticky job of taking the bottles back to the store, and you’re supporting the Farmers Market which has no other funding sources other than grants and donations.

Upcoming collection dates in the off-season are: February 5 & 19, March 5 & 19, and April 2 & 16, between 11am and 1pm. If your business collects bottles and cans, consider donating them. Special collections can be made directly at your business address during the week. Just call or email any member of the Sowing Growth Board of Directors (listed on the website: [www.EasternInghamFarmersMarket.org](http://www.EasternInghamFarmersMarket.org)) or contact the Market Manager Tom Cary to make arrangements for special pick-ups.

For more information about Sowing Growth, the non-profit organization that operates the Eastern Ingham Farmers Market in Williamston, to become a vendor, to be added to the newsletter email list, to volunteer or to donate to the Market, visit the Market website [www.EasternInghamFarmersMarket.org](http://www.EasternInghamFarmersMarket.org), visit its Facebook page or contact Market Manager Tom Cary (517-618-1630) or [EasternInghamFM@gmail.com](mailto:EasternInghamFM@gmail.com).

**NIESA Fire Report (Northeast Ingham Emergency Service Authority)**

On Wednesday January 4, 2023 NIESA responded to four calls. One response was for a fire alarm activation in Williamstown Township which was a faulty alarm. The other three responses were emergency medical calls, with two occurring in the City of Williamston and one in Williamstown Township.

Thursday January 5, 2023 NIESA had three calls. One was for a vehicle accident in Wheatfield Township on the corner of Noble and Williamston Rd. The other two responses were emergency medical calls, with one occurring in Wheatfield Township, and the second in Leroy Township.

On Friday January 6, 2023 NIESA responded to four calls. One was a vehicle accident in Leroy Township. The remaining three calls were emergency medical calls, with one occurring in the City of Williamston, another in Leroy Township, and the third in the Village of Webberville.

Saturday January 7, 2023 NIESA had three calls. One response was for an illegal burn in the Village of Webberville. The other two calls were emergency medical calls in Williamstown Township and the City of Williamston.

On Sunday January 8, 2023 NIESA responded to three calls. One was a mutual aid fire response to Fowlerville for a structure fire. The other two responses were emergency medical calls in the City of Williamston, and Williamstown Township.

Monday January 9, 2023 NIESA had seven calls. Four of the responses were emergency medical calls, with two occurring in the City of Williamston, one in Leroy Township and the fourth in Williamstown Township. NIESA also had three fire responses all to the Village of Webberville.

On Tuesday January 10, 2022 NIESA responded to five calls. Three were emergency medical calls, which all occurred in the City of Williamston. NIESA also responded to two vehicle accidents, one in Leroy Township on I-96, and the second in Locke Township.

**Williamston Area Senior Center**

201 School Street - 517-655-5173

**January 2023 Events**

\***Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, and Crafts with Pat Cookingham make a Fleece Scarf & Decorative Pin at 12:30pm

\***Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, Mind Binders with the Library at 12:30pm, and Knitters Group 1pm-3pm

\***Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**-Winnie the Pooh Day, Presentation by Wendy Noles from Consumer Energy at 12:30pm, and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

\***Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, Ukulele lessons with Ben at 11am, Author visit with Rod Sadler on his True Crime novels at 12:30pm

\***Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, National Pie Day-Donation of pies from Red Cedar Lodge at Noon, and What’s Happening in Williamston with Mayor Tammy Gilroy at 12:30pm

\***Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, Presentation from Mindfulness Therapy Dogs at 12:30pm, and Knitters Group 1pm-3pm

\***Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, Drum Circle with Ian Levine at 12:30pm, Opposite Day (Wear non-matching outfit!), and Needle Work Group 1pm-3pm

\***Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, Ukulele Lessons with Ben at 11am, Michigan’s Birthday Party with Dobie Road at Noon

\***Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**-Bus Trip to Brookdale Living at 11am (Sign-up Required)

\***Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, “In the Kitchen with Susie”-No Bake Cookies at 12:30pm

\***Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**-Euchre 9am-Noon, Backward Day (Wear your clothes backwards), Tai Chi at 12:30pm, and Knitters Group 1pm-3pm.

**Euchre Fun Night planned at the Webberville Library on Jan. 28th**

The Friends of the Webberville Library is sponsoring a Euchre Fun Night fundraiser on Saturday, Jan. 28. Registration at 6:00 p.m. and playing begins 6:30 p.m. at the Webberville Cultural Center. The entry fee is \$10 a person to play. Prizes will be awarded and there will be a 50/50 drawing.

Snacks and beverages will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.



**Webberville FFA member presented with American FFA Degree**

Each year, the National FFA Organization honors FFA members who show the utmost dedication to the organization through their desire to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The American FFA Degree is bestowed upon a select group of students in recognition of their years of academic and professional excellence.

Keith Haynes, a member of the Webberville FFA, was among those receiving this honor. Unfortunately, he was unable to travel to the National FFA Convention & Expo this past fall to accept the award, along with the two other local recipients—Dana Gorski and Katarina Smith. However, he stopped by Webberville High School recently and was properly presented this high honor.

To be eligible, FFA members must have earned and productively invested \$10,000 through a Supervised Agricultural Experience program in which they start, own or hold a professional position in an existing agriculture enterprise. Recipients must also complete fifty hours of community service and demonstrate outstanding leadership abilities and civic involvement.

Since 1960, Webberville’s FFA chapter has had 34 American Degree recipients.

Each recipient of the American FFA Degree receives a gold American FFA Degree key, and certificate after being recognized on stage at that national convention.

**Williamston Eagles Upcoming Events**

**Euchre Tournament**

Williamston Eagles Club will be hosting Euchre tournaments on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> and again on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Registration is 6:00- 6:30 and play begins at 7pm. Cost is \$10 per player. You don’t need to bring a partner; we will draw for partners and table numbers. Come on down and show us your skills and maybe win a prize! The club is located at 835 High St in Williamston. Food is available from 5 to 8 pm. Call the club after 3pm at 517-655-6510 for more information. Everyone is welcome to come and play.

\*\*\*

**Kathy Ford and Raz**

Kathy Ford and Raz will be at the club on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5-8pm for your dancing and listening pleasure. Doors open at 3pm. Food special available from 5-7:30pm. Five-dollar required donation per person at the door to help defray band costs. Snacks and coffee provided. Call the club at 517-655-6510 for more information. Everyone is welcome to come down and join the fun!

\*\*\*

On Saturday, January 28th, join us for Kathy Ford and her entire band for a night of fun! Kathy and the band provide a wide variety of music and are sure to play your favorites! Kathy has been entertaining Lansing and mid-Michigan for over 38 years and has opened for many acts, including Waylon Jennings, Randy Travis, Tammy Wynette and more! There is a \$5 required donation at the door to help cover costs. The doors open at 3pm and the music starts at 7pm. Dance the night away or sit and relax. Food is available from 5 until 8pm. Open to the public and plenty of free parking! Located at 835 High St in Williamston. Call 517-655-6510 for more information.

**Michigan DNR announces new ‘free snowmobiling weekend’ in February**

Next month, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources will debut its free snowmobiling weekend, which will allow snowmobilers to operate their machines over a two-day period without the requirement of a snowmobile registration or trail permit.

The dates for the free snowmobiling weekend are Feb. 11-12.

The Michigan Legislature approved bills requiring the DNR to offer the weekend, saying it will allow experienced riders to bring along friends new to the sport who may get hooked on the experience for a lifetime.

Michigan also offers Free ORV and Free Fishing weekends each year.

“Free Snowmobiling Weekend is a great opportunity for those that haven’t dusted off their snowmobiles to jump on the trails,” said Ron Olson, chief of the DNR Parks and Recreation Division. “It’s also a great time for out-of-state



Snowmobilers enjoy a trail ride in Gogebic County. Photo: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

visitors to come explore thousands of miles of trails found in the Upper and Lower peninsulas.

During these weekends, the requirement of a license, registration or trail permit is suspended, but operators and anglers must still adhere to all regulations and rules governing these activities.

For more information on snowmobiling in Michigan, including trail maps, visit [Michigan.gov/Snowmobiling](http://Michigan.gov/Snowmobiling).

**“Less is More” If you let the government solve a problem, you get more problems**

Commentary by Jennifer Majorana Mackinac Center for Public Policy

Most people can agree that basic functions of government are necessary for an orderly society. Beyond basic functions, however, less is more when it comes to government.

One reason is that government is by nature inefficient. Nobody spends somebody else’s money as carefully as he spends his own. Government has only other people’s money to spend. The person whose money is being spent has only indirect means to influence where government decides to spend it.

Another reason less is more is that freedom is “one whole” – and restrictions on economic freedom affect other freedoms.

Economic freedom relates to the ability to choose how we spend our money, how we pass our resources to our descendants, what occupation to engage in and whom we do business with – among other things, such as the ability to own property.

Government most often restricts these freedoms through taxes, workplace regulations, heavy-handed oversight of products in the marketplace and occupational licenses. For example, in Michigan you are not free to hire your teenage neighbor to paint your living room unless he has received permission from the government first.

People are less likely to exercise their other freedoms – of speech, religion or the press – when the government can use the threat of audits, tax hikes, license denial and proliferating workplace rules to interfere with their ability to run a business or earn a living.

Furthermore, the natural direction for government is to expand rather than contract.

That’s because every government intervention requires people to run it, administer it, measure it, report on it and staff it.

Usually, a real or imagined problem leads people to call on the government to “do something” about it. Sincere, well-meaning people lobby their representatives, as do others who

might also be sincere but also believe they could benefit from the government intervention.

Eventually, public officials pass a new law or create a new task force or establish a new administrative agency to address the evil.

Sincere people go on to the next pressing issue that might need government action. Those who can benefit from the government action – sometimes known as special interests – start to work the new system for their own benefit.

Who benefits from the government requiring licenses for painting? Licensed painters. They are now more likely to win your business over your teenage neighbor. In this case, the consumer loses by having fewer options in the marketplace, likely paying a higher price as a result, and getting little in return.

Usually, new questions and problems arise, and government expands the scope of the intervention to address these new problems. By this time, the program is entrenched and many people have a vested interest in keeping the intervention. Consequently, it’s difficult to even conceive of abolishing or walking back the program even if the public has seen no measurable improvement on the original problem.

Our nation’s founding documents created a limited form of government because the framers of the Constitution understood these characteristics. While a degree of government is necessary for human flourishing, the rule of thumb should be that less is more.

*This article is reprinted with permission from the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. [www.mackinac.org](http://www.mackinac.org)*

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Wood	16	\$12.50-\$170.00
Dozen Eggs	74	\$2.50-\$3.75
Dozen Duck Eggs	5	\$4.25 each
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## OLSHA holding 'Walk for Warmth' at Hartland Center on Feb. 11th

Olsha is holding its 'Walk for Warmth' on Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Hartland Educational Support Service Center, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell.

The mission of this family-friendly event is to raise funds to support those in need in Livingston County to stay warm and safe in their homes during the coldest months. By walking alongside community supporters and first responders, you can help these dedicated individuals continue to assist families in local neighborhoods. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. and the walk begins promptly at 9 a.m.

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## Livingston County Homeless Continuum planning 'Community Connect 2023' on Feb. 4th

The Livingston County Homeless Continuum of Care is busy planning 'Community Connect 2023' which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4, at the 242 Church in Brighton.

"We're looking forward to bringing our residents another day of connection with services, free resources, and plenty of helpful information," organizers said. "If this is the first time you've heard of Community Connect, it is a free one-day event with 50+ public service and agency exhibitors who provide residents with helpful basic need information, free personal care items, and services like health screenings and haircuts."

Over 300 people regularly attend the event and 2023 will be its 16<sup>th</sup> year running.

Be sure to follow the event on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LivCountyCommunityConnect/](http://www.facebook.com/LivCountyCommunityConnect/) to stay up-to-date with all that will be offered at the event. There, you will find basic information about the day, along with promotional materials you are free to share widely.

Volunteers are also being sought to help make this day possible. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities available from guest guides/helpers at the event, event set-up and tear down, traffic directors, and more.

Head over to Volunteer Livingston at [www.volunteerlivingston.org/](http://www.volunteerlivingston.org/) to sign up.



## Fowlerville Fire Department Report

### January 5

2:53 a.m. Medical response on E Van Riper in the Village.

### January 6

8:49 a.m. Medical response on Stow Rd in Conway Township.

### January 7

4:55p.m. Medical response on N Grand Ave in the Village.  
8:09 p.m. Medical response on E Frank St in the Village.

10:38 p.m. Medical response on Nicholson Rd in Handy Township.

### January 8

10:21 a.m. Structure fire on Crofoot Rd in Iosco Township.

### January 9

8:11 p.m. Medical response on Elliott Rd in Iosco Township.

### January 10

7:18 p.m. Medical response on Culver Country Ln in Handy Township.

### January 11

7:04 p.m. Medical response on S Benjamin St in the Village.

**Horton's Michigan Notebook**  
*Political & Social Commentary and History*  
By Steve Horton  
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## Local townships poised to place moratoriums on commercial wind & solar energy projects

By Steve Horton

Both Conway and Cohoctah Townships are poised to place moratoriums on commercial wind and solar energy projects.

For each township this would likely involve making significant changes to proposed ordinances that their respective planning commissions had worked on for much of last year, with the possibility that rather than regulating this kind of renewable-energy development, the intent could be to prohibit or severely restrict those of utility scale.

The new direction came as a result of opposition from many area residents, with formal action taken by each of the planning commissions at regular meetings earlier this month.

The Cohoctah Township Planning Commission passed a resolution by a 6-0 vote, recommending that the township board adopt an amended ordinance which would impose a 12-month moratorium on accepting applications for the construction of renewable-energy projects. The commission approved the recommendation after holding a public hearing on Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>. Since the board had made the request for a moratorium, this recommendation is expected to pass when the board meets in February.

The purpose of the moratorium, as stated in the resolution, is “to provide sufficient time for the Cohoctah Township Planning Commission and Township Board to fully and thoughtfully explore, analyze, research and make an informed decision regarding commercial wind and solar energy projects and repeal sections in the township zoning ordinance pertaining to solar farms and solar energy systems.”

The hearing was held at Water’s Edge Camp and Conference Center in Howell to accommodate an expected large turnout. Numerous speakers addressed the commission during a reported two hours of public comment, with most of those speaking voicing their opposition to commercial projects in the township.

Conway Township’s Planning Commission, meanwhile, held its regular monthly meeting last Monday, Jan. 9, a month after conducting a public hearing on its proposed ordinance. Like the earlier meeting, this session was held at the Fowlerville Junior High to provide enough room for the expected large crowd.

While there was other business on the agenda, the proposed ordinance was the main action item. However, instead of addressing it, the commission approved a motion to hold a public hearing at its next meeting on Feb. 13 to consider an amendment to the existing zoning ordinance to impose a moratorium on wind and solar applications. The details of that proposed amendment will be determined at that session.

The Conway resolution may be similar to what Cohoctah did, given that both township boards had previously decided to retain an attorney who specializes in advising local governmental bodies on renewable-energy projects. Each of them, in turn, retained the services of Michael Homier of the Foster Swift Law Firm.

Local officials had also been advised by the attorney to change the wording in their ordinances from solar to renewable energy so as to cover any wind projects.

The motion to recommend a moratorium came after over an hour of public comment, with most of the speakers urging them to resist allowing a commercial solar project in the township and after the commission went into a closed session to receive legal advice from Homier.

The Conway Township Board had already passed a resolution at an earlier meeting, instituting a moratorium through March. However, it was felt that having it included as an amendment to the existing ordinance would “have more weight.” While the planning commission will conduct a hearing and make a recommendation—just as occurred in Cohoctah—the board will have the final decision.

Both planning commissions had been working on upgrading their existing ordinances for much of last year after Ranger Power, a Chicago-based company, had approached officials in both townships about its interest in developing a project (called the Headland Solar Project) in the area.

Not feeling their existing ordinances were adequate for addressing a commercial-scale energy project, both boards had put a pause on accepting any land-use applications until new ones could be put in place. While this work was done at their public meetings, awareness of the project and what might be involved was not widespread.

That changed in October with an announcement that the Headland Project had agreements with five area property owners to lease 1,500 acres of vacant land where solar

panels and other necessary equipment would be installed. The leases were for a 40-year period.

The project, as explained by a company official, would produce 200 megawatts of power and service around 30,000 customers in the area between Flint and Lansing. One of the reasons for locating a solar project in this area, it was noted, is the presence of a high-voltage transmission line that runs just south of the site.

The electricity from the panels would be routed to a substation near the line and that station would be connected to the transmission line. The landowners, in agreeing to lease their land for 40 years, would receive an annual payment.

This news was coupled with reports that DTE Energy, along with another power company, were looking at land elsewhere in Conway and neighboring townships for possible solar projects that involved several thousand additional acres.

**The Cohoctah Planning Commission had actually approved** their new ordinance at its October meeting after holding a public hearing the month before where only a few people were in attendance. Following the established process, it had been forwarded to the Livingston County Planning Commission for review. The county planners had then sent it onto the township board which has the final say.

But by then an organized opposition had emerged, with residents showing up at the board’s October meeting to express their various concerns. This opposition caused the board to reject the ordinance as presented, retain the attorney, and subsequently recommend that the planning commission look at imposing a moratorium.

Conway Township’s Planning Commission, operating a month behind that schedule, attempted to hold a public hearing on its new ordinance in early November, but with a capacity of only 90 persons at the township hall and many more than that showing up, the meeting was postponed until the following month with the location changed to the junior high auditorium.

Speakers at the public hearings and during Call to Public portion of the meetings listed a number of reasons for their opposition, including statements that a large solar farm comprised of thousands of metal panels would ruin the rural landscape and character of the community, take valuable farm land out of production, lower residential property values in the surrounding area, make it difficult to sell nearby homes, adversely impact wildlife, increase water runoff onto neighboring land, cause environmental damage, release toxins into the soil, and pose an increased fire danger.

A point made by several of the speakers was that a utility-scale solar project should be located in an industrial area, preferably one that already has or has had heavy industry, not next to homes.

There were a few people who spoke in favor of the project, but given the make-up of the audience, their comments were not well-received.

**Ranger Power representative Drew Vielbig, who had been in communication** with both townships over the past year since informing local officials of the company’s interest in locating a project in this area, issued the following statement last week.

“It is disappointing that both Conway and Cohoctah Townships are considering needlessly extending their moratoriums on solar development for an additional 12 months,” Vielbig said. “Both Townships have already had moratoriums on solar in place for over a year, and both have made meaningful progress in developing a comprehensive draft solar ordinance that balances the interests of participating farmers, solar project developers, and neighboring residents while also protecting the Township’s interests.

“Conway Township hired an outside expert planning firm to assist with the drafting of their proposed solar zoning amendment, only to fire this outside planner due to receiving pressure from a vocal group of residents within the community that are fundamentally opposed to solar development,” he noted.

“Cohoctah Township’s decision to consider repealing its existing solar ordinance will prevent local farmers from having the opportunity to consider including their land in a solar project, which is a clear infringement on private property rights,” Vielbig continued.

“Ranger Power is

opposed to the actions being taken by both Conway and Cohoctah Townships to arbitrarily delay the development of solar ordinances that allow for this type of use in the community,” he said. “The Headland Solar Project will bring strong economic and environmental benefits to the community, all while preserving its existing agricultural nature for future generations. In the first year alone, Headland Solar anticipated generating over \$2 million in new tax revenue, which will provide much-needed funding to Fowlerville Community Schools, the Townships, and emergency services.

“My team and I look forward to continuing our work throughout the community as we bring this project forward,” he said. “We are excited about several local non-profit partnerships that are currently in development, and look forward to sharing more about these in the coming weeks.”

## Fowlerville Board of Education narrows superintendent list to four candidates

The Fowlerville Board of Education has narrowed its superintendent list to four candidates. They will conduct interviews with each of those individuals this week, then further narrow the field with a goal of selecting a new superintendent in mid-February.

The four candidates were selected at a special meeting held last Monday, Jan. 9.

In a posting on the school’s web page, it was noted that Michigan Leadership Institute (MLI) Search Consultant Tim Stein, shared that the Board of Education selected the four candidates after vetting twenty qualified applicants for the position.

The following candidates will meet with the board for first-round interviews:

- Paul Flynn, Superintendent of the Sandusky Community Schools in Sandusky, Michigan
- Joseph Perrera, Superintendent of Whittemore-Prescott Area School District in Whittemore, Michigan
- Matthew Stuard, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction of the Mason Public Schools in Mason, Michigan
- Myriah Lillie, Principal of Fowlerville Junior High School in Fowlerville, Michigan

The Board will hold these interviews at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 16, and again on Tuesday, Jan. 17. Two interviews will be held each night. The interviews will be ninety minutes in length with a ten-minute break between interviews. They will be held in the Fowlerville High School Media Center.

Staff, students, and community members are welcome to attend and will be allowed to provide written feedback regarding candidates to the board following each interview.

Interview Schedule: Monday, Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m. Myriah Lillie and then Matthew Stuard.

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m. Paul Flynn and then Joseph Perrera.

The board will reconvene at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 23 to select two finalists.

These finalists will then be interviewed starting at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 31 and Feb. 2. After the interviews, the board will conduct a special board meeting Feb. 16 and choose a candidate to enter into contract negotiations with.

The new superintendent will replace Wayne Roedel who resigned this past fall to accept a position as head of Greenville Public Schools. David Pruneau, a former superintendent with Brighton Schools, has been serving as the interim superintendent since Roedel’s departure.

The board hired MLI to lead the search. The firm collected applications over the past month, which were presented at Monday’s meeting for consideration.

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## Michigan Legislature starts new session with Democrats in control of both chambers

By Laina G. Stebbins  
Michigan Advance

Now wielding power in the Michigan House and Senate for the first time in decades, Democrats last Wednesday used the first day of the 102nd Legislature to announce a flurry of bills to advance labor, LGBTQ+ and reproductive rights.

Both chambers swore in new and returning members Wednesday morning, after which Democratic leaders announced six measures that will kick off the new term.

### Those include legislation that would:

- Repeal Michigan's so-called retirement tax, sponsored by state Reps. Angela Witwer (D-Delta Twp.) and state Sen. Kevin Hertel (D-St. Clair Shores)
- Increased Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), sponsored by state Rep. Nate Shannon (D-Sterling Heights) and state Sen. Kristen McDonald Rivet (D-Bay City)
- Expand Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include anti-discrimination protections for sexual and gender identity, sponsored by state Rep. Jason Hoskins (D-Southfield) and state Sen. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield)
- Restore the state's prevailing wage law, sponsored by state Rep. Brenda Carter (D-Pontiac) and state Sen. Veronica Klinefelt (D-Eastpointe)
- Repeal the controversial "Right to Work" labor policy, sponsored by state Rep. Regina Weiss (D-Oak Park) and state Sen. Darrin Camilleri (D-Trenton)
- Repeal Michigan's 1931 statute criminalizing abortion care, sponsored by state Rep. Laurie Pohutsky (D-Livonia) and state Sen. Erika Geiss (D-Taylor)

The bills were to be formally introduced in the House and Senate record during session on Thursday.

"House Democrats are committed to supporting Michigan families, guaranteeing the rights of all Michiganders are protected and respected, ensuring workers know they are valued, protecting and investing in our future, and promoting safe and strong communities," House Speaker Joe Tate (D-Detroit) said in a statement. "Our commitment to make good on our promise to advance the priorities of the people is made clear with the introduction of these first bills of the session.

The new Democratic-led Legislature is expected to have a far more productive relationship with Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, who was reelected last fall along with fellow Democrats Attorney General Dana Nessel and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson.

"These initial bills represent our collective commitment to expanding rights and opportunities for the people of Michigan," said Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids). "Our first and only order of business is to tackle the real challenges that folks are facing by implementing an agenda that makes Michigan an even better place to call home. We know that the best policy is written at a table with many voices, and with these first bills we are setting a new standard of leadership that listens to the needs of the people."

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan (ACLU) commended Democrats for advancing measures on LGBTQ+ and abortion rights on the first day of the new session.

"Thank you to Michigan lawmakers who recognize it is time that Michigan civil rights law explicitly protect[s] all people in Michigan from discrimination on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression," said Michigan ACLU's Jay Kaplan.

Pohutsky and Geiss' bills to remove Michigan's 1931 abortion ban from the state Constitution follows a majority of Michigan voters deciding to enshrine abortion rights via a constitutional proposal in November.

"Affirming a person's right to abortion and reproductive freedom was Democrats' priority throughout the previous year and remains our priority today," Pohutsky said. "The government does not belong in the exam room as people make private medical decisions. We must repeal old laws that no longer reflect the will of Michigan voters.

"The 1931 abortion ban criminalized medical providers for performing essential health care. House Bill 4006 guarantees



House Speaker Pro Tem Laurie Pohutsky presides over the House on the first day of the new Michigan Legislative session this past Wednesday, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>. Photo by Laina G. Stebbins

that a pregnant person and their health care providers have the right to dictate their medical decisions without fear of prosecution."

A similar bill that was introduced last session was denied a full House vote.

*This article is reprinted with permission from Michigan Advance, an online publication. [www.michiganadvance.com](http://www.michiganadvance.com)*

## Letter to the Editor

Since learning of the proposed solar development in Conway Township, which would be near my property, I met with the Livingston County Drain Commission office regarding drainage onto my property.

As a result, I have become intrigued about the drainage of the entirety of Conway Township.

In an effort to satisfy my curiosity I have found some sources of information which I believe are reliable and concise. The first source is the Conway Township Master Plan 2018, page 14 which states, "Conway is the only township in the county that drains stormwater runoff into adjacent municipalities due to elevation. Therefore, the township highly encourages low impact development to better manage stormwater."

The second source of information is titled "Property Drainage Issues" by Clifford H. Bloom. Page 1 states, "The property at the higher elevation has the right to have water flow from his/her property onto all properties having lower elevations pursuant to the natural flow."

The third source is an article that is a summary of solar energy power systems in other locales which details problems that have occurred because of storm runoff.

At the present time, Conway is a rural township with a population of about four thousand residents. Large open fields used for farming and homes scattered along unpaved roads is a characteristic of the community. It is this characteristic which preserves drainage at a relatively natural flow. Consequently, Conway, due to its undeveloped characteristics, lacks appropriate infrastructure to support the drainage demands of a large scale utility development.

To be fair, the Livingston County Drain Commission has done a good job of constructing an adequate amount of drains in Conway Township. These drains, along with naturally occurring tributaries, efficiently collect and accelerate runoff from higher elevations to lower elevations. The dilemma is that the water that these drains collect must be discharged into neighboring communities.

To summarize, solar developers want to install tens of thousands of "solar panels that will channelize water causing it to leave the site faster and infiltrate neighboring properties." Then, the Conway drainage system will capture an increased amount of runoff, accelerate its speed and discharge the "stormwater runoff into adjacent municipalities due to elevation."

"In a nutshell, anyone who alters the natural drainage can potentially be liable for damages or be required by a court to put the land back the way it was before the alterations." And "The owner of the higher property cannot by development or other alteration of the land, increase the amount, intensity or speed of water flowage onto the lower properties in such a fashion as to injure or damage the lower properties."

My concern is that large scale development in Conway Township will stress "water flow issues that are governed by common law principles in Michigan." Any increase of floodwater runoff large enough to adversely effect neighboring property and adjacent municipalities could test these principles.

Thank you,  
Roy Steyskal  
Fowlerville

## —Area Deaths—



### Herbert R. Hellwege 'Ray'

Feb. 13, 1942-Jan. 7, 2023

Herbert R. Hellwege "Ray" of Fowlerville passed away peacefully at his home on Jan. 7, 2023 after battling many illnesses through the years, including cancer, diabetes, and leukemia—to name a few.

Ray is survived by his wife of seven years Elaine Moen, his daughter Wendy Row, a grandson Mark James Row, and a granddaughter Rachel Drayer. Between Ray and Elaine, there are 15 grandkids and 13 great-grandchildren.

His greatest loves were gatherings with family and friends, fishing, hunting and motorcycles.

A celebration of Ray's life will be held on Sunday, January 22, at 12:30 p.m. at the Place of Refuge Church, 6909 E. Grand River, Fowlerville, across from the Greenwood Cemetery. Pastor Robert Story is officiating the celebration. Very casual attire is appreciated. A country western theme. Flannel shirts, jeans, cowboy attire, and boots are welcome.

### Fowlerville Girls JV Basketball Team splits games with Haslett, Eaton Rapids

The Fowlerville Girls JV Basketball Team splits their games with Haslett and Eaton Rapids in recent action.

The JV girls faced a tough Haslett Viking Team and lost 54-40. Leading the way for the Gladiators was Ella Olrich with 18 points, while Michaela Gullede chipped in 9 and McKenna Maybee had 7. Valerie Curd, Molly Lamar and Delaney Richardson each added 2 points, but the Vikings had 2 players in double digits and took the win.

The team traveled to Eaton Rapids and came away with a victory, winning 44-14. Six players contributed offensively and tenacious team defense helped the team seal the victory. Mariah Kirby led all scorers with 15, while Michaela Gullede added 9. Ella Olrich chipped in 6 and Molly Lamar added 5. Lamar also played outstanding on the ball defense forcing the Greyhounds to turn the ball over and allow scoring opportunities for herself and her teammates. Also adding to the mix on the offensive end was McKenna Maybee with 5 points and Valerie Curd with 5.



### Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team wins game against Eaton Rapids

The Fowlerville Varsity Boys Basketball Team hosted Eaton Rapids last Tuesday, Jan. 10, and came away with a thrilling 60-57 win. Griffin Gonzalez had 14 points for the Glads, including the winning 3-point shot at the buzzer. Brendan Ray led the Glads with 16 points and 12 rebounds. Wyatt Soli chipped in with 15, while Alex Jonas had 8 points and hauled in 8 rebounds.

### Fowlerville Wrestling Team splits matches in triangular meet on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>

The Fowlerville Wrestling Team competed in a triangular meet last Tuesday, Jan. 10, and split the matches. The Glads lost to Mason 47-21 and topped Okemos 72-3.

Undefeated wrestlers were: Dalton Daniel, Brock Foster, Ben Blyveis, Waylon Lamkin, Richard Davis, Douglas Braidwood, and Jacob Esch.

## Showcasing the Michigan DNR-- Simple resolutions to enjoy, protect Michigan's outdoors

By Sarh Lapshan

Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources

Spending more time with family and friends, exercising more, learning a new skill or hobby, saving money, living life to the fullest – according to GoSkills.com, these are among the top 10 most common resolutions people make as the calendar flips to a brand new year.

All are perfectly respectable goals, but why not shake things up a bit and resolve to take action that's good for both you *and* the world around you? We've got some ideas to get you started.

### Choose native plants, trees and shrubs

It's not too early to start thinking about spring tree planting. An easy way to ensure you're planting native, regional trees and shrubs that are most likely to thrive where you live is to work with your local conservation district or nature center, according to Ed Shaw, Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center interpreter and coordinator of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Outdoor Skills Academy.

"Genetic diversity in trees is just as important as it is among fish and wildlife species," Shaw said. "Now is when you want to get your orders in, too, because it gives the conservation districts and nature centers time to place their orders."

Visit MACD.org to find your district, learn about programs, place an order and get on the mailing list. When spring comes around and you do plant new trees, drop a pin in our interactive map to add your trees to our statewide count that's part of the Trillion Trees Campaign.

### Support forests of all ages

Say the word "forest" and most people think of thick stands of mature trees that stretch to the sky. If you've been to the Porkies in the western Upper Peninsula's Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park or Hartwick Pines in Grayling, you've seen true gems – some Michigan trees are hundreds of years old. But these old-growth forests alone aren't enough to support the fish and wildlife that depend on them for food and shelter.

Craig Kasmer is the interpreter at Hartwick Pines State Park. Over the years he has talked with tens of thousands of visitors about the value of different tree types and ages.

"Some 65% of the 20 million acres of forest land in Michigan is privately owned," he said. "Most private forest landowners don't like to cut trees, and I get that, but we have to have forests of different ages to provide the different habitat that different species need to survive."

Kasmer said that if all private landowners do nothing to create young, successional forest types, there is a whole slew of species that are going to be lost – and we'll wind up with only birds and animals that like to live in old-growth forests. The Kirtland's warbler, for example, only nests in jack pine forests that are 5-20 years old.

If you or someone you know owns private forest land, consider working with a forester to develop a plan for your forest. Explore the DNR's resources for private forest landowners to learn more about the Forest Stewardship and Forest Legacy programs.

### Be a savvy searcher

We get it. Spending a day outdoors is a treat, and sometimes you want to take home a little something you find there. In most cases that's OK, but when foraging for wild foods, make sure you know ahead of time what you can take and

what needs to stay.

Wild berries and mushrooms? Enjoy! Wildflowers? Leave them there, said Shaw, especially if a bloom is on the protected, endangered or threatened list; check out the Michigan Natural Features Inventory rare plants list for more information.

"We want everyone to enjoy the wildflowers," Shaw said, "but leaving them where they are is the best choice. It also supports critical pollination processes that so many species rely on."

No matter what you're looking for – morels, sap for maple syrup, berries or something else – visit the DNR's foraging webpage. It has the facts on what is permitted for harvest (and where), what to leave in the wild to protect sensitive and rare species, and how to safely prepare anything you plan to eat.

### Be a history hero

During any visit to state-managed lands, including shorelines and bottomlands, please respect historic structures and sites and leave in place any artifacts you may find. Everyone shares a responsibility to protect historic places.

While recreational metal detecting for modern objects is allowed on some state-managed lands, historic artifacts are protected. It's always illegal to remove them without the proper permissions. Disturbing or moving artifacts can quickly damage or destroy our archaeological heritage. If you think you've found something old and possibly historic, leave it in place, don't disturb the area, and report the find to local staff and DNR archaeologists at MHCinfo@Michigan.gov.

"Say you find an old crosscut saw on the ground or buried just below the surface, keep it right there, because next to that could be a button or bottle – something not picked up by the detector, but together those artifacts could tell the story of a camp here that we didn't even know about," said Stacy Tchorzynski, archaeologist and historian with the DNR's Michigan History Center. "Knowing what to do in such a situation, to stop, protect and report finds, can help save important pieces of Michigan history, ensuring those stories can be interpreted and shared with future generations."

### Discover CCC connections

Many people who visit Hartwick Pines have some understanding of the role played by the Civilian Conservation Corps in building our state's infrastructure and structures, including within state parks. If one of your relatives was among the 100,000-plus young Michigan men enrolled in the federal Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps, head to Roscommon!

"Hillary Pine, who manages the Higgins Lake Nursery and CCC Museum and Nursery, not too far south of Hartwick Pines, said every year there are a lot of folks who come in and say, 'You know, my great-grandfather was in the CCC ...,'" said Kasmer. "If you know what camp your relatives were at, you can go to the museum in Roscommon and look through the panels of pictures to find them. It's great to see those connections happen."

If you want to explore even more Michigan history, add



Foraging for wild mushrooms, like the sought-after morels, is a popular thing to do on public lands. Before you head out, make sure you know the harvest, access and safety guidelines.

other museums and historic sites to your list of "must see" destinations for 2023. Start at [Michigan.gov/MHC/Museums](https://Michigan.gov/MHC/Museums).

### Know your invasives

Kasmer, while recently visiting the metro Detroit area, noticed that both sides of the road he was on were full of phragmites – that tall, grayish-green, invasive reed that seems to crop up everywhere – but he remembered knowing it by another name.

"As I kid, I was told that was bullrush," he said. "I bet a lot of people learned it the same way, and there wasn't much discussion then about what an invasive species even was, or why it posed a problem. Now, though, we see how invasive species can cause deforestation, reduce fish populations and alter valuable habitat. We see all too clearly the problems they cause."

Invasive species are plants, animals and other organisms that aren't native to Michigan and whose introduction harms, or is likely to harm, the state's economy, environment or human health. The good news is that anyone, anywhere in the state can make a difference in the fight against these land and water invaders, just by knowing what to look for and reporting what you see.

Visit [Michigan.gov/Invasives](https://Michigan.gov/Invasives) to learn more about identifying and reporting problem species; get tips on actions hunters, anglers, boaters and others can take to reduce the spread of invasives; and explore the popular NotMiSpecies webinar series. It covers everything from rock snot (yes, a true aquatic invasive species) to protecting your own backyard or neighborhood from damaging bugs like spongy moth or spotted lanternfly.

### Start a new tradition

Always wanted to try fishing, hunting, hiking, birding, snowshoe building or other ways to connect with nature, but not sure where to start? The DNR's Outdoor Skills Academy may have just what you need: expert-led outings, all the gear, and time and space to let yourself learn.

"Sometimes a lack of experience with a certain hobby or skill can be intimidating, but the Outdoor Skills Academy removes all of that," said Shaw, who oversees the program. "Spend a weekend with your son or daughter, husband, wife or best friend, and enjoy diving into something new that might just become a lifelong passion."

*continued on page 20*



Different species and age classes of trees provide the best habitat for different wildlife species, like the Kirtland's warbler, shown here, which prefers to nest in young jack pine forests.



While recreational metal detecting for modern objects is allowed on some state-managed lands, historic items like these Native American artifacts are protected. If you uncover something like this, leave the site undisturbed and email [MHCinfo@Michigan.gov](mailto:MHCinfo@Michigan.gov). Photos courtesy of Michigan Department of Natural Resources.



If you're looking for a new outdoor tradition, try one of the many classes and workshops – like making your own snowshoes – offered through the DNR's Outdoor Skills Academy.



If any of your relatives were part of the Civilian Conservation Corps that helped build infrastructure and structures in Michigan, including at state parks, plan a visit to the CCC Museum in Roscommon to explore these connections.

## Showcasing the Michigan DNR, continued

### Make time for the outdoors

In 2021, Kasmer said he noticed a lot more families heading north to view Kirtland's warblers in the young jack pine forests. Many said the motivation for their trip actually stemmed from having time at home the year before – a rare benefit of the COVID-19 pandemic – giving them a chance to stop and watch their bird feeders.

"They said their kids would ask, 'What's that bird, and what's that one?' and it sparked a whole new interest in knowing more about what's around them," Kasmer said.

"The more you know about plants, fish and animals, the more you tend to care about their health and survival," he said. "Sometimes that's the first step toward having a more deliberate conservation mindset. Jacque Cousteau said people protect what they love, and it's true. You start thinking about what small actions you can take to better protect these

amazing natural resources."

Though the pandemic is still part of the landscape, life has (mostly) returned to normal. Kasmer said he hopes people will hold onto that desire to carve out opportunities to relax, reconnect and explore the outdoors.

Consider these other conservation-minded resolutions to round out your year:

- Spend more time discovering Michigan state parks, trails and waterways (don't forget your Recreation Passport).
- Fish the Great Lakes or thousands of inland lakes. Visit gov/Fishing for suggestions on where to fish, license information and more.
- Take advantage of local, regional and state trails, parks and nature centers in your area. Many offer educational programs perfect for all ages.
- Discover new ways to support the natural and cultural resources you value. Visit gov/DNRvolunteers for dozens of volunteer opportunities.



Whether you live in a rural area or a more urban setting, there are a variety of local, regional and state recreation resources available, including paved trails like this one along the Detroit River.

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There are many ways to lend a hand in support of your favorite natural and cultural resources. For example, there are dozens of opportunities to help at stewardship workdays at state parks across southern Michigan – like this young man helping remove dame's rocket at Brighton Recreation Area.

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