

INSIDE
TODAY'S EDITION
TWO NMAHS EVENTS SCHEDULED
PAGE 3



SLAGEL HOPES FOR EVEN BETTER AT STATE AFTER PLACING 2ND AT REGIONAL
PAGE 8



DUFFY SET FOR EARLY START WITH MILWAUKEE VOLLEYBALL
PAGE 9

Hastings Public Library
227 E State Street
Hastings MI 49058

VOL. 171, NO. 47

THE HASTINGS BANNER

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BARRY COUNTY SINCE 1856

VIEW Newspaper Group

www.HastingsBanner.com Thursday, November 20, 2025 $1.50

Barry-Roubaix sells out in a day; race set for April 18



Cyclists competing in the Barry-Roubaix take off from the starting line in downtown Hastings during last year's event. **File photo by Jayson Bussa**

Jayson Bussa
Contributig Writer

The nation's largest gravel-road cycling race has once again proven its popularity, selling out in just 24 hours.

The Barry-Roubaix, held annually in Hastings, opened registration on Nov. 15 and reached capacity by midnight on Nov. 16. All 5,600 spots were claimed within a single day, an even faster sellout than last year.

"It sold out a lot quicker (than last year)," race director Matt Acker told *The Banner*. "We had over 2,000 registrations in 12 minutes. Right now, we have 5,600 registered."

Next year's Barry-Roubaix is scheduled for April 18, with the start/finish line again located on Green Street in downtown Hastings. Riders will roll out of the city before tackling Barry County's extensive network of dirt and gravel roads. Races range from 100 miles in length to 18 miles.

In previous years, organizers gradually increased the participant cap to avoid overwhelming Hastings' infrastructure while still enhancing the experience for racers. This year, however, they held firm at 5,600 cyclists, the same cap as in 2024.

"Everyone is excited," Acker said.

Village votes to eliminate DDA sunset and forgo tax captures on Odessa Twp., Ionia County

Molly Macleod
Editor

The existence of the Village of Lake Odessa's Downtown Development Authority is no longer in jeopardy after village council members voted on Monday, Nov. 17, to expand the DDA's boundaries to include properties near Jordan Lake, as well as eliminate the authority's sunset date. But, council members failed to pass an ordinance that would have continued to capture taxes from Ionia County and Odessa Township, both of which opted out of the DDA plan. Instead, the council resolved to "go it alone," relying on taxes captured from within the village to fund the DDA — at least for now.

Debate over the DDA took up much of Monday's nearly three-hour meeting, with village council members debating whether a potential legal battle with the township and county would be worth it.

Before taking up debate over whether or not to impose tax captures on the other municipalities, council members easily passed another ordinance, 7-0, to eliminate the DDA's sunset date and to add a second, smaller TIF district near the lakefront.

Debate over the DDA's 30-year plan and its planned tax captures proved less easily resolved.

In the end, council members voted 6-1 to approve the proposed DDA Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and development plan without capturing taxes from Odessa Township and Ionia County, with council president Karen Banks casting the lone "no" vote.



Lake Odessa Village Council members voted at their meeting on Monday, Nov. 17, to eliminate the Downtown Development Authority's sunset date and to extend the DDA's boundaries. Council members also voted to accept the DDA's 30-year development and Tax Increment Financing plans, sans taxes captured from Odessa Township and Ionia County. **Photos by Molly Macleod**

Before that vote, the council failed to pass the ordinance with the planned tax capture on Odessa Township and Ionia County, 3-4. Trustees Ben DeJong, Bob Green, and Village President Karen Banks originally voted in favor of the plan with the tax captures on the township and county. Trustees Martha Yoder, Neena Rush, Roy Halfmann and Michael Brighton voted against that plan.

However, the fight over the county and township's tax capture may not be over. Though the village council opted not to pursue legal counsel on the matter, the DDA board still can.

The DDA board voted unanimously at its regular meeting Tuesday, Nov. 11, to authorize interim Village Manager Gregg Guetschow to research options for legal counsel. If hired by the DDA, the counsel would be asked to act as a consultant on whether the county and township legally have the ability to "opt out" of the DDA and avoid any property taxes being captured by the DDA through its Tax Increment Financing, or TIF, plans.

The DDA board action last week comes after both the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and Odessa

See **ELIMINATE** on 3

'Pink Friday' encourages shoppers to buy local this Friday, Nov. 21

Molly Macleod
Editor

A nationwide movement is encouraging individuals to shop local this Friday, Nov. 21, before hitting the big box stores for next week's Black Friday and Cyber Monday deals.

"Pink Friday" was established in 2020 in efforts to support local retailers across the country during the holiday season. Similar to Small Business Saturday, Pink Friday encourages shoppers to "shop local first."

Organizers for the national movement say supporting small businesses is important — especially during the shop's first few years.

Often, small businesses are left out of the holiday shopping equation. It's tough for small businesses to compete with big-box store Black Friday deals or the convenience of online shopping. But Pink Friday aims to change that by celebrating small businesses first, before beginning the holiday shopping frenzy.

Several businesses in downtown Hastings are participating in Pink Friday this year, including The Clothier, The Wild Wood Books & Music, Bee Eclectic and the South Jefferson Street General Store. Many stores are offering special deals and giveaways.

Shoppers can celebrate and support locally-owned businesses by shopping downtown this Friday. More information on Pink Friday, and how local businesses are celebrating can be found at the Shop Downtown Hastings Facebook page.

CAR-RT LOT**C003
T1 P2 212 212
HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY
227 E STATE ST
HASTINGS MI 49058-1954



CALEDONIA HOCKEY CO-OP SKATES TO A 3-1 START
PAGE 11

SUBSCRIBE
TO SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM
YOUR CONTRIBUTION MAKES TRUSTWORTHY REPORTING POSSIBLE
SUBSCRIBE TODAY: 269-945-9554

Spend it here.
Keep it here.
SHOP LOCAL
INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
VIEW Newspaper Group
THE HASTINGS BANNER





The Guys Who Give – Barry County gathered last week with the goal of raising money for local charities. Here, members of GWG present a check to representatives from Hand2Hand and First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, the third quarter recipients for GWG funds. **Courtesy photo**

Guys Who Give support local orgs

Molly Macleod
Editor

Guys Who Give – Barry County continued its mission of raising money for local nonprofits this month, delivering a check of $2,550 to Hand2Hand and First Presbyterian Church of Hastings at its quarterly meeting last week. Additionally, the Guys Who Give selected another local charity to support this quarter: The Merritt Matrix.

The Merritt Matrix is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with autism who struggle with language deficits and delays, say representatives of the group. Its primary goal is to raise funds to provide individuals with iPads as Alternative Augmentative Communication (AAC) devices. These devices significantly enhance the communication abilities of individuals with autism, allowing them to express their needs, thoughts and emotions more effectively. By bridging the communication gap, it aims to empower individuals with autism to lead more inclusive and fulfilling lives.

More information about the charity can be found at its website, themerritmatrix.com.

Those who wish to support The Merritt Matrix and Guys Who Give – Barry County can donate to the charity online at guyswhogive.org/donate/to/event/barry-county-mi, or by mailing a check to Guys Who Give Barry County, ATTN: Chelsey Foster, c/o Highpoint Community Bank, 150 W. Court St., Hastings, MI 49058

Those interested in joining the Guys Who Give for next quarter's impact event should save the date for Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026.

Township supervisor offers up cheaper alternative for new fire station

Dennis Mansfield
Staff Writer

The initial price tag of nearly $12 million for construction of a new fire station that would serve Odessa Township and the Village of Lake Odessa might have led to a case of sticker shock for many.

But, in addressing his fellow members on the Odessa Township Board of Trustees at their Nov. 3 meeting, Township Supervisor Gary Secor said he might have found a far less expensive alternative in a recently completed station house in Kent County's Byron Township.

"We could probably be looking at something for under $4 million," he said.

According to news reports, the township celebrated the opening of its fire department's Fire Station No. 2 in September at a cost of just $2.4 million.

Secor questioned whether the township couldn't just get plans for the new station house, which they visited in early October, from Byron Township and build a copy for about one-third the price of the estimate provided by Grand Rapids-based Williams Architects.

The Odessa Township board unanimously voted at its regular meeting Oct. 6 to both accept a study by the Grand Rapids firm for a proposed fire hall, as well as voting to have Williams move forward with schematics and designs for a new building.

The votes on Oct. 6 came after a presentation on a potential plan for a new 18,700-square-foot station house for the Lake Odessa Fire Department at an estimated cost of just less than $12 million, if it were built in 2027, at the board's September meeting.

Several local residents expressed their concern over the initial price estimate and whether voters would pass a bond issue to support such an expensive project. Though township officials stated those estimates were "at the high end" and that costs were likely to come in lower, as the board and other township officials review their options.

Currently, the LOFD operates out of a pole-style building reportedly constructed in the late 1970s on First Street, just east of Fourth Avenue, in the Village of Lake Odessa.

But, according to officials, the fire station is nearing the end of its usable life, and its age and state of disrepair make it difficult, if not impossible in some cases, for the local fire department to meet newer state regulations.

Township officials believe they already have the site for a new fire station – a 10-acre parcel owned by the township located just east of the Odessa Township Hall on M-50, just west of the Village of Lake Odessa.

At their most recent meeting Nov. 3, the township board approved the hiring of the Detroit-based legal firm of Miller Canfield to serve as bond counsel for the proposed new fire station.

Afterwards, Township Treasurer Sharon Rohrbacher said the next step, or steps, in the process will be to work with a financial manager and others to determine the best target price for a new station house.

"The financial manager will help us determine the best target price for the project cost and what's affordable for this area based on millages and area values," Rohrbacher said. "Next, we will work with the architects to see what materials should be used and what decisions we can make to meet that target number.

"Then, we will work with the bond council to write millage language and present that to our voters for their support," she added.

Rohrbacher also questioned whether the Byron Township fire station could serve as a cheaper option.

"It's a second station for their area, so it doesn't have many of the spaces we require," she added.

Lake O interviewing village manager candidates Dec. 8-9



The Lake Odessa Village Council voted on Monday to invite six applicants to interview next month for the full-time village manager post. Here, (from left) interim manager Gregg Guetschow sits with Clerk/Treasurer Kathy Forman and Trustee Ben DeJong during the council's regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 17. **Photo by Molly Macleod**

Molly Macleod
Editor

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

The Lake Odessa Village Council is moving ahead with its fourth consecutive hiring search in two years to find its next full-time manager.

According to interim Manager Gregg Guetschow, 11 potential candidates filed applications by the deadline at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 10.

The number of applications received by the Nov. 10 deadline fell short of the total of 14 filed during the village's third and most recent search, which ended without a hire.

"It's not as good a response as I'd hoped it'd be," Guetschow said last week.

From the 11 applications received, council members identified six candidates they would like to interview next month. Interviews will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 8-9, at the Page Memorial Building in Lake Odessa. The interviews are open to the public.

Guetschow said names of the candidates will be released to the public ahead of the interviews. One candidate selected to interview is a current village resident, Guetschow said.

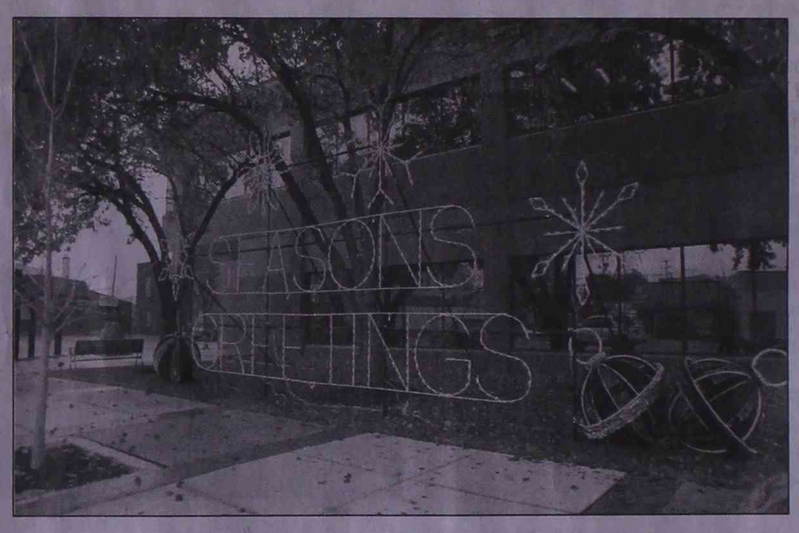
"We're still at a point where several of them (candidates) have requested confidentiality," Guetschow said.

The identities of the selected candidates will be revealed once they accept their interview invitations, Guetschow added.

The village has been without a full-time manager since December 2023, when council members agreed to a separation agreement with then-Village Manager Ben Geiger. That was less than seven months after Geiger accepted the job in May of that year.

The council has conducted three hiring searches since then, without achieving a successful hire. During the most recent search this summer, three different finalists – including two current village employees – withdrew their names from consideration after receiving job offers from the village.

DID YOU **SEE?**



DECKING THE HALLS

Those traveling through downtown Hastings this week may have noticed the streets adorned with festive decorations. With Christmas just over a month away, the City of Hastings has "decked the halls." A trip down State Street after dark will reveal the thousands of tiny bulbs lighting up the night. **Photo by Molly Macleod**

GD WOOD PRODUCTS
Family Owned & Operated
SAW MILL OFFICE
517-254-4463
Conscientious Timber Harvester Wanting to Buy Standing Timber

• Closed-Cell Foam Insulation
• Blown-In Attic Insulation
Nelson's SPRAY FOAM, LLC
Nelson Schmucker
1700 N. Ainger Rd. • Charlotte, MI 48813
517-983-0954
Start Saving Today ~ Use Spray Foam

THE HASTINGS BANNER

(USPS #71830)
1351 N M-43 Hwy.
Hastings, MI 49058
269-945-9554
www.hastingsbanner.com

VIEW Newspaper Group
Rick Burrough, President
Wes Smith, Group Publisher
Molly Macleod, Editor

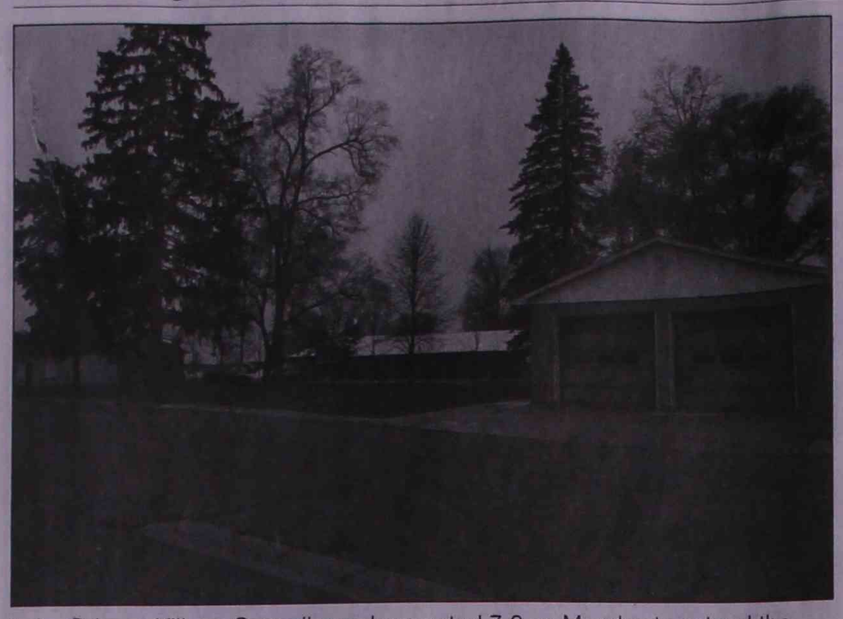
CONTACT US
EDITORIAL
mmacleod@mihomepaper.com
DELIVERY QUESTIONS
circulation@hastingsbanner.com
CLASSIFIED ADS
classifiedads@hastingsbanner.com

ADVERTISING
All advertising in The Hastings Banner is subject to the conditions in the applicable rate card or advertising contract, copies of which are available from the Ad Dept., 1351 N M-43 Hwy., Hastings, MI 49058 (269-945-9554). This newspaper reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Chris Silverman
csilverman@mihomepaper.com

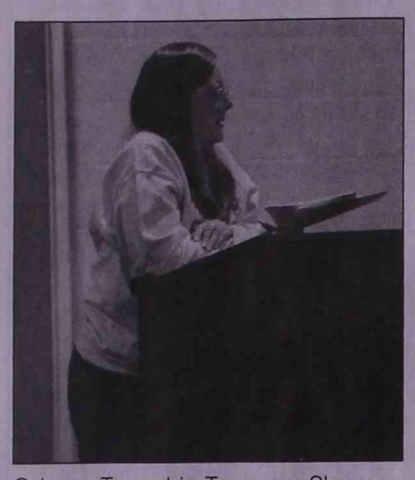
DELIVERY
Circulation Hours: Mon.-Th. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Home delivery: 269-945-9554
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
The Hastings Banner
1351 N M-43 Hwy., Hastings, MI 49058
NEWSPAPER RATES
Mailed periodicals postage paid at Hastings, MI 49058 and additional offices. Published Thursday.
Barry County ..... $78/yr. or $14/mo
Adjoining Counties ..... $85/yr.
Elsewhere in Michigan ..... $90/yr.
Elsewhere in U.S. ..... $90/yr.
Single Copy $1.50

PRIVILEGE OF RESPONSE
Persons who believe they have been unfairly treated in this newspaper are always invited to telephone, or to make a written response. See the Opinion Page for contact information and our letters policy.
MPA Michigan Press Association

Copyright 2025
©2025 Jams Media, LLC
All Rights Reserved
Printed in the U.S.



Lake Odessa Village Council members voted 7-0 on Monday to extend the Downtown Development Authority's boundaries to include a second, smaller Tax Increment Financing district near Jordan Lake.



Odessa Township Treasurer Sharon Rohrbacher speaks during public comment at the Lake Odessa Village Council meeting on Monday, Nov. 17. Rohrbacher thanked the council for voting not to capture taxes from the township and Ionia County for the Downtown Development Authority.

ELIMINATE

Continued from Page 1

Township Board of Trustees voted to opt out of both the DDA's original TIF district established in 2005 and the second, smaller TIF district approved on Monday, as well as rejecting a proposed compromise by DDA officials.

Under the compromise, Guetschow said the DDA would only capture property tax revenues within the TIF districts connected to any operational millages and agree to exempt those revenues resulting from specialty millages, such as levies for roads, senior services or fire protection.

"I think this revised proposal is reasonable," said Banks, who also serves as a DDA board member.

But neither the county board nor township agreed to the compromise, with the Odessa Township board voting, 3-2, to reject the proposal at its Nov. 3 meeting.

"Both took the position to opt out entirely," Guetschow said.

According to Guetschow, county and township officials have taken that stance, believing they have the option to opt out due to a sunset clause within the 2005 ordinance that established the DDA, which would have dissolved the DDA effectively at the end of this February. That deadline was extended to Dec. 31 by a vote of the village council during a special meeting Feb. 28. The deadline was eliminated entirely after Monday's meeting.

"There's a dispute," Guetschow said, over the interpretation of the clause and whether its inclusion allows the county and township to opt out. "We don't believe that's the case.

"What this results in is a situation where lawyers may become involved to resolve this," he added. "There is an action you could take in recognition that you're going to spend dollars to capture dollars."

Council members were skeptical that a legal battle with the county and township would be worth it, even if the courts decided in the village's favor.

According to projections, the DDA would lose an estimated $700,000 in revenue over the next 30 years without tax captures on Ionia County and Odessa Township.

Some trustees expressed concern over the village's relationship with the two municipalities.

"For me, what is prevailing?" asked Brighton. "If we win, what have we won?"

Guetschow reiterated that the village already extended a compromise offer to the township and county, which was voted down. He said he didn't expect any breakthroughs in negotiations should the council wait to vote on the DDA plan.

"We went more than halfway, even with the township," Guetschow said.

"But my point is that we have made those offers, we have taken those steps, and we have not seen them move from their positions, saying 'We're going to completely opt out.' So there is no reason to think that if you wait 30 days, their position will change."

Guetschow said he understands the positions of the township and county boards.

"If I were them, in their seats, I would say, 'No! What incentive do we have to talk to the village? I don't see it.' And it's a part of the politics, it's a part of the game…," Guetschow said.

Guetschow suggested the village council not wait to act on the DDA plan. Amendments can always be made later on to include additional tax captures, should an agreement be made with the county and village, or a legal victory be had for the village.

"What I would suggest you do, if you're thinking about taking longer with this, is to adopt a plan that captures the village taxes while you're debating whether to do tax capture on them (the county and township)," Guetschow said.

"You either have the legal ability to do it or not," Guetschow said.

Several members of the Odessa Township Board were in attendance at Monday's village meeting.

Odessa Township Treasurer Sharon Rohrbacher spoke during the second public comment section on Monday. She thanked the council for their vote and said there is still a relationship worth preserving between the village and township.

"I just want to take a quick minute and thank you for your vote tonight on the DDA," Rohrbacher said, addressing the village council. "I would like to differ with the statement that there's no relationship to preserve with the township. We've got a lot of years ahead of us to work together, and we can have differing opinions without it ruining our relationship. And I stand by that — that we do have a relationship.

"And I also wanted you to know that the township has discussed participating with the DDA, only it would look differently. We have talked about participating with different projects. Don't capture our funds and have it be from now until eternity. How about when you're doing some projects, you come to the township and say, 'This is what we're doing.' Or maybe, 'We're doing a grant program, and we're going to match it 50-50 if they paint the front of their buildings — would you like to participate with some grant money?' Those are things that are legal expenditures for us to do. But when the DDA does beautification, beautification, beautification, now that's $30,000 of the budget that we share with the DDA. And we're struggling to figure out how we're going to put enough gravel on the roads or how we're going to put the turnout gear or (spend) tens of thousands of dollars for a sign on the corner. Those are the things that we look at and we go, 'You know what, we would kind of like to control that .89 mills,'" Rohrbacher continued.

To view documents on the DDA's approved development plan and boundary adjustment, persons may visit the Village of Lake Odessa website at lakeodessa.org.

Staff Writer Dennis Mansfield contributed to this report.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING DEADLINES

AD-VISOR & CHRONICLE
Monday at 4 p.m.

BATTLE CREEK SHOPPER NEWS
Monday at 5 p.m.

THE HASTINGS BANNER
Tuesday at Noon

THE REMINDER
Wednesday at Noon

THE SUN AND NEWS
Wednesday at Noon

VIEW Newspaper Group
mihomepaper.com



The Nashville Michigan Area Historical Society is preparing to start selling raffle tickets. Three winners will be drawn next July. The prizes are a quilt, a quilted wall hanging and a Yeti cooler with two tumblers.
Photo by Leila Wood

Two NMAHS events scheduled for December

Leila Wood
Contributing Writer

The Nashville Michigan Area Historical Society plans to hold two open house-style events in the month of December.

The community is invited to stop in for pastries and cider from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6.

The NMAHS typically meets on the third Saturday every month, but members recently decided to forgo their Dec. 13 meeting.

Instead, their building will be open that day, providing a warming station for people who are out enjoying the annual "Christmas in the Village" festival, which is scheduled for that weekend.

At that time, they will also be selling raffle tickets to raise money for the society. Three winners will be drawn in July, during Nashville's semiquincentennial festival.

Prizes include a handmade patriotic quilt, a quilted wall hanging and a Yeti cooler with two tumblers.



Financial FOCUS®



Provided by the Barry County offices of Edward Jones

Andrew Cove, CFP®, AAMS® AFFP®
Financial Advisor
421 W. Woodlawn Ave.
Hastings, MI 49058
(269) 945-3553

Member SIPC

Jeff Domenico, AAMS® CRPC®
Financial Advisor
450 Meadow Run Dr., Suite 100
Hastings, MI 49058
(269) 948-8265

Generosity meets strategy with tax-savvy donations

Giving to charity feels good, but understanding the tax benefits can benefit both the charity and you. Whether you donate regularly or are planning your first gift, knowing how charitable tax deductions work can help you make informed decisions while supporting causes you care about. Here are things to consider:

The basics: Itemizing vs. standard deduction. To benefit from charitable tax deductions, you need to itemize your deductions on your tax return. Everyone automatically receives a standard deduction, which in 2025 is $31,500 for married couples filing jointly or $15,750 for single filers. You'll only benefit from itemizing if your total deductions, including charitable gifts, exceed these amounts.

For many people, charitable donations alone won't push them over the standard deduction threshold. However, when combined with other deductible expenses like mortgage interest or state and local taxes, itemizing can make financial sense.

If you give regularly but don't usually exceed the standard deduction, consider "stacking" your donations. Instead of donating $5,000 annually, you might donate $15,750 in one year to exceed the itemization threshold, then take the standard deduction in subsequent years.

Ensure your donation qualifies. To claim a deduction, you must give to a qualified charitable organization recognized by the IRS. You can verify an organization's status on the IRS website or ask the charity for their determination letter. Donations to individuals, even those in need, don't qualify for tax deductions.

Additionally, you can't receive personal benefits in exchange for your donation. If you give $500 to a charity but receive concert tickets worth $200, your deductible amount is only $300.

How much can you deduct? The IRS limits charitable deductions based on your adjusted gross income (AGI). For cash donations to public charities, you can typically deduct up to 60% of your AGI. If you donate stocks or other appreciated assets you've held for more than a year, the limit is generally 30% of your AGI.

If your donation exceeds these limits in a single year, you can carry forward the unused portion for up to five years.

What to donate. Think strategically about what you donate. While cash is easiest, donating appreciated stocks can provide additional tax benefits since you avoid paying capital gains taxes on the investment's growth.

Keep good records. Documentation matters. For donations under $250, a canceled check or receipt works fine. Cash donations of $250 or more need written acknowledgment from the charity. For larger noncash donations of property exceeding $5,000 in value, the IRS requires a qualified written appraisal. Keep these records with your tax documents in case the IRS requests proof. See IRS Publication No. 526 and No. 561 for information on charitable contributions and valuing donated property.

The bottom line: Charitable giving may start with your heart, but understanding the tax implications helps you give more effectively. Work with a tax professional and a financial advisor to develop a giving strategy that aligns with both your charitable goals and financial situation. With thoughtful planning, you can maximize both your impact on causes you care about and the tax benefits you receive.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

Governor pardons Thanksgiving turkey sisters



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer pardoned two turkey sisters, "Faygo" and "Vernors," this week. **Courtesy photo**

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer continued the Thanksgiving tradition of pardoning a turkey during ceremonies on Monday, Nov. 18, according to a statement released by her office.

Whitmer reportedly pardoned two turkey sisters "Faygo" and "Vernors."

The names for the turkeys were selected through a bracket-style competition on social media and selected from 1,500 entries in the yearly statewide contest and voted on by thousands of Michiganders.

"Today we continue our tradition of pardoning a turkey," said Whitmer. "But this year, we're pardoning two turkey sisters, a reminder that the most important part of the holiday season is coming together with friends and family.

"This Thanksgiving, I hope everyone enjoys time with loved ones, finds a way to give back to the community, and cheers on our (NFL Detroit) Lions," she said.

"I always enjoy joining Governor Whitmer for this holiday tradition as we kick off the Thanksgiving season," added MDARD director Tim Boring.

"Michigan agriculture touches all sides of the dinner plate," he said. "So as we spend time with family and friends this month and next, MDARD is also giving thanks to our farmers and producers, processors, grocery store employees, food safety inspectors and more who make these celebrations possible each year."

Last year, the governor pardoned "Aidan Cluckinson," a name selected from nearly 4,500 entries in the statewide contest. — *DM*

GIVE US YOUR SCOOP!

If you see news happening, or if you just want us to know about something going on...

Email mmacleod@mihomepaper.com

THE HASTINGS BANNER
VIEW Newspaper Group

GUEST OPINION: The power of thankfulness

Pastor Gale Kragt
Special to the Banner

As we gather around the table this Thanksgiving, we often think of the blessings we have: family, friends, food and the comfort of our homes. But the true power of thankfulness is not just about recognizing what we have—it's about cultivating a heart that remembers those who have less.



Pastor Gale Kragt

In a world where many face hardship, gratitude becomes a bridge. It reminds us to reach out and share our abundance, to see the faces around us who might need a little extra love and kindness. The Apostle Paul encourages us in First Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV), "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." This verse reminds us that thankfulness is not just a seasonal practice but also a daily attitude.

When we express gratitude, we not only honor God but also open our eyes to the needs of those who may be struggling. Proverbs 22:9 (NIV) says, "The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor." This Thanksgiving, let's embrace the power of thankfulness not only as a moment of personal reflection but as a call to action. Let our gratitude inspire generosity, compassion, and a renewed commitment to loving our neighbors.

In doing so, we turn Thanksgiving into a season of true blessing for everyone. May your hearts be filled with thankfulness and your hands open to share that thankfulness with others. And as we gather, let's remember that each act of gratitude is a seed planted in the soil of kindness—one that can grow into a harvest of hope for those in need.

Let us also remember that thankfulness is a practice that extends beyond a single day. As we move forward into the holiday season, let's carry this spirit of gratitude into our daily lives. Whether through a kind word, a helping hand, or a moment of prayer for someone in need, each of us can make a difference. In doing so, we reflect the love of Christ and make the world a little brighter for those around us.

Pastor Gale Kragt is the founder and president of Spiritual Care Consultants.



ASK DR. UNIVERSE

Paper production

Why did they invent paper?
— Sofia, 9, Fla.

Dear Sofia,

Every week, my column gets printed on paper. Sometimes I use paper to dry my paws. Or clean up after I use the litterbox.

I asked my friend Xiuyu Wang who invented paper—and why. He studies Chinese history at Washington State University.

He told me that paper as we know it was invented in ancient China. Paper made it easier to wrap things up and write things down.

"Papermaking is one of the most significant inventions because paper does so many things," Wang said. "People kept refining it and making different kinds of paper."

The earliest paper fragments we have are from the 2nd century BCE. They include bits of map and paper used to wrap expensive objects.

Before that, people all over the world used different things in place of paper. They wrote on animal bones, clay tablets or metal plates. They scribbled on strips of bamboo or bark. They even used silk fabric or sheets of animal skin.

But those materials were bulky or expensive. Imagine carrying around a book inscribed on bones or metal plates. A bundle of silk would be easy to move, but it cost lots of money.

Paper solved those problems. It's light and foldable. It's less expensive to produce. To make a little silk, people must raise thousands of silk-making moths. They grow tons of mulberry trees to feed them. Then they spin that silk into fabric.

Papermakers used bits of plant material like hemp and bamboo. They mashed it up with water to make a paste. Then they spread it on a mold and let it dry. It was skilled work—but not like spinning silk.

Wang told me paper really took off because of what was happening in China at that time.

"One of the biggest reasons papermaking was popularized was the government's need for writing," Wang said. "They badly needed something cheaper, lighter and more portable."

It was the Han Dynasty, which is also called the golden age of Chinese history—because so many important things happened then.

Running a prosperous empire means keeping lots of records.

This was also the time when the Buddhist religion came to China. They needed a good way to copy a bunch of religious texts.

Once papermaking took off, people used the new tech for all kinds of things. They shared it with people all over the world. There's even evidence people used it for toilet paper back then.

History is real people solving real problems. Like running a government, shipping and storing valuable objects and managing personal hygiene.

After that, paper was really on a roll.

— Dr. Universe

Do you have a question? Ask Dr. Universe.
Send an email to Washington State University's resident scientist and writer at Dr.Universe@wsu.edu or visit her website, askdruniverse.com.

HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY SCHEDULE

No library card is required for library programs and activities.

Nov. 18-Dec. 2 – Big Library Read global e-book club reading program. Connect with readers around the world by reading the same e-book through the Libby digital collection. "The Village Beyond the Mist" by Sachiko Kashiwaba is available in Libby with no waitlists or holds from Nov. 18 through Dec. 2.

Thursday, Nov. 20 – Novel Ideas Book Club discusses "The Writing Retreat" by Julia Bartz, 1 p.m.; Movie Memories and Milestones watches a 1948 film starring Lorraine Day and Kirk Douglas based on D.H. Lawrence's novel, "My Dear Secretary," 5 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 21 – Friday Storytime, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22 – PAWS for Reading, 9 a.m.; Rockin' Tots: Music & Movement, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Nov. 24 – Crafting Passions, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 25 – Baby Café, 10 a.m.; mahjong, 2 p.m.; chess club, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 26 – Itsy Bitsy Book Club, 10:30 a.m.

More information about these and other events is available by calling the library, 269-945-4263.

HASTINGS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Professional Events

Christmas with John Berry | Friday, 12/05/25 | 7:00 pm
GRS : Home for the Holidays | Wednesday, 12/10/25| 7:00 pm
Tim Zimmerman/King's Brass | Friday, 12/19/25 | 7:00 pm

Tickets: hastings.ludus.com | 269-818-2492

Other Events

HS Fall Play | Friday, 11/21/25 | 7:00 pm & Saturday, 11/22/25 | 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
HHS Collage Concert | Thursday, 12/04/2025 | 7:00 pm
Jazzy Christmas HHS & TJO | Monday, 12/8/2025 | 7:00 pm
Hastings Middle School Bands Holiday Concert | Tuesday, 12/09/25 | 7:00 pm
Hastings Middle School Choirs Holiday Concert | Thursday, 12/11/25 | 7:00 pm
St. Rose Christmas Musical | Friday, 12/12/25 | 6:30 pm
Thornapple Wind Band & Lakewood Area Choral Society Christmas Concert | Sunday, 12/14/25 | 3:00 pm

PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRAIRIEVILLE, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on December 11, 2025, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Prairieville Township Hall, 10115 S. Norris Rd., Delton MI, 49046 within the Township, as required under the provisions of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and the Zoning Ordinance for the Township.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, In addition to participation during an public hearing, members of the public may also provide comments for the Planning Commission's consideration by emailing or mailing those comments to the Planning Commission for receipt prior to the meeting, in care of the Township Zoning Administrator, Mark Thompson (mthompson@pcimi.com) or by leaving a phone message prior to the meeting with the Township Zoning Administrator, Mark Thompson at 269-948-4088.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the item(s) to be considered at said public hearing include, in brief, the following:

1. A request from property owner, James F. Parker, 11228 Long Point Dr, Plainwell, MI, 49080 for a Special Land Use/Site Plan Review to allow for construction of additional accessory building on vacant property and failing to meet the size and locational requirements pursuant to provisions in Section 4.20"Residential Accessory Buildings" of the Prairieville Township Zoning Ordinance. The subject site is 11215 Long Point Dr, Plainwell, MI, 49080, parcel number 08-12-290-034-00. The subject site is currently zoned R2- Medium Density Residential.

2. A request from property owner, Don Porter, 11246 Long Point Dr, Plainwell, MI 49080 for a Special Land Use/Site Plan Review to allow for construction of deck addition to a existing nonconforming single-family dwelling pursuant to section 6.16 "Nonconforming Buildings/Structures" of the Prairieville Township Zoning Ordinance. The subject site is 11246 Long Point Dr, Plainwell, MI 49080, parcel number 08-12-290-021-00. The subject site is currently zoned R2- Medium Density Residential.

3. Such other business as may properly come before the Planning Commission The Prairieville Township Planning Commission and Township Board reserve the right to make changes in the above-mentioned proposed amendment(s) at or following the public hearing. All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place, or, if an electronic meeting is held, to participate via the electronic meeting. Prairieville Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon four (4) days' prior notice to the Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk at the address or telephone number listed below.

PRAIRIEVILLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
By: Fritz Bork, Chairperson
Prairieville Township Hall
10115 S. Norris Rd.
Delton, Michigan 49046
(269) 623-2064

SEN. ALBERT: Protecting girls' sports in Michigan

Sen. Thomas Albert

I am the father of five young children — including three girls.

Parents understand they have a responsibility to intervene when their children are being treated unfairly, and lawmakers should too. That time has come for youth athletics. I call on the state Senate to vote on legislation, already approved in the House, that would protect girls' sports across Michigan.



State Senator Thomas Albert

Sports may not be absolutely essential in the grand scheme of life, but they have played an important role in many cultures for centuries — including ours. Sports are entertaining for spectators and often unify communities in support of a common goal. The benefits are even greater for participants — teaching lifelong lessons about work ethic, teamwork, sportsmanship, discipline and many more virtues.

Girls should not lose out on these growth opportunities because of an unfair playing field. Girls should not be forced to compete against biological males with a clear physical advantage. A failure to act could result in girls losing spots on teams, missing out on scholarships, and risking physical injuries. These consequences cannot be ignored.

House Bills 4066 and 4469 offer a solution by requiring K-12 schools to designate athletic teams and sports based on the biological birth sex of participants. The bills prohibit school districts from knowingly allowing males to participate in sports designated as only for females.

A participant suffering harm because of a violation could bring a lawsuit against a school. Likewise, a school could bring a lawsuit against a governing organization, such as the Michigan High School Athletic Association, if it were to attempt to coerce a school into violating the law.

The legislation maintains opportunities by stating it "must not be construed to restrict the eligibility of any student to participate on any interscholastic athletic teams or in interscholastic sports that are designated for participants of the male sex or coeducational." Simply put, co-ed sports teams and situations where a girl participates with boys, such as a kicker on a football team, are still allowed.

Opponents may claim that protections for girls are not needed because biological boys infrequently participate in girls' sports. While this may be true, it has happened — the MHSAA indicated it has provided waivers in the past — and it is likely to happen again, possibly with more frequency.

The status quo is unjust and puts girls at risk. The state cannot dismiss the responsibility to ensure a fair playing field based solely on relatively infrequent numbers. The Michigan Senate should act to stand with our female student-athletes and ensure fairness in youth athletics.

Across the nation, we have seen enough biological males winning events designed for girls and taking their place on the medal stand. What lesson are we teaching our children if we fail to right this wrong? As adults, we have a responsibility to demonstrate to our kids the necessity of correcting a clear injustice. That means protecting fair opportunities for girls to compete.

State Sen. Thomas Albert represents the 18th District, which includes Barry County and portions of Allegan, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Kent and Ionia counties.

BUILDING BRANDS

Combine testimonials and print advertising to build your brand



Emily Caswell

What if I told you that a local heating and cooling company has increased their sales every year they've advertised in our newspapers or that a local theater company knows when our newspaper featuring their ads hit mailboxes because that's the day their phone rings off the hook or that a local donut shop saw far more success with our newspaper ads than the digital advertising they tried.

Maybe you'd believe me, maybe you'd think I was exaggerating or most likely you'd think "of course you'd say that, you work at the newspaper." All of the above is true, by the way, but I understand that hearing it from me, someone who has been employed by a newspaper company for more than 20 years, kind of takes away from the impact.

That's why a little over a year ago our team made it our mission to begin gathering testimonials from our clients that we have since turned into a company-wide print newspaper advertising campaign titled "Newspapers Ads Are Effective!" See an example on page 6B.

There is no denying the power of testimonials. Some studies find that up to 90% of consumers depend on reviews and testimonials before making a purchase. Think of your own spending habits. I hardly buy a cup of coffee without asking someone to recommend their favorite. (My other tactic for finding great coffee nearby is consulting the pages of our newspapers. If a café advertises, I know it'll be good!).

And while we can all agree testimonials are valuable, gathering them, and more importantly, putting them to use in an advertising campaign is easier said than done. To ensure our team made this happen we took a few small steps. First, we determined what we wanted conveyed in each testimonial. The U.S. Small Business Administration offers these tips, saying that great testimonials should:

- Overcome objections
- Be authentic and relatable
- Be specific about your business, product or service
- Demonstrate how your business or service met a need or solved a problem
- Avoid vague generalizations

Next our team created a growing list of clients from a cross section of businesses and nonprofits who might provide a testimonial and started contacting each of those clients with the request. At the ready are question prompts we can ask our clients to help them create a testimonial if needed, but most are happy to write the piece on their own. Overall, the response has been great. Happy clients are very willing to share why they're happy.

Once our sales team collects the testimonial, we send it onto our graphics team to create an ad and then it's onto our production team to place the ads throughout our 22 newspapers across the state of Michigan.

The campaign has been a success. We especially love when clients who we haven't contacted yet have seen the campaign in our newspapers and ask to be a part of it. Beyond sharing their stories of success, the campaign itself offers exposure and branding for those featured. I sat next to a client at a chamber event recently I had never met but had seen in our campaign. When he introduced himself, I said "Oh, I know who you are, I see your face all the time in our newspaper." He laughed adding that the testimonial ad has made him somewhat of a local celebrity.

Best of all, the ads have helped us connect with new or past clients in a meaningful way to see how we may work together in the year ahead.

Here are just a few of my favorite comments from our testimonial campaign:

"The targeted exposure has not only boosted our sales but also strengthened our brand recognition," — Janet Engelman, Kapala Heating & Air Conditioning

"In today's digital world, the hometown newspaper remains the most reliable way to share the news that truly matters to our community … We know the moment our ad hits — because that's when the phones start ringing with ticket sales and class registrations," — Jill Lyons, Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer

"The View Newspaper Group team helped us reach our target audience effectively, resulting in increased visibility and engagement," — Sara Ressler, Oakland County Fair

"Our investment in print advertisements with the View Newspaper Group brings a level of credibility and trust with our potential customers that is unmatched by other forms of advertising," — Gabe Kostiuk, Preferred Seamless Gutters

Testimonials, especially when used in a print newspaper advertising campaign, are a great way to build your brand. While you don't have to take my word for it, you can contact me at *ecaswell@mihomepaper.com* to learn more.

Emily Caswell is the Brand Manager for VIEW Group, the branding division of View Newspaper Group.

SCC receives donations toward $250,000 matching fund

Officials with Spiritual Care Consultants of West Michigan, a faith-based nonprofit, announced last month that it received a $250,000 matching fund for its endowment at the Barry Community Foundation.

Every dollar donated will be matched up to $250,000 and will double the impact of each gift, ensuring SCC's ministry continues to touch lives for generations to come, according to a statement by the nonprofit.

SCC reportedly has raised $25,300 toward the match. With Giving Tuesday approaching on Dec. 2, SCC officials are inviting the community to remember the Spiritual Care Matching Fund on this special day of generosity.

SCC partners closely with local churches, schools, medical professionals, and businesses to bring spiritual and emotional care to people from all walks of life. Donations toward the matching grant are made through and monitored by the Barry Community Foundation.

"This matching fund is a tremendous blessing," said Pastor Gale Kragt, SCC executive director and co-founder. "It allows us to secure long-term stability for the ministry and continue serving those who are hurting across Michigan and beyond."

Checks can be made out to Barry Community Foundation, with Fund #165 – Spiritual Care Consultants in the memo line, and mailed to Barry Community Foundation, 231 S. Broadway St., Hastings, MI 49058

For more information, persons may contact Pastor Kragt via email at gale@spiritualcareconsultants.com or call 269-254-5758. Or, for additional details on the BCF, contact Bonnie Gettys at bonnie@barrycf.org or by calling 269-945-0526. — *DM*

CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD, CALL 269-945-9554

TREE SERVICE

BUYING WALNUT, HARD maple, and white oak trees. Will buy single walnut trees. Free Estimates. Fully Insured. Fetterly Logging 269-818-7793.

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: Standing Timber. Conscientious timber harvester. Saw Mill Office- 517-254-4463. Family owned and operated.

EMPLOYMENT

BARN HELP WANTED Must have experience with horses. Full and part time positions available with competitive pay. Please call 269-207-4218 or email at zlpowell@yahoo.com if interested.

Visit us online at www.HastingsBanner.com

Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame

Request for Nominations!

The Hasting Performing Arts Center is seeking a list of nominees for the 2026 Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame. The Friends of HPAC will review all submissions and select candidates to honor at a special ceremony in May 2026.

To submit a nomination or read more about the Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame, visit the HPAC homepage at www.hassk12.org/page/hpac.

Mail: Hastings Performing Arts Center WOF
520 W. South Street
Hastings, MI 49058

Email: HPAC@hassk12.org

Submission Deadline is December 19, 2025.

Holiday

Craft & Vendor Show

SPONSORED BY:
TK Softball

Saturday, November 22nd
9:00am to 2:00pm

Thornapple-Kellogg High School
3885 Bender Rd, Middleville, MI 49333
(ENTER THRU ATHLETIC ENTRANCE)

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE - TK SOFTBALL PROGRAM

Come out and support your local crafters and vendors while supporting your local athletes.

Bake Sale
Free Admission

Santa is Coming! We've added a magical new touch this year: Santa Claus will be joining us from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM! Bring the little ones to tell Santa their wishes and get creative with a holiday craft.

OBITUARIES

VIEW OBITUARIES ONLINE. HASTINGSBANNER.COM

Elizabeth Marion Lancaster

November 27, 1936 — November 16, 2025



Elizabeth M. Lancaster, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and nurse, passed away peacefully on November 16, 2025, just days before her 89th birthday. Born in Dafter Township, Chippewa County, Michigan, Elizabeth was the cherished daughter of Earl E. and Marion E. (Edgerton) Hubbert.

Elizabeth graduated from Hastings High School in 1956, having also attended Sault High. She pursued her calling in nursing with unwavering dedication, earning her LPN in 1957 and becoming a Registered Nurse in 1972. Her career began at Lila Hospital in 1958 as a surgical LPN, and she devoted most of her professional life to Pennock Hospital, where she served faithfully and compassionately, including as assistant to Dr. David Harrell.

On June 21, 1958, Elizabeth married Allen Lawrence Lancaster. Together, they shared 67 years of enduring partnership, raising a family rooted in love, faith, and joyful activity. Elizabeth's life was filled with vibrant pursuits—she found joy in sewing, skiing, running, quilting, and baking. Her faith was central to her life, and she was a devoted member of Grace Wesleyan Church and Hastings Free Methodist Church.

Elizabeth especially treasured time spent running and playing with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, creating memories that will live on in their hearts. Her legacy of warmth, strength, and service continues through her family:

She was preceded in death by her parents; siblings Clarence (Charlie), George, Russell, and John; stepsister Donna Strohm; and stepmother Jean Augustine.

Elizabeth is survived by Allen Lawrence Lancaster, with whom she enjoyed 67 years of marriage and dedication. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren: Rebecca Rae (Patrick) McKelvey, Sean (Andrea), Caelan, Nayelli McKelvey, Keely McKelvey, and Sloane and Scarlette Arevalo. Rene' Lyne (William) Ragan, Jennifer (Sam) Mareno, Joshua (Sarah) Ragan, Elizabeth, Connor, Aaron. Chris Wade, Sayla, Noah, and Judah. Kevin Lawrence Lancaster. Kyle Allen (Theresa) Lancaster, Kaysie (Aaron) Prymula, Amon Smith III, Lyssa Smith, Seth, Ophelia, Kade, and Ayla, Tyler (Ashley) Dylan, Cooper Lancaster. Kami Rachelle Lancaster, Travis Connor Moore, Keagan (Sydney) Moore; siblings David Hubbert, Amy McGhee, Patricia Troxell, Sally (Paul) Fitzpatrick, Terry (Marilyn) Dale and Melvin Dale.

A service is being planned for this coming Spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pennock Hospital, a Memorial Run being organized by the TriLanders in Elizabeth's honor, or a charity of one's choice.

Arrangements by Girrbach Funeral Home. Online condolences may be shared at www.girrbachfuneralhome.net.

Melvin Bruce Goebel



Melvin Bruce GoebeL, age 66 of Delton, Michigan, passed away peacefully at home on November 12, 2025.

Born April 30, 1959 in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Melvin and Rose (Alonzo) Goebel, Bruce was a storyteller from the start. He is survived by his siblings, Douglas Goebel (Sylvia), Lynne Fisher (Kearney), and Steven Goebel (Karen). Though he never had children of his own, he was a beloved "Funcle" to his nieces and nephews - Darius Goebel (Lana Goodrich), Winter Goebel (Tyler Gould), Cloe Oliver (J. Maizlish Mole), Kalia Taylor (T.J. Taylor), Drew Goebel, and Dylan Goebel, and the proud "Great Funcle" to Aiden and Milo Oliver. He also collected a wide circle of "bonus" nieces and nephews who adored him, along with many dear friends near and far, likely a few enemies, and two purrfect cats, Mikee and Karma.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and by many lucky feline friends who enjoyed his devoted care over the years.

From an early age, Bruce possessed the uncanny ability to identify vehicles by their headlights alone, a niche talent that didn't pay the bills, but led to a lifelong love affair with anything sleek, shiny, or wheeled. Eventually, this led him to volunteer for many years at the Gilmore Car Museum, where he found a community that shared his love for a smooth curve and a clean grill.

Bruce spent nearly 30 years in Southern California, at first with dreams of fame and fortune, but ultimately settling into a career in the medical field. While becoming the next James Dean didn't pan out, he never tired of recounting his celebrity sightings, brushes with fame, and dramatic near-misses with stardom. After finally having enough of the year round warm temperatures, beautiful palm trees, and street corn bought from the back of a pickup truck, he returned to his roots in Michigan, as people do.

Bruce was a certified party animal, something one could credit to having been born in a "zoo" - a joke that is only funny if you're from Southwest Michigan, and even then, it's a coin toss. The lifestyle was fun until it wasn't, and he eventually carved out a path toward sobriety. He celebrated seven years clean this year and served as a mentor to many who were fighting their own battles, leading AA meetings several days out of the week. You could tell he had made peace with some of his demons, and given the rest of them the middle finger. His friends and family will forever be proud - not only of who he always was, but of the man and leader he became.

He also spent many years trying to escape this planet, and if you listened to him long enough, he succeeded multiple times via alleged alien abductions. They always brought him back, but considering the strange scars he proudly displayed, they definitely kept tabs on him - probably asking the same question many of us did: "What's Bruce up to these days?"

Bruce loved art, music, movies, attending the James Dean Festival in Fairmount, Indiana, visiting Shipshewana, and spending time in Michigan's beautiful upper peninsula. He loved hanging out with family, life-long friends, and life-long friends that became family. He enjoyed good Mexican food, crappy beer, never missed an opportunity to voice his opinion, and had a talent for collecting both genuine antiques and what the rest of us might politely call "junk." Above all, he adored his mother, Rose, who remained the center of his world throughout his life.

He was a beautiful and messy star, and those of us left behind will find ourselves forever asking, "What's Bruce up to these days?"

Bruce's visitation and funeral service were held at the Williams-Gores Funeral Home on November 16–17, 2025. Those wishing to honor his memory may make contributions to the Cat Nap Lodge Community Center, 10418 N 32nd St, Richland, MI. Please visit www.williamsgoresfuneralhome.com to share a memory or leave a condolence message for Bruce's family.

Dennis Donald Murphy



Dennis Donald Murphy age 74, passed away unexpectedly November 12th, 2025 at his home in Ludington.

Denny was born in Hastings, the youngest child of Grace and Donald Murphy and graduated from Hastings High School with the class of 1970. During high school Denny learned the skill of auto body repair while working at Delton Auto Body for Dick Baker. He gained a daughter, Roxanne Robertson, when he married Denise VanHouten, and they soon welcomed a son, Justin Murphy. In the mid-80s, Denny moved his family to Ludington and worked at a body shop until he purchased a building in Scottville and started Murphy's Auto Body which he ran until retirement in 2013.

Denny had a great childhood growing up between Leach Lake and Middle Lake in Hastings. You would often find him camping, swimming, and fishing with his brother Mike or other childhood friends. In the fall and winter, he would hunt rabbits, pheasants, deer, and racoons. In the winter, they spent time ice skating on Leach Lake. If it was windy enough, he and his brother would take a sheet with them so they could use it as a sail and let the wind pull them back across the lake.

Denny had a passion for gardening and loved to share his canned goods with friends and family; everyone loved his homemade pickles. He had a love for Doodlebugs and passed his own Doodlebug onto his only grandson. He loved mushroom hunting and took all his best kept secret spots with him. Many family members compliment his storytelling abilities and sharing of family history. When Denny told stories to his nieces and nephews, he never spared the details of their parents' actions or the results of those actions. Those stories will now be shared through the generations.

Denny was preceded in death by his parents Grace and Donald Murphy; his brother-in-law Doug Atkinson; niece and nephew Lori and Jimmy Smalley; and great niece Kyomi.

Many will hold onto his memories and stories including his two children Roxanne (Steve), and Justin Murphy; his grandson Anthony; his siblings Carol Atkinson, Mike (Sue) Murphy, and Patricia Murphy; along with 11 nieces and nephews, many great nieces and nephews, and his long-time best friend Mike Novisky.

For those who wish to gather in remembrance and share stories there will be a memorial luncheon at the Moose Lodge in Delton, MI on November 29th from 11am-2pm. A burial will take place in the spring at Riverton Cemetery in Scottville, with a gathering following at Murphy's Tavern in Pentwater.

Memorial donations can be made to Kyomi's Gift through Barry Community Foundation or at www.kyomisgift.org.

Please visit Denny's memory page at www.wymanfuneralservice.com to share a memory or tribute of Denny with his family.

Michael Bingman



Michael Bingman

With his family by his side, Michael C. Bingman passed away on November 13, 2025, after a long battle with Myotonic Muscular Dystrophy. He faced every challenge with quiet strength and stubborn determination.

Michael was born in Escanaba, Michigan, on December 19, 1955, to Faye and Edna Bingman. One of seven siblings he carried his Yooper roots proudly throughout his life. On June 14, 1990, he married the love of his life, Linda, of whom he is survived by. They shared 35 years together, supporting each other through every joy and hardship. He is survived by siblings Sherrill Thurkettle, Judy Manning, Fred (Patty) Bingman, Kathy (Dave) Dickens, and many loved nieces and nephews. He is proceeded in death by his parents, Faye and Edna Bingman, his sister Donna Larsen, and his brother Jerry Bingman.

He loved all his children dearly. Tim (Stacia) Tebo, Kim (Dave) Gorman, Kelli (Paul) Teunessen, Nathan Bingman, Brandon (Gina) Bingman, and Amanda Beadle. He was also a proud grandpa to Dylan (Kylee), Kelsi (Easton), Hannah (Grant), Alec, Cole (Alicia), Drew (Kristy), Lauren, Grayson (Kylee), Kinley, Lainey, Brooklyn, Riley, Levi, and great-grandpa to Rory, Arin, Everett, Ira, Vera, and a baby girl on the way. His family was his greatest source of pride.

Michael worked for many years at Viking Corporation in Hastings as a Journeyman Machine Repairman. He retired in 2018 and was well-liked by coworkers who knew they could always rely on him.

After being baptized in April 1993, Michael served faithfully as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. His faith brought him peace, purpose, and hope, especially in his later years.

One of his biggest joys was collecting die cast cars, and especially Hot Wheels. His collection, built over decades, grew into the thousands. Whether it was a rare find or a simple classic, each one made him smile. He also loved sports—Detroit Tigers baseball, Detroit Lions football, MSU Spartans games, and NASCAR were regular favorites. At home, he enjoyed Linda's home-cooked meals, the company of his loyal cat, Bella Bleu and could almost always be heard singing. Michael loved music, concerts and jingles. Above all, Michael loved traveling with Linda, especially going on cruises and exploring new places together.

Michael met life with humor, humility, deep faith and a smile. His absence leaves an ache that words can't fully cover, but the love he gave and the memories he created will stay with his family forever.

A memorial service will be held on November 29, 2025, at 4 p.m. at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 3550 W M179 Hwy, Hastings, MI. A reception with light refreshments will follow at the Hastings Middle School Commons Room, 232 W Grand St, Hastings, MI. In lieu of flowers please make all contributions to the Hastings Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Worship Together

...at the church of your choice~

Weekly schedules of Hastings area churches available for your convenience...

ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH
805 S. Jefferson. 269-945-4246 Pastor Father Jeff Hanley. Mass 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Mass 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH OF DELTON
7025 Milo Rd., P.O. Box 765, (corner of Milo Rd. & S. M-43), Delton, MI 49046. Pastor Roger Claypool, (517) 204-9390. Sunday Worship Service 10:30 to 11:30am, Nursery and Children's Ministry. Wednesday night Bible study and prayer time 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

WOODLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
203 N. Main. Pastor: Kathy Smith. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Worship 10:15 a.m.

PLEASANTVIEW FAMILY CHURCH
2601 Lacey Road, Dowling, MI 49050. Pastor, Steve Olmstead. (269) 758-3021 church phone. Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

HASTINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
309 E. Woodlawn, Hastings. Matt Moser, Lead Pastor. Sunday Services: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; Senior High Youth Group 6-8 p.m.; Young Adults 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Family Night 6:30-8 p.m., Kids 4 Truth (Children Kindergarten-5th Grade), 6:30-8 p.m. Middle School Youth Group; 6:30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer. Call Church Office 948-8004 for information.

CHRIST THE KING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)
328 N. Jefferson Street. Worship 10 a.m. Nursery provided. Pastor Peter Adams, contact 616-690-8609.

HASTINGS FREE METHODIST CHURCH
"We Exist To Be An Expression Of Who Jesus Is To The World Around Us". 2635 N. M-43 Hwy., P.O. Box 8, Hastings. Telephone 269-945-9121. Email hastfmc@gmail.com. Website: www.hastingsfreemethodist.com. Pastor Brian Teed, Assistant Pastor Emma Miller, Worship Director, Martha Stoetzel. **Sunday Morning Worship:** 9:45 a.m. with Kids Church and Nursery. Aftermath Student Ministries: Sundays 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
502 E. Grand St., Hastings. Pastor Tod Shook. Wednesdays - Bible Study - 6 to 7 p.m.; Sunday School - 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Service - 11 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. www.cbchastings.org.

This information on worship services is provided by The Hastings Banner, the church and these local businesses:

Flexfab
1699 W. M43 Highway,
Hastings, MI 49058.
945-4700

HASTINGS
Fiberglass Products
A WORLDWIDE SUPPLIER OF Hot Line Tools & Equipment
1301 W. Green St.
Hastings, MI 49058
945-9541

PIERCE CEDAR CREEK INSTITUTE EVENTS

— NOV. 20-27 —

Those interested can register for these events and find more information at cedarcreekinstitute.org/events/

Oct. 1-Apr. 1 — Chelsea Bivens' art exhibit. Bivens is a local artist whose work is heavily influenced by her experiences living in this community. A quarter of the proceeds from sales will be donated to the Institute to further its mission: To inspire appreciation and stewardship of our environment.

Nov. 1-30 — Nov. Storybook Walk: "Forest Bright, Forest Night" by Jennifer Ward, illustrated by Jamichael Henterly. Many animals call the forest their home, but how do they learn to coexist? Some animals are awake during the day, and some are nocturnal. Compare these two groups of animals that live amongst the trees. The Storybook Walk is free and self-guided on the purple and green trails.

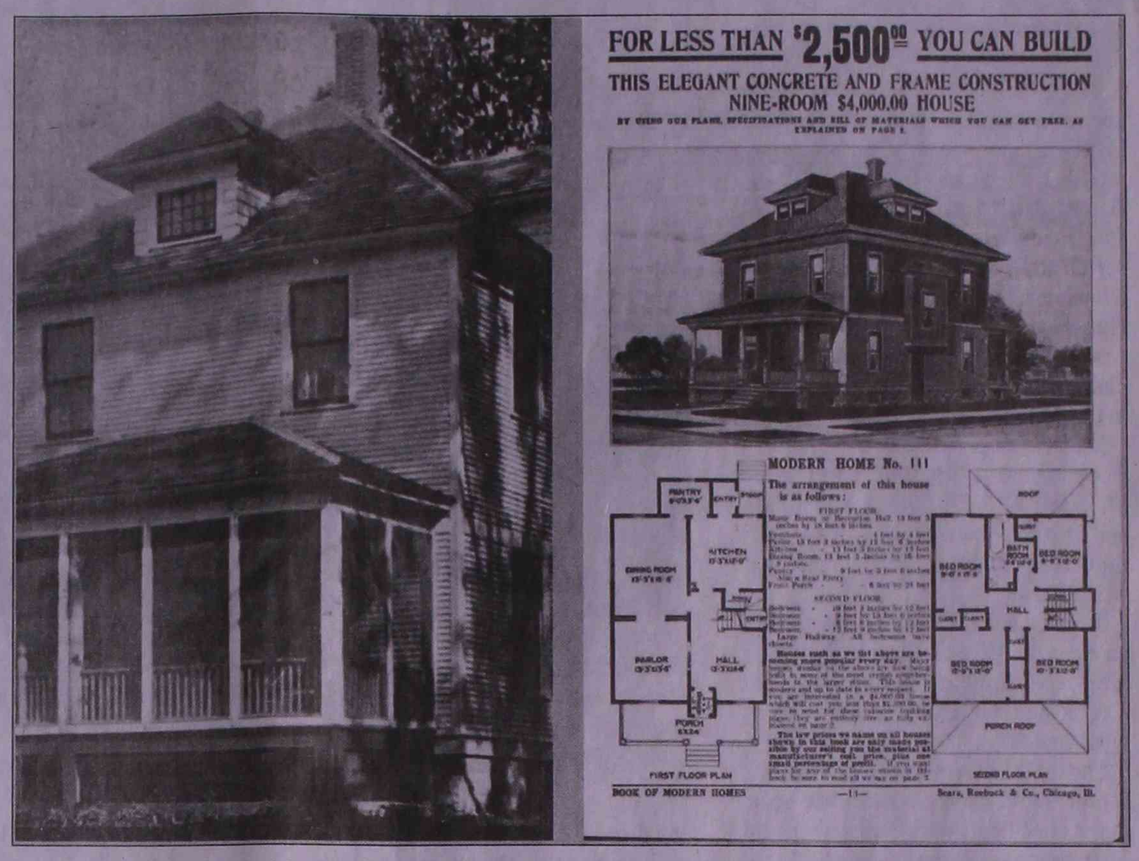
Nov. 3-Jan. 1 — Whose Track is That? Check out the tracks of the Institute's most frequent visitors. Pierce Cedar Creek Institute is home to many species of mammals. Can you follow their tracks? Whose Track is That? is free and self-guided on the green trail.

More information about these events can be found on the Institute's website at CedarCreekInstitute.org.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

SEARS HOUSES: When the American Dream arrived by mail and rail

DAVID W. MILLER
Special to The Banner



This home at 528 S. Washington Street carries a story larger than its walls. Built in 1915, this Sears Modern Home was ordered by mail and delivered by rail. **Courtesy photos**

When you stand before the home at 528 S. Washington Street in Hastings, it may appear to be just another sturdy two-story residence: a square-framed home with a wide porch and hipped roof that has anchored its neighborhood for more than a century. Yet this house carries a story larger than its walls. Built in 1915, it is a living example of a phenomenon that once swept across America—the Sears Modern Home, ordered by mail, shipped by rail, and assembled board by board by the families who would live in them.

Between 1908 and 1940, Sears, Roebuck & Co. sold more than 70,000 ready-to-assemble houses through its catalogs. Known officially as the Modern Homes line, these dwellings represented a bold experiment in affordable homeownership. The Hastings Chelsea was one of them, a model that first appeared in the inaugural 1908 catalog as Modern Home No. 111. Later nicknamed the "Chelsea," it was a classic American Foursquare, with eight well-proportioned rooms arranged for comfort and practicality.

The Chelsea was not a luxury mansion but neither was it a thrown together place. Its balanced, symmetrical design—with a hipped roof, broad front porch, and upstairs bedrooms opening off a central hall—offered both grace and utility. For an estimated $1,800 in 1915, the package included precut lumber, doors and windows, nails, paint, and instructions detailed enough that even a family with modest carpentry skills could manage construction. Once shipped, the Chelsea typically filled two railroad boxcars. The lumber arrived numbered, the millwork carefully wrapped, and even the hardware, plumbing and wiring boxed and labeled. In towns like Hastings, the freight would be offloaded at the local depot, then hauled by wagon to the lot where the new home would take shape.

What set Sears apart was not only the idea of shipping entire houses but the promise of completeness.

Sears sold everything one needed to furnish a home. The same catalog that offered the Chelsea on its pages also offered the rocking chairs for the porch, the beds for the upstairs bedrooms, the dining table, rugs, lamps, coal stoves, oil heaters and the newest domestic conveniences—wringer washers, electric irons, even curtains and cookware. In this way, the Modern Home embodied the American Dream in its most tangible form. It was not just a roof overhead but the life within it, all delivered by mail and rail.

The Chelsea on S. Washington Street anchors this national story in our own town. Property records place its construction in 1915, which coincides perfectly with the peak years of Sears' mortgage program and the widespread distribution of the Chelsea design. Its features align closely with the catalog drawings: the square footprint, full-width porch, hipped roof, and window placement that matches the advertised plan. While alterations may have occurred over the decades—porches enclosed, railings replaced, siding updated—the essential character of the Chelsea remains visible. For longtime residents of Hastings, the house has blended into the streetscape, yet it stands as a silent witness to the ingenuity of mail-order America.

Another Hastings house, only a few blocks away, appears to tell a parallel story. This bungalow at 528 S. Hanover Street bears all the hallmarks of the Sears Argyle, a smaller Craftsman-style home that Sears featured between 1916 and 1923. The Argyle was marketed as a "pleasing small bungalow with two bedrooms and an easy-living floor plan." The Hastings example was built around 1920 and, for nearly 40 years, was home to Frank Hoonan (1895–1972), who lived there from 1920 until 1959.

The Hoonan house fits the Argyle description with remarkable accuracy: a front-facing gable roof, wide eaves with exposed rafters, a deep porch supported by stout piers and a compact yet graceful layout. According to property data, it contains two bedrooms and a single bath—precisely the proportions of the Argyle plan. Like the Chelsea, such a home would have arrived at either the Michigan Central or Chicago, Kalamazoo & Saginaw depots in two boxcars filled with numbered lumber, hardware, windows and doors. Given the year of construction and the architectural details, it is entirely plausible that Frank Hoonan's bungalow is a true Sears Argyle.

If so, it stands as the second known Sears home in Hastings—a smaller cousin to the Chelsea on Washington Street, both testaments to an age when houses could be purchased as conveniently as a cookstove or a rocking chair. The Hoonan family's long tenure further supports the identification: many Sears homes remain occupied for generations — their solid framing and high-quality lumber keeping them sound long after other houses of their era have faded.

The arrival of kit homes, such as the Chelsea and Argyle, coincided with an era of rapid change in Hastings.

The early 20th century brought expansion of railroads, a growing downtown, and an increasing demand for affordable housing. The convenience of a kit home met those needs. Delivered in a matter of weeks, it offered both affordability and style. Sears also made financing available, acting as banker as well as builder. Many families who could not otherwise qualify for a mortgage found themselves approved through Sears, often signing papers under the names of trustees who represented the company in courthouse records. In Barry County, as elsewhere, these mortgages sometimes show up in deed books—a paper trail that confirms the presence of Sears homes long after their catalogs disappeared.

Sears was not alone in this market. Montgomery Ward, Aladdin Homes of Bay City and Gordon-Van Tine all competed to sell ready-cut houses. Michigan, in particular, became a stronghold for these companies, thanks to its lumber resources and proximity to rail networks. Aladdin actually began selling kit homes two years before Sears, in 1906, and shipped thousands from Bay City. Yet Sears, with its vast catalog circulation and national reputation, quickly became the most recognized name. That recognition is why houses like the Chelsea on Washington and the Argyle on Hanover remain identifiable more than a century later.

Inside, these homes reflected both modern convenience and traditional values. The first floors featured spacious living rooms opening into dining areas and kitchens equipped with plumbing and wiring for electricity or gas. Upstairs, or off a side hall, bedrooms offered privacy and light. Compared with the smaller worker's cottages of the late 19th century, the Sears homes provided space, comfort, and a sense of permanence. They were houses meant for families to grow in—and to keep.

That spirit helps explain why so many Sears homes still stand across the United States. Built to last, they employed quality lumber, solid construction methods, and designs that balanced beauty with practicality. In Hastings, the Chelsea on S. Washington and the probable Argyle on S. Hanover offer evidence that our community, too, participated in this remarkable chapter of American ingenuity. They stand in quiet testimony that even here, in a small Michigan town, the reach of a Chicago mail-order company could shape the very streetscape.

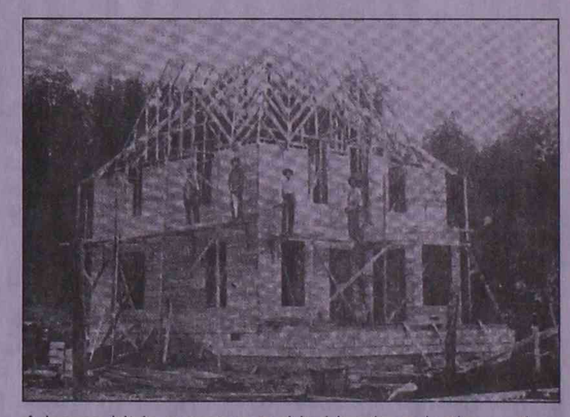
Sears' connection to Hastings did not end with its mail-order homes. From the 1960s through 1992, the company operated a Sears Catalog Store at 131 W. State Street in downtown Hastings, where residents could still order almost anything from the famous catalog—appliances, tools, furniture and clothing—and pick up their merchandise locally. For older Hastings families, that store extended the tradition that began decades earlier when houses themselves arrived by rail.

Today, these houses are cherished for their historic character. Preservationists celebrate them as tangible reminders of an era when the American Dream could be ordered by catalog and delivered by rail. Though they may appear ordinary at a glance, once their origins are understood, they tell a remarkable story about commerce, craftsmanship and the families who opened the Sears catalog, placed an order and weeks later stepped into a brand-new home—complete with furniture, a stove, rugs and even a wringer washer if they wished.

Sears ended its Modern Homes program in 1940, a casualty of the Great Depression and shifting business priorities, but its legacy remains. As we find ourselves "turning back the pages" of Hastings history, the Chelsea on S. Washington and the Argyle on S. Hanover invite us to look more closely at the familiar houses along our streets and wonder: Could that dormered bungalow, or that foursquare with the wide porch, also have arrived one day in a pair of boxcars, ordered by mail from a catalog? If so, Hastings may yet hold other pieces of the American Dream—quiet, enduring reminders of how a small-town family once built its future straight from the pages of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Sources: Sears, Roebuck & Co. Modern Homes Catalogs (1908–1923); Smithsonian Institution – "Houses by Mail," searshomes.org; Barry County Property Records; local directories and Hastings Banner archives.

David Miller is a moderator for the "Hastings History" Facebook group.



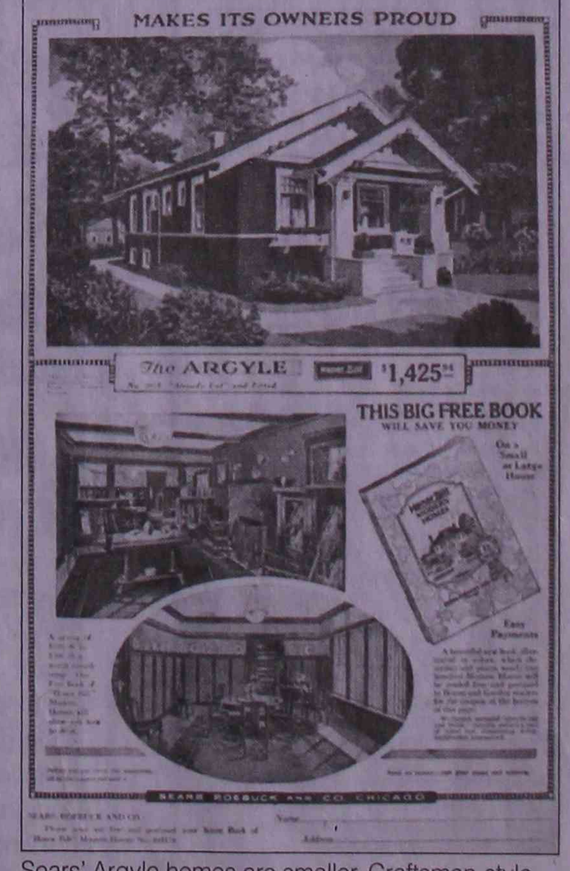
A home kit is constructed in Hastings in the early 20th century.



Sears houses were often outfitted with appliances and home goods from the Sears catalog. This advertisement shows wringer washers that buyers could choose to have delivered with their kit homes.



Sears' connection to Hastings did not end with its mail-order homes. From the 1960s through 1992, the company operated a Sears Catalog Store at 131 W. State Street in downtown Hastings.



Sears' Argyle homes are smaller, Craftsman-style homes Sears featured between 1916 and 1923.

Slagel hopes for even better at state after regional runner-up finish

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

There is no doubt that Thornapple Kellogg junior Lydia Slagel will have done everything she could to prepare for her third trip to the state finals.

Slagel, diving for the Grand Rapids Gators co-op varsity girls' swimming and diving team, finished as the runner-up at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Diving Regional hosted by Hudsonville High School Thursday, Nov. 13. The performance earns her a place in the state finals for the third time in three high school seasons.

Slagel was a regional champion as a sophomore and placed fourth at the MHSAA L.P. D1 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals in 2024. A regional runner-up finish in 2025 leaves her wanting more.

"I was just a little over, a little under on everything," Slagel said. "I only hit a few dives from my normal. It wasn't a great day, but I made it and that is what counts."

The top 13 divers from a group of 22 competing in the regional earned spots in the state finals which are being held Thursday and Friday, Nov. 20-21, at the Oakland University Aquatic Center in Rochester. The meet was pushed up a day due to some unexpected pool maintenance that will begin following the end of the finals Friday.

Slagel said the only thing to do after what she felt was a disappointing regional finish is to "work harder."

"She comes back stronger. Works harder," Gators' diving coach Francesca Pileci said. "I've noticed in my time with divers if they have done a meet where they're not so happy with the score they come back the next day they're on deck and they work really hard. They're on fire. That is when you can do new things, and they love that."



Grand Rapids Gators junior Lydia Slagel (center) smiles among the state qualifiers from the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Diving Regional at Hudsonville High School Thursday, Nov. 13. She is flanked by regional champion Kiya Bowman from Kalamazoo Central (right) and Jenison's Missy Search. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

There wasn't really much to be disappointed with in a fourth-place, all-state, All-America performance at the state finals in 2024, but Slagel came away hoping to finish higher on the podium this year. Pileci said it was right after the finals in 2024 that Slagel started to learn dive 303B, a reverse dive with 1 1/2 somersaults in the pike position.

"She was a little close on a reverse 1 1/2 tuck at the state meet, and a couple of judges scored her down for being a little close," Pileci said. "So, we came back and said you know what we're going to take it up a notch and we're going to come back with a reverse 1 1/2 pike, which is another .3 D.D. (degree of difficulty), which is a huge up. And, there we are.

"She has actually scored extremely well on that dive every single time she has competed it, from dual meets through 11-dive meets, the conference meet and regionals. Like [Hastings Community Diving Club head coach] Todd [Bates] says, 'what happens on the day depends on the day with diving.'"

On the regional day, Pileci said Slagel smoked her 303B and nailed her reverse dive in the pike position too, dive 301B. She did those two dives back to back in rounds eight and nine at the 11-dive meet.

Kalamazoo Central senior Kiya Bowman won the regional championship with an overall score of 408.95 points. Slagel finished the evening with 390.80 points. There were six girls over the 300-point mark. Jenison's Missy Search was third with 345.70 points. The only other girl from the OK Conference East Division, which the Gators' compete in, to make it through the regional to the D1 Finals was Grand Rapids Union's Taniya Ott who placed 12th with a score of 261.65 points. The last of the 13 state qualifiers had a score of 261.45.

"She dove amazing," Slagel said of Bowman, who was eighth at the state finals a year ago. "She hit all of her dives and I am so proud of her. I talk to her. We do club stuff together and we always comment on each other's posts. I love her. She's so sweet."

Caledonia had diver Lily Smith qualify for the meet and place 22nd. She had a score of 103.15. It was the top 21 divers that advanced through the prelim's on into the semifinals. The top 17 after the semifinals competed in the finals for the 13 state spots.

There were three L.P. D1 Diving Regionals contested last week with one at Oxford and one at Highland Milford. Bowman had the highest regional score of any of the D1 divers across the state and Slagel had the third highest score.

"We just have to take our time a little bit more on the board, and what we said today was top 13 is all we needed," Pileci said. "It was just a warm-up for state. So, we'll go back to the board and keep working."

Randall in top 50 at five-state Midwest Regional Championships

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

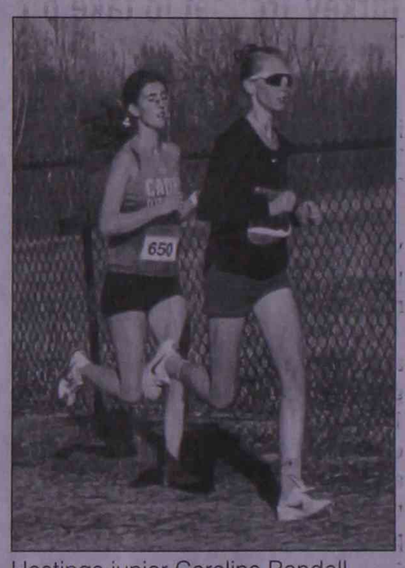
Hastings junior Caroline Randall took part in the NXR Midwest Regional Championships in Terra Haute, Ind., Sunday.

Randall raced to a 48th-place time of 18 minutes 17.78 seconds in the Women's 5K Championship which included many of the top high school runners from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri.

The Saxon school-record holder, Randall, placed fourth earlier this month in the Division 2 girls' race at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Cross Country Finals. She is a three-time state medalist.

Two of the three girls ahead of her at the Michigan state finals this fall were a part of the race. The D2 state champion, senior Emma Hoffman from Otsego, was the runner-up with a time of 16:54.02. Gaylord senior Katie Berkshire, who was second at the state finals, placed sixth at the regional championships in 17:16.24.

Even at a five-state meet Michigan D1 state champion Natasza Dudek blew the field away. The Ann Arbor Pioneer senior won Sunday in 16:18.74 finishing more than half a minute in front of Hoffman. Dudek won the D1 state championship at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn with a personal record time of 16:09.54 which set the MIS girls' record.



Hastings junior Caroline Randall races to a 48th-place finish at the NXR Midwest Regional Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., Sunday. **Photo provided**

Downers Grove North senior Philip Cupial from Illinois won the boys' 5K championship in Terre Haute with a personal record time of 14:41.4.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS BARRY COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

1725 West M-43 Hwy P.O. Box 158
Hastings, MI 49058-0158

(269) 945-3449
sschantz@barrycrc.org

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Barry County Road Commission, 1725 West M-43 Highway, P.O. Box 158, Hastings, MI 49058, until 10:30 AM, Thursday, December 4, 2025 for the following items.

Specifications and additional information may be obtained at the Road Commission Office at the above phone number or at our website www.barrycrc.org.

(1) Used Excavator 68,000-70,000 lbs

The board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to waive irregularities in the best interest of the Commission.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS BARRY COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

1725 West M-43 Hwy P.O. Box 158
Hastings, MI 49058-0158

(269) 945-3449
sschantz@barrycrc.org

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Barry County Road Commission, 1725 West M-43 Highway, P.O. Box 158, Hastings, MI 49058, until 11:00 A.M. December 4, 2025 for the following project.

Specifications and additional information may be obtained at the Road Commission Office at the above address or at our web site at www.barrycrc.org.

Spray Foam Insulation at the Barry CRC Garage

The board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to waive irregularities in the best interest of the Commission.

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF BARRY COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that the Barry County Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing for the following:

Case Number: Case Number V-10-2025 - Gordon R. Skinner, Christopher Zagors (Applicant/Property Owners) Tim Schollaart (Applicant)

Location: 11168 Anchor Cove Dr Road, Shelbyville, in Section 8 of Orangeville Township

Purpose: Request for a variance to allow a 4 foot side yard setback, (10ft is required) and avariance to allow 23' of lakefront setback (25ft is required) in the Recreational Lakes (RL) zoning district.

MEETING DATE: December 08, 2025. **TIME:** 7:00 PM. **PLACE:** Tyden Center Community Room, 121 South Church Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058

Site inspections of the above described property will be completed by the Zoning Board of Appeals members before the hearing. Interested persons desiring to present their views upon an appeal, either verbally or in writing, will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above mentioned time and place. Any written response may be mailed to the address listed below, faxed to (269) 948-4820, or emailed to Barry County Planning Director Jeff Keesler at jkeesler@barrycounty.org.

The variance application is available for public inspection at the Barry County Planning Department, 220 West State Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. Please call the Barry County Planning Department at (269) 945-1290 for further information.

The County of Barry will provide necessary auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon ten (10) days notice to the County of Barry. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the County of Barry by writing or calling the following: Eric Zuzga, County Administrator, 220 West State Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, (269) 945-1284.

Sarah VanDenburg, Barry County Clerk

Barry County Road Commission

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

The Barry County Road Commission Board of Commissioner voted at their board meeting on November 18, 2025, to remove the Natural Beauty Designation on Engle Rd in Irving Township.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS BARRY COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

1725 West M-43 Hwy P.O. Box 158
Hastings, MI 49058-0158

(269) 945-3449
sschantz@barrycrc.org

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Barry County Road Commission, 1725 West M-43 Highway, P.O. Box 158, Hastings, MI 49058, until 10:30 AM, Thursday, December 4, 2025 for the following items.

Specifications and additional information may be obtained at the Road Commission Office at the above phone number or at our website www.barrycrc.org.

(1) Wheel Loader 42,000-45,000 lbs

The board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to waive irregularities in the best interest of the Commission.

SYNOPSIS
Hastings Charter Township
Regular Meeting
November 11, 2025

Meeting called to order 6:31 pm
6 board members present
Approved agendas
Discussed parking lot, election
BIRCH, Rd Commission, newsletter, current budget
Closed regular meeting 6:54 pm
Opened 2026 budget meeting
Discussed budget proposal
Closed budget meeting
Reopened regular meeting 7:30
Approved payment of bills
Dept. reports received
Motion to adjourn 8:08 pm

Submitted, David J. Olson, Clerk

Attested to by Jim Partridge, Supervisor

Duffy set for early start with Milwaukee volleyball

Brett Bremer
Sports Edito

It was an emotional few hours for Lakewood senior Emma Duffy in the middle of last week.

Her time as a four-year varsity volleyball player at Lakewood High School came to an end Nov. 11 with a three-set loss to fourth-ranked Grand Rapids Catholic Central in the MHSAA Division 2 Regional Semifinals at South Christian High School. The next morning, she officially inked her future volleyball plans by signing her National Letter of Intent to join the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Women's Volleyball program next season – or really before next season.

Duffy plans to be an early enrollee at Milwaukee and is set to start her college journey in January.

"I texted her last night on the way home, when she was on the bus," Lakewood varsity assistant coach Chelsea Brehm said, as former coaches took turns lauding Duffy during the signing day ceremony, "and she probably thought I was saying it with emotion just because it was the end of the season and she's a senior and all the things, but I meant it when I said, 'you are literally the hardest working kid I have coached in any gym, in any program I have been a part of. Hardest worker. Hands down. Bar none.

"I think that's pretty commendable. That is the reason why you're signing a letter of intent today to continue your career. So, good job kid."

She likes the work.

"I chose Milwaukee for a lot of reasons. Some of the main ones were I knew I was going to have a really competitive environment being there. I knew I would be pushed every day. The whole coaching staff is a staff of setters. They used to set. It was made very clear that they work their setters pretty hard. So, I was going to get a lot of hands on training. That is what I really wanted. I really want someone who is going to be on me all the time making me better and pushing me to be my best, because I think that is when I thrive as a player. I was just really excited for that.

"And another big part of it is the family atmosphere that is there. I think Lakewood is a very big on that with everything being community-oriented, school-wise and sports. That is something I really love. That is something my club (FaR Out) has. So, knowing that I am going into a program that already has that culture and that closeness I am really excited for that."

Duffy was a part of the 2022 Lakewood varsity volleyball team that won district and regional championships freshman. She helped the Vikings win conference championships in 2022, 2023 and 2024 and led the Lakewood ladies back to a district title this fall as a senior. As a setter she ran 6-1 and 5-2 offenses for the Vikings as needed – following in the footsteps of all-state girls like Skylar Bump and Abby Pickard who she played varsity volleyball with and then working to pass the torch to junior setter Camyla Copelin. She improved on the attack as her varsity years went on.

Heading into regionals Duffy had 22 kills and 501 assists this fall, as well as 225 digs, 38 total blocks and 43 aces.

"Lakewood volleyball has been my whole life since I was a kid. That is where I started playing volleyball. It is just something that is really special to me," Duffy said. "I get emotional about it all the time. I have cried multiple times between last night and this morning. It is just special. You can't find it anywhere else. It is competitive, and it's loving, and it's a family environment. Everyone loves to compete and everyone pushes each other to be their best, and the expectation is to be your best. When everything is said and done, they're there to support you and that's just something I try to carry with me wherever I go with sports."

Duffy spent years as a ballgirl for the Lakewood High School program as a youngster. Former middle school coach Christy Carter said Duffy showed her leadership skills from the start as she stepped up to set for a team of eighth graders when she was in sixth grade.

"Obviously, everyone is here surrounding you because everybody is proud of who you are and the friend you are to them, the athlete you have become, and the student-athlete that you are. We obviously know you are going to go on to wonderful, wonderful things," Lakewood varsity head coach Brooke Francisco said.



Lakewood senior Emma Duffy (seated center) is joined by Lakewood coaches Chelsea Brehm (seated left) and Brooke Francisco (seated right) and her Viking teammates after signing her National Letter of Intent to join the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Women's Volleyball program next season at Lakewood High School Wednesday, Nov. 12. Duffy plans to finish her high school studies in December and start school in Milwaukee in January. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Milwaukee plays NCAA Division 1 volleyball in the Horizon League. The Panthers are off to an 11-7 start so far this fall in the conference. Freshman middle blocker Josie Noble from Caledonia, a former FaR Out teammate of Duffy's, has been a key piece for the Panthers in her first season in Milwaukee leading the team in blocks and checking in second in kills and aces so far this fall.

Duffy started playing club volleyball with FaR Out when she was about ten years old. She played on a team with Noble a couple times over the years, and they've kept in contact over the years. Duffy wrapped up her final FaR Out season competing with the 17 Black national team, and she plans to keep working out with the FaR Out club until she heads to Milwaukee in January. She knows to play D1 volleyball she has to keep getting faster and stronger, and she is looking forward to being more precise with her setting.

Duffy took her first official visit to Milwaukee in August of 2024 and was excited from then on to join the Panther program. She took another trip back later that month to see the Panthers open their season against Stanford, and said that is when Milwaukee coaches offered her a spot in the program.

Graduating from Lakewood early has not always been the plan. She just found out that was a possibility during the summer of 2025. She had to shuffle her Lakewood schedule around just a little bit, doubling up on some math and English course, to take care of the academic side of the move.

"I'm really excited. I never would have thought that I would be graduating early to go play. I am really excited," Duffy said. "It's going to be a really good opportunity for me. I am ready for a change. I am ready to be there, work hard, figure things out and kind of be on my own."

Duffy plans to study psychology, and she hopes to focus on sports psychology or possibly childhood development.

"Sports psychology has always been something I have really been interested in, especially as an athlete at a high level. I have had several conversations with Chelsea [Brehm] about it. I have talked to so many people about that," Duffy said, "and just athletes mental health and how we process and work through our emotions. I think that is something that is really cool. And I want to help other athletes with that as I can."

Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Trot set to take off Thursday morning

The YMCA of Barry County will host its 17th annual Thanksgiving Turkey Trot 5K and a free 1 Mile Fun Run Thursday, Nov. 27, at Algonquin Lake..

The top male and female runners win turkeys from Otto's Turkey Farm in Middleville as the YMCA invites runners to wobble before they gobble.

Race registration can be done online at runsignup.com. Late registration is going on now. The cost is $40 for adults 18-and-up and $30 for youth 17-and-under. Those partaking in late registration are not guaranteed a race T-shirt. Online registration will end Nov. 25 at 11:59 p.m. There will be race-day registration open from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. at the new YMCA of Barry County building at 2350 Iroquois Trail.

Check-in an packet pick-up will be held Nov. 26 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the new YMCA of Barry County building and from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. on race day.

Both races begin at the corner of Buehler Road and Iroquois Trail. The Fun Run takes off at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K takes off at 8:45 a.m. Both races end on the front lawn of the YMCA Camp Algonquin.

Race day parking is available at the Algonquin Lake Community Association and at the New Y Building at 2350 Iroquois Trail. Parking attendants will be stationed to offer instructions. There will be no public parking at the YMCA Camp Algonquin.

In addition to the champs' turkeys, there will be a prize and a photo-op for the best dressed runner wearing the most festive fall gear.

The race will also once again include a school challenge. The school with the highest percentage of students participation in relation to its enrollment within the school system will be presented with the Turkey Trophy, which can be displayed at the school the following year. The trophy will be awarded and announced the week following Thanksgiving.

Racers are also encouraged to donate non-perishable food items on race day, with drop-off tables present at both parking locations. The YMCA will donate items to the Barry County United Way.

There are also plans once again for hot cocoa, water and giveaways at Camp Algonquin at the end of the event.

A total of 476 5K runners completed the race in 2024. Riley Shults took the men's championship in 16 minutes 2.02 seconds and Katherine Weinbrecht was the women's champion in 19:32.7.

SYNOPSIS
RUTLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 10, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Regular meeting called to order and Pledge of Allegiance.
Present: Hawthorne, Greenfield, Watson, Hall, James
Absent: Mayack
Approved the Agenda as amended
Approved the Consent Agenda
Monthly Treasurer's Report
Monthly Clerk's Voucher/Payroll Report
Motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #2025-198 Chickens in CR. Roll Call Vote – 5-1, motion passes
Motion to approve two budget amendments-parking lot and BIRCH. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes, motion passes.
Motion to approve tree trimming quote. Roll Call Vote – All Ayes, motion passes.

Adjournment 8:03 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Hawthorne, Clerk

Attested to by,
Marti Mayack, Supervisor

City of Hastings
PUBLIC NOTICE
Request for Proposals for 2026 Tree Trimming, Removal, and Stump Grinding

Notice is hereby given that the City of Hastings is soliciting bids for the provision of tree trimming and removal, and stump grinding services at multiple locations throughout the city limits. **This bid proposal is for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.**

Sealed proposals or bids must be received on or before **Monday, December 1, 2025 at 10:00 AM** at the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer. Proposals or bids are to be delivered to:

City of Hastings
Office of the City Clerk/Treasurer
201 East State Street
Hastings, MI 49058

Any questions regarding the RFP must be submitted before **Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 5:00 PM**, and should be directed to Robert Neil, Street Superintendent at (269) 945-5083 or via email at rneil@hastingsmi.gov.

Print or digital copies of the Request for Proposal packet can be provided on request by contacting the City of Hastings at 269-945-2468, or via email at mpeacock@hastingsmi.gov. with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Linda Perin, City Clerk

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - BARRY COUNTY

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 49c of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1449c, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on December 11, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Paige Rozell-Clouse and Logan Clouse, husband and wife as joint tenants with right of survivorship Original Mortgagee: Neighborhood Loans, Inc. Date of mortgage: March 15, 2024 Recorded on March 19, 2024, in Document No. 2024-001819, and re-recorded via Affidavit of Correction on November 4, 2025, in Document No. 2025-009371, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Michigan State Housing Development Authority Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Nine and 44/100 Dollars ($185,999.44) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Barry County, and described as: Lot 5, Block 22, Lincoln Park Addition to the City of Hastings, according to the recorded plat thereof, recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 55, Barry County Records Commonly known as 612 W Clinton St, Hastings, MI 49058 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 125.1449v, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 125.1449v(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Michigan State Housing Development Authority Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1577388
(11-13)(12-04)

Notice of Foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM on December 04, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Stevie J. Foreman, a single man Original Mortgagee: United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture Date of mortgage: May 31, 2018 Recorded on June 07, 2018, Recording Instrument # 2018-005554. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Seven and 72/100 Dollars ($133,527.72) Mortgaged premises: LAND SITUATED IN BARRY TOWNSHIP, BARRY COUNTY, A PARCEL IN THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 28, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT A POINT 10 CHAINS 56 LINKS NORTH OF THE CENTER OF SAID SECTION 28; THENCE NORTH 80.04 FEET; THENCE WEST 12 RODS; THENCE SOUTH 80.04 FEET; THENCE EAST 12 RODS TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as 14400 Kellogg School Road Hickory Corners MI 49060 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961 pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. ALAW 5404 Cypress Center Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, FL 33609 (813) 221-4743 25-012209
(11-06)(11-27)

JOHNSTOWN TOWNSHIP BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING FINE LAKE AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL
TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JOHNSTOWN, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of Johnstown as authorized by PA 188 of 1954, as amended, proposes to undertake an aquatic plant control project (with associated activities) in Fine Lake in Johnstown Township as more particularly described below and to create a separate special assessment district for the recovery of the costs thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the special assessment district within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be made and within which the costs thereof are to be specially assessed include all parcels with frontage on and/or access to Fine Lake in Johnstown Township and are more particularly described as follows (and depicted on the attached map):

JOHNSTOWN TWP PROPOSED DISTRICT: The properties indicated by parcel numbers:

09-019-002-00	09-030-005-00	09-065-013-00	09-075-038-00	09-130-016-00	09-150-004-00	09-175-014-00	09-220-006-00
09-019-003-00	09-030-006-00	09-065-014-00	09-075-039-00	09-130-018-00	09-150-005-00	09-175-015-00	09-220-007-00
09-019-004-00	09-030-006-10	09-065-015-00	09-090-001-00	09-130-020-00	09-150-006-00	09-175-016-00	09-220-008-00
09-019-006-00	09-030-009-00	09-065-016-00	09-090-002-00	09-130-021-00	09-150-007-00	09-175-017-00	09-220-009-00
09-019-007-10	09-030-009-10	09-065-017-00	09-090-004-00	09-130-025-00	09-150-008-00	09-175-018-00	09-220-010-00
09-019-008-00	09-030-009-20	09-065-019-00	09-090-005-00	09-135-001-00	09-150-009-00	09-175-019-00	09-220-011-00
09-019-013-00	09-030-011-00	09-065-031-00	09-090-006-00	09-135-003-00	09-150-010-00	09-180-001-00	09-220-012-00
09-019-021-00	09-030-013-00	09-065-032-00	09-090-007-00	09-135-004-00	09-150-011-00	09-215-001-00	09-220-014-00
09-029-001-70	09-030-021-00	09-065-033-00	09-090-008-00	09-135-005-00	09-150-012-00	09-215-002-00	09-220-015-00
09-029-002-00	09-030-022-00	09-065-034-00	09-090-010-00	09-135-006-00	09-150-013-00	09-215-003-00	09-220-016-00
09-029-008-00	09-030-024-00	09-065-035-00	09-090-011-00	09-135-007-00	09-150-014-00	09-215-004-00	09-220-017-00
09-029-015-00	09-030-140-14	09-075-001-00	09-090-014-00	09-135-008-00	09-150-015-00	09-215-005-00	09-220-018-00
09-029-016-00	09-030-140-15	09-075-002-00	09-090-015-00	09-135-009-00	09-150-016-00	09-215-007-00	09-220-019-00
09-029-017-00	09-030-150-19	09-075-003-00	09-090-017-00	09-135-010-00	09-150-018-00	09-215-008-00	09-220-020-00
09-029-018-00	09-030-150-20	09-075-004-00	09-090-018-00	09-135-012-00	09-150-021-00	09-215-009-00	09-220-021-00
09-029-019-00	09-050-002-00	09-075-005-00	09-090-024-00	09-135-013-00	09-150-022-00	09-215-010-00	09-220-023-00
09-029-020-00	09-050-003-00	09-075-006-00	09-090-032-00	09-135-014-00	09-150-023-00	09-215-011-00	09-220-024-00
09-029-021-00	09-050-004-00	09-075-007-00	09-100-001-00	09-135-015-00	09-155-001-00	09-215-012-00	09-220-025-00
09-029-022-00	09-050-004-10	09-075-008-00	09-100-002-00	09-135-016-00	09-155-002-00	09-215-013-00	09-220-026-00
09-029-024-00	09-050-004-20	09-075-009-00	09-100-003-00	09-135-018-00	09-155-003-00	09-215-014-00	09-220-027-00
09-029-036-00	09-050-005-00	09-075-010-00	09-100-004-00	09-135-019-00	09-155-004-00	09-215-016-00	09-220-028-00
09-029-042-00	09-050-005-10	09-075-011-00	09-100-005-00	09-135-020-00	09-155-006-00	09-215-016-01	09-220-029-00
09-030-001-00	09-050-005-20	09-075-012-00	09-100-006-00	09-140-001-00	09-155-008-00	09-215-017-00	09-220-030-00
09-030-002-00	09-050-005-40	09-075-014-00	09-100-007-00	09-140-002-00	09-175-001-00	09-215-018-00	09-220-031-00
09-030-003-00	09-050-006-00	09-075-015-00	09-100-008-00	09-140-003-00	09-175-001-01	09-215-019-00	09-220-032-00
09-030-004-00	09-050-007-00	09-075-016-00	09-100-011-00	09-140-004-00	09-175-002-00	09-215-020-00	09-220-033-00
09-030-005-00	09-050-008-00	09-075-017-00	09-130-001-00	09-140-005-00	09-175-003-00	09-215-020-01	09-220-034-10
09-030-006-00	09-050-009-00	09-075-018-00	09-130-002-00	09-140-006-00	09-175-004-00	09-215-023-00	09-220-034-20
09-030-006-10	09-050-009-10	09-075-019-00	09-130-002-10	09-140-007-00	09-175-005-00	09-215-024-00	09-220-036-00
09-030-009-00	09-050-010-00	09-075-020-00	09-130-007-00	09-140-008-00	09-175-006-00	09-215-025-00	09-220-037-00
09-030-009-10	09-050-011-00	09-075-021-00	09-130-008-00	09-140-009-00	09-175-007-00	09-215-029-00	09-220-038-00
09-030-009-20	09-065-003-00	09-075-022-00	09-130-008-10	09-140-010-00	09-175-008-00	09-215-030-00	
09-030-011-00	09-065-006-00	09-075-023-00	09-130-010-00	09-140-011-00	09-175-009-00	09-215-031-00	
09-030-013-00	09-065-008-00	09-075-024-00	09-130-011-00	09-140-012-00	09-175-010-00	09-220-001-00	
09-030-021-00	09-065-009-00	09-075-028-00	09-130-012-00	09-150-001-00	09-175-011-00	09-220-002-00	
09-030-022-00	09-065-010-00	09-075-032-00	09-130-013-00	09-150-002-00	09-175-012-00	09-220-003-00	
09-030-024-00	09-065-012-00	09-075-037-00	09-130-015-00	09-150-003-00	09-175-013-00	09-220-004-00	

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has received plans showing the proposed aquatic plant control project, associated activities, any proposed improvements and locations thereof, together with an estimated total project cost of $206,000 (including legal and administrative costs). The Township's project cost will be raised through a special assessment district upon benefitted properties in the Township. The Township Board passed Resolution No. 2025-11-01, tentatively declaring its intention to undertake such project and to create the above-described special assessment district at its meeting held on November 12, 2025 at the Township Hall, 13641 S. M-37 Highway, in the Township.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has placed the project plans and costs estimate on file with the Township Clerk and said plans, cost estimate and the boundaries of the special assessment district may be examined at the Clerk's office from the date of this Notice to the date of the public hearing and may further be examined at such public hearing. PROPERTY SHALL NOT BE ADDED TO THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT AND THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE OF COST SHALL NOT BE INCREASED BY MORE THAN 10% WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board proposes to make a per-parcel special assessment each year for a period of six (6) years (2026-2031 inclusive). Assessments will be billed beginning in December 2026.

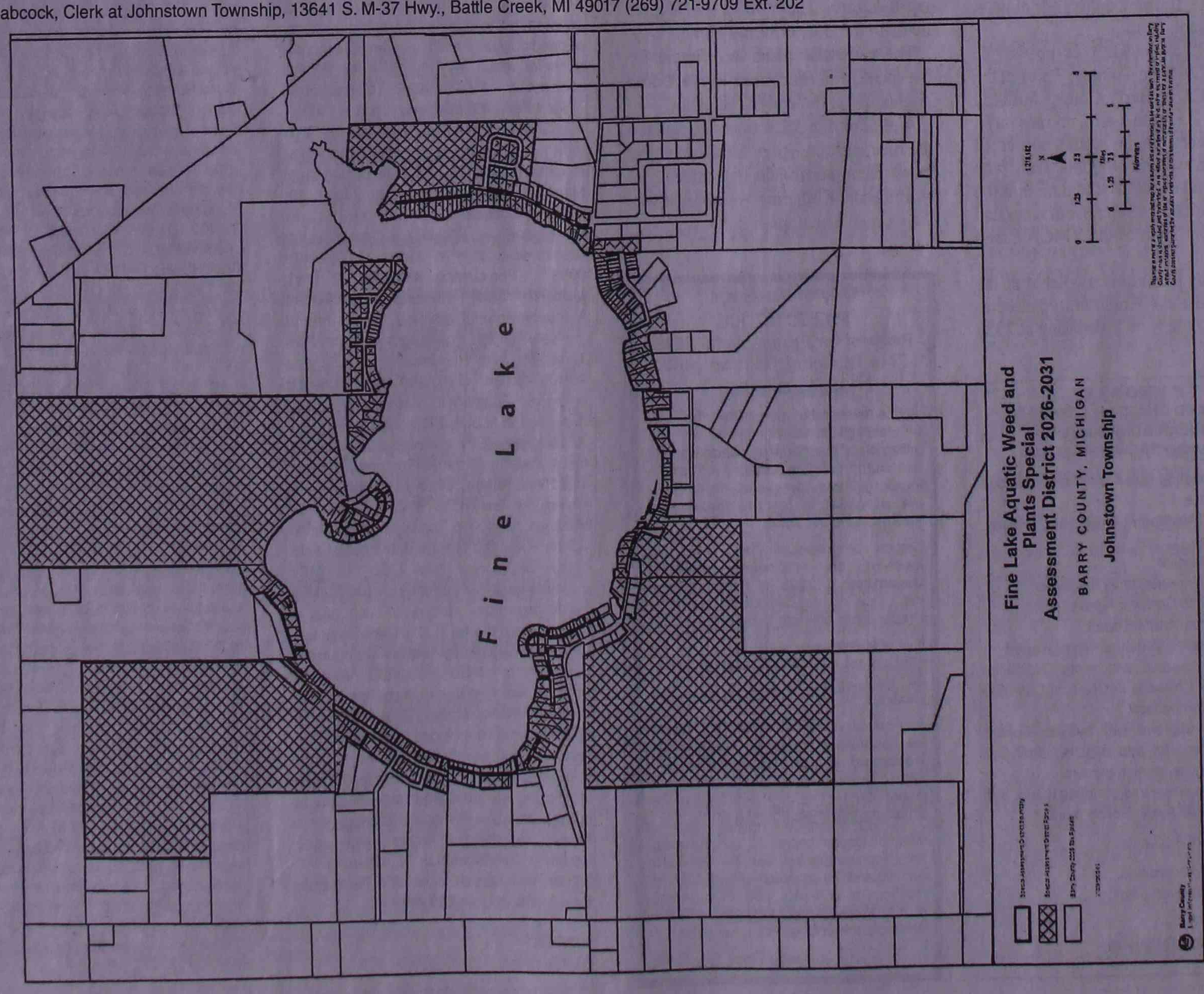
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing on the plans, the district and cost estimates will be held at a special meeting of the Township Board at the Johnstown Township Hall, 13641 S. M-37 Hwy, Battle Creek, Michigan, on December 10, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. At the hearing, the Board will consider any written objections and comments to any of the foregoing matters which are filed with the clerk at or before the hearing, and any objections or comments raised at the hearing; and at the hearing (or any adjournment of the hearing which may be made without further notice), the Township Board may revise, correct, amend, or change the plans, cost estimates, or special assessment district.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if written objections to the project are filed with the Township Board at or before the hearing, signed by the record owners of land constituting more than 20% of the area within the proposed special assessment district, then the Township may not proceed unless petitions in support of the project, signed by record owners of more than 50% of the area to be made into a special assessment district, are filed with the Township. Written comments or objections may be filed with the clerk at the address set out below. Appearance and protest at the public hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the special assessment roll is confirmed. An owner or party in interest, or his/her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file at or before the hearing his/her appearance or protest by letter and, in such case, his/her personal appearance shall not be required. All interested persons are invited to be present in person or by representative and to submit comments concerning the establishment of the special assessment district, the plans and the cost estimates.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if the Township Board determines to proceed with the special assessment, the Board will cause a special assessment roll to be prepared and another hearing will be held, after notice to record owners of property proposed to be specially assessed, to hear public comments concerning the proposed special assessments.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the foregoing hearing and all proceedings associated with this special assessment matter shall be conducted in accordance with and pursuant to 1954 Public Act 188 and in accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act and any other applicable law.
Johnstown Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon four (4) days-notice to the Township Clerk.

Sheri Babcock, Clerk at Johnstown Township, 13641 S. M-37 Hwy., Battle Creek, MI 49017 (269) 721-9709 Ext. 202



Caledonia hockey co-op skates to a 3-1 start

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Caledonia varsity hockey team, a co-op with Lowell and Thornapple Kellogg, was bested for the first time this season on its new home ice at Patterson Ice Center Saturday.

The Mattawan Wildcats snapped a 2-2 tie with a power play goal with 2:48 to play in the third period and then added an empty-netter for a 4-2 win. The Fighting Scots are now 3-1 overall this season after bouncing back with a 6-3 win over Sparta Tuesday, Nov. 18.

The Fighting Scots opened their season with a 4-2 win over the Portage Muskies at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo Nov. 7 and then took down Rockford 4-2 in the first OK Conference Rue Division contest of the season Nov. 8 at Patterson Ice Center.

Patterson is the new home ice for the Caledonia team after years sharing the Kentwood Ice Arena with the East Kentwood Falcons.

"The move was facilitated to best fit our ice time needs and facilities for our program," Caledonia High School athletic director Phil Miedema said. "We are grateful to East Kentwood High School for our partnerships in athletics and we look forward to working with their district in the future."

The Fighting Scots also have a new leader this winter in head coach Tyler Jaenicke a former Grand Rapids Christian assistant coach and three-year assistant captain for Davenport University's Men's DII Hockey team.

Mattawan never trailed Saturday. The Wildcats got a goal from Royce Teall off an assist from Benjamin Edington 14 minutes into the contest to lead 1-0. The teams then went back and forth in the second period.

Caledonia evened the game on a power play goal by Bryce Mitchell 4:53 into the second period. Harmon Esch notched an assist firing a shot in from the point that Mitchell finished off. Gabe Supuk also tallied an assist on the goal. Esch added an unassisted goal 15:05 into the period.

In between, the Wildcats got an unassisted goal from Edington, who also scored the late empty-net goal.

Ty Lewandowski scored twice and four other Fighting Scots found the net as they defeated the Sparta Spartans 6-3 at Griff's Ice House at Belknap Park Tuesday in Grand Rapids.

Harmon Esch, Eston Brown, Drew Nichols and Ethan Sova also scored for Caledonia.

Nichols had three assists too, getting a

See HOCKEY on 12



Caledonia junior forward Landen Moore looks to take over space in front of the crease while he's defended by Mattawan sophomore Lucas Smilanich and Mattawan goalkeeper Gavin Wiech keeps an eye on the puck Saturday at Patterson Ice Center in Grand Rapids. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

DNR reports Allegan County's first CWD-positive wild deer

Allegan is now the 17th Michigan county where chronic wasting disease has been identified in the wild deer population, according to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. An emaciated doe reported by residents of Leighton Township recently tested positive for the disease.

CWD was confirmed by the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. The sample was also sent for a secondary confirmation to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, but results may be delayed due to the federal government shutdown.

CWD is a fatal neurological disease that affects white-tailed deer, elk and moose. To date, the disease has not officially been detected in Barry County, but Eaton to the west, and Kent and Ionia counties to the north have all been affected and now Allegan to the east. CWD has also bee detected in deer from Clinton, Dickinson, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Ingham, Isabella, Jackson, Mecosta, Midland, Montcalm, Ogemaw and Washtenaw counties in Michigan.

The declining health of this 1.5-year-old doe in Allegan was first noted by private landowners in late summer. In late September, the DNR was contacted and authorized humane euthanasia and collection of the deer. On exam at the DNR's Wildlife Disease Lab, the deer was noted to be in poor physical condition with no body fat.

"The care that's demonstrated when people take the time to share their observations is a critical contribution to our disease-testing efforts," said Brent Rudolph, DNR deer, elk and moose management specialist. "Public reporting of deer that appear unhealthy is very important for identifying CWD that may exist at low levels in previously undetected areas."

CWD is a chronic, slow-developing disease that spreads slowly across the landscape. It has been detected in Kent County, adjacent to Leighton Township, which is in the northeast corner of Allegan County. Allegan County was under focused CWD surveillance in 2021, when approximately 500 deer were tested, with none testing positive. The DNR has continued to test deer that appear sick in Allegan County when possible. Hunters can get their deer tested with a free CWD self-sample submission kit from the DNR.

Deer that appear emaciated, lethargic, disoriented, lame or unresponsive are good candidates for CWD testing, though these symptoms are characteristic of deer affected by other maladies or injuries as well. The public is encouraged to report sick deer online at Michigan.gov/EyesInTheField.

To date, there have been no reported cases of CWD infection in people. However, as a precaution, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that infected animals not be consumed as food by either humans or domestic animals.

Since chronic wasting disease was first detected in Michigan's wild deer in 2015, more than 110,000 deer in Michigan have been tested for CWD through disease detection, as management has the potential to be most effective when the disease is caught early. This method also provides the DNR with confidence that if the disease does exist in these areas but goes undetected, that it is most likely there at a very low level.

— *BB*

YOU'RE NOT JUST OUR READERS.
You're our friends, our family, our neighbors...and our future.
VIEW Group
Your Community Connection

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on December 11, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Kathleen McCully and Jasvinder Kaler, wife and husband

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lake Michigan Credit Union

Date of Mortgage: January 22, 2019

Date of Mortgage Recording: January 28, 2019

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $193,001.45

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Village of Middleville, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 109, Misty Ridge No. 5, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 66, Barry County Records

Common street address (if any): 711 View Pointe Dr, Middleville, MI 49333-9368

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: November 13, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1577274 (11-13)(12-04)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on December 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Christina Jenkins, single woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC

Date of Mortgage: May 11, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: June 4, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $118,001.79

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Village of Nashville, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: The North 22 feet of Lot 12 and the South 33 feet of Lot 13, R.B. Gregg's Addition to the Village of Nashville, Township of Castleton, Barry County, Michigan, as recorded in Liber 1 pf Plats, on Page 13, Barry County Records.

Common street address (if any): 510 Middle St, Nashville, MI 49073-9309

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: November 20, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1577637
(11-20)(12-11)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT: Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 P.M., on January 15, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE: Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Elizabeth Lonergan, the Mortgagor(s), and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for AmeriFirst Financial Corporation, the original Mortgagee, dated August 23, 2013, and recorded on August 27, 2013, as Instrument No. 2013-010429, in Barry County Records, Michigan, and last assigned to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, the Foreclosing Assignee, as documented by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 2, 2019, and recorded on August 5, 2019, as Instrument No. 2019-007290, in Barry County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice, the sum of Fifty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy and 46/100 U.S. Dollars ($57,970.46). Said premise is situated at 718 Powell Rd, Hastings, MI 49058, in the Township of Hastings, Barry County, Michigan, and is described as: THE LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS INSTRUMENT, SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF HASTINGS, COUNTY OF BARRY, STATE OF MICHIGAN, IS DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 16, TOWN 3 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, HASTINGS TOWNSHIP, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN; THENCE NORTH 1473.70 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST, 200.00 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE NORTH 171.72 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE SAID EAST LINE; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST, 200.03 FEET TO THE EAST LINE; THENCE SOUTH 174.81 FEET ALONG THE SAID EAST LINE TO PLACE OF BEGINNING. ALSO: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 16, TOWN 3 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST; THENCE NORTH 1409.78 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST, 200.01 FEET; THENCE NORTH 65.26 FEET PARALLEL WITH SAID EAST LINE; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST, 200.00 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE SOUTH 63.92 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Pursuant to Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, if the property is sold at foreclosure sale the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder under MCLA 600.3278 for damaging the property during the redemption period. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: 11/05/2025 For More Information, please call: Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A. Attorneys for Servicer 255 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900 Orlando, Florida 32801 (855) 287-0240 Matter No. MI-010396-25

(11-13)(12-04)

Yarger headed to defend D2 diving championship at EMU

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

She was a state champion before she was a regional champion, but now she's both.

Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore Aubrey Yarger earned a spot in the 2025 MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals with a runner-up finish at the D2 diving regional hosted by Northview High School in Grand Rapids Thursday.

Yarger won the 2024 D2 state championship in diving following up on a runner-up regional finish as a freshman.

"Coming away last year with second place was not what she had anticipated, so we worked to make sure that didn't happen this year," DK/Hastings diving coach Todd Bates said. " Her entire dive list was solid and we were pleased with the results."

The 2025 MHSAA L.P. Division 2 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals will held at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium in Ypsilanti Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21-22.

Yarger had the top scoring dive in each of the last ten rounds of the 11-dive regional, had the lead after three rounds and never let go. She closed Thursday with a score of 398.85 points. Northview's Katelyn Allen was the runner-up with a score of 371.65 The top 14 divers from the regional qualified for the state finals.

The field of 22 regional divers was cut to 18 after the semifinals. Fellow Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore diver Jillian Brandli scored her way into the finals and finished 16th overall with a score of 259.40. In the end she was 34.35 points behind the last of the 14 state qualifiers, Battle Creek Lakeview's Keira Byrd who had an overall score of 293.75.

"Her highlight dives were her two new dives and increasing her D.D. (degree of difficulty) all season," Bates said.

Those two new dives are 5134D and 105B, both dives that multiply scores with a degree of difficulty of 2.6.

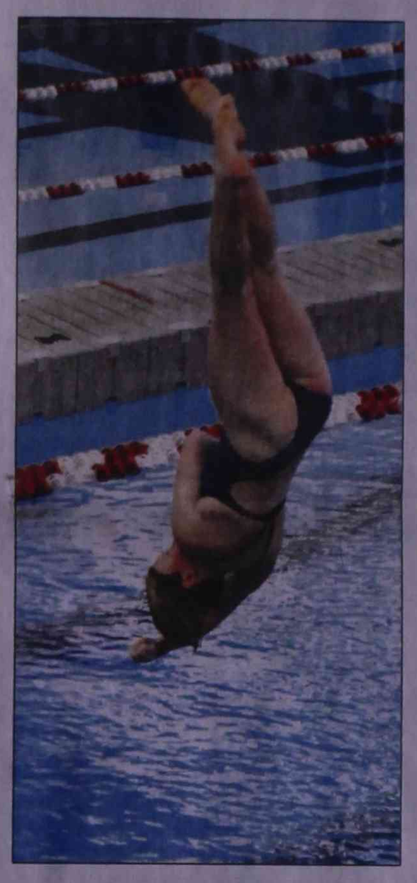
Yarger closed out her regional performance with the 5134D, a forward 1 1/2 somersault and 2 twists dive in the free position. That dive earned her 35.10 points. Her top scoring dive of the meet was the 105B which earned her 45.50 points, a forward 2 1/2 somersault dive in the pike position.

Brandli's top scoring dive was her forward 1 1/2 somersault dive in the pike position that tallied her 28.05 points in round five.

There were three Division 2 Diving Regionals across the state Thursday. Yarger had the second best score of anyone competing. The only girl to outscore her was Rochester Adams junior Morgan Rea who had a total score of 433.20 points to win the regional hosted by Seaholm High School. Holly senior Riley Hummel won the regional at Fenton with a score of 377.45 points.



Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore Aubrey Yarger holds her pike position above the pool on dive 203B in round two of the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Diving Regional at Northview High School in Grand Rapids Thursday, Nov. 13. Yarger, the defending D2 state champion, won the regional championship and will look to defend her state title at the MHSAA L.P. D2 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals Nov. 21-22 at Eastern Michigan University.
Photos by Brett Bremer



Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore Jillian Brandli twists above the Northview High School pool during her fourth round dive, 5122D, at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Diving Regional Thursday in Grand Rapids. Brandli placed 16th at the regional meet.



Caledonia senior defenseman Camden Quigley looks to shoot a pass up the ice during his team's non-conference contest with Mattawan at Patterson Ice Center Saturday.

HOCKEY

Continued from Page 11

helper on each of the Fighting Scots' first three goals. He scored himself with 12:40 into the second period to push Caledonia to a 4-1 lead at that point.

Sparta rallied with two goals in the first seven minutes of the third period to get within 4-3. Jameson Meendering and Reid Bennet both scored their first goals of the season for the Spartans within 31 seconds of each other.

Lewandowski finally gave the Scots some breathing room with his second goal of the game at the 13:50 mark of the third period, and then Sova finished off the Spartans with an unassisted, short handed goal with 1:06 remaining.

Gabe Supuk had two assists for the Scots and Evan Moore had one.

The Fighting Scots host Forest Hills Central at Patterson Ice Arena Nov. 22 and then are off until a weekend at the Alpena Showcase Nov. 28-29 at Northern Lights Arena.

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on January 8, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael J Charbonneau Jr, an unmarried man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lake Michigan Credit Union

Date of Mortgage: February 24, 2020

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 28, 2020

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $193,135.86

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Rutland, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: Lot (s) 59 and 60 and the West 1/2 of Lot 61 of Plat of Al-Gon-Quin Estates according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 4 of Plats, Page 22 of Barry County Records.

Common street address (if any): 2182 Ottawa Trl, Hastings, MI 49058-8905

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: November 20, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1577753
(11-20)(12-11)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on December 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael Jerome Charbonneau Jr., a single man

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: February 23, 2024

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 29, 2024

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $84,137.82

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Rutland, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: Lot(s) 59 and 60 and the West 1/2 of Lot 61 of Plat of Al-Gon-Quin Estates according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 4 of Plats, Page 22 of Barry County Records

Common street address (if any): 2182 Ottawa Trl, Hastings, MI 49058-8905

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: November 20, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1577755
(11-20)(12-11)

CITY OF HASTINGS

NOTICE OF COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Notice is hereby given that the **City Council** of the City of Hastings will hold a workshop at **6:00 PM on Monday, November 24, 2025,** in the second floor Council Chambers at City Hall, 201 East State Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058. The purpose of the meeting is to follow-up on the November 5, 2025 meeting with the City Council and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board, regarding priorities for the incentives policy.

The City will provide necessary aids and services to individuals with disabilities upon five days' notice to the Clerk of the City of Hastings. Individuals requiring these services should contact the City of Hastings at 269-945-2468, or via email at lperin@hastingsmi.gov.

Linda Perin
City Clerk

WE CONNECT COMMUNITIES
Let us connect you to your next customer!
VIEW Newspaper Group
We reach more than 352,000 homes each week
and know how to make the most of your advertising budget.
— Schedule a consultation today —
Contact Advertising Director Pete Clinton • 810-664-0811 • pclinton@mihomepaper.com

Hastings Public Library
227 E State Street
Hastings MI 49058