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LOCAL 'WALL OF FAME' SEEKS NOMINEES
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Former forest ranger shares knowledge and passion with new generation



Jim Bruce (left) works with a student at Northeastern Elementary School to build a Peterson bluebird house. **Photo by Jayson Bussa**

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

Jim Bruce stands at a table at the far end of Hastings Northeastern Elementary School's library.

Today, the table is a work bench where he and a young student are assembling a birdhouse while Bruce's dog, Patches, lays off to the side watching without lifting his head.

This is a familiar sight at the school, where Bruce works as a volunteer with students over the years to build these birdhouses, intended for both bluebirds and tree swallows.

"This year, we thought, let's do one for every fourth grader," Bruce said. "So, that's about 50 birdhouses."

Bruce, who is now north of 80 years old, finds this form of mentorship as a way to give back to his community and continue to connect with his passion for nature, which is rooted in a lengthy career as a forest ranger.

Bruce has been volunteering at Northeastern Elementary for four years and introduced the birdhouse project after a year into his service.

However, Brue says he has the easy job in the whole process. He explained how his friend and fellow member of First Presbyterian Church, Larry Bell, does all the prep work.

"He built this jig for us, and he buys all the materials, cuts it, and all I do is put it together," Bruce said.

Bruce and Bell attend First Presbyterian Church, which has formed a strong connection with Northeastern and routinely provides volunteer and mentor support. In fact, it was during a meeting between the church and the school's then-administration where Bruce decided to give mentoring a try.

"I was looking for an outlet. The principal at the time had a little session with our church members, saying they needed some men-

See **FOREST** on 2

County Planning Commission denies solar farm application



Baltimore Township resident Ron Wymer stands and voices his support for a special use permit application for construction of a small-scale solar farm on his property on East Brogan Road during a public hearing hosted by the Barry County Planning Commission on Monday, Nov. 24, at the Tyden Center in Hastings. The meeting room was packed for the meeting, with several individuals having to stand in adjacent hallways. **Photos by Dennis Mansfield**

Dennis Mansfield
Staff Writer

There won't be a new solar farm constructed in Barry County's Baltimore Township, at least not in the immediate future.

The Barry County Planning Commission unanimously voted, 5-0, at its meeting Monday, Nov. 24, to deny a special use permit that would have paved the way for construction of a "solar energy system" on property owned by Roy Wymer on East Brogan Road.

The vote came after a public hearing on the special use application filed by the Ann Arbor-based Prometheus Power Group, in partnership with Boston-based Kearsarge Solar and Ray Wymer, with area residents packing the Community Room at the Tyden Center in Hastings.

Rohit Garg, a manager with PPG, said it would be a small-scale solar project producing about 5 megawatts, with just less than 7,500 panels, and using about 25 acres on the rear portion of Wymer's property, which reportedly is 100 acres overall. That's compared to the 1,500-acre, 140-megawatt solar farm currently under construction by Consumers Energy in Johnstown Township.

"This is not like a couple of the other (solar farms) you've seen," Garg said. "It's all on one property.

"We understand there's a lot of frustration with the bigger projects built in Michigan," he added. "We focus on the smaller ones."

Wymer was the only person to

See **SOLAR** on 3

State grants over $400,000 for BCD Thornapple River cleanup, forestry programs

Hunter McLaren
Contributing Writer

Two Barry Conservation District programs recently received substantial grants from the state of Michigan.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) awarded BCD $340,000, while the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) awarded BCD $81,000. Both grants were awarded last week.

The $340,000 grant from EGLE was part of a $2.9 million program, funding projects to clean up and prevent pollution in local watersheds. The funds will be used to repair and replace septic systems to prevent human waste runoff affecting the Thornapple River, with the goal of reducing the presence of harmful bacteria like E. Coli. BCD's proposal was one of eight chosen out of 17 applicants.

BCD Executive Director Danielle Zoellner said although the program is still in its early stages, in the coming months, homeowners in the affected watershed areas could have their failing septic systems repaired or replaced using grant dollars. Zoellner said the costs could be covered 50-100%, based on applicant income.

Zoellner said the program is just the first step in BCD's work to

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ALL-BARRY COUNTY FALL SPORTS 2025
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SMILES FOR CHRISTMAS: Angel Trees and food donation boxes set up across the county



The bags and boxes of toys pictured here in the pews of St. Francis Church in Orangeville Township were assembled by volunteers to be delivered to families who signed up for the Smiles for Christmas program through Orangeville Community Outreach. **Courtesy photos**



This yellow Angel Tree tag has the description of the child who will receive gifts through the Smiles for Christmas program.

Karen Turko-Ebright
Staff Writer

Year after year, the team of volunteers from Orangeville Community Outreach (OCO) works its magic to bring the Smiles for Christmas program to local families in need.

The Smiles for Christmas program kicked off earlier this month. The two-phase project includes "Angel Trees" connecting families in need with presents and a food drive. Donation boxes are set up around the community through Dec. 11.

So far, 58 families have signed up, according to program director Becky Kloth. She said she cannot imagine doing anything else.

"This is my second year being neck-deep in this program. I do this because I like helping people," Kloth said. "Helping people fills my heart with a feeling I cannot explain."

"When somebody knocks on my door and says, 'I need food for my family' you can see that they are on the edge of tears," she said. "You ask no questions and get their name, address and how many people in their family. Then you give them the food. You see the relief in their body language and in their eyes.

"Their relief gives me a feeling I just can't explain," she said.

There are two phases to the Smiles for Christmas program. Kloth said the program is focused on just gifts during one phase, and a separate phase involves only food donations.

"Last year, I combined both of them because I had to keep track of volunteers," Kloth said.

Though last year was Kloth's first at the helm, the Smiles for Christmas program has been around for roughly 18 years.

"The first phase is our Angel Trees. We take in information from local families for three specific gifts for each one of their children," Kloth explained. "We have 150 children (signed up) so far and 58 families."

The family's name and gift information will be recorded on a tag and placed on one of OCO's Angel Trees located throughout the area. Community members can then read the tags on the tree and donate presents accordingly.

The program saw record-breaking numbers for children this year. Last year, 144 children were signed up.

"I have a tag out there for a baby who is not yet born. Mom is due Nov. 23," Kloth said.

Angel Trees are set up at Town & Country Supermarket on Gun Lake, Dollar General in Orangeville, Brown's Carpet One in Hastings, Gun Lake Community Church on M-179, Water's Edge Floral & Gift on Gun Lake, Orangeville Baptist Church, Orangeville Fast Stop, Orangeville Tavern, Tom's Meat Market on Gun Lake, Lakeside Pizzeria on Gun Lake, Grove Street Cafe in Delton, The Local Grind, LLC in Delton plus Zeigler Ford in Plainwell.

The deadline for Angel Tree gift donations is Thursday, Dec. 11. The gifts should cost $30 or less, each, per child. The child's age, sex and his or her gift idea should be on the tree tag. Children 18 and under are served by the program.

Kloth said Smiles for Christmas has many clients, and many children served by the program come from the Barry County Community Action Agency's Head Start program.

"We work with the gals at the Delton branch. We got the applications out to Delton Elementary and Delton Middle School," said Kloth.

The second phase of the Smiles for Christmas program, Kloth said, is the can drive. The drive is ongoing now, and residents can fill the open food donation boxes, wrapped in Christmas paper and scattered throughout the community, with non-perishable food items. The donation boxes will be picked up on Friday, Dec. 12, so teams can deliver the food to families in need in time for Christmas.

"We build Christmas food boxes. Last year, we built 172 Christmas food boxes," Kloth said. "It was a record, and we're pushing for the same (this year) because every family that is getting gifts also gets a Christmas food box."

Donation boxes are set up throughout the community, with locations including Orangeville Tavern, Southside Cove, Dollar General in Orangeville, Town & Country Supermarket on Gun Lake, Kraai Well Drilling and the Local Grind in Delton.



Orangeville Community Outreach delivered 150 food boxes to local families in need through the Smiles for Christmas program in 2023.

"We usually ask that people donate non-perishable items that could make a Christmas meal like mashed potatoes, gravy, canned vegetables, corn and green beans.

"People also had cereal for the kids and even sweets. One year, somebody donated a bunch of Ho Hos. So, the kids got Christmas Ho Hos, too."

There are a few options available for those who want to donate food to the gift boxes.

"People can clean their cupboards or go out and purchase food. We have a bin at Town & Country Supermarket where people can stop in there and buy food and drop it off in the box on their way out. I have people bring food from their homes and put them in the bins," Kloth said.

Many volunteers make light work, Kloth said.

"Right now, we need a big group of people who are willing to wrap gifts. Because there will be 150 children each getting three gifts each. That's 450 gifts right at the beginning," Kloth said.

She is hoping for 16 to 20 volunteers of any age. Wrapping days are Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 15 and 16.

"On Dec. 15, we'll be wrapping from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church in Orangeville on 11850 9 Mile Road," Kloth explained. "If the wrapping is not finished on Monday the 15th, then more wrapping will continue the following day, Tuesday, on Dec. 16. OCO provides lunch for the wrappers."

See **DONATION** on 3

New special prosecutor takes over Apsey case

Dennis Mansfield
Staff Writer

There's a new special prosecutor in Hastings.

Jeffrey Williams, chief assistant prosecuting attorney for Kalamazoo County, introduced himself to local court officials during a pre-trial hearing Wednesday, Nov. 19, in Barry County District Court 56B as the new special prosecutor for a case involving a Corunna man who was arrested after a March 14 accident that claimed the life of a Hastings resident, 70-year-old Michael Norris.

Cody R. Apsey, 35, of Corunna, faces charges of a moving violation causing death and operating a motor vehicle without security for his alleged role in the fatal crash in March.

According to Barry County Prosecuting Attorney Julie Nakfoor Pratt, a special prosecutor from Allegan County was originally assigned by the Michigan Attorney General's office to the case after Pratt recused herself due to a potential conflict of interest.

"I am long-standing friends with the victim, Mike Norris, and his family, particularly his daughter and her husband, Kristen and Andy Cove," Pratt said after the Nov. 19 hearing.

The case was later reassigned to the Kalamazoo Prosecuting Attorney's Office, with Williams making his first appearance before Judge Michael Schipper last Wednesday.

Williams asked for the hearing to be rescheduled to provide time to "bring ourselves up to date" on the case.

"We're still getting information on the case," he added.

Schipper granted Williams' request, with the hearing being rescheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 3.

According to his daughter, the 70-year-old Norris was a "proud graduate" of Lakewood High School and reportedly had worked at Hastings Manufacturing for 45 years.

"He was a lifelong member of this community whose loss is deeply felt by his family, friends and neighbors," Kristen Cove stated.

FOREST

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tors. They went around the room and brought in the math teacher and the reading teacher and talked about their projects. I said that's not really my forte. My forte is environmental education. And (the principal) said, 'Do I have a student for you!'"

Bruce was paired with a student with the same passion for the outdoors and together they built a birdhouse, kestrel house along with planting acorns and apple seeds.

Seeing that he could mentor on topics in his wheelhouse, Bruce leaned into the birdhouse project. Along with Northeastern students, he builds what are called Peterson bluebird houses for this native bird. Last year, he worked with Northeastern's student council to build eight houses, which they installed on some vacant land owned by Flexfab.

"We put in eight houses. Seven of the houses raised fledglings that we were looking for – bluebirds or the tree swallow. That was very successful for us."

He hopes to expand that effort to other vacant land, either owned by the city or privately.

Bruce said it's important to provide these native birds with a place to live and reproduce.

"A lot of their habitat is disappearing. … The bluebird is a grassland bird," he said. "He's not a woodland bird. He likes to perch five feet up on top of a weed stock or bush, look down there, find a grasshopper and go down and get it. He likes short grass and that kind of habitat is disappearing."

Bruce's efforts to bolster these native birds continue outside of school, too. Bruce said that, at First Presbyterian Church, members are working on a grant application with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to turn the church's 30 acres of land back to grassland habitat.

With this sort of passion and dedication, it might not be a surprise that Bruce is a retired forester, formerly based in Munising in the Upper Peninsula.

"We had 220,000 acres we took care of — me and my staff," Brue said. "Best job in the world."

And, seeing students share his passion puts a smile on his face.

"Some of these kids really get into it. They're so proud (of their birdhouses)," Bruce said. "They say, 'Look at this. I built this!'"

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SOLAR

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speak in support of the application.

"This is an opportunity that comes along," Wymer said. "I believe we should move forward with it.

"I really don't think it affects anyone but me," he added.

However, Wymer seemed to be alone in that assessment, with as many as a dozen area residents, including property owners adjacent to or near Wymer's property, all voicing their concerns and opposition to the construction of the proposed solar farm.

Concerns ranged from the potential impact on wildlife, storm water drainage, questions on the companies involved to the elimination of area farmland.

"This all needs to be stopped," said one individual, who said she lived on a farm next to Wymer's property. "There's no more (farm) land once this is gone."

Barry County Commissioner David Hatfield, who also sits on the Planning Commission, cited two of seven provisions listed under the county's zoning ordinance – which lists local guidelines for special land uses – to deny the application, including that a project not change "the essential character" of an area.

According to Hatfield, the solar farm was also potentially detrimental to the welfare of the area and its residents.

While members of the Planning Commission debated whether the application be tabled, Hatfield said he did not need any further information and did not wish to make the applicants wait.

"It's not fair to the applicants to do more work when it's not going to change my mind," he said. "It would not change my mind."

Jeff Keesler, Barry County planning director, said the applicants could file a new special use application in a year.

Keesler added that unlike larger "green energy" projects, the applicants do not have the ability to appeal the local decision to the Michigan Public Service Commission. According to Keesler, projects under 50 megawatts must meet local requirements.

"If it's over 50 megawatts, it's either local or the State of Michigan," he said.



A solar farm proposed for Baltimore Township was far smaller in comparison to one (pictured) currently under construction in Johnstown Township by Consumers Energy. **Consumers Energy photo**



County officials and members of the Barry County Planning Commission debate a special use permit application for a small-scale solar farm proposed for Ron Wymer's property on East Brogan Road in Baltimore Township during a meeting Monday, Nov. 24, at the Tyden Center in Hastings.

DONATION

Continued from Page 2

OCO will be at Chief Noonday Car Park with the Smiles for Christmas program this Saturday, Nov. 29. There will be an Angel Tree with tags.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, there will be an OCO volunteer at Town & Country Supermarket taking donations for the Angel Tree gifts. The money will be used to buy gifts if a late family is added or there is a lost Angel Tree tag, Kloth said.

On Friday, Dec. 12, an OCO volunteer will be at Town & Country collecting monetary donations for the food boxes. Donors can donate via the provided QR code or write a check to Orangeville Community Outreach.

Donors are asked to specify on the memo line if the check is for food or gifts.

"We have an account set up with the Barry County Foundation, a 501(c)(3) set up so we can do a direct deposit," Kloth said.

The Angel Tree recipients could also get more than three gifts, because OCO gets some from Toys for Tots.

"Last year, each child got six gifts," Kloth said. "Anything we have left over when the parents come to pick up the gifts for the kids, we allow them to do a free shop for extra stuff for their children."

If people want to adopt a family, Sherry's at Waters Edge has a list of people and the tags, Kloth said.

The toys and food boxes can be picked up at St. Francis in Orangeville between 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19.

Volunteers will pack food boxes at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 17, at Chief Noonday Car Park in Yankee Springs.

"Chief Noonday Car Park was nice enough to let us use one of their garages to pack our food boxes," Kloth said. "We need volunteers to help pack the boxes."

Anyone who can volunteer can text or call Kloth at 269-945-7791 to sign up, show up or call with any questions.

Kloth has been the director of OCO since 2019.

"We put in over 3,000 volunteer hours every year with all the programs. The volunteers include all the people that make up the OCO. At any given time, I have a consistent 16 volunteers," Kloth said.

Kloth said she appreciates all who come forward to make Smiles for Christmas a successful program.

"A big thank you to all of the sponsors and all the people who want to get involved to help," Kloth said.

"They want to make that day good for the children and the families, no matter if they are a senior or a young couple with no children who are in need."

Kloth said OCO is community-run.

"Nobody gets paid. We are all volunteers."

Visit ocoforthepeople.org to learn more about OCO. The nonprofit organization also has a Facebook page.

CLEANUP

Continued from Page 1

reduce levels of dangerous bacteria in the Thornapple River.

"This is a good step forward," Zoellner said. "We're hoping we'll be able to make a measurable impact."

The $81,000 grant from MDARD was part of $1.3 million total given to Forestry Assistance Programs (FAP) across the state. FAP programs connect private forest owners with conservation district foresters, who can provide information on how to best sustain their forests and connect them with private-sector professionals.

"The big thing is asking what the property owner's goals are to begin with," Zoellner. "(For example), is it harvesting, or enjoying your woods or wildlife habitat. Then we can get folks kind of going down the appropriate path depending on what their goals are."

Zoellner said the FAP grant has been a yearly award for BCD, but this year's award amount was more significant than previous years. While the BCD's FAP has serviced Barry, Allegan and Ottawa counties in previous years, this year's funding will also allow the program to service Calhoun, Eaton, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Kent and Van Buren as well.

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It's like a retirement account specifically for healthcare costs. Since out-of-pocket healthcare costs for couples in retirement can be high (over $375,000 for those with Medicare and Medigap and nearly $200,000 for those with Advantage plans, according to 2025 Milliman Retiree Health Cost Index), maximizing your HSA should be a priority.

Here are some things to consider:

• **Ensure your eligibility.** To contribute, you must be enrolled in a high-deductible health insurance plan and cannot be on Medicare or claimed as someone else's dependent. You also can't have other health insurance coverage, though dental, vision and disability insurance are allowed.

For 2025, you can contribute up to $4,300 for individual coverage ($4,400 in 2026) or $8,550 for family coverage ($8,750 in 2026). If you're 55 or older, you can add an extra $1,000 annually. HSA contributions are generally made through monthly payroll deductions.

• **Think long-term.** Many people treat their HSA like a checking account, spending the money as soon as medical bills arrive.

Another strategy, however, is to leave your HSA funds alone if you can afford to pay medical expenses out of pocket. This approach lets that money grow for future healthcare needs, including retirement.

This strategy transforms your HSA from a spending account into a powerful savings tool. You can always reimburse yourself later for those out-of-pocket medical expenses, even years down the road, so long as you keep your receipts.

• **Invest for growth.** Most HSAs offer investment options, yet only 9% of account holders take advantage of them according to a 2025 Devenir HSA survey. The remaining 91% keep their entire balance in cash, missing out on potential growth opportunities.

Consider investing at least a portion of your HSA funds, especially if you don't expect to need the money soon. Just keep enough cash available to cover any immediate and significant medical expenses you might face.

• **Avoid early penalties.** Before age 65, taking HSA money for non-medical expenses means paying income tax plus a 20% penalty. But once you hit 65, that penalty disappears and your HSA works much like a traditional IRA for non-medical withdrawals.

Of course, using HSA funds for qualified medical expenses remains tax-free at any age, making it the ideal use for these dollars.

• **The bottom line:** With healthcare costs continuing to rise, an HSA offers an opportunity to save money while reducing your tax burden. Whether you're planning for next year's medical bills or healthcare costs decades away, maximizing your HSA contributions could be one of the smartest financial moves you make.

Whether you're planning for next year or catching up for 2025, your HSA can help turn today's savings into tomorrow's financial security.

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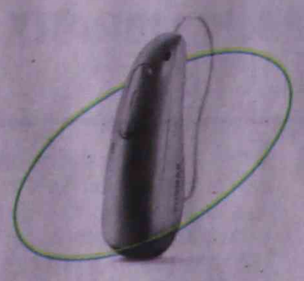
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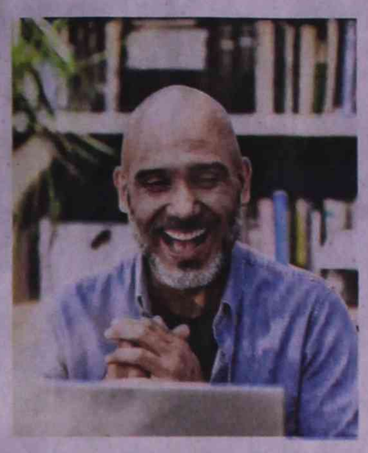
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OBITUARIES

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Georgina (Gina) Kay Blough



Georgina (Gina) Kay Blough, age 79, of Hastings, MI, passed away on November 18, 2025.

Born May 7, 1946, to George and Luella (Smith) Slocum, Gina was a proud graduate of Hastings High School and earned an associate's degree in Financial Administration from Davenport University. She spent over 30 years serving her community through her work at Hastings City Bank where she retired as the Assistant Vice President of Branch Administration. She was also a dedicated member of the Middleville Rotary.

On October 28, 1995, she married the love of her life, Berny Blough. Together, they shared a passion for travel, boating, and adventure—sailing the Great Lakes and exploring every angle of the Mackinac Bridge, from driving over, sailing under it, flying over it, to standing atop it. Gina loved to cook and read. She also enjoyed casino trips and cherished time spent with her family, especially her grandchildren. Her warmth, humor, and generosity made her a friend to everyone she met.

She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Marguerite (Bill) Butler, Joan (Bob) Baines, and Bob (Katie) Slocum.

Gina is survived by her husband, Berny; children, Tony (Katie) Hayward and Tiffany (Brandon) Greenfield; stepchildren, Jake (Jennifer) Blough and Hillary (Victor) Blough; grandchildren, Troy (Shayne), Travis, Kara (Charlie), Lucas, and Cole; three great-grandchildren; and lifelong friends Mary, Joan, and Jane.

There will be a Celebration of Life Gathering from 3 to 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 28, 2025 at Highpoint Community Bank in the Community Room.

Memorial contributions may be made to "Always Leave Smiling", https://www.barrycf.org/funds/alway_leave_smiling_tom_watson/, a Barry County Community Fund supporting Barry County residents facing cancer treatment expenses.

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

PIERCE CEDAR CREEK INSTITUTE EVENTS

— NOV. 27-DEC. 4 —

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

Aug. 1-31 — Aug. Storybook Walk: "Poo-Dunit?: A Forest Floor Mystery" by Katelyn Aronson; illustrated by Stephanie Laberis. The Storybook Walk is free and self-guided on the Black Walnut Trail.
Aug. 1-31 — Animal Tracks on the Trails. Be a nature detective and learn about common animal tracks you may encounter on the PCCI trails.
Friday, Aug. 2 — Fun Fridays in the Play Space, 10 a.m.-noon.
Wednesday, Aug. 7 — Stewardship workday, 9:30 a.m.-noon.
Wednesday, Aug. 7 — Field Station End of Summer Celebration, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
More information about these events can be found on the Institute's website at CedarCreekInstitute.org.

HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY SCHEDULE

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.
Mondays, Dec. 1-Jan. 26 — Seed-cleaning drop-in, 11-4 p.m. Stay warm indoors and work with your hands this winter. A seed-cleaning station is set up with everything you need to get started. Tea, coffee and snacks are free. Drop in on Mondays through Jan. 26 anytime between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the Education Building to get started.
Monday, Dec. 1 — Seeds, Soup and Salad, 11 a.m. Join the stewardship team in cleaning native seeds to be used for the plant sale and seeding on the Institute's property. Participants will learn about seed collecting, processing and storing. Lunch is included. Participants are asked to meet inside the Visitor Center. Institute members can register for the event for $15; non-members will pay $20.
Thursday, Dec. 4 — Playdates in the Play Space (ages 6 and under with an adult), 10 a.m. Bring your little ones to explore nature through free play, activities, books and more. This program is designed for children and their accompanying caregivers. Please plan to attend and be engaged with your child for this program.
More information about these events can be found on the Institute's website at CedarCreekInstitute.org.

ASK DR. UNIVERSE

Math wiz

What's the hardest math equation in the world?
— James, 6, Wash.

Dear James,

There weren't calculators or computers in medieval Europe. But there were math duels.

Mathematicians would gather in public squares and pose tricky math problems to each other. Then they raced to solve them. Victors might win money, fame or a university job. (Sadly, this isn't how I got my job.)

People still noodle on difficult math puzzles for work and fun today.

That's what my friend Daryl DeFord told me. He's a mathematician at Washington State University.

"That's really what math is all about," he said. "You find something that doesn't quite make sense, and you keep poking at it until it does."

Some math problems are difficult because they take a long time to solve. Others are tricky because no one has ever solved them.

There are even modern math contests—a lot like those medieval math duels. In 2000, the Clay Mathematics Institute named seven Millennium Prize Problems. Each of these math problems has a $1 million prize for the solver.

The Riemann Hypothesis is one of the most famous problems in that set. It's about prime numbers. That's any whole number that can only be divided by 1 and itself—like 2, 3, 5, 7 and 11.

Back in 1859, a mathematician said there's probably a pattern to describe how prime numbers are distributed. But so far nobody can prove that pattern exists—even though they've been working on it for more than 165 years.

Those kinds of math problems require advanced math knowledge. But there are technically simpler math mysteries, too.

The odd perfect number problem might be the oldest math problem of all. A perfect number is one whose proper divisors add together to equal the number itself. The number 6 is a perfect number because its divisors—1, 2 and 3—add up to 6.

But nobody has ever found an odd perfect number. People have been looking for one for thousands of years.

DeFord told me many mathematicians have personal math puzzles, too. These are math problems that grab their attention. They work on those problems for years or even decades.

DeFord has a problem like that.

Let's say you have a 4 x 4 grid—so a page with 16 squares. And you have four shapes made of four blocks stuck together. How many ways can you cover the grid with those pieces? The answer is 117.

We know the answers for grids up to 9 x 9 with shapes made of nine blocks. (The 9 x 9 answer is 706,152,947,468,301.)

"The number of solutions for the 9 x 9 grid is staggeringly huge," DeFord laughs. "Actually, one of my friends sent me a message this weekend claiming that by devoting 3TB of RAM on a super computer at Yale he will know the 10 x 10 value in the next couple of weeks—and maybe as soon as tomorrow."

Whether that happens or not, he's not giving up—and neither should you. I hope you take up your own impossible math problem and make it your own.

Consider this your personal invitation to a math duel.

— 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.

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)

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
1301 W. Green St.
Hastings, MI 49058
945-9541

Hastings library launches annual sock drive

Hastings Public Library officials recently launched the library's annual "Warm Toes Drive," a community effort to collect new socks for individuals and families in need throughout Barry County.

Socks are one of the most overlooked necessities and reportedly the most requested clothing item among people experiencing homelessness. Recognizing this ongoing need, library officials are inviting residents to donate new socks in all sizes for men, women and children. Donations will be distributed through United Way of Barry County and Green Gables, ensuring support reaches neighbors who need it most.

The drive runs through Dec. 12, with donations accepted during regular business hours at the library located at 227 E. State St. in Hastings. A marked collection area is available inside the building for anyone wishing to contribute.

"Even one pair can make a meaningful difference," said library staff, noting that something as simple as warm, clean socks can offer comfort, warmth and dignity during the coldest months of the year.

Community members are encouraged to stop by the library and support the Warm Toes Drive in any amount they are able.

For more information, contact the HPL by calling 269-945-4263 or visit the library's website, hastingspubliclibrary.org. — *DM*



Sharon Elzinga, a staff member at the Hastings Public Library, shows off socks donated recently for the library's annual "Warm Toes Drive," which runs through Dec. 12. **Courtesy photo**

ReLeaf Michigan announces 'Big Tree Hunt' winners, including Barry County white oak



Joseph Shaffer stands with a Barry County white oak measuring 222.5 inches in circumference. The tree claimed the top spot in the county as part of the biennial Michigan Big Tree Hunt contest. **Courtesy photo**

ReLeaf Michigan, a statewide non-profit tree planting and education organization, recently announced the winners of the 16th biennial Michigan Big Tree Hunt contest, held from spring 2023 through August 2025.

The contest drew more than 500 entries from 76 of Michigan's 83 counties, and each county's winning tree was verified in person by arborists, foresters and conservation professionals.

A white oak, discovered near Yankee Springs by Joseph Shaffer, measuring 222.5 inches in circumference, claimed the top spot in Barry County.

Certificates and prizes were awarded in several categories, including the largest tree from each county, the overall largest trees in two age groups, the largest Eastern White Pine, and any new potential state champion trees.

Grand prize winners were siblings Corey and Dani Town for a Sugar Maple (240") in Lapeer County, Kathy Briggerman for a Weeping Willow (327") in Shiawassee County, and Michael Anger for the largest Eastern White Pine (192") in Antrim County.

Sixteen trees submitted for the contest qualified as new potential state champion trees and were submitted for review and confirmation to the Big Tree Coordinator of the Michigan Botanical Society, Ted Reuschel.

For more information about the Big Tree Hunt, persons may visit the ReLeaf Michigan's Big Tree Hunt webpage at BigTreeHunt.com. — *DM*

Local 'Wall of Fame' seeks nominees

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.

The recognition will honor local nominees for their significant impact through performance, education, service or sponsorship.

Nominee submissions need to include the nominee's name, a short story detailing their contributions to the arts and contact information of the person submitting the nomination.

The deadline for nominations is Dec. 19.

To submit a nomination or read more about the Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame, persons may visit the HPAC homepage at hassk12.org/page/hpac, mail the Hastings Performing Arts Center WOF, 520 W. South Street, Hastings, MI 49058 or email HPAC@hassk12.org. — *DM*



The Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame Class of 2025 included Terry Dennison, The Thornapple Players represented by Angela Seeber and Norma Jean Acker, and Dennis O'Mara. **Courtesy photo**

Hastings church hosts healthy holiday cooking class

The Hastings Seventh-Day Adventist Church is looking to help area residents enjoy a happy and possibly healthier holiday season by hosting a "Holiday Plant-Based Cooking Class" at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 7.

The class is being organized by the church's Health Ministry Team and its Hastings Healthy Living Supper Club. There is no cost to attend, though goodwill donations will be accepted.

"The Hastings Healthy Living Supper Club is back in full swing providing monthly plant-based healthy cooking classes or other health programs," said Janice Cleary, one of the event's organizers. "Although the name says 'club,' don't let that scare you as there is no membership.

"This is open to all, a collaboration of Hastings and surrounding area people pursuing a healthy lifestyle," she added.

Persons interested in attending the Dec. 7 class and demonstration are urged to register by Dec. 4 to reserve a dinner plate, as space is limited.

The menu, which focuses on diabetic and heart-friendly food choices, includes smoky chickpea and vegetable soup, garden salad, an entree of crispy walnut roast with sides of garlicky potato and white bean mash, sweet basil carrots, roasted Brussels sprouts with lemon and thyme, and apple Crisp for dessert, as well as "Jane's Special Treat."

The Hastings Healthy Living Supper Club meets the first Sunday of the month January through May, before taking off for the summer due to vacations and outdoor activities and resuming in September-December.

The Hastings Seventh-day Adventist Church is located at 904 Terry Lane, just off Star School Road, in Hastings.

To register for the Dec. 7 program or for more information, persons may call or text 269-804-9959 or email to Hhealthylivingsupperclub@gmail.com. — *DM*

The buck stays here!
Spend it here. Keep it here.
Invest In Your Community.
VIEW Newspaper Group

YOU'RE NOT JUST OUR READERS.
You're our friends, our family, our neighbors...and our future.
VIEW Newspaper 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 January 8, 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. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Tyler Jezuit, a single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee: Rocket Mortgage, LLC, FKA Quicken Loans, LLC Date of Mortgage: October 21, 2024 Date of Mortgage Recording: October 25, 2024 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $195,013.52 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the City of Hastings, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: THE NORTH 58 FEET OFF AND FROM THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SOUTH ONE-HALF OF LOTS 1012 AND 1013, PLAT OF THE CITY OF HASTINGS, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 1 OF PLATS, PAGE 1, BARRY COUNTY RECORDS. Commonly Known as: 610 S Park St., Hastings, MI 49058 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under 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 Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. 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 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: 11/27/2025 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 321634
(11-27)(12-18)

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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.

STUMP REMOVAL

NEED STUMP GRINDING? Call 269-908-6227. Rooted Outdoor Services.

GO ONLINE TO HASTINGSBANNER.COM

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): Helen Grace Caldwell, an unmarried person, Roque Corpuz and Nora Corpuz, a married couple, all as joint tenants with rights of survivorship

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

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc.

Date of Mortgage: August 19, 2023

Date of Mortgage Recording: August 29, 2023

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $186,791.03

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Johnstown, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: PARCEL 1: LOT 14 OF SHADY SHORES, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 3 OF PLATS, ON PAGE 29, BEING A PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST.

PARCEL 2: LOT NO. 13 OF SHADY SHORES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN LIBER 3, OF PLATS, ON PAGE 29, IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN, BEING A PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, JOHNSON TOWNSHIP, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

Common street address (if any): 12125 Winans Rd, Dowling, MI 49050-8818

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 27, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1578197
(11-27)(12-18)

TKS fourth-grader earns recognition as National Math Star

Move over "Young Sheldon," because Page Elementary School fourth-grader Lilly Griswold is on her way.

"Math every day," cheered the 9-year-old Griswold. "I just love math."

And she's good at it – very good, according to school officials. The fourth-grader is now a member of National Math Stars, a highly selective program designed to identify and nurture exceptional mathematical talent throughout the country, according to Thornapple Kellogg Schools officials.

Griswold reportedly is one of only 100 students in the nation accepted into the program for 2025-26 and one of only three from the state of Michigan.

"I love using math to solve problems," Griswold said. "One day on the bus, I decided I wanted to calculate the surface area of my bus, so I came up with equations to do it and by the time I got to school, I had the answer."

Her mom, Katherine Key Griswold, realized early in Lilly's development that she was gifted, but it wasn't until her third-grade math scores came in last spring that she realized her daughter is exceptionally gifted in math.

"Mr. Hanna told us her math scores blew the roof off the test," said Katherine. "So, from there we started looking at where we could get her into some gifted and talented programs."

The young math star began meeting with district administrators to gather all of her test scores and find options for her. Griswold's mom had lots of questions.

"Where do we place her and how do we do this?" Katherine said. "She's really doing sixth-grade math or higher right now. How do we keep her excited about learning and at the same time still challenging her?"

Griswold's family helped research program options to fit her accelerated learning and found the National Math Stars, a program which looks for students in the 98th and 99th percentile in the country. And she made the cut.

Griswold took multiple tests over the summer with math problems well beyond the fourth-grade curriculum. Still, she excelled.

Of the 6,384 applications for the program, 389 finalists were named and 100 were selected to be the newest members of the National Math Stars program, according to TKS officials.

Griswold is part of the "Voyager" program within the National Math Stars. It is a 10-year, fully funded program to support and inspire students in their mathematical journeys.



Lilly Griswold visiting NASA during the National Math Stars Welcome Weekend in Houston, Texas.



Lilly Griswold at the National Math Stars Welcome Weekend in Houston, Texas. **Courtesy photos**

Over the 10 years, the program invests more than $100,000 in each star student. Members of the program receive personalized academic coaching, access to national-level math programs, family support, a math mentor and financial support.

Griswold gets to choose topics of interest to her. Each semester she will take advanced math courses she can work on independently in her regular school classroom at Page Elementary, as well as additional lessons at home.

There's also support for Griswold to attend summer math camps, competitions and other enrichment opportunities. A dedicated family advisor is assigned to assist each family throughout the 10-year program with things such as college counseling, career exploration and collaboration with partners to advocate for the child's needs in schools.

"We wouldn't have access to these kinds of experiences without this program," her mom said. "They're really trying to diversify the opportunities for these students."

Griswold is excited about the program.

"I like coding a lot and I like art and the physics behind art," said the fourth-grader, who hopes to combine her passion for art along with her expertise in mathematics.

Recently, Griswold attended a welcome weekend in Texas for the new members of the Math Stars. While there she was able to pick different interests, meet other students and try a host of challenges.

One experience she particularly enjoyed was creating infinite rooms using mirrors to make it appear as if an image never ends. She also loved working with giant yo-yos, understanding the physics behind them and mastering tricks with them.

During the event, Griswold also visited NASA space center where she touched moon rocks, ate astronaut ice cream and got to submit questions to former astronaut Ellen Ochoa. Two of Lilly's questions were selected.

Ochoa is an American engineer, former astronaut and was the first Hispanic director of the Johnson Space Center. They also visited the Museum of Natural Science.

"It gave us a look at what opportunities look like for her and how she can continue learning and growing," Katherine said. "At some point she's going to outpace some of her educators and us as parents."

It was an exciting and eye-opening weekend.

"I find math all around me all the time," the fourth-grader said. "I love to self-teach. I ask myself questions and figure out ways to find the answers.

"I especially like getting to know more about coding and I want to find out what kind of math I can mix in with art because those are my two favorite things," she added.

Griswold has been a TKS student since kindergarten and she wants to continue her education locally with her classmates, but also in the Math Stars program. She has two additional math classes per week outside of school, a session with her Math Stars mentor and can work independently on math in her TKS classroom.

"We've really had incredible experiences with all the teachers here at TK," said Katherine. "I'm incredibly proud of Lilly and truly grateful to her TK teachers for the role they've each played in her academic journey.

"Lilly is where she is because of the teachers who have helped her already. We are one of two schools in the state with a student selected for this program."

Michigan does not require an "Individualized Education Program" for gifted and talented students, only for students with learning disabilities.

Griswold's mom hopes this experience can help spark future conversation about additional ways to help nurture exceptional talent.

PES principal Amy Forman added that Griswold is an incredible student.

"We are excited to watch her grow and give her the time and space and do whatever we can do to help her along this journey," Forman said.

– Report courtesy of Thornapple Kellogg Schools

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Revocable Inter Vivos Trust

THE JULIE A. HAYWARD LIVING TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2012

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The Settlor of the Trust, Julie A. Hayward, who lived at 12179 Islandview Drive, Plainwell, MI 49080 died November 1, 2025.

Creditors of the Settlor are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented to Gary W. Hayward, Kelly Renee Mezo and Timothy Lee Piper, the Successor Co-Trustees of the Trust at 12179 Islandview Drive, Plainwell, MI 49080, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice.

Date: November 20, 2025

Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos, P.C.

By: : Mark E. Kreter., Attorney for Trustee P25218

One West Michigan Ave.

Battle Creek, MI 49017

269-966-3000

Julie A. Hayward Living Trust dated November 6, 2012

By: Gary W. Hayward, Kelly Renee Mezo and Timothy Lee Piper, Co-Trustees

12179 Islandview Drive

Plainwell, MI 49080 (269) 746-4647

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 8, 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

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE 2025-30268-DE
William M. Doherty

Court address: 206 West Court Street, Hastings, MI 49058

Court telephone no.: 269-945-1390

Estate of Dorene Mae Cash. Date of birth: 03/26/1938

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Dorene Mae Cash, died 11/09/2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Bradley Williams and Jeffery Williams, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 206 West Court Street, Hastings, MI 49058 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 11/19/2025

Nathan E. Tagg P68994
202 South Broadway, Hastings, MI 49058
269-948-2900

Bradley William
335 Snowy River Dr., Freeport, MI 49325

Jeffery Williams
7336 Usborne Rd., Freeport, MI 49325
(616) 706-7107

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

Estate of James Phillip Warnez. Date of Birth: October 4, 1952.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

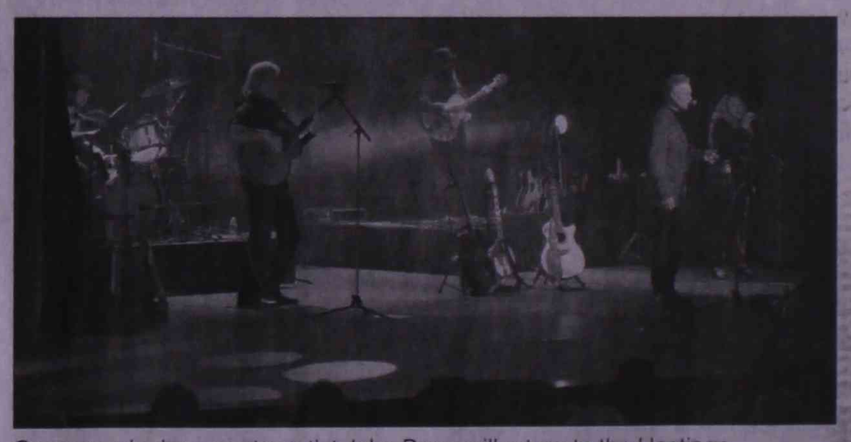
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, James Phillip Warnez, of 10758 Center Street, Barry County, Michigan died October 28, 2025.

Creditors of James Phillip Warnez are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Aaron Warnez, Trustee of the Warnez Family Protection Trust, u/a/d October 16, 2017, as modified through the Exercise of the Power of Appointment on September 9, 2021, care of Carrier Law, P.C., 4965 East Beltline Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49525 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: November 19, 2025

David L. Carrier P41531
4965 East Beltline Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
(616) 361-8400

Aaron Warnez
239 Rolling Meadows Dr.
Plainwell, MI 49080



Grammy-winning country artist John Berry will return to the Hastings Performing Arts Center next month as part of his 29th annual Christmas Tour

Christmas with John Berry returns to HPAC Dec. 5

The Hastings Performing Arts Center is welcoming back Grammy-winning country artist John Berry for his 29th annual Christmas Tour on Friday, Dec. 5, marking his fourth straight year performing in Hastings.

Sponsored by Meyers' Hometown Bakery, the holiday event continues a tradition made possible by Jeff Meyers, whose personal connection with Berry reportedly spans more than 30 years.

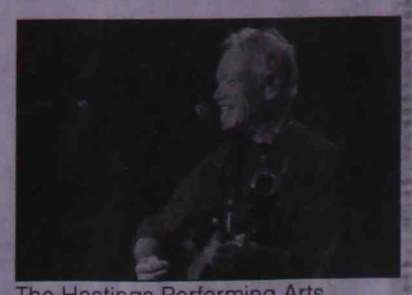
"This concert has truly become a Christmas tradition for Hastings," said Spencer White, HPAC site coordinator. "John Berry connects with audiences in such an authentic way, and we're honored to have him return year after year."

Joe LaJoye, HPAC programming and promotion coordinator, added that Berry's blend of hit songs and Christmas favorites creates a powerful, emotional experience.

It's no surprise these shows continue to be among our most popular each season," LaJoye said.

Fans may elevate their evening with the VIP Experience, which includes a private mini-concert, meet-and-greet, Q&A session, special acoustic performance, and photo and autograph opportunities.

Tickets are available at hastings.ludus.com or by calling 269-818-2492. — *DM*



The Hastings Performing Arts Center is welcoming back Grammy-winning country artist John Berry for his 29th annual Christmas Tour on Friday, Dec. 5, marking his fourth straight year performing in Hastings. **Photos by Bob Gaskill**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Barry County Planning Commission will conduct a special meeting to conduct a public hearing on the Barry County Zoning Ordinance of 2008 that the following article will be considered for amendment:

A-3-2025

Under Article 11, Section 1101 - Rural Residential - Permitted Uses

(All changes are in **BOLD** type)

A. Add: "**Compassion Home**" subject to Section 204.

MEETING DATE: Thursday, December 18, 2025
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Tyden Building
Community Room
121 South Church Street
Hastings, Michigan 49058

Interested persons desiring to present their views on the proposed amendment, 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: jkeesler@barrycounty.org.

The proposed amendment of the Barry County Zoning Ordinance is available for public inspection at the Barry County Planning Department, 220 West State Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, between the hours of 8 AM to 5 PM (closed between 12-1 PM) Monday thru 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 audiotapes 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 call the following: Eric Zuzga, County Administrator, 220 West State Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, (269) 945-1284.

Sarah M VanDenburg, Barry County Clerk

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

A BARRY COUNTY CHRISTMAS: Where history and holiday warmth come together

DAVID W. MILLER
Special to The Banner

When "Turning Back the Pages," one finds a wealth of philanthropic gestures made by Larry and Earlene Baum.

Among their lesser-known contributions is Larry Baum's long and distinguished service on the Gilmore Car Museum's foundation board of trustees, where he began in March 2010 and became an influential force for more than a decade. During his tenure, he held multiple board positions and played a central role in launching the museum's nationally regarded "Gilmore Garage Works" program, which provides high school students with hands-on training in automotive restoration.

Larry and Earlene were steadfast advocates of the museum's educational mission and capital initiatives, offering both leadership and financial support that helped ensure the institution's long-term growth and stability. Their dedication was formally recognized in July of this year with the opening of the new "Summer House" event center in the center of the Gilmore campus between the diner and the Shell station. This glassed-in pavilion, named in their honor, is used for special events and receptions.

In the early 1960s, Donald S. Gilmore—chairman of the Upjohn Company—began restoring a 1920 Pierce-Arrow at his home on Gull Lake. That project ignited his passion for collecting classic automobiles, soon joined by a 1927 Ford Model T, a 1913 Rolls-Royce, and other notable examples of automotive history. As his growing collection required more space, Gilmore purchased 90 acres of farmland near Hickory Corners in southwestern Michigan to properly house the cars. Encouraged by his wife, Genevieve, he established a nonprofit foundation. And on Sunday, July 31, 1966, the Gilmore Car Museum opened its doors to the public for the first time with 35 automobiles on display.

What began as one man's fascination has become North America's largest automobile museum, now exhibiting more than 400 vehicles across more than 209,000 square feet of gallery space. The 90-acre campus includes restored 19th-century barns, a recreated 1930s Shell service station and the fully-operational 1941 George & Sally's Blue Moon Diner—structures that together offer visitors a vivid sense of the automobile's place in American culture. Seven partner museums located on the grounds further enrich the experience, making the Gilmore one of the most distinctive historical institutions in the region.



Larry and Earlene Baum's dedication to the Gilmore Car Museum was formally recognized in July of this year with the opening of the new "Summer House" event center in the center of the Gilmore campus between the diner and the Shell station. **Courtesy photos**

That historic setting becomes especially magical during the holiday season. Returning for 2025, the Gilmore Car Museum's Winter Wonderland invites families to enjoy Christmas in a setting unlike any other in Michigan. The celebration begins with an outdoor driving tour along the museum's gently winding roads, where visitors travel through brilliant colors, themed light displays, festive music and more than 25 animated installations. The campus's iconic barns and vintage-era dealerships—already faithful recreations of early automotive architecture—are illuminated from eaves to foundations, creating a nostalgic winter landscape reminiscent of Christmases past.

After completing the outdoor portion of the tour, families can step into the museum's main galleries for a wide range of indoor holiday festivities. The annual Festival of Trees fills the interior with dozens of decorated evergreens, each uniquely designed by community groups and museum partners. Santa Claus greets visitors for photographs and conversation, while live holiday music is performed on Friday and Saturday evenings. Children enjoy hands-on exhibits, and adults can take in the rare automobiles and seasonal displays—or warm up with a visit to the historic diner.

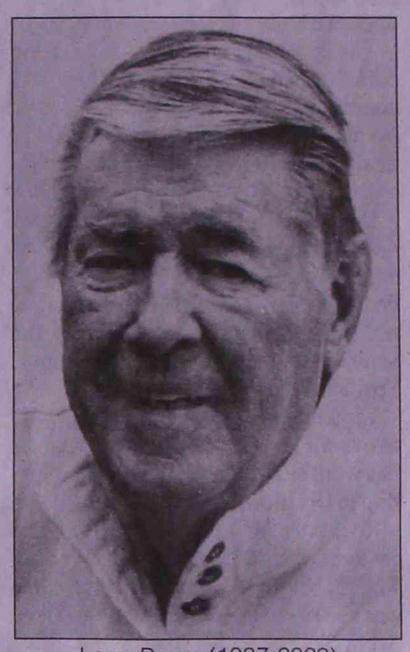
The museum's holiday hours for 2025–26 have also been announced: Winter Wonderland will be open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, beginning Nov. 29 and continuing through Jan. 4, 2026. For a detailed description of the holiday offerings and to purchase advanced tickets, visitors may go to https://gilmorecarmuseum.org, where all frequently asked questions are clearly addressed.

Winter Wonderland has quickly become one of the region's most beloved Christmas traditions because it creates an experience that truly brings generations together. Families share the same route, the same lights, the same music, and the same warmth of the season—set against a backdrop that honors Michigan's rich heritage and America's automotive story.

The Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners is located only 20 miles south of Hastings along M-43, making it an easy and worthwhile holiday excursion. Most guests find that with the outdoor tour, indoor exhibits and special activities, they will want to plan for at least four hours to fully experience the event.

Back in Hastings, be sure to gather in downtown Hastings on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 5:30 p.m. for the annual Christmas Parade with Santa hosted by the Hastings Rotary Club. Then on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., you'll want to meet camels at the petting zoo — Santa's reindeer couldn't get the day off this year. After that, there's a Candy Cane Hunt and a Chili Cook-off.

When "Turning Back the Pages," we are reminded that the Christmas season in Barry County has always been about more than lights, music, or gifts—it is about shared memory, community and the traditions that bind generations together. That same spirit will be on full display during the "Of Christmas Past" celebration at Historic Charlton Park on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13-14. Children and adults alike will step into the warmth of an old-fashioned holiday as the park's turn-of-the-century village and museum come alive with costumed volunteers and buildings adorned in simple, time-honored decorations.



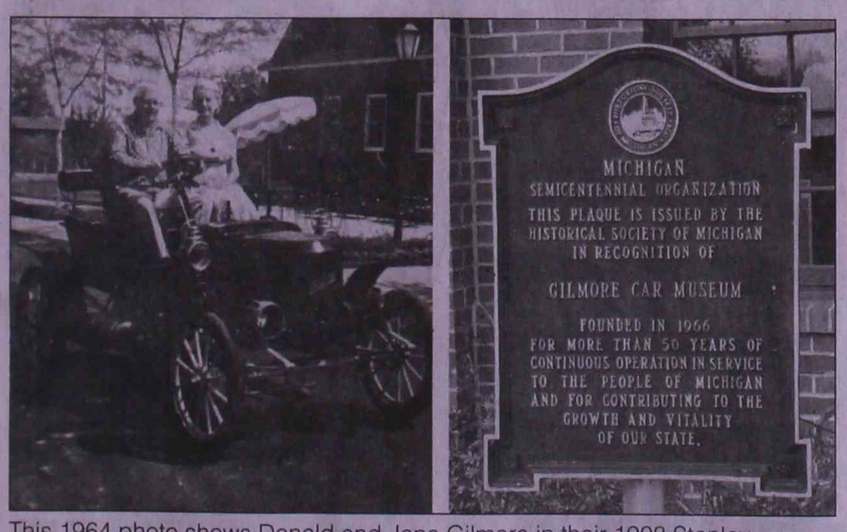
Larry Baum (1937-2023)

Guests may visit with St. Nicholas—who always seems to arrive with a generous supply of candy canes—and take part in hands-on activities such as candle dipping or crafting yarn dolls, the kinds of humble pastimes that once delighted families long before modern distractions. Seasonal fare is offered throughout the village, from steaming cups of wassail to roasted chestnuts, cinnamon-sugar apples and fresh popcorn, all accompanied by music that carries softly through the historic streets. Admission is $5 for ages 13 and up, while children 12 and under always enjoy free entry; parking is free for all.

As families travel from Hastings to Hickory Corners, or from Charlton Park to any of our community's cherished seasonal gatherings, they take part in a tradition that stretches back through generations: marking Christmas with places that honor our past while offering joy in the present. In celebrating both the Gilmore Car Museum's Winter Wonderland and the historic charm of Charlton Park, we preserve not just events, but the enduring sense of togetherness that defines this corner of Michigan. It is in that spirit that we continue "Turning Back the Pages"—so that the memories we value today may become the cherished traditions of tomorrow.

Sources: gilmorecarmuseum.org, City of Hastings event calendar.

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



This 1964 photo shows Donald and Jane Gilmore in their 1908 Stanley Steamer.



The fully-operational 1941 George & Sally's Blue Moon Diner on the Gilmore Car Museum campus.



When "Turning Back the Pages," we are reminded that the Christmas season in Barry County has always been about more than lights, music, or gifts—it is about shared memory, community and the traditions that bind generations together.

Yarger dives to fourth with difficult routine at D2 Finals

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The defending Division 2 state champion finished a little lower on the medal stand over the weekend at Eastern Michigan University in her second state finals appearance, but her score was even higher.

Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore Aubrey Yarger finished fourth in the diving competition at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Girls' Swimming and Diving Championships Friday and Saturday at EMU's Jones Natatorium in Ypsilanti.

Yarger closed the championships with an overall 11-dive score of 379.75 points. She won the 2024 state diving championship in Division 2 with a score of 367.30.

Rochester Adams junior Morgan Rea captured the 2025 title with a score of 431.75. Northview junior Katelyn Allen was second with 400.65 points and Ann Arbor Skyline senior Teagan McCallion placed third with a score of 383.05.

Rea and Allen were 1-2 in the standings from the get-go Friday. Prelim's consist of the first five dives at the state finals, and afterwards the field was cut from 36 divers to the top 20. That top 20 performed three more dives Friday in the semifinals to get down to the top 16 who would compete for medal placement during Saturday's finals.

Yarger had two dives earn as many as 41.40 points, a back 1 1/2 somersault dive in the pike position in round two Friday and a forward 2 somersault dive in the pike position during Saturday's tenth round.

DK/Hastings diving coach Todd Bates said judges are always tougher at the state finals, and he was really pleased with her performance regardless of her placing.

Not quite in the place she would hope to be in late Friday, Yarger closed out the semifinals with her most precise dive of the meet - an inward dive in the pike position. Facing the board she leapt up, folded her top half down into the pike position and then reached down to slice into the water on what was one of her two voluntary (required) dives of the semifinal round. It drew scores of sevens and eights from the judges and added a total of 31.50 points to her overall score.

Bates said Yarger was just a little off on her two toughest dives which she started implementing this season, dives with a degree of difficulty of 2.6, a forward 2 1/2 somersault dive in the pike position and a forward 1 1/2 somersault dive with 2 twists in the free position.

The state runner-up Allen and Byron Center senior Mackenzie Schitel who placed tenth were the only other girls to even attempt one dive with degree of difficulty (D.D.) over 2.4 - each with one 2.7 D.D. dive in their routine.

The 15 points from Yarger put the DK/Hastings co-op program in 25th place at the conclusion of the finals.

Farmington Hills Mercy beat out Grosse Pointe South 337-335 for the team state championship. Seaholm was third with 260.5 points ahead of Birmingham Groves 155.5, Ann Arbor Skyline 155, Byron Center 126, Midland Dow 114, Berkley 96, South Lyon East 94 and Ann Arbor Greenhills 77 in the top ten.

The team state championship came down to the final race of the finals, with Grosse Pointe South leading by four points at the start of the 400-yard freestyle relay. The Farmington Hills Mercy team of Avery Tack, Campbell Shore, Lyla Collins and Ella Hafner touched the wall first at the end of the relay - in 3 minutes 30.34 seconds. They finished 1.63 seconds ahead of the runner-up Grosse Pointe South foursome to clinch their team's third consecutive D2 state championship.

Tack, a junior, had Mercy's only other event victory with a winning time of 2:04.64 in the 200-yard individual medley.

Grosse Pointe South girls won the 200-

See **YARGER** on 11



Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore Aubrey Yarger smiles from the medal stand after a fourth-place finish in the diving competition at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals Saturday at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium. **Photo provided**

Being better on the board boosts Slagel on Finals scoreboard

■TK junior D1 Diving state runner-up

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Grand Rapids Gators junior Lydia Slagel went two steps up the medal stand Friday, Nov. 21.

Slagel finished as the state runner-up at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals hosted by Oakland University in Rochester improving on a fourth place finish from her sophomore season at the finals.

Slagel was in third place following Thursday evening's prelim's and semifinals, and then with successes on some tougher dives late in the competition she moved up into second place.

Kalamazoo Central senior Kiya Bowman made sure no one was catching her after she came out of Thursday's semifinals with the lead. She won the state championship with an overall 11-dive score of 422.60 points. Slagel closed the meet with a score of 389.80.

Both girls were really outstanding right from the start. Slagel had the lead after the first three dives, even with Bowman earning a stellar 50.60 points on her back 1 ½ somersault dive in the pike position in round two. Slagel scored more than 40 points on three of her first four dives of the competition.

Slagel performed a strong dive 403C in round four, an inward 1 ½ somersault dive in the tuck position, that earned her 41.80 points. Bowman had the same dive in the round and tallied a total score of 44.00 points to move into the lead. Bowman led the rest of the competition.

"She really hit everything," Slagel said of Bowman, "and she put together a spectacular meet."

"I was really just going for second or third. That is what I came here to do, and I did it," Slagel added.

It was third place for Slagel after the five preliminary dives, and she was still in third at the conclusion of round eight, the end of the semifinals. She moved into second with her forward two somersault dive in the pike position in round ten and then held that spot through the end with a strong inward dive in the pike position in round 11 that was judged one of her top dives of the meet.



Grand Rapids Gators junior gets into her pike position on her final dive during the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals at Oakland University in Rochester Friday, Nov. 21. Slagel finished the 11-dive meet as the state runner-up. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

"Really, I'm happy with all of them," Slagel said of her state finals dives. "Everything [was better than at regionals], I put in the work and I fixed things, and I made things work better than what they were."

She said most of that work happened on the board – better approaches and a better mindset.

Slagel said she'll start working on bigger and better things soon in hopes of moving up the medal stand at the state finals again as a senior. There isn't too much to do, possibly swap some tuck position dives for pike position dives which have a higher degree of difficulty.

She plans to be a manger for the boys' co-op this winter and to spend some time working with those guys. The Grand Rapids Gators girls' team is a co-op with Thornapple Kellogg, West Michigan Aviation, West Catholic and Hopkins. The boys' team, the Grand Rapids Gars, combines Thornapple Kellogg, Hopkins, Unity Christian, West Michigan Aviation Academy and West Catholic.

Over the years, Slagel has trained and competed in the Hastings Community Diving Club, and club coach Francesca Pileci has coached the Gators' divers this fall.

"She does everything," Slagel said. "She is the best person. I come into practice every day and she is just right there ready to go. She is always there saying you're going to do great, you've got this. I'll be there standing behind the board and I'll look over and I just see her big smile. It just helps me to know that I am okay and all this work we have put in is here to pay off. We're going to do great.

"She has always just been there for me. Let me tell you, I have some rough days and she is just like, 'girl you're going to be fine,' and we make it through. She's my deck mom. I love her like a mom."

The top 16 in each event at the state finals earned medals. Slagel was the only diver among the top six scorers who was not a senior.

Slagel's 17 points put the Gator program in 24th-place in the overall final team standings. Unsurprisingly, Ann Arbor Pioneer won the MHSAA L.P. Division 1 team championship with 404 points. Jenison was a distant second with 249 points ahead of Northville 193, Zeeland 179, Canton 109, Brighton 108, Rockford 89 and Caledonia 79 in the top ten.

Pioneer girls won six of the meet's 12 events and West Bloomfield senior Elizabeth Eichbrect was an individual stand-out with state championships in the freestyle distance races. She set state finals records in the 200-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle races Thursday and then took state championships in both events Friday. She set the record in the 200 freestyle at 1 minute 45.05 seconds in the prelim's and then won with a time of 1:45.98. in the 500 freestyle, she set a record in the prelim's at

See **SLAGEL** on 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 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)

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

VIEWnewspaper Group
mihomepaper.com



Lakewood senior Madison Fenlong signs her letter of intent to join the Albion College Women's Softball program next season surrounded by classmates and teammates at Lakewood High School Thursday, Nov. 20. **Photos by Brett Bremer**



Lakewood first baseman Madison Fenlong tags out a Thornapple Kellogg runner at home plate during the annual Barry County Invitational in Middleville last May. Fenlong signed to join the Albion College Women's Softball program last week.

Viking first baseman makes plans to play at Albion College

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Discussing softball, the mental and emotional aspects of the game come up a lot with Lakewood senior Madison Fenlong.

She is always looking to build her confidence. She says the game has really taught her about perseverance.

And she said if there is one thing she feels like she excels at on the diamond it is being a leader who "when we're down I can kind of lift us back up very well. I think that one of my strong suits for sure is being able to put aside errors and stuff like that and just like really lifting the team up."

Fenlong hits dingers too.

Fenlong signed her letter of intent to join the Albion College Women's Softball program with friends, classmates, teammates, coaches and family Thursday, Nov. 20, at Lakewood High School.

"I think that has always kind of been the plan, playing in college. I started playing travel ball at 10U, 12U and I pretty much fell in love with the sport and I was like, I want to do this collegiately. I want to be a collegiate player."

Viking varsity softball coach Brent Hilley said Fenlong has a great softball IQ, honed over years of travel and varsity level softball.

Fenlong started out playing tee ball, got into the Blue Bombers in Lake Odessa, and then moved on to travel ball at the 10U and 12U levels. She spent time playing with Michigan Impact out of Grand Ledge, the Grand Rapids Blaze and last few travel seasons have been with Mid-Michigan Chaos based in Lansing.

"She works incredibly hard at practice," Hilley said. "She is a tremendous teammate. Always helping to explain our things to the younger players. Very solid hitter and fielder. When things don't go right she has the ability to put things behind her and move on to the next play. That will be key to her success at the next level."

Fenlong said a home run against Bath during the Vikings' home Lakewood Invitational the spring of her sophomore year, her first varsity home run, was really a stand-out moment in her varsity time so far.

She has also been a part of the Lakewood varsity girls' golf program and has been talked into joining the Lakewood varsity girls' wrestling team this winter by softball teammate Peyton Federau.

Fenlong said through the first few practices she is finding that the confidence needed to be out on the wrestling mat is similar to that needed when standing in the batter's box.

She plans to start out with pre-nursing studies at Albion.

"I really enjoyed the visit and everything it had to offer," Fenlong said. "It was big enough were it felt like a big university, but it was small enough where I still felt like I was in a small area."

The Lakewood varsity girls' wrestling team has plans to host a Lakewood jamboree Dec. 4. Practices for the 2026 varsity softball season are slated to begin March 9.



Delton Kellogg/Hastings sophomore Aubrey Yarger gets into her pike position on her forward dive in the pike position to close Friday's semifinals during the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium in Ypsilanti. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

YARGER

Continued from Page 10

yard medley relay and the 200-yard freestyle relay, and the state runner-up team had sophomore Quinn Ryan win the 100-yard backstroke in 56.08 seconds, senior Whitney Handwork win the 50-yard freestyle in 23.24, and sophomore Caroline Bryan win the 100-yard butterfly in 54.59.

Skyline junior Adrienne Schadler was the only girl to win two individual events taking the 200-yard freestyle in 1:46.85 and the 500-yard freestyle in 4:48.50. Both times are now MHSAA L.P. Division 2 Finals records.

SLAGEL

Continued from Page 10

4:42.00 and then won the championship in 4:42.89.

Pioneer sophomore Tallulah Beg was the only other girl to win two individual events. She took the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:03.42 and the 200-yard individual medley in 2:04.15. Beg was also a part of Pioneer's winning 200-yard medley relay team.

Freshman Kia Alert was a part of the Pioneer 200-yard medley relay and 200-yard freestyle relay wins, and she won the 50-yard freestyle in 22.91. Senior teammate Katelyn Van Ryn won the 100-yard freestyle in 49.94 and was a part of the 200-yard freestyle relay and 400-yard freestyle relay wins for the Pioneer squad.

The Gators compete in the OK Conference East Division, and the East Division champions from Caledonia this season were tenth as a team led by senior Sophie Gaylord who has plans to swim collegiately for Oakland University next season. Gaylord she placed fifth in the 50-yard freestyle in 23.45 and third in the 100-yard freestyle in 51.42, and she was a part of the Fighting Scots' fifth-place 200-yard medley relay team and ninth-place 200-yard freestyle relay team.



Grand Rapids Gators junior Lydia Slagel (right), a Thornapple Kellogg High School student, smiles from the medal stand with state champion Kiya Bowman from Kalamazoo Central following their 1-2 finish at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 Girls' Swimming and Diving Finals at Oakland University in Rochester.

Junior Fighting Scot Mya VanderZwaag was 15th in the 50 freestyle in 25.14, 16th in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:08.32 and a part of both of those medal winning relay teams for Caledonia.

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)

ALL-BARRY COUNTY FALL 2025

Just one senior among boys' all-county honorees

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor



The 2025 All-Barry County Boys' Cross Country teams. First team members are (front from left) Landon Madden, Kaden Rohrbacher, Nick Muday, Joseph McCoy, Owen Bremer, Bryce Goodemoot and Jace Hilton. Second team members are (back from left) Tyler Curtis, Ethan Langmaack Grady Galaviz, Ayden Jones, Malachi Allersma, Caleb Kramer and Cameron Murray. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Delton Kellogg junior Landon Madden ran to the state finals once again.

The Panther pack inched closer to him too as the Delton Kellogg varsity boys' cross country team had four guys earn All-Barry County First Team honors this fall and another couple guys run their way onto the all-county second team.

It was a season facing tough competition for the area squads once again all throughout the fall.

The Delton Kellogg boys were regularly racing with the Southwestern Athletic Conference stars from Saugatuck and Holland Black River who finished fifth and seventh overall at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 3 Cross Country Finals. Another SAC boys' squad, Hackett Catholic Prep, placed seventh in the D4 Finals.

Lansing Catholic, the champions of the Capital Area Activities Conference White Division, ran to a runner-up finish at those finals after beating the Lakewood guys and everyone else in their league. Parma Western from the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference placed fourth at the D2 Finals. Thornapple Kellogg was chasing the highly ranked D2 squad from South Christian all fall in the OK Gold Conference.

A freshman led that Thornapple Kellogg all fall, and fast underclassmen were not rare around Barry County as of the 14 all-county honorees this season there is only one senior.

The top seven finishers from the late-October Barry County Championships at Lakewood High School earned spots on the all-county first team and the next seven finishers from that race fill the All-Barry County Second Team.

Here are the 2025 All-Barry County First and Second Teams.

All-Barry County
Boys' Cross Country
First Team

Owen Bremer, Thornapple Kellogg: Set a TK freshman record on the uber fast Otsego Bulldog Invitational course with a personal record time of 17 minutes 8.9 seconds, and was at the front of the pack for the Trojan team all season long finishing as high as tenth at an OK Gold Conference race.

His next best time was 17:50.9 at the Trojans' MHSAA Division 2 Regional hosted by South Christian, where he was about a minute faster than he was at the Under the Lights Invitational to open the season. Bremer placed fifth at the Barry County Championships in 18:15.8.

Bryce Goodemoot, Lakewood: Goodemoot, a junior, ran his fastest race of the season on the Vikings' home course for the Barry County Championships. He placed sixth in 18:32.2.

That was the fourth time he finished a race in less than 19 minutes this fall. Goodemoot finished as high as 21st at a Capital Area Activities Conference White Division race.

Jace Hilton, Delton Kellogg: Hilton finished in less than 19 minutes at the final three races of the season. He set his PR at 18:33.9 to place seventh at the Barry County Championships.

Hilton, a sophomore, broke the 19-minute mark for the first time placing 38th in 18:36.9 at the Kalamazoo Christian Comet Invitational and then he was under 19 again at his team's MHSAA Division 3 Regional in Allendale with a 51st-place time of 18:47.0.

Landon Madden, Delton Kellogg: A two-time state qualifier, Madden capped off his junior campaign with a personal record time of 16:32.7 that put him 50th at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 3 Cross Country Finals. He was about nine seconds faster than he was on the Michigan International Speedway course for the finals as a sophomore.

Madden was the champion at the Barry County Championships in 17:23.8 and he also took a victory at the Heritage Christian Academy Meet this fall. He placed as high as 16th at a Southwestern Athletic Conference race.

Joseph McCoy, Delton Kellogg: A sophomore in his first varsity cross country season at Delton, McCoy was about six minutes faster at the end of the season than he was at the start. McCoy set his personal record at 17:47.2 with a 30th-place finish at the Panthers' D3 Regional in Allendale.

McCoy went under 20 minutes for the first time at the first SAC jamboree of the season, went under 19 minutes for the first time at the Otsego Invitational, and then went under 18 for the first time there at regionals. He was just off his PR pace at the Barry County Championships where he finished fourth in 17:51.4.

Nick Muday, Delton Kellogg: Muday found another gear at the end of his senior season. He cut about half a minute from his previous PR at the Panthers' Division 3 Regional in Allendale at the end of the season. He placed 26th at the regional in 17:32.9. His previous PR was 18:04.7 which he set in a 20th-place finish at the SAC finale.

Muday was under 18 minutes again at the Barry County Championships. He placed third in 17:51.2 in helping the Panthers to the team title.

Kaden Rohrbacher, Lakewood: The Lakewood leader for most of the fall, Rohrbacher was the runner-up at the Barry County Championships with a time of 17:41.3. It was one of a handful of races he finished in less than 18 minutes.

Rohrbacher set his personal record at the CAAC White finale this season placing 11th in 17:33.9. He finished as high as ninth at a conference race this season.

All-Barry County
Boys' Cross Country
Second Team

Malachi Allersma, Delton Kellogg: A freshman, he peaked at the end of the season with his last three races his fastest three races. Allersma set a personal record running with the DK varsity at its D3 Regional in Allendale turning in a time of 18:55.4. He got even faster in early November running in the MITCA Meet of Champions where he finished in 18:19.7.

Allersma placed 12th at the Barry County Championships with a time of 18:19.7.

Tyler Curtis, Maple Valley: After just missing second team honors in each of his first two varsity seasons, Curtis ran to a spot on the All-Barry County Second Team this fall with an eighth-place finish at the county meet. He hit the finish line in 18:41.8.

That finish marked the second straight race for Curtis, a junior, finishing in less than 19 minutes. He set his PR at 18:28.4 at the Lions' Division 4 Regional in Allendale. He finished as high as 15th at a Big 8 Conference race this fall.

Grady Galaviz, Thornapple Kellogg: A junior, Galaviz earned second team all-county and honorable mention all-conference for the second straight season. Galaviz ran to a time of 18:53.3 to place tenth at the Barry County Championships at the end of the season.

He set his personal record at the Sparta Invitational in September with a time of 18:06.2 and was regularly under that 19-minute mark throughout the fall. He finished as high as 17th at an OK Gold Conference race this season.

Ayden Jones, Delton Kellogg: Another Panther really at his best at the end of the season. Jones set his PR at 18:54.4 at the Panthers' Division 3 Regional race in Allendale where he was about three minutes faster than his early season times.

Jones, a sophomore in his first varsity cross country season at DK, placed 11th at the Barry County Championships in 18:59.6.

Caleb Kramer, Hastings: A junior in his second high school season, Kramer earned all-county honors for the first time while setting his personal record at the Barry County Championships. He placed 13th in 19:18.7.

Kramer finished in less than 20 minutes for the first time at the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference Championship where he placed 42nd in 19:44.7. He finished as high as 30th at a conference jamboree this season.

Ethan Langmaack, Lakewood: A sophomore in his second varsity season, Langmaack set his personal record at 18:43.8 to place ninth at the Barry County Championships. It was his first time finishing a race in less than 19 minutes.

He finished his previous four races in the 19's, turning in what was then a PR of 19:18.6 at the Vikings' Division 2 Regional race at South Christian High School. Langmaack finished as high as 28th at a CAAC White Conference jamboree this fall.

Cameron Murray, Maple Valley: A junior, Murray ticked his times under 20 minutes for the first time this fall. He pulled that off for the first time at the Otsego Bulldog Invitational in late September.

Murray eventually set his PR at 19:22.1 in a 14th-place finish at the Barry County Championships. Murray was also under 20 at the Lions' Division 4 Regional in Allendale where he placed 45th with a time of 19:51.7.

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.

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.

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) 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.

ALL-BARRY COUNTY FALL 2025

Pair of X.C. state finalists among all-county ladies



The 2025 All-Barry County Girls' Cross Country teams. First team members are (front from left) Caroline Randall, Carmen Reynolds, Melanie Jones, Breanna Schut, Brielle Miller, Peyton Hardy and Emerson Leary. Second team members are (back from left) Madison Kietzman, Avery Hagemann, Heidi Carter, Izabelle Soper, Riley Perley, Elli Timmerman and Chloe Pirtle. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Thornapple Kellogg girls' team continued its dominance of the Barry County Championships winning the county meet again this fall at Lakewood High School the first Monday in November.

Hastings junior Caroline Randall continued her stellar varsity cross country campaign with a third straight trip to the state finals.

Maple Valley had a freshman run to the state finals.

The Thornapple Kellogg ladies were second to South Christian in the OK Gold Conference this fall, and then the Trojan, Hastings Saxons and Lakewood Vikings competed against South Christian on the Sailors' home course in one of the toughest D2 Regionals in the state at the end of the season. That regional was one that included four of the top 15 ranked teams in the state. Grand Rapids Christian and South Christian from that regional wound up third and fourth in the team standings at the state finals, and East Grand Rapids placed tenth.

Randall didn't push things at regionals, but then outran all those girls from her region at the finals at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

The Delton Kellogg and Maple Valley girls competed in Division 3 and 4 Regionals respectively at the end of the season in Allendale. The Maple Valley girls were fifth in their race, just 18 points behind the last of the three state qualifying teams.

The top seven runners at the Barry County Championships earned spots on this year's All-Barry County First Team and the next seven runners across the finish line fill the all-county second team spots.

All five Barry County varsity cross country programs have girls honored among the area's best.

Here are the 2025 All-Barry County Girls' Cross Country First and Second Teams.

All-Barry County
Girls' Cross Country
First Team

Peyton Hardy, Thornapple Kellogg: A junior, Hardy led the Thornapple Kellogg pack for much of the season. She just missed getting under the 21-minute mark at the Sparta Invitational and then pulled it off at the Otsego Bulldog Invitational in September.

Hardy placed 12th at the OK Gold Conference Championship, matching her top finish from a conference jamboree, and closed out her season by placing sixth at the Barry County Championship in 22:12.1 on the course at Lakewood High School.

Melanie Jones, Maple Valley: The fastest freshman in the county, Jones earned a spot in the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 4 Girls' Cross Country Finals at the end of the season where she placed 135th with a time of 22:30.4

Jones qualified for the finals with a personal record time of 22:04.7 at her team's D4 Regional in Allendale and then dropped her PR again at the Barry County Championship where she was third in 21:52.0.

Emerson Leary, Hastings: A freshman, Leary broke the 23-minute mark at the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference Championship for the first time. She set her PR in that conference championship race with a time of 22:46.4.

She cut more than three minutes from her August South Christian Under the Lights time on the same South Christian course at regionals, and then placed seventh at the Barry County Championship in 22:36.2.

Brielle Miller, Thornapple Kellogg: A freshman, Miller set her personal record at 21:32.2 to place 28th and lead the TK team at its MHSAA Division 2 Regional hosted by South Christian High School. She was two minutes after than she was on the same course to open the season in August.

She placed 14th at the OK Gold Conference Championship, leaping forward after finishing 27th and 23rd at the two conference jamborees. Miller ran to a fifth-place time of 22:10.7 at the Barry County Championships.

Caroline Randall, Hastings: Now a three-time state medalist, Randall capped off her senior season with a time of 17 minutes 49.6 seconds that put her in fourth place in the Division 2 girls' race at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Cross Country Finals.

She was just ten seconds off her PR, and her own school record, at the state finals. Randall was the victor at the Barry County Championship for the second time in three seasons with a winning time of 18:49.6 on the course at Lakewood High School.

Carmen Reynolds, Thornapple Kellogg: One of five different ladies to lead the TK girls' team in a race this fall, Reynolds run to a runner-up time of 21:40.8 at the Barry County Championships at the end of the season.

Reynolds ran to a 16th-place finish at the OK Gold Conference championship this fall after being the conference's JV champion as a sophomore. Reynolds is now a three-time All-Barry County honoree and a two time first-teamer.

Breanna Schut, Thornapple Kellogg: Schut improved her personal record by more than a minute and a half as a sophomore with a time of 21:58.5 at the Sparta Invitational in February. She earned all-county honors for the first time by placing fourth at the Barry County Championships with a time of 22:10.2.

Schut improved her placing in each successive OK Gold Conference race this fall. She finished as high as 17th at the conference championship meet.

All-Barry County
Girls' Cross Country
Second Team

Heidi Carter, Lakewood: Carter took a big jump forward running on her home course at the Barry County Championship to close out the fall. She set her personal record at 22:54.2 to place tenth at the county meet. That time beat her previous season best by more than a minute.

Overall she peaked at the right time with her two other fastest races the Capital Area Activities Conference White Division finale and her team's D2 regional race at South Christian. Carter led the Viking pack all fall.

Avery Hagemann, Thornapple Kellogg: A senior, Hagemann closed out the fall by running her fastest time of the season at the Barry County Championship. She placed ninth in 22:52.5 to earn second team all-county honors for the third time in three high school seasons.

Her previous best this year was a time of 23:17.0 at the OK Gold Conference Championship where she placed 28th.

Madison Kietzman, Thornapple Kellogg: Kietzman led the Trojan team at the OK Gold Conference Championship at Riverside Park in Grand Rapids with an 11th-place time of 21 minutes 40.2 seconds.

A senior, Kietzman earned All-Barry County honors for the fourth time with her eighth-place time of 22:36.4 at the Barry County Championships to close the season. She had a top time this fall of 21:06.5 at the Otsego Bulldog Invitational.

Riley Perley, Delton Kellogg: A junior in her first varsity season at Delton, Perley set her personal record time at 23:01.9 to place 12th at the Barry County Championship. She was more than four minutes faster than she was at her first race of the season.

Perley dropped her personal record time at the Otsego Bulldog Invitational, and then the final Southwestern Athletic Conference jamboree, then at regionals and then again at the county meet to close out the season.

Chloe Pirtle, Hastings: A junior, Pirtle earned the final all-county spot with a personal record run of 23:30.6 which put her in 14th place at the Barry County Championship.

Her previous best time of the season was 24:04.0 at the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference Championship. Pirtle finished as high as 26th at an I-8 race this fall.

Elli Timmerman, Delton Kellogg: Timmerman improved her time on the regional course in Allendale with a personal record run of 23:17.6 at the Panthers' D3 Regional race at the end of her senior season. She was a minute faster than she was on the course at the end of her junior season.

Timmerman was the Kellogg Division champion at Thornapple Kellogg's Coach B Invitational early in the season. She was just off her personal record time at the Barry County Championship where she placed 13th in 23:21.4.

Izabelle Soper, Maple Valley: A senior in her first varsity cross country season with the Lions, Soper cut more than four and a half minutes from her first time of the season to her last. She set her PR at 22:55.1 to place 11th at the Barry County Championship.

She finished as high as 20th in a Big 8 Conference race this fall, and she placed 26th at the Lions' MHSAA Division 4 Regional in Allendale with a time of 23:39.0 – which was her PR until the county meet.

GO ONLINE TO HASTINGSBANNER.COM

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 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 INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Mathew Hallifax and Shawnda Robinson, joint tenancy with full rights of survivorship, whose address is 1249 Boncher Boulevard, Hastings, Michigan 49058, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, being a mortgage dated May 28, 2021, and recorded on June 1, 2021 with Document Number 2021-007090, Barry County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated March 29, 2024 and recorded on March 29, 2024 and given document number 2024-002088 in Barry County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHT AND 57/100 DOLLARS ($237,508.57). Said premises are situated in the Township of Hastings, County of Barry, State of Michigan, and are described as: UNIT 19, OF SUMMERWYN ESTATES EAST CONDOMINIUMS, FORMERLY KNOWN AS, CREEKWOOD SITE CONDOMINIUMS, ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED RECORDED IN DOCUMENT NUMBER 1024069 AND AMENDMENTS, RECORDED IN 2016-010383 AND RE-RECORDED IN 2017-005529, AS AMENDED, BARRY COUNTY RECORDS, AND DESIGNATED AS BARRY COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 13, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN THE GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND THE LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SHOWN ON THE MASTER DEED AND AS DESCRIBED IN ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED. Street Address: 1249 Boncher Boulevard, Hastings, Michigan 49058 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 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. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 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: November 27, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602. Telephone: (312) 541-9710 File No.: MI 25 6821 (11-27)(12-18)

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ALL-BARRY COUNTY FALL 2025

Underclassmen peak near season's end for area golf teams

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

A big group of youngsters kept honing their game throughout the fall on the area golf courses.

Thornapple Kellogg was led by a roster full of juniors. Hastings had a sophomore finish as one of the top golfers in the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference.

Just a trio of seniors finished the season here earning All-Barry County honors as underclassmen fill eight of the 11 places this fall.

Hastings, Thornapple Kellogg and the Lakewood teams all finished in the middle of the pack in their respective conferences this season.

They were tough conferences. The Lakewood girls faced off against Lansing Catholic time and again. The Cougars won the Capital Area Activities Conference White Division championship and then placed second at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 4 Girls' Golf Finals.

The South Christian girls, who bested TK and everyone else in the OK Gold Conference throughout the fall, placed fourth at the D3 Finals, and Harper Creek from the I-8 placed eighth at those D3 Finals.

Here are the 2025 All-Barry County Girls' Golf First and Second Teams.

All-Barry County
Girls' Golf
First Team

Galatea Archbold, Lakewood: Archbold was the Viking team's leader in every event she competed in this fall including the team's MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 3 Regional where she turned in a score of 96 strokes at Pigeon Creek.



Vivian Hansson

Archbold, a senior, shot a 46 and a 47 at the first two CAAC White jamborees of the season.

Lilli Edger, Hastings: A sophomore, Edger was the individual medalist at the first Interstate-8 Athletic Conference jamboree of the season shooting a 44 at Coldwater Golf Course. She would close the season earning all-conference honors.

Edger led the Saxon team throughout the rest of the fall. She finished the season with a nine-hole scoring average of 45.96 strokes. She shot a 93 to place seventh at the I-8 Championship at the end of the season and she placed 20th at her team's MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Regional with a score of 95.



Lilli Edger

Sophia Greenfield, Hastings: A senior, Greenfield closed out her time as a varsity golfer strong for the Saxons. She finished this fall with a nine-hole scoring average of 54.38 strokes.

Greenfield shot a 97 to place eighth at the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference Championship and then placed 22nd with a 97 at her team's Division 2 Regional tournament.

Vivian Hansson, Thornapple Kellogg: A junior, Hansson was the leader for the Trojan team all throughout the fall playing in the top spot. She placed 16th at the OK Gold Conference Championship with a score of 102 strokes.

Hansson was also the TK leader at its Division 2 Regional with a score of 101. Hansson averaged 46.9 strokes per nine holes for the season.

Sydney Martin, Thornapple Kellogg: A junior, Martin fired an average nine-hole score of 50 strokes throughout the season an improvement of about six strokes from her sophomore season.

Martin was named the Trojan's most improved player this season.

Jordan Price, Thornapple Kellogg: A junior, Price had a nine-hole season average of 49.1 strokes. She got off to a slow start to the year, but by the end of the fall she was playing her best golf.

Price was the team's number two throughout much of the fall, and had an especially strong day in mid-September when she shot a 48 and a 47 in the two conference jamborees played that day at Orchard Hills and Yankee Springs.

All-Barry County
Girls' Golf
Second Team

Katie Chase, Thornapple Kellogg: A junior, Chase fired an average score of 52.8 strokes per nine holes throughout the season.

Coach Bob Kaminski said Chase quietly had a very good season and like some teammates was really playing her best golf by the end of the season.

Emily Coe, Thornapple Kellogg: A freshman, Coe put up a nine-hole average of 54.6 strokes for the season.

Coach Kaminski said he was impressed with how consistently she played throughout her first season of varsity golf. "She had a great season and has a great attitude," he said.

Ryann-Lynn Cole, Hastings: A sophomore, Cole played in the number two spot in the line-up for the Saxons throughout most of the season. Head coach Ross Schueller said she was probably his team's most consistent player aside from No. 1 Edger.

Cole had a nine-hole scoring average of 54.47 for the season.

Ellie Cousins, Hastings: Cousins closed her senior season with an overall scoring average of 55.93 strokes per nine holes while playing in the number three or four spot for the Saxon team.

Cousins had a nine-hole scoring average of 55.93 for the season, and coach Schueller said she was really consistent on the course after the first couple weeks.

Grace Grosshans, Lakewood: A junior, Grosshans kept dropping her scores as the season went on. She had a low score of 49 at the conference jamboree hosted by Lansing Catholic.

Grosshans tied for the Viking team lead at the CAAC White Championship and was the team's number two at its Division 3 Regional.

NOTICE

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.

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 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.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by ADAM FARRAH, to FIGURE LENDING LLC, Mortgagee, dated June 8, 2022 and recorded June 14, 2022 in Instrument Number 2022-006702 Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by MEB Loan Trust VIII, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Two and 15/100 Dollars ($143,432.15).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on JANUARY 8, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Hope, Barry County Michigan, and are described as:

Land Situated in the State of Michigan, County of Barry, Township of Hope.Parcel F2: Commencing at the West 1/4 post of Section 28, Town 2 North, Range 9 West; thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds East 1214.40 feet along the East and West 1/4 line of said Section 28; thence South 02 degrees 54 minutes 51 seconds West 233.04 feet; thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds East 220.00 feet to the true point of beginning; thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds East 373.08 feet; thence South 52 degrees 20 minutes 58 seconds West 364.29 feet; thence North 60 degrees 26 minutes 18 seconds West 35.79 feet; thence North 14 degrees 36 minutes 45 seconds West 212.14 feet to the point of beginningTogether with a non-exclusive private easement for ingress, egress and public utility purposes, 66 feet wide, described as: Beginning at a point on the East and West 1/4 line of Section 28. Town 2 North, Range 9 West, distant South 89 degrees 50 minutes 14 seconds East 2094.40 feet from the West 1/4 post of said Section 28, thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds East 66.08 feet along said 1/4 line; thence South 02 degrees 54 minutes 51 seconds West 881.91 feet; thence North 75 degrees 47 minutes 45 seconds West 67.30 feet; thence North 02 degrees 54 minutes 51 seconds East 865.45 feet to the point of beginning.Also together with a non-exclusive private easement for ingress, egress and public utility purposes, 66 feet wide, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 post of Section 28, Town 2 North, Range 9 West; thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds East 2094.40 feet along the East and West 1/4 line of said Section 28: thence South 02 degrees 54 minutes 51 seconds West 233.04 feet to the true point of beginning; thence South 02 degrees 54 minutes 51 seconds West 66.08 feet; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds West 317.09 feet; thence South 52 degrees 20 minutes 58 seconds West 283.59 feet; thence South 06 degrees 46 minutes 20 seconds West 206.14 feet; thence North 83 degrees 13 minutes 40 seconds West 66.00 feet; thence North 06 degrees 46 minutes 20 seconds East 233.86 feet; thence North 52 degrees 20 minutes 58 seconds East 335.48 feet; thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds East 340.87 feet to the point of beginning.

4727 Waldorf Road, Delton, Michigan 49046

The redemption period shall be 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.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, 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 damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: November 27, 2025
File No. 25-004743
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(11-27)(12-18)

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)

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