

Schwartz named all-state



Lucas Schwartz of Addison High School was named as a first-team all-state golfer as voted on by the Michigan Inter-scholastic Golf Coaches Association. The junior finished just outside of the top 10 individually at the Division 4 state final earlier in the month. He helped lead Addison to the MHSAA state team finals for the first time since 1981 this past season. Photo by Jeff Steers/Exponent

Veteran honored



Napoleon catcher Logan Hankis prepares to get hit by a baserunner in a recent game.

Grass Lake man recognized for service, dedication to area veterans

Story and photos
By John Hummer
Editor

Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05) recognized James Ducey of Grass Lake as the Veteran of the Month for June in a ceremony at Grass Lake Veterans Memorial last Monday, June 15. The Congressman presented Ducey with the Congressional Record containing his remarks honoring James' service and dedication to our country.

Ducey was also presented with a Flag of the United States from Rep. Walberg and a framed puzzle photo commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States from Grass Lake American Legion Post 252 as part of being honored.

"It is a privilege to honor James Ducey as the Veteran of the Month for June," said Rep. Walberg. "James' lifelong record of service, from his distinguished tenure in the Air Force to his unwavering dedication to veterans in our community, exemplifies the highest ideals of commitment and leadership. His stewardship within the American Legion Post 252, the Jackson Veterans Council, and multiple Department committees reflects a deep devotion to uplifting his community and fellow veterans. His remarkable contributions continue to inspire all of us, and we are grateful for his enduring service to our nation."

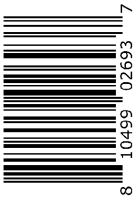
Ducey enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1966, serving proudly in the 341st Civil Engineering Squadron at the Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, Montana. He served in the Air Force until 1970, achieving the rank of Sergeant E-4, and was awarded the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon and the Good Conduct Medal.

Even after leaving active duty, Ducey never stopped serving, shifting his efforts to his local community. He joined the Grass Lake American Legion Post 252, where he was appointed Adjutant in 2018, leading the annual Memorial Day celebration for several years and post activities through 2025. His leadership also extended to chairing the American Legion Fireworks Committee and the July 4th Parade in partnership with the Grass Lake Sportsman's Club.

He has held numerous other leadership positions and was appointed to the American Legion's State Department Finance Committee and as secretary of the Department's Internal Affairs Committee.

"Today, it's great that we take this pause and honor Jim," said Cmdr. Ron Cassidy, American Legion Post 252. Cassidy recited a writing by Theodore Roosevelt called "A Man in the Arena" during his remarks.

See James Ducey page 2



Onsted budget balanced, still clouded by concerns



Above, from left: CPA Erica Metcalf presented the long-awaited news that, due to multiple interventions, the deficit has successfully been addressed, the budget balanced, and fund balances raised to an estimated 12.7% for the 2026-2027 proposed budget. Middle: Coach Michelle Gates expressed concerns to the OSC board about district communication issues and strained relations. Right: Businessman Eric Tjolsen summarized customer chatter about how to retain disenchanting families and entice new ones.

\$1.2 million deficit reduced to \$430,000, residents say trust must be rebuilt

Story & Photos
By Michelle McLemore
Staff writer

At both the special budget hearing and the regular June 15 Onsted Board of Education meeting last week, CPA Erica Metcalf presented that, after months of intercessions, the initial 2025-2026 projected \$1.2 million deficit has been reduced to approximately \$430,000. This results in an estimated fund balance of 11.9% instead of the near 5% that had been projected if no changes were undertaken.

Metcalf noted that for the 2026-2027 proposed budget, the anticipated fund balance is approximately 12.72% based on future balanced revenues and expenditures.

Public comments noted that while financial progress was made, the problems that caused the shortfall have not been solved. Several individuals mentioned inconsistencies in hiring processes for the recent administrative positions; while others expressed a need for more frequent, detailed communication to staff, family, and community members regarding changes in the district.

Leadership skills were questioned, and the need to rebuild cohesiveness and trust was repeated.

Coach Michelle Gates clarified her commitment to remaining on staff while emphasizing compassion for faculty. "We need to stop scaring these teachers. They need stability. They need clear, concise goals and no hidden agendas."

Onsted businessman Eric Tjolsen asked the question, what will Onsted do to effectively advertise its programs to retain families, as well as attract others? Tina Slater answered that sentiment by sharing a positive: "All of our elementary school teachers, including special teachers like music, art, and gym, are highly trained with the letters program, which is recognized across the United States as the best reading training available." The baseball team's success was also noted.

Others mentioned the need to create a long-range plan to deal with the decreasing state population. Resident Cathy

See Onsted Schools page 2

Lake bottom controversy

Property owners, township clash on lake bottomland use



Standing on a platform at the end of Wildwood Court is resident Paul Bourassa. He noted he put his boat at a dock on this road end. Like other road ends, there is no parking. There are said to be about five neighbors who have boats and docks at this location.

Story and photos
By John Hummer
Editor

There is a controversy brewing on Big Wolf Lake in Napoleon Township between some property owners, the township, and the City of Jackson over a decision long ago to grant lake bottom ownership to the City of Jackson, and residents having docks on those city-owned lake bottoms over the years. At the heart of the matter are those docks that are on road ends leading to the lake, particularly in the Oak Point subdivision.

"Essentially, for the last few years I received complaints about two or three different docks being out in property that wasn't really owned by private [owners] – it was public-owned, if you will," stated the township's Ordinance Enforcement Officer Jeff Kirkpatrick at the June 9 Napoleon Township board meeting, adding that he is trying to figure out what to do from an enforcement perspective.

"We determined that the lake bottom – the entire lake bottom – is owned by the City of Jackson. It happened from a deed from a long time ago – it's written in hand cursive," he explained. "We ended up having

a conversation with the city because the city is really, technically, the one in violation of the ordinance – they've got docks out there, and they can't do that.

"We tried to come to some resolution. We told the city that they need to do something. What they ultimately did – there's more in progress – they sent out cease and desist letters to the people who are occupying those docks or have those docks in, advising them to remove them," Kirkpatrick continued. "Depending on what happens to the City's response to that, we'll figure out what we do from there."

One paragraph of the letter reads, in part, "Failure to voluntarily comply may result in the City pursuing all available legal and equitable remedies, including but not limited to injunctive relief, removal actions, and recovery of associated costs and attorney fees where permitted by law."

Residents in the subdivision say the only people who received letters were those on Glenwood Court. There are docks in the water at the road end of Glenwood Court.

"The city is technically in violation," Kirkpatrick said. "They want to fix that, so I think that's why they're doing what they're doing. If there was any ultimate removal [notice], I'd have to talk to the [police] chief. If it wasn't complied with, we would

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Veteran honored



The family of Grass Lake U.S. Air Force Veteran James Ducey surrounds him following his recognition as Veteran of the Month for June by Congressman Tim Walberg.

James Ducey honored . . . from page 1

Complete text of Congressman Tim Walberg’s remarks in the Congressional Record, Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize James Ducey of Grass Lake as the Veteran of the Month for June and honor him for his sacrifice and service on behalf of our great Nation. After graduating from high school in 1966, James enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving proudly in the 341st Civil Engineering Squadron at the Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls,

Montana. James served in the Air Force until April of 1970, achieving the rank of Sergeant E-4, and was awarded the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon and the Good Conduct Medal. Even after leaving active duty, James never stopped serving, shifting his efforts to his local community. James joined the Grass Lake American Legion Post 252, where he was appointed Adjutant in 2018, leading the annual Memorial Day celebration for several years and post activities through 2025. His leadership also extended to chairing the American Legion

Fireworks Committee and the July 4th Parade in partnership with the Grass Lake Sportsman Club. While serving his local post, James also became Adjutant for the Jackson Veterans Council for four years. He served as backup Service Officer for Post 252 and has represented Post 252 as District 2 Representative since 2021, continuing in that role today. In 2023, he was elected Jackson County Commander, serving until July 2025. He also served as Finance Person for District 2 for two years under Commander Greene. In 2024, James was ap-

pointed by Department Commander Mohlman to the Department Finance Committee, representing District 2 for a one-year term. He was subsequently appointed by Department Commander Cooper as Secretary of the Department’s Internal Affairs Committee, a two-year appointment he currently holds. James Ducey’s remarkable life of service and leadership on behalf of America’s veterans and his community inspires us all. May others know of my high regard for James, as well as my deep gratitude for his lasting contributions to the country we love.



Onsted school board members listened to numerous public comments at the June 15 regular meeting, which had a heavier than usual turn out.

Onsted schools from page 1

Tervol suggested it may be time to seriously consider how sharing services, athletic facilities, or staff across Lenawee schools could benefit everyone. Middle School Principal Alaina Ellison took the opportunity to reflect on her years of service and her appreciation for the students and community. In part, Ellison described, “I led with high expectations, but also with heart. I’ve always believed middle school students should not simply be managed; They should be seen, known, challenged, supported, and reminded that their mistakes do not define their fu-

tures . . . I want the public record to reflect gratitude for these ten years of leadership at Onsted Middle School and for the impact this role has had on me, my family, and my life.” At the close of public comments, Board President Jason Terakedis encouraged all to be curious, ask questions, and “then find the positive because we have lots of it. We can and will do better.” Other business includes hiring Jodi Holt as the Elementary Principal and Title I Coordinator, Laura Klutsarits as the Athletic Director and Graduation Coach. The Board accepted the resignations of MS

PE/Health Teacher Trenton Shindort, Paraprofessional Jon Hovermale, and Paraprofessional Sydney Parker. Three retirements were accepted: Transportation driver Luann Taromina, Athletic Director and Assistant Principal Damien Hiram, and Middle School Science Teacher Noelle Martell. Action items included approving the fuel bid, MHSAA membership, a grant computer purchase bid, the 2025-2026 amended budget, the 2026-2027 Budget adoption, the 2026-2027 budget for other funds, and the proposed tax millage rate.

Marriages

Cierra Sowle, Jackson County clerk, reports the following recent recorded marriage license applications:

Matthew Nicholas Freiburger, Jackson, and Michele Marie Lantis, Grass Lake; Connor Robert Chatfield, Clarklake, and Cassandra Lee Dempsey, Clarklake; Sarah Amelia Brown, Hanover, and Daniel Gailord Lutz, Bloomville, NY; Candace Jade Vandenberg and Natazeon Lloyd Terry Ahrens, Michigan Center; Mercedes Lynn McDonald, Jackson, and Devin Sean-Michael Boland, Horton; Trenton Richard Garrison, Brooklyn, and Danny Makayla Ackley, Brooklyn; Kennedy Deslyn Koebbe, Brooklyn, and Christopher Daniel White, Brooklyn; Michael John Dillon, Jackson, and Lori Colleen McCarthy, Angola, IN; Terra Nicole Rapp, Grass Lake, and Cole Robert Simmons, Jackson; Pedro Michael Valdez, Jackson, and Gena Marie Stoker, Jackson; Madilyn Faith Conrad, Clarklake, and Bryan Allan Martin, Horton.

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Historical marker placed



From left: Larry Wagenaar, president of the Michigan Historical Commission and executive director and CEO of the Historical Society of Michigan, Village President Stella Roberts, Village Manager Matt Swartzlander, Tracy Kerr-Niciporek, president of the Brooklyn Area Historical Society, and Nancy Smith, constituent services aide for Sen. Sue Shink, pose in front of a new Brooklyn historical marker dedicated last Wednesday, June 16, in front of the village hall.

Story and photos By John Hummer Editor

A new State of Michigan Brooklyn historical marker was officially dedicated last Wednesday, June 16, in front of Brooklyn Village Hall. The new marker replaces a previous marker in the Village Square that was destroyed by a semi-truck crash in April 2025.

The new marker was placed in front of the Village Hall so it can be viewed from the safety of the sidewalk.

"The positive outcome of that is we were able to relocate the sign to a more accessible location," said Village Manager Matt Swartzlander at the dedication ceremony. "A lot more people will be able to read it and have time to learn from it. We are excited to finally be at the point where we have it in-

stalled and ready for the community."

The marker highlights Brooklyn's settlement in 1832 when it was first named Swainsville after its founder, The Rev. Calvin Swain. The dedication took place on the 194th anniversary of Swain filing the first land claim in what is now Brooklyn.

The dedication ceremony featured remarks from Larry Wagenaar, executive director and CEO of the Historical Society of Michigan and president of the Michigan Historical Commission, the organization he was representing at the event, and from Tracy Kerr Niciporek, president of the Brooklyn Area Historical Society.

"As president of the Michigan Historical Commission, it is a privilege to stand with you as we re-dedicate this Michigan historical marker and celebrate

the remarkable history of Brooklyn, Michigan," stated Wagenaar. "Today, there are over 1,800 Michigan historical markers statewide. Sharing important stories of our heritage, these markers are a permanent reminder for us today and generations still to come.

Wagenaar continued with more remarks shared here, in part.

"Years from now, people will gather here and read these words. They will learn about the foundations of Brooklyn and perhaps will also remember that in our own time, we cared enough to preserve the past, celebrate it, and share it like the local historical society is doing.

"Today, we honor history. We honor the generations that have built this community, and we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that the story of

Brooklyn continues to be one of progress, character, and hope. May this marker stand for many years as a solemn remembrance of pride and inspiration."

Wagenaar continued, "On behalf of Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the State of Michigan, and the Michigan Historical Commission, I am proud to re-dedicate this state historical marker celebrating the history and heritage of Brooklyn, Michigan. Thank you and congratulations to everyone who made this dedication possible." He then read the text of the marker to those in attendance and concluded, "Congratulations on your re-dedicated marker."

The new historical marker can be safely viewed from the sidewalk in front of the Brooklyn Village Hall, located at 121 N. Main Street in Brooklyn.

Frontier City reunion



Above: Rod Neblo of Onsted completed this 30' mural reconstruction of Frontier City's Main Street at his property in Addison. It was the location for hosting the June 20 Frontier City reunion. At right, below: Neblo (left), Jean Stauffer (center), and Jack Howard were just three of over fifty former Frontier City employees, visitors, and friends who gathered for the reunion.

Story & Photos By Michelle McLemore Staff writer

Former Frontier City cowboy Rod Neblo hosted a Frontier City reunion for former employees and friends on Saturday, June 20, in Addison. The event was also the grand

reveal of a 30-foot painted mural of the main Frontier City buildings that Neblo began in 2017.

More than 50 people showed up within the first 30 minutes of the event, with a steady flow continuing. Former cowboys, bandits, store attendants, along with stagecoach and mule train drivers, greeted each other warmly upon recognition, and memories began to flow. Twenty-year entertainment manager Jean Stauffer was present and shared two albums of famous stars' photos and memorabilia. Neblo also had news articles, photos, postcards, paintings, and a rolling video of rare photos played along with refreshments for visitors to enjoy.

In a quiet moment, Neblo shared his joy for the turnout, as well as how influential working at Frontier City was for him as a teen. "The managers were mentors. They



took me under their wings," he shared. Having lost his father at age 11, Neblo noted, "I didn't have a lot of direction. I truly appreciated how they molded my life."

Frontier City was the first western-themed entertainment park in the Irish Hills. It was located on M-50 near Onsted Highway. As the joint venture of Maynard and Edna Minier and Ivan and Eileen Hunt, the business brought

the Wild West fascination to families, along with national music acts, between 1960 and 1974. Employing over 100 local residents of all ages, it became a second home for many. The reunion demonstrated the deep affection many still hold for that place and time.

Bottomland use . . . from page 1

treat it similarly to somebody parking a vehicle at the county park and not moving it. We would end up having some marina or somebody come and remove the boats and the offending docks."

At a May 28 special board meeting, Township Supervisor Dan Wymer presented a document to the board titled "Inter-governmental Agreement Regarding Enforcement of Lake Access, Docking, Mooring, and Related Ordinances Upon City-Owned Submerged Bottomlands." The agreement, if signed by all parties, would be by and between the City of Jackson, Leoni Township, Napoleon Township, and Grass Lake Township. To date, the City of Jackson and Napoleon Township have signed the agreement.

The agreement gives the townships the ability to maintain and enforce ordinances related to inland lakes. The City of Jackson would maintain ownership of the inland lake bottoms. The board passed a motion to authorize Wymer to enter into the agreement on behalf of Napoleon Township.

The Napoleon Township zoning ordinance, Section 4.18 Dock and Associated Temporary Seasonal Structures Regulations, does not discuss docks in what would be regarded as public areas, such as at road ends. The ordinance lays grounds for private docks, in Section B-1, noting "One (1) boat dock shall be permitted for each lot or parcel." It continues in Section B-2, "In addition to the allowances of Section B.1, one (1) additional boat dock shall be permitted for each full fifty (50) feet of lot width along the lake or other body of water." So, essentially, property owners with larger lot widths may have additional docks as noted.

Wymer stated at the June 9 board meeting that a resident came into the township office to talk to him about problems he is having with those docks being installed at road ends and how they're crowding his use of his property and obstructing his ability to bring his boat in and out. "He said, frankly, he's been complaining to people about it for at least three years," Wymer said. "Everybody has told him that he couldn't do anything about it because the lake bottom belonged to the city. He was quite happy to hear we had found a way to start dealing with these problems. I suspect there are other people out there – I know there are other people because I've talked to some of them over the years – who have had problems and have been told that nothing could be done about it, so they quit filing complaints. I think once people become aware that we have the authority to make some resolutions to these problems, I think other people are going to start bringing them to us.

"There is only one situation that we've actually taken enforcement action on that the city has sent letters to," Wymer continued. "We're going to see how that goes and what we learn for how best to resolve those problems and then move on from there, so we're not trying to do them all at once. Understandably, we've got some unhappy people who want to dock their boats there, but don't actually have a legal right to do it. We're going to have to work our way through those things. We're still in the pretty early stages of figuring out how best to deal with it."



David and Sally Haupt stand at the end of Bellemere Court, the road upon which they reside. It is also the only road with a boat launch on Big Wolf Lake, other than at Butterfield Landing Marina, so it gets heavy use, according to the Haupts.

Michigan Supreme Court ruling may come into play

A 1972 Michigan Supreme Court ruling could end up having a major impact in how lake bottom access and extent of riparian rights is dealt with for backlot property owners on Big Wolf Lake and other lakes. In *Thies v. Howland*, 424 Mich 282 (1972), the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that only property owners whose land directly abuts a natural inland lake possess riparian rights, such as erecting docks or exclusive lake access. Owners of non-riparian backlots may gain limited access only if expressly granted by recorded easement or deed language. This ruling established the principle that mere proximity or shared access strips do not convey riparian status.

Thies v. Howland remains a defining precedent in Michigan riparian law. It has been repeatedly cited in later cases interpreting waterfront access, subdivision plats, and easement rights. The decision reinforced a strict reading of riparian privileges, emphasizing deeded access and property boundaries in water-related disputes across the state.

Residents speak out during public comment

"I'm one that's being affected by this – one of several," said Glenwood Court resident property owner David Hankinson. "We're being singled out. There are eight different road ends in that area – 24 different boats in those docks. We've got two docks – they've been there for 73 years. My neighbor right across from me just passed away, and he was a little boy there – he said both those docks were there. Since I've been there 20 years, we've had two boats on the one and three on the other.

"We bought this house with the intention of knowing that we had lake access and a boat there," Hankinson continued. "That's how it's always been. Now we've bought the house, and our value will go down. We're going to be the only road end that has nothing there. I'm requesting a special meeting prior to anything happening – with you guys, with Jackson, with whatever, but we'd like to have a township meeting here about that."

Lisa Lubahn, another resident property owner on Glenwood Court, also raised concerns. "When I purchased my house, my listing in 2014 said I own a dock, and I have lake access,"

she said. Now, if you are trying to take this away from me, I expect my taxable value on my house to go down, so I'm not paying taxes on the benefit that I purchased that I will no longer have. I agree with Dave [Hankinson] that we need to have a meeting with all of the impacted residents and the township so that we can come to an agreeable solution. This is directed and targeted enforcement . . . it is discriminatory enforcement of your policies."

Resident property owner David Haupt also spoke out on the issue. He and his wife, Sally, live on Bellemere Court, the only road with a boat launch on Big Wolf Lake, other than at Butterfield Landing Marina. "Everybody puts in right on that street," said David's wife, Sally.

"I've been out there 43 years, and everybody has always had docks where they are," David said. "It's always been like that. If they rock the boat – our area's got some pretty deep pockets – so if we have to move forward, we'll see what we have to do . . . This is probably the fourth time in 40 years that there has been a little confrontation down there," he stated. "Usually, the cops come and work it out with everybody, and we're done."

After the meeting, Sally Haupt said, "Everybody puts their boat in on our road (Bellemere Court) because it goes down to the lake. Little Wolf Lake, Big Wolf Lake, Olcott Lake – all those people put in at our road end because that's the only road end that goes down into the lake. It's a mess all the time . . . If they all have to put their boats in every weekend and pull them out, that's just going to make twice as much traffic.

"It's a big issue – there are a lot of people involved. We've been parking our boats there for 50-60 years.

David Hankinson also had more to say after the meeting, saying that township Ordinance Enforcement Officer Jeff Kirkpatrick "wanted to start messing with just our road. He's been coming by all the time, harassing almost." He noted they received a cease-and-desist letter from the City of Jackson.

"We've been out here for several years, and nothing has ever been a problem until Mr. Kirkpatrick . . . we all feel that it's targeted enforcement. There are eight different road ends – some have two docks, some have three, some have one. There are 24-26 docks for those eight road ends. We're the only road end that's getting harassed . . . How can they enforce it on five houses instead of all 60 or whatever it is. That's the problem . . . Let's figure out how to make a real ordinance so that we can all live here without our home values going down. My value is going to go down \$150,000 by not having a boat dock. It's very frustrating."

Sally Haupt also noted during public comment that there is a 30-foot pathway (30 feet from the water's edge around the Oak Point subdivision) around the part of the lake in question. "That was planned out in 1923," she explained. "I've heard that you're going to try to do away with the path, also. It said that it was for public use. Also, the roads ending in alleys were all for public use."

Edgewood Court, on the west end of Oak Point, is where the public path stops. It goes around about three-quarters of Big Wolf Lake.

"Lakefront owners that are moving in are trying to get rid of the path – they're shaping their land so there is no path and they're just slowly trying to do away with it," Sally added after the meeting.

At the lake, residents had more to say

On Bellemere Court, resident property owner David Haupt explained the situation in his terms. "This is the only public easement we have on this whole lake and a chain [of other lakes] of 14 miles," he stated. "It gets a lot of activity. This is the only public access on this lake," adding that there is a public access on Center Lake in the chain of lakes in Michigan Center.

"If they say no boats, no docks in this lake, they better get a traffic cop down here, because that's what it's going to take," Haupt said. "They're saying Napoleon is trying to get the lake bottom rights so that they can kick everybody out of here, including the docks and all the boats. There's going to be a lot of problems."

Haupt's wife, Sally, added, "We've always coexisted. We've been here for 43 years – other people have been here a lot longer than that. But, she added, there are factions of lake people in-fighting. "There are two problems," she said. "As you get new lakefront people in, they all of a sudden think they own the lake. Then you also get lake access, and people move in who don't get along with their neighbors. It's really a combination of both."

On Wildwood Court, Haupt said five neighbors have boats and docks. Paul Bourassa was there and noted he had put his boat in at this road end. Like other road ends, there is no parking at the end of the road.

Sally Haupt said that in the 1970s, the City of Jackson sold the lake bottom extending 100 feet out to some property owners. "They offered it to everybody that was lakefront," she noted. "Some bought it, some didn't. They still should have riparian rights even if they didn't buy it."

Down the street off the lake, a bit about an eighth of a mile from the lake, Chad Knight and his wife own a house and some property. "I've been living here 27 years – we bought this place when it was a small cottage," he stated. "We wouldn't have bought this place for the money we've spent on it if we didn't have the opportunity to get on the water. We did an addition, planned on retiring and living here for the rest of our lives, and now we have to deal with some of this stuff. When we bought the house, we were quoted that a boat dock down there was deeded, but we didn't look into that. Obviously, that's not the case. It was lake access, like everything else out here.

For each road, if you have a problem, deal with it like adults," Knight continued. "Let's just all get along and get on the lake. We get it, we're back here. I just need a path to get down there, get on my boat, and get back. I don't want to have to deal with this. We love being out here."

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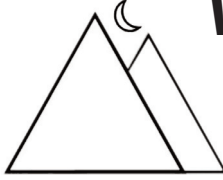
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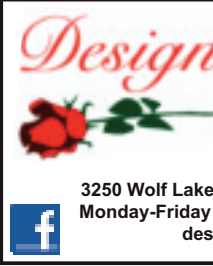
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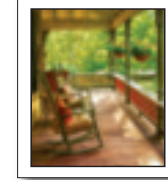
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Attic & Hearth

~A Look Back~
By Michelle A. McLemore





Part of the fun of looking at old town photos is trying to determine where buildings were once upon a time. This early twentieth century post office in Norvell possibly stands at the intersection of Commercial Drive and Mill Exchange Road. The two-story building around the corner in the background may be the last (and current) post office site in Norvell.

Like in many hamlets, Norvell's post office location changed several times. The first post office was at the stagecoach stop of Harvey Austin's home on Austin Road. The P.O. was established March 17, 1838.

After the initial location, the photo of Fred Green in the car establishes that at one time Mill Exchange Street hosted the important business. This photo was inscribed as circa 1912 (though the license plate of the car is similar to many 1914 MI plates.) Green, age 40 if this is 1914, was husband to Myra B. Fish originally of Brooklyn. Perhaps Myra is the graceful figure in the post office window? Specific owners or workers of the PO at this time remains unconfirmed.

The business's next mention is a wood-frame building with a hand-painted sign on Sweezy Lake Road in the early 1930s. After this, Clarence K. Gieske becomes postmaster and moves it back to Exchange

Street. Dates conflict suggesting he opened in 1932 while another delays it to 1937. Gieske served until his death in 1944 when his wife Mana A. (Frey) Gieske moved it to its current location at 105 E. Commercial Street. It was said to occupy "a closet-sized room" and Mana "bought fuel for a space heater and rented mail boxes out of her own pocket."

Post offices were notable places to catch up with neighbors and news. Gieske maximized the spot's location by hosting the Ladies Aid 1945 soup and food sale there. She also entertained renters in the apartment above the store.

News articles say Gieske ran the post office for twenty years. However, another source sites Barbara L. Haag as becoming post office operator in 1947. Regardless, in 1954 an amicable Frank Holmes helped out at the office for a week implying someone may have been ill or traveling.

Still, the year 1965 heralded the inevitable—The U.S. Post Office Department declared intent to reclassify the post office as a rural out post of Brooklyn. The Norvell community created a prolific letter-writing campaign declaring the demotion would be an end to Norvell's identity. Their perseverance paid off and in December, the national department postponed reclassification and sought new bids for operation. Mrs. Jake Haag, Jr. postmistress was notified. The initially approved bid to move the post office to the Norbert Rich Grocery Store was rescinded.

Business went on as usual. Postmistress Haag covered the bills from the money she received from the U.S. Postal Department. Those included the rent for the building, \$3 monthly electricity bill, and keeping the space heater fuel tank full.

As a small, but important social center, people could



order books out of a catalogue there, borrow lending library items, and drop dry cleaning to be picked up by a Jackson cleaner's truck three days a week.

The icon was threatened again in 1967. For a second time, the Department viewed it more economical to move the post office to Rich's grocery store on Exchange Street. Of the many arguments against the move, two stood out strongly: Rich wasn't a local and could sell any time. Also, news accounts stated the Baptists were against sending children for stamps if they had to walk by a sign advertising beer. The public again stemmed the rising tide of change.

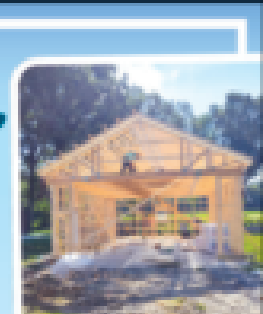
In the late 1980s, Officer Diane Schook of Brooklyn structured a 6 a.m. daily mail drop off for 110 boxholders and a truck returned for mail pick up at 5:45 p.m. The truck also made Sunday deliveries. Clerk DeLoris Wallen kept up community aid like allowing school

kids to wait inside for their bus. In 2011, notice was given again. Residents had 60 days to present their views. However, beyond retaining the same location, a change in service and hours did unfold.

In 2026, the Norvell post office has limited available services. Still, I believe it is a great example of how village solidarity can take on big business if they work together and hold a common vision.

If you have photos, scrapbooks, postcards, or other historical items that may be shared, we would love to see them. Contact The Exponent office to arrange a time or email unique photos with any information you have about the content to exponentnews@theexponent.com. In the subject line, please note for "Attic & Hearth" or "For Michelle" and include your name and contact information in the message.

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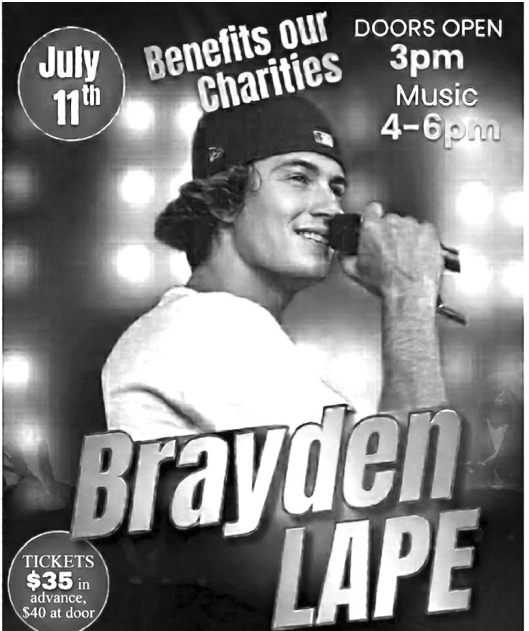
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Bearden wins first JCWGA tournament



Ashley Bearden won the Jackson County Women's Golf Association's Medal Play Tournament at Hills' Heart of the Lakes Golf Course last week.

**Photo, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer**

Jackson area golfer Ashley Bearden wanted to get back into competitive golf.

The weekday league night was not just enough for the competitive two-sport college athlete.

Bearden made a big splash, winning her first major title in Jackson County Women's Golf Association play with a victory in the Medal Play Tournament at Hills' Heart of the Lakes Golf Course.

She edged Cheri Tarpley by one stroke to win the three-day tournament Friday.

Tarpley had the best round of the day with a 76, while Bearden shot a 79 on Friday in the championship flight. Bearden finished the tournament with 239, and Tarpley 240.

Tournament host Deb Falk finished third (241), and Pam Messerly was fourth (243).

"I am excited to play in the Jackson County Women's Golf Association

with a lot of great women," Bearden said. "I really wanted to get back into something besides a league."

Bearden was a four-sport athlete while graduating from East Jackson in 2014. She played softball and golf at Siena Heights University.

She struggled a bit on the greens but kept it together with a good mental state.

"One of my playing partners reminded me to just breathe . . . we are just having fun out here," Bearden said.

Kathy Swihart won the Championship Flight in the Silver Division (70-over) with 249, and Janice "Ace" Haynes was second, scoring 253.

Kathy Gabriel won the First Flight in the Silver Division with a 296 score, and Barb Fisher was second, scoring 300.

The women's tour continues June 26 at Cascades Golf Course with a one-day meet at Cascades Golf Course beginning at 9 a.m.

First Flight Silver Division		Championship Flight		Championship Silver Division	
Kathy Gabriel	296	Ashley Bearden	239	Kathy Swihart	249
Barb Fisher	300	Cheri Tarpley	240	Janice Haynes	253
Sherri Stetten	308	Deb Falk	241	Sandy Fisher	264
Sandy Straka	318	Pam Messerly	243	Peggy Parrott	268
Clara Adams	331	Nikki Weeks	251	Nancy Showerman	270
Barb Zantop	341	Laura McCully	262	Judy Eddy	272
Charlotte Edington	344	Shelley Christoff	270	Sue Daniels	280
Barb Worden	358	Nancy Rumseh	284	Cindy McDonough	284
Janie Bristol	350	Lisa Stettler	294	Tami Makohn	292

Pirate Booty Dash A perfect day for a great cause



Brooklyn's Michael Lee gives a thumbs-up at the start of the 2026 Pirate Booty Dash this past Saturday, hosted by Napoleon Community Schools.

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Story and photos
By John Hummer
Editor

The weather was finally perfect – temperatures at race time were in the low 60s with sunny skies and low humidity. The weather hasn't cooperated very often during the 13 years that the Pirate Booty Dash has been hosted by Napoleon Community Schools.

Over 130 participants took part in the 5k run/walk and 1-mile fun run. Tyler Pequet, 19, shown at right, of Napoleon, a 2024 Napoleon High School graduate, was the overall champion for the second year in a row and overall male winner. Megan Hubbard of Horton was the female overall winner and came in sixth place overall.

"There was a lot of competition here," Pequet said. "It was a very good race with runners pushing each other and helping each other out. It was just overall a good experience." He was also happy to beat his winning time from last year by around 20 seconds. Pequet ran cross country and track for two years at Siena Heights University after high school and will be running for Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids for his junior and senior years of college.

"It's always a great race here," said Brooklyn's Randy Andrews, who gave a nice shout-out to long-time race director Linda Smith. "There is a bunch of local people, and it's always well-run. It was a beautiful morning for it – could hardly be better – a great way to spend a Saturday morning."

New this year at the Pirate Booty Dash was Stoyanna's of Jackson/Napoleon Township, providing food and beverage items for race participants.

"The community really came out to support the event again this year – so that's awesome," said Race Director Linda Smith.



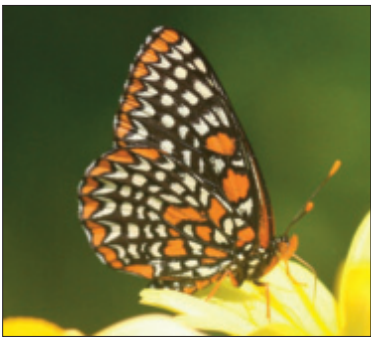
OUTDOOR LIVING

Why do they burn?

Burning prairie fens has numerous benefits to plants, animals



The eastern meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) is a robin-sized grassland songbird famous for its bright yellow breast, bold black "V" (chevron), and clear, flute-like whistles. Despite its name, it belongs to the blackbird family (Icteridae) and relies heavily on pastures, prairies, and open fields for its survival. Photo by Kshanti Greene.



The Baltimore checkerspot depends on prairie fens for survival. Photo courtesy Alison Hunte

like dogwood and buckthorn, as they require bright open sunlight to support their unique and sensitive wildlife and plants.

So why burn in May instead of later in the summer?

- First, spring time traditionally has a higher moisture content and shorter vegetation, helping to keep fires from getting out of control.

- Secondly, turtle eggs are buried in the soil and the turtles are underwater at this time. Ground nesting birds are actually adaptive to these early fires. If a goose lays eggs and a fire destroys it, they will simply re-nest and lay more eggs. So it may seem cruel at the time, but these fires actually helps maintain a healthy environment.

- Eastern Meadowlarks populations have decreased in the last few decades by more than 50% due to loss of these types of habitats.

- Baltimore Checkerspot, a rare localized species of butterfly, relies on host species for its larvae such as the White Turtlehead, a Michigan wild flower. These beautiful orange, white and black butterflies depend on these fens.

- Henslow's sparrow is a rare, small, secretive songbird that depends on areas like Goose Creek Grasslands. Habitat loss is now a major threat to this species. Officials note that a pair has been nesting there for several years. You might hear their insect-like song "ts-lick" before you see them because they prefer to walk or run on the ground rather than flying all the time.

I was fortunate to speak with Ayden Ehgotz, the conservation coordinator with Michigan Nature Association, or MNA. Established in 1952, they help protect 180 nature sanctuaries in Michigan, and were the organization that conducted the fire at Goose Creek Grasslands.

Ehgotz serves as the conservation coordinator for the Eastern Lower Peninsula in Michigan. He leads ecological restoration efforts, such as removing evasive threats in prairie fens and represents the MNA in recovery coalitions for the federally endangered Poweshiek Skipperling Butterfly. This small dark brown butterfly with orange markings was once common in North American prairies, but now clings to existence as well as a few isolated areas in Manitoba, a province in Canada, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Ehgotz grew up in Michigan exploring creeks, prairies and woods, and some of his



The charred land bordering Goose Creek (coming from Goose Lake) after a controlled burn was conducted. Photo by steve Linenfesler

goals are to protect these nature areas and educate young people on the importance of nature in order to inspire the next generation. He received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science at Oakland University. It is worth noting that getting permission to burn does not happen automatically. In order for a controlled fire to happen, several documented pages of an action plan must be provided to the local fire department in order to get approval.

So in the end, these burns are necessary and helpful. They burn around 10 acres or less at

a time, carry water packs while burning and do not burn every year.

If you want to volunteer at one of these sanctuaries or what to learn more, you contact Ayden Ehgotz by calling MNA at 1-866-223-2231, go to their website www.michigannature.org, or his email: aehgotz@michigannature.org. I guarantee you will enjoy speaking with Ayden and learn a lot.



The range and numbers of the Henslow sparrow, shown above, are decreasing, probably due to habitat loss of the grasslands that it depends on. Photo courtesy Andy Reago and Chrissy McClarren.



The Michigan Nature Association helps protect 180 nature sancutaries in Michigan, including the Goose Creek Grasslands. Photo By Steve Linenfesler

I often get ideas for my columns from friends and readers. Recently a local man I know well reached out to me because of a controlled burn done at Goose Creek Grasslands Sanctuary in Lenawee County, just outside of Cement City. The burn occurred in late May. I visited the site, took pictures and investigated why the burn.

Goose Creek Grasslands Nature Sanctuary is a 70.4 acre nature sanctuary that is a prairie and wet prairie fen. What are fens? A prairie fen is an open grassland that relies on cold groundwater fed by a steady flow of water rich in magnesium and calcium. A wet prairie fen is an open grassland that relies on snow melts, rain and overflow from nearby creeks and streams.

Prairie fens are extremely delicate areas that form where groundwater flows back to the surface through alkaline soil. These prairie and wet prairie fens once extended from Ohio and Indiana into southern Michigan but now much is gone due to human expansion and urbanization. These areas now depend on people to help protect them.

Many species of wildlife as well as various plant species depend on these fens. At Goose Creek Grasslands, there are more 200 plant species that have been identified, and many species of wildlife of which are threatened or endangered.

Above, below: This is Devin Hice's truck, which was recently defecated on and relentlessly attacked by a male robin. Photo by Steve Linenfesler

So why burn them?

Actually, fens benefit from these burns. For centuries, lightning would cause fires in these areas. Native Americans would also burn these grasslands to open up these areas or for food.

Controlled burns mimic fires that lightning would normally cause. These fires are needed because they control invasive species, clear out light-blocking dead vegetation and recycle soil nutrients. Without these fires, fens would be overrun by woody shrubs

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Obituaries

Mary Alice Kozemchak

Mary Alice Kozemchak, 83, of Irish Hills, Mich., passed away peacefully on Monday, June 15, 2026, with her husband by her side. Born on May 28, 1943, to the late Roy H. Cheff and Mary Margaret (Moco) Cheff, Mary Alice lived a life defined by devotion to family, hard work, creativity, and service to her community. On September 11, 1965, she married her high school sweetheart, William B. Kozemchak, beginning a partnership that spanned more than six decades.

Mary Alice is survived by her husband, William; her four children, Michael W. (Lisa) Kozemchak of St. Angelus, Mary Beth (Jack) Corey of Cincinnati, Ohio, Maria (Tom) Burnham of Tecumseh, and



Mary Alice Kozemchak

Mary Kathleen (Steven) Linn of Tecumseh; and her nine cherished grandchildren: Mary Caitlyn (Emiliano) Garza, Mary Anna (Josh Schott) Burnham, Konner (Kari) Linn, Mary Catherine Corey, Mary Claire Burnham, Kamilla Linn, Joseph X. Corey, Mary Grace Kozemchak, and Mary Elise Kozemchak. She is also survived by her siblings, Edward (Bernadette) Cheff, Mary Kathleen (Tom) Gougeon, Mary Carol Hagar, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

A devoted wife and loving mother, Mary Alice dedicated herself to her family while building a successful career alongside her husband. Together, they owned and operated the Irish Hills Tree Farm and Wreath Shop for 50 years, creating a lasting legacy in the community. She also served as

manager of Herrick Diagnostic Center for 17 years before concluding her professional career as owner and broker of Killarney Realty on U.S. 12.

Mary Alice possessed many talents and passions. She was an accomplished painter, floral designer, and seamstress whose creativity touched the lives of those around her. Yet her greatest joy came from being "Nana" to her grandchildren. She treasured every moment spent with them and was eagerly anticipating the arrival of her first great-grandchild in August.

Mary Alice will be remembered for her unwavering love, generous spirit, artistic gifts, and the deep devotion she showed to her family and friends. Her legacy lives on in the many lives she touched and the family she cherished above all else.

May her memory be a blessing to all who knew and loved

her.

Friends may join the family for a time of prayer and visitation at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Saline on Friday, June 26, beginning with the recitation of the Holy Rosary at 9:50 a.m. and gathering from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11:30 a.m. with Fr. John Linden as celebrant. Following the Mass, inurnment will be held in the St. Andrew Church Columbarium. A luncheon will also be held at the Church following the Mass.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Mary Alice's name may be made to: Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale Counties, 199 N. Broad St., Adrian, Mich., 49221 <https://catholic-charitiesjlhc.org/donate>. Envelopes will also be available at the gathering.

Leonard 'Lenny' William Roy

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Leonard "Lenny" William Roy on Sunday, June 14, 2026, at the age of 57.

Lenny was a beloved son to Leonard and Sharon Roy, who preceded him in death, brother to Annette (Tim) Kelly and Terri Roy, uncle, and friend to many who will be remembered for his kindness



Lenny Roy

and the love he shared with those around him. He touched many lives and will be greatly missed by his family, his Highland Beach "family," and friends. Lenny loved his truck, his snowmobile, and golfing. He was a talented self-employed contractor who loved to

share his craft with family and friends.

Cremation has taken place, and no public service is planned.

Lenny will be laid to rest at Somerset Cemetery in Somerset Center.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Lenny too:

The Alzheimer's Association at Alz.org.

The family appreciates the

support and condolences received during this difficult time.

Friends can express sympathies to the family online by visiting the tribute wall at www.brownvanhemert.com. Arrangements have been made with the guidance of the Brown-Van Hemert Funeral Home, Addison.

Frank 'Dave' Timmerman

Frank "Dave" David Timmerman, 62, passed away peacefully at home, under the loving care of his family and Hospice on June 16, 2026. A private family service will be held at Eineder Funeral Homes - Brooklyn Chapel with full military honors.

Dave was born on August 12, 1963, in Green Bay, Wisc., to Frank and Margaret (Maiden) Timmerman. Dave proudly served his country in the United States Army in the



Frank 'Dave' Timmerman

82nd Airborne. He married the love of his life, Kathy Lyn, on September 24, 2022, in Green Bay, Wisc. He will be remembered as a man of strong faith who loved reading his Bible and attending Bible study with his men's group at Jackson Free Methodist Church. He was also a greeter and part of the security team. Dave was a

stranger to no one, made people feel comfortable, and always made them laugh. He was loving, kind, and very personable. He was a twin to his sister Amy as was his wife, Kathy, to her sister Kerry. Dave loved animals, especially his dogs, Loki and Chase. He was a big fan of the Green Bay Packers, worked on puzzles, and built models. Dave bravely battled cancer for two years with no complaints. Thanks for the memories.

Dave will be greatly missed by his wife, Kathy; his mother,

Margaret; siblings, Amy (Greg) Anderson, Paul (Patty) Timmerman, Mary Rodriguez; special sister-in-law, Kerry Holtz; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Frank Timmerman.

Memorial contributions may be given to the family for future designation. Please leave a message of comfort for Dave's family or sign his guestbook at www.EinederFuneralHomes.com.

Marjorie Louise (Miller) Gork

Marjorie Louise Gork (Miller), 75, passed away peacefully on June 19, 2026. She was born on October 28, 1950, at Bixby Hospital in Adrian, Mich., to Harry and Gertrude (Gray) Miller.

She is survived by her husband, Robert "Bob" Gork; daughter, Kellie (Roger) Letourneau; son, Rob (Andrea) Gork; grandchildren, Danielle Colliau and Mason Gork; sisters, Barbara Boyd and Kathleen Racine; brother, James Miller; sisters-in-law, Carol Laskey and Barbara Miller; and many beloved nieces and nephews. Margie was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved grandson, Devin Colliau; her mother-in-law and father-in-law, Ann and Stanley Gork; her brothers-in-law, Frank Laskey and Robert "Boone" Langhoff; and her nephew, Corey Ferry.

Margie faithfully attended Saint Rita Catholic Church and found joy in contributing to church events, often donating dishes and food for gatherings and celebrations within the



Marjorie Gork

parish community. Margie was a passionate sports fan, cheering for the University of Michigan and the Detroit Tigers. Her favorite Tigers were Al Kaline and Magglio Ordoñez.

She was a supporter of the Napoleon Pirates football, boys' and girls' basketball, and girls' softball teams. Margie had a special love for gardening and maintained a large and beautiful flower garden each season, caring for her flowers daily. Her yard was filled with bird feeders, and she especially enjoyed watching hummingbirds visit the feeders she filled with her own homemade nectar.

Above all else, Margie loved her family. She cherished being a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. She rarely missed an event involving her children or grandchildren.

Margie loved bringing peo-

ple together. She enjoyed hosting holiday celebrations, family reunions, and gatherings of all kinds. For her, it did not need to be a holiday to find a reason to celebrate. She loved cooking for family and friends and filling her home and backyard with good food, laughter, conversation, and great times. The family wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude to Lori McFate for the care she provided. They would also like to thank the staff of the Heney Ford Hospice Home of Jackson for the exceptional care, comfort, and dignity they provided during Margie's final days.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Margie's memory to the University of Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Center, and giving.umich.edu.

Please leave a message of comfort for Marjorie's family or sign her guestbook at www.EinederFuneralHomes.com.

Death notices

Cierra Sowle, Jackson County clerk, reports the following recent recorded deaths:

Edward Lyle Weese Sr., 71, Jackson; Debra Rose Hinton, 65, Jackson; Norma June Clute, 90, Summit Township; Marilyn Poynter, 68, Jackson; George Joseph Kurzynowski, 96, Jackson; Bradford Walter Bell, 75, Jackson; Jody R. Poe, 64, Sandstone Township; Esther Louise Kapp, 91, Bunkerhill Township; Marilou Parsons Stewart, 94, Summit Township; Rhonda Denise Tremaine, 71, Jefferson Township; Thomas John Fehr, 78, Leoni Township; Paul Leroy Creger Sr., 95, Spring Hill, FL; Betty Lou Carr, 75, Brooklyn; Kathy Hopkins-Anderson, 71, Napoleon Township;

Joann Aweta Stone, 87, Hamlin Township; Pauline Faith Taylor, 88, Summit Township; Jack Leon Perry, 58, Leoni Township; Michelle Marie Sanders, 64, Concord Township; Billie Ray Conley, 79, Jackson; David Glenn Gier Sr., 93, Summit Township; Marie Lavene Marlett, 954, Clark Lake; Bernice Catherine Smith, 91, Jackson; Leonard William Roy, 57, Rollin Township; Mary Pope Bippes, 81, Concord; Michael Thomas Blair, 69, Blackman Township; Sandra Lynn Owen, 55, Napoleon Township; Patricia Eillbee Friedman, 68, Summit Township; Gary Spencer Gilliam, 87, Summit Township; K. T. Lee Jr., 74, Napoleon Township; Blanche Kaye Ryan, 85, Jackson; Mary Ann Spaan, 99, Summit Township; Patricia Ann Berta, 93, Columbia Township.

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EXPONENT Classifieds

NORVELL TOWNSHIP • TRUSTEE WANTED

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300 Mill Road
Brooklyn, MI 49230
(517) 536-4370
FAX (517) 536-0110

Norvell Township is seeking a township resident interested in serving on the Norvell Township Board to fill a vacated Township Trustee position. This position will have a term ending on November 20, 2028.

If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please send a letter of interest and resume to Sharon Pero, Norvell Township Clerk, 300 Mill Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230.

The letter of interest and resume must be received by Monday, July 1, 2026, at noon (12:00). Resumes may be delivered in person (the office is open Mondays and Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Tuesdays 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.), by mail at the address listed above or via email to Clerk@norvelltp-mi.gov.

Interviews will be held at a Special Meeting on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Norvell Township Hall. A decision will be made at the meeting.

Any questions, please contact Norvell Township Clerk, Sharon Pero, at (517) 536-4370, Ext. 102.

Sharon Pero
Norvell Township Clerk

46 x2

CARPENTRY WORK

Semi-retired carpenter — doors, windows, kitchens, bathrooms, plumbing repairs, light electrical and fall cleanups, tree and brush removal. Call 517-937-3571 to schedule your spring project. 20TF

HELP WANTED

Administrative assistant needed at local funeral home serving three locations. Looking for professional part-time administrator who has a minimum of four years of administrative experience, computer literacy is necessary, willingness to learn, be a team player, people oriented, must be able to multitask and prioritize tasks. No calls, please submit resumes to: Jeff@EinederFuneralHomes.com tf

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Looking to purchase existing mineral rights in Lenawee, Jackson, Hillsdale and Washtenaw counties, please call or text 734-497-1841 #38x12

GRAPHICS
Exponent

160 S. Main St.

VILLAGE OF ADDISON

RESOLUTION TO SET ADDISON VILLAGE 2026 MILLAGE RATES
Village of Addison, Lenawee County
Resolution Number 2026-02

WHEREAS, the Village Council of the Village of Addison wishes to establish property tax millage rates to support the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the following millage rates to be set as follows:
Operating Tax Millage rate to be 8.0 mills and Village Street Tax millage rate 0.90 mills taking effect simultaneously.

Motion made by Andrew Snow, supported by Cary Jo Snyder-Milosh.
Roll Call Vote: Barbara Barnes: Yes; Brian Kent: No; Cary Jo Snyder-Milosh: Yes; Jeff Burke: Yes; Andrew Snow: Yes

Motion passed by a roll-call vote of 4 to 1 on this 1st day of June 2026.

CERTIFICATE
I, Robin Hurley, the duly appointed Clerk of the Village of Addison, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Village Council by a roll call vote at a regular meeting of the Board held on June 1, 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present; and that this resolution was ordered to take effect July 1, 2026

Robin Hurley,
Village Clerk

46x3

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP • NOTICE OF SALE

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF SALE

Cambridge Township is offering for sale a 2020 John Deere Z950R zero-turn mower with a 60" deck with approximately 1,100 hours of use. The township is requiring sealed bids for this sale with a minimum bid of \$5,200. Bids shall be mailed to: Cambridge Township, Box 417, Onsted, Michigan 49265 to the attention of the Township Clerk; or may be delivered to the township hall at 9990 W. M-50, Onsted, Michigan. Envelopes are to be marked "bid for mower" and must be returned to the township by Wednesday, July 8, 2026 by 4:00 P.M.

The mower may be viewed at the Maple Shade Cemetery on Slee Road in Onsted (across from the school). You may contact the cemetery sexton with questions at 517-605-0359.

Bids will be opened at the township board meeting on July 8, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

Rick W. Richardson
Cambridge Township Clerk

47

COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

COLUMBIA CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
PLANNING COMMISSION
THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026, AT 7:00 P.M.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Columbia Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbia Charter Township Hall at 8500 Jefferson Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230, to consider the following request:

Special Land Use Permit Amendment and Site Plan Review applications
Applicant/Owner: Joseph Parkhurst/Casey Wertz
Location: 264 Audell Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230
Parcel ID: 000-20-29-41-001-07
Request: Special Land Use Permit and Site Plan Review applications to permit a Group Home Daycare at the property of 264 Audell Drive.

Information associated with the scheduled Public Hearing is available for public review at the Columbia Charter Township office during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. Comments will be heard from the public at the hearing, or you can submit comments in writing to the: Columbia Township Planning Commission 8500 Jefferson Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230. All written comments will be entered into the public record and should be received by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the scheduled hearing date. Columbia Charter Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the public hearing to individuals with special needs upon five (5) days' notice to the Township Clerk (517-592-2000)

Cathy Hulbert,
Columbia Charter Township Clerk

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LEONI TOWNSHIP

NOTICE: 47

The Leoni Township Board will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Township budget for fiscal year 2026/2027 at the Township Hall, 913 Fifth St, Michigan Center, on Tuesday, June 29, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the Township Office during regular business hours.

Cindy Norris
Township Clerk

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LEONI TOWNSHIP

NOTICE

The Leoni Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing, Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the Leoni Township Meeting Hall, 913 Fifth St., Michigan Center, Michigan, 49254.

000-09-29-427-001-00
2437 Hawkins Rd.
Joshua Pelham Rezone

Purpose of hearing: Rezone from B-2 to ML

Legal Description: BEG AT E 1/4 POST OF SEC 29 TH S89°07'13" W ALG E&W 1/4 LN 304.1 FT TO CL OF ANN ARBOR RD TH S31°16'17" W ALG SD RD CL 111.20 FT TH 92.30 FT ALG CURV TO RT, RAD 7738.22 FT, C/A 00°41'00" & CHD BRG S31°36'47" W 92.29 FT (REC AS SLWY ALG CL 203.5 FT) TO POB TH S89°07'13" W 415.43 FT TO CL OF HAWKINS RD (REC AS W 415.9 FT) TH S00°00'50" E 594.22 FT ALG CL OF ANN ARBOR RD (REC AS S 597.4 FT) TH 730.44 FT ALG CURV TO LT, RAD 7738.22 FT, C/A 05°24'30" & CHD BRG N34°39'32" E 730.17 FT (REC AS NELY 729.8 FT) TO BEG. PART OF E 1/2 OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 29 T2S R1E

Cindy Norris,
Clerk

47

LEONI TOWNSHIP

NOTICE

The Leoni Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing, Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the Leoni Township Meeting Hall, 913 Fifth St., Michigan Center, Michigan, 49254.

000-09-27-101-005-00
6315 Ann Arbor Rd.
Delamater Automotive LLC
Site Plan

Purpose of hearing:
Site Plan Review

Legal Description: BEG IN THE N LN OF SEC 27 AT A PT 1362.64 FT E OF NW COR OF SEC 27 TH E ALG N SEC LN 161 FT TO CEN OF GILLETTS LAKE RD TH S 8° 08'W 303.05 FT ALG CEN OF SD RD TH W 161 FT TH N 8° 05'E 304.9 FT TO BEG. SEC 27 T2S R1E D.D.A. 1.12 AC

Cindy Norris,
Clerk

47

PUZZLE TIME!

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg June 21, 2026

ACROSS

- 1 Express lane count
6 Quick job for a stylist
10 Cylinder fed into a saw
13 Trunk in an art studio
14 Hankerings
15 Find a new home
16 Comedian's routine (Note letters 7-8 of this answer + letters 4-5 of 20-Across)
18 "Makes sense"
19 "Sure thing!"
20 Corn cake often split and stuffed
21 Legal assistant
22 City that Muslims face when praying
24 Sleep soundly?
26 Al villain in "2001: A Space Odyssey"
27 Thrown out
31 12-year-old, e.g.
34 Peel off (Letters 5-6 here + letters 1-2 of 39-Across)
37 "Roll Tide!" school, for short
38 Ice tray contents
39 Cover with asphalt

- 40 Cut in line (Letters 4-5 here + letters 5-6 of 43-Across)
42 Shark divers' enclosures
43 Place for a pawdicure
44 Ride left with a valet
45 Successors
48 Top story?
51 Places to learn aikido
54 Chipmunk's snack
56 Bent out of shape
58 "Oh, sure"
59 Philatelist's book (Letters 5-6 here + letters 1-2 of 63-Across)
61 It ends a winning streak
62 Medium-length skirt
63 Take a break
64 "___ me be clear ..."
65 Talk show runner
66 What street racers do

DOWN

- 1 ___-bitsy
2 Tingit symbol carved on a pole
3 Wipe clean
4 ISP with a butterfly logo
5 Pop's container
6 Kind
7 Harvests
8 Like the god Viracocha, who rose from Lake Titicaca

- 9 Winter hrs. in Denver
10 Get checkmated
11 Done caring about
12 Adorkable person
15 Far from an agreement
17 Eurasia's ___ Mountains
21 Beans or barley
23 Below-the-belt jabs
25 Milo's movie buddy
28 Goody bag contents
29 Place to string outdoor lights
30 Turns pink, say
31 Almond butter amt.
32 Motorboat's trail
33 Radiate
34 Take to court

- 35 "Details to come" initials
36 Color of gochugaru flakes
38 Tea, in Hindi
41 "Great" simians
42 Quick snoozes
44 Goldfish or koi
46 7:11 or 9:5
47 Boatloads
49 Permeate (with)
50 Reason why
51 Herb in tzatziki
52 Shrill wind in a pit
53 Joke around
55 Neglect to mention
57 Contacted privately
59 "i can't believe u did this"
60 Round trip in a pool

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	I	N	A	I	M	O	A	T	L	B	S				
I	C	A	N	T	W	A	T	C	H	C	A	R	E		
D	O	N	T	S	E	T	T	L	E	I	S	A	W		
E	N	O	J	E	T	E	M	I	T	T	S				
			S	U	P	E	R	B	G	I	S	T			
			P	A	S	S	L	I	E	E	R	A			
			M	I	N	T	S	P	O	R	T	S	C	A	R
H	O	P	E	A	G	A	I	N	S	T	H	O	P	E	
O	V	E	R	J	O	Y	E	D	H	A	N	S			
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			E	R	I	K	K	A	R	A	T	E			
			D	E	T	E	R	C	A	V	A	K	F	C	
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H	A	M	M	W	I	N	E	C	O	O	L	E	R		
E	L	S	E	R	A	G	S	T	H	E	S	E			

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Fax (517)-536-0110

47

Synopsis of Regular Meeting-June 8, 2026 (Rescheduled from May 18, 2026)

Present:

Andrew Haystead, Supervisor, Sharon Pero, Clerk, Deserre Sauers, Treasurer, Norvell Township, Jackson County

The Regular Meeting of the Norvell Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Andrew Haystead at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Items Approved:

Agenda

April 20, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes
April 30, 2026 Special Meeting minutes
May 1, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes
Consent Agenda
Payment of Bills
Resolution 2026-06 Moratorium on Approval of Data Centers
Michigan Township Planning Assoc. Fees
Appointment of Trustee
Adjournment at 7:36 p.m.

Sharon Pero,
Township Clerk

Minutes approved at the June 15, 2026 Regular Meeting

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS
CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
JUNE 10, 2026

47

The meeting was called to order by the supervisor at 7:00 P.M. with the pledge to the flag. Roll call showed all board members present. The following regular items were approved: the agenda, the minutes of the May 13, 2026 meeting, the treasurer's report, the monthly police, fire, zoning, planning commission and zoning board of appeals reports. Approved the P.O. for a flag pole, flag and light at Maple Shade Cemetery in the amount of \$1,812.85. Approved payment of bills in the amount of \$99,372.09. Approved the hiring of a part-time police officer for the marine patrol. Correspondence was read and County Commissioner Krasny reported on county business. The following resolutions were adopted: #2026-07 for golf cart use on the South Shore of Wamplers Lake, special assessment districts and assessment rolls for: Killarney Lake Weed Control, Marr Lake Drive Maintenance; resolutions of intent for Cambridge Drive and Lakeshore Drive maintenance districts; resolution to join the new CLEMIS authority for the police department. Approved sending a letter of commitment to EGLE in support of the Upper Wolf Creek Watershed grant application. A public comment period was allowed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

A complete copy of the minutes of this meeting is available for inspection at the township office during regular business hours.

Rick W. Richardson
Cambridge Township Clerk

COLUMBIA CHARTER TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS • COLUMBIA CHARTER TOWNSHIP • JUNE 15, 2026

47

The regular meeting of June 15, 2026, was called to order by Supervisor Marsh at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge to the flag and invocation. Members present: Beamish, Tackett, Hulburt, Calhoun, Church, Deland, Marsh. There was communication from County Commissioner Duckham on County matters and roads. There was public comment from Dave Lakin, Kip Hilbert, Laurice LaZibnik, Larry Rygiel, Kellie Garris, Meredythe Hill Van Dusen and Roger Lyons. There was motion and support to approve the agenda. There was motion and support to approve the consent agenda, there was motion and support to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$1,057,049.20. There was a presentation on the 2025 fiscal financial statement. There was discussion on the Greater Irish Hills Intermunicipal Committee and the Jefferson cemetery. There was motion and support and a roll call vote to approve resolution to set sewer rates and charges. There was motion and support and a roll call vote to approve a 2026 budget amendment. There was motion and support and a roll call vote to approve a

resolution to amend the Donald Street and Boyce Drive special assessment roll. There was motion and support to approve a request from the Village of Brooklyn to roll a delinquent sewer bill of a property in the Village onto the summer tax bill. There was motion and support to approve the Police Department Memo of Understanding with the Columbia School District. There was motion and support to approve the Police Department request for a personnel change. There was motion and support to approve pavement repairs. There was motion and support to approve the bid for paving the Hyde Road Park. There was public comment from Roger Lyons, Arthur Sconochia, Landon Cathers, Andy Scott, Steve Zemke and Steve Pierce. There was final Board comment from Treasurer Calhoun and Supervisor Marsh. There was motion and support to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Jo Hulburt,
Columbia Charter Township Clerk

ROLLIN TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS

Synopsis
Rollin Township
Board Meeting

47

June 10, 2026
Supervisor Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Members present were Supervisor Clark, Treasurer Willett, Clerk David and Trustees Burch and Combs.

Heard the Supervisor report, who accompanied PLM on a weed assessment in Devils Lake, and found the lake to be in good condition with treatment needed only in a few areas

Discussed communication about the proposed fire millage request that will be placed on the August 4 election ballot.

Approved the following items:

1. Use of Public Revenue Sharing receipts for contract with Lenawee County Sheriff to provide for road patrols on weekends and holidays during the summer
2. Changed costs for Zoning Appeals and Rezoning/Special Use Permits to \$500
3. Approved contract with Region 2 to update zoning maps at a cost not to exceed \$1000.
4. Approved the Devils and Round Lake Men's Club Firecracker 7K walk/run event for July 4
5. Approved motion to reinvest \$200,000 in a new CD

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

If you would like detailed minutes of meeting contact Clerk at 517-547-7786 or check out our website: www.Rollintownship.org.

Submitted by Irma David,
Rollin Township Clerk

PRINTING
Exponent
160 S. Main St.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alzheimer's Support Group meeting- at Brooklyn Presbyterian Church every 3rd Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for more info call 517-999-300 4. 25tf

JACKSON AL-ANON MEETING – Mon. & Fri. 10:30 a.m. First Presbyterian Church, 743 W. Michigan Ave. 937-9500 for more info. 4

IF YOU WANT TO DRINK that's your business. If you would like to stop, please call 517-789-8883. AA Jackson area, local intergroup. 4

Irish Hills AA Meeting, 10341 Springville Hwy., Onsted on Wednesdays & Saturdays at 8 p.m.

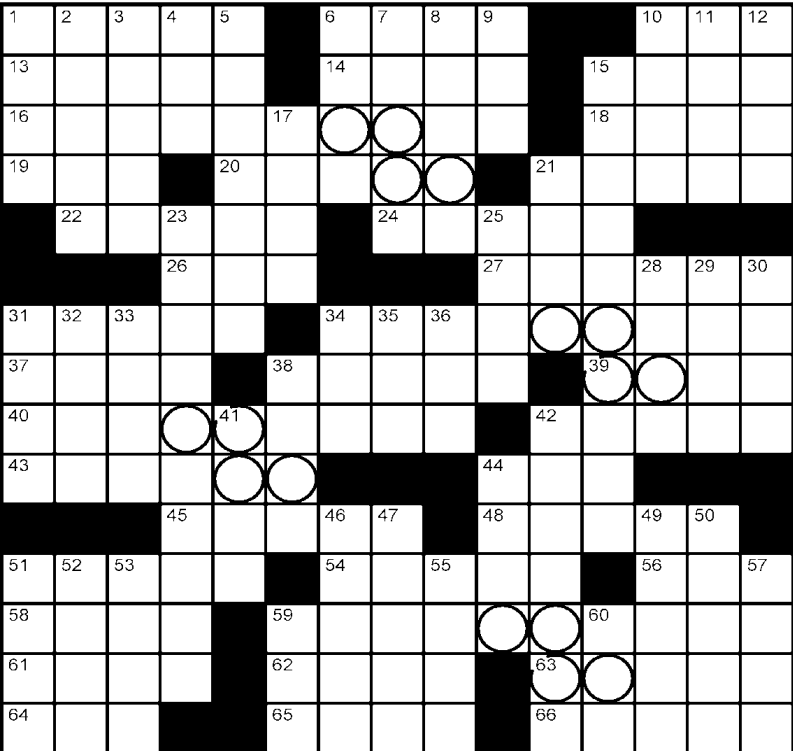
Springville Church AA – Mondays 1 p.m. at Springville Methodist Church, Springville Hwy. & M-50. 4

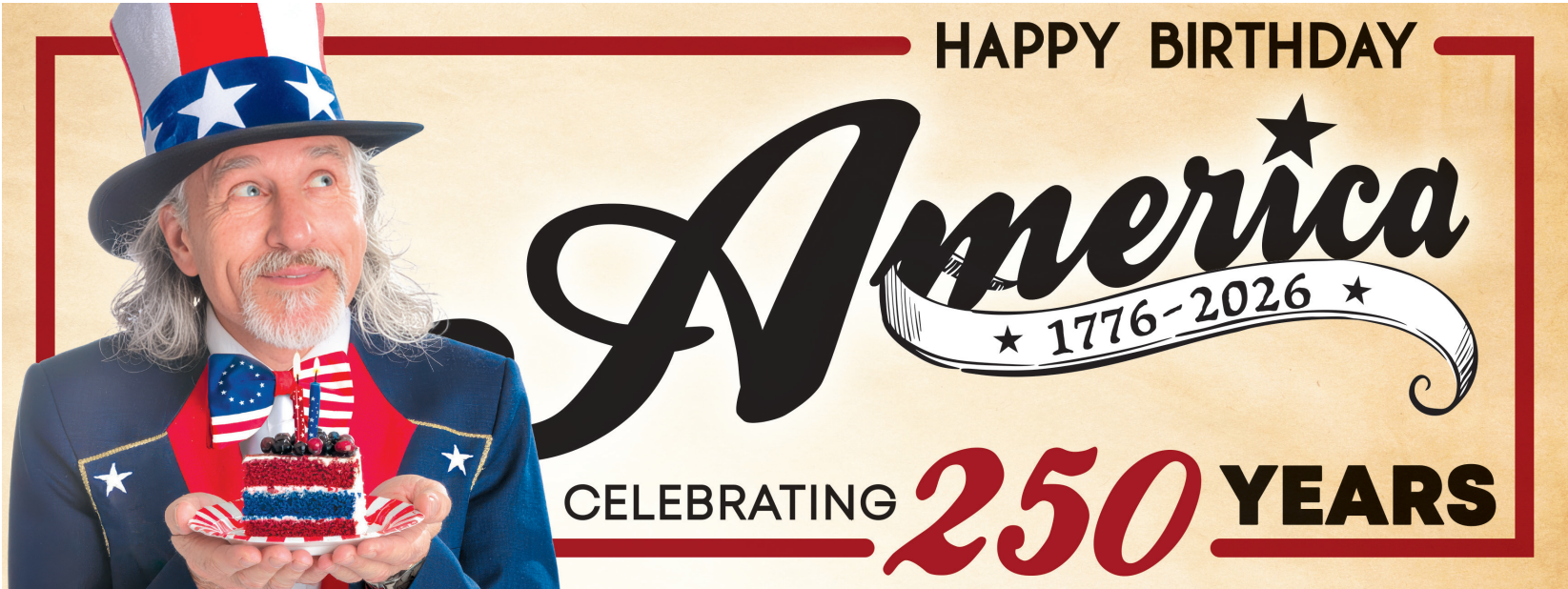
Brooklyn AA meetings, Tue. & Fri. 7:30-8:30 p.m. All Saints Church hall, Brooklyn. 4

Manitou Beach Group meets Monday abd Thursday, 450 Manitou Road. 4

6/21

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County National Bank

US' 250th anniversary a time to celebrate

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TECUMSEH — It was an opportunity to start a new community and help expand a fledgling nation that led Tecumseh's founders to southeastern Michigan 202 years ago.

Those accomplishments and others over the past 250 years are reasons to celebrate the United States' semiquincentennial, local historian Robert Elliott said in a recent conversation at the Tecumseh Area Historical Museum. While the United States' history hasn't been perfect, over time Americans have tried to do the right thing.

"Man, oh man, the stuff that we've achieved," Elliott said. "I mean, our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, is still ... around the world, people are still trying to get into this country, that's how great it is."

Few countries in the early 19th century offered individuals the opportunities that Musgrove and Abi Evans, Gen. Joseph Brown and Austin Wing accepted to move to the Michigan territory. As a surveyor, Musgrove Evans saw an opportunity to work because land would have to be mapped and measured. With the War of 1812 having concluded a few years before, the country was in a growth period.

"I've always thought," Elliott said, "we've had our hiccups in the past, you think about slavery and other things, but we've always made it right. A young country, 250 years, and we're still building and making it better. Our foundations, even in this little community founded in 1824, a chance of freedom. ... There's just so much stuff that this country offers, and it's kind of a proud history."

Elliott talked about a blacksmith who came to Tecumseh from Ireland during the famine in with 25 cents in his pocket. That blacksmith, James Elliott — no relation to Robert — got a job at a blacksmith shop and later on started his own shop.

"That's just what this country kind of offers," Elliott said.

Tecumseh was founded 48 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed and 41 years after the Treaty of Paris ended the Revolutionary War with Great Britain, but there were connections to those who fought for independence. For example, Abi Evans' father was a general in the U.S. Army in the Revolutionary War.

Col. Henry Hewitt was another Revolutionary War veteran who moved to Tecumseh where his son, also named Henry, lived. The son had helped map out Tecumseh, Elliott said.

Elliott showed an 1828-29 roster of the Abi Evans Post of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Tecumseh that showed 27 women with Revolutionary ancestors.

Brown was born in 1793 and was much younger than the Evanses, Elliott said. His brother, Jacob, served in the War of 1812 and rose to the rank of general and from 1815-28 was senior officer and then commanding general of the U.S. Army.

In 1835, Joseph Brown was involved in the Toledo War, where he was appointed by Michigan Gov. Stevens Mason to protect the disputed area between Michigan and Ohio. He also was a miller and hotel proprietor who had a stagecoach line that ran from Ypsilanti to Chicago. He also was Lenawee County's first judge and briefly served on the University of Michigan Board of Regents.

"He keeps this town on the map when Musgrove moves and Abi dies," Elliott said.

Musgrove Evans moved to Texas where there were more surveying opportunities, Elliott said.

Tecumseh residents have been present at many of America's historic moments. Musgrove and Abi Evans' son Samuel was killed at the Battle of the Alamo in 1836. Tecumseh residents fought in the Civil War and were among the U.S. Marines who stopped the German advance at Belleau Wood, France, and in the Army's 32nd Division that broke the German lines in 1918 during World War I.

"That's an important part of American history,"



PHOTO BY DAVID PANIAN

Gravesites for Abi Evans and the Brown and Hewitt families.

Elliott said. "... That did matter. Imagine if the Germans would have taken Paris."

Then, of course, there's World War II. Elliott described meeting people when visiting Normandy, where the Americans, British and Canadians assaulted Germany's Fortress Europe on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

"You think they hate us over there? They love us in Normandy. They had the German boot on their neck for four years," he said.

A friend of Elliott's who runs a museum was giving him a tour around the D-Day battlefields, driving around in a jeep. Elliott said he saw one man who was wearing a cap with a U.S. flag on it.

"My French is so-so ... and I looked over at him and I said, 'Monsieur, vive la France,' and he goes with a Southern accent, 'God bless America,' and I about fell out of the jeep," Elliott said.

During World War II, Tecumseh played its part on the homefront, too. Notably, the Tecumseh Products Co. manufactured antiaircraft shell casings for the Navy. President Franklin Roosevelt called America's manufacturing might the "Arsenal of Democracy."

"That's another thing to be proud of in this country," Elliott said.

The U.S. started supplying its allies in Europe and Asia even before it entered World War II in December 1941 through a program called Lend-Lease. The law allowed the U.S. to send military materiel to the allies at no cost. If possible, anything that wasn't destroyed in the war would be returned.

"You think about England would have been toast if it wasn't for what we supplied them with," Elliott said.

Of course, the U.S. was able to do that because of the people who had started businesses, whether it was a family farm, a downtown store or restaurant, or a manufacturer.

American ingenuity helped get the country through the Great Depression. With millions of young men unemployed, Roosevelt's administration created the Civilian Conservation Corps.

"My grandfather did that," Elliott said. "They built the national parks. \$1 a day, planted trees, and he learned to cook and work on diesel engines. And you think about it, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941. We've already got an army of men that learned how to build bridges ... so many of those guys did just great things. You look at their history, the soldiers, where they fought. Well, they started out in the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934."

There are some people today who seem to be taking the 250th anniversary of the United States' founding for granted, Elliott said.

"But you've got to look at where we come from, and the sacrifices we got to get here," he said. "Man, the huge sacrifices of our grandfathers and our great-grandfathers, and what they did...."

"You might be disenfranchised with whoever's in power, ... but that's been going on for centuries. But I think that, my gosh, we've gone so far in this country, we've so much to be proud of. I mentioned our national parks and our history of saving the world, not more than once, but several times. The Civil War, we did get things right, all men are created equal. We justified that at the end of the Civil War. Lincoln's proclamation to free the slaves after the Battle of Antietam...."

"This country's come a long way, and we've had some hiccups here and there, but I'm not going to be ever ashamed of my country. I'm very proud of my country from what we've done and what we can do."



Photo by Thomas Steele

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