

Alcona County Review

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1 Section

Serving Alcona County for 140 Years

Harrisville, Michigan 48740

Ballard murder trail results in hung jury

By Cheryl Peterson
Editor

After four days of testimony from roughly 20 plus witnesses, including the defendant; presentation of 50 items of evidence; and more than 15 hours of deliberation, the 12-person jury for the Ballard murder trial could not come to a unanimous decision.

After questioning jury members to make sure they were unable to unanimously decide on the acquittal or guilt of Nathaniel Jermaine Ballard, 42, in the murder of Patricia Lenee Leeper in March 2000, the Honorable Laura A. Frawley declared a hung jury. At about 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27 Frawley dismissed jury members, with her appreciation and gratitude for their time and effort.

Alcona County Prosecutor Thomas J. Weichel said he will retry the case as soon as possible. Frawley set a date for March 19. Frawley said that defense attorney James Gust will not be handling the defense in the next trial.

Ballard was charged with open murder and the jury was asked to make a decision with three possible outcomes - not guilty, guilty of premeditated, first degree murder or guilty of second-degree murder. A unanimous decision is required for any one of those options.

During the course of the deliberation process - which began Friday morning after both attorneys gave closing statements - Frawley read instructions for deadlock twice in two days.

Leeper, who was 39 at the time of her death, was from Flint, Mich. Her body was found lying in a ditch on Tower Road in Mitchell Township on March 19, 2000. She was a high school graduate and a veteran who served in the U.S. Army until honorably discharged due to a health situation. Following her discharge, she took classes in business from a local institution. She was a mother and grandmother.

However, according to testimony from a former boyfriend and friends, her life took a turn for the worse when she became addicted

to drugs - specifically, crack cocaine. Eventually, she worked as a prostitute in an area near where she lived in Flint, Mich.

The prosecution's case, based on circumstantial evidence, alleges that Leeper came into contact with Ballard at some point in Flint - possibly while she was working - and that he eventually brought her to the Curran area, where his family has owned property and spent time "since before he was born."

On or around March 17, 2000 he engaged in oral sex with Leeper; shortly afterward they struggled, and he chased her through a field near the Mitchell Township Hall, and drowned her in the water-filled, roadside ditch. He then covered her body with dried vegetation from the field to conceal it.

On March 19, 2000 a Curran resident walking on the road found her body and notified authorities. A 17-year joint investigation with officers from the Alcona County Sheriff's Department and the Michigan State Police - Alpena and Flint posts - began. According to testimony heard last week by investigators more than 50 persons of interest were investigated and ruled out - many because their DNA did not match samples found on Leeper's body. One of those was that of Ballard's brother, Marcus. Additionally, he was killed in 2004.

Several expert witnesses in forensic science, including the fields of DNA and serology (blood), testified regarding the process of sampling, results found and determination on how long spermatozoa will live and the "age" of the sample found in Leeper's mouth.

According to testimony, a break in the case came in spring of 2016 when a DNA match "popped" on CODIS. The Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) is an FBI database that stores DNA profiles from multiple sources. It includes the DNA results from crime scenes and those offenders convicted of violent crimes. Input into the database comes from local

Continued on page 10



Local film maker, Mary Ellen Jones' (right) film "Mindjimendamowin" is seen by roughly 120 people during the Thunder Bay International Film Festival "On the Road" event last week. The film was about a young Native American man paddling the Lake Huron waters of his ancestors. After the film the cast and crew answered questions from the audience. (From left) Zachary Irving, cinematographer, film editor and co-producer; Curtis Chambers, narrator and former Ogema (chief) of the Cheboiganing Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Travis Agosa, actor and Harrisville resident; and Jones, writer, co-producer and narrator. About 120 people fill the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library for the last week. Hosted by the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, the event was sponsored by Friends of the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary, and showcased short documentary films about marine sanctuaries and fishing. Photo by Mary Weber.

Alcona hosts Farm Conference

By Mary Weber
Staff Writer

"Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful and most noble employment of man."

~ George Washington

Seasoned farmers, hobby gardeners looking to expand, farm market vendors or business producers looking for produce grown in northeast Michigan are all encouraged to attend the first Alcona Regional Farm Conference.

The conference titled "Growing for Profit in Northeast Michigan" will be a daylong event scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 10, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lost Lake Woods Clubhouse in Lincoln.

Keynote speakers Christine Ranger, David Klingenberg and other experts will give detailed advice on how to turn a hobby garden or farm into a thriving business.

Ranger, a former resident of Barton City, is an agricultural business expert who helps sharpen money and other skills for agri-businesses.

Klingenberg, owner of The Brinery - Fruits and Veggies of Ann Arbor, Mich., will be addressing farmers and farmer want-to-bes on what processors look for and need farmers of northeast Michigan to grow.

"It is tough sometimes for farmers who want to sell to an institutional buyer and pro-

cessor like The Brinery. Many processors and canneries have really high standards and the farmer has to figure out how to transport the goods. Having someone like David come and say, 'Hey, this is what I need for our products,' is awesome. I hope consumers wanting a quantity of certain foods come to tell farmers what they are looking for now, before the growing season begins, so farmers know there will be a market waiting for the produce they grow," said Adam Beckta.

Beckta, owner of Wandering Winds Farm in Spruce is also a speaker at the event. He is relatively new to northeast Michigan farming, but grew up farming in New Hampshire. A chef by trade with a culinary arts degree, he worked in restaurants and specialty retail food service most of his career until meeting his wife in Chicago. "We both wanted to farm. We began coming up to northeast Michigan, fell in love with the area, found our farm and started being market farmers," Beckta said.

Maureen Castern-French, a founding member of Inspiration Alcona and the Farm to Fork Alcona initiative, which is sponsoring the conference, said it will be an excellent opportunity for farmers and business owners wishing to

purchase produce to network, learn new ways to grow, promote goods and meet others with similar interests.

"We'd like young families to be able to stay in this county and make a reasonable and sustainable living here without having to have 160 acres of hay and corn and soybeans. We have given 10 conference scholarships to local 4-H and FFA youth, so they can see the opportunities here," Castern-French said.

The owners of Harvest Thyme Farm in Cheboygan, Mich., will be speaking about community supported agriculture (CSA) farming. Beckta explained CSAs are where consumers have an agreement with a farmer and provide that farmer with a sum of money, typically \$300 to \$600, before the growing season. Once the season is under way the farmer supplies the CSA consumer with product grown throughout the season.

"During good growing seasons, the amount of

Continued on page 11





Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,
In response to the recent Letter to the Editor concerning Alcona County EMS' lease of cardiac monitors and AEDs, I find the insinuations that a crime has been committed or that "kickbacks" are involved in this lease-to-own agreement to be disparaging.

In this scenario, it was better for Alcona County to lease the equipment versus purchasing the equipment outright. Five LifePak 15 cardiac monitors and two LifePak 1000 AEDs is what the lease-to-own agreement specifies.

During my 32-year career as a paramedic, I have personally used both the LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitor and the LifePak 1000 AED prior to coming to Alcona County EMS and find them to be exceptionally dependable and reliable.

I did do my research prior to selecting a suitable replacement for our current cardiac monitors. The current manufacturer does not have a "re-


placement" model available and the current monitors are currently up to seven years old.

There is a huge difference between a LifePak 15 cardiac monitor and a LifePak 1000 AED. It appears by the comments that the words "LifePak 15 and AED" are used interchangeably. They are two very distinct pieces of pre-hospital medical equipment designed to perform very different functions.

Lastly, I would like to invite the author of the letter, or any other citizens, to contact Alcona County EMS business office, (989) 736-3955, make an appointment to meet with the EMS director and staff to become more educated from the source prior to submitting a letter to the editor.

Scott Rice, EMT-P I/C
Director,
Alcona County EMS

Craig Johnston,
Chairman
Alcona County Board of
Commissioners



Pears have been cultivated around the world for thousands of years. In *The Odyssey*, the Greek poet laureate Homer lauds them as a "gift of the gods." Roman farmers documented extensive pear growing and grafting techniques. Thanks to their versatility and long storage life, pears were a valuable commodity along trading routes of the ancient world. Pear trees brought to Oregon and Washington in the 1800s thrived in the unique growing conditions found in the Pacific Northwest.

Pear blossom

Source: usapears.org

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Alcona County Review

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Obituaries




James H. Irwin

James H. Irwin, 74, of Lincoln, formerly of Livonia, Mich., died on Monday, Jan. 22, 2018 at home.

He was born August 27, 1943 to Clarence W. and Helen (Southernland) Irwin in Livonia, Mich., where he was raised. He served in the U.S. Army.

He married Marilyn Wilkinon on May 8, 1965 in Detroit, Mich. They were residents of Westland, Mich. and Livonia, Mich.

Mr. Irwin was a machinist with General Motors. In 2010, he retired and moved to Lost Lake Woods Club, where he had been a member since 1978.

He was an avid hunter and golfer, and enjoyed woodworking and playing darts.

Mr. Irwin is survived by his wife, Marilyn; two daughters, Amy (Tim) Fogle of Livonia, Mich. and Abbie (Randy) Greco of Livonia, Mich.; four grandchildren, Ethan Fogle, Emma Fogle, Leo Greco and Charlie Greco.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Donna Nunley.

A memorial luncheon was held January 27 at the Lost Lake Woods Clubhouse. Cremation arrangements were made through Gillies Funeral Home, Lincoln. Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Michigan.

Lois J. Baker

Lois J. Baker, 88, of Mikado, died on Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018 at home.

She was born November 22, 1929 to Lyman and Beulah (Preston) Boyd in Detroit, Mich. She was raised in Warren, Mich.

On October 16, 1948, she married Jacob Baker in Warren, Mich., where they were long time residents.

Mrs. Baker worked as a postal clerk at the U.S. Post Office in Warren, Mich. In 1978 she retired to Mikado.

She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Mikado. She loved sewing, quilting, and crocheting and often donated her completed projects to people in need. She enjoyed woodworking, playing euchre, and games with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Baker is survived by four sons, Jimmy (Loretta) Baker, John (Bonnie) Baker, Michael Baker and Dennis (Donna) Baker; two daughters, Patty (Rick) Geml and Shelly (Kelvin) Grush; 16 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and one brother, Gary (Betty) Boyd.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jacob, on October 7, 2011; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Gillies Funeral Home in Lincoln where friends may call on January 27. The Rev. Tim Steiner officiated. Private burial will take place in the spring.

Donald C. Kernan

Donald C. Kernan, 83, of Harrisville, died on Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018 at home.

He was born November 18, 1934 to Ancel and Margaret (Brian) Kernan in Ecorse, Mich., where he was raised.

He worked as a supervisor with the department of public works in Wayne County.

On May 9, 1980, he married Dolores Robichaud in Northern Quebec, Canada; they were residents of Ecorse, Mich. and Southgate, Mich. In 1986, he retired to Harrisville.

Mr. Kernan was an athlete who loved rowing. He participated in many rowing regattas and won medals in several Canadian Henley regattas.

He built a log cabin in Harrisville, and eventually turned it into his home. He also enjoyed carving ducks.

Mr. Kernan is survived by his wife, Dolores; two daughters, Cynthia (Steve) Cheatham of Monroe, Mich. and Roxanne (Ron) Westerman of Wyandotte, Mich.; two sons, Daniel Kernan of Oscoda and Dennis Kernan of Silver Springs, Fla.; 13 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; one sister, Shirley Pasco; and two brothers, Jack (Ruth) Kernan and Earl (Peggy) Kernan.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Betty Kernan, and Ruth Wilcox.

The funeral was held January 28 at Gillies Funeral Home, Harrisville. Burial will be in Springport Cemetery in the spring.

Alcona County Review Photo Policy

Photos for publication are always welcome.

- All individuals in the photograph **must** be identified by first and last name.
 - Photos can be mailed to P.O. Box 548, Harrisville, Mich. 48740;
 - Dropped of at 111 N. Lake Street, Harrisville;
- Or e-mailed to editor@alconareview.com **ONLY** as a JPEG attachment.
- The Review can take photos from your memory card, flash drive or CD and it can scan *original* photographs.
 - Photos from phones, copy machines or computer printouts are not reproduceable.
 - If you would like your photo returned, please include a self addressed, stamped envelope.

Harrisville Climatological Observations for 2018

Date	Temperature (F°)		Water Content	Miles Per Hour		
	High	Low		Av. Wind Speed	High Speed	Dominant Direction
Jan. 21	39	29	0.00	4.0	15	SSW
Jan. 22	34	30	0.79	6.3	23	E
Jan. 23	34	19	0.33	3.8	23	NNE
Jan. 24	21	13	0.00	3.1	16	NNE
Jan. 25	30	14	0.00	3.1	15	NNE
Jan. 26	41	29	0.00	10.9	25	SSW
Jan. 27	49	31	0.00	5.4	25	W

Precipitation Summary (Inches) for 2017-2018 Season

	Water Content	Snow Fall	Normal Water Content
Weekly Total	1.12	2.8	0.36
January to Date	1.46	9.7	1.56
Year/Season to Date	1.49	17.7	1.56

Climatological Observations taken by Stanley L. Darmofal at the Harrisville National Weather Service Coop Station located 1.8 miles NNE of Harrisville Post Office. Observations for each day are from midnight through 11:59 p.m. T=Trace (less than 0.005" Water Content.)



Calendar of Events



(Editor's Note: Entries for Calendar are always welcome. They will be published in chronological order as space allows. Entries should be turned in at least two weeks prior to the date of the event. Events sponsored by businesses or individuals to make a profit or governmental units for meeting notification are not eligible for this free public service. Sorry, bingo, garage sales, raffle ticket sales, or political campaigning information is not eligible.)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

Needle crafters are making hats, scarves and more at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Bring necessary supplies. Items made will be donated to local organizations for distribution.

Alcona woodcarvers will meet from 1:30 to 4 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. All levels of woodcarvers including beginners are welcome.

The GM Sunrise Side Salaried Retirees will hold their monthly luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. at the Ramada Inn, 1000 US-23 North in Alpena. Guest speaker will be Justin Gluesing, Associate Superintendent Alpena Public Schools. Reservations and payment in advance. Contact Chuck Griffin, (989) 727-3350 or David Dionne, (989) 736-6473 for more information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

TOPS MI 1502 Mikado meets at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 2531 F-30, Mikado. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m. and meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. First meeting is free, handicap accessible. For more information, call (989) 464-3526.

Join fellow comrades at the veteran's coffee hour from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 201 North Second Street in Harrisville. All veterans are welcome.

Community Walking Club for everyone will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street.

"Free Range Crafts" will meet from 10 a.m. to noon at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. Bring your crafts in progress, ideas and questions to share with others. Call (989) 724-6796 for details.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

A soup and dessert supper will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Barton City Eagles, 671 Sanborn Road. Have a big bowl of one kind or several small bowls. Cost is \$6. For more information, call (989) 736-3050.

Storytime and craft for

children from 10:15 to 11 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. Call (989) 724-6796 for details.

Coloring for Adults from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. Coloring pages from books designed especially for adults as well as colored pencils will be provided. Call (989) 724-6796 for details.

Musicians and anyone who enjoys listening to acoustic music are encouraged to attend an event that features folk and traditional music. First Friday Folk will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Harrisville United Methodist Church, 217 North State Street. There will be opportunities to play with other musicians, learn new and old music, sing songs or listen and join in. Inspiration Alcona will be providing refreshments, and everyone is welcome to come and share their music either by playing or singing. Songwriters are encouraged to attend and share their original music.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

A skillet omelet fundraiser will be held from 8 a.m. to noon at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. The Iron Skillet owners will be on hand to prepare the omelets and hashbrowns. Cost is \$6 to \$8 depending on choice of omelet and includes a beverage. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds will go to the Liquid Nutrition Program for seniors. This event is sponsored by the Alcona County Commission On Aging. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Judy Sima, a holocaust storyteller, will be at the Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library at 7 p.m. There is no charge for admission. For more information, call (989) 356-6678. This event is sponsored by the Thunder Bay Arts Council and the library.

Get Crafty for Adults will meet from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. The project for February is Valentines. Materials will be provided. There is a \$6 charge. Call (989) 724-6796 to register.

Senior commodities will be distributed from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Call (989) 736-8879 for details.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Knitting Klub & Crochet will meet from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. All levels welcome. For more information, call (989) 724-6796.

Play euchre at 12:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center,

207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

The Alcona County Baby Pantry will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Raphael Church, 2531 East F-30 in Mikado. Formula, diapers, toys, new and gently used shoes and clothing for residents of Alcona County with newborns through age four. Layettes are available in the eighth month.

Northeast Michigan UAW Retired Workers Alpena Council will hold their membership meeting at 11 a.m. at the VFW Hall located at 2900 Cannon in Alpena. A representative from Blue Cross Blue Shield will be on hand to answer questions. Bring a can of food for the needy. Lunch will be served at noon. Call (989) 356-4959 or (989) 727-4080 for details.

A public information session for the 21st annual Great Backyard Bird Count will be held at the United Methodist Church, 120 Dwight Street in Oscoda at 2 p.m. in the church library. The public is invited to attend. The bird count will take place from February 16-19. For more information, visit www.birdcount.org.

My Brother's Hope will be accepting donations from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 76 North Barlow Road (across from the high school). Call (989) 335-3541 for details.

Needle crafters are making hats, scarves and more at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Bring necessary supplies. Items made will be donated to local organizations for distribution.

Alcona woodcarvers will meet from 1:30 to 4 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lin-

Continued on page 12

CryptoQuip

answer

Finding it extremely easy to successfully hail taxis, I'd say my brother has the gift of cab.

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<p>'10 Ford F-150</p> <p>Ext. Cab, 5.4L, V-8, #U5648 WAS \$17,595 NOW \$16,995</p>	<p>'10 Ford F-150</p> <p>Crew Cab, Short Bed, 5.4L, V-8, #U5530 WAS \$21,995 NOW \$20,605</p>
<p>'15 Ford F-150</p> <p>Ext. Cab, Short Bed, 5.0L, V-8, #U5595 WAS \$28,000 NOW \$26,610</p>	<p>'14 Ford F-150</p> <p>Crew Cab, Short Bed, 3.5L, V-6, #P5580 WAS \$31,995 NOW \$30,975</p>

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Alpena & Lincoln

MEDICAL CLINIC LOCATIONS

- Alpena
- Wildcat Ext. (Alpena School)
- Ossineke
- Lincoln
- Tiger Ext. (Alcona School)
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- Harrisville
- Harbor Springs
- Cheboygan
- Indian River
- Pickford
- Petoskey
- Pellston

DENTAL CLINICS

- ◇ Alpena
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- Gaylord Schools
- Petoskey Schools

Main: (989) 736-8157

AHC Alcona health centers
"Your family health center"

Visit our website at www.alconahealthcenters.org

Color Craze

Adults are invited to attend Color Craze on Friday, Feb. 2 at 1 p.m. Coloring pages from books designed especially for adults as well as colored pencils and markers will be provided. This free, adults-only class meets once a month (usually the first Friday). Dessert and beverages are provided. For more information, call (989) 724-6796.

Love Your Library

February is Love Your Library (LYL) month at all branches of the Alcona County Library. The LYL theme this year is "We Love Food," so individuals are invited bring in their favorite recipe to post on the "Wall of Recipes." An entry form for a chance to win a prize will be given for each recipe posted; one winner at each branch will be announced on February 28.

- February 12-16 is Coffee Lovers' Week at the Harrisville branch with exotic coffee provided by Alcona Coffee and treats baked by the library staff (treats at the other branches, too).

- Pick up a bag of fresh popcorn on Free Popcorn Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Harrisville branch.

- Correctly guess the num-

ber of candies in the jar and win the entire jar of candy.

- The Harrisville branch will host two "foodie" events: "Nothing says 'I Love You' like Cheese," a history of cheese, on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 1:30 p.m.; and the "Brownie/Bar Challenge," where library staff judges the best brownies or cookie bars in the county on Feb. 21 at 1 p.m.

- For youth ages 10 through 18 who are suspicious of this "Hallmark holiday," they are welcome to attend crafts and refreshments at the "Anti-Valentine's Day Party" at the Harrisville branch on Wednesday, Feb. 14 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For information on all the Love Your Library month activities at the Alcona County Library, call (989) 724-6796 or visit the web at www.library.alcona.lib.mi.us.

Senior Menu

The following meals will be served during the week at 4 p.m. in Glennie at Lott Baptist Church; at 4:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center; and at 4:30 p.m. at the Greenbush Township Hall. No reservations are required at the Lincoln Senior Center, however call (989) 736-8879 by 7 a.m. for meals served in Glennie or Greenbush. No membership is required. Suggested donation of \$3 per meal is welcome.

- Monday, Feb. 5—Bourbon chicken over brown rice, Prince Charles blend vegetables, and peaches.

- Tuesday, Feb. 6—Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, green beans and an orange.

- Wednesday, Feb. 7—Roasted pork, red bliss potato, broccoli, and pineapple.

- Thursday, Feb. 8—Baked spaghetti, baby carrots, coleslaw, and mixed fruit.

- Friday, Feb. 9—Chicken and gravy over noodles, Prince Charles blend vegetables, tossed salad, and pineapple.

(Friday meals served in Lincoln only.)

Holocaust Storyteller

On Monday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m., award-winning Michigan storyteller Judy Sima will be presenting "In my Mother's Voice" at the Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. Audience members will be taken on a journey as she shares stories of her mother, including the story of her encounter with the Gestapo on Kristallnacht or the Night

of Broken Glass, her escape from Germany during World War II and adjustment to her new life in America.

In the second part of the program, she will encourage participants to tell stories about their own parents using a series of "conversation starters."

This program and student programs held in conjunction with Sima's visit are provided by the library and the Thunder Bay Arts Council. For more information, visit the library's Facebook page, www.alpenalibrary.org, www.ThunderBayArts.org, or call the Thunder Bay Arts Council (989) 356.6678.

Bird Count Needs People

The 21st annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) will take place February 16-19. Residents of Iosco and Alcona counties have an opportunity to submit data about birds located in this region of Michigan just prior to the spring migrations. Sponsored by Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Audubon, and Birds Studies Canada, this count is open to anyone. Observations may occur in backyards, neighborhoods, woodlands, along river corridors, or even while riding in a car.

Participants are encouraged to observe on one or all four days for at least 15 minutes per day. Individuals then submit their results online at www.birdcount.org. Easy to follow instructions guide the observer through the process. Participants must fill out a separate form for each new day of observation during the count period.

A public information session will be led by Peggy Ridgway, local Audubon ambassador, at the Oscoda United Methodist Church, on Feb. 7 at 2 p.m. in the church library. The church is located at 120 Dwight Street in Oscoda, behind the Oscoda Township Hall and fire station. Ridgway will also do a presentation during the AuSable Valley Audubon meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 1 p.m. at the R. J. Parks Library on Skeel Ave. in Oscoda. The public is also invited to attend.

MSP Expands Program

The Michigan State Police (MSP) is looking for volunteers to join its Community Action United Team in Our Neighborhood (CAUTION) ini-

Continued on page 8



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NOTICE:

The Harrisville Township Planning Commission will hear a request from Andrew Shaw. This request is for a variance for size of the lots. The request is to change 100 ft. lots to 60 ft. lots on a parcel of land in sections 26 and 35, between Sunrise Drive and Crescent Road. This hearing will be held at the Harrisville Township Hall on February 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend or written comments can be sent to the Harrisville Township Zoning Administrator.

1/10 thur 1/31

Lady Tigers notch Fairview and Hale

By Ben Murphy
Sports Writer

A slow start didn't cost the Alcona girls varsity basketball team last Thursday night. The Lady Tigers, playing at Hale in a North Star League (NSL) game, overcame a big hole early to win 56-47.

"Playing back-to-back road games may have led to our slow start but we were able to pull it together and get the win," said head coach Gordie Risbridger. Taylor Livingston was outstanding and Faith Wallenmaier added some key points for us."

Hale led 15-7 after the first quarter but the Lady Tigers bounced back to lead 23-22 at the half and 39-31 entering the fourth quarter.

Livingston led the way in the win with 26 points. Wallenmaier had 12 points and Hailee Gordy netted seven.

On Wednesday, Jan. 24 the Lady Tigers won a NSL road game at Fairview, 54-13.

The Lady Tigers led 15-2 after the first quarter and 32-

2 at the half and cruised the rest of the way for the win.

"It was a good game for after a few days off and everyone got some minutes in," Risbridger said.

Leading the way was Megan Grove with 16 points, Livingston netted 15 and Gordy put in 13.

Alcona (6-5 overall, 5-3 NSL) hosted Posen on Monday; hosted Grayling on Tuesday; hosts Mio on Thursday, Feb. 1; heads to Rogers City on Monday, Feb. 5 and hosts Hillman on Thursday, Feb. 8.

Alcona drops close game with Hale

By Ben Murphy
Sports Writer

The Alcona boys varsity basketball team dropped a tough game 42-39 at home last Friday to Hale. The North Star League (NSL) game was tied 9-9 after the first quarter and the Tigers led 20-17 at the half. The Eagles swung ahead 32-27 entering the fourth quarter and hung on for the win.

"We missed nine easy baskets in the first half," said head coach Ryan Bilbey. "I have a couple key players fighting sickness and another that has not been able to practice for a week due to a concussion. That being said, we need to play four quarters of basketball in order to compete consistently."

Leading the Tigers in the setback was Devon Mills and Damion Stewart. Conner McCoy and Luke Loyer added six points apiece and Jordan Steiner had five. Joseph Kimmerer paced Hale with 13 points.

"Hale has a nice team and they play hard, it was more of a defensive game than

anything," Bilbey said. "Again, we held a team below their average but we struggled putting up points."

On Wednesday, Jan. 24 the Tigers won a road NSL game at Fairview, 49-34.

The Tigers got off to a fast start, taking a strong 16-0 lead after the first quarter. At the half Alcona led 24-8.

The Eagles outscored Alcona 19-14 in the third and 15-14 in the fourth quarter, but Alcona still had enough for the win.

"We hadn't played in 11 days, with snow days we haven't even practiced much so it was great to get back on the court," Bilbey said. "I think the boys played pretty well considering the time off. We got off to a great start, scoring 16 points and holding them to zero in the first but we struggle offensively because of turnovers."

Alcona (7-3 overall, 5-2 NSL) was at Posen on Tuesday; heads to Mio on Friday, Feb. 2; hosts Rogers City on Tuesday, Feb. 6 and heads to Hillman Friday, Feb. 9.

Tiger bowlers take on Bay City, Tawas

The Alcona boys varsity bowling team traveled to Bay Lanes in Bay City, Mich. on Saturday, Jan. 27. The team competed in two matches, the first was against the Tawas Braves and the second was against the Whittemore-Prescott Cardinals, second in league standings.

The Tigers and Braves split the two Baker games, with the Tigers winning total pins 297-284. First game was won by the Tigers 125-109. Second game was won by Braves 175-172.

In the first team match games: Konnor Webster was defeated 130-128. Jason Sweet won 145-138. Brenden Hudgins was defeated 143-135. Kyle Haeger won 165-130. Alex Harmon was defeated 134-120.

In the second game: Justin Smigelski was defeated 163-149. Sweet won 146 - 138. Hudgins won 190-141. Haeger won 231-117. Harmon won 156-106.

The final points were 22- 8. Later that afternoon, the Tigers won the first Baker game 150 -119. The Cardinals won the second Baker game 186-183. The Tigers won total pins 333-305.

Individual game stats: Smigelski was defeated 165 - 135. Sweet was defeated 158 -138. Hudgins was defeated 171-135. Harmon won 148-103. Haeger won 169 -122.

Second game stats: Webster won 148-116. Sweet was defeated 172-154. Hudgins won 167-150. Harmon won 168-130. Haeger won 140-120. The final points were 21-9 in Alcona's favor.

The next competitions will be at Hi-Skore Lanes in West Branch.



Female mason bees collect fruit tree pollen and nectar and roll them into a ball, which is placed inside a tube. An egg is laid near the food, then this little nesting chamber is sealed off with mud produced by the female bee. They work this way until there are five to eight nests, then the tube is finally sealed with a thicker mud wall. The young nestlings grow to adulthood inside their chambers, emerging the following spring in perfect timing with blooming fruit trees.

- Brenda Weaver
Source: www.fs.fed.us

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Writing Letters to the Editor

The Alcona County Review welcomes Letters to the Editor so readers can express their opinion or draw attention to issues.

- Letters to the editor must be signed with a first and last name and include an address and phone number where the author can be reached for confirmation or questions during regular business hours. *Unsigned letters will not be published.*
- Letters must address the editor -- not government, the community, organizations or the authors of previously published letters.
- *Letters should be no longer than 300 words.* Inappropriate content will be deleted and letters will run on a space available basis.
- This forum is not intended as a thank you section for groups and organizations. *Thank yous are considered personal messages and therefore advertising.*
- Drop off letters to the Alcona County Review office at 111 Lake Street, Harrisville; mail to P.O. Box 548, Harrisville, Mich. 48740; or e-mail using plain text format to editor@alconareview.com.



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Superintendent looks toward future

By Mary Weber
Staff Writer

With half of the school year complete, the superintendent is busy putting many wheels in motion to not only finish the year positively, but to keep Alcona Community Schools operating with a bright future.

Superintendent Dan O'Connor is tackling many situations within the school district including how to handle the days off due to snow and icy roads, bus delays, getting new staff acclimated, individualizing education to reach all students at their level and strategic planning for the future.

Last year school was cancelled for nine days due to snow/ice. That may be the same, or more, this year as there have been six days "snow days" at the end of January.

Obviously, snow days cannot be controlled, and school closings are for the safety and welfare of the students, O'Connor said the district will most likely handle the days missed by tacking extra days on to the end of the school year in June.

He explained that a number of factors are considered before determining school closure. O'Connor and Kim Quick, director of transportation, in communication at 4 a.m., check road conditions with the Alcona County Road Commission, and speak with other school districts and a number of other people. "Especially with a county this

large we rely on a lot of different information to make sure we make the best decision we can," O'Connor said.

Parents are notified of school closures several different ways including tweeting, posting on the school's Facebook page, notifying radio and television stations and robotic (robo) calling parents. O'Connor said he likes the calls to go out before 5 a.m. because he understands many parents need to find day care for their children on those days.

Graduating seniors will not be affected by the extra days tacked on since many have obtained their required credits before June, "We typically host graduation the second Sunday in June. With over 50 percent of our seniors dual enrolled (taking both college and high school courses), their semester ends in early May," O'Connor said.

He explained moving the date allowed all graduates to move on, begin work, take summer semester college courses, or enter the military earlier. O'Connor felt optimistic the school would once again reach its 90 percent graduation rate, or possibly do even better this year.

Weather conditions aside, communication is still important between school personnel and parents. If a bus is running significantly behind, the bus driver will call two radio stations WATZ-99.3 and WHSB-107.7 to spread the word of the delay.

O'Connor said he is con-



Dan O'Connor

sidering a better way to handle bus delays, but it is tricky because a delay typically affects only one bus load of students and not the whole district. He is considering using robo texts to pass along information. "The problem is having an additional person available to set those wheels in motion, if needed, and to make sure that person is used wisely and not have them just wait around for an occasional late bus," O'Connor said.

He is still learning a lot about being superintendent, a position he accepted just last year. He explained a lot of his time is spent helping everyone feel comfortable in their duties including two new principals, a new guidance counselor, three new teachers and a new school success worker.

"Every day that goes by helps get everyone a little more settled. There was a lot of catching up for those new

Continued on page 12

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Organization Notes

VFW Post No. 6754 Auxiliary

The January meeting was held with six members present. The December 2017 meeting minutes were read and it was noted that there were nine members present and one guest, Laura Kowalski.

Sandy Light gave the treasurer's report. It was noted that \$141 was spent on Christmas fruit baskets and the \$105 donation was

made to National Home to update their safety and security system project. There were no bills to be paid for January.

Frances Ziesman read the youth and Camp Trotter bulletins. Arlene Lay read the Americanism bulletin reminding members about President's Day which will be observed on February 19 and to teach school children how

to properly fold the flag.

Membership of 100 percent was reached before the December 2017 deadline. It was reported that Betty Gordon was released from Tendercare Alpena on December 24, 2017, after receiving physical therapy for knee replacement surgery.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m.

Alcona FFA Alumni

As winter comes in full swing and maple syrup season nears, it brings with it the Alcona FFA Alumni Association's annual Business Social. The Alcona FFA Alumni is gearing up for a new year and new program of activities. This year's resolution: increase membership and give back to the FFA even more.

In order to meet this resolution community members are invited to attend the 2018 Alcona FFA Alumni Business Social on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Alcona High School cafeteria. The Alumni will be providing coffee and dessert. Attendees will be encouraged to provide feedback and guidance for the Alumni's 2018 program of activities. Additionally, members of the Alcona FFA Chapter that are advancing to the regional leadership contest will be presenting to attendees so they

can receive feedback prior to the regional competition.

Increasing the FFA Alumni's membership has been one of the programs goals for the past couple of years. This year the Alumni is reenergizing this goal by making it their resolution. The FFA Alumni has 58 lifetime members, making it one of the largest chartered FFA alumni affiliations in the state of Michigan.

Their membership goal is 100 lifetime members. Once the Alumni reaches 100 lifetime members the National FFA Alumni will provide an annual scholarship for one Alcona FFA Chapter member to attend the Washington Leadership conference; which is a five day event in Washington D.C. where members learn how to become effective leaders in their school, community, and country.

The Alcona FFA Chapter

has not sent a member to the Washington Leadership Conference in the past decade, which makes achieving this membership goal vital to offering this opportunity for Alcona FFA Chapter members.

One of the newest changes to the FFA Alumni's program of activities for 2018 is the raffle of a 1946 John Deere B tractor. The Powierski family of Lincoln donated the tractor to the FFA Alumni in 2015. With the help of the community and many volunteers, the FFA Alumni has completely restored the tractor and is looking forward to raffling it off at the Alcona FFA Chapter's Maple Syrup Celebration Day on March 17 at the Sugar Shack. Through the raffle the FFA Alumni is looking forward to reaching its goal and resolution to give back to the FFA Chapter even more.

PUBLIC NOTICE
2018 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW
MIKADO TOWNSHIP
MIKADO CIVIC CENTER
2291 S. F-41
Mikado, MI 48745

Tuesday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m. - Organizational Meeting
No appeals will be taken at this meeting.

Wednesday, March 14, 1:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Friday, March 16, 1:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2018 assessments. By Board Resolution, residents are able to protest by letter. Written protests should be mailed to:
Mikado Township Assessor,
2836 E. McNeil Rd., Lincoln, MI 48742
and MUST be received by March 13, 2018.

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers provided by the Alcona Equalization Department for each class of real property and personal property for 2018 are as follows:

	RATIOS	MULTIPLIERS
AGRICULTURAL	49.49	1.01030
COMMERCIAL	50.10	0.99800
INDUSTRIAL	N/A	N/A
RESIDENTIAL	49.81	1.00381
TIMBER CUTOVER	N/A	N/A
DEVELOPMENT	N/A	N/A
PERSONAL PROPERTY	50.00	1.00000

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 7-day notice. Contact (989) 736-7721.
1/31 thru 2/14

SENIOR LIFESTYLES

Three ways to cut hearing aid costs

Dear Savvy Senior,
I've heard that hearing aids will soon be available over-the-counter and will be much cheaper than they currently are. What can you tell me about this? My husband desperately needs hearing aids but we simply can't afford them.

Searching Spouse

Dear Searching,
Unfortunately, for many years the high cost of hearing aids has kept millions of Americans with hearing loss from getting hearing aids because they can't afford them.

Hearing aids - typically sold through audiologists' offices - are expensive, usually ranging between \$1,000 and \$4,000 per ear, and are not typically covered by private insurance or traditional Medicare.

But there's good news on the horizon. Last summer President Trump signed the Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017 into law. This

will allow people with mild to moderate hearing loss to buy hearing aids without consulting an audiologist, and the devices could sell for between \$250 and \$300 at drugstores and other retailers.

The only problem is that it will be a couple more years before these OTC hearing aids are available to consumers. So in the meantime, here are some tips that can help you find some affordable options.

While most private health insurance companies do not cover hearing aids, there are some that do. For example, Aetna members can purchase aids at a discount through certain suppliers, and United Healthcare offers hearing aids to their beneficiaries through HealthInnovations for \$799 to \$999 each.

You should also know that some federal workers, as well as residents of Arkansas, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island can

get their hearing aids covered by health insurance, as can eligible veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Or, if your husband is a Medicare recipient, about half of all Medicare Advantage plans offer at least partial coverage or discounts on hearing exams and devices. So, be sure you check your husband's insurance coverage to see if it offers any type of hearing aid benefit.

To help you save money, consider shopping at Costco, which offers no-cost screenings at certain locations, as well as very competitive prices. Hearing aids there range between \$500 and \$1,500 each. You can also shop online at websites like EmbraceHearing.com and Audicus.com, which can save up to \$2,000 per pair. Then visit a local specialist to make any necessary adjustments.

Another option worth a look is over-the-counter personal sound amplification



Savvy Senior

products (or PSAPs). Unlike hearing aids, the Food and Drug Administration does not regulate PSAPs. And PSAP manufacturers are not allowed to call these products hearing aids or claim that they help hearing. But these devices are very effective for people with mild to moderate hearing impairment, and typically cost between \$350 and \$450 each. To find a wide variety of PSAPs see assistive listening sites like Harris Communications (HarrisComm.com, or call 866-476-9579).

If your income is low, there is a number of national, state

and independent groups that can help you pay for hearing aids or offer discounts. To find them, visit the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association website at ASHA.org/public/coverage/audfundingresources. Or, call the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders at (800) 241-1044, and ask them to mail you their list of financial resources for hearing aids.

(Send senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org.)

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Local Notes



Continued from page 4

tiative. This is a partnership between the MSP and clergy and group members of all faiths that works to increase trust and communication between law enforcement and residents.

The MSP created CAUTION in 2012 at the Flint, Mich. post. Since that time, the program has expanded to include faith leaders in Saginaw, Inkster, Muskegon Heights and Benton Harbor, with a total of 103 trained volunteers participating in the program. Due to the program's success, CAUTION is expanding to each of MSP's 30 posts.

CAUTION members meet regularly with post personnel to encourage dialog and information sharing. They can also be activated to respond alongside law enforcement at crime scenes to ease tensions and provide emo-

tional support to residents.

The MSP provides various training to CAUTION volunteers, some of which includes courses in critical incident defusing/debriefing, security in places of worship, responding with law enforcement in a crisis, avoiding caregiver burnout and clergy's role at a critical incident scene.

Interested individuals can contact their nearest Community Service Trooper Ashley Simpson, Alpena post to learn more by calling (989) 354-4101.

Accepting Applications

Scholarship opportunities through Community Foundation of Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) are based on a wide variety of criteria including the student's high school, year of graduation, college they plan to attend, or their planned field of study. Addi-

tionally, some scholarships are for students who have already graduated from high school, and, also for those planning to attend a certificate program or trade school. To be eligible, students must complete the application by the April 2 deadline.

"The Community Foundation awarded over \$400,000 in scholarships in 2017," said CFNEM Program Director Julie Wiesen. "This year, we will be awarding scholarships from many different funds, and several scholarships will be awarded for the first time. Our donors take great pride in opening doors to area students through scholarships."

Scholarships are available for students throughout the CFNEM service area, as well as its affiliate foundations: the Iosco County Community Foundation, the North Central Michigan Community Foundation, and the Straits

Area Community Foundation.

Scholarship applicants should visit the "Scholarships" section of the Community Foundation's website at www.cfnem.org.

Many scholarships use an online application system, with only one application needed for numerous awards. Additionally, many scholarships use an alternative application procedure. Full details of each scholarship's application criteria can be found online.

Scholarships awarded during the 2018 competitive scholarship program are for the 2018-19 academic year and are paid directly to the educational institution the student has chosen.

The application deadline for all CFNEM scholarships, as well as most scholarships through its affiliate foundations, is April 2, 2018.

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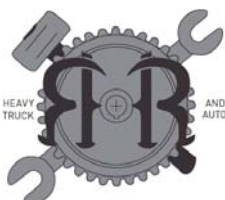
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Introducing beginners to ammunition reloading

By Gregg Schefferly
Outdoor Writer

Anyone who is not a fan of the cold or snow, can be driven stir crazy by staying indoors all winter.

With this in mind, the winter months are the perfect time those who enjoy shooting to cheaply to prepare ammunition for shooting sports or hunting. Avid shooters, regardless of whether it's pistol, shotgun, or rifle, can reload everything but rimfire cartridges.

Those who do much shooting know some of the premium ammunition, along with some of the older calibers, can be hard to find at times and very expensive.

Fortunately, my grandfather gave me his Hornady reloader and I started reloading when I was in my twenties. With it I can reload both rifle and pistol ammunition. Shortly after receiving it, a friend gave me lessons on how to reload. I was hooked and before long I had a MEC shotshell reloader for my twelve gauge and a Hornady progressive loader for my 20 gauge. I can reload ammunition for almost every gun I own.

Reloading is something anyone can do. While it's im-

possible in this article to teach anyone to reload, I will describe the equipment required and briefly explain their functions. I will focus primarily on the components necessary to reload rifle and pistol ammunition. Reloading shotshells is much easier and, to some extent, cheaper than reloading centerfire ammunition.

Begin with a sturdy bench that's well lit to mount the reloader. A current reloading manual produced by a bullet manufacturer is a must. A reloader, powder measure, scale, scale weights, dies for the various calibers to reload, a case trimmer, a priming tool, shell holders, and a set of dial calipers to check dimensions of brass and reloaded ammunition. Finally, primers, bullets, gun powder, and once fired brass is also needed.

When I said reloading is cheap I should've added once you get past the initial cost. Depending on how you go about it -- finding used equipment, or buying new -- you can spend anywhere from a couple hundred to several hundred dollars getting started.

Once all of the equipment is acquired, the cost of re-

loading per round is considerably cheaper than factory made ammo. Another advantage of reloading ammo is experimenting with different bullets, primers, powder, and powder charges in order to shoot more accurately.

A reloading manual is a must and provides everything needed to reload. The manual provides how to, as well as specifications for brass, bullets, and charges for different powders for every caliber. The reloading press is a mechanism that has threaded holes to screw the dies into and a handle that allows the removal of spent primer, resize the brass, as well as place and set the bullet in the casing to finish the process. Dies come in different calibers, which can be purchased individually.

Depending on the cartridge, dies will come in a set of two or three. The first die removes the primer and resizes the cartridge. If there are three dies, the second die prepares the casing for the bullet and the last die sets and crimps the bullet in the casing. Some cartridges require lubricating the casing before resizing, others do not. After resizing and depriming the brass it's not uncommon



Exploring the Outdoors

By Gregg Schefferly

to run cartridges through a tumbler full of media to polish the brass. This isn't required, but at times it's a good idea if brass is tarnished.

The casings need to be thoroughly checked to be sure after resizing they have no defects such as cracks or splits. Next the cartridge length must be checked with a dial caliper to insure it hasn't stretched out of tolerance. If it exceeds the maximum length it must be trimmed using a case trimmer. After this the primer pockets are cleaned and new primers are inserted. At this point the shell is ready for powder and bullets.

Reloading shotgun shells using a shotshell reloader is generally quicker than reloading rifle or pistol ammunition. Rifle and pistol reloading involves precise measuring and strict adherence

to tight tolerances. There are manuals and online videos for learning to reload and free technical support is available from the bullet manufacturers.

When I do any reloading, I will spread it out over a two or three night period -- usually after dinner during the week. The first night I will run the brass through the first die to remove the primer and resize it. From there I will check the length of the brass to be sure it's in tolerance. Finally, I will use a special wire brush to clean the primer pockets before throwing them into the tumbler overnight to polish.

On the second evening I use my handheld primer tool to insert new primers into the cases. If it's a pistol shell I will use the second die to open the brass at the end to

Continued on page 12

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Conference Continued from page 1

product given back to the consumer could be greater, other seasons when the crops don't do very well, there could be very little return. CSA consumers are typically people very interested in local agriculture who are willing to take the risk. CSAs are very common in other areas, especially in urban areas and areas with more established local food markets," Beckta said.

A speaker will also talk about how to utilize the Internet and social media. Other speakers include representatives from Taste the Local Difference advocacy group, Greenstone Farm Credit Services, Michigan State University Extension, Presque Isle Farm, Standen Acres, Leeseberg Farm, and the Cook Family Farm of Grayling, Mich.

Breakfast and lunch of local foods are included in the

ticket cost of the event. Lunch will be provided by Kathy's Pasties, a local restaurant, who will be using Leeseberg Farm beef and Posen potatoes in the pasties.

Two break-out sessions will give time to ask questions, brainstorm and network. A trade show will be available to conference attendees, from noon to 5 p.m., and open to the public from 1 to 4 p.m., will be held with vendors selling pork, chickens and beef. State agencies and businesses centered around farming will attend,

Castern-French said fundraising for the event began last October with a Farm to Fork dinner which kicked off the group's Patronicity fund campaign, an effort which was matched dollar for dollar by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation generating \$15,000 for the group. Another \$5,000

was obtained by receiving a \$2,000 grant and a variety of donations and sponsorships including Greenstone Farm Credit Services.

"What we need is to get together as a community and talk about what we want to do going forward. The only way to get there is to pull together and work as a group. There are a lot of small groups who are trying to do this in a few different directions, but nobody is really driving the bus. The point of this conference is to get people who have a common interest together in one room," Beckta said.

Only 100 tickets to the Farm Conference will be sold. Ticket cost is \$35. Registration forms are available by calling Castern-French at (989) 335-4112, Beckta at (989) 254-6828 or visiting inspirationalcona.org.

Trial Continued from page 1

levels that flow to state-level crime laboratories and, eventually, to the national level at the FBI. This allows communication of DNA profiles across state lines for solving crimes and linking them to potential offenders.

Ballard was lodged in the Alpena County Jail on an unrelated offense and was interviewed three times in May and June 2016 after the DNA match was found. He had not been interviewed by investigators prior to that time. During the interviews he denied knowing Leeper, said he'd never seen her before and said he was living in Florida during the time of her death. He provided a DNA sample during the first interview on May 5, 2016.

During the third interview, when officers told Ballard that his DNA matched DNA found in Leeper's mouth, he maintained that he didn't know her and never had any contact with her; and that he was in Florida when she died.

Eventually, investigators found that Ballard had lived in Florida from the summer of 2001 to sometime in 2003.

During his incarceration in the Alpena County Jail Ballard had several conversations with his girlfriend, Andrea Varner, which were recorded, as all communications of inmates are at the facility.

Despite her unwilling testimony, Varner said that when she asked Ballard if there was anything she should know – specifically about three prostitutes who had been killed in Flint – he said that he didn't know anything about that... then stated, "what I did was bad enough," according to a transcript of the recorded conversation.

In another, conversation with Varner later, according to a transcript of the recording, Ballard said, "the shit they are doing, I'm not gonna be able to get out of that."

Weichel "rested" his case on Thursday afternoon. Following a brief recess, Ballard took the stand to testify — against the advice of his attorney and verbal caution by Frawley.

Ballard testified that he was 24 in March of 2000 and lived with his mother in Flint and was very familiar with the Curran property that his family has owned. According to previous testimony from his uncle, Gary Ballard Sr., his grandfather (Stanley Ballard) was from Curran and the family came up to the area on a regular basis.

During questions posed by Gust, Ballard admitted that he "had seen her (Leeper) but didn't know her." Ballard testified that he was at this mother's house (in March 2000), "Marcus came to mothers with a couple girls and said he was going up north, did I want to come? I had my daughter there at the time and said, 'no' because I couldn't leave... I stayed there drinking and waiting and decided to go up."

Ballard said he borrowed his mother's minivan, left Flint "late" and bought two fifths of liquor because he knew no stores would be open when he got there, and drove to Curran.

"Marcus greeted me at the door and an older black lady was sleeping on the couch," Ballard said. "We talked for awhile and drank." He was upset because only one girl was with Marcus, not two like his brother had said. "He wasted my time, I drove up for nothing. I was going to drink, go to bed and leave in the morning because he didn't have two girls," Ballard testified.

The next morning, Ballard testified, "I was woke up by that lady who was sleeping on my mom's couch... she was giving me oral sex. She told me my brother told her to give him oral sex to wake him up. She asked if I wanted her to finish. I said, 'yes.'"

He testified that afterwards Ballard put on his pants, visited with his brother for several minutes, brushed his teeth and left to go back to Flint. Later, he heard about Leeper's death from his mother.

Gust asked Ballard if he

ever asked Marcus about what happened. "Marc told me they got into an argument. He said he let her out of the car and said she could walk home. He didn't tell me much else."

When questioned by Gust about telling authorities he was living in Florida, Ballard said, "I didn't want to say my brother was up there."

Gust asked him if he killed Leeper. "No I did not," Ballard said.

On cross examination, Weichel asked Ballard why he lied to detectives three different times in May and June of 2016 about knowing Leeper or recognizing her. And, why had he never told anyone else – prior to his testimony – over the last 17 years that he was there (in Curran) with Marcus and "one girl."

Ballard said, "I didn't want to tell anyone that I left him up there."

Weichel asked, "You are charged with murder, but you told no one before today?"

"No, I didn't," Ballard said.

Weichel persisted asking about the recorded conversation with his girlfriend, Andrea — "What I did was bad enough." Ballard said he meant something else.

When questioned if he lied to his mother about the scenario in Curran, Ballard said, "Mom never asked so I didn't have to lie."

When asked if he lied to his daughter about it, Ballard paused and stumbled over words.

Weichel asked when Ballard saw Marcus after he left Curran. "I didn't see Marc again until later that day," Ballard said.

"So, you don't know what happened?" Weichel asked.

"I know what Marc told me," Ballard said. "I never said he killed her."

After Weichel's cross examination of Ballard concluded, Gust rested his defense.

Both attorneys gave their closing statements and the jury went into deliberation before lunch on Friday, Jan. 26.



Members of the U.S. Coast Guard stationed out of Tawas visit Alcona Elementary. Last Friday students learned about ice safety, practices they can do in case of an emergency and saw the gear that is used in ice rescues. *Courtesy photo.*

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Alcona County Sheriff's Report

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Complaint Statistics

Car/Deer Accidents	9	Traffic/Traffic Stop	35
Medical	17	Warrant Arrest	1
Property Damage Accident	4	Personal Injury Accident	1
Criminal Sexual Conduct	1	PPO Violation	1
Animal/Dog	3	Fraud	1
Miscellaneous	2	Patrol Check	2
Well Being Check	3	Suspicious Event	3
Malicious Destr. of Property	1	Domestic	2
Assault	1	Fire	2
Open Door	1	Alarm	1
Operate While Intoxicated	1	Harassment	1
Neighbor Trouble	1	Civil	4
Larceny	1		

Complaints taken by City, Township or Village

Alcona	8	Caledonia	16	Curtis	3
Greenbush	8	Gustin	10	Harrisville	12
Hawes	6	Haynes	5	Mikado	8
Millen	2	Mitchell	7		
Harrisville City	11	Village of Lincoln	3		

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Calendar of Events

Continued from page 3
coln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. All levels of woodcarvers including beginners are welcome.

The Alcona FFA Alumni Association is hosting its annual business social at 6:30 p. m. at Alcona High School cafeteria. Everyone is welcome to attend, attendees do not have to be a former FFA member. Attendees will be providing feedback to members competing at the regional leadership contest. Coffee and dessert will be provided. For more information and to register, contact Rose at (989) 335-1869 or AlconaFFA-Alumni@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8
TOPS MI 1502 Mikado

meets at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 2531 F-30, Mikado. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m. and meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. First meeting is free, handicap accessible. For more information, call (989) 464-3526.

Community Walking Club for everyone will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street.

Alcona retirees will meet for a potluck lunch and bingo at noon at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Bring a dish to pass.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Storytime and craft for children from 10:15 to 11 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library,

312 West Main Street. Call (989) 724-6796 for details.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10
Recycle Alcona County will hold drop off day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lincoln ARA site. Enter and exit through the north gate. Call (989) 724-5077 or (989) 724-6546 for details.

My Brother's Hope will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 76 North Barlow Road (across from the high school). Call (989) 335-3541 for details.

My Brother's Hope Potluck Cafe will be serving a meal from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Harrisville United Methodist Church, 217 North Barlow Road (US-23). Call (989) 335-3541 for details.

Superintendent

to the district to see where we were, get used to where we are now and start having their own thoughts about how to move us forward," O'Connor said.

Having worn many hats throughout his 12 years with the district has helped him understand the challenges teachers and administrators face. As a parent of two children in the district allows him to see parental issues involved.

O'Connor is proud of the newest program which allows students to individualize their education through learning at home. Home education allows students to work at their own pace with the school providing the computer, Internet and the classes. Once a home learner's courses are complete and requirements met, they may graduate from Alcona Community Schools.

He explained with home studies, a student could take

Continued from page 6

10 classes one semester and have the next semester off to travel with their parents or work and study independently in areas they are most interested in. "It's nontraditional and more personalized, which is what we need to continue to work towards. We want to get down to the individual learner.

"It's a big project. Education for the last 150 years has been a more manufactured model, moving students through grades based on age. We need to think more about proficiency and competency and get out of the age mind set. All schools are faced with this obstacle, it's not Alcona specific. I am passionate about individualizing instruction for each student and want to become far more flexible for each learner," O'Connor said.

To help obtain the goal of individualized education and other goals, a strategic planning committee was recently put into place. The committee is made up of many stakeholders including community members, 15 parents, teachers, school staff, school board members, and administrators.

O'Connor explained the strategic planning committee will be looking at data, the school's strengths and weaknesses, opportunities, barriers and valuing ideas and guidance through many different lenses to come up with a plan to carry the school forward.

The school has 718 students from kindergarten through 12th grade, which is about 20 students above what was projected, but well below the 1,000 students it had over a decade ago.

For more information on Alcona Community Schools, visit its website at alcona-schools.net.

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Haynes Community Church
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Pastor Claire Duncan • haynescommunitychurch.org

Family Heritage Baptist Church
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Pastor Ernest Ruemenapp (989) 724-6728 • www.church72.org.
Sunday worship services 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Sunday school 10 a.m. Wednesday 7 p.m.
children's ministry. Wednesday 7 p.m. midweek service (preaching and prayer service).

First Baptist Church of Lincoln
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. - Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Study/Prayer, Wed. 7 p.m.
Pastor Dr. Arie VanBrenk • 202 Main Street • 736-8796

New Life Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Sunday Worship & Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
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Pastor Christina Bright Office 736-7816

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ST. GABRIEL, Black River Saturday 6:30 p.m.
ST. CATHERINE (Ossineke) Sunday 9 a.m.
ST. ANNE, Harrisville Sunday 11 a.m.
Pastor: Fr. Robert Bissot • (989) 724-6713

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3155 E. F-30, Mikado MI • Church 736-8727
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Harrisville at 10:30 a.m. (217 N. State St.)
All sanctuaries are wheelchair accessible and all sites offer Sunday School for children during the worship
Rev. Charles Sheldon - Pastor
Phone - 989-739-5497 - Cell 989-254-4112
Come as you are - everyone is welcome!

GREENBUSH COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
2430 S. State, Greenbush • 724-5264 • Pastor A. C. Caincross
• Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
• Sunday Morning Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.
• Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.

Reloading

Continued from page 9

accept the bullets. Next I will set up my digital powder dispenser and scale and start dispensing powder. It's important to check the scale using the scale weights to verify its accuracy initially, and throughout the process of dispensing powder.

The last step is using the final die to set and crimp your bullet into the brass. Finally, the calipers are used to check the overall length.

There you have it the reloading process is complete. Reloading several rounds of a half dozen different loads using different powders and powder charges will help identify the most accurate load for your gun.

Good luck!
(After spending the last several years in Afghanistan, Alaska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin, Gregg Schefferly has recently returned to writing and Lincoln where he grew up hunting, fishing, and trapping. He welcomes success stories and pictures at NE Lower MI Tacklebox on Facebook, or contact him at northwriter@hotmail.com.)



Buggy Rides

From the files of the Alcona County Review



Named to baseball's Hall of Fame

February 1, 1968 ~ The late Hazen (KiKi) Cuyler of Harrisville posthumously received the biggest honor bestowed upon a baseball player Sunday, January 28 when he was elected to Baseball's Hall of Fame by unanimous vote of the Veterans' Committee headed by former Commissioner Ford C. Frick. Hazen was an 18-year player for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Chicago Cubs, Cincinnati Reds and Brooklyn Dodgers, and was affiliated with organized baseball as a player, coach and manager for about thirty years.

Elected with Harrisville's illustrious son, was Leon "Goose" Goslin, who played 18 American League seasons, most of them with Washington. Goslin now runs a Ma-

rina in Bayside, N. J.

Among Goslin's many accomplishments were the World Series' winning base hit for the Senators against the Chicago Cubs in 1935, and six straight hits with Washington in the world Series in 1924.

Hazen was a sports enthusiast all his life. He played on the home sand lots, in County league play, on an Alpena team, and semi-pro in Flint, with the Buick Big Red basketball team on June 20, 1920 signed with the Bay City Club of Michigan - Ontario Baseball League.

Spotted by a Pittsburgh scout who paid \$3,000 for his release in August, 1921, he played for the Pirates for brief periods in 1921 and as a regular in 1922, 1923 and

1924. On July 26, 1927 he signed with the Chicago Cubs where he played for seven seasons, and later with the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers. His lifetime batting average was .312, World Series average .281, and he led the National League in stolen bases. In 1939, he became manager of the Chattanooga Lookouts, and for three years from August 8, 1940 he coached the Chicago Cubs. 1944-1948 he managed the Atlanta Crackers of the Southern Association, and the last year of his baseball career he was Coach of the Boston Red Sox.

Cuyler once collected 10 straight hits and had six in a row three times. He made the series winning hit - a bases-loaded eighth inning double -

in the seventh game of the Pirates-Washington World Series game of 1925. That game-winning blow overshadowed the three homers and six RBI's produced in that World Series by the Senators' top hitter - "Goose" Goslin.

In May, 1962, Cuyler was elected to Michigan's Sports Hall of Fame at Cobo Hall in Detroit. On the walls of a wide hall to the left of the main entrance, hangs huge pictures of Michigan sport kings, with a commemoration plaque beneath. The 1962 dedication ceremonies were attended by Mrs. Cuyler, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cuyler and a longtime friend and admirer of Hazens, Edwin S. Killmaster.

Hazen was born August

30, 1898 at Sturgeon Point where his father, the late George A. Cuyler served with the Life Saving Crew (U. S. Coast Guard). He attended the Silverthorn and Harrisville schools, graduating May 30, 1917 as valedictorian of his class. He married Bertha Kelly on January 8, 1919. She now resides in her home, recently built on a lot adjacent to their former home. The Cuylers' daughter, Kelly June Kruttlin, with her husband Ted, and three children, purchased the family home next door. Harold "Ki" Cuyler, the couples' son, also resides at Harrisville and owns and operates Cuyler's Bar. They have two children.

Cuyler's unfortunate death occurred February 10, 1950, While enroute by ambulance to the University Hospital in Ann Arbor.

He had suffered a heart attack while fishing near Glennie on February 2. Death was due to coronary thrombosis.

Needless to say, Hazen's deserved election to Cooperstown, N. Y., Hall of Fame, is deeply appreciated by his family. Mrs. Cuyler's first word of the honor came from a neighbor who had heard it via radio on Sunday, and it was carried on TV reports early Monday. A call Sunday afternoon from the Harry Ostrows of Chicago, friends of the Cuylers for many years, confirmed the report and a call was also received from Chattanooga, Tennessee, Sunday.

Since that time, Mrs. Cuyler has received many calls and letters from friends, along with newspaper clippings to fill the final pages of Hazen's baseball career scrapbook.

Alcona girls win over Roscommon

February 1, 1968 ~ Last Wednesday the Girls Basketball Team of Alcona High stepped out of a two game losing streak and beat the girls from Roscommon 50 - 32 at the local gym.

It was a close game right to the finish with the local misses trailing as the final period began, 35 - 33. Once again Deborah George led all scorers with 21 points, followed by Karen Gauthier and Ki Ann Kruttlin with 8 each. Bennie Goddard and Mary Kingsland each had 3, while Mari Sysak and Kay Olsen collected 2 each. Leaving Sue Frederick, Denise Wing and Kris Frederick with one apiece.

The girls have two more home games left, as they face Whittemone- Prescott on February 7, and Oscoda February 14.

Alcona Review Weather Report

Jan. 31, 2018

Seven Day Forecast

WEDNESDAY
Snow Likely
High: 37 Low: 25

THURSDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 27 Low: 4

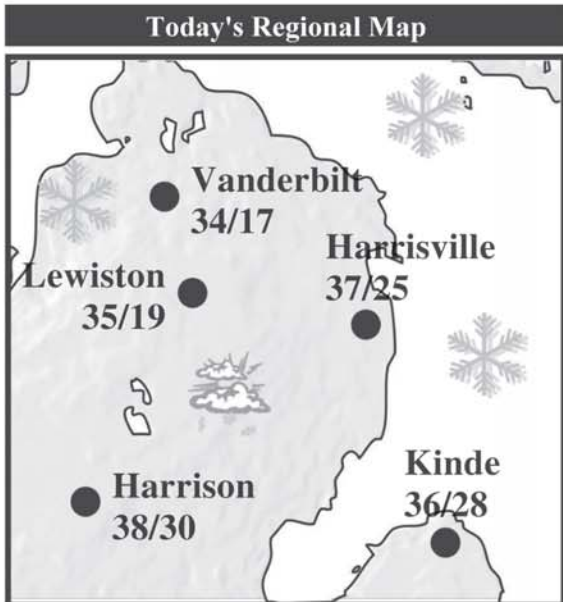
FRIDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 15 Low: 7

SATURDAY
Scattered Snow
High: 21 Low: 4

SUNDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 14 Low: 2

MONDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 18 Low: 6

TUESDAY
Mostly Cloudy
High: 21 Low: 9



In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a 75% chance of snow, high temperature of 37°, humidity of 67%. South southwest wind 14 to 19 mph. New snow accumulation between two to three inches possible. The record high temperature for today is 50° set in 1989. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 25°.

*Last Week's Almanac

Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Tuesday	35	19	27/11	0.26"
Wednesday	22	9	27/11	0.02"
Thursday	29	7	27/11	Trace
Friday	46	21	27/11	Trace
Saturday	47	34	27/10	0.00"
Sunday	35	19	27/10	0.00"
Monday	23	12	27/10	Trace

*Data as reported from Alpena, MI

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	7:55 a.m.	5:40 p.m.	6:05 p.m.	7:56 a.m.
Thursday	7:54 a.m.	5:42 p.m.	7:20 p.m.	8:39 a.m.
Friday	7:52 a.m.	5:43 p.m.	8:33 p.m.	9:16 a.m.
Saturday	7:51 a.m.	5:44 p.m.	9:44 p.m.	9:48 a.m.
Sunday	7:50 a.m.	5:46 p.m.	10:52 p.m.	10:18 a.m.
Monday	7:49 a.m.	5:47 p.m.	11:58 p.m.	10:46 a.m.
Tuesday	7:47 a.m.	5:49 p.m.	Prev Day	11:14 a.m.

Local UV Index

UV Index
0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

National Weather Summary This Week

The Northeast will see partly cloudy skies through Friday with isolated showers and snow, highest temperature of 56 in Granite City, Ill. The Southeast will experience mostly clear skies Wednesday and Friday, partly to mostly cloudy skies Thursday with isolated rain, highest temperature of 70 in Hialeah, Fla. In the Northwest there will be mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain Wednesday and Friday, partly cloudy skies Thursday with isolated rain, highest temperature of 52 in Roseburg, Ore. The Southwest will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies through Friday with the highest temperature of 81 in Pasadena, Calif.

Tonight's Planets

	Rise	Set
Mercury	7:29 a.m.	4:32 p.m.
Venus	8:16 a.m.	6:03 p.m.
Mars	3:16 a.m.	12:33 p.m.
Jupiter	2:14 a.m.	11:59 a.m.
Saturn	5:44 a.m.	2:37 p.m.
Uranus	10:43 a.m.	7:00 p.m.

Weather History

Jan. 31, 1911 - Tamarack, Calif. was without snow the first eight days of the month, but by the end of January had been buried under 390 inches of snow, a record monthly total for the United States.

Weather Trivia

Can there be lightning during a snowstorm?

Answer: Yes. Lightning and thunder are common during snowstorms.

www.WhatsOurWeather.com

StarWatch By Gary Becker - Bummer Blue Moon Total Lunar Eclipse

In "Bart's Comet," a Simpsons episode which aired on February 15, 1995, Bart Simpson detects a comet which is headed inbound to destroy the Earth. The discovery occurs during what should have been a reprimand for Bart's misbehavior when he pranked the key event, the launching of a weather balloon, during "Propane Explosion-Free Science Week." A sheet tied to the balloon unravels into a caricature of his science teacher, Mr. Skinner, including a sign which reads, "Hi! I'm Big Butt Skinner." Skinner immediately suspects Bart of the misdeed and retaliates saying, "I'm going to punish you for this Bart, and it won't just be a simple caning this time. Because you have impeded science, you must now aid science. Yes... Starting tomorrow, you will assist me with my amateur astronomy, taking down coordinates, carrying equipment, and so forth - 4:30 in the morning." When sleepy Bart arrives at school, Skinner's scope is already assembled and Bart asks enthusiastically, "Is this the telescope we're going to be looking through?" Big Butt Skinner retorts, "Yes, but you won't be looking through it. I forbid it." That is exactly how I feel about this month's blue moon total lunar eclipse. The blue moon is the second full moon of the month, and it occurs on Wednesday, January 31. At the same time, a good portion of North America will see a beautiful total lunar eclipse, a relatively rare occurrence when Luna passes through the main shadow of the Earth. Observers on the East Coast with an average western horizon will only see the upper left limb of the moon appear dusky in nature as it moves deep into Earth's secondary shadow, the penumbra, around 6:45 a.m. We will miss the big show. It's almost as bad as Bart Simpson not being able to look into Big Butt Skinner's telescope. Think of the Earth's shadow as a grayish, flat washer on a white piece of paper. The center, where the hole of the washer is located, is over a black dot which represents the densest part of Earth's shadow, the umbra. Since the moon is full and opposite to the Earth and the sun, the white paper indicates where full sunlight is still reaching the moon. As the moon travels into the grayish donut region of the washer called the penumbra, that part of the moon sees a portion of the Earth covering the sun. Light falling in this locale is not as bright as full sunlight. The deeper into the penumbra the moon travels, the more diminutive the light becomes. This is basically all that the East Coast will be privileged to witness as the moon nears the western horizon on January 31. The farther west a person is located, the earlier the time will become, and these observers will have the advantage of viewing the moon drift into the Earth's umbra, the area where if you were on the moon, the Earth would be completely hiding the sun, in other words, a total solar eclipse from the moon's perspective. Observers west of the Mississippi will view the moon move completely into Earth's shadow with Luna taking on a rainbow of reds, oranges, and browns. It can be a breathtaking sight. www.astronomy.org

Trivia Test

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. **MYTHOLOGY:** What was the name of the chariot-driving Greek sun god?
2. **MOVIES:** What was the first movie that Elvis Presley appeared in?
3. **LITERATURE:** Which Russian author wrote the novella "Notes from Underground" in the 19th century?
4. **GEOGRAPHY:** In what mountain range is Mount Everest located?
5. **HISTORY:** When was the Woman's Peace Party organized in the United States?
6. **MUSIC:** What famous singer/songwriter won the Pulitzer Prize for Literature in 2016?
7. **U.S. PRESIDENT:** Who was the only president to serve two nonconsecutive terms?
8. **ANATOMY:** What is the largest internal organ in the human body?
9. **GOVERNMENT:** What was the first capital city of the United States?
10. **AD SLOGANS:** What popular drink was advertised as "pure as sunlight" in 1927?

Answers: 1. Helios; 2. "Love Me Tender"; 3. Fyodor Dostoyevsky; 4. Himalayas; 5. 1915, in response to World War I; 6. Bob Dylan; 7. Grover Cleveland, 22nd and 24th president; 8. Liver; 9. Philadelphia; 10. Coca-Cola (c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

Super Crossword

LETTER ADDENDA

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Faux — (social slip)</p> <p>4 Tangos, e.g.</p> <p>10 Singer Anka</p> <p>14 May greeting card salutation</p> <p>19 "C— la vie" ("That's life")</p> <p>20 Tristan's love</p> <p>21 Up to the job</p> <p>22 Bayer brand</p> <p>23 Anorak, for Alaska?</p> <p>25 Set no spending limits?</p> <p>27 Injury-sorting process</p> <p>28 Tell a story</p> <p>30 Drum set?</p> <p>31 Brit Jones played by Renée Zellweger?</p> <p>35 "Barbarella" star Jane</p> <p>37 Suffix similar to -ette</p> <p>38 Baseball's Tony La —</p> <p>39 Frat letters</p> <p>41 Tenth mo.</p> <p>43 Actress Tomei</p> <p>46 Decide to order ravioli?</p> <p>50 Old comics girl</p> | <p>53 Soap format</p> <p>54 Baseball's Pee Wee</p> <p>55 Place for actor Baldwin's lawn?</p> <p>57 Party food provider</p> <p>59 González in 2000 headlines</p> <p>60 Lovers' god</p> <p>62 "No" vote</p> <p>63 That miss</p> <p>66 Agents, in brief</p> <p>67 Tyke sitting on a fireplace floor?</p> <p>72 Tibia locale</p> <p>73 Fresno-to-L.A. dir.</p> <p>74 Iniquity</p> <p>75 "... for — know"</p> <p>76 Empathetic comment</p> <p>77 Suffer humiliation</p> <p>81 Furnish supplies to Oregon's capital?</p> <p>84 Box in a den</p> <p>87 — borealis</p> <p>89 Friendly teasing</p> <p>90 Jet kept in reserve?</p> | <p>92 Hobbled along</p> <p>93 — -Cat</p> <p>94 Go higher</p> <p>95 Set — (decide when to wed)</p> <p>97 Egg: Prefix</p> <p>100 Pickling liquid</p> <p>102 Yeast used to treat illness?</p> <p>107 Dad's sister</p> <p>108 — Bessette-Kennedy</p> <p>111 Dress</p> <p>112 Activity held between work hours?</p> <p>114 Apt word spelled out by the letters added to 10 answers in this puzzle</p> <p>118 "Uncle Miltie"</p> <p>119 Taken with</p> <p>120 Faraway</p> <p>121 — Jones Average</p> <p>122 Williams of "Happy Days"</p> <p>123 Gotten a glimpse of</p> <p>124 Grog drinker</p> <p>125 Lennon lover</p> | <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Druggist's crushing tool</p> <p>2 Houston team</p> <p>3 Blemishes</p> <p>4 UCSD part</p> <p>5 Fluttery tree</p> <p>6 3 R's gp.</p> <p>7 Inferior dog</p> <p>8 Moose kin</p> <p>9 Arises</p> <p>10 GI's chaplain</p> <p>11 Call off, as a launch</p> <p>12 Forearm part</p> <p>13 Riga native</p> <p>14 Socrates' T</p> <p>15 Bygone</p> <p>16 Huge vitamin intake, e.g.</p> <p>17 Hams it up</p> <p>18 New York team</p> <p>24 Tiny bit</p> <p>26 Suit</p> <p>29 Best competitive effort, informally</p> <p>32 Big name in water filters</p> <p>33 Stole cattle</p> <p>34 "The Lady — Tramp"</p> <p>36 Kind of hawk</p> <p>39 Bog fuel</p> <p>40 With 56-Down, pre-talkies time</p> <p>42 — Bo</p> <p>43 — a wet hen</p> <p>44 One-named R&B singer</p> <p>45 Arena arbiter</p> <p>47 Oval part</p> <p>48 Korean car</p> <p>49 — Lingus</p> <p>50 Leering types</p> <p>51 Chronicles</p> <p>52 Baloney</p> <p>53 Bluebonnet</p> <p>56 See 40-Down</p> <p>58 Cheering cry</p> <p>61 — Na Na</p> <p>63 Slate source</p> <p>64 Employing person</p> <p>65 Hostile party</p> <p>67 Assembly aid</p> <p>68 Using uppercase</p> <p>69 Lanchester of old films</p> <p>70 Flying stat</p> <p>71 Abbott & Costello musical</p> <p>72 Parboil</p> <p>74 Titan's planet</p> <p>76 Atoll unit</p> <p>77 Comics cry</p> <p>78 Ordinance</p> <p>79 "... cup — cone?"</p> <p>80 Took the gold</p> <p>82 Llama cousin</p> <p>83 Laotian currency unit</p> <p>84 Conan's network</p> <p>85 Eighth U.S. president</p> <p>86 Disdainful people</p> <p>88 Good to go</p> <p>91 Portion</p> <p>92 Fond du —</p> <p>96 Iraqi currency units</p> <p>97 City in Spain</p> <p>98 Lillian — (gift retailer)</p> <p>99 Ring combo</p> <p>101 Author — Calvino</p> <p>102 Three-card street scam</p> <p>103 John of rock</p> <p>104 Milk: Prefix</p> <p>105 Bygone anesthetic</p> <p>106 \$\$\$ dispenser</p> <p>107 "Chiquitita" quartet</p> <p>109 Alamo rival</p> <p>110 Russo of film</p> <p>113 Boy toy?</p> <p>115 Brewed quaff</p> <p>116 Oversharing initialism</p> <p>117 Co. owned by Verizon</p> |
|--|--|---|---|

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
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118						119					120						121	
122											124							125

Moments In Time

By The History Channel

- On Feb. 11, 1858, in France, Marie-Bernarde Soubirous, a 14-year-old peasant girl, first claims to have seen the Virgin Mary. The 18 apparitions occurred in a grotto of a rock promontory near Lourdes.
 - On Feb. 7, 1914, the silent film "Kid Auto Races at Venice" premieres featuring the actor Charlie Chaplin in his first screen appearance as the "Little Tramp."
 - On Feb. 9, 1942, the Normandie, the first major liner to cross the Atlantic in less than four days, burns and sinks in New York Harbor during its conversion to an Allied troop transport. A welder set fire to life preservers, and by early the next morning the ship lay smoking and capsized in the harbor.
 - On Feb. 6, 1952, King George VI of Great Britain and Northern Ireland dies. Princess Elizabeth, the oldest of his two daughters, was crowned Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953, at age 27. Today, Elizabeth has reigned for almost 65 years.
 - On Feb. 8, 1978, a classic "Nor'easter" storm that brought a severe blizzard to New England finally subsides. The blizzard, the worst to hit New England since 1888, was blamed for 56 deaths and dumped 55 inches of snow in some areas.
 - On Feb. 5, 1988, in Miami, Panama military strongman Gen. Manuel Noriega is indicted for drug smuggling and assisting Colombia's Medellin drug cartel in trafficking cocaine to America. Noriega was found guilty at his 1991 trial and sentenced to 40 years in prison. He later was imprisoned in France and Panama, where he died in 2017.
 - On Feb. 10, 1996, world chess champion Garry Kasparov loses the first game of a six-game match against Deep Blue, an IBM computer. Man ultimately defeated machine, however, as Kasparov bested Deep Blue in the match with three wins and two ties and took home the \$400,000 prize.
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Strange But True

By Samantha Weaver

- It was noted educator and civil-rights activist W.E.B. DuBois who made the following sage observation: "The theory of democratic government is not that the will of the people is always right, but rather that normal human beings of average intelligence will, if given a chance, learn the right and best course by bitter experience."
 - Those who make the finest wigs from human hair typically avoid buying hair from Americans. Evidently, hair grown in the United States is more likely to have damage caused by hairspray, hairdryers, dyes and pollutants.
 - You might be surprised to learn that the tiny nation of the Netherlands, located barely 1,000 miles from the Arctic Circle, is the world leader in yield for tomato production, producing 144,352 tons of tomatoes per square mile under cultivation.
 - In 1900, a prairie dog colony was found in Texas. That's not surprising -- prairie dogs are fairly common out West -- but this colony was unique. Researchers say it was the largest colony ever discovered, providing a home to 400 million prairie dogs and stretching over 25,000 square miles.
 - If you're planning a summer trip to Maine, be sure to visit Peaks Island; the town is home to what is quite possibly the world's only museum devoted to umbrella covers.
 - The first seven presidents of the United States were not born American citizens.
 - Thanks to continental drift, the Atlantic Ocean is getting about a centimeter bigger every year, and the Pacific Ocean is shrinking by the same amount.
- ***

Thought for the Day: "Pride, like laudanum and other poisonous medicines, is beneficial in small, though injurious in large, quantities. No man who is not pleased with himself, even in a personal sense, can please others." -- Frederick Saunders

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **A** equals **S**

WFSMFSB FQ ZGQDZKZET ZIAT QN

AVHHZAAWVEET RIFE QIGFA, F'M

AIT KT CDNQRZD RIA QRZ BFWQ

NW HIC.

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CryptoQuip puzzles \$3.50 • 24 Volumes • Order at: rbmamall.com

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Veterans Host By Greddy Groves

Raking in the cash with relocations

While Department of Veterans Affairs chief David Shulkin is doing a good job, there is one place he needs to focus his laser gaze: relocations and the cash paid out to those who move within the VA ... and those who pocket the money.

A recent VA Office of the Inspector General report details -- on many pages, covering many years -- how one VA employee managed to get piles of money in a relocation that he never made.

Let's call him Dr. A. Years ago, Dr. A applied for a VA job clear across the country. He was paid nearly \$20,000 for Temporary Quarters allowance. His boss approved

the change of position. Furthermore, Dr. A's salary was dramatically increased because different geographical regions have varying base salaries depending on the cost of living.

But Dr. A didn't move. He stayed where he was, at the heftier salary, and telecommuted. Basically, he phoned it in. He did put in two days a week at his home location, while, on paper, living on the other coast. This went on for over three years.

When the jig was finally up, Dr. A claimed not to know he'd been given nearly \$20,000 in relocation money (all of it within one month). His wife thought it was his annual bonus.

Technically he was assigned to the other coast, where he also supposedly lived. How then could he claim travel money for traveling to his own home? During the time he was living on one coast and claiming to live on the other, Dr. A also made dozens of trips on the government dime. The VAOIG, as of this writing, has handed it back to the VA with recommendations.

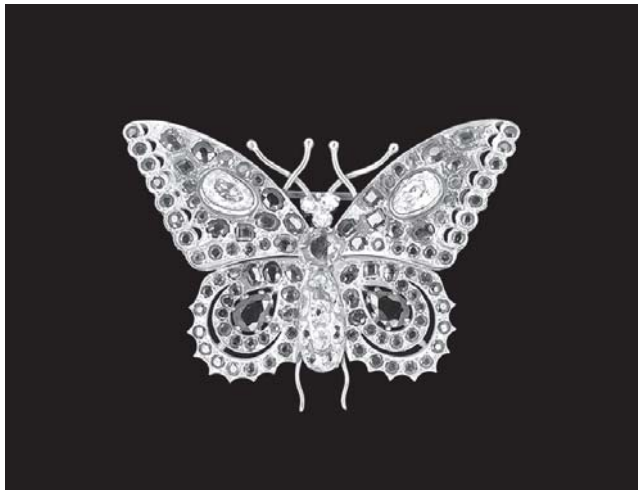
Dr. A owes the government a lot of money. Unfortunately, he's likely not the only VA employee cashing in this way.

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Kovels: Antiques & Collecting By Terry and Kim Kovel

Butterfly jewelry

Colorful butterflies are admired and even the inspiration for expensive, valuable jewelry. But, many people are annoyed or even afraid of "bugs," and few would want a caterpillar pin or bracelet. In earlier centuries, all sorts of insects and small creatures found in nature were popular. Ladybugs bring luck. Frogs are most appropriate as gifts for travelers. They bring good luck and a safe return. Snakes, perhaps because they shed their skins each year, represent fertility and health. A snake biting its tail represents eternity. Queen Victoria was given a snake ring in 1839 as an engagement ring. There are many antique or vintage gold and jeweled snake bracelets, rings or necklaces. But the butterfly is perhaps the most popular because of the beauty of the design. And, the butterfly represents change and a free spirit. A 4 1/2-inch Russian butterfly pin, made in the early 1900s, sold at the New Orleans Auction Gallery in 2016 for \$5,000. It is made with rubies, sapphires, emeralds and old mine-cut diamonds set in 14-carat gold.



Butterflies bring change and transformation, according to past traditions. Or they may represent a free spirit. The beauty of this butterfly pin made of precious jewels and gold brought an auction bid of \$5,000. It was made in Russia a hundred years ago.

1903. Does the animal have red glass eyes? The red eyes were used on the most expensive Atterbury animals. Many companies made milk glass, and milk-glass dishes with animal or bird lids were available. Atterbury is one of the best. In 2000, the dish was worth \$175 to \$200. Today milk glass is not as popular with collectors, and your dish is worth only \$100 to \$150.

Q: I just found a metal tin that seems to have held pepper at the White House. How much is a political piece like this worth?

A: Sorry to disappoint you, but White House is a brand name used by Wilson Burns & Co. of Baltimore in the 1930s. In those days, all grocery-store containers of small amounts of spices were sold in tins. There still are collectors of the tins for their advertising or country-store col-

lections. The best place to find them is at the back of the kitchen cupboard at a house sale. Most tins sell for \$15 to \$35.

CURRENT PRICES
Hair receiver, celluloid, faux tortoiseshell pattern, squat octagonal base, lid with center hole, scallop and point rim, 1930s, 5 inches, \$25.

Game, Ouija board, wood and veneer, canted corners, black letters and symbols, printed instructions, William Fuld, 1915, 12 x 18 inches, \$300.

Advertising sign, "Campbell's Tomato Soup, 10 cents," porcelain, figural, bracket, red and white, 1920s, 13 x 24 inches, \$1,650.

TIP: Store photographs flat, in acid-free albums.

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Alcona Review Classifieds

Ads may be brought in to our office at 111 Lake St., Harrisville
Cost per ad is \$4.50 for the first 10 words and 15¢ for each word thereafter.

Boxed ads are \$5 per column inch.

Ads and payment must be received by 4 p.m. Monday.

All Classified Ads **MUST** be Paid in Advance We accept: Cash, Checks, Visa, Mastercard, Discover & American Express

Call 989-724-6384

BUYING TIMBER

Buying standing timber, minimum five acres. Cole Forest Products (989) 736-8928.

BINGO

Mikado Goodfellows Bingo every Monday 6:30 p.m. at Mikado Civic Center. Winner-takes-all game and cookie jar. All proceeds to charity.

HELP WANTED

Now hiring RNs, LPNs, CNAs and a cook. Apply at Jamieson Nursing Home, 790 South US-23, Harrisville, Mich. 48740. (989) 724-6889.

Fick & Sons is hiring a part time LP delivery driver. This position requires a Class B license with hazmat and airbrake certification. For details, contact Scott Gabriel at (989) 348-7647.

BIDS WANTED

Alcona County Central Dispatch is seeking bids for Next Gen VoIP based 9-1-1 CPE. The ideal solution will be Public Safety fault tolerant, to be NENA i3 compliant with ESinet 9-1-1 connectivity within a compact hardware footprint. The requested CPE utilizes a virtual server design, located Onsite. There will be (2) work stations, interconnected to administration PBX via (8) analog lines, third party recorder via IP and third party CAD system for both 911 and nonemergency traffic. Bids should be sent to 212 West Main Street, Harrisville, Mich. 48740 before February 16, 2018.

Notice to bidders: Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Road Commissioners of the County of Alcona, Michigan, at 301 North Lake Street, P.O. Box 40, Lincoln, Michigan 48742, until 4 p.m. local time, Tuesday, February 27, 2018. Accepted bids will be publicly read beginning at 4:15 p.m. during the road commission meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2018, for furnishing and delivering the 2018 annual requirements for the following materials. Corrugated metal culverts, crushed and washed limestone, blast furnace slag, trap rock, bituminous patching material (CP-6 and CP-7), asphalt emulsions (including AE-90, fog seal), pavement marking services, aggregate - tailgate spread, aggregate - stockpiled, chloride (applied for dust control and bulk for pre-wetting winter salt), and chemical brush control. Bid price for the above materials shall include cost of delivery to designated points in Alcona County. Specifications and further information may be obtained at the office of the Alcona County Road Commission, 301 North Lake Street, Lincoln, Michigan 48742, phone (989) 736-8168, e-mail roads@alconacrc.com or at alconacrc.com. All proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes bearing the name of the bidder and item being bid. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to waive an irregularities in the bids and to accept the bid which is in the best interest of the County of Alcona. Board of Road Commissioners of the County of Alcona. Alfred J. Scully, Chair.

FOR RENT

COLWELL MANOR APARTMENTS

200 N. 8th St. in Harrisville has 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Rent based on income. HUD Subsidy for most units. Barrier free units in building. Applications at Mgr. apt. #26 or call Linda, 800-225-7982. Inside mail delivery. Laundry room in each hallway. Children's play area. Managed by Stratford Group Ltd. Alpena, MI. Equal Housing Opportunity. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. TDD 7-1-1.

One bedroom, free heat, water and electric. Covered parking. One block from downtown Harrisville. Immediate occupancy. Furnished or unfurnished. Call (989) 362-4400.

NOTICES

The Gustin Township board is seeking applicants for one trustee position. Interested citizens of Gustin Township should submit a letter of interest to Gustin Township Clerk, P.O. Box 25, Lincoln, Mich. 48742 by February 16, 2018.

Meeting cancellation: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Alcona County Board of Road Commissioners for Wednesday, February 14, 2018 has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 28 at 4 p.m. at the road commission office at 301 North Lake Street, Lincoln. Meetings are open to the public.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Sharboneau & Sons

Excavating, Demolition, septic systems, topsoil, sand and gravel. All excavating needs. Licensed & Insured (989) 736-8148

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Alterations
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Oscoda Commons
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Now accepting credit cards
Hours:
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
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Closed for lunch 1-2 p.m.

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A Decorator's Dream!
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Public AUCTION!

Sat., Feb. 3. 10 a.m. ~ Perry Creek & M-33 Mio.
Furniture; Glass; Qty. Kitchenware; Household;
Collectibles; Snoopy Peanuts Collectibles; Stereo
Equipment; Gun Lockers; Sportsman; Shop Tools;
Garage & Outside; 1970 SkiDoo Snowmobile;
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Ads may be brought in to our office at 111 Lake St., Harrisville
 Cost per ad is \$4.50 for the first 10 words and 15¢ for each word thereafter. Boxed ads
 are \$5 per column inch. Ads and payment must be received by 5 p.m. Monday.

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All Classified Ads **MUST** be Paid in Advance We accept: Cash, Checks, Visa, Mastercard and Discover

LEGAL NOTICES

As a debt collector, we are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Notify us at the number below if you are in active military duty.

Mortgage sale - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Dennis John Caldwell, unmarried, mortgagor, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS) as nominee for American Advisors Group, mortgagee, dated the 26th day of July, 2014 and recorded in the office of the register of deeds, for the county of Alcona and state of Michigan, on the 14th day of August, 2014 in Liber 509 of Alcona County records, page 201.

Said mortgage having been assigned to American Advisors Group on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, the sum of ninety two thousand eight hundred fourteen & 50/100 (\$92,814.50), and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof.

Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to statute of the state of Michi-

gan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of February, 2018 at 10 a.m. o'clock local time, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the west entrance to the Alcona County building in Harrisville, Mich. (that being the building where the circuit court for the county of Alcona is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, as aforesaid on said mortgage, with interest thereon at 3.992 per annum and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises.

Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land, including any and all structures, and homes, manufactured or otherwise, located thereon, situated in the township of Gustin, county of Alcona, state of Michigan, and described as follows, to wit: The northwest 1/4 of the northwest 1/4 of Section 11, Town 26 North, Range 8 East, Gustin Township, Alcona County,

Michigan, except the south 1/2 of the south 1/2 thereof. During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed during 30 days immediately following the sale. Pursuant to MCLA 600.3278, the mortgagor(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the mortgagee or the mortgagee's attorney

Dated: January 10, 2018
 American Advisors Group
 Mortgagee
 Fabrizio & Brook, P.C.
 Attorney for American Advisors Group
 700 Tower Drive, Ste. 510
 Troy, MI 48098
 (248) 362-2600
 CELINK FHA CALDWELLDEN
 1-10, 1-17, 1-24, 1-31

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Alcona County, at 10 a.m. on February 14, 2018:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Ronald K. Smith and Andrea K. Smith, husband and wife. Original mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. Foreclosing Assignee (if any): J.G. Wentworth Home Lending, LLC. Date of mortgage: August 3, 2015. Date of mortgage recording: August 7, 2015. Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$81,100.94
 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in township of Gustin, Alcona County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 1 and 2 of Block 25 of the Village of

Killmaster, as found in Liber 1 of Plats, page 13, Alcona County records.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 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.

This notice is from a debt collector.
 Date of notice: January 17, 2018
 Trott Law, P.C. 1338163
 1-17, 1-24, 1-31, 2-7

To all purchasers: the foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

Mortgage sale - A mortgage was granted by Joseph A. Rutkowski, a single man and Connie L. Forsythe, a married woman, mortgagor(s), to Dort Federal Credit Union, 2845 Davison Road, Flint, Mich. 48506, mortgagee, dated July 25, 2008, and recorded in the office of the register of deeds for Alcona County, and state of Michigan, on July 31, 2008, in Liber 454 on page 783 of Alcona County records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of thirty thousand six hundred fifty eight dollars at 4.0 percent per annum and attorney fees as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law or in equity have been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said

mortgage, or any part thereof; notice is hereby given by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

And, pursuant to the statute of the state of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on February 14, 2018, at 10 a.m. local time, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder in the Alcona County circuit courthouse in Harrisville, Michigan (that being the building where the circuit court for the county of Alcona is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, aforesaid, on said mortgage with interest thereon and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises.

Which said premises are described as follows: Township of Curtis, county of Alcona and state of Michigan, to wit: Lot

8 of the supervisor's plat of Larry's Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof, as found in Liber 1 of plats, page 170, Alcona County records.

During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241 a, the property may be redeemed during the thirty (30) days immediately following the 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.

John W. Butler (P 33908)
 Attorney for Mortgagee
 24525 Harper Avenue
 St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
 (586) 777-0770
 Dated: January 10, 2018
 1-10, 1-17, 1-24, 1-31, 2-7

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Mortgage sale—Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Gerald Orban, a single man, mortgagor, to First National Bank of America, mortgagee, dated February 7, 2007, and recorded February 14, 2007, in Liber 439, page 315, of Alcona County records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due as of the date of this notice \$39,673.27, including interest at 10.95 percent per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the state of Michigan, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction to the highest bidder, on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the place of holding the circuit court within Alcona County, Michigan. Said premises are situated in the township of Alcona, Alcona County, Michigan, and are described as: The north 1/2 of the north 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 19, T28N, R9E, except a parcel of land located on the

SW corner of this legally described property being 200 feet on Barlow Road and being 250 feet in depth; and the south 1/2 of the south 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 19, T28N, R9E, commonly known as (c/k/a): 5150 F-41 North, Black River, Mich. 48721.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of the sale, unless the premises are determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be one month, or until the time to provide the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later. Please be advised that if the mortgaged property is sold at a foreclosure sale by advertisement, 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.

Dated: January 24, 2018
 LeVasseur Dyer & Associates, PC
 Attorneys for Mortgagee
 P.O. Box 721400
 Berkley, MI 48072
 (248) 236-1765
 1-24, 1-31, 2-7, 2-14

Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C., is attempting to collect a debt, any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Mortgage sale - Roy A. Melton and Ruby Melton, husband and wife, granted a mortgage to The Huntington National Bank successor by merger to First Merit Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Citizens Bank, mortgagee, dated March 16, 2007, and recorded on April 2, 2007, in Liber 440, on page 1,041, Alcona County records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of fourteen thousand seven hundred eight dollars and seventy-nine cents (\$14,708.79).

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 vendue, west entrance to the Alcona County building in Harrisville, Mich. at 10 a.m. o'clock, on February 28, 2018.

Said premises are located in Alcona County, Michigan and are described as: All that part of the north 1/2 of the southwest 1/4 of Section 36, Town 26 North, Range 7 East, described as commencing at the west 1/4 corner of said Section 36 as the point of beginning; thence north 89 degrees 12 minutes 17 seconds east 658.32 feet along the east-west 1/4 line and centerline of Condon Road; thence south 01 degree 16 minutes 33

seconds east 659.56 feet; thence north 89 degrees 04 minutes 25 seconds east 1317.41 feet; thence south 01 degree 20 minutes 41 seconds east 656.55 feet to the south east-west 1/8 line; thence south 88 degrees 56 minutes 34 seconds west 1977.27 feet along the said south east-west 1/8 line to the west section line of said Section 36; thence north 01 degree 14 minutes 30 seconds west 1322.12 feet along the said west section line to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be one year from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241, in which case the redemption period shall be 1 month, or under MCL 600.3241a 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later, or extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 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.

The Huntington National Bank successor by merger to First Merit Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Citizens Bank mortgagee/assignee.
 Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C.
 23938 Research Drive, Suite 300
 Farmington Hills, Mich. 48335
 1-31, 2-7, 2-14, 2-21

Case No. 17-2861-CH Circuit Court Sale

In pursuance and by virtue of a judgment of the circuit court for the county of Alcona, state of Michigan, made and entered on November 21, 2017, PNC Bank, national association successor by merger to National City Bank in a certain cause therein pending, wherein PNC Bank, national association successor by merger to National City Bank was the plaintiff, and Daniel G. Waelchli and Ethel A. Waelchli, husband and wife, were the defendants.

Notice is hereby given that I shall sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the west entrance to the Alcona County Building in Harrisville, Mich., that being the place of holding the circuit court for Alcona County, on the 7th day of March, A.D., 2018, at 10 a.m. o'clock in the forenoon, Eastern Standard Time, the following described prop-

erty, to-wit:

All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the township of Haynes, county of Alcona and state of Michigan, described as follows: situated in the township of Haynes, county of Alcona, and state of Michigan, to-wit: Part of northeast 1/4 of northwest 1/4 Section 25, Township 27 North, Range 9 East, described as: Parcel "C;" commencing at northwest corner of said Section 25; thence south 88 deg. 36' east, along the North Section line 1320.80 feet to the northwest corner of SD 40 acres; thence south 1 deg. 47' 57" west, along the west line of SD 40 acres, 630.93 feet to point of beginning; thence south 88 deg. 36' east, 1022.58 feet; thence south 4 deg. 46' 03" east, 317.30 feet; thence north 88 deg. 36' west, 1058.87 feet to a point on said west line; thence north 1 deg. 47' 57" east along said west line, 315.46 feet to point of beginning; to-

gether with and subject to the right of ingress and egress over and across a 75 foot easement as described on plat which will allow access to US-23 Highway. And also subject to a continuation of this 75 feet, easement running in a northerly direction over and across the west edge of captioned Parcel "C" which allows others access to Parcels "A & B" per plat. Commonly Known as: 1930 North US-23, Harrisville, Mich. 48740. Parcel Number: 080-025-200-015-00.

This property may be redeemed during the six months following the sale.
 Dated: January 17, 2018
 Alcona County, Doug Atchison, Sheriff
 Benjamin N. Hoen (P81415)
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 323 W. Lakeside Ave., Ste. 200
 Cleveland, Ohio 44113
 WWR No. 10142960
 1-17, 1-24, 1-31, 2-7, 2-14, 2-21

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Alcona County, at 10 a.m. on February 14, 2018:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Ashley N. Kellogg, a married woman. Original mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Cason Home Loans its successors and assigns. Foreclosing assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC. Date of

mortgage: February 18, 2014. Date of mortgage recording: February 20, 2014. Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$72,896.35.

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in township of Greenbush, Alcona County, Michigan, and described as: The south 1326.0 feet of the west 1/2 of the west 1/2 of the east 1/2 of the northwest 1/4 of Section 5, Township 25 North, Range 9 East.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricul-

tural 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.

This notice is from a debt collector.
 Date of notice: January 17, 2018
 Trott Law, P.C. 1338470
 1-17, 1-24, 1-31, 2-7

