

# The Comstock Communicator

COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL | COMPASS HIGH SCHOOL & ADULT EDUCATION | NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL | NORTH ELEMENTARY | STEM ACADEMY | GREEN MEADOW ELEMENTARY



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## MORE NEWS

*Turn over to read*  
***Center Point***  
A newsletter about the  
Comstock  
Community Center

# From the Superintendent



## Appreciation, Congratulations & Progress Thank You, Voters

First, I once again say thank you to the entire Comstock Public Schools' voting public for their support of the district's non-homestead millage. The proposal was approved by a more than a two to one margin. This is the second time in less than six months, you voters have shown your strong support for the schools at the ballot box. Thank you.

### Appreciation for Service

Mr. Paul Lamphear was appointed to the board in 2015 to fill a vacant seat. He did not win re-election; however, I along with the entire staff thank him for his service. He brought a vast amount of data analysis expertise and systems improvement knowledge to the district.

He was a positive leadership force and helped start the district on the process of evaluation for the Malcolm Baldrige Award application.

Ms. Jackie Wahl and Mr. Michael Hicks will be retiring from the board of education effective December 31, 2016. Ms. Wahl has served on the school board for eight years and Mr. Hicks has served for 10 years. Ms. Wahl and Mr. Hicks were passionate about providing the best learning environments and opportunities for students.

Ms. Wahl served as the board president and is a champion for improved student outcomes. She was board president when the voters approved the largest bond issue by the largest margin in district history.

Mr. Hicks has been a leader for robotics and technical education in the district. He also has been a strong supporter of student extracurricular activities including band and sports.

Their knowledge and leadership will be missed on the board. I along with the entire staff wish them the best in their future endeavors and thank them for their service to our students.

### Congratulations

In the recent election three board members were re-elected. Dr. Brandy Brown and Ms. Pamela

Dickinson were re-elected to four-year terms and Dr. Richard Hathaway was re-elected to a two-year term.

Three new board members were also elected. Ms. Karen Howes was elected to a four-year term and Mr. Matthew Schreiner and Mr. Jeff Van Goeve were both elected to two-year terms.

On behalf of the staff and administration, I congratulate and welcome the returning and new board members. I appreciate their willingness to give of their time and service for the benefit of our students. Being a school board member is a challenging role and the people who serve deserve our appreciation and support. Thank you!

### Progress

The district has several major initiatives underway and the following are updates:

#### Facilities Improvement/Bond Issue

In May, 2016, voters approved a \$40 million bond issue for facility improvements throughout the district. Phase one of the projects is focused on secured entrances, restroom renovations and remodeled boys and girls locker rooms at the high school. The design process is well underway with several meetings to discuss the secured entrances, restrooms and locker rooms. The designs will be finalized shortly and posted on the district website at [www.comstockps.org/2016BondUpdate](http://www.comstockps.org/2016BondUpdate).

The board and administration have completed the initial phase of the district's strategic plan. The plan was presented to the board of education at the November 14, 2016, meeting. After review and approval by the board, the plan will be communicated to the community, parents and staff. Please look for updates on the district website at [www.comstockps.org/strategic](http://www.comstockps.org/strategic) plan.

I am very excited about the future of Comstock Public Schools. The number of major initiatives helping to propel the district forward is increasing. The hard work of the board, staff and volunteers is paying off for our students. Thank you everyone and keep checking [www.comstockps.org](http://www.comstockps.org) for updates.

Go Colts!  
Todd D. Mora  
Superintendent



## COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A SCHOOL DISTRICT DEDICATED TO KIDS

[www.comstockps.org](http://www.comstockps.org)

Todd Mora  
*Superintendent*

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jackie Wahl, President (Retiring 12/31/16)

Shirley Amos, Vice President

Brandy Brown, Treasurer-Secretary  
(Re-elected to four-year term)

Mike Hicks, Trustee (Retiring 12/31/16)

Richard Hathaway, Trustee (Re-elected to two-year term)

Paul Lamphear, Trustee (Term ends 12/31/16)

Pamela Dickinson, Trustee (Re-elected to four-year term)

*Newly elected board members taking office 1/1/17:*

Karen Howes - Four-year term

Matthew Schreiber - Two-year term

Jeff Van Goeve - Two-year term

Paula Johnson, *Appointed Treasurer*

Faye Goldner, *Appointed Recording Secretary*

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Comstock Public Schools is to provide excellence in education for all students through innovation and creativity

### VISION STATEMENT

The Vision of Comstock Public Schools is to be a national leader in quality public education.

### QUESTIONS?

If you have questions concerning your schools, the answer is only a telephone call away:  
269-250-8907

### STORIES OR INFORMATION

The Comstock Communicator is published by Comstock Public Schools. Information may be sent to Todd Mora at [morat@comstockps.org](mailto:morat@comstockps.org) or by fax at 250-8908. It may also be e-mailed to Phyllis Rose at [phyllisarose@aol.com](mailto:phyllisarose@aol.com).



# Kellermann Joins High School Staff



Teaching math, science and study skills at the high school this year is Emily Kellermann, a native of Lapeer, Michigan, where she graduated from Lapeer West High School.

She received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Alma College and a master's in special education from Western Michigan University.

Becoming a teacher was a natural fit for her, she said.

"My dad was a teacher, so I grew up in the education world," she said. "I knew I wanted to make a difference and I really enjoyed working with children."

Her dad, now retired after 37 years in the classroom, was influential in her life.

"He was innovative and always made learning

fun," she said. "Students really appreciated his style of teaching. It is awesome to see how his teaching impacted his former students. I hope I have a similar impact on my students."

Before coming to Comstock, she was a substitute teacher, a fifth grade paraprofessional in Lawton, and a kindergarten instructional aide in Lawrence.

She also taught third grade in the summer migrant program in Lawrence. Last year, she taught third grade at Schoolcraft Elementary.

Ms. Kellermann has a 16-month-old son, Eli, with her fiancé, Michael Wagner, who is a communications engineer for AECOM. She enjoys watching Eli interact with Michael's six-year-old daughter, Olivia.

Playing outside, going to the AirZoo, and movie night are things she enjoys with her family. She also likes to read, travel, play soccer, and go to Zumba class.

## Comstock High School

### Easter Signs With EMU



High school baseball coach, Rich Bailey, joins Shane Easter, as he signs with EMU to play baseball there next year.

Senior Shane Easter recently signed his Division I letter of intent to play baseball at Eastern Michigan University. Shane is a phenomenal three-sport athlete in football, basketball and baseball at Comstock High School.

He has excelled at everything he does and will be taking his talents to Eastern Michigan next year to further his baseball career.

Congratulations Shane Easter, the Easter family and Coach Bailey for all the hard work leading to this point.

## Board Briefs

### REGULAR MEETING

#### September 12, 2016

- Approved the following staff positions:
  - Lori Johnson, Green Meadow, first grade teacher.
  - Tara Allgor, North Elementary, second grade teacher.
  - Emily Kellermann, High School special education resource room teacher.
  - Emily Jones, Green Meadow, special education resource room teacher.
- Approved the STEM Academy's Spanish trip to Chicago for the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students.
- Appointed Trustee Brown as the board's voting delegate at the MASB fall leadership conference.
- Ratified a three-year agreement (2016-2019) with the Comstock Education Association.

### SPECIAL MEETING

#### September 26, 2016

- Approved Melissa Megill (Zolp), North Elementary, kindergarten teacher.
- Awarded construction manager contract to Miller-Davis.

### REGULAR MEETING

#### October 10, 2016

- Auditors presented the 2015-16 audit wrap-up.

- Approved Nancy Prullage for the NEMS Title I teaching position.
- Approved Pamela Simpson-Dudley as Dean of the College and Career Academy.
- Approved replacing classroom AV equipment and teacher iPads and hardware.
- Set the week of March 20, 2017, as Staff Recognition Week.

### SPECIAL MEETING

#### October 24, 2016

- Approved the following coaching positions:
  - Ryan White, NEMS wrestling.
  - Cody Bavin, Assistant wrestling.
  - Kevin Lillibridge, Eighth grade boys basketball.
  - Nick Sasak, Seventh grade boys basketball.
- Discussed the following:
  - Baldrige Model-Organizational Profile.
  - Parent Survey Results.
  - School model.
- Received information on:
  - Facility maintenance plan.
  - KRESA Enhancement Millage.
  - Bond Communication.
  - Strategic Plan.
  - Academic Plan.

## School Board

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### Newly elected board members taking office 1/1/17

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Matthew Schreiber - Two-year term

Jeff Van Goeys - Two-year term

Northeast Middle School

## NEMS Students Re-enact Revolutionary War Battle



Vincent Branch, the captain for the British team, surrenders his flag and allows Carl Owens, Jr., playing George Washington, to win the Revolutionary War.

NEMS eighth graders in Liz Norton's U.S. history classes experienced Revolutionary War history through a game of Capture the Flag based on events during the war.

The activity was scripted with aspects of the traditional game where two teams each have a flag or other marker and the object is to capture the other team's flag, located at the team's base, and bring it safely back to their own base. Enemy players can be "tagged" by players in their home territory; these players are then out of that round until the next round starts.

The version the eighth graders played was changed to reflect the situation they were re-enacting. The object was to have the students spread out and to capture the flags from either the British or American armies.

A third team, the French, was involved as well and joined the American team after a few rounds had been played.

Participating in this hands-on exercise gave students a new perspective on this historical event which took place in 1776.



## NEMS Students Attend K-Wings Education Day

NEMS sixth graders and Mrs. Schoen's class recently attended the K-Wings Education day. Students spent the morning cheering on the K-Wings with Slappy the mascot and their sixth grade teachers.

The games have an educational theme, designed to be a fun-filled day for both students, and teachers. The educational aspect of the games highlights subjects such as math, science, health, English, and geography.

North Elementary

## North Students Visit Gull Meadow Farms



North students (left to right) Brendyn Jaco, Damion Coffey, Dylan Rogusta, Roland Burchett, Marlee Cannon, and Aaliyah Simons enjoy their time at Gull Meadow Farms.

Students in McKenzie Shepard's class at North Elementary visited Gull Meadow Farms this fall where they enjoyed apple picking, eating donuts, and going down the huge slide. The students went home with their own mini pumpkins.

Thanks to Gull Meadow Farms for being such great hosts.

# Ski Club Spaghetti Dinner

Friday, December 9, 2016

CHS Cafeteria

Before the first home basketball game

**Tickets: \$8**

Purchase tickets at the high school or from any Ski Club member.

*Please come and support the Ski Club!*



## CHS Ski Club 2016-17

### How the ski & snowboard club works...

First, members buy a Bittersweet Card for \$16. They show this card at the window at Bittersweet every time they go. This gives them a large reduction off their lift ticket and equipment rental, if needed. So, the membership card helps a lot.

For students who want to ride the Ski Club bus, there is a one time fee (amount to be determined) for transportation. This pays for seven trips on Thursdays after school beginning in January. The bus leaves the high school at 3 p.m., goes down to NEMS to pick up the middle school club members and then heads out to Bittersweet. The bus departs Bittersweet at 7:45 p.m. and returns to the high school for parent pick up at 8:20 p.m.

So, depending on if you need equipment, the total Ski Club cost for the season is:

- Membership card (pay one time) = \$16 (Due on 12/12)
- Lift ticket = 7 x \$16 = \$112 (Pay \$16 each time you go, no pre-pay)
- Equipment rental (skis/snb 7 x \$16 = \$112) (Pay \$16 each time you go, no pre-pay)
- Bus = TBD (Pays for 7 trips) (Due on 12/12)
- (Spaghetti dinner fundraiser on 12/9)

#### TOTALS FOR SEASON:

- \$224 for season (if renting skis & riding bus) (\$112+\$112=\$224) plus bus fee TBD
- \$224 for season (if renting snowboard & riding bus) (same as above)
- \$112 for season (if already have equipment & riding bus) (\$112) plus bus fee TBD
- \$128 for season (if have equipment & driving on own) (\$112+\$16=\$128)

#### What to get in to Coach Daniel at Comstock High School:

Please place the following in an envelope with your name on it:

- 1) Bittersweet Waiver with \$16 (Check to "BITTERSWEET SKI RESORT")  
\*Bittersweet Waivers must be picked up at the High School office.
- 2) Bus Money TBD-depends on fundraiser (students expected to sell tickets)

#### Adult Membership

Adult membership discount cards are available to those 18 and older.

These can be purchased at the High school by filling out a Bittersweet information form in the CHS front office. Both student and adult membership forms are due Monday, December 12.

After that, cards may be purchased by contacting Coach Daniel at 269-250-8717 or via email at danielc@comstockps.org.

**Payment is due Monday, December 12**

## Thank You Green Meadow Elementary Lake Michigan Credit Union



Thanks to Lake Michigan Credit Union's One Pencil campaign to help local schools, teachers at Green Meadow Elementary received a surprise delivery.

Reusable bags with supplies for the classroom were delivered to teachers this fall. The supplies were gratefully appreciated by the teachers! Thank you so very much!



## Join Superintendent Mora for Coffee and Conversation

Superintendent Todd Mora invites you to join him for coffee and conversation at one of several events at either Niko's Express, 5876 King Highway, or at Panera Bread, 5627 Gull Road.

This will be your chance to talk to Superintendent Mora about any concerns you have about what's happening in the district or specifically about your child's school.

Upcoming dates are:

- December 7 and 21, 8-9 a.m. at Niko's Express
- December 14, 9-10 a.m. at Panera

Superintendent Mora has also set aside open office hours on December 13, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. His office is in the Comstock Administration Building, 3010 Gull Road. Parking is in the rear of the building.

Please take advantage of these opportunities to learn more about the district and to voice any concerns you may have.

Green Meadow Elementary

# (United Way + KRESA) x (Students + Volunteers) = Reading Gains

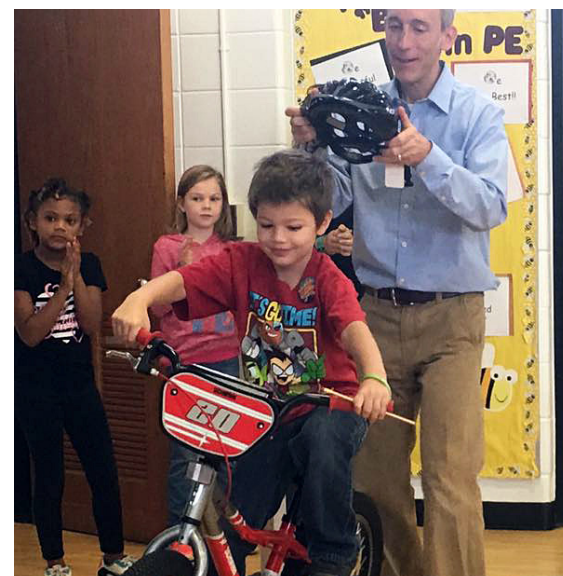
What happens when a United Way Early Grade Reading Grant and KRESA team up with volunteers and Green Meadow students in kindergarten and first grade? Reading gains!

Green Meadow kindergarteners and first graders had mentors from local businesses come to school and read with them. Mentors were given training by KRESA staff and volunteered to come in once or twice a week to read with students. Because of the one-on-one interactions between volunteers and students, students made more progress.

However, the grant not only provided training and organized volunteers, it helped combat the “summer slide” of reading skill loss.

Students who were in kindergarten and first grade also got mail this summer. Nicole Kalmbach, a KRESA consultant, and Shawn McMeekan, Green Meadow instructional coach, worked together to make sure students received books in the mail. Students were encouraged to read the book and answer questions on the postcard provided. Families then mailed the postcards back to school.

Students who participated in the postcard program received prizes at Green Meadow’s first assem-



Emmalee Mahieu and Ozlee Baker won bicycles donated by Kalamazoo Zoo City Cycle and Sport.

bly of the year. Names of students who participated were entered into a drawing for an extra special surprise – bicycles donated by Kalamazoo Zoo City Cycle and Sport. Emmalee Mahieu and Ozlee Baker were the two lucky readers to take home a bicycle.

Green Meadow is very thankful for The Unit-

ed Way Early Grade Reading grant, KRESA, and the volunteers from Stryker, Eaton, and other local businesses. The students at Green Meadow are learning to read and families are reading together more often because of your continued efforts.

## Green Meadow Students Love Their New Shoes

Green Meadow students sounded like Pete the Cat in the book, *I Love my White Shoes*, when the First Day Shoe Fund of Kalamazoo visited, giving over 100 students brand new shoes.

“I love pink and they are so sparkly!” and “Mine don’t have shoelaces! I don’t like shoelaces!” were two of the excited comments heard among a group of kindergarteners getting new shoes.

The First Day Shoe Fund celebrated 10 years of giving in 2016. This nonprofit organization “believes all children should start school on equal footing.”

Please go to [www.firstdayshoefund.org](http://www.firstdayshoefund.org) for more information or to find out how to help.



## Leader In Me 2016-2017: Green Meadow Edition



Green Meadow has started its second year with the Leader in Me program by Franklin Covey. What does this look like? It looks amazing.

Students in first through fourth grade were introduced to it last year and have become fluent in the language of the Seven Habits. As a result, they now serve as emcees at our schoolwide assemblies and have taken over paper recycling in the building.

Kindergarteners are being introduced to the Seven Habits. Leadership Notebooks have expanded and are now not only holding data of how a student is doing, but what goals that student wants to

achieve this school year academically and personally.

Faculty Action Teams are working together to create events, work with families, determine goals, communicate information, and maintain a culture of leadership at Green Meadow.

Parent Lighthouse meetings are happening monthly and parents recently attended an introduction assembly about Leader in Me at Green Meadow.

Leader in Me is an ongoing and growing program at Green Meadow. It is making a difference in the lives of our students and staff.

## Green Meadow Students Explore Careers

Green Meadow students explored the local community and future careers this fall thanks to the College and Career Academy.



Mr. Sasak's class put safety first and had a lot of questions to ask at Landscape Forms.

### Landscape Forms

Fourth graders visited Landscape Forms in the Midlink Business Park. Designing and welding were a couple of the opportunities discussed and demonstrated. Students also learned that besides making outdoor furniture, Landscape Forms also makes garbage and recycling bins, as well as light fixtures and even tree planters.

Some students tried spray-painting a chair and Mrs. James's students especially enjoyed sitting in the employee cafeteria and personally trying out Landscape Form chairs.

Jerell Kent said his favorite part of the field trip was "watching the workers make huge boxes" while Alexys Jordan said she enjoyed her visit to the company, "because we got to paint." Visiting Landscape Forms is one of Mr. Sasak's favorite field trips of the year.

### Oswalt Family Farm

It might have been a little chilly and cloudy, but it was a great day for an adventure on the

farm. Second graders went to the Oswalt Family Farm and learned about agri-businesses. Farm animals were cuddled and cooed over, but were also discussed in regards to future careers.

Students talked to a farmer about raising animals and crops. They learned that not all mother sheep keep their lambs, so those lambs are bottle fed which is an important job. Students also saw some of the equipment used on the farm and the huge bales of hay. The students and teachers enjoyed meeting the animals.

### Air Zoo

Third graders were treated to an adventure at the Kalamazoo Air Zoo. Careers in engineering, science, and aerospace were explored through experiments, displays, and demonstrations. Students also experienced flight in simulators, virtual reality equipment, and rides.

Lee L'Esperance said, "I loved the virtual reality. It felt like I was in another world!" Brayden Buck said, "The simulators made me dizzy and ticklish, but I loved it!"

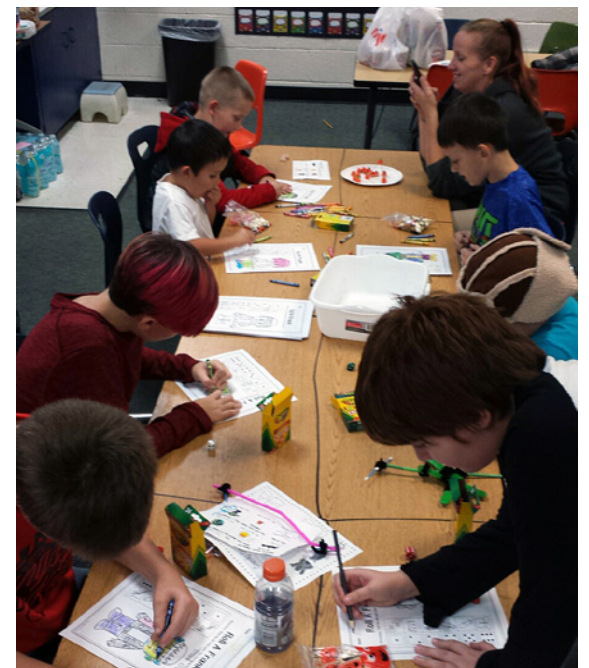
However, Mrs. Ciesa said, "I don't think I'm going to ride a hot air balloon again."

Despite the occasional motion sensitivity, the teachers and students agreed it was one of the best field trips ever.



Domanick Hunsberger was very excited to be holding a new lamb.

## GM Mystery Night



Dressed in their Halloween costumes, Green Meadow students participate in a Mystery Night math activity.

Mystery Night at the Meadow was the school's annual Math and Science night in disguise. Students and families came out in costume to have fun eating pizza, earning candy, and experiencing math and science with a spooky twist.

Have you ever built a structure with pumpkins? How about building with pumpkin candy and toothpicks? Yum! Engineering is best explored when candy is involved. Many different activities were explored by families and fun was had by all including some Green Meadow graduates who came back to visit with younger siblings.

Green Meadow sends a special thank you to Papa John's for helping out with pizzas. They were delicious.

## Green Meadow Reads for the Record

Green Meadow once again participated in Jumpstart's Read for the Record campaign, described as the "world's largest shared reading experience." During this annual campaign, children and grownups come together all over the world to read the same book on the same day. This year's story was *The Bear Ate Your Sandwich* by Julia Sarcone-Roach.

Over 250 Green Meadow students and staff read this story about what happened to a child's sandwich. The title might lead you to believe that a bear ate the sandwich, but did he really?

Students responded to the text by creating missing signs for their favorite sandwiches such as "Missing: two pieces of wheat bread, bacon, tomatoes, lettuce, bacon, and mustard" and "Missing: Salami, lettuce, tomato, pickles, and bread." Several posters offered rewards ranging from a piece of candy to \$10,000.

More information about the Jumpstart Read for the Record campaign to increase early literacy can be found at: [www.jstart.org](http://www.jstart.org)



Green Meadow Elementary

# Green Meadow Buys Books with Box Tops

These are some of the book purchased for Green Meadow's library thanks to the community's Box Top collection efforts.



## Comstock Public Schools 2016-2017 School Calendar

December 6	High School Conferences	4:00-8:00 p.m.	Full Day Students K-12
Dec. 23 – Jan. 6	WINTER RECESS		No Students / No Teachers
January 24	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12	
January 25	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12	
January 26	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12	
January 27	Professional Development A.M. <b>END OF 1ST SEMESTER</b> Records Day P.M.	8:00 am-3:00pm	No Students K-12
February 24	<b>Mid-Winter Break</b>		No Students / No Teachers
March 7	High School Conferences	4:00-8:00 p.m.	Full Day Students K-12
March 21	NEMS Conferences	4:00-8:00 p.m.	Full Day Students K-12
March 23	NEMS Conferences	4:00-8:00 p.m.	Full Day Students K-12
March 24	Half Day Students / Teacher PD P.M.		Half Day Students K-12
March 27	Green Meadow, North and STEM Conferences	4:00-8:00 p.m.	Full Day Students K-12
March 29	Green Meadow, North and STEM Conferences	4:00-8:00 p.m.	Full Day Students K-12
March 31 – April 7	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		No Students/No Teachers
May 9	High School Conferences	4:00-8:00 PM	Full Day Students K-12
May 29	<b>MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE</b>		No Students / No Staff
June 12	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12	
June 13	Half Day Students K-12 (High School Exams)	Half Day Students & Teachers K-12	
June 14	<b>LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS/</b> (High School Exams) Teachers' Records Day P.M.	Half Day Students K-12 Last Day for Teachers	



## NEMS/STEM Bands Perform at Football Game



The NEMS/STEM seventh and eighth grade bands performed with the Comstock High School Band of Blue at the last home football game this fall.

Pictured are Carl Owens Jr., Maya DeYoung-Foster, Roman Kersey, Madison Lennon, and Samantha Lewis.

### STEM Academy

## Students Visit a Vet

STEM Academy students in grades four through eight who are interested in veterinary medicine, working with animals, and biomedical science visited a local veterinarian's office to learn how veterinarians and their staffs take care of our beloved pets.

Gull Lake Animal Hospital opened its doors after hours to show students the ins and outs of veterinary medicine.

The middle school students squirmed as they viewed intestinal parasites under the microscope. They also learned about and operated an ultrasound machine.

Several sections of the field trip were live streamed on Facebook on [www.facebook.com/comstockSTEM/](http://www.facebook.com/comstockSTEM/) so parents and other students could get in on the action.

## STEM Students Make Presentation at Stryker

Mr. Chopp, Mrs. Medendorp, Logan Hicks, eighth grade; Arianna Shannon, seventh grade; and Lydia Kruijs, sixth grade were presenters at the Stryker engineering huddle at Stryker Medical recently.

The 15-minute presentation focused on providing volunteer opportunities for engineers to be assistant coaches for Science Olympiad. STEM also thanked Stryker for sponsoring the fourth and fifth grade field trip to Stryker Instruments, as well as the \$1,200 donation for supplies for science and engineering classes.

The presentation was simulcast in India, Turkey, and London, Ontario. Many engineers came up at the break and said, "I wish school was like this when I went to school," and, "I want to go back to middle school."

The students expressed a deep sense of pride as well as gratitude for the opportunity to have an auditorium full of professionals clap for them as they talked about their interests, failures, and successes in the Project Lead the Way classes, Science Olympiad, and as students at the STEM Academy.



## Sixth Graders Visit Challenger Learning Center

STEM sixth graders went on a mission to Mars when they traveled to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum and visited the Challenger Learning Center. This innovative center has a 21st century space station and mission control, providing students with hands-on experiences that tie in with their math and science studies.

While the sixth graders participated in the mission to Mars, it was live streamed on Facebook in four 2-5 minute segments. We had almost 500 views, reaching a much broader audience than the 28 sixth grade students.

## STEM Read-a-thon Raises Funds for Playground

The STEM Read-a-thon fundraiser just finished with STEM students reading over 98,000 minutes in October. They also earned over \$3,000 to support the natural playground project at the STEM Academy. We are developing the natural playground in partnership with the Kellogg Biological Station, and the Kalamazoo Nature Center.

Class/Grade	Total Minutes Read by Class	Class High Reader
K/Foster	5,649	Maci R. 670
1/Kiino	5,889	Emma C. 1,061
2/Anderson	7,437	Hayleigh R. 1,335
3/Tillman	14,787	Jordan M. 2727
4/Sandefur	23,573	Ryan B. 6,670
5/Skalski	15,704	Olivia M. 7,086
6/Medendorp	17,537	Genevieve S. 6614
7/Tennant	5,373	Reagan V. 2,616
8/Pobuda	2,590	Carter W. 1,630

## STEM, High School Students Visit Chicago

Comstock STEM Students and Comstock high school students visited Chicago recently for a cultural excursion and celebration of Dia de los Muertos—the Day of the Dead. The itinerary included a Latin dance lesson through Latin Street Dance Academy; Day of the Dead tour and sugar skull decorating at the Mexican Museum of Fine Arts; lunch at Mi Tierra restaurant; and dessert at La Baguette Bakery.

Students also had free time at the Hispanic discount shopping center.

# Comstock High School Winter Sports Schedules

## Boys Varsity Basketball

Tuesday	Dec. 6	Vicksburg High School	Home	7:15PM
Friday	Dec. 9	Berrien Springs HS	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 13	Gull Lake High School	Away	7:15PM
Friday	Dec. 16	Buchanan HS	Away	7:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 20	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Home	7:30PM
Friday	Dec. 23	Parchment	Away	7:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 10	Bronson Junior/Senior HS	Away	7:00PM
Friday	Jan. 13	Bridgman Public Schools	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 17	Schoolcraft High School	Home	7:30PM
Friday	Jan. 20	Brandywine High School	Away	7:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 24	Cassopolis High School	Away	7:30PM
Friday	Jan. 27	Berrien Springs HS	Away	7:30PM
Friday	Feb. 3	Buchanan HS	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 7	Hackett Catholic Central	Away	7:00PM
Friday	Feb. 10	Parchment	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 14	Paw Paw	Away	7:30PM
Friday	Feb. 17	Bridgman Public Schools	Away	7:30PM
Thursday	Feb. 23	Brandywine High School	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 28	Plainwell Schools	Home	7:30PM
Thursday	Mar. 2	Hopkins High School	Home	7:30PM

## Boys JV Basketball

Tuesday	Dec. 6	Vicksburg High School	Home	5:45PM
Friday	Dec. 9	Berrien Springs HS	Home	4:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 13	Gull Lake High School	Away	5:45PM
Friday	Dec. 16	Buchanan HS	Away	6:00PM
Tuesday	Dec. 20	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Home	6:00PM
Thursday	Dec. 22	Parchment	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 10	Bronson Junior/Senior HS	Away	5:30PM
Thursday	Jan. 12	Bridgman Public Schools	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 17	Schoolcraft High School	Home	6:00PM
Friday	Jan. 20	Brandywine High School	Away	6:00PM
Tuesday	Jan. 24	Cassopolis High School	Away	6:00PM
Friday	Jan. 27	Berrien Springs HS	Away	6:00PM
Thursday	Feb. 2	Buchanan HS	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 7	Hackett Catholic Central	Away	5:30PM
Thursday	Feb. 9	Parchment	Away	7:30PM
Monday	Feb. 13	Paw Paw	Home	6:30PM
Friday	Feb. 17	Bridgman Public Schools	Away	6:00PM
Thursday	Feb. 23	Brandywine High School	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Feb. 28	Plainwell Schools	Home	5:45PM
Thursday	Mar. 2	Hopkins High School	Home	6:00PM

## Boys Freshman Basketball

Tuesday	Dec. 6	Vicksburg High School	Home	4:15PM
Wednesday	Dec. 7	Berrien Springs HS	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Dec. 13	Gull Lake High School	Away	4:15PM
Friday	Dec. 16	Buchanan HS	Away	4:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 20	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Home	4:30PM
Thursday	Dec. 22	Parchment	Home	6:00PM
Thursday	Jan. 12	Bridgman Public Schools	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Jan. 17	Schoolcraft High School	Home	4:30PM
Friday	Jan. 20	Brandywine High School	Away	4:30PM
Monday	Jan. 23	Delton-Kellogg HS	Home	6:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 24	Schoolcraft High School	Away	4:15PM
Friday	Jan. 27	Berrien Springs HS	Away	4:30PM

Thursday	Feb. 2	Buchanan HS	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Feb. 7	Hackett Catholic Central	Away	4:15PM
Thursday	Feb. 9	Parchment	Away	6:00PM
Monday	Feb. 13	Paw Paw	Home	5:00PM
Friday	Feb. 17	Bridgman Public Schools	Away	4:30PM
Thursday	Feb. 23	Brandywine High School	Home	4:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 28	Plainwell Schools	Home	4:15PM
Thursday	Mar. 2	Hopkins High School	Home	4:30PM

## Girls Varsity Basketball

Friday	Dec. 2	Brandywine High School	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 6	Hopkins High School	Away	7:15PM
Friday	Dec. 9	Berrien Springs HS	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Dec. 13	Gull Lake High School	Home	7:15PM
Thursday	Dec. 15	Buchanan HS	Away	7:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 20	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Away	7:00PM
Friday	Dec. 23	Parchment	Away	6:00PM
Thursday	Jan. 5	Scrimmage vs Vicksburg	Home	6:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 10	Bronson Junior/Senior HS	Home	7:30PM
Friday	Jan. 13	Bridgman Public Schools	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Jan. 17	Schoolcraft High School	Away	7:30PM
Thursday	Jan. 19	Brandywine High School	Away	7:30PM
Thursday	Jan. 26	Berrien Springs HS	Away	7:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 31	Allegan Public Schools	Home	6:30PM
Friday	Feb. 3	Buchanan HS	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Feb. 7	Hackett Catholic Central	Home	7:00PM
Friday	Feb. 10	Parchment	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Feb. 14	Paw Paw	Away	6:00PM
Thursday	Feb. 16	Bridgman Public Schools	Away	7:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 21	Otsego HS	Home	7:15PM
Monday	Feb. 27	MHSAA District Quarter	Home	TBA
Wednesday	Mar. 1	MHSAA District Semi	Home	TBA
Friday	Mar. 3	MHSAA District Final	Home	TBA

## Girls JV Basketball

Friday	Dec. 2	Brandywine High School	Home	6:00PM
Tuesday	Dec. 6	Hopkins High School	Away	5:45PM
Wednesday	Dec. 7	Berrien Springs HS	Home	7:30PM
Tuesday	Dec. 13	Gull Lake High School	Home	5:45PM
Thursday	Dec. 15	Buchanan HS	Away	6:00PM
Tuesday	Dec. 20	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Away	5:30PM
Thursday	Dec. 22	Parchment	Away	7:30PM
Thursday	Jan. 5	Scrimmage vs Vicksburg	Home	4:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 10	Bronson Junior/Senior HS	Home	6:00PM
Friday	Jan. 13	Bridgman Public Schools	Home	4:30PM
Tuesday	Jan. 17	Schoolcraft High School	Away	6:00PM
Thursday	Jan. 19	Brandywine High School	Away	6:00PM
Thursday	Jan. 26	Berrien Springs HS	Away	6:00PM
Tuesday	Jan. 31	Allegan Public Schools	Home	5:00PM
Friday	Feb. 3	Buchanan HS	Home	4:30PM
Tuesday	Feb. 7	Hackett Catholic Central	Home	5:30PM
Thursday	Feb. 9	Parchment	Home	7:30PM
Monday	Feb. 13	Paw Paw	Away	6:30PM
Thursday	Feb. 16	Bridgman Public Schools	Away	6:00PM
Tuesday	Feb. 21	Otsego HS	Home	5:45PM

## Boys & Girls Varsity Bowling

Wednesday	Dec. 7	Galesburg-Augusta HS	Home	4:00PM
Monday	Dec. 12	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Away	4:00PM
Wednesday	Dec. 14	Coloma High School	Home	4:00PM
Monday	Dec. 19	Schoolcraft High School	Away	4:00PM
Wednesday	Jan. 4	Pennfield	Away	3:30PM
Monday	Jan. 9	Parchment	Home	4:00PM
Wednesday	Jan. 11	Bronson Junior/Senior HS	Away	4:00PM
Monday	Jan. 16	Hackett Catholic Central	Away	4:00PM
Wednesday	Jan. 18	Galesburg-Augusta HS	Away	4:00PM
Monday	Jan. 23	Kalamazoo Christian HS	Home	4:00PM
Wednesday	Jan. 25	Coloma High School	Away	4:00PM
Monday	Jan. 30	Schoolcraft High School	Home	4:00PM
Wednesday	Feb. 1	Parchment	Away	4:00PM
Monday	Feb. 6	Bronson Junior/Senior HS	Home	4:00PM
Wednesday	Feb. 8	Hackett Catholic Central	Home	4:00PM
Friday	Feb. 17	KVA Conference Tourney	Hackett	TBA
Friday	Feb. 24	MHSAA Regional -Team		TBA
Saturday	Feb. 25	MHSAA Bowling Regional -Individual		TBA

## Varsity Competitive Cheer

Saturday	Dec. 17	Gobles Holiday Cheer Bash	Away	9:00AM
Wednesday	Jan. 11	BCS LMC Jamboree	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Jan. 14	Gull Lake Invitational	Away	1:00PM
Friday	Jan. 20	Stampede Showdown	Home	6:00PM
Wednesday	Jan. 25	BCS Parchment Jamboree	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Jan. 28	Otsego Invitational	Away	9:00AM
Saturday	Feb. 4	Webberville Sweetheart Invitational		10:00AM
Tuesday	Feb. 7	BCS Bronson Jamboree	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Feb. 11	BCS Conference Meet - Berrien Springs		9:00AM
Wednesday	Feb. 15	Vicksburg Invitational	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Feb. 18	MHSAA District at Otsego		TBA

## Boys Varsity Wrestling

Friday	Dec. 9	Olivet Invitational	Away	TBA
Wednesday	Dec. 14	White Pigeon Quad	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Dec. 17	Gull Lake Invitational	Away	9:30AM
Thursday	Dec. 29	Comstock V Individual Tour	Home	9:30AM

## Boys JV Wrestling

Friday	Dec. 9	Olivet Invitational	Away	5:00PM
Wednesday	Dec. 14	White Pigeon Quad		6:00PM
Saturday	Dec. 17	Gull Lake Invitational	Away	9:30AM
Thursday	Dec. 29	Comstock V Ind Tourn.	Home	9:30AM
Wednesday	Jan. 4	Brandywine Quad		5:00PM
Wednesday	Jan. 11	Comstock Quad	Home	6:00PM
Saturday	Jan. 14	Parchment Team Invitational	Away	9:00AM
Wednesday	Jan. 18	Parchment Quad		6:00PM
Saturday	Jan. 21	Varsity Team Tourney	Home	9:30AM
Wednesday	Jan. 25	Cassopolis Quad		6:00PM
Friday	Jan. 27	Comstock V Ind. Tourn.	Home	4:00PM
Wednesday	Feb. 1	Parchment TRI	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Feb. 4	BCS Conference Meet	Away	9:00AM

## HAZARDOUS WEATHER

With hazardous weather conditions just around the corner, Comstock Public Schools is encouraging all parents to talk with their children about the possibility of school closing due to bad weather. In the event that school must be closed early on any given day, please have a plan developed with your children so they arrive home safely.

Every effort is made to make a decision to close school by 5 a.m. and to notify the news media immediately. However, the district has no control over how quickly the information is disseminated by the media.

Below is a list of the multiple ways you can be notified of early closings, or school closings:

You may sign-up to follow Tweets at <https://twitter.com/ComstockPS> regarding school closings or go to our website at [www.comstockps.org](http://www.comstockps.org).

Make sure your Infinite Campus portal is current with correct contact information in order to receive ShoutPoint notification.

For the latest school closings, turn your radio or television to the following stations:

### CALL LETTERS

98.5 FM, 96.5 FM

100.9 FM

903 AM, 1400 AM

106.5 FM, 590 AM, 1470 AM

107.7 FM, 103.3 FM

TV 3

TV 8

TV 4

### STATION

WNWN, WFATs

WQXC

WBCK, WRCC

WQLR, WKZO, WQSN

WRKR, WKFR,

WWMT-TV

WOOD-TV

WOTV

## News from the Athletic Department

### Hall of Fame Induction Banquet

The 2017 Hall of Fame induction banquet will be held on Saturday, April 29, at the WMU Fetzer Center. Doors will open at 5 p.m. with dinner starting at 6 p.m. and the induction to follow at 7 p.m. Tickets to this great event can be purchased from the Comstock Athletic Office for \$25. Come support these great Comstock alumni and coaches and visit with family and friends. The deadline to purchase tickets is April 24.

### Father Daughter Dance

The Father Daughter Dance is being held on Saturday, February 11, from 6-8 p.m. at Comstock High School. Pictures can be taken at 5:30 p.m. Food will be served from 6-7 p.m.

We will also show a movie in the auditorium from 7-8:30 p.m. Please return the registration form by February 8 to help us get an accurate count for food. Please call Justin Ansel at 269-250-8711 for more information.

### Comstock Youth Basketball

The deadline for sign up for CYB basketball was November 25. This is a youth basketball program for first through fourth grade boys and girls. If somehow you missed the registration and are interested in getting your son or daughter involved, please call Anna Meulenberg-Munn at 744-8339 to check on availability.



### Boys Soccer Conference & District Champions

Congratulations to the boys soccer team for a historic season. The team won the conference for the first time since 1994 and the MHSAA district for the first time since 1998. Multiple records were broken this year including goals in a season by Mubark Hasan with 59, wins in a season with 19 and goals in a season with 111. Great job!

### Cross Country State Qualifiers

Congratulations to Mubark Hasan in cross country. Mubark competed in the state finals cross country meet where he finished in 100th place overall. We're very proud of his efforts.

# Comstock Township Library Events

**Comstock Community Bulletin Board:** We will be hosting an online bulletin board for the community. This free service is hosted by the Comstock Township Library for events of interest to Comstock area residents. Event submissions are free; however, the library takes no responsibility for the claims made in these advertisements. Click on the "Submit an Event" link to send us your information. Please visit [www.youseemore.com/comstock](http://www.youseemore.com/comstock).

**Homebound Library Services:** The Homebound Delivery Service seeks to provide library materials to Comstock Township Residents who are unable to visit the library according to the following criteria:

*Residents are to be considered homebound if they have a condition (due to illness or injury) that restricts their ability to leave their place of residence, except with the aid of a supportive device such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, and walkers, the use of special transportation, the assistance of another person or if leaving home is medically contraindicated. In most circumstances, if a resident drives, helshel would not be considered homebound.*

Homebound delivery includes the selection of materials by library staff and delivery of those materials by library employees. Call 345-0136 for further information.

**We now have a preservation station!** Do you have home videos you would like to transfer to DVDs and photos or other print material you would like to digitize? The **Preservation Station**, purchased with a gift from Bell's Brewery, allows patrons to make digital copies of print and media. To use the scanner and video transfer equipment, please call to set up a training session with a librarian. Patrons may scan print material to a USB drive or a writable CD/ DVD disc. Bring your own or we have them for sale. Suggested USB size is 16 MB. Video files must be transferred to a DVD-R. Usually 1 full VHS would fit on a DVD. Sorry, we are unable to convert 8mm video at this time. For more detailed information, give us a call.

We now have a **notary service** at the library during business hours. The cost is \$5 per notarial transaction. Call 345-0136 for more information.

Join the Comstock Township Library on **Satur-**

**day, December 10, from 1 - 3 p.m.** for our annual **Holiday Open House**. Enjoy holiday cookies, cider, a performance by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's Jazz Trio, meet Mrs. Claus, make a children's craft, play children's games, and see live reindeer. The reindeer will be outside, so, please dress warmly. (Reindeer may not be petted). Please bring your camera, as pictures with Mrs. Claus and the reindeer will be allowed.

**December: Winter Wonderland Frosted Pine Cones.** Wednesday, December 14, at 5:30 p.m. Welcome the winter with a beautiful door hanging of pine cones. Registration is required for this free craft. Register at the adult reference desk; space is limited. Call 345-0136 for more information.

**Drop-In Knitting Lessons:** 1-3 p.m. on Friday, December 16. Learn how to knit at the library and acquire a new hobby. Sign-ups are required for this program. Register at the adult reference desk. Call 345-0136 for more information.

**January 2017: Key to My Heart Pallet** (adult craft). Wednesday, January 25, at 5:30 p.m. Make and decorate a wooden pallet for your walls to welcome Valentine's Day. Registration is required for this free craft and begins on January 16 at the adult reference desk; space is limited. Call 345-0136 for more information.

**QUILTFEST: March 14-18, 2017.** Please call if interested in displaying your works of art. Join us for a showcase of local quilters. People's Choice Award will be given to the top-nominated quilt, and one door prize will be awarded to a guest, which will be drawn from the three-day quilt ballots. Winners need not be present. Quilters, please call to register beginning February 20, 2017. One quilt per person; all styles welcome.

## EVENTS IN THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT:

**STORYTIME: AGES 1-5.** Registration for winter storytimes begins Monday, January 9. Register your child for a 45-minute session, which includes 30 minutes of stories, songs, and other activities followed by a 15 minute craft. Storytimes begin Monday, January 16, and run through Thursday, April 27. Storytime sessions are as follows:

**Mondays:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. - 1-3 year olds

## CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Saturday, December 24, and Monday, December 26, and January 2, 2017 for the holidays.

Please call to confirm our hours during inclement weather before traveling to the library.\*

**Tuesdays:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. - 1-3 year olds

**Wednesdays:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. - 3-5 year olds

**Thursdays:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. - 3-5 year olds

**1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN: Pre-Kindergarten.** Comstock Township Library is encouraging parents to read 1000 books to their young children before they begin kindergarten and earn prizes along the way. Reading to your children beginning at a young age is the single most important thing parents can do to help their children become successful readers as they get older. All children can participate until they enter kindergarten. Pick up your tracking sheet at the Young People's Desk today!

**WINTER READING PROGRAM: Begins Monday, December 12 and runs through Saturday, February 25, all ages.** Reading this winter can earn you small prizes at the library and a chance for a larger prize at the end of the winter reading program! You may pick up your BINGO log and begin reading on Monday, December 12!

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE:** Join the Comstock Township Library on **Saturday, December 10, from 1-3 p.m.** for our annual Holiday Open House. Enjoy holiday cookies, cider, a performance by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's Jazz Trio, meet Mrs. Claus, make a children's craft, play children's games, and see live reindeer. The reindeer will be outside, so, please dress warmly. (Reindeer may not be petted). Please bring your camera, as pictures with Mrs. Claus and the reindeer will be allowed.

**SNOWMAN ORNAMENT CRAFT: Saturday, December 17, 11 a.m.-Noon, for children ages 0-18.** Paint a wooden snowman ornament to hang on your Christmas tree! Children under the age of 5 should have an adult helper with them. Registration is required for this free craft and begins Monday, December 5.

**COLOR A SNOWMAN PLUSH CRAFT: Saturday, January 28, 11 a.m.-Noon, for children ages 0-18.** Use fabric markers and color

## Comstock Township Library Events *(cont.)*

a snowman stuffed animal! We will provide the snowman and the fabric markers. Children under the age of 5 should have an adult helper with them. Registration is required for this free craft and begins Monday, January 16. Spaces limited.

**POKÉMON PARTY: Saturday, February 18, 11 a.m.-Noon, all ages.** Come catch them all by joining us for Pokémon-themed games such as a Pokémon hunt, crafts such as making your own Pokéball, and snacks! Registration is required for this free event and all ages are welcome! Registration begins Monday, February 6.

**LEGO CLUB: Every month on the third Friday, 4-5:30 p.m., all ages.** Use your imagination and build a Lego creation for us to display in the Young People's Department! Children under the age of 5 should have an adult helper with them. Registration is required for this free event. Lego Club dates are as follows:

**Friday, December 16, 4-5:30 p.m.**

*(Registration begins Monday, December 5.)*

**Friday, January 20, 4-5:30 p.m.**

*(Registration begins Monday, January 9.)*

**Friday, February 17, 4-5:30 p.m.**

*(Registration begins Monday, February 6.)*

**TEEN ADVISORY BOARD: Every month on the first Friday, sixth through twelfth graders.** Earn community service hours helping us plan

programs for teens and other youth! Must be in sixth through twelfth grades to register for this free event! The meetings will be:

**Friday, December 2, 4-5 p.m.**

*(Registration began Monday, November 28.)*

**Friday, February 3, 4-5 pm.**

*(Registration begins Monday, January 30.)*

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE CRAFT: Saturday, December 3, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., for children up to 18.** Decorate a milk carton gingerbread house with candies and frosting. We will provide all the supplies! Children under the age of 5 must have an adult to help them. *Registration is required for this free craft and begins Monday, November 23.*

### FOR EVERYONE!

WE HAVE eBOOKS! Call us for more information! 345-0136.

The library now has a Cricut Expression available for patron use. You must be 18 years or older or with a parent or guardian to use and must provide your own cardstock. Please call 345-0136 for further information.

Would you like to learn how to research genealogy using Ancestry Library Edition? Please call the library 345-0136 to set up an appointment with a librarian.



Call the library to make sure we are open if there is inclement weather.



We now have tutor rooms and Wi-Fi available! Call 345-0136 for more information.



We now have a fax service! Must use credit or debit card to send.



### Now Available

OverDrive! Download free audiobooks and e-books from home using your computer, MP3 player, e-book reader, and other compatible devices.



### Computer Help

Have a question about the computer? Would you like to learn how to use the computer? Please call 345-0136 to set up a block of time for one-on-one help. Must be a library cardholder.



### Need Resume Help?

Please call to schedule an appointment or visit the adult reference desk to do so. We will help you write a cover letter or resume, or just proofread one you already have. Call 345-0136 for further information. Must be a library cardholder.

## SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Become a School Bus Driver! METS, the transportation employer for Comstock Public Schools, is currently hiring school bus drivers for part-time assignments starting at \$14.75 per hour.



No experience is necessary and training will be provided to qualified candidates. Apply today by sending your resume to: [recruiting@contractbusdrivers.com](mailto:recruiting@contractbusdrivers.com).

For more information, please call  
(269) 250-8690, or toll free at (888) 996-8586



**MENS**



3010 Gull Road

COMPASS HIGH SCHOOL

Kalamazoo, MI 49048

**E-mail:**



[info@salvationofstreets.com](mailto:info@salvationofstreets.com)

AGES 16-22

DECEMBER 2nd 2016

5PM-8PM

EVENT

FREE

FOOD

[WWW.SALVATIONOFSTREETS.COM](http://WWW.SALVATIONOFSTREETS.COM)

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