# The Comstock <br> , <br>  <br> ator 

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


## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

| From the | School | Advia | 2016-2017 | Welcome, |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
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| Members <br> page 5 |  |  |  |  |

MORE NEWS

| Fall | Comstock |
| :--- | :--- |
| Sports | Library | | Turn over to read |
| :---: |
| Schedules |
| page $\mathbf{6}$ | | Center Point |
| :--- |
| page $\mathbf{1 0}$ |$\quad$| A newsletter about the |
| :---: |
| Comstock |
| Community Center |

## From the Superintendent



Dear Comstock Schools Community,
The summer of 2016 was one of busiest on record for Comstock Public Schools. Here are a few highlights:

- WiFi - As part of the recently passed bond issue, the technology department has expanded coverage to all areas of all buildings. Additionally, the capacity of the WiFi has been increased to support the over 700 new Chromebooks that are in use in the district.
- Chromebooks - The district now has over 700 Chromebooks being used by students on a daily basis. Students use the Chromebooks across the curriculum while also improving their computer technology skills.
- High School Fitness Room - The board approved all new equipment for the high school fitness room. The equipment is state-of-the-art and will be used by hundreds of high school students daily. The new equipment will ensure our physical education students and athletes have safe and high quality equipment to use.
- Strategic Planning - The Board of Education conducted a district strategic planning session with representation from parents, community members, staff and the board. The session identified the key issues facing the district and set goals. The next step is to take those goals and develop strategies and plans to achieve the goals.
- New High School Principal - The Board approved Ms. Gerielle Stewart as the new high school principal. Ms. Stewart was previously the Director of the College and Career Academy and the Director of the STEM Academy, both programs that have seen considerable success. Her passion is increasing the opportunities for our high school students and creating a culture of success for all.

During the coming months, the district will begin the process of planning, designing and bidding projects for Phase 1 of the bond issue. These projects include secured entrances at all buildings, renovation of restrooms at all buildings and renovating all the high school locker rooms. Overall the district will be investing approximately $\$ 8,000,000$ in Phase 1 . Please check our website www.comstockps.org for continued updates on construction projects.

With Colt Pride,
Todd Mora, Superintendent

## Comstock Community Auditorium Events OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## October:

3: Red Cross Blood Drive; Colt Center; 7 a.m.- 3 p.m.
11: Kalamazoo Christian High School Band/Choir Fall Concert; 7:30 p.m. FREE
28-30: Mulan Jr.-Center Stage Theater; 7:30 p.m.; Matinee only on the 30th at 2 p.m. Tickets at the door or call: 269-348SHOW.

## November:

15: Kalamazoo Christian Middle School Choir Concert; 7 p.m. FREE
19: Sleeping Beauty Kids- Homeschool Performing Arts -Kids; 4 \& 6 p.m. Tickets: hpami.org or at the door.


COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS a school district dedicated to kids www.comstockps.org

Todd Mora Superintendent

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jackie Wahl, President Shirley Amos, Vice President
Brandy Brown, Treasurer-Secretary
Mike Hicks, Trustee
Richard Hathaway, Trustee
Paul Lamphear, Trustee
Pamela Dickinson, Trustee

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 or by fax at 250-8908. It may also be e-mailed to Phyllis Rose at phyllisarose@aol.com.

@comstockps.org

## Advia Credit Union School Supply Drive Benefits Comstock Schools

Highlighters, colored pencils and index cards are just a few of the school supplies collected through Advia Credit Union's recent School Supply Drive to benefit schools and students in the local communities Advia serves, including Comstock Public Schools.
"Providing financial advantages is the mission of Advia, and education is a key contributor to the financial health within the communities we serve," says Nancy Loftis, vice-president of marketing and public relations. "We want to play a role in providing local school children the tools they need to learn and succeed in the classroom. Many area families struggle with the impact of back to school expenses. Our team and our members have responded to the need within our communities, and that's very exciting to see."

Advia promoted the two-week drive through social media, branch posters and targeted email blasts to its 400 staff and 130,000 members in Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois. Members and staff responded by piling the branch collection tables with pens, bright pink backpacks, camouflage patterned pencil cases and more.

Advia branch managers delivered the supplies to school districts where branches are located.

School Supplies were distributed to 17 school districts in Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Thank you, Advia, for the donations which will have a positive impact on our students and their success in school.


Superintendent Todd Mora and Donnie Evans of Advia Credit Union on Sprinkle Road show some of the donations given to the school during Advia's School Supply Drive.

## Board Briefs

## REGULAR MEETING

July 11, 2016

- Superintendent Mora informed the Board that the new phone service is up and running.
- Approved Chris Jakubik, assistant JV football coach.
- Approved resignation of Josh Cunningham, high school principal.
- Approved purchase of 420 Chromebooks and carts, on a best bid basis, not to exceed $\$ 80,000$.
- Authorized Superintendent Mora to enter into a six-month sales agreement with Berkshire Hathaway for the sale of the ACLC building. The flat brokerage fee is not to exceed $\$ 40,000$.
- Superintendent Mora shared his goals and objectives for 2016-17.


## SPECIAL MEETING

## July 18,2016

- Moved into closed session to discuss negotiations with CEA and paraprofessionals.
- Approved placing the operational millage question on the November 8, 2016, ballot.


## REGULAR MEETING

## August 8, 2016

- Approved the following coaching positions: -Michael Gahry, head Northeast Middle School track and field.
-Jason Hayes, varsity wrestling.
-Kelly Gostlin, assistant varsity football.
-Ashley Cross, eighth grade volleyball.
-Gerald DeBoer, assistant JV football.
- Approved resignations as follows:
-Elizabeth O'Connor, NEMS seventh grade language arts.
-Peter O'Connor, high school math teacher.
-Scott Kimball, NEMS fifth grade teacher.
-Megan Hall, high school special education teacher.
- Approved purchasing strength and conditioning facility equipment from Dynamic Fitness.
- Approved the installment purchase agreement to secure bids for purchase of three buses.
- Moved into closed session to discuss negotiations with CEA and paraprofessionals.


## SPECIAL MEETING

## August 22,2016

- Approved Catherine Street as fifth grade teacher at NEMS.
- Approved resignation of Kristen Welch, North kindergarten teacher.
- Approved Gerielle Stewart as interim principal of Comstock High School, contingent upon her receiving her educational leadership certification. Once that is received, Superintendent Mora will recommend appointing her as permanent high school principal.
- Approved adding another section of kindergarten at the STEM Academy.
- Moved into closed session for discussing negotiations with the CEA and paraprofessionals.


## Comstock Public Schools 2016-2017 School Calendar

| October 11 | High School Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November 14 | Green Meadow, North and STEM Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 15 | NEMS Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 16 | Green Meadow, North and STEM Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 17 | NEMS Conferences | 4:00-8:00 p.m. | Full Day Students K-12 |
| November 18 | Half Day - Students K-12 | Half Day Students \& Teachers K-12 |  |
| November 23 | Half Day - Students K-12 | Half Day Students \& Teachers K-12 |  |
| November 24-25 | THANKSGIVING RECESS |  | No Students/ No Staff |
| 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. |  |  |
|  | END OF 1ST SEMESTER Records Day P.M. | 8:00 am-3:00pm | No Students K-12 |
| February 24 | Mid-Winter Break |  | 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 | SPRING BREAK |  | No Students/No Teachers |
| May 9 | High School Conferences | 4:00-8:00 PM | Full Day Students K-12 |
| May 29 | MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE |  | 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 | LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS/ (High School Exams) |  |  |
|  | Teachers' Records Day P.M. | Half Day Student | Day for Teachers |

# Welcome, New Staff Members 



## Emily Jones

Teaching in Green Meadow's special education resource room this year is Emily Jones, a graduate of Portage Public Schools. She also has bachelor's and master's degrees from Western Michigan University where she majored in elementary and special education.
"I'm passionate about helping others and especially about making a difference in young people's lives," she said of her decision to go into education.

She enjoys working with children and wants to help students with disabilities feel like they have a role in school and in society.
"I also want to help find them a place as a contributing member of society," she said.

She comes from a family of strong educators, she said. She also had a high school teacher who made a big impact on her during her formative years.
Prior to coming to Comstock, she taught in Belleville, Gobles, and Schoolcraft.
She and her husband, Matt, who works at Stryker Medical, have two daughters, Kenley, 4, and Isla, 19 months.

Being outside around water and spending time with family and friends are her favorite activities.
"My family bought a boat over the summer and we really enjoyed Michigan's lakes," she said.


## MacKenzie Skalski

MacKenzie Skalski describes her desire to become a teacher as a "natural force" in her life. Not only did she come from a family of teachers, but her first grade teacher, Mrs. Ranthum inspired her to become a teacher.
"Mostly, though, it was just a natural path to take that I absolutely love doing," she said. "I knew elementary-aged students were the age range I was the most compelled and gravitated toward teaching."

A graduate of Grand Ledge High School and Western Michigan University where she majored in elementary education, she will be teaching fifth grade home room/social studies and third to fifth
grade science at the STEM Academy.
Prior to coming to Comstock, she taught at the Paramount Charter Academy where her colleagues inspired her and helped her grow as a teacher.

She learned classroom structure and organization from Toni Pelc; working with different learning styles from Jessica Rabine and Ryan Cramer; how to engage and inspire students from Sheryl Peterson; and perseverance and honing the art of teaching from Karen May.
She and her husband, Steve Skalski, an engineer with the city of Kalamazoo, have two children, Lucas, 2-1/2, and Jolieanna, five months.

Of her free time activities, she said, "I just started swimming again. Otherwise, I enjoy finding what's new in education."


## Cathy Street

Cathy Street calls herself a "math geek" who "loves anything to do with numbers."
So it was natural that she majored in economics and business administration for her bachelor's degree; finance for her master's in business administration; and math and elementary education for her masters in education.
With that expertise, she'll be teaching fifth grade math, science, and social studies at NEMS.
"Teaching is a second career for me," she said, "As I progressed along my career path, I realized that I wanted to make a difference in children's lives."

For that career, she learned something important from her first grade teacher, Miss Greve.
"She made me feel special," Street said. "I thought I was her 'pet,' but now I know she had a knack for making everyone feel that way. She made me realize the importance of connecting with each child individually."

Prior to Comstock, she taught at Kalamazoo Country Day School.

Ms. Street has a son, David, who is a senior at Portage Central.
"We are knee-deep in search of the right college fit for him," she said.

She enjoys spending time with family and going to the beach.
"I am an avid sports fan and really enjoy the college football season," she said.

## School Board Candidates

For two year terms, three seats are up for election. The terms are from January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2018. The candidates are:

Michael Moncel<br>Richard Hathaway<br>Jeff VanGoeye<br>Matthew Schreiner

For four year terms, three seats are up for election. Terms are from January 1, 2017 December 31, 2020. The candidates are:

Jason Knight
Gary Thomas
Pamela Dickinson
Karen Howes
Brandy Brown
Paul Lamphear

## Drive 4UR School

Got 15 minutes? Then, test drive a new Ford! You'll earn \$20 for Comstock Sports Boosters

October 8, 2016<br>8 a.m.-3 p.m.<br>Galesburg Ford 10150 E. Michigan Avenue Galesburg, MI

It's easy. Show up at Galesburg Ford.
Test drive a new vehicle. For every test drive, the Sports Boosters will receive $\$ 20$.

There is no sales or marketing pressure to buy anything. It will only take 15 minutes!


## Comstock High School Fall Sports Schedule

## Boys Varsity Football

| Friday | Oct. 7 | Buchanan HS | Home | $7: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Friday | Oct. 14 | Parchment Parchment | Away | $7: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| Friday | Oct. 21 | Cassopolis |  |  |

## Boys JV Football

| Thursday | Oct. 6 | Buchanan HS | Away | TBA |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Thursday | Oct. 13 | Parchment | Home | 6:30PM |
| Thursday | Oct. 20 | Cassopolis High School | Home | 6:30PM |

## Girls Varsity Volleyball

Wednesday Oct. 5 Brandywine High School Home Saturday Oct. 8 Comstock Varsity Tourn. Home Wednesday Oct. 12 Quincy High School Home Thursday Oct. 13 Bangor Public Schools Wednesday Oct. 19 Comstock Quad Away Saturday Oct. 22 BCS Red Division Tourn Away Tuesday Oct. 25 Battle Creek Central HS Home Thursday Oct. 27 Comstock Quad Home

## Girls JV Volleyball

Saturday Oct. 1 Battle Creek Central Invite Away Wednesday Oct. 5 Brandywine High School Home Wednesday Oct. 12 Quincy High School Home Thursday Oct. 13 Bangor Public Schools Away Thursday Oct. 20 Mendon Quad Away Saturday Oct. 22 Schoolcraft Invitational Away Tuesday Oct. 25 Battle Creek Central HS Home Thursday Oct. 27 Sturgis Quad w/ Lake \& Paw Away

## Freshman Girls Volleyball

Wednesday Oct. 5 Brandywine High School Home Tuesday Oct. 25 Battle Creek Central HS Home
Thursday Oct. 27 Lakeshore Quad Away 5:00PM

## Boys Varsity Soccer

Monday Oct. 3 Lawrence JV Scrimmage Away 5:00PM
Wednesday Oct. 5 Parchment Home 5:00PM

Friday Oct. 7 Coloma High School Home 4:00PM
Monday Oct. 10 BCS Crossover Match Home 6:00PM
Wednesday Oct. 12 BCS Crossover Match Away
Monday Oct. 17 MHSAA District Quarter Home
Wednesday Oct. 19 MHSAA District Semi Home 6:00PM
Saturday Oct. 22 MHSAA District Final Home 1:00PM

| Varsity Cross Country (Boys \& Girls) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Saturday | Oct. 1 | Otsego Invitational | Away | 8:00AM |
| Saturday | Oct. 8 | Allegan Invitational | Away | TBA |
| Tuesday | Oct. 11 | BCS Brandywine Jamboree | Away | 5:30PM |
| Saturday | Oct. 22 | Gobles Invitational | Away | 10:30AM |
| Saturday | Oct. 29 | MHSAA Regional | Away | TBA |
| Saturday | Nov. 5 | MHSAA State Final | Away | TBA |
| 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 | 7:00PM |
| Friday | Dc. 16 | Buchanan HS | Away | 7:30PM |
| Tuesday | Dec. 20 | Kalamazoo Christian H.S. | Home | 7:30PM |
| Friday | Dec. 23 | Parchment | Away | 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 H.S. | Home | 6:00PM |
| Thursday | Dec. 22 | Parchment | Home | 7:30PM |
| Boys Freshman Basketball |  |  |  |  |
| Tuesday | Dec. 6 | Vicksburg High School | Home | 4:15PM |
| Thursday | Dec. 8 | Berrien Springs HS | Home | 4:30PM |
| Tuesday | Dec. 13 | Gull Lake High School | Away | 4:15PM |
| Friday | Dec. 16 | Buchanan HS | Away | 4:30PM |
| Tuesday | Dec. 20 | Kalamazoo Christian H.S. | Home | 4:30PM |
| Thursday | Dec. 22 | Parchment | Home | 6:00PM |

## Girls Varsity Basketball

Tuesday Nov. 29 Vicksburg High School Away 7:15PM
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 7:00PM
Thursday Dec. 15 Buchanan HS $\quad$ Away $7: 30$ PM
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { Tuesday } & \text { Dec. } 20 & \text { Kalamazoo Christian H.S } & \text { Away } \\ \text { 7:00PM } \\ \text { Friday } & \text { Dec. } 23 & \text { Parchment } & \text { Away } \\ \text { 6:00PM }\end{array}$

| Girls JV Basketball |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tuesday | Nov. 29 | Vicksburg High School | Away | $5: 45$ PM |
| Friday | Dec. 2 | Brandywine High School | Home | $6: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| Tuesday | Dec. 6 | Hopkins High School | Away | $5: 45$ PM |
| Thursday | Dec. 8 | Berrien Springs HS | Home | $7: 30 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| Tuesday | Dec. 13 | Gull Lake High School | Home | $5: 45 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| Thursday | Dec. 15 | Buchanan HS | Away | $6: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| Tuesday | Dec. 20 | Kalamazoo Christian H.S. Away | $5: 30 \mathrm{PM}$ |  |
| Thursday | Dec. 22 | Parchment | Away | 7:30PM |

## Girls Freshman Basketball

| Tuesday | Nov. 29 | Vicksburg High School | Away | $4: 15 P M$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tuesday | Dec. 6 | Hopkins High School | Away | $4: 15 P M$ |
| Thursday | Dec. 8 | Berrien Springs HS | Home | $6: 25$ PM |
| Tuesday | Dec. 13 | Gull Lake High School | Home | $4: 15 P M$ |
| Tuesday | Dec. 27 | Comstock Freshman Tour | Home | $2: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |
| Wednesday Dec. 28 | Comstock Freshman Tour | Home | $2: 00 \mathrm{PM}$ |  |

## Girls Varsity Golf

Monday Oct. 3 Marshall Tri Away 4:00PM

## 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 | $9: 30$ AM |
| Thursday | Dec. 29 | Comstock V Individual TourHome | 9:30AM |  |

## Boys JV Wrestling

Friday Dec. 9 Delton Kellogg JV Tourn Away 5:00PM

## Boys \& Girls Varsity Bowling

Wednesday Dec. 7 Galesburg-Augusta HS Home 4:00PM Monday Dec. 12 Kalamazoo Christian H.S. Away 4:00PM Wednesday Dec. 14 Coloma High School Home 4:00PM Wednesday Dec. 21 Schoolcraft High School Away 4:00PM


## News from the Athletic Department

## Athletic Twitter Account

If you'd like to get updates on evening events, you can follow @ComstockColts on Twitter.

## High School, Middle School Fall Awards Banquet

The high school fall awards banquet will be held on Wednesday, November 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. This is also the awards banquet night for middle school volleyball, middle school cross country and middle school soccer.

## Physicals

A reminder to all parents that it is an MHSAA requirement that all student athletes have a physical on file with the athletic department to be eligible to participate in athletics for Comstock. The physical has to be dated after April 15, 2016, to cover your son/daughter for the entire 201617 year. Please give Justin Ansel in the athletic department a call at 269-250-8711 if you have any questions.

## Winter Sport Start Dates

- 7th \& 8th Boys Basketball: Monday, October 24
- High School Girls Basketball \& Competitive Cheer - November 7
- High School Boys Basketball, Wrestling \& Club Bowling - November 14.
- 7th \& 8th Girls Basketball \& Middle School Wrestling - Tuesday, January 10. Please call the athletic department with any questions.


## High School Winter Sports Parent Meeting

The high school winter sports parent meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. After a few brief announcements by the athletic director, programs will conduct their team meetings with parents to talk about their seasons and answer any questions. We look forward to seeing you there if your son or daughter is participating in a winter sport.

## Hall of Fame Induction

This is your last chance to nominate someone for the 2017 Comstock Athletic Hall of Fame. Please fill out the Hall of Fame nomination form in this Communicator issue and return it to the athletic office by Thanksgiving. The Hall of Fame board will be meeting after Thanksgiving to decide upon the 2017 Induction Class.

## COMSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

## INDIVIDUAL Nomination

Name of Nominee


TEAM Nomination - (Must have contact information for all team members to be considered.) Year__ Sport__ Coach ___

## PLEASE USE SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER

1. Names of Team Members
2. Special Team Accomplishments (Championships, Records, etc)
3. Please list any other information which would be helpful to the committee.

## INDIVIDUAL or TEAM Nominated By:



## Comstock Township Library Events

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 8 mm 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.

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 the 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.

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, he/she 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.

Heritage: Ancestry Library Edition and Beyond: An introduction to the genealogical resources available at Comstock Township Library, Wednesday, October 5, at $1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. Interested in exploring your family's history? Curious to see to where your ancestors lived? Don't know where to start? This pro-
gram is for you! You will learn about the resources present here at your local library while also getting a few tips and tricks. See how you can get started with your personal journey through your family's history. This program is free. Registration is required and is underway. Call 345-0136 for more information.

MATTER OF BALANCE: Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls. In this program, you will learn to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing activity, make changes to reduce falls at home, and exercise to increase strength and balance. Who should attend? Anyone concerned about falls, those interested in improving balance, flexibility, and strength, anyone who has fallen in the past or has restricted activities because of falling concerns. This FREE class runs on Tuesdays from October 11-November 29, 1-3 p.m. Light refreshments are included. Registration is required for this event. Please call 345-0136 for more information.

October: Pumpkin Craft: Wednesday, October 26 at 5:30 p.m. Make and decorate a festive pumpkin for your home out of an embroidery hoop, paint, and fabric. Registration is required for this free craft and begins on Monday, October 10, at the adult reference desk; space is limited. Call 345-0136 for more information.

Join attorney Robert Reilman for an "Ask-A-Lawyer" program on Tuesday, November 15, from 6-8 p.m. Reilman will be available to answer your family legal questions. Registration is required for this free event and availability is on a first-come, firstserved basis. Sign-ups begin on October 24 at the adult reference desk. Call 345-0136 for more information.

Drop-In Knitting Lessons: 1-3 p.m. on Friday, November 18, and Friday, December 16. Learn how to knit at the library and acquire a new hobby. Signups are required for this program and begin on Monday, October 31 at the adult reference desk. Call 345-0136 for more information.

Frame Jingle Bell Wreath. Wednesday, November 16 , at 5:30 p.m. Decorate your home with the sound of sleigh bells and a pop of color just in time for the holiday season! Registration is required for this free craft and begins on Monday, October 31, at the

## CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Friday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day. The library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, and remain closed on Thursday, November 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.
*Please call to confirm our hours during inclement weather before traveling to the library.*
adult reference desk; space is limited. Call 345-0136 for more information.

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.

Winter Wonderland Frosted Pine Cones. Wednesday, December 14, at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 16 , at $5: 30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. Welcome the winter with a beautiful door hanging of pine cones. Registration is required for this free craft and begins on Monday, November 28, at the adult reference desk; space is limited. Call 345-0136 for more information.

## EVENTS IN THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT:

STORYTIME: AGES 1-5. Registration for fall storytimes began Tuesday, September 6. 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 began Monday, September 12, and run through Thursday, December 8.
Come dressed in your Halloween costume for Halloween Storytimes the week of October 24. There will be no storytimes on Thursday, November 24 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Storytime sessions are as follows:
Mondays: 10:30-11:15 a.m. - 2-3 year olds
Tuesdays: 10:30-11:15 a.m. - 1-2 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

## Comstock Township Library Events (onts)

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!

TEEN AND BETWEENTIME: Every Wednesday, 4-5:30 p.m., fourth through twelfth graders. Bring your friends and hang out at the library after school every Wednesday! We will have different activities and snacks! These activities are designed for older children in fourth through twelfth grades. Registration is required for this free event. Activities are:
Wednesday, October 5, 4-5:30 p.m.: Movie Matinée. Showing Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. (Registration began Monday, September 26.)
Wednesday, October 12, 4-5:30 p.m.: Gamers' Club. Join us for board games and a Tekken tournament! (Registration begins Monday, October 3.)

Wednesday, October 19, 4-5:3 p.m.: Lego Challenge. Different from Lego Club! Join us for a Lego building competition! (Registration begins Monday, October 10.)
Wednesday, October 26: NO TEEN AND BETWEEN TIME DUE TO HOGWART'S HALLOWEEN PARTY
Wednesday, November 2, 4-5:30 p.m.: Movie Matinée. Showing Zootopia. (Registration begins Monday, October 24.)
Wednesday, November 9, 4-5:30 p.m.: Gamers' Club. Join us for board games and a Super Mario Kart tournament! (Registration begins Monday, October 31.)
Wednesday, November 16, 4-5:30 p.m.: Lego Challenge. Different from Lego Club! Join us for a Lego building competition! (Registration begins Monday, November 7.)
Wednesday, November 23: NO TEEN AND BETWEEN TIME DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.
Wednesday, November 30: Polymer Clay Craft. Make an object out of clay! We will fire it in our oven, and teens can paint their creation once it's hardened! (Registration begins Monday, November 21.)

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, October 21, 4-5:30 p.m.. (Registration begins Monday, October 10.)
Friday, November 18, 4-5:30 p.m. (Registration begins Monday, November 14.)

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, October 7, 4-5 p.m. (Registration begins Monday, October 3.)
Friday, November 4, 4-5 p.m. (Registration begins Monday, October 31.)
Friday, December 2, 4-5 p.m. (Registration begins Monday, November 28.)

PERLER BEAD ANIMAL CRAFT: Saturday, October 1, 11 a.m.-Noon, all ages. Place beads on a pegboard and we will melt them for you! Choose from an assortment of animal pegboards and Perler bead colors. Children under the age of 5 should have an adult helper with them. Registration is required for this free craft.

## HOGWARTS HALLOWEEN PARTY:

 Wednesday, October 26, 5-7 p.m, fourth through twelfth graders. Come dressed in your Halloween costume and enjoy this Harry Potter-themed Halloween party with games and crafts! We will be serving pizza and snacks for dinner. Activities are designed for older children in fourth through twelfth grades. Registration is required for this free event and begins Monday, October 17.FALL FESTIVAL: Saturday, October 29, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., all ages. Come dressed in your Halloween costume for our third annual autumn party for all ages! Enjoy games, crafts, snacks, and our costume competition! Registration is required for this free event and begins Monday, October 10!

CERAMIC DINOSAUR CRAFT: Saturday, November 12, 11 a.m.-Noon, for children up to 18. Choose a ceramic dinosaur to paint from a variety of different ceramic dinosaurs and paint colors. Children under the age of 5 should have an adult helper with them. Registration is required for this free craft and begins Monday, October 31.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CRAFT: Saturday, December 3, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., for

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

We now have tutor rooms andWi-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.
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.

## Staff Benefits from Tech Camp

Eight staff members attended the Mattawan Tech Camp where they learned about ways to use technology in the classroom.
They gained new knowledge about various technology products and services already in use in their classrooms as well as new products and services to incorporate in the future.

Some of the technology they learned about included Learning A to Z/Raz Kids, mel. org, MakeDo, Robots, 3D Printing, OSMO interactive iPad, Creative Understanding (Writing) through Stop Motion, WeMovie, IMovie, Comic Strips - Vividapps.com and powtoons.com, Thinglink,, Google Classroom, Google Forms, and inviting experts into the classroom via Google Hangouts or Skype.
The teachers report they are very excited to add these things to their "Tech Tool Kit".
Attending the camp were Shirley Gillan, Karen Hetrick, Cathy Buscher, Wendy Shreves, Maria Standal, Christine Ransom, Paul Van Niman and Kimberly Adams.
Special recognition was given to Christine Ransom who won a Lego trophy for most years in education.

## PIJMSTIUSIM

 BuostimsThank you to all our golf outing sponsors!

AAA / Gull Road<br>Allegra Printing Services<br>Applebee's Gull Road<br>Artwear Apparel<br>Auto Zone Gull Road<br>Biggby Coffee Gull Road<br>Bone Appetite Dog Grooming<br>Coke<br>WMU College of Education<br>and Human Development<br>Cottage Inn Gull Road<br>Eastern Hills Golf Course<br>Galesburg Ford

Gilmore Car Museum Gull Lake View Golf Course Hickory Ridge Golf Course

Julianna's Restaurant Klosterman's Distributing Lake Doster Golf Course Rich House Tracy Daniels
Mac's Garage
Eastwood Little League
Michael Moncel
Zeigler MotorSports

## Special thanks go the following:

Julianna's Restaurant for supplying lunch
Bub Sherwood of Sherwood Auto for coordinating
the hole-in-one and working the putting contest.
We greatly appreciate your support!

Karen Hetrick, Cathy Buscher, Wendy Shreves, and Maria Standal celebrate with Christine Ransom, who received a Lego trophy for most years in education at the Mattawan Tech Camp.


## 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.

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

