

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



Dear Comstock Schools Community,

Bond Project Phase 1 Update

There has been a flurry of design and redesign activity regarding Phase 1 of the bond projects in the past several months. Just as a reminder, the major projects included in Phase 1 are:

- Secured entrances at all school buildings
- Complete girls and boys locker room renovations at the high school
- Restroom renovations at the high school and NEMS
- Technology infrastructure upgrades at all buildings.

District personnel have been working with the Board's architects to finalize designs for all of the projects listed above. The secured entrances require redesigning office entrances and some exterior doorways. Additionally, the secured entrances require technology upgrades for the addition/expansion of electronic door security. The schedule is for all secured entrances to be completed by fall of 2017.

The locker room renovations will bring the district's locker rooms into compliance with Title IX rules which require equal facilities for boys and girls. Additionally, the new locker rooms will ensure that we have adequate space for both Comstock teams and visiting teams. The new locker rooms will also have improved areas for officials, coaches and trainers, ensuring our student-athletes have

what they need to be competitive and safe. Because of the extensive nature of the locker room renovations, the schedule is still being worked on at this time. However, demolition and construction will begin in the spring of 2017.

The rest room renovations at the high school and NEMS will require the district to upgrade facilities to meet the current state and federal codes. The new facilities will ensure that students have modern hygienic and aesthetically pleasing restrooms. Restroom renovations are scheduled to begin in late spring of 2017.

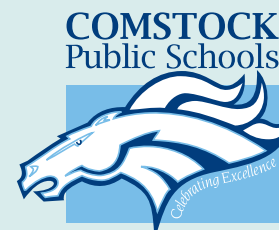
The district-wide technology upgrades included in Phase 1 involve expansion of the district's wireless internet access to provide high quality, full-building coverage for all buildings. In addition, wireless video connections are being installed in all classrooms to allow teachers improved access to instructional video content.

Phase 1 also includes the replacement and addition of student and teacher computing devices (e.g. desktop computers, iPads, Chromebooks, etc.). The technology infrastructure upgrades and device replacement started at the beginning of this school year.

As plans are finalized and projects completed, updates will be posted to the district's 2016 Bond Update webpage, so check back to see what's new.

Once again, thank you to Comstock Public Schools' voters for approving the bond issue. Go Colts!

Todd Mora
Superintendent



COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
A SCHOOL DISTRICT DEDICATED TO KIDS
www.comstockps.org

Todd Mora
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Comstock Public Schools is to serve our community by supporting, inspiring, and challenging every person within the school district to reach his/her full potential through education.

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Comstock Public Schools is to be an educational community where every person is empowered to reach his/her full potential.

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.





EAT BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL!

Mornings can be really crazy... the alarm doesn't go off...the kids don't want to get up...there's no time to eat breakfast before the bus comes...or they're just not ready to eat. Or maybe your teenager grabs a can of soda and a candy bar on the way to school. If this sounds like your house, we have good news for you.

Breakfast is served at school! School breakfast will give your child a healthy start to the day. A nutritious breakfast helps students be more alert so they can learn more in class. Breakfast has vitamins and nutrients for a strong and healthy body.

Breakfast at school is FREE for all students at ALL Comstock School Buildings. Breakfast is served in the café before school starts each day. Please direct questions about the School Breakfast Program to Holly Pence, Director of Dining Services, at 269.250.8719

Help your child start the day right with school breakfast!

Chrome Books Meet K-12 Instructional Needs



Lucius Fonseca works with Chrome Book.

Chrome Books are a low cost way for schools to give students access to the many internet resources used in school. Over the past few years, Comstock has been adding more and more internet-based instructional resources to help students at all grade levels.

This has put a great demand on the computer labs, so in the spring of 2016, Comstock put Chrome Book carts into all third grade and eleventh grade SAT prep classrooms. This pilot was well received by students and teachers and our initial pilot of 240 Chrome Books was expanded by 470 for the start of the 2016-17 school year, with another 270 being added in February, 2017.

After the February, 2017, expansion, all second through fifth grade classrooms will have a Chrome Book cart. NEMS will have four shared carts and the high school will have 10 shared carts.

Plans are being made to provide all grades and buildings with Chrome Book access for the 2017-18 school year.

Board Briefs

REGULAR MEETING

November 14, 2016

- New board member, Matt Schreiber, introduced himself and was welcomed by the board.
- Approved the annual Chicago trip for the NEMS 7th and 8th grade bands and the high school choir.
- Received an update on the Strategic Plan for 2016-2020.
- Received information from the performance committee about merit plans for teachers and administrators.

SPECIAL MEETING

November 28, 2016

- Approved changes to the district's Mission Statement and Vision Statement.
- Reviewed the results of the Parent Survey.
- Approved the merit pay plan for certified staff and administrators for 2016-17.

REGULAR MEETING

December 12, 2016

- Heard a presentation from Jeff Pellerito,

director of special education services, about the Coordinated Early Intervening Services.

- Gerielle Stewart, high school principal, presented the ninth grade focus report and the Positive Behavior Support (PBS) system.
- Accepted the resignation of Cohen Sangster, Compass High School math teacher.
- Thanked Trustees Jackie Wahl, Mike Hicks, and Paul Lamphear for their service to the board since this was their last meeting with the board.
- Approved Dena Cooley as the Compass High School math teacher.
- Approved placing the Regional Enhancement Millage on the May, 2017, ballot.
- Approved the contract between the district and GMB Architects and Engineers for services related to the 2017 bond projects.
- Approved a two-year contract for 2016-17 and 2017-18 with the Comstock Educational Professional Administrative Assistants Association.
- Approved administrator compensation for 2014-15 and 2015-16.



National Honor Society Sponsors Bowl-A-Thon

Comstock High School's National Honor Society (NHS) is hosting a community bowling event to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Come out to Eastland Bowl, 5570 Gull Road, on March 18 from 5-7 p.m.

The cost will be \$12 a person or \$50 for five people. Raffle tickets will also be sold.

Tickets can be purchased at the high school office or from any NHS member. You can also buy tickets at the door. If you have any questions or want to purchase tickets, please email Mrs. Grueter at grueterc@comstockps.org

All proceeds go to Make A Wish Foundation, a nonprofit organization which grants wishes to children who have been diagnosed with life-threatening medical conditions. On average, the organization grants a wish every 35 minutes.

According to the organization's website, about 27,000 children a year are diagnosed with conditions that make them eligible for a wish to be granted. In 2015, the organization granted wishes to about 15,000 children.

Want Your GED?

If so, we are enrolling until February 7.

Comstock Adult Education is offering three different GED classes:

8-11 a.m.; Noon-3 p.m. and 3:30-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday. On Friday, we have an open lab from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

If you've already prepped and you're ready to take the GED test, we are a GED testing facility. Come take your tests here in a familiar and friendly environment.

Please call 250-8930 for more information.



College & Career Academy News

FAFSA

Comstock High School's senior class has officially passed the 50 percent mark of FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) completion. Last year's senior class recorded a 72 percent completion rate and earned over \$800,000 in federal, state and institutional aid. The CCA's goal is to top both of those accomplishments with the class of 2017.

February 15

Comstock High School will be hosting one final FAFSA completion event on February 15 from 6-8 p.m. in the high school library. During this time, seniors will also receive help with the Kalamazoo Community Foundation scholarship application.

The Kalamazoo Foundation gives out nearly \$1 million in scholarships each year, an opportunity that no student should miss out on. All Kalamazoo Foundation scholarship applications are due March 1.

Finally, seniors and their parents or guardians can bring in financial aid award letters to weigh their college affordability options. Please join the CCA for a fun and productive night on February 15.

Mary Roe Scholarship

The first Comstock Foundation scholarship application of the year was due February 1. The Mary Roe award is open to all Comstock Seniors who have maintained a 3.0+ GPA through high school and plan to pursue a major in the science field.

Other upcoming deadlines include the GRBS Scholarship (March 1); Deb Dart (March 31); James and Lois Richmond (March 31); Kate Kwasny (March 31); and Charles Pratt (March 31). The remaining foundation scholarship applications will be due in April. All scholarship applications must be turned into Mr. Cotter before the deadlines.

CCA Hits the Road to Ferris

On February 22, the CCA will be making the third college visit of the year, this time to Ferris State University. All high school grade levels are encouraged to apply for the trip. Priority will be given to sophomores and juniors in good academic standing. The bus will leave at 7 a.m. and will return by 3 p.m. Students will be responsible to arrange rides to and from school that day.

Compass High School

Comstock Compass High School Now Enrolling until February 7



Looking for an alternative to the traditional high school experience that helps prepare you for the future? The Compass program might be right for you.

Our focus on the Michigan Merit Curriculum allows students to complete the state requirements and obtain a high school diploma in a non-traditional setting. Our caring staff and smaller class sizes create a more personalized school experience.

If you have previously dropped out of school or had to take a break due to outside circumstances, this program might be your opportunity to finish in a timely manner.

Are you interested in this unique Compass Program? Call 250-8930 to set up an appointment for an interview.

Let us help you navigate your way to the future!

Northeast Middle School

NEMS Students Win Geography Bee



Participants in the Geography Bee finals were Sam Babb, Alexandra Boven, Desiree Arrey, Zachary Liby, Kayla Gregg, Aaron Tate, Ximena Villega, Xandra Mielke, and Kaia Laarman.

Fifth grader, Ximena Villegas, took first place in the annual Geography Bee at NEMS. Taking second place was seventh grader, Xandra Mielke, followed by sixth grader, Aaron Tate, in third place.

As first place winner, Ximena recently completed the State Qualifying portion of the bee. How well she does on that test will determine if she moves on to state bee on March 31. The school will be notified in early March about whether she moves on to the state bee. Only the top 100 ranked students participate in the state bee.

State champions will compete in the national championship in Washington, D.C., from May 15-17, 2017.

Other NEMS students who were in the finals were sixth graders, Kaia Laarman, Zachary Liby; seventh grader, Kayla Gregg; and eighth graders, Sam Babb, Alexandra Boven, and Desiree Arrey.

The Geography Bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society which also prepares materials for the competition.

According to the Society, the event is “designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark student interest in the subject and increase public awareness about geography.”



Winning the NEMS Geography Bee were Aaron Tate, third place; Ximena Villega, first place; and Sandra Mielke, second place.

K Wings Athletes Visit NEMS



Members of the Kalamazoo Wings hockey team visited NEMS recently to talk to sixth graders about healthy school habits, staying focused, being a team player and getting involved in school activities.

The team told students they don't have to be an athlete to be involved, but they should find something they enjoy whether it's playing in the band, creating an art project, joining a club, participating in 4-H, or going outside to play.

One purpose of the Kalamazoo Wings organization is give back to the community by starting with the youth.

COMSTOCK Public Schools



North Elementary

Third Graders Create Gingerbread Houses



North third graders created these colorful gingerbread houses.

Third graders in Ms. Alatalo's and Mr. Faraci's classes at North Elementary had a fantastic time creating gingerbread houses. Each third grade class participated in the tradition which has been going on for more than 30 years.

Parents, teachers, and students provided graham crackers, candy, frosting, and a whole bunch of imagination to create the spectacular houses. "This is so much fun!" one third grader said, as she happily placed candy onto her gingerbread house.

The completed houses represented the students' creativity and joy for the holidays. North Elementary was a synergized, candy-filled holiday lane of gorgeous gingerbread houses.

Thanks to all parents, students, and volunteers for providing supplies and more importantly, their time. This was an activity the third graders will remember for a very long time.

Green Meadow Elementary

Students Use Leadership Notebooks

Green Meadow's students have goals and plans to reach them. Last year, Green Meadow started using Data Notebooks with students within The Leader in Me process. "By giving students ownership of their own data, you communicate that they are leaders of their education. You also help students learn how to track and interpret data," according to The Leader in Me website.

This year, teachers are implementing Leadership Notebooks that build on the foundation of Data Notebooks and expand them into a portfolio of the students' leadership.

The Leadership Notebooks help students achieve their goals and also reinforce students' developing leadership skills.

Not only do students have individual goals in their notebooks, but there is a school wide goal. Green Meadow has a Wildly Important Goal (WIG) that everyone in the building is working towards. That goal is to read 7,500 books by March 31. Everyone in the building is contributing and tracking how many books are being read.

Leadership Notebooks will also become a part of parent-teacher conferences. Students will be able to show parents how they are meeting goals and how they are working toward meeting those goals they have yet to master.

STEM Academy

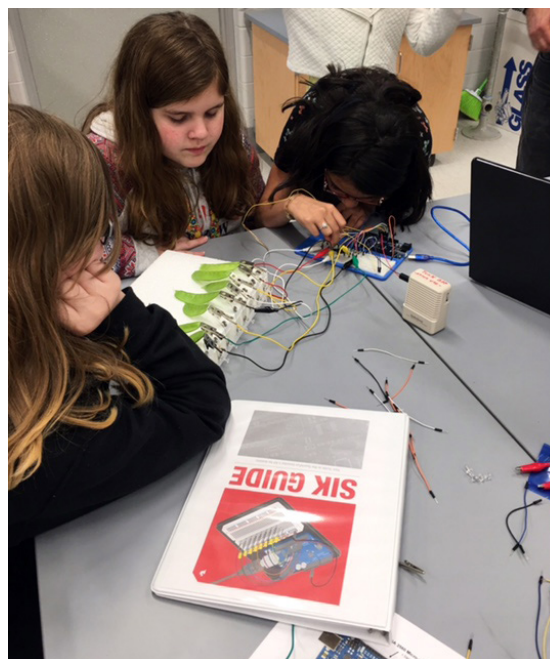
STEM Students Create, Play PEA-anos

STEM students worked after school with Arduinos and coding to create PEA-anos which allowed them to play beautiful (and maybe not so beautiful) music.

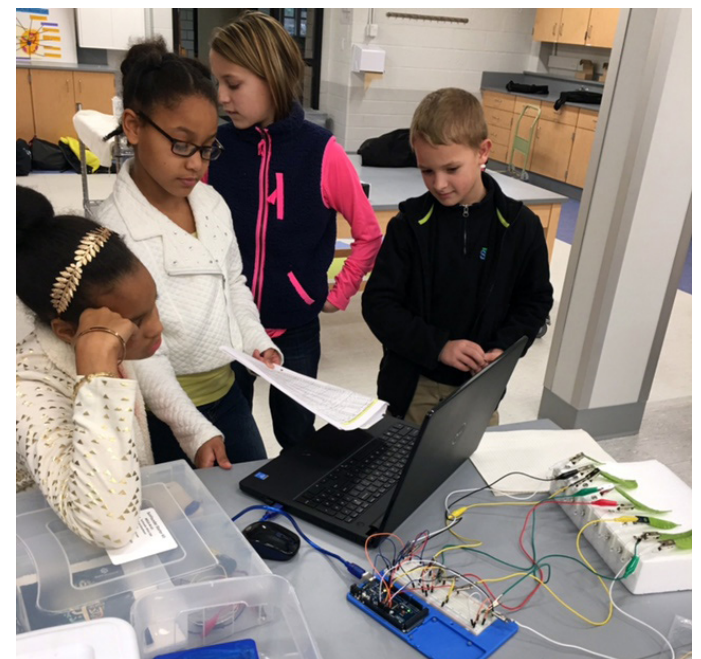
Arduino is an open-source electronics prototyping platform. The students had to wire the board and connect to the PEA board, to create a PEA-ano, a piano made with pea pods.

Then, they had to code a computer program that would give each pea a specific note frequency.

Thank you, Dr. Hathaway, for bringing this awesome activity to STEM.



Hailey Null and Mishti Patel connect the Arduino to the keyboard.



Avery Pratt, Olivia Morgan, Macy Searles, and Owen Roush make adjustments to the coding.

Green Meadow Elementary

Thank You for Donations

Green Meadow Elementary has been very blessed this school year with donations from so many people and businesses. Some money has been donated, but we are very appreciative of all the food and clothing donations as well as holiday toy donations we received in December.

Kalamazoo County and Comstock Township are not only great places to live but are also filled with wonderfully generous hearts.

Jeter's Leaders Visit

Derek Jeter's Turn 2 Foundation leaders visit Green Meadow twice a month. In December, the high school students in Jeter's Leaders worked with Green Meadow's Student Lighthouse Team to decorate cookies, create ornaments, and play games.

These monthly meetings benefit both groups of students. For example, the high school leaders are mentoring and modeling leadership skills for the elementary students.

The December event also included a special "Yankee" themed gift for the Lighthouse team members, in recognition of Derek Jeter's 20 years with the New York Yankees.

Green Meadow appreciates all the hard work and effort Jeter's Leaders have committed to doing here.

Breakfast with Santa

Santa Claus visited Green Meadow Elementary before winter break to have breakfast with students and their families. They enjoyed pancakes donated by Niko's Landing, but cooked by Green Meadow teachers.

Students also made several different crafts and reindeer food to take home for Santa's big night. Thanks to the photography skills of Maureen Thomas, each student had his/her picture taken with Santa Claus.

Santa stayed and listened to all the students' wishes and took notes about who was making good choices.

Special thanks to Niko's Landing for the delicious food. Thanks also to Maureen Thomas, Jeff VanGoey, and Sandy VanGoey for coming and making the day special.

Green Meadow is very thankful for all the staff who helped with the event. However, we really appreciate Santa Claus making the extra effort and taking the time to visit Green Meadow. See you next year!

Father/Daughter Winter Dance

Girls of any age with their Fathers!
A grand night of Dancing, Games, Movie and Food!

Saturday, February 11, 2017

at Comstock High School

Dancing and games from 6-8 p.m.

Pizza and refreshments served from 6-7 p.m.

Movie to be shown in the auditorium from 7-9 p.m.

\$25/couple and \$5/extra daughter

Professional photographs available at an extra charge beginning at 5:30 p.m.

More information – Call Shirley Doorlag at 250-8712

Advance registration highly recommended to help us get an accurate count for food.

Father / Daughter Dance Registration Form

Return by mail to:
Comstock High School
Attn: Justin Ansel
2107 N. 26th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Father _____

Daughter _____

Phone _____ Daughter's Current Grade _____

School _____

Please make checks payable to: Comstock High School
Pre-registered names will be at the registration table.
No tickets will be sent!

****In the case of inclement weather, cancellations will be on TV.*

Comstock High School Winter Sports Schedules

Boys Varsity Basketball

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

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

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	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	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	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

Boys Varsity Wrestling

Wednesday	Feb. 1	Parchment TRI	Away	6:00PM
Saturday	Feb. 4	BCS Conference Meet	Away	9:00AM

Varsity Competitive Cheer

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

Comstock Public Schools 2016-2017 School Calendar

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 Students K-12 Last Day for Teachers	



Mother/Son Bowling

Boys of any age with their Mothers!
A grand night of Bowling, Pizza and Fun!

Saturday, February 18, 2017

6 to 8 p.m.

Check-in begins at 5 p.m.

Eastland Bowl

5570 Gull Road

\$23/couple and \$7/extra son

Includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and cookies.

More information – Call Shirley or Justin at 250-8711

Registration/Money due by Wednesday, February 4.

We have to cap at 148 people.

Mother/Son Bowling Registration Form

Return by mail to:
Comstock High School
Attn: Justin Ansel
2107 N. 26th St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Mother's name _____

Son/Son's name & grade _____

Address _____

Phone _____ School _____

Bumpers needed: Yes or No (circle one)

If you wish to bowl with another family, check in together day of event.

Please make checks payable to: Comstock Athletics
Pre-registered names will be at the registration table.

No tickets will be sent!

***In the case of inclement weather, cancellations will be on TV.

News from the Athletic Department

Hall of Fame Induction Banquet

Congratulations to the new Hall of Fame inductees:

*Patrick Vallier – Class of 1970

*Bryan Crosby – Class of 1985

*Susan Jackson – Class of 1990

*Michael Giddings – Class of 1999

*The 1993 State Championship Volleyball team made up of Jennifer Bell, Jennifer Briggs, Brandy Driver, Nicole Frizzo, Danielle Hotrum, Christine Keller, Tracy Parker, Christie Perry, Mandy Whitfield, Ayanna Wilson and Coach Jeff Borr.

The Hall of Fame induction banquet is going to 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 6:45 p.m. Tickets to this great event can be purchased from the Comstock Athletic Office for \$25. Come support these great Comstock alumni and visit with family and friends. The deadline to purchase tickets is April 24.

Father/Daughter Dance

The Comstock Girls Basketball team will be hosting the Father/Daughter Dance on Saturday, February 11, from 6-8:30 p.m. at Comstock High School. Pictures can be taken at 5:30 p.m. and food will be served from 6-7 p.m. Dancing and games are scheduled from 6-8 p.m. and a movie (with popcorn) will be shown from 7-9 p.m. in the auditorium. The cost per couple is \$25 and includes pizza and refreshments. You can sign up in the athletic office or call Shirley Doorlag at 269-250-8712 for more information.

Mother/Son Bowling

The Comstock Bowling team will be hosting the Mother/Son Bowling event on Saturday, February 18, from 6-8 p.m. at Eastland Bowl. This event includes two hours of bowling, pizza and cookies from 6-8 p.m. Check in begins at 5 p.m. The cost per couple is \$23 and an extra son is \$7 more. There is a cap of 148 people, so register as soon as possible. Call Shirley Doorlag at 269-250-8712 for more information.

Winter Sports Awards Banquet

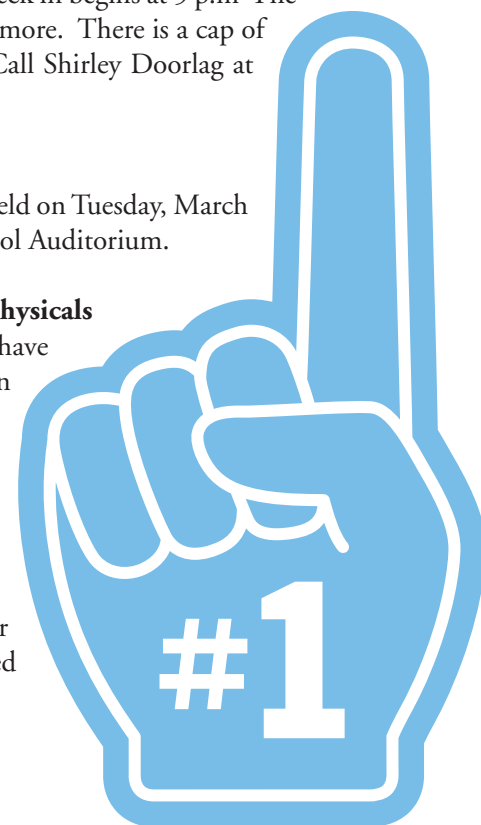
The winter sports awards banquet will be held on Tuesday, March 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Comstock High School Auditorium.

High School Spring Sports Start Date & Physicals

A reminder that your son/daughter has to have a physical on file with the athletic office in order to be able to participate in a spring sport. All spring sports at the high school begin on Monday, March 13. Middle school track will begin Monday, March 27.

Spring Sports Parent Meeting

Spring sports programs will conduct their parent meetings individually. Please stay tuned for that information from each program.



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.

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, helsh 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.

Free Income Tax Preparation and Electronic Filing services have been provided by IRS-certified

community volunteers since 2003 for individuals and families with household incomes of up to \$54,000 in 2016. Services include completion of federal and state returns including credits. Direct deposit is available at all locations. Dial 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment, or go online to goodwillswmi.org and click on the tax link for more information on locations, times, what to bring, or how to complete and electronically file your own return for free.

***The Kalamazoo Tax Initiative will be at the Comstock Township Library on the following dates: Please call 2-1-1 for times.**

Tuesday, February 7

Tuesday, February 28

Tuesday, March 21

February Adult Craft: "Welcome Spring" Wreath on Wednesday, February 22, at 5:30 p.m. Tired of the snow yet? Make a beautiful wreath out of fun fur in anticipation of spring! Registration is required for this free craft and begins on Monday, February 6, 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.

March Adult Craft: Doily Canvas on Wednesday, March 22, at 5:30 p.m. Paint a doily imprint on a blank canvas for your walls to wear! Registration is required for this free craft and begin on Monday, March 6, at the adult reference desk; space is limited. Call 345-0136 for more information.

Interested in joining a book group that will take you around the world via the written word? Leave your contact information at the adult reference desk or call 345-0136.

EVENTS IN THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT:

STORYTIME: AGES 1-5. Registration for winter storytimes began Monday, January 9.

CLOSINGS

The library will be closed on Monday, February 20 in observance of Presidents' Day.

*Please call the library to confirm hours during inclement weather before coming to the library.

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, January 16, and run through Thursday, April 27. Storytime sessions are as follows:

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

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: Began 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 today!

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, February 3, 4-5 p.m.

(Registration began Monday, January 30.)

Friday, March 3, 4-5 pm.

(Registration begins Monday, February 27.)

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.

Comstock Township Library Events *(cont.)*

Registration is required for this free event. Lego Club dates are as follows:

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

(Registration begins Monday, February 6.)

Friday, March 17, 4-5:30 p.m.

(Registration begins Monday, March 6.)

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.

Spring Graham Cracker House: Saturday, March 18, 11 a.m.-Noon for children ages 0-18. Celebrate spring by decorating a spring graham cracker house. Children under the age of 5 should have an adult helper with them. Registration is required for this free craft and begins Monday, February 27.

WORKSHOP: PATH (Personal Action Toward Health) is for people who have long-term health conditions like arthritis, asthma, diabetes, depression, fibromyalgia and heart disease. The workshop will also help family members, friends,

and caregivers. This six-week workshop was developed by Stanford University and will be held at the Comstock Township Library on **Tuesdays from March 7-April 11 from 1-3:30 p.m.** Sign-ups are at the adult reference desk and start February 13.

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.
- We offer one-one-one technology lessons with a librarian (computer questions, tablets, etc.) Please call to set up an appointment.
- Interested in donating your acrylic yarn? We would be happy to accept it to knit and crochet afghans and lap robes for the Warm-Up America Project. For more information, call and ask for Myla or Barb.



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.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER COMMUNICATIONS

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.

On the right 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.

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

NEEDED: SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS



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**