



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

December 21, 2012

Ron Cooper  
4491 E. Pontaluna Road  
Fruitport, MI 49415

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The Department of State (Department) received a formal complaint against you filed by Brian Werschem, alleging that you violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA), 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* A copy of Mr. Werschem's complaint is provided as an enclosure with this letter.

The MCFA requires a committee that receives or expends more than \$1,000.00 during any reporting period to file periodic campaign finance reports in compliance with the Act. MCL 169.233(6). The failure to file a single campaign statement may trigger the assessment of late filing fees, while the failure to file two or more campaign statements is a misdemeanor offense. MCL 169.233(7)-(8).

Mr. Werschem alleges that your committee exceeded the \$1,000.00 reporting waiver threshold. In support of his complaint, Mr. Werschem provided a printout indicating that no campaign finance statement was filed, a copy of the *Fruitport Area News* advertisement cost schedule, a copy of a webpage indicating the newspaper's circulation, a copy of the October 2012 edition of the *Fruitport Area News* containing an ad which states "Hire (Vote for) Ron Cooper for Fruitport Township Supervisor [,]" a newsletter which states "Hire (Vote for) Ron Cooper for Fruitport Township Supervisor [,]" and a flyer which purports to contain "IMPORTANT VOTER INFORMATION FOR FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR [,]" Mr. Werschem also alleges that you purchased new campaign signs.

In addition, the MCFA and corresponding administrative rules require a person who produces printed material that relates to an election to include the phrase "Paid for by [name and address of the person who paid for the item]." MCL 169.247(1), R 169.36(2). A knowing violation constitutes a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.00, imprisonment for up to 93 days, or both. MCL 169.247(5).

Mr. Werschem alleges that your printed campaign material does not bear the required identification statement. It appears from the evidence provided that the paid-for-by statement is omitted from the newspaper ad and the voter information sheet, and that your committee's address is omitted from the paid-for-by statement on the newsletter.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Department's examination of these matters and your right to respond to the allegations before the Department proceeds further. It is important to

understand that the Department is neither making this complaint nor accepting the allegations as true.

**If you wish to file a written response to this complaint, you are required to do so within 15 business days of the date of this letter.** Your response may include any written statement or additional documentary evidence you wish to submit. All materials must be sent to the Department of State, Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918. If you fail to submit a response, the Department will render a decision based on the evidence furnished by the complainant.

A copy of your reply will be provided to Mr. Werschem, who will have an opportunity to submit a rebuttal statement to the Department. After reviewing all of the statements and materials provided by the parties, the Department will determine whether "there may be reason to believe that a violation of [the MCFA] has occurred [.]” MCL 169.215(10). Note that the Department’s enforcement powers include the possibility of entering a conciliation agreement, conducting an administrative hearing, or referring this matter to the Attorney General for enforcement of the criminal penalties provided in sections 33(8) and 47(5) of the Act.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact me at (517) 241-0395.

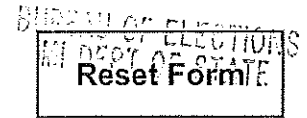
Sincerely,



Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Brian Werschem

Michigan Department of State  
Campaign Finance Complaint Form



2012 OCT 14 PM 3:05

This complaint form may be used to file a complaint alleging that someone violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (the MCFA, 1976 PA 388, as amended; MCL 169.201 et seq.).

Please print or type all information.

I allege that the MCFA was violated as follows:

Section 1. Complainant		
Your Name	Brian Werschem	
Daytime Telephone Number	231-206-4821	
Mailing Address	3436 Whispering Woods Dr.	
City	State	Zip
Muskegon	MI	49444

Section 2. Alleged Violator		
Name	Ron Cooper	
Mailing Address	4491 E. Pontaluna Rd.	
City	State	Zip
Fruitport	MI	49415

**Section 3. Alleged Violations** (Use additional sheet if more space is needed.)

Section(s) of the MCFA violated: Section 169.233.amended

Explain how those sections were violated:

Filed with \$1000 waiver and expended far in excess of the \$1,000 waiver limit.

Evidence that supports those allegations (attach copies of pertinent documents and other information):

4 full page insert in Fruitport Area News in October at a cost of \$2,000 (included)

8 page newspaper style mailer to 10,000 postal customers on November 2nd at

a cost of Approximately \$5,000.00 (included)


Approximately 100 new political signs at a cost of approximately \$400

Walking / Door Knocking Distribution unknown quantity (included)

**Section 4. Certification (Required)**

*I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, each factual contention of this complaint is supported by evidence.*

X

  
Signature of Complainant

12/10/12  
Date

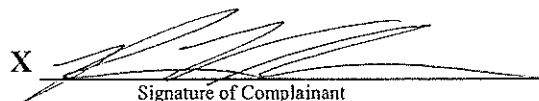
**Section 5. Certification without Evidence (Supplemental to Section 4)**

Section 15(6) of the MCFA (MCL 169.215) requires that the signed certification found in section 4 of this form be included in every complaint. However, if, after a reasonable inquiry under the circumstances, you are unable to certify that certain factual contentions are supported by evidence, you may also make the following certification:

*I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information, or belief, there are grounds to conclude that the following specifically identified factual contentions are likely to be supported by evidence after a reasonable opportunity for further inquiry. Those specific contentions are:*

Approximately 100 New Political Signs

X

  
Signature of Complainant

12/10/12  
Date

Section 15(8) of the MCFA provides that a person who files a complaint with a false certification is responsible for a civil violation of the MCFA. The person may be required to pay a civil fine of up to \$1,000.00 and some or all of the expenses incurred by the Michigan Department of State and the alleged violator as a direct result of the filing of the complaint.

Mail or deliver the completed complaint form and evidence to the following address:

Michigan Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H. Austin Building – 1st Floor  
430 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, Michigan 48918

Brian Werschem  
3436 Whispering Woods Dr.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
(231) 206-4821

Michigan Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H. Austin Building – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
430 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, MI 48918  
(517) 373-2540

12/10/12

Dear Sir/Madam;

My opponent in the November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 General Election violated campaign finance law. He has run for political office several times (successfully on 2 occasions) and has violated the same law each and every time he has run. He must be made responsible to follow the rules that each and every one of us must follow. Please investigate the following violation.

Mr. Ron Cooper, in the 2012 General Election for Supervisor of Fruitport Charter Township ran as on no party affiliation candidate. On July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 he filed a Statement of Organization which invoked the \$1000 waiver. I am providing to you proof that he spent far in excess of \$1,000 and did not file any campaign filing statements. He received most of the estimated \$6,000 from outside sources including a gentleman by the name of Norman Gee but for that I am unable to provide any documentation. He has consistently run illegal campaigns and utilizes smear tactics to gain office. For once he should be made accountable for the campaign finance law, at least.

Document A is a printout from the County Clerk's office indicating that no campaign finance statements were filed.

Document B is a Fruitport Area News advertisement brochure indicating the cost for advertising in this paper. On the front page it indicates a onetime rate for full page advertising is \$825. Please be aware Mr. Cooper publishes this newspaper.

Document C is a printout of the newspapers home page indicating the number of households that it is mailed to is 6000+ and indicates that an additional 1600 are published for subscribers and businesses making the print count of this newspaper over 7600.

Document D is the October 2012 edition of the Fruitport Area News received by citizens around October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Pages 17 -20 as indicated on the top of page 17 is a pullout to save and compare. The bottom of page 20 (4<sup>th</sup> page of the insert) clearly indicates "Paid for by Ron Cooper for Supervisor". You will also see an advertisement by me on page 27 shown on my pre-general election campaign finance statement. Political advertisement is charged 50% of the listed rate. This 4 page section is littered with

over 100 misstatements of truths and outright lies but that is another issue. 50% of the full page rate for 4 pages is \$1,650 no matter whether it is in-Kind or actually paid for. He prints this paper but the advertisers pay to print it and pay for the distribution. Regardless this alone violates the \$1,000 threshold.

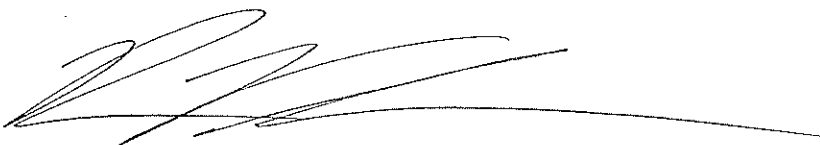
Document E is an 8 page mailer received by citizens on Friday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Based on the Bulk postage permit he used his Fruitport Area News paper's mailing list which as indicated in document B is 6000+. These were mailed by Carrier route and I am unable to determine neither the cost of printing 6000+ nor the cost of distribution by bulk rate postage by carrier route. I believe the total cost could be as low as \$1,000 but could be as high as \$3000 - \$4000.

Document F is a piece used by his door knocking people to handout. It is unknown the quantity so I am unable to determine the cost. I am assuming it would be somewhere in the \$50 to \$100 range. This door piece also does not include the required "Paid for" portion on the piece.

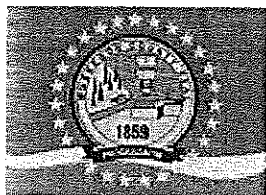
Mr. Cooper utilized many of his old campaign signs that were mismatched across the Township. Approximately 10 days before the election he began replacing all his old mismatched signs with brand new signs in a new design. There were at least 50 probably closer to 100 signs purchased. Without proper filings I am unable to determine the expenditure. The signs were illegal as well as they only indicated "Paid for by Cooper for Supervisor". They listed no address as required by law. I cannot present proof of that as I am unwilling to touch my opponents' signs.

I believe I have shown beyond a doubt his expending beyond the \$1000 limit. He has utilized these same tactics each and every time he has run for office (1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012). Once and for all he needs to be held accountable and needs to be required to follow the same rules and regulations as the rest of us follow. Please investigate this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Werschem', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brian Werschem  
3436 Whispering Woods Dr.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
231-206-4821



## Muskegon County

[Return to Committee Details](#)

## 83674 - RON COOPER FOR SUPERVISOR

Document	Received	Due	Pages
Auto-Diss	12/11/12	-	1 <a href="#">View</a>
Receipt	07/30/12	-	1 <a href="#">View</a>
Stmnt of Organization	07/27/12	08/06/12	1 <a href="#">View</a>

☒ Campaign Finance Reporting Tools

Tools For Transparency for Michigan Counties

AS Software © 2011, 2012 Campaign Finance US, LLC

Document A

# Fruitport Area News

(231) 865-3135 • Fax (231) 865-6970  
email: fruitportareanews@frontier.com  
online: www.fruitportareanews.com

## Tentative Newspaper Delivery Schedule

**October 6, 2012**  
Youth Fair Highlights / Election Issue  
(Deadline September 24)

**December 8, 2012**  
Holiday Issue  
(Deadline November 26)

Help **FAN** benefit  
our community

↓ reduced 2/3 page layout ↓

**News**

**2/3 Page  
Special!**

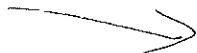
Your 2/3 page ad will be  
the only one on this page.

**New**

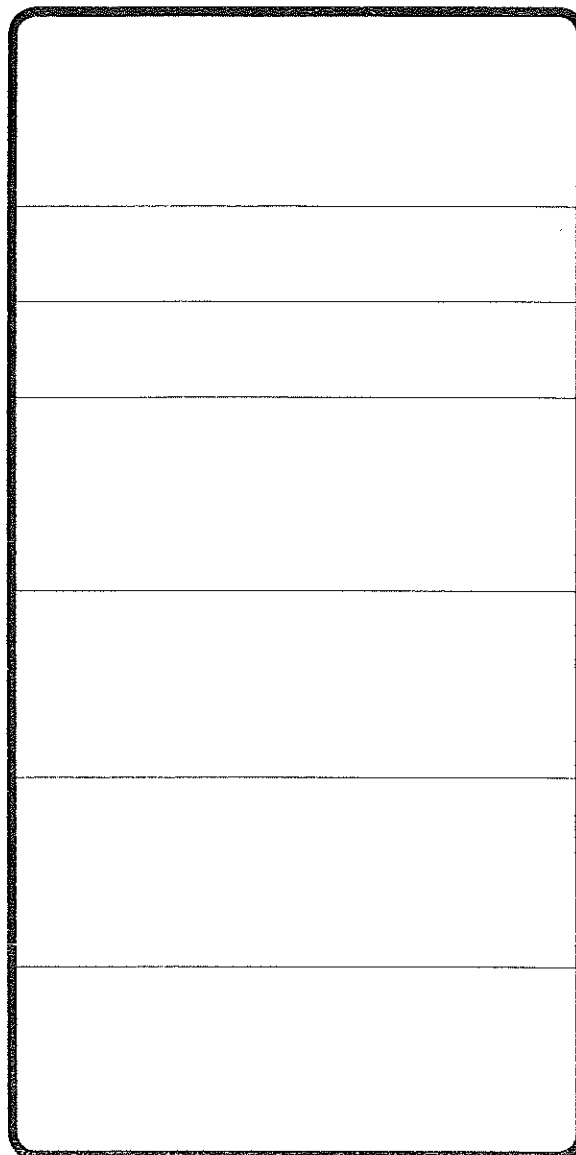
A contin  
to run  
(the size

*Document B*

*Full page rate*



## Sample Ad Sizes



**2 column inch ad**  
Continuous - \$30.00  
One Time - \$37.50  
All FAN \$ - \$45.00

**3 column inch ad**  
\$45 or \$56.25 or \$70

**4 column inch ad**  
\$60 or \$75 or \$95

**6 column inch ad**  
Continuous - \$81  
One Time - \$101.22  
All FAN \$ - \$125

**8 column inch ad**  
Continuous - \$108  
One Time - \$134.96  
All FAN \$ - \$170

**10 column inch ad**  
Continuous - \$135  
One Time - \$168.70  
All FAN \$ - \$215

**12 column inch ad**  
Continuous - \$144  
One Time - \$180  
All FAN \$ - \$230

**FREE COUPON with a 12" ad or larger.**  
**Save more by paying for part of your ad**  
**with FAN Money Certificates.**

FAN Advertising Rates per column inch

Column inch	Contin. 4-X Min.	1-X Rate	All FAN \$
2 to 4	\$15.00	\$18.75	\$24.00
5 to 10	13.50	16.87	21.60
12 to 22	12.00	15.00	19.20
24 to 32	10.50	12.60	16.80
32 to 64	9.00	10.80	14.40
64 to 96	7.50	8.62	12.00
12" 1/8 pg.	144.00	180.00	230.00
24" 1/4 pg.	240.00	300.00	400.00
32" 1/3 pg.	285.00	345.00	460.00
48" 1/2 pg.	420.00	510.00	690.00
64" 2/3 pg.	465.00	540.00	765.00
Full pg.	705.00	825.00	1150.00

CALL

**231-865-3135**

**Early Copy  
Discount**

Ad Copy By  
Sep. 17, 2012

Save 5%



# **Fruitport Area News**

420 N. Third • Fruitport, MI 49415  
231-865-3135 • Fax 231-865-6970  
www.fruitportareanews.com  
email: fruitportareanews@frontier.com

- **The Best Coverage & Delivery**

FAN is mailed through the U.S. Post  
Office to all the addresses in Fruitport  
& Sullivan Townships.

- **The Most Read Publication  
in this Area**

A school system survey verified that more  
adults & students look in each issue of FAN  
than any other publication by a wide margin.

## **Why?... It's readable!**

Over eight hundred names and  
accomplishments of individuals from this area  
are mentioned in some issues.

Most residents will read about someone they  
know personally in each issue. FAN has a  
reputation of credibility and factual accuracy.

• The Fruitport Area News is a

## **2/3 PAGE SPECIAL**

**Your ad will be the only  
one on the page!**

Four columns wide  
X 16 inches high  
(64 column Inches)

Continuous Rate\*

**\$465.00**

One Time Rate

**\$540.00**

All FAN \$

**\$765.00**

Communities benefit from an independent community publication such as FAN, and your advertising helps FAN exist.

Our readers appreciate & keep this paper, and we encourage them to be loyal to our advertisers.

---

## **Guaranteed results and reduce your cost.**

**Pay for 1/3 of your  
ad with \$5.00 FAN  
Money Certificates.**

**EXAMPLE:**

2/3 Page Ad	\$465.00
Pay for with FAN Money	<u>-155.00</u>
Balance Billed	\$310.00

1/3 Page Ad	\$285.00
Pay for with FAN Money	<u>- 95.00</u>
Balance Billed	\$190.00

**Plus receive a  
FREE Coupon  
on Coupon page**



## **1/3 PAGE SPECIAL**

**32 column inch ad**  
(four column X 8 inches)

**Continuous Rate\***  
**\$285.00**

**One Time Rate**  
**\$345.00**

**All FAN \$**  
**\$460.00**

\* A continuous rate can be established by agreeing to run ads continuously for at least 4 issues.

(The size and content of your ad may be changed for each issue.)

FAN Coupon • FAN Coupon • FAN Coupon • FAN Coupon • FAN Coupon • FAN Coupon • FAN Coupon
<div><p><b>Includes this size coupon FREE on the Coupon Page</b></p><p><i>Expires</i>    /    /</p></div>

Call 231-865-3135

# Fruitport Area News

420 N. Third Ave.

Fruitport, MI 49415

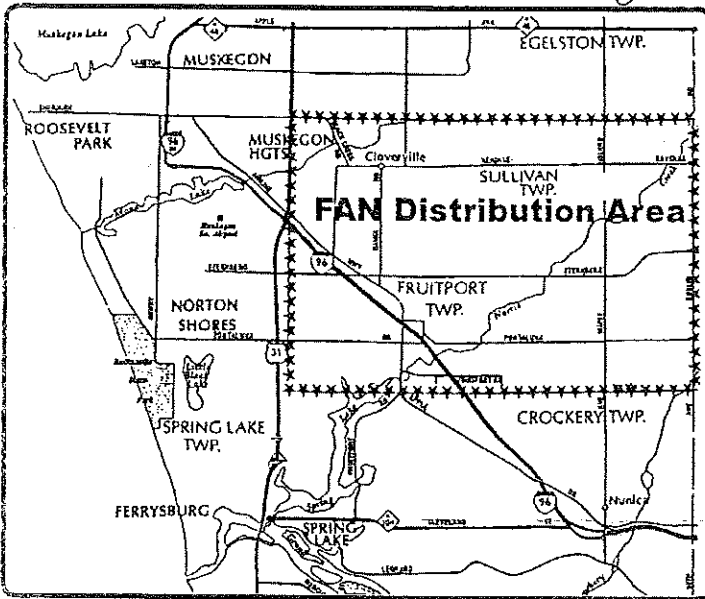
GRAND RAPIDS MI 494

28 AUG 2012 PM 3 L



Reach Your Closest Potential Customers—  
We Can Guarantee Results!

*Letter inside*



*Brian Weischen  
3436 Whispering Woods  
Muskegon, MI 49444*

49444540236



October 6, 2012  
Youth Fair Highlights / Election Issue  
(Deadline September 24)

December 8, 2012  
Holiday Issue  
(Deadline November 26)

## • Reach 4 demographics with your ad!

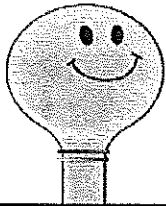
- #1 The ad itself will reach one group
- #2 The coupon another group
- #3 The FAN Money another group
- #4 The online edition another group

## • 3 WAYS to pay for your advertising:

1. Pay for the entire ad by accepting \$5.00 certificates from customers
2. Pay for 1/3 by accepting \$5.00 certificates from customers  
(We can bill for the other 2/3 – lowest cost advertising)
3. We can bill your business for the entire ad

## Take advantage of the best bargain in advertising

For details call 231-865-3135 or  
email to: [fruitportareanews@frontier.com](mailto:fruitportareanews@frontier.com)

[Fruitport Area News - Home](#)


# FRUITPORT Area News

The Hometown Paper Reaching All Homes in Fruitport and Sullivan Townships

## ONLINE EDITION

The purpose of this paper is to be beneficial to the community it serves in every way possible.

**December,  
2012**

Volume 30 • Number 5

Click on the links below to read PDFs of this **FAN** issue online. You may need the [free Adobe Reader](#) to view these files.

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[Page 31](#)

Check our [Updates page](#) for Fruitport Area news & information that happens between published issues of the FAN!  
[fruitportareanews.com/updates](#)

Document C

← additional  
1600 print.

6000+  
mailed →



The Fruitport Area News is a Bi-monthly paper mailed to all 6,000+ households & businesses in Fruitport and Sullivan townships, plus 1,600 subscribers and businesses surrounding these two townships. Additional copies are sold in area stores, as well.

Now in our 30th year, the Fruitport Area News has a reputation of credibility and factual accuracy, and is an advertiser supported community service journal. Most residents will read about someone they know personally in each issue.

We provide a copy of each paper to be read online. Please continue to visit us here.

In our continuing effort to be a true community journal, we welcome submissions of stories, photos, and other items of local interest. If you know someone locally who's done something heroic or interesting, if you have a wedding, anniversary, birthday, Letter to the Editor, or other announcements for our area people, please submit it to us.

Fruitport Area News, 420 N. Third Ave., Fruitport, MI 49415  
 (We share an office with Copies & More)  
 Phone 231-865-3135 • Fax 231-865-6970

**Copies  
&  
More**

COPIES, PRINTING,  
& PERSONAL SERVICE

THE FRUITPORT  
AREA'S SOURCE  
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- LAMINATING
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MANAGER

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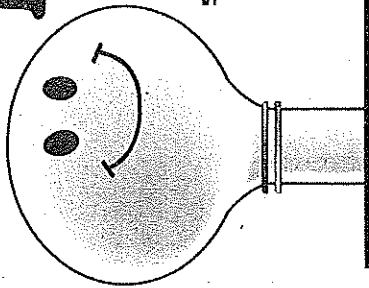
WEB:  
[www.copiesfruitport.com](http://www.copiesfruitport.com)

420 N. THIRD AVE.  
FRUITPORT, MI 49415

STOP IN SOON!

Youth Fair Wrap-up & Election Issue

# FRUITPORT Area News



The Hometown Paper Reaching All Homes in  
Fruitport and Sullivan Townships

Online: [www.fruitportarenews.com](http://www.fruitportarenews.com)

Email: [fruitportarenews@frontier.com](mailto:fruitportarenews@frontier.com)

To subscribe or  
advertise call 865-3134

**\$1.00**

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT No. 18  
FRUITPORT, MI

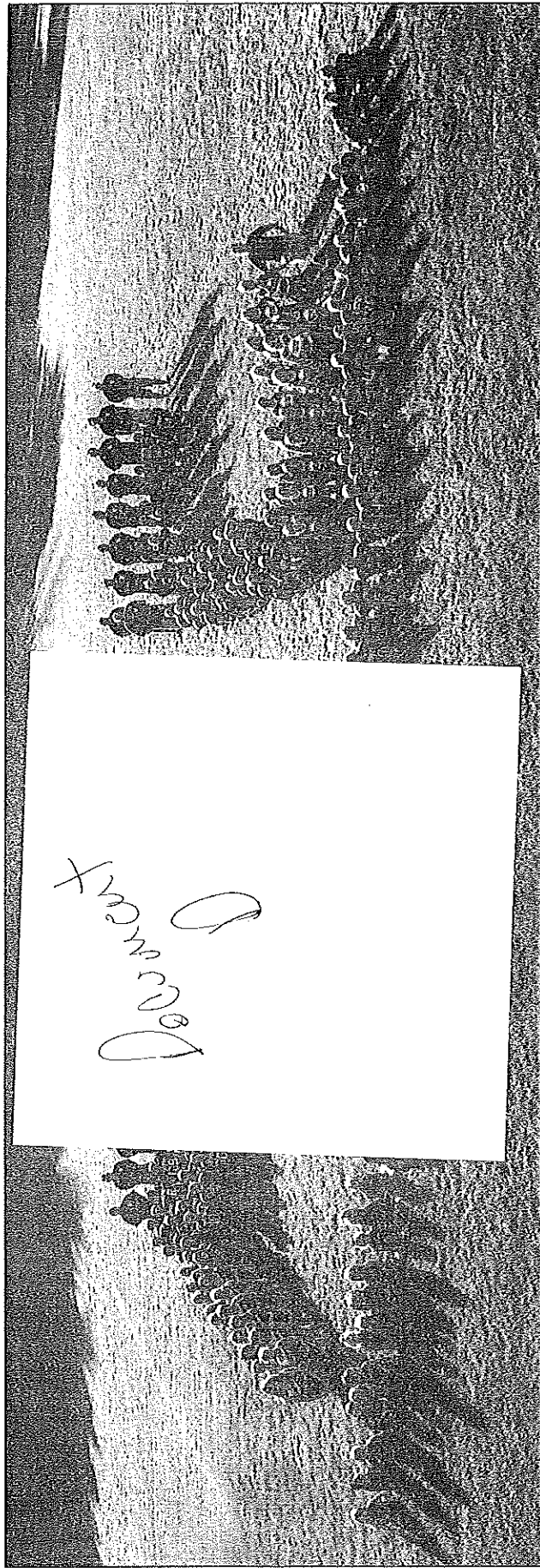


Carrier Route

October, 2012 • Volume 30 • Number 4

The purpose of this paper is to be beneficial to the community it serves in every way possible.

## The 2012 Fruitport Youth Club



**The 2012 Fruitport Youth Club** participants, 250 strong, gathered for a club photo to kick off the 2012 football season in August. The photo includes cheerleaders, football players and their coaches. (Photo by Lisa Woodland)



**Pull out, save and compare!**

## Hire (Vote for) Ron Cooper for Fruitport Township Supervisor

### Resumé

**Fruitport Township Supervisor** 1996-2000 & 2004-2008

**West Michigan Spay and Neuter Clinic 501c3** to Present  
Co-founder and president. Non-paid. Purpose is to provide low-cost spay and neutering to help prevent over-population of pets and reduce the thousands that are killed each year because there are not enough people who want them. We will soon do our 5000th spay/neuter.

**Fruitport Area News Inc** 1983-present  
Founder, publisher, editor, in our 30th year as a community service newspaper, non-paid

**Copies & More Inc.** 1993-present  
Founder and President. My wife, Mariann, is the manager.

**Farmer** 1957-present  
At one time, raised about 1,000 acres of field corn, 50 acres of produce, and grew the original super sweet corn raised commercially in this area, the biggest custom grain harvester in this area with three combines operating and harvested most of the wastewater system's corn for their first 12 years along with our other customers. At present, doing very little farming.

**Thanks a Million! Food Truck** 2009-2010  
Drove the semi *Thanks a Million!* food truck. Picked up food at the Feeding America warehouse in Grand Rapids and delivered and worked about 60 loads throughout West Michigan delivering about 600,000 pounds of food to needy families in an area from Hudsonville to Holland to Frankfort to Cadillac. Also arranged and managed other food trucks directly with Feeding America using their trucks.

**Fruitport Lions Club Member** 1957-2012  
55th year, former president, board member, Old Fashioned Days board, Lion of the Year, Melvin Jones Fellow twice, Distinguished Service Award, Co-Chair of Lions Bandshell construction project and raised all the funds

**Cooper Lawns Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin** 1959-1994  
Founder, CEO. Sold in 1994 to a national company. We manufactured lawn fertilizer and provided a weeding and feeding service to the greater Milwaukee area. For years we were the largest business of that type in greater Milwaukee.

**Project Pride Award**  
Honored by Muskegon Chamber of Commerce

**Professional Farmers of America**  
Represented Michigan farmers in Washington, D.C. during the Carter administration.

**Elected to represent Muskegon County farmers** at various times to our regional agricultural district.

**First Congregational Church of Fruitport** 1984-present  
Member, Elder, and Sunday School Superintendent for many years and at the present time

**Married to Mariann.** We have six kids, foster kids, 17+ grandkids, 8 great-grandkids. Both of us were born and raised in the Fruitport area.

### **Thank you for your support.**

If you are willing to put a sign in your yard, please pick it up at Copies & More, 420 N. 3rd Avenue, Fruitport Village, M-F 11:00am - 3:00pm, or call 865-6370 and a sign will be delivered to your address. If you would like to find locations for some yard signs, please call or stop by. Thank you in advance for your help and consideration. Please vote in the November 6th election. Together we can make a difference.

## Vote for Proven Leadership & Results



There were many accomplishments during his last term:

- Converted 5 roads from gravel to asphalt
- Added 11 extensions to our water trunk lines
- Started a soccer park on Sheringer Rd.
- Extended bike paths
- Added to the cemetery building
- Renovating the bathrooms at Farr Field
- Added two practice fields at east side of Farr Field
- Built police headquarters (\$300,000) onto fire station on Airline
- Focused Lights on Water Tower
- Inherited a \$500,000 budget deficit and balanced it.

### **Added 11 needed extensions to our water trunk lines**

Under Ron's administration several important loops were completed that are part of our master plan for water distribution. There are several more that should be completed, but we succeeded in connecting some very important ones that had been ignored for 30 years. A huge contribution to the cost of these improvements and extensions was from grants and contributions from businesses on those lines (over \$600,000). This has added to the circulation and freshness needed for large areas in our township's water system.



### **• Eastbound ON & OFF ramps at I-96 and Sternberg Rd.**

This was a high priority project from my first week in office. We went through close to a dozen hearings and received a recommendation from MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation). The project was sent to the Federal DOT (Department of Transportation) for final approval. Over 2 million dollars [\$2,000,000] in grant money was set aside for this project at the Federal level and more was pledged locally.

**• Recycling site** – The Spring Clean-Up was established during my first term in office. When I left office, we were also providing a fall cleanup as well.

**• Land for Soccer Park** – With more than 600 Fruitport Township youth in soccer (more than all the other sports combined), I feel that there is a need for a park dedicated to youth soccer. When I ran for office in 2004, I set as a personal goal to add more soccer fields to our parks system. After taking office, we had meetings with the soccer parents' group and encouraged them to participate and help identify the best location of land the township owned. Forty (40) acres of township property on Porter Road was chosen. Opposition developed against using the land for that purpose, and with the help of some very key people, a 3-way land swap was made with the township, the conservation district, and the school system. The township now has ownership of 20 acres on Sheringer Road for our soccer park.



### **• Bike Paths**

We built miles of bike paths and lanes during both terms, all within our budget. I believe bike paths are important to the health and welfare of our community and much more can be done. When I left office we had about 1/2 of the money needed pledged to connect the Muskatawa bike path on the north to the Spring Lake bike path on the south. It looks like the current administration has aborted the project. Some of the money pledged has now been used for an Ot-tawa County bike path.

4 page  
Insert

# BRIAN WERSCHEM

for Township  
Their records

## Promises made by Brian during his 2008 campaign for supervisor

## What did he get done?

0

- He said he would improve our roads

- Changed no roads from gravel to asphalt

Within a month of being elected, Brian informed the residents on roads built in the late 1940s and 1950s that had never been accepted by the county that they would have to maintain their own roads. The roads were maintained during both of Ron's terms in office and also during other supervisors' terms. These citizens pay property taxes and gas taxes, but because their homes were built at a time that our government failed to take care of the details of construction and ownership, Brian decided it would be a nice way to save some money.

He may have participated with the county road commission with some chip and seal resurfacing.

0

- Improve bike lanes and bike paths

- Added no bike paths or lanes

0

- He said our core services of water need to be supported

- Added no water extension to trunk lines

### **New DPW Building**

The DPW has wanted a new building for years. It has been a little tight but they have been getting by. Brian evidently decided that it was time to build them a new building. Its a half million-dollar building - the most expensive building the township has built for itself. And where did Brian decide to build it? On ten acres of property on the corner of Brooks Road and Broadway that was supposedly bought for a location for a water tower which was in our 50-year-old water distribution design. Whether it is still relevant is open for discussion. That location is about as far from the township hall as you can get. There is no water line in either direction about 1/2 mile on Brooks and over a mile on Broadway. Both of those pipes would need to be put in before building a water tower. A well has been put in so that there is water for the building. I always thought that Fruitport Township

government worked really well with the water department and government offices together. They could help each other with phones and customer service, and it was healthy having them within sight. I expect that another person will need to be hired to accommodate the separate offices. Also, the building is about as far from our water and sewer customers as you can get which means extra driving time during the day, every day, just to get to the customers who need services, especially emergency shut-offs in case of accidents or line breakage. It seems to me that that money could have been better spent getting water lines to people who have to deal with bad water and expensive purifying systems. Since the building was built next to the old dump, they may not be able to drink water from their own well.

- Stop wasting money on frivolous lawsuits

- Started a lawsuit with Muskegon Heights over a water rate issue that clearly contradicted the water services agreement and lost.

- Agreed to a settlement of \$10,000 by the race track for not paying close to a million dollars in fees owed to the township. Brian settled it with very little knowledge of the success the township had in court. I rather doubt that he read even 1/4 of the court documents. The settlement was a huge loss to the township.

# OR RON COOPER

Supervisor  
are revealing

## What did Ron do during the previous term in office?

5

- **Converted 5 roads from gravel to asphalt**
  - Maintained the dozen or so old roads which the county wouldn't accept.

1. Harvey between Judson & Ottawa County line
2. Mt. Garfield between Kendra & Quarterline
3. Quarterline between Pontaluna & Sternberg
4. Sheridan between Mt. Garfield & Sternberg
5. 14th Street north of Vig Drive

Participated with the county road commission to do chip and seal to resurface many miles of roads.

6 & 2

- **During his two terms he established 6 Bike Paths and 2 Bike Lanes**
- He also purchased the equipment to maintain the bike paths during the winter, including the sidewalk near Beach School.

1. The bike path on two sides of the Mall frontage.
2. The bike path on Henry in front of Meijers
3. The bike path on Sheridan between Mt. Garfield & Sternberg
3. The bike path along Mt. Garfield both sides of Sheridan
4. Worked with others to establish the bike path from the Fruitport Village to the Spring Lake bike path
5. The bike lanes, both sides of Pontaluna between the middle school & Harvey
6. Bike path on Independence Drive, Harvey to Meijers

11

- **Added 11 extensions to our water trunk lines**
- Most of these extensions were important looping in the master plan that had been left unfinished for 30+ years.

1. Heights Ravenna Road east to Brooks Road
2. Brooks Road from Trail Side to Hazekamps
3. Broadway Avenue east to bike path (Muskatawa Trail)
4. Dangle Road between Airline and Sternberg
5. Sternberg Road from Dangle to Brooks Road
6. Stringer Road from Mt. Garfield to Sternberg
7. Brooks Road from Sternberg to Ellis Road
8. Ellis Road east to Brooks Road
9. Harvey Street, Wilson to Judson
10. Brooks Road – connected water mains north and south of Norris Creek
11. Wilson Road – connection line, Harvey Street to Norton Shores

- With Norton Shores negotiated through the courts an agreement to have Muskegon Heights return over \$200,000 that they had intermingled with their general fund from the water fund.

- Since the water service agreement was negotiated during Ron's first term, with his direct involvement, Fruitport and Norton Shores have had lower cost water than either Muskegon or Grand Haven customers pay.

- After a thorough examination and studying the agreement with the race track, I knew they were sending the Fruitport Township share of the betting formula away from Fruitport. They didn't expect us to know what they were doing. It was in their best interest to work behind the scenes to make sure I wasn't reelected. The new board would not familiarize themselves with the case. There was a lot at stake for track ownership. Ron initiated the suit against the race track for not paying about a million dollars in betting fees to the township using funds from the track designed for that purpose, not from the general fund. One of the track attorneys, Nelson Westin, had acknowledged that the track would probably settle for between \$700,000 and \$800,000 when they could no longer stall the case through the courts and if the township board stayed committed. The national ownership agreed in court to pay for the state ownership's obligation when

that time came. Ron agreed to be responsible for the township's attorney bill personally from that time on because he could not bear to see the township lose that much money because of petty politics by the township board, and with the understanding he would be reimbursed for his expenses when the settlement took place. He is still making monthly payments on that bill. The track owners were having difficulty stalling it any longer and were at a point where they would be getting the judge's decision if they didn't settle it. The settlement took place without Ron's knowledge and for a ridiculously small amount. Since the township settled for such a small amount, Brian recommended to just put the settlement into the general fund.



# Is this what Brian calls "Positive Leadership"?

Bending the law and even making up laws to do people in (and to show them who is boss). Following are some examples:

## Critter Café

### Airline Rd., Fruitport

Christine's Critter Café, located across the road from the fire station on Airline Road, Christine puts her heart and soul into rescuing abandoned pets and finding new homes for them. She averages about 200 per year. Hers is the only rescue in our area that takes all pets including rabbits, rats, birds, etc. Before moving into her location, she requested a letter of permission from the township which she received May of 2008. Police departments, including the Fruitport police department, 911, and other rescuers that take only dogs and cats send her abandoned pets.

After over four years operating her rescue, Brian initiated a letter sent by Michigan Township Services that told her that all her "animals must be removed from the property until all necessary approvals are given by the Planning Commission or Zoning Board of Appeals." Brian's actions could be because Christine complained to authorities that an animal the police asked her to pick up had been abused. There was a connection between Brian and the possible abuser.

After receiving the letter and emailing it to some of her fellow rescuers for their opinion on what she should do, she called Township Services and they told her she needed to go to Brian's office and talk to him, which she did.

According to Christine and others who were nearby, Brian hollered that 5,000 people had responded to him on the internet and proceeded to verbally and aggressively (in an intentionally overbearing manner) abuse her to the point where she broke down in tears, and he still continued.

On Channel 8 news he said he had no knowledge of the Critter Café existing. Brian put an ad in the December 2008 FAN. Right next to it (about 1/2"), is an article about the Critter Café Rescue with a picture of her sign, and Brian seems to be looking right at it. Usually, when someone puts an ad in the paper with their picture in it, they check it out at least once. Additionally, the fire and police department driveway faces her sign and Brian probably uses that drive about once a week.

Christine seems to be a pleasant and open person who might not be able to defend herself. Fortunately, the public came forward and offered to do what they could to help her. Christine spends her limited retirement on her rescue and has no funds left over. One person who stepped forward was an attorney, Ginny Mikita, from Rockford who started a conversation with the township attorney, and Christine has been in limbo ever since, not knowing from day to day what is going to happen to her and her rescue.

She knows that the Department of Agriculture, the DNR, Animal Control, and Pound Buddies had been contacted by the township because they had contacted her.

Recently, she was in the hospital for a few days because she was dropped on her head. Even though the rescue was a worry to her, she did not do to her rescue.

## Mark Dier

### 2636 E. P

Mark has been taking care of his property since 1940s. When his neighbors complained about his property, he was not able to do anything about it. He checked the property and came to the conclusion that

he was agriculture and pre-existed any of our zoning ordinances, and under the law he should be able to continue.

In 1995, Fred Constantini from Michigan Township Services, wrote Mark that the township has no problem with the composting behind his house and acknowledged that an unlicensed van was a farm vehicle.

One of the neighbors told me at that time to get rid of Mark. When I told him that he was within the law I was told to get rid of him anyway, because government can do it! At that point I realized that our township government should be protecting Mark, not doing him in. With that background, I'm assuming that the same neighbor told Brian the same thing because in early 2011, Fruitport Township got an order to enter Mark's home and started the process to condemn and demolish it. It's my opinion that the judge who issued the order to enter Mark's home and all other buildings on his property was not fully informed of Mark's situation. Yellow tape was put across his driveway thus putting him out of business and it has never been taken down by the township.

Brian again had to deal with angry protestors supporting Mark and gave him more time to do some of the improvements inside of his house that the township demanded of him. The township hired a building inspector from Norton Shores and called him a "Hearing Officer" to make numerous requirements to basically bring his 100-year-old house up to modern code. I believe this was an abuse of power by Brian who had to get someone from outside our township to do the dirty deed because our local inspectors fully understood and were probably not anxious to participate.

Mark is a pleasant man whom one would assume would be unable to defend himself. Thankfully, the public became involved to help him.

## Using the Assessor to Spy

I have been made aware that the township, under Brian's direction, is using the township assessor to spy on our citizens' property because the township zoning and building department can't trespass without a warrant.

On Wilson Road, the township assessor entered private property and took pictures of what was a legal operation that could not be seen from any other property and gave the pictures to township services.

At the same time, the assessor took pictures of some cars on neighboring property that no one could see except from the property she was standing on, and turned them in to township services also. I have first-hand knowledge of this. I was told by a very reliable source that the assessor also went into a fenced-in area behind a garage that had an unlicensed car that no one could see from outside the fence! The unlicensed car may have been that of a son away at college or vice. Whether or not the car was illegal is not the question. I believe it is the law to use the township assessor to spy.

## Water Agreement

I believe it's a good decision to stop water from the Muskegon Heights water and Norton Shores have paid less for water than Muskegon water plant customers for nearly all of 40 years. Muskegon water plant customers have been healthy for Muskegon water plant customers because Muskegon was limited to much more they could charge their customers for water. For Supervisor

customers over what the Heights charged.

3. With Fruitport and Norton Shores contracted to Muskegon for water, it will make it difficult for the Heights plant to survive.

4. The Heights marked up their water to Fruitport and Norton Shores by 25% and they desperately need that income.

5. It's in everyone's interest to help the Heights succeed. Their problems spill over to the neighboring communities whether it is crime, school sports, or this areas visitors' safety going through the Heights and numerous other ways.

6. It's utterly irresponsible to purposely damage the Heights like that, and the end result will be that the Muskegon plant will have a monopoly. When our contract runs out, our price will increase to the level their other customers are paying, and we will get what we deserve for failing to consider what is best for the Heights in our decision.

## Misleading Advertising

Brian states in his advertising that he "Eliminated over three million dollars in debt at no additional cost to the taxpayers." More simply, he paid the water and sewer bond payments with money that was in those funds and actually he didn't do it, but the treasurer did.

He says he eliminated "over \$500,000 in interest payments on behalf of the taxpayers." Interest costs have gone down without Brian's help and the township treasurer/board has simply taken advantage of the lower rates.

"Reduced operational costs by \$587,000 (25.1%) while improving services." At the moment I don't have the means to check his figures. Which services have improved?

*Not funding the private/public roads that have been maintained by the township for years?*

*Doing one unadvertised cleanup in the spring and eliminating the fall clean up?*

*Having such poor police investigation that people are starting to not call the police after a robbery because it isn't worth the bother?*

*"Saved the Fruitport Sewer System from bankruptcy." First I've heard of it and don't believe it.*

*"Improved the financial position of the township so we are no longer borrowing to pay bills." I would like him to show where the township borrowed to pay the bills unless it was to keep from cashing in high paying CDs for a short term need.*

## Cline Road Property Sale

The township owned 100+ acres on Cline Road. Why did we sell that property at the bottom of the market? Why did we lower our price by \$100,000 to do it? It was the largest parcel the township owned and also had some of the highest ground.

**Government's job is to protect its citizens. That includes those less able to defend themselves. If we allow our government to do them in, who is next and where does it stop? We all have a responsibility to respond and that's one of the main reasons I am running for township supervisor.**  
- Ron

This pull-out was put together just before this paper went to press without much proofing. Some of what is printed here is from memory and I believe it is accurate, but there is the possibility that I may be off a little on something. If anyone has a question regarding the accuracy, please give me a call at 865-3135 and I will do my best to respond.

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## e-Fest! 2012

(Submitted by the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce)

eFest! 2012 is a series of events specifically designed for small businesses and entrepreneurs! Produced by the e-merge Entrepreneur Network of West Michigan and its partner organizations, the eFest! schedule includes a series of eight workshops and events that will be held at various locations along the lakeshore from October 24 to November 14.

Some events focus on general business topics such as marketing or state resources for small business, while others are designed for targeted groups such as food entrepreneurs or musicians who are interested in best practices to help them start and grow their business in a specific industry. Each event is an opportunity for entrepreneurs to network, learn from experts, and interact with their peers.

**Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business** will be held October 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the MAREC Center in Muskegon. It is free.

**State Resources for Small Business** is presented on Friday, October 26 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor. Chamber members: \$16; non-members, \$26.

Saturday, October 27, is "Entrée-preneurship": A Business Workshop for Food Entrepreneurs. It will be held at the Dogwood Center in Fremont, Michigan, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person.

"Entrepreneurship": A Business Workshop for Musicians will be held Sunday, November 4 from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Seven Steps Up Event Center in Spring Lake. Cost is \$25 per person.

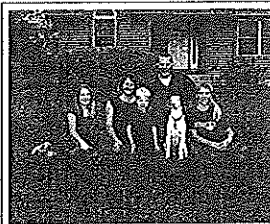
Wednesday, November 7 offers the opportunity for high school/college student participants to present their business idea. The top three finishers will win cash! The event, entitled Boost! Muskegon Elevator Pitch Competition, will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. at Muskegon Community College.

Meet the Lender gives entrepreneurs the opportunity to meet a variety of loan officers. It will be held at the MAREC Center in Muskegon from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, November 12.

Tuesday, November 13 offers a second chance for anyone to present a business idea in 2 minutes. Boost! West Shore Elevator Pitch Competition, will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. at West Shore Community College in Ludington, Michigan.

The final workshop, Fundamentals of Financial Management, will be presented at the MAREC Center in Muskegon from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14.

For more information, visit [mlcc@muskegon.org](mailto:mlcc@muskegon.org) or [e-mergewestmichigan.org](http://e-mergewestmichigan.org).



## Re-Elect Brian Werschem Supervisor

[www.winwithwerschem.com](http://www.winwithwerschem.com)

### I have Kept my Promises

Balanced the Budget  
Ended Frivolous Lawsuits

Protected Public Safety  
Improved Services

Acquired Grants to Improve Fruitport  
Cleaned Up Fruitport Township

### Endorsed by

FRUITPORT FIREFIGHTERS  
ASSOCIATION  
I.A.F.F. LOCAL #2352

FRUITPORT SERVICE  
EMPLOYEES  
S.E.I.U. LOCAL 517M

FRUITPORT POLICE  
OFFICERS LABOR COUNCIL  
P.O.L.C. LOCAL

### I Have Also:

Reduced Township Operational Costs by \$587,000 (25.7%) while improving services.

Eliminated over \$3 million dollars in debt at no additional cost to the taxpayers.

Eliminated over \$500,000 in interest payments on behalf of the taxpayers.

Acquired over \$1 million of grants to improve Fruitport Township.

Saved the Fruitport Sewer System from Bankruptcy.

Added Police Officers and Firefighters to protect our citizens with no cost or tax increase.

Improved the financial position of the Township so we are no longer borrowing to pay bills.

2011 Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce Government Award Winner

The Right Choice Then, The Right Choice Now

Continue the Success

## WIN WITH WERSCHEM

*Paid for by the Committee to Elect Brian Werschem, 3436 Whispering Woods Dr., Muskegon, MI 49444*

## Re-Elect Marvin Engle Muskegon Co

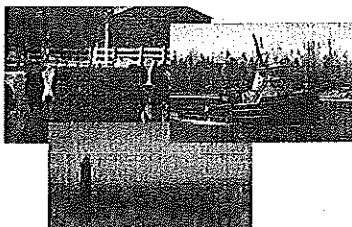
*My Advertisement* District

Our Future  
By The

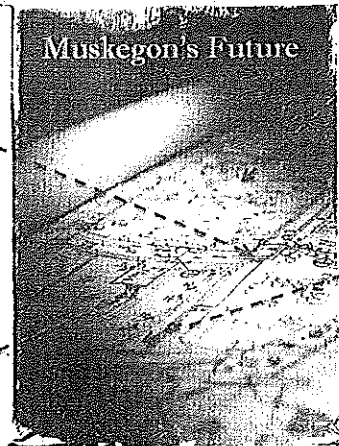
Re-elect Marvin  
Muskegon's



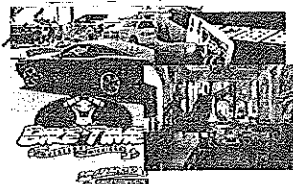
Utilities



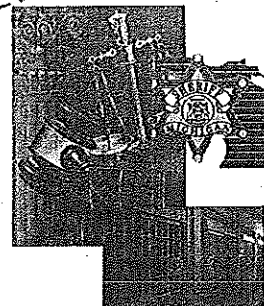
Natural Resources



Muskegon's Future



Criminal Justice





STATE OF MICHIGAN  
RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

January 22, 2013

Brian Werschem  
3436 Whispering Woods Drive  
Muskegon, MI 49444

Dear Mr. Werschem:

The Department of State received a response to the complaint you filed against Ron Cooper, which concerns an alleged violation of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA), 1976 P.A. 388, MCL 169.201 *et seq.* A copy of the response is provided as an enclosure with this letter.

If you elect to file a rebuttal statement, you are required to send it within 10 business days of the date of this letter to the Bureau of Elections, Richard H. Austin Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori A. Bourbonais".

Lori A. Bourbonais  
Bureau of Elections  
Michigan Department of State

c: Ron Cooper

BUREAU OF ELECTIONS  
MI DEPT OF STATE

2012 11 15 11:09:20

Ron Cooper  
4491 E Pontaluna Rd  
Fruitport, MI 49415  
231.865.3135  
fruitportareanews@frontier.com

Lori A. Bourbonais  
Michigan Department of State  
Bureau of Elections  
Richard H Austin Building - 1st Floor  
430 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, MI 48918

Attention Lori Bourbonais:

This is in response to a complaint dated 12/10/12 by Brian Werschem, 3436 Whispering Woods Dr., Muskegon, MI 49444, who was re-elected Fruitport Township Supervisor.

Regarding his first paragraph: I don't believe I have violated any law in the November 6th, 2012 election or in any previous elections.

Second paragraph: Enclosed is the November campaign information including a list of election expenses. I did not ask for or accept any campaign funds and that includes from Mr. Norman Gee. Brian will not be able to provide any documentation as he insinuates. I don't believe that I have ever done anything illegal in any campaign. I don't use smear tactics. Brian has not provided proof as he states, just accusations.

Document A: The County Clerk's office told me I did not need to do anything more as long as I have not spent \$1000.

Document B: I created and published the Fruitport Area News (FAN) for thirty years as a community service paper. An ad in FAN does not cost me anything, but what I have done is calculate the actual extra cost to the paper for the ads run. I have included the bills for printing and postage to show how the cost is calculated. All art and layout was provided by myself and my wife.

Document C: Close enough.

Document D: As stated above, I don't pay the same rate for advertising that other advertisers do and they don't all pay the same rate, either. In addition, the pull-out is FAN election information intended to inform the voters in this area. The fact that I was one of the candidates does not change the desire of the paper to accurately inform the voters of the character and abilities of the candidates. The center two pages compare the accomplishments of our terms in office. The last page explains the actions of Brian in office. The first page shows my resumé and some of my accomplishments. Of the 4 pages, the first would probably come closest to being an ad, which I have calculated an amount to be figured toward an election cost. The intent of FAN is to give the voters as much information as we can so they can make the best decision. The last word on the top line says it: "Compare." Look through the papers and you will find numerous attempts by FAN to give the voters information about individual candidates without charge to them. It just happened that for supervisor, both candidates had a record to compare, and the paper was able to use the records of the candidates to inform the voters. We would have done something similar if someone other than myself was one of the candidates, depending on the information available.

I have included a copy of an editorial, Document G, that ran four years ago explaining the problems with the candidate that Brian was running against. It used more than half of a page of space. Did Brian put the cost of that space in his campaign statement at that time?

Brian's accusation of misstatements and lies is typical of Brian. He does it continually. I believe that everything printed in the pull-out is true and can be verified. His way to overcome the truth is to claim it is all lies.

I could probably put "Paid for by Ron Cooper" on every page because this paper has never made a profit, has never paid me wages or other financial compensation, and has each year required funds furnished by myself to continue publishing. My address is within the text of the information and throughout the paper.

My effort to give the voters a choice by running for township supervisor was done very economically. I feel that I fulfilled my responsibility as a citizen, since others, and their wives, seemed to be afraid to run against Brian. I wonder why! The voters made the wrong choice and now they will have to live with the consequences. Meanwhile, I will be able to spend more time in the next four years with my grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and community service groups and projects that I'm involved with.

Document E: The 8-page Special Section is, for the most part, the same as the 4-page pull-out plus 3 more pages of information and a sample ballot. Here again, it's election information sent to the voters by FAN – the first page might be considered an ad which I have listed on my list of expenses.

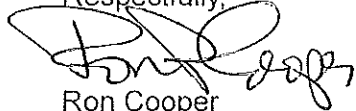
Document F: I have listed this under copies made.

Signs: All signs used were from previous campaigns. I did not have any new signs made. Brian is good at making accusations that are hard to prove wrong. How do I prove that I did not buy signs for this election?

Last paragraph: I did not spend \$1000. In fact, I spent close to nothing. I have calculated the actual cost to FAN of the printed space including postage that could be considered advertising, and it comes to less than \$1000. The list is enclosed.

Please contact me if there are any questions that you may have or if you need something more.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Cooper", written over a horizontal line.

Ron Cooper

P.S. Something to ask Brian – I have been told by reliable sources that in his 2008 election he collected money from the township SEIU Union employees but it didn't show up on his statement. In the 2012 election, funds for his campaign were collected from township union employees during their working hours and the amount didn't show up on his statement, either.

RON COOPER  
NOVEMBER 2012 ELECTION EXPENSES

		<u>FAN Cost</u>
7/14/12	"Do you want me to run" ad - 1/3 page (July 2012 issue page 29)	\$ 28.53
10/6/12	"Willing to put sign" - 8 inch ad @ .86 (November 2012 issue page 16)	6.88
10/6/12	Full page in center - Pull out (November 2012 issue page 17)	81.71
11/1/12	Full page in special section	228.89
12/8/12	"Thank You" - 6 inch ad @ .90 (December 2012 issue page 25)	5.40
	1000 miscellaneous copies at .03 each	30.00
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	\$381.41

## FHS class of 1965 to hold a 'turning 65' birthday party

The Fruitport High School class of 1965 will be celebrating at Pomona Park in Fruitport under the canopy on July 28, 2012 at noon.

Bring your own table service, beverage (no alcohol allowed in the park) and a dish to pass. Cake will be served for dessert.

This is not a class reunion; it's a fun get-together for everyone this summer.

## John Carr

(Democratic candidate for Sullivan Township Trustee)

John Carr has been a resident of Sullivan Township for over 32 years. He has been an electrician at Shape Corporation for over 19 years.

"I've enjoyed being a member of the Sullivan Township Planning Commission for over 15 years, as well as the township representative for the DNR Rail Trail committee from 1993 to 1995."

"I believe a trustee is a steward of the township's best interest financially, to preserve our rural character, and to plan for the future responsibly."

## Mary Kotecki

(Democratic candidate for Sullivan Township Trustee)

As a lifelong and second-generation resident of Sullivan Township, Mary Kotecki is seeking the office of trustee. Mary is currently a member of the township park committee. She regularly attends monthly township board meetings and is already well-informed on many of the issues the township faces. This involvement has given her a great appreciation of the responsibility of local government.

As a trustee, Mary promises to be informed, active, and fully prepared for board meetings. In this economy, it is important to be a conservative steward of the township's funds and resources. She believes that to do this a trustee must research all aspects of an issue before voting on it, while keeping in mind what is best for the community.

Sullivan Township's Master Plan (the consensus of the residents' opinions on the future of their township) is to keep Sullivan rural and residential. Living in this community her entire life has given Mary a great appreciation of a community that values its families and homes. Mary believes that all decisions made by the board must reflect that of the community's wishes and that of its master plan.

# Ron Cooper

has decided to give township voters a **CHOICE.**



Ron will run as an *independent candidate* for **FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR**

To do this, he needs over 60 petition signatures **by July 18.** The signatures need to be Fruitport Township registered voters. If you would like to put your signature on a petition so that Ron can do this, please stop by Copies & More (just north of Burger Crest in the village), Monday through Friday between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. If you would be willing to take a petition to have signed by your friends and relatives, please pick one up at Copies & More or call 865-6370 and one will be brought to you.

**Time is short.** Petitions need to be signed and received by July 18. Thanks for your interest in giving Fruitport Township residents a Choice in the November election.

*Paid for by Ron Cooper, 4491 E. Pontaluna Rd., Fruitport, MI 49415*

## Who is Michael G. Walsh and why should we elect him as Muskegon County 14th Circuit Court Judge?



Walsh Family and Family Dog, Ellie

### INDEPENDENCE

from interest groups, individuals.

### KNOWLEDGE

of and respect for people.

### COMMON SENSE

uncommon integrity



Michael G. Walsh

### FAITH and FAMILY

Mike and Pat Walsh are the parents of five and the grandparents of three. They live in Norton Shores and attend St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church.

### EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree, Quincy University.  
Master's degree, University of Oklahoma.  
Doctor of Laws, TM Cooley Law School  
Knight Fellow, University of Maryland  
Seminar, U.S. Army War College  
Adjunct professor, Grand Valley State University

### WORK HISTORY

Private practice of law, 2002—present.  
Assistant state prosecutor, Newaygo Co., 1999-2002  
Investigator, Muskegon Chronicle, 1985-2000.

### PRACTICE AREAS

Criminal prosecution, defense; civil matters; family law; juvenile law; probate litigation; trial lawyer.

### MEMBERSHIPS

Board member, Muskegon Co. Bar Association, 2008-2012.  
President, MCBO, 2011-2012.  
State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly, 2010-present.

Paid by The Committee to Elect Michael Walsh  
2940 Beach Street, Muskegon, MI 49441



[www.mikewalshforjudge.org](http://www.mikewalshforjudge.org)  
FB: Mike Walsh for 14th Circuit Court Judge

July 2012 issue #29

# Invoice

The Pioneer Group

1/1

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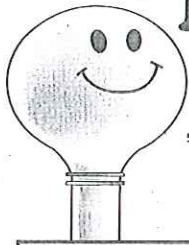
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# FRUITPORT Area News

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Fruitport and Sullivan Townships

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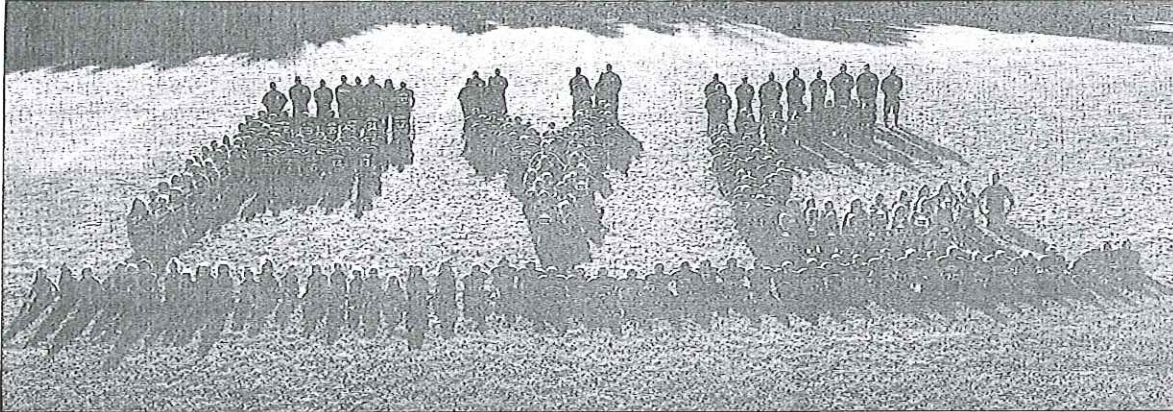


Carrier Route

The purpose of this paper is to be beneficial to the community it serves in every way possible.

October, 2012 • Volume 30 • Number 4

## The 2012 Fruitport Youth Club



The 2012 Fruitport Youth Club participants, 250 strong, gathered for a club photo to kick off the 2012 football season in August. The photo includes cheerleaders, football players and their coaches. (Photo by Lisa Woodland)



**Emily Erffmeyer**, a junior at Ravenna High School, competed in the July ATA Michigan State Shoot in Mason, Michigan where she took home the 2012 Junior Ladies' Champion award of a buckle and leather shooting bag. Emily is a member of the Muskegon County Marksmen 4-H Club. The Fruitport Conservation Club is her home club, where she also works parttime. The club is a long-time supporter of youth shooting sports, and the 4-H community is grateful for their efforts to encourage kids to get involved. She moved on to compete at the 2012 Grand American World Trapshooting competition in Sparta, Illinois, which you can learn more about in the column at the left. (Photo by Jenny Erffmeyer)

### Local marksman successful in competition

By FAN staff

Emily Erffmeyer, daughter of Mike and Jen Erffmeyer, traveled to the World Shooting & Recreation Complex in Sparta, Illinois to compete in the week-long ATA Grand American trap shooting competition against both amateurs and professionals. There were over 7,000 competitors from both the United States and Canada. Throughout the week, Emily shot over 300 rounds a day in daily competitions, including handicap events in which she is required to move back. The farther back she moves, the better her score.

Emily placed first in the Ladies' Handicap Event with a score of 97 out of 100, which qualified her for the LeeAnn Martin \$50K Challenge Shoot-Off against nine

other top women in each handicap event, most of them professional shooters. As the shoot-off progressed, Emily remained in the top three and ended the competition as the runner-up with a score of 49 out of 50, winning \$15,000. As a new member to Team USA, Emily now moves on in hopes of pursuing a spot on the 2016 summer Olympics shooting sports team.

Emily's home shooting club is Fruitport Conservation Club, and she is also an active member of the Muskegon Marksmen 4-H Shooting Sports Club and the Ravenna Livestock 4-H Club.

The shoot off event will be aired at a later date on the Outdoor Channel's Shooting USA.

### Fruitport's softball coach proud of his team for many reasons

By FAN staff

Bob Dorman is a 1981 FHS graduate who is giving back in a big way. In his fifth season as Fruitport's softball coach, he celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> win during the season, saw his team take their second district title in three years, and was selected Division 1-2 All-Area softball coach of the year. But for all those reasons to celebrate, he is most proud of his team's participation with No More Sidelines, a program for special needs children and young adults.

Bob and his wife Brenda have three adult children, and Bob is a 30-year employee of Loren Industries. Coaching allows him to develop special relationships with his players and with other coaches. He has two assistant coaches, Nick Reed, who is the hitting coach, and Fred Wilks who coaches pitchers. This trio, along with the team members have given Fruitport one more thing to be proud of.

### F.A.C.E Thanksgiving program seeking donations

By Sue Johnson

The Fruitport Lions Club and F.A.C.E. (Families and Community Engage) are gearing up for this year's Thanksgiving program for our area families in need. Collection of food items will soon be starting along with cash donations to purchase the turkeys.

If you wish to make a cash donation, checks should be made out to the Fruitport Lions Club and can be dropped off at 5/3 Bank, Pin Crest Lanes, Ye Old Tavern or Copies and More. Your support is greatly appreciated and needed to guarantee happy holidays for these families.

There will also be a 50/50 drawing at Pin Crest Lanes to benefit the F.A.C.E. Thanksgiving Program. The drawing will be held December 14, 2012.

### Tentative Newspaper Delivery Schedule

December 8, 2012

Holiday Issue

(Deadline November 26)



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 Save with FAN Money!  
 Daily Specials • Take Outs  
 For Take Out Orders Call (616) 842-0850  
 213 Savidge St. • Spring Lake  
 Mon-Sat 5:30am-2pm • Sun 7am-1pm  
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**MORROW'S RESTAURANT**  
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**Fall Festival**  
**BAKE SALE AND CRAFT SALE**  
 REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13**  
**9AM - 3PM**  
**FRUITPORT CRC**  
**3520 PONTALUNA RD.**  
 Donations for refreshments will go to Youth Mission Fund.  
 For vendor information, call Vicki at 231-670-3120, or Becky at 231-740-4199.

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## Lions all-state band seeking student performers

(Submitted by the Fruitport Lions Club)

Attention all band students! The District Lions Club needs performers for the Lions International Convention in Hamburg, Germany June 28 to July 9, 2013. Band students in grades 9 through 12 are invited to participate.

The cost of the trip is reasonable (\$2,885) and is all-inclusive. There are also many tour stops throughout Germany.

Interested students should send a media CD to Lions of Michigan All-State Band, Inc., 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911. Contacts for the band are: Executive Director Caro Short (lmasband@lionsofmi.com) or Band Director Roger Weyersberg (santa1010@mac.com).

Please note there is a \$20 non-refundable fee for the application.

## Two apocalyptic nights of fright

(Submitted by the Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts)

It will be a frightening good time with "quote-along" movies, a zombie apocalypse, and a zombie prom! The fun begins on Friday, October 26 at 9 p.m. in the Beardsley Theater with our first "quote-along" movie, "The Exorcist" (1973, rated R, no one under 17 admitted without parent or guardian). Tickets are \$4 general admission.

On Saturday, October 27, the fun continues with "quote-along" "Ghostbusters" (1984, rated PG) at noon; "Young Frankenstein" (1974, rated PG) at 2 p.m.; and "Zombieland" (2009, rated R, no one under 17 admitted without parent or guardian) at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for each movie or \$10 for all three, general admission.

What is a "quote-along" movie? Your favorite lines from the movies will be subtitled on the screen seconds before the character says the line so you can yell out, "What an excellent day for an exorcism!" or "Who you gonna call? Ghostbusters!"

At 7 p.m. Saturday night, the downtown will transform into a zombie apocalypse! Zombies and civilians meet in the Morris Street parking lot. The civilians and zombies will have four checkpoints to get to before making it to the safe zone in the alley behind the Frauenthal. Prizes will be awarded to the first 10 civilians to make it to the checkpoint without losing their "flags" (similar to flag football) and to the 10 zombies who are able to get the special colored flags from the civilians. Flags will be provided at the event. There is no cost to participate.

The two nights of fright will culminate from 8 p.m. to midnight at the zombie prom on the Frauenthal stage. Playing at the prom will be the popular Muskegon band, Yardsale Underwear. Admission is \$6.66 if purchased in advance and \$10 the day of the event. Costumes are encouraged and there will be a contest ending in the crowning of the zombie prom king and queen.

This is one Halloween event you won't want to miss! The center will be decorated for Halloween and there will be drink specials and specialty drinks. Tickets are on sale now for all events and can be purchased at the Frauenthal Box Office and at all StarTickets outlets or by calling 1-800-585-3737 and on the website, www.frauenthal.org.



## Andersons celebrate golden anniversary

Dennis and Luria (Edick) Anderson celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary earlier this year with a trip to New Zealand and Australia.

They were married September 1, 1962 at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Muskegon. They have four sons, Kevin (Jennifer), Paul (Susan), Mark, and Todd (deceased) and four grandsons.

## "Angelina Ballerina the Musical" coming to Muskegon

(Submitted by the Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts)

On Sunday, October 21, 2012, Vital Theatre Company from New York, New York takes the stage for the production of "Angelina Ballerina the Musical" at 3 p.m. Vital Theatre Company is an award-winning theatre company, a leading provider of quality children's entertainment. "Angelina Ballerina" is based on the famous dancing mouseling and her friends.

A special pre-show Angelina Ballerina Tea will be held from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Tickets for the tea are \$6.00 per person. Join the other guest ballerinas before the show for refreshments, crafts and family fun. Tickets are limited and are available only through the Frauenthal Box Office.

Angelina is a little star with big dreams of becoming a prima ballerina. This feisty little mouse works hard to reach her goals, and along the way always learns from her mistakes. When little girls share in Angelina's experiences, they're inspired to go after their big dreams, too. For more information about Angelina Ballerina, please visit [www.angelinaballerina.com](http://www.angelinaballerina.com).

Tickets for "Angelina Ballerina the Musical" are \$21.00 for adults and \$13.00 for children 12 and under. All seats reserved. Tickets are on sale now at the Frauenthal Box Office (231-727-8001) during regular business hours, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and at all StarTickets outlets, online at startickets.com or by calling 1-800-585-3737.

Chicken Bacon Ranch Buffalo Chicken BBQ Chicken Spinach Alfredo Taco Reuben Cheeseburger  
 Sun-Thurs 11am-7:30pm Fri & Sat 11am-8pm  
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 Ages 9-12  
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 Ages 4-8  
**KID'S 3 & UNDER FREE**  
 Includes Soup, Salad & Drink  
**Buffet** All Drinks are FREE Includes Soup & Salad  
 Lunch 11-2pm \$7.99 Mid-Day 2pm-6pm \$6.49  
 Dinner 5pm till close \$9.25  
**SENIORS LUNCH \$6.99**  
**BUFFET TO GO** Pizza by the Slice \$7.99 DINNER  
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## Dream big — Read! At the library

By Rachel Church and Chris McClain  
The 2012 Summer Reading Program was a great success. All of the programs held at the library were well attended. The most popular event was the visit by the Holland Outdoor Discovery Center. Personnel from the center brought along some Michigan owls and shared a lot of information about owls and their habitats.

We also got a visit from Bats Around the World by the Bat Conservation Society whose members shared the most fascinating "bat-facts" all at one glance. Visit their website at [www.yearofthebat.org](http://www.yearofthebat.org).

Other programs this summer were t-shirt painting, "A Juggler's Dream," presented by Mat Emerick; ventriloquist Vikki Gasko; and a craft time making zipper pulls. Our local teens were invited to a duct tape workshop to make cool key chains.

We had some readers who really impressed us with the amount of time they spent with library books this year, especially Paul Hedges, who was our top reader for 2012.

Prize winners in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and under category were Paul Hedges, Josiah Jackson, Mary Hedges, Mallory Pant, Molly Fuller, Robyn Hunt, Colin Pelky, Victoria Kosc, Tyrell Rule, Andrew Pothoven, Delaney Ooms, Aleia Lenz, and Allison Oppenhuizen. Most of the winners received a gift card to a local business or restaurant. One winner received a family pass to the Holland Aquatic Center.

The weekly candy count contest brought goodies and prizes to several homes. The children who received plenty of candy and prizes to share were Henry Swartz, Spencer Kosc, Colton Rogers, Nadia Fuller, Makayla Denniston, Makenzie Stone and Ethan Fisk.

Winners in the teen program also received assorted gift cards or art supplies. Winners were Jonathan Johnson, Morgan Pant, Amanda Johnson, Holly Link, Andrew Johnson, Abby Jackson and Allyson Breese. One winner, Darwin Tice, received four tickets donated by the Lumberjacks hockey team. Our novel/film contest winner was Isabella Goldberg. Teens had to read a Fruitport Library book; watch the DVD based on the book (available also through the library) and fill out a ticket to enter the contest.

Thank you to all of our sponsors/prize providers: Maranda/WOTV8, Meijer, Barnes & Noble, The Lakes Mall, Wesco, Cinema Carousel, Toys R Us, Subway, The Holland Aquatic Center, and the Muskegon Lumberjacks.

Our summer reading program is brought to you by the Muskegon area District Library and the Friends of the Fruitport Library.



Colton Rogers was the week #3 candy count winner in the summer reading program at the Fruitport Library.



Grace shows off the backpack clip she just made.

## Craft show and bake sale

By FAN staff

The Fruitport Christian Reformed Church, 3520 Pontaluna Road will be hosting a craft show and bake sale on Saturday, October 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Refreshments will be available by donation to support the Youth Mission Fund at the church.

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