

The voice of a free people

The Citizen

The Citizen serves the villages of Ortonville and Goodrich and the townships of Atlas, Brandon, Groveland and Hadley, in the great state of Michigan.

12 South Street, P.O. 595
Ortonville, MI 48462-0595
Phone 248-627-4332
FAX 248-627-4408

Editorial Email:
citnews@citnewspaper.com
Advertising Email:
citads@citnewspaper.com

Visit us on-line:
www.thecitizenonline.com

STAFF:

- Jim Sherman Publisher
- Don Rush Assistant Publisher
- Jackie Nowicki Ad. Director
- David Fleet Editor
- Karen Koviak Ad Rep.
- Allison Heffner Office Manager
- Susan Bromley Reporter
- Patrick McAbee Photographer

Deadlines

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- Letters to the editor:
Noon Wednesday
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- Classified Ads:
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All advertising in The Citizen is subject to the conditions in the applicable rate card or advertising contract, copies of which are available from the Ad Department at The Citizen. This newspaper reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our advertising representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper, and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Letters to the Editor should deal with issues affecting the community, and should not be directed at other individuals. The Citizen reserves the right to edit for accuracy, brevity, or clarity. Maximum of 250 words. Letters must include the full name of the writer, home address and daytime telephone number (which will not be published). Anonymous letters will not be published. For consideration for each Saturday's edition, the deadline is noon the previous Wednesday. Submission does not guarantee publication. No political letters will be accepted within two publication dates of election.



ViewPoints

Suspend septic ordinance

Dear Editor,

According to an article published in *The Lapeer County Press* in September, the State of Michigan is currently working on legislation to require and standardize the maintenance and inspection of septic systems. Consequently, the Village of Ortonville should suspend

working on the proposed septic certification program ordinance. The State of Michigan has the resources and expertise to regulate and standardize septic maintenance and inspection. We should just let the State of Michigan handle this issue.

Sincerely yours,
Karen Sleva
Ortonville

State cheating taxpayers

Dear Editor,

The taxpayers who are concerned about how their tax money is spent by the State of Michigan would be interested if they thought that the state may be cheating local governments out of billions every year and has been since 1994.

Taxpayers for Michigan Constitutional Government (TMCG) filed a lawsuit, Case #334663, Sept. 7, against the State of Michigan with the Michigan Court of Appeals in Detroit. TMCG is suing the state for withholding billions of dollars of constitutional payments to local units of government during the past two decades. The lawsuit is centered around the state's failure to meet the requirements of the Headlee Amendment, which stipulates that the state pay 48.97 percent of revenues to local units of government.

The shortfall in payments forces local governments to reduce essential services or raise your local taxes.

Every local unit of government should

support the effort to abide by our Constitution. Contact your local unit and ask them to get involved, they may not be aware of the lawsuit. Unfortunately for the taxpayers in Brandon Township, our elected officials have decided to do nothing.

The lawsuit is Case #334663 and can be followed online at: http://courts.mi.gov/opinions_orders/opinions_orders/pages/default.aspx

Dominick Vincentini
Oxford

Please stay connected with your school

Dear Editor,

Our community should be aware of the great strides in character development being made at Reid Elementary School in Goodrich. 'The Leader in Me' program is developing leadership in our children. It is through the staff's dedication and hard work, we as a community will benefit from the results. As a business owner, I am looking forward to employing these youths.

Please take time to stay connected with the school and nurture the leader in your child, grandchild, and neighbor. Support this program and let them know you appreciate it!

Patty Plant
Cranberries Cafe

What do you think?

Let us know. Drop us a line or give us a call.

248-627-4332

CitNews@CitNewspaper.com
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