

# CMS FORERUNNERS

## SOUTHEASTERNS CHAPTER

*"The mission of this organization is fraternal, to represent the interests of all retirees; to expand and strengthen fellowship among its members; and to provide leadership, information, programs and social activities."*



President:

Harry Redford

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Secretary/newsletter editor

Linda Homolka

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Treasurer

Tony Homolka

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The breakfast meeting was held on a cold morning on **March 4, 2019**. Members in attendance: Harry Redford, Ralph Luft, Frank Lambert, Jim Abram, Mike Costello, Myron Seger, Ed Weaver, Kevin McCormick, Jeff Zenz, David Harvey, Tony and Linda Homolka, Jim and Linda Thompson, Brian Watters, Darlene Collins, Tom Cooper and Jim and Pat Lammers.

Today the 50/50 was won by Brian Watters



The Treasure's report shows \$86.00, including today's drawing earnings.

Once again, there was some discussion on the insurance changes we are going through. Pat Lammers reports that the CMS benefits department meets every Monday to discuss the progress/problems with VIA Benefits. If you are having issues that you are not getting resolved with VIA, try contacting CMS Energy's Benefits Service Center at Fidelity, 1-800-260-4015. (the only phone number I could find ANYWHERE on the website). You may also get through to Marilyn Johns at 517-788-0827.

Tony and Linda Homolka celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in February with an open house.



Pat and Jim Lammers reported that they are partial owners of the Hollywood Casino since they seem to invest a lot there.



Jim Thompson will celebrate a birthday on March 6<sup>th</sup>!



From the family of Gilbert Amaya on Facebook:

Please join us in celebrating the life of our amazing father! We will be gathering at The Ashlar in Tecumseh, MI on April 20 beginning at 4pm.

Please feel free to share this event with anyone on or off Facebook that you believe would want to attend.

The address for the Ashlar is:  
700 Bishop Reed Dr.  
Tecumseh, MI

Please comment or message any of us if you have any questions

We are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

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**From the CMS website:**

## **CONSUMERS ENERGY ANNOUNCES PLANS TO DEVELOP SOLAR POWER PLANT IN CADILLAC**

Feb 21, 2019

New Location Would Be Third in Michigan, Powering Up to 100 Homes

CADILLAC, Mich., Feb. 21, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Consumers Energy announced today that it plans to develop its third solar power plant in Cadillac, building on its Triple Bottom Line commitment to people, the planet and Michigan's prosperity.

"Consumers Energy is taking a stand for our planet with our Clean Energy Plan that includes over 40 percent of our energy coming from renewable sources," said Brian Rich, Consumers Energy's senior vice president for customer experience. "We are excited to pursue a project that should be good for a community we serve and Michigan's clean energy future."

The Cadillac City Council this week approved an agreement to allow Consumers Energy to place solar panels on the Mitchell-Bentley property, a currently vacant site with a manufacturing history that dates to the late 1800s.

The solar power plant, which still needs regulatory approvals, would generate half a megawatt of electricity, enough to power as many as 100 homes at a time. It could be operating before the summer of 2020.

Consumers Energy currently operates two solar projects in Michigan, at Grand Valley State University and Western Michigan University. Together, those two locations generate enough power to serve over 800 homes at a time.

The Cadillac location would join the two sites in the company's Solar Gardens community solar program. Customers who enroll in Solar Gardens pay as little as \$10 a month to support solar projects and receive bill credits based on electricity that's generated. Learn more at [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/solargardens](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/solargardens).

"This is a wonderful example of a collaboration between the public and private sectors, all for the good of our community," said Marcus Peccia, Cadillac city manager. "We have an opportunity to clean up a blighted brownfield site, and residents will be able to connect to a renewable energy source right here in our backyard."

Consumers Energy last year announced its Clean Energy Plan, which focuses on developing new sources of renewable energy in Michigan. The energy provider plans to stop using coal to generate electricity and reduce its carbon emissions by 90 percent

Our next meeting will be **Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> (no foolin')** at **9:00 AM** at the **Monroe Grill**.

FORERUNNERS Member Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Retiree? \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date Retired \_\_\_\_\_

Headquarters Retired From: J.R. Whiting

Forerunners Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ South Easterners \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate address: Winter \_\_\_\_ Summer \_\_\_\_

Forerunners Dues \$10/year plus any Chapter dues: Attached Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Note: We are always searching for more efficient and timely methods of communicating with our members. Electronic communications are very helpful in this regard. Your e-mail address may be used to send information of interest to retirees by the Forerunners, for example, notification that the Retireeline has been posted on the retirees' website, important issues concerning the company, etc. Your address, of course, will NOT be shared outside of the Forerunners office.

By giving us your e-mail address, you are agreeing to receive information from us via e-mail.

Please complete and mail to:

Consumers Energy Forerunners, 1945 Parnall Road P21-504, Jackson, MI 49201. If you have any questions, please call us at 517-788-1221.

