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LIVINGSTON DAILY

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Stop, drop and roll one



QPS Michigan Holdings LLC is hoping to open an adult-use marijuana retailer at the former Putnam Township Fire Station in Pinckney as part of C3 Industries. MAKAYLA COFFEE/LIVINGSTON DAILY

Plans for pot shop at former fire station move forward

Makayla Coffee
Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

PINCKNEY — Developers are one step closer to converting the former Putnam Township Fire Station into a marijuana retail business, following a recent meeting of the Pinckney Village Council.

Councilmembers approved a special

land use request July 14, with conditions, for the former station at 1066 E. M-36. The plot was previously zoned Secondary Business District, according to meeting documents.

The request was approved by all present officials (Rob Coppersmith wasn't in attendance). There was no discussion on the decision.

QPS Michigan Holdings LLC is hoping to open an adult-use marijuana re-

tailer on the site as part of C3 Industries. The company, headquartered in Ann Arbor, operates over 30 stores across six states.

Bob Phillips with C3 Industries gave a brief presentation to councilmembers July 14. He said the Michigan-based company has been around for six years and operates 10 retail stores.

See POT SHOP, Page 5A

Board nixes Calkins program

Brighton Area Schools won't fund controversial teaching curriculum

Evan Sasiela
Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Brighton Area Schools won't spend additional money on a controversial reading curriculum associated with Columbia University professor Lucy Calkins or the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project she founded.

That's according to a 6-1 vote July 14, with Secretary Angela Krebs dissenting. The resolution says BAS won't use funding "in grades JK-6 to purchase curriculum, professional development, testing, teacher release time, or any other services or materials provided by or affiliated with" the project or Calkins.

The board also intends to extend the implementation of evidence-based reading instruction "aligned with the science of reading" through senior year, beginning in the 2026-27 school year.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed the K-12 Literacy and Dyslexia Laws in October 2024. By Jan. 1, 2026, the Michigan Department of Education will "publish a list of evidence-based tier one, classwide elementary reading curricula and materials that are aligned with the science of reading methods that research has shown to improve literacy outcomes and help pupils achieve reading proficiency," according to the state.

According to the resolution, the Brighton School Board "recognizes the critical importance of implementing

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New chicken sandwich shop preparing to open near Howell

Makayla Coffee
Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

There'll soon be a new spot to grab unique chicken sandwiches and sides in Livingston County.

Seth Conklin is behind a new fast-casual restaurant called Fowl Language, set to open in Genoa Township in the former Allen K. Ryan's Chicken and Ribs at 2584 E. Grand River Ave.

Fowl Language launched in 2022 as a food trailer, but Conklin has decided to fully dedicate his time to opening a brick-and-mortar location by Sept. 1. Interior renovations will include new paint, counters and chairs.

Conklin moved to Howell five years ago with the intention of starting a business in the area, he said. Upcoming development and community support drew him to Livingston County.

"We chose Howell because I know the community is very strong," he said.

"Livingston County seems like a county that supports each other."

Conklin believes he can offer quality, beloved chicken following the closure of Allen K. Ryan's and the nearby Mary's Fabulous Chicken and Fish.

"They were both open for so many years," he said. "I kind of just thought, if they can do it, I know I can."

Conklin said he's confident in his brand and the food he creates.

"I've built this all, with no handouts," he said. "It's just something that I truly love."

The space will feature an expanded menu, with the addition of chicken wings, macaroni and cheese, desserts, bowls and even sandwiches of the week.

The business takes pride in home-made recipes, Conklin said, hand-breading chicken and using beef tallow instead of seed oils.

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Fowl Language serves a hot honey lemon pepper chicken sandwich with fried banana peppers on the side. PROVIDED BY FOWL LANGUAGE

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