

The Clare County Cleaver



Volume 140, Issue 19

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75¢



Thursday, May 13, 2021 • (989) 539-7496

clarecountycleaver.net • Harrison, Michigan

BUCK TALES

Orange Cones All Around

Businesses are still open on First Street (Old 27/N. Clare Ave) despite the construction. They need your business! Call ahead to ask them the best way to park and patronize them.

COMING EVENTS

The Clare County Democratic Party will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 12. Attend either by video or phone. If planning to attend, email stephterpening@gmail.com. The public is welcome. For information, visit www.clare-countydemocrats.com.

Yoder's Amish Flea Market & Quilt Auction 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 14-15. For more details, including vendor applications, visit the Clare Area Chamber of Commerce website: www.claremichigan.com/amish-events/

Ole Time Country Gospel Jamboree at the First Congregational Church, Harrison will be held the fourth Saturday of each month from 6-8 p.m. May through October. Social distancing/masks may be required. For more information call 989-539-7163.

Harrison Alumni will resume their annual Memorial Day weekend gathering. The gathering will take place outside under the pavilions at Harrison City Park at 6 p.m. Saturday, May 29. Light refreshments will be provided. There is a \$5 suggested donation for entry which will go toward the Harrison Alumni Scholarship.

Harrison's Memorial Weekend Car & Bike Show from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 30 in downtown Harrison. To register a vehicle, call 989-539-6011.

Harrison Citywide Yard Sales Saturday, June 26. For more information, call the Harrison Chamber at 989-539-6011 or visit harrisonchamber.com.

Clare County Fair is scheduled for July 26-31 at the Clare County Fairgrounds, Harrison.



LIFE SAVING AWARDS PRESENTED TO DEPUTIES, DISPATCHER

On April 28 at 2:49 a.m. the Clare County Sheriff Department Central Dispatch received a call of a male on an overpass with a noose around his neck, getting ready to jump and take his life. Deputies responded to the area while the dispatcher stayed on the line talking to the male. Deputies at the scene were able to talk the male off the ledge and get him to the hospital to get some help. Sheriff John Wilson said, "No matter who it is, we are here to help you. We have seen a lot of suicide and drug overdoses this last year. If you need help, please call and let us help you." The following received Life Saving Awards from this incident: Deputy John Guthrie, Deputy Daniel Parks, Deputy Robert Huckstein, Deputy Mike Heugel and Dispatcher Melissa Schmidt. Also pictured is Sheriff Wilson. (Photo courtesy Clare County Sheriff Department)

Class Complete: Harrison Has 6 New Firefighters

'No Water Shutoff' Mandate Ends; Most Residents Pay Up

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY
Cleaver Staff Writer

HARRISON – In the absence of mayor Stacy Stocking, the May 3 meeting of the Harrison City Council was conducted by Dan Sullivan, mayor pro tem. Also in attendance were council members Joni Ashcroft, Angela Kellogg, Mick Haley, Dave Rowe and Connie Cauchi, and city manager/clerk Tracey Connelly.

Beyond adoption of Council's meeting minutes of April 19 and the city's current bills, one Old Business item was addressed. A request had been made previously to reserve space one day per week for conducting a Fitness in the Park class. Following that meeting, class facilitator Chelsi Morris had submitted a space rental proposal which Council approved: \$20 an hour for reserved tennis court time at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday, beginning when weather warms in May and running until fall weather makes classes untenable. A sign will be posted to notify residents of that



Harrison City Council takes on a varied agenda at its May 3 meeting. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)

reserved court time.

Department Head Reports began with Mike Freeman, who reported that he had been busy "dealing with quite a few things out in the streets" but nothing that he found to be excessively negative. He also informed that he had recently completed three months of classes through Michigan State University to become a Certified Zoning Administrator and Certified Citizens Planner. Freeman described the 7.5-hour certification exam as "challenging." In accordance with the city's practice of wage increases accompanying continuing education, Council moved to increase Freeman's hourly wage by 50-cents. That motion was followed by

Dave Rowe commenting, "Mike, you're doing a great job!"

Sam Russell, Department of Public Works superintendent, then began his report by saying that Kathy Maharas, recently-hired utility billing clerk/administrative assistant, was also doing a great job – particularly during the recent trying week which followed the end to the state mandate which disallowed water shutoff due to non-payment. That change resulted in mostly cooperative residents paying their bills, but also a few vociferous, disgruntled customers. Maharas said 35 orange shutoff notification cards had been hand-delivered to residents who did not respond to a city mailing informing that a payment plan could be

arranged. She said 11 water bills had not been paid, resulting in shutoff, and that four of those had been turned back on.

Russell also reported that the first portion of boat launch project was complete and that DPW work was continuing with mowing and weed whacking. He also noted the sewer ponds were up and running and irrigation was on.

In his report to Council, fire chief Chris Damvelt reported 142 runs year-to-date and 11 runs for the month, including two structure fires – then extended his thanks to city office staff, as well, noting how helpful they have been to his department. After telling Council that the Firefighter 1 and 2 class had been completed, he proudly said "Our folks all passed the written and practical, so we have six

See COUNCIL on page 2

Happy Anniversary Sharp Love Story At 70 Years!



Orley and Pauline Sharp are celebrating their 70th Wedding Anniversary this week on Wednesday, May 12. They met while Orley was in the Army and stationed in Missouri. They got married there in 1951, just before Orley went overseas to serve in the Korean War. Upon returning to the States, they spent their married life together residing in Missouri and Michigan, and have done everything from running construction businesses, to Sharp's U-Pick Strawberries, to operating Sharp's Market for 20 years.

Orley's talent in the wood shop has blessed so many homes in the form of benches, picture frames and custom cabinets. Pauline found her niche in the art studio where she first began painting on sweatshirts for selling in their store, and then branched out to beautiful canvas artwork that has hung in many of her loved one's homes.

Their proudest claim to fame if you ask them is that they have raised eight children who are proud to call them Mom and Dad. Their spoils from that are 25 grandchildren, 21.5 great-grandchildren (one is coming in October) and 4 great-great grandchildren.

In a recent visit, when asked what advice they had for younger couples who wish to make it that long they said, "Try not to fight a lot." Orley then asked Pauline how she put up with him for so long, to which she replied, "I guess I learned to ignore you!" Classic humor from this lovely couple who are a testament to making things work.



MOM 2 MOM SALE

Saturday, May 22

9 am - 2 pm

Trinity Christian Life Center

236 East Park St., Harrison

Booth Rental: \$20 for 10 x 10 spot
For information contact Christena Gotts 989-539-7479

Admission: \$2

17-3

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Mulch: Red, Brown, Black, Gold (bag or bulk) Propane: 20# \$10, 100# \$40

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COMMUNITY LIFE



• ClareCountyCleaver.net
• EMAIL: editor@clarecountycleaver.net
• 989-539-7496

Transit Celebrates, Offers Free Rides

Clare County Transit is celebrating National Transportation Week May 17-21. This is a great time to reflect on our past and envision our future. Let us take this opportunity to see our successes and evolve to provide the changing transportation needs of Clare County residents. As the transportation industry is looking toward electric buses, so are we.



The Clare County Transit came to be in Harrison in 1981. It consisted of a fleet of two buses housed in a lean-to. We were founded out of concern that the elderly, low income, and mentally/physically challenged had no economical transportation to go to doctor's appointments, pick up medical prescriptions, grocery shopping and general travel. In 1983, the Michigan Department of Transportation partnered with Clare County to support the mission of public transportation.

by providing safe and economical transportation to passengers regardless of age or physical ability.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for everyone. We have had to face changes and challenges we never thought would happen in our lifetime. Clare County Transit proved to be a reliable and essential service during these unprecedented times. We provided temporary prescription and grocery deliveries for those who

were homebound. Our service also provided transportation for those who could not stay home by taking universal precautions to ensure the safety of our passengers and our drivers.

Our fleet is equipped with lifts to assist those who are unable to climb the stairs to board the bus.

Our drivers are trained in loading and securing wheelchairs and motorized scooters. Call Clare County Transit at 989-539-1473 at least 24 hours in advance to schedule your experience. Free rides are based on availability, first come first served. Our friendly and courteous dispatchers are awaiting your call!

CCTC Offers Appreciation Freebies!

In honor of National Transportation Week and your continued support, we would like to offer FREE RIDES for all Clare County residents on Wednesday, May 19 and Friday, May 21. If you have never rode a Clare County Transit bus before, this would be a great opportunity to do so FREE! Everyday our riders will receive a gift as a token of our appreciation.

Clare County Transit's original constitution and bylaws listed our purpose, as "This Corporation shall be to provide transportation for the citizens of Clare County including elderly and disabled persons." We stand by this today

COUNCIL from page 1

new firefighters on the Harrison Fire Department."

Council then moved to approve a minimum wage pay reimbursement for the six new firefighters for the next 12 months. Council also approved the purchase of three sets of turnout gear, not to exceed \$3,000 per set. Also approved was \$4,490 for a mobile testing unit to do the OSHA-required physicals and pulmonary function testing for all firefighters who wear an air pack mask. Some tests had been done prior to COVID shutdowns, leaving 24 firefighters still to be PFT tested by the approved mobile unit.

Damvelt's final request approved by Council was for up to \$500 to purchase an additional defibrillator for the fire department. He also informed that a replacement truck for Rescue 1 was underway, that he had a lead on a used vehicle, that there are funds for the purchase in his department budget, and that he would keep Council informed of what he learns.

In her report, Tracey Connelly spoke of a walk-thru of the proposed access road to the Weldon property, and that City of Harrison flower planting would begin at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 12 at city hall.

Under New Business, Council moved to:

-Approve the Clare County contract for equalization services at of



Tracey Connelly, city manager/clerk, describes the need to hold a workshop May 17 to discuss a potential \$2 million wastewater match grant. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)

\$1.25 per parcel

-Approve the expenditure of \$1,045 to purchase a defibrillator for the city's police car

-Approve offering a \$200 quit claim deed plus fair market value for 12x33-foot parcel, and

-Adopt the resolution for the American Legion Post 404 beer tent during Street Fair 2021.

Harrison City Council meets at 6 p.m. the first and third Mondays of the month at Harrison City Hall, 2105 Sullivan Drive.

MAY IS MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

LANSING – In recognition of May as national Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson is encouraging drivers to exercise extra caution when driving as motorcyclists take to the road during warm weather months.

"As motorcycle traffic increases across the state, all drivers should take extra care to prevent crashes every time they get behind the wheel," Benson said. "The simple act of taking a second look before making a turn or double-

Motorcyclists are Hard to See. Look Twice. Save a Life.

checking your blind spots can prevent crashes and save lives."

A rider and motorcycle present a smaller profile compared to the size of most cars and trucks, meaning many drivers overlook them or do not immediately recognize them as part of traffic flow. Though it is commonly thought that motorcyclist crashes occur most often on

highways, 84% of motorcycle-vehicle crashes actually happen on city streets. Michigan motorists are urged to remain aware of motorcyclists at all times, and especially in high-risk situations, including when changing lanes or making a left turn.

The Secretary of State's "Look Twice – Save a Life" program aims to promote motorcycle awareness, safety and education for motorists. Drivers are encouraged to visit Michigan.gov/LookTwice for more information and safety tips.

New Training

Opportunities Available

Mid Michigan College has several Short-Term Training and Professional Development opportunities available. Short-Term Training provides participants with career-ready skills in the health-care and skilled trade fields. In as little as three to 12 weeks trainees are prepared for entry-level positions and state certification exams. Training costs may be significantly reduced or completely offset through MiWorks! assistance programs. Potential trainees should contact their local MiWorks! to see if they qualify.

"Many of the careers connected to Mid's Short-Term Training are ranked among the fastest growing occupations by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, including certified nurse assistants and phlebotomists," said Kristine Stevens, director of Business & Industry Training at Mid.

Upcoming local trainings and their start dates are:

CDL (commercial driver's license) Class A (\$4,300) starts June 7 in Mount Pleasant and Big

Rapids;

Certified Nurse Aide-CNA (\$1,600) starts May 10, July 12, Aug. 30 and Oct. 25 in Mount Pleasant, and July 6 and Sept. 20 in Harrison;

Dental Assistant (\$2,300) starts June 7 and Sept. 13 in Gladwin;

Direct Support Professional (\$850) starts May 24 in Mount Pleasant;

Drone Training (\$395 per session) for Commercial Use June 7, 9 and 11; and for Public Safety June 8, 9 and 11, both offered in Mount Pleasant.

Phlebotomy (\$1,450) starts May 17, Aug. 9 and Oct. 25 in Harrison; June 28 and Sept. 20 in Mount Pleasant;

Welding (\$1,600) MIG, TIG or Stick, June 28 in Mount Pleasant;

For more information about upcoming trainings or to register, visit midmich.edu/short-term-training, midmich.edu/professional-development, or contact the Technical Education Center at training@midmich.edu or 989-386-6614.

Golf Scramble To Aid Northern Michigan Alliance For Children

Join NMAC at the Redbridge Financial Golf Scramble! Are you ready to bring the clubs out for the season? This year Redbridge Financial is hosting its 5th annual charity golf scramble and the Northern Michigan Alliance for Children was one of the organizations selected to be a recipient.

This year's event will be held June 4, beginning with a 9 a.m. shotgun start, and will include 18 holes of golf with cart, a 4-person scramble, on-course contests and promotions, and a \$10,000 hole-in-one challenge! It's going to be a great event and an opportunity to support the NMAC. Cost is \$60 per golfer, and registration deadline is May 28.

Sponsorships are also available at multiple levels: Gold (\$1,000), Silver (\$750), Bronze (\$500), Cart Sponsor (\$250) and Hold Sponsor (\$150). Metal levels includes specific numbers of four-somes, banners, contest recognition, etc.

For more information on how to participate or become a sponsor, call David at 989-252-7950 or email jharris@mikids.org.

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THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO IN CLARE COUNTY!

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Outdoors With Jeff

During March and April, Mother Nature gave us a preview of the coming summer. There were days which were cold. However, there were several days that the temperatures made it up into the seventies. On those days that the temperatures, in the seventies, lured fishermen to get their tackle boxes out and get their fishing boats ready to go fishing.

Many fishermen thought that the water temperatures might have lured the males and female fish to

spawn in the shallows. Several times as I drove around Budd Lake and saw several people in their boats, casting towards the shore hoping to land a nice fish. Some of the fishermen were trolling along the drop off hoping for a strike.

Some of the people that own property could be seen on their docks, also hoping for a strike. Several days later, there was a person that came to me and asked if there was a rule or law that prohibits people fishing in a boat coming too close to the person fishing on the dock? I checked with the conservation officer and he stated that there were no rules or laws like that. I learned that no one owns the water.

For those that spent the last weekend of April to go trout fishing, trout fisherman said it wasn't the best opening day. Some areas to our north experienced some rain and some snow. As I watched these fishermen on the lake, casting from a boat to the shore, it brought back many memories, fishing with my dad. I remember going around and around the lake, casting to the shore. I remember when he opened his tackle box; I was amazed how many types of bait there were inside that tackle box. There were times when he opened that tackle box; he would just stare at them for a long time. As he stared, he would grin. That smile on his face looked the same as a person was looking at a tackle box full of diamonds. There were baits that floated over shallow water. I can't even guess how many dare devil baits there were in that box. Some had been used so many times they no longer were painted. I always wondered why he kept those things.

Today I feel the reason he never thrown them away was because all those baits represented something important. I remember, when we were fishing, he would hold it up and tell me that specific bait belonged to my grandfather or great grandfather. He had baits that floated across the surface, one of those was a replica of a mouse, and I was amazed that the bait was still productive. It reminded me of a



JEFF GOYT

real mouse that had been in a mousetrap for some time. When the pan fish started to hang out in the shallow water, we always had fun catching them on a fly rod. My dad was the only person that could get a line and a fly under a dock. Sometimes he would land that fly six to eight inches under that dock. He would also get daredevils under a dock. It reminded me of skipping a rock under the dock.

As I write this article, they are forecasting warming weather; some of the reports report that it could get into the eighties soon. The only problem others and myself have right now, that could hinder fishing for now, is that, the grass needs cutting.

Like the story that man told me that fishermen were too close to him when he was also fishing on his dock. There is no law, however fishermen need to show respect and courtesy to others. Another person contacted me with a question, and I am still trying to answer. It was back when I wrote about fly-fishing. I talked how people used to pick up dead animals and birds for tying flies. I was told to do that you need a license. I'll try to find out for the next article.

So I wish every person good luck fishing, summer will be here pretty soon.



~ CLARE COUNTY HISTORY ~



A Glimpse Into The Past

Real photo post card of a very low Budd Lake and a view of Harrison about 1920. Center is the Harrison Elevator. The Harrison Elevator Company, founded in 1912, in the former location of the Wilson's Mill fulfilled the needs of the growing agricultural efforts of the area. It was torn down in 1968. The old railroad depot sits to the right of the elevator. The Elevator is a great way to date old photos of Harrison since we know when it was built.

Clare Sentinel, 1929

UNOCCUPIED CAR ROLLS INTO BUDD LAKE AT HARRISON Driver Fails to Set, Emergency Brake—Finds Auto in Water.

An automobile belonging to J. A. Simpson of Mt. Pleasant, Isabella county drain commissioner, rolled unoccupied down an eighty foot incline into Budd Lake Sunday afternoon. Mr. Simpson and his family went to the Wilson State Park to spend the day and he parked the car near the bank but neglected to set the emergency brake. They had been at the park for about two hours and had eaten their dinner when suddenly the car started toward the brink and ran down the hill about half way when it struck a tree, then rolled over several times into the lake. The antics of the car caused considerable excitement for the large number of tourists, campers and picnickers who were in the park and when a wrecker arrived on the

scene, the mechanic had plenty of assistance at hand. A long rope was attached to the wrecked car and with about one hundred men pulling on it, the automobile was soon, brought out of the lake and up the bank. As no one was in the car at the time no 1 one was injured, but the car was badly damaged.

Clare Sentinel, 4 June 1926

Harrison City officials here have been notified that President Coolidge has signed the bill which relinquishes the right, title and interest in a small island in Budd lake owned by the United States to the city for park purposes. The Island will cost the city less than \$1.25, as it is smaller than an acre.

Clare Sentinel, 1926

PORTION OF BUDD LAKE CLOSED TO FISHING
John Baird, the director of the state Conservation department has

issued an order closing that part of Budd Lake at Harrison, which is in section 28, town 19 north. Range 4 west, Hayes township, against all fishing until June 16th, 1927. This order closes the entire south end of the lake, or about one fourth of the area, and is done to protect tile bass which were recently planted there. Ralph Hughes of Harrison, a representative of the Clare county sportsmen's club, informed the Sentinel, that they had made application for another shipment of bass, and these were expected to be delivered in the very near future.



always there to show we care
Clare County Senior Services
with open arms & friendly faces

May 17 - 21

Hot Meal Menu
Recommended Donation is \$2.25
Please Note: We are delivering Meals on Wheels Monday - Friday. Congregate Centers are NOT OPEN to the public, but all Seniors (60+), can pick up a meal to go. You must call Cheryl or Brenna in Harrison (989-539-6515) OR Deb in Lake George (989-588-9841 ext. 01) to reserve.

Monday, May 17
American Goulash,
Peas & Carrots,
Diced Peas,
Cottage Cheese.

Tuesday, May 18
Smothered Tilapia,
Red Skin Potatoes,
Winter Blend,
Frosted Jell-O,
Seven Grain Bread.

Wednesday, May 19
Swedish Meatballs,
Mac and Cheese,
Sautéed Spinach,
Orange Sections.

Thursday, May 20
Spanish Meatloaf,
Cheesy Mashed Potatoes,
Italian Green Beans,
Chunky Applesauce.

Friday, May 21
Lasagna,
Green Beans,
Tossed Salad Max,
Apple,
Optional:
Focaccia
Bread.

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Whole Boneless Pork Loins - Cut Free! ...	\$1.99 lb.
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Boneless Chicken Breast	\$2.59 lb.
Pork Steak or Pork Strips	\$1.89 lb.
Pork Shoulder Roast or Breakfast Sausage	\$1.89 lb.
2 pack Pork Shoulder Roast	\$1.79 lb.
Center Cut Pork Chops	\$1.89 lb.
Chicken Leg Quarters - 10 lb. Bag	\$7.99
Wayside Bacon - 10 lb. Box	\$24.90
Chicken Nuggets - 5 lb. Pack	\$9.99
French Fries - 5 lb. Bag	\$4.99
Pollock Fillets - 5 lb. Bag	\$12.99
Marinated Black Pepper Steak Kabobs	\$6.99 lb.
Marinated Teriyaki Chicken Breast Kabobs	\$4.99 lb.
Lambert's Own Green Pepper & Onion Brats or Fiesta Brats	\$3.69 lb.
Frozen Cod Loins	\$5.99 lb.
Zander Perch Fillets	\$9.99 lb.
Marinated New York Strip Steaks	\$6.99 lb.
Marinated Chicken Breast	\$3.49 lb.
Marinated Garlic Steak Bites	\$8.99 lb.
Tim's Own Smoked BBQ Pulled Pork	\$4.99 lb.

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Early Clare County Legal Cases

PEOPLE vs. BUELL SEPTEMBER 14, 1904 - A Really Ugly Matter

John Welling signed a Complaint before Justice of the Peace Albert E. Maynard on August 8, 1904, alleging that Charles Buell (a/s/a Buel), a City of Clare grocer, committed the offense of 'statutory rape', as to his 11 year old daughter, Anna Welling on August 1, 1903. A Criminal Warrant was issued and a preliminary examination was held on August 30th resulting in Justice Maynard binding defendant Buell over to Circuit Court with a \$500 Recognizance Bond being signed by John W. Calkins as surety.

Anna Welling, then age 11, Lucy (Louise) Kernin, then age 13, Pauline Kernin, then age 11, testified at the preliminary examination as to incidents in the tool house at the cemetery in the City of Clare with defendant Buell and defendant Buell giving them pennies. The details described by the young girls will not be related by this writer. Uriah Redner testified that the Kernin girls "reputation for truth [was] bad . . . would lie and would steal", and "Mrs. Purdy had trouble with Kernin family."

Prosecutor George J. Cummins filed an Information on September 19, 1904, charging that the crime occurred on August 1, 1902, and endorsing as witnesses Anna Welling, Louise Kernin, Pauline Kernin, and Willelma Kernin. The Record of Jurors & Witnesses, at page 369, has a jury trial begin-

ning at 9:30 AM on January 11, 1905, with the jury returning at 3:00 PM on January 12th with a verdict of guilty of attempt to commit the crime of rape. A Warrant for Removal of Prisoner to the Michigan Reformatory at Ionia signed by Judge Peter F. Dodds was filed on February 13, 1905, imposing a two year sentence. The Clare Sentinel, February 17, 1905, reported that local citizens were to present a petition to the Governor apparently seeking clemency or a pardon.

This writer has the impression that the community really did not believe the girls and/or was willing to forgive defendant Buell for his horrendous crime(s). Certainly today, in 2021, there probably would be little if any community support for any leading citizen charged with crimes against 11 year old girls. Given the general view today, this legal case seems to demonstrate an almost 180 degree turnaround in the awareness of the community as to child abuse.

By Jon H. Ringelberg
Member, Clare County
Historical Society



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Online Only - 1 Year in Advance - \$26.00
No Subscription taken for less than 6 months.

Single Copies: 75¢

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revised wk16 2021

FROM THE EDITOR



ANGELA KELLOGG

One of our biggest issues this year has been with the postal service delivering the Cleaver. Our local post office provides us excellent service as a periodical client and thankfully our local issues are minimal.

Detroit, Ann Arbor and beyond are another issue. We have almost 500 subscriptions that leave the county. When the pandemic first began, we had many issues. Mail

POSTAL PROBLEMS PLAGUE EVERYONE

must have been almost at a standstill in Detroit. So many of our subscribers were supporting us with one-, two- and three-year renewals – and then they were unable to receive their paper.

I thought the issues were mostly getting straightened out, but our readers in the Detroit area still tell me they have delivery issues. Also, imagine my surprise when we had a newspaper returned to us with no such box number all the way across the country to one of our No. 1 fans. Since I correspond with this reader regularly, I was alarmed something had happened. I even raised the alarm to a few friends to reach and make sure she was OK! It was just an odd postal mistake and, thankfully, she was just fine. Although she had only received one out of the last four weeks of newspapers.

If you do not receive your newspaper for any given week, we can email it to you. We do appreciate hearing about delivery issues and

make our best effort to make sure your newspaper with the proper address is leaving our office.

While our readers don't hold us responsible for their missing papers, they don't want to continue to pay for something that they don't receive. It's a major concern for all newspapers that use the postal service, especially as rates just went up and will see another hike in 2022 and beyond. (The Cleaver had an increase of about \$15 per week with the rate increase in March.) The postal service lost \$9.2 billion in 2020 due to pandemic-related declines in mail volume.

All our print subscribers also have access to our website eEdition. We follow many of our subscribers around the country each year as they come and go. The coming and going of our Snowbirds is how we measure the seasons! We are happy to change your address anytime and hope you receive it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Diner Owner Provides Clarity

I would like to submit a reply to the article about the diner in Dodge City. As owner of building, I was unaware of any permit expiring. Taxes will be caught up as well. Didn't realize they were behind. We will be requesting proper permits for a diner to

reopen as well.

We did what we felt was right and that was a remodel was in order with deep cleaning and new equipment installation. We have passed all pre-inspection requirements per the health department and will do what's needed to pass the final if the township wants a diner. If the township doesn't want a diner, we can keep the doors

closed as well.

We didn't expect the COVID virus to put a stop to our remodel, but we did what we felt was best based on the state of the economy. We hope to provide a great service and even better food to the residents of Dodge City in the near future.

Dustin Marshall
Harrison

BOND REVOKED FOR CHARGED LEADER OF WHITE SUPREMACIST GROUP THE BASE

LANSING – Bond has been revoked pending a bond hearing for the self-proclaimed leader of The Base – a national white supremacist group with violent inclinations – after the court agreed with the department's findings that the defendant was not adhering to bond conditions, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel announced May 6. Justen Watkins, 25, of Bad Axe, is one of two men charged last year with the following:

-gang membership, a 20-year felony;

-unlawful posting of a message, a two-year felony and/or a \$5,000 fine; and

-using computers to commit a crime, a four-year felony and/or \$5,000 fine.

A fourth charge for Watkins was added in Huron County Feb. 4 for possession of analogue drugs, specifically steroids.

One of Watkins' bond conditions is that he not have contact with other members of The Base.

Despite this, the Department learned another member of the gang paid bond for Watkins in

early February and the two allegedly committed a crime together the following week.

The Huron County Prosecutor's Office charged both men with breaking and entering related to that incident April 7.

The Department also learned Watkins has been residing with the co-defendant in that case.

On May 6, Watkins was ordered to turn himself in by Hon. Cedric Simpson of the 14A-3 District Court in Washtenaw County and a bond hearing was set for May 17 at 9 a.m.

At that time, the judge will consider witness testimony.

"Given the circumstances, the court's decision to revoke Mr. Watkins' bond was the correct course of action; we are pleased with the outcome," Nessel said.

Founded in 2018, The Base is a white supremacy organization that openly advocates for violence and criminal acts against the U.S., and purports to be training for a race war to establish white ethnonationalist rule in areas of the U.S., including Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The group also traces in

Nazi ideology and extreme anti-Semitism, at one point requiring its members to read neo-Nazi books that urge the collapse of Western civilization.

Watkins claims to be the leader of The Base, and reportedly ran a "hate camp" for members of the group, where he led tactical and firearms training for participants with the goal of being prepared for the violent overthrow of the government.

Watkins' co-defendant in this case, Alfred Gorman, is due for a probable cause conference on June 3 at 9 a.m.

Note: A criminal charge is merely an allegation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Bipartisan Bill Provides Reimbursements to Michigan National Guard Soldiers Deployed at U.S. Capitol

LANSING – On May 7, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed House Bill 4019, which provides reimbursements to Michigan National Guard soldiers who were deployed at the U.S. Capitol earlier this year. Many Michigan National Guard members purchased meals out of pocket during this deployment because of inadequate food served through a third-party vendor. In early March, Whitmer traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with servicemembers during their lunch break to thank them for their service and acknowledge their sacrifice.

"I am grateful to the brave men and women of the Michigan National Guard for their service earlier this year protecting our nation's Capitol Building," said Whitmer. "The Michigan National Guard has risen to the occasion over the past year as we responded to COVID-19, natural disasters, and civil unrest. It is

Consumer Alert Reissued as Scammers Threaten Service

LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel is reissuing a Consumer Alert as scammers impersonating Consumers Energy target Michiganders.

The Department has received several complaints of someone cold-calling customers and threatening to shut off their power if the person doesn't pay off a balance in 30 minutes, which is a utility imposter scam that attempts to take advantage of the customer's concern for maintaining electricity or another vital utility.

A similar scam targeted DTE Energy customers late last year.

"This is important enough to bear repeating: it is imperative people are aware that bad actors will stop at nothing to scam unsuspecting customers," said Nessel. "If this Consumer Alert prevents even one Michigander from turning over personal information or money, it will have served its purpose of beating scammers at their own game."

It's important to remember Consumers Energy and other utility companies will never:

-cold-call you and give an ultimatum that your service will be shut off shortly unless you act;

-visit your home to collect a bill or threaten shutoff;

-request immediate payment through a prepaid debit card, or any form of unusual payment;

-request personal or financial information such as a Social Security number; or

-claim a customer is entitled to a refund or rebate by asking for bank account or credit card information to make the alleged refund.

"Scammers are relentless," said Nessel, who earlier this week warned of scammers reaching out to loved ones of COVID-19 victims offering to register them for funeral assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). "My department is committed to protecting Michigan residents from bad actors, wherever they are."

If you suspect you have been contacted by an imposter, you may file a complaint online with the Attorney General's Consumer Protection team or call 877-765-8388.

Grammar Guy

Filling the pauses with ... um ... you know ... embolalia

A few years ago, my friend Kristen and I created a podcast called "The Exotic Fruit Review." In it, we sampled exotic fruits, discussed them and interviewed people who were leading extraordinary lives. While we enjoyed having a quirky podcast, Kristen and I had to do all the scheduling, producing and editing work ourselves.

One of the things that drove me downright batty was editing our episodes. While the content was interesting and even mildly entertaining, I hated listening to the sound of my own voice. I began to notice a verbal pattern where my voice would get ahead of my brain. While I was thinking of the right words to say, I'd fill the silent voids with a steady cadence of "uhs" and "ums." While Kristen and I loved trying exotic fruits including durian and mamey sapote, the production toll (as well as parenting our respective kids) caught up to us and we halted production indefinitely.

There's a term for filler words and sounds we utter while navigating to the right word or thought: "embolalia" (or "embololalia"). It comes from the Greek compound word "embolos," a combination of "emallo" (to throw in) and "lalia" (forming language with abnormal or disordered speech). Other terms to describe this type of speech include "hesitation forms," "automatic speech" and "formulaic language."

Before you recognize this pattern in yourself and think that you have some kind of worrisome disorder, know that nearly everyone includes some form of embolalia in their speech whether or not they're aware of it. Embolalia encompasses all filler words including "like," "kind of," "you know" and "I mean," as well as



CURTIS HONEYCUTT

non-words including "um," "uh," "er" and "em."

Formal speech courses discourage embolalia so that speakers' messages get their points across without any communication barriers. In fact, the public speaking organization Toastmasters International refers to embolalia words and sounds as "crutch words." You can even download an app called LikeSo that will tally your overused filler words and train you to drop them from your rhetoric.

Legendary Los Angeles Times columnist Jack Smith discussed embolalia back in 1991. Writing a daily column for 37 years, Smith took particular issue with the filler word "well" creeping into common parlance. He decried "the insertion of the word 'well' where it is not necessary and has no grammatical function." Well, I know what he means because I use it all the time – in newspapers, of all places! That is to say, um, we all have a couple of, you know, bad habits.

Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist and treasurer of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. He is the author of "Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life." Find more at curtishoneycutt.com.



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989-418-2766 or 231-409-7621.

18-1*

Barn yard dirt for sale, Harrison & Hamilton Township area. Call for prices 989-539-2018

16-3*

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Carpenters Wanted Must have own vehicle. Please call 539-5271 and leave a message.

19-1

AUCTIONS

Online Retirement Farm Auction Bidding Is Open & Begins Closing Tue. May 18 @ 8:00 PM.

Sale Features: Farm Machinery, 2017 Polaris Ranger 900 XP UTV, 2014 18' T.A. Trailer, Shop Tools, (8) Canoes, Antiques & Collectibles.

Located: 4372 E. Jordan Rd., Mt. Pleasant. Steve Geppard, Owner. John Peck, Auctioneers (989) 426-8061. To View A Complete Detailed Listing With Hundreds Of Photo's Visit johnpeckauctions.com

19

Short Notice "Live" Estate Auction Sat. May 22 @ 10 AM.

Sale Features: Vintage Snowmobiles, Rare 1931 Massey Harris GP Tractor, Vehicles, Boats, Primitives, Antiques, Collectibles & Tools.

Located: 3203 S. Garfield

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Chaise Lounge Sofa Navy with floral print. Perfect condition. Asking \$50. Please call 989-539-9756.

19

Aquariums For Sale 55, 75, 120, and 150 gallon. Please call 539-5271 and leave a message.

19

Range For Sale Kenmore Glass Top Electric Range. Works great, self-cleaning, black/stainless, asking \$225. Please call

19

LEGALS

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Notice under MCL 600.3278: Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under MCL 600.3201 et. seq., the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

POTENTIAL PURCHASERS AT FORECLOSURE SALE:

In the case of resolution prior to or simultaneously with the aforementioned foreclosure sale, TCF National Bank, successor by merger to Chemical Bank, may rescind this sale at any time prior to the end of the redemption period. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited to the return of your bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest.

This notice relates to a Mortgage in the amount of \$76,900.00, made by Wallace L. Bugbee and Elois Bugbee, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS) as nominee for Chemical Bank, recorded September 25, 2006, in Liber 1018 on Page(s) 41, et seq., in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Clare in the State of Michigan, which Mortgage has been last assigned to TCF National Bank, by Assignment from MERS, recorded in Liber 1478 on Page(s) 449, et. seq., on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due as of the date of this Notice the sum of \$65,550.65, together with interest at 6.625 percent per annum.

NOW THEREFORE, Notice is hereby given that the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative and that pursuant to that power of sale and MCL 600.3201 et. seq., on **June 9, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**, at the County Courthouse in Harrison, Michigan, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court and/or for conducting such foreclosure sales for the County of Clare, there will be offered at public sale, the premises, or some

part thereof, described in said Mortgage as follows, to-wit:

Land, situated in the Township of Summerfield, County of Clare, State of Michigan, described as: Parcel H: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of Section 36, Township 20 North, Range 5 West; Summerfield Township, Clare County Michigan; thence South 00 degrees 55'34" West, along the West line of said Section 36, 978.20 feet; thence North 89 degrees 35'58" East, parallel with the South 1/8th line of said section, 431.55 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing North 89 degrees 35'58" East, parallel with the South 1/8th line of said section, 388.02 feet; thence South 00 degrees 55'34" West parallel with the West line of said section, 346.59 feet to the South 1/8th line; thence South 89 degrees 35'58" West, along said South 1/8th line, 388.02 feet; thence North 00 degrees 55'34" East parallel with the West line of said Section 36, 346.59 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Together with and Subject to a 30 foot wide easement for public and private ingress and egress and the installation and maintenance of public and private utilities, lying 15 feet either side of and adjacent to the centerline described as follows: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of Section 36, Township 20 North, Range 5 West; Summerfield Township, Clare County Michigan; thence South 00 degrees 55'34" West, along the West line of said section, 963.20 feet to the Point of Beginning of the centerline of said 30 foot wide easement; thence North 89 degrees 35'58" East, parallel with the South 1/8th line of said section, along said centerline, 819.57 feet; thence North 00 degrees 55'34" East, continuing along said centerline parallel with the West line of said section, 756.91 feet to the Point of Ending. Which also includes any interest TCF National Bank, successor by merger to Chemical Bank, may have in the 2003 Redman Mobile Home, Serial No. 11265666 and the 1997 Redman Mobile Home, Serial No. 11255363.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months

unless the property is established to be abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of sale or fifteen (15) days from the date the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(b) was posted and mailed, or unless under MCL 600.3240(16), prior to the foreclosure sale the borrower follows the procedure set forth in that section to establish the presumption that the property is used for Agricultural purposes, in which case the redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of the sale.

Dated: April 26, 2021
By: NICOLE R. GRAF (P55474)
ALWARD FISHER RICE ROWE & GRAF, PLC Attorneys for TCF 202 E. State Street, Suite 100 Traverse City, Michigan 49684 (231) 346-5400 File No.: 18443.0007 (TCF / Bugbee) 18-3

STATE OF MICHIGAN 55TH CIRCUIT COURT CLARE COUNTY File Number: 18-900224-PP Honorable Judge Thomas R. Evans

RANA LYNN GRAF, Petitioner, V. TIMMY DOUGLAS SILLMAN, Respondent. Rana Lynn Graf Petitioner in Pro Per 2557 East Monroe Road Harrison, MI. 48625 D. Todd Diederich P57429

655 North First Street P.O. Box 727 Harrison, MI. 48625 989-630-0408

ORDER At a session of court held at the Courthouse in the City of Harrison, County of Clare on Thursday, April 8th, 2020.

Present: Honorable Thomas R. Evans, Circuit Court Judge

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED the respondent's Motion for Alternate Service is hereby granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the respondent shall serve the Motion to Terminate the Personal Protection Order and Notice of Hearing upon petitioner via First-Class Mail at the address petitioner listed on her Petition for Personal Protection Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the respondent shall publish the Notice of Hearing for three consecutive weeks in the Clare County Cleaver and provide proof of such to the court.

Dated: April 21, 2021
Thomas R. Evans
Circuit Court Judge 18-2

STATE OF MICHIGAN 55TH JUDICIAL COURT CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF FRIEND OF THE COURT ANNUAL STATUTORY REVIEW PUBLIC NOTICE ANNUAL REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE RECORD OF

THE FRIEND OF THE COURT

Pursuant to Michigan law, the chief circuit judge annually reviews the performance record of the friend of the court. The review will be conducted on or about July 1, 2021. This review is limited by law to the following criteria; whether the friend of the court is guilty of misconduct, neglect of statutory duty, or failure to carry out the written orders of the court relative to a statutory duty; whether the purposes of the Friend of the Court Act are being met; and whether the duties of the friend of the court are being carried out in a manner that reflects the needs of the community. Members of the public may submit written comments to the chief judge relating to these criteria. **Send your written comments, with your name and address, to Hon. ROY G. MIENK, P.O. BOX 988, HARRISON, MI. 48625.**

LEGALS

(Continued on Page 6)

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143 OAK GROVE. 4 Bdrm. 2 bath, utility, nat. gas, cent. air, shed,

24x24 pole barn, & on a nice lot with access to a shared waterfront lot on Budd Lk. \$93,500. **MLS 41104118**

2077 WCLARENCE. Is For Sale.com 1 Bdrm. In the country, cable avail. Alum siding, shed, wood stove, 1.5 car garage, near Lily Lk. & Leota area. \$69,900. **TEXT P82569 to 54561**

6670 EBERHART. Custom built log sided 4 bdrm. 2 bath home with large family room, garage, on 10 wooded acres near lakes, state land & trails. \$349,900. **MLS 41027537**

(Due To Many Recent Sales, Listings Are Greatly Needed & Appreciated!)

LEGALS

(Continued from page 5)

STATE OF MICHIGAN 56TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION EATON COUNTY PUBLICATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TERMINATION HEARING CASE NO. 19-20260-NA PETITION NO. 2020-02 TO: Devin McCain (12/19/1977) IN THE MATTER OF: Kaiden McCain (07/28/2020)

A hearing regarding termination of parental rights will be conducted by the court on Friday, June 18, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in Eaton County Probate Court, 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI. 48813 before Hon. Thomas K. Byerley. This hearing may result in the termination of your parental rights. You have the right to an attorney. There is

no right to a jury at this hearing. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Devin McCain personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above.

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. 21-18252-NC Court Address: 225 West Main Street Harrison, MI. 48625 Court Telephone No.: 98-539-7109 In the matter of Robert Paul William Sturdavant. TO ALL PERSONS, including: David Montano, whose address is unknown and whose interest in the

matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE:

A hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at 225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI. 48625 / Contact Court for Zoom instructions for appearance via video before judge Marcy A. Klaus to change the name of: Robert Paul William Sturdavant to Robert Paul William Eichhorn.

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. 21-18251-NC Court Address: 225 West Main Street Harrison, MI. 48625 Court Telephone No.: 98-539-7109 In the matter of Rebecca Jean Sturdavant. TO ALL PERSONS, including: David Montano, whose address is unknown and whose interest in the

matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE:

A hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at 225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI. 48625 / Contact Court for Zoom instructions for appearance via video before judge Marcy A. Klaus to change the name of: Rebecca Jean Sturdavant to Rebecca Zina Jean Eichhorn.

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. 21-18238-NC Court Address: 225 West Main Street Harrison, MI. 48625 Court Telephone No.: 98-539-7109 In the matter of Kay Lynn Sturdavant. TO ALL PERSONS, including: David Montano, whose address is unknown and whose interest in the

matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE:

A hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at 225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI. 48625 / Contact Court for Zoom instructions for appearance via video before judge Marcy A. Klaus to change the name of: Kay Lynn Sturdavant to Kay Lynn Eichhorn.

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. 21-18237-NC Court Address: 225 West Main Street Harrison, MI. 48625 Court Telephone No.: 98-539-7109 In the matter of Larry Lee Sturdavant Jr. TO ALL PERSONS, including: David Montano, whose address is unknown and whose interest in the

matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at 225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI. 48625 / Contact Court for Zoom instructions for appearance via video before judge Marcy A. Klaus to change the name of: Larry Lee Sturdavant Jr. to Larry Lee Eichhorn.

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. 21-18253-NC Court Address: 225 West Main Street Harrison, MI. 48625 Court Telephone No.: 98-539-7109 In the matter of Donald Frederick Sturdavant. TO ALL PERSONS, including: David Montano, whose address is unknown and whose interest in the

matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE:

A hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at 225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI. 48625 / Contact Court for Zoom instructions for appearance via video before judge Marcy A. Klaus to change the name of: Donald Frederick Sturdavant to Donald Frederick Eichhorn.

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION CLARE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE NO. 21-18254-NC Court Address: 225 West Main Street Harrison, MI. 48625 Court Telephone No.: 98-539-7109 In the matter of Charlotte Marie Sturdavant. TO ALL PERSONS, including: David Montano, whose address is unknown and whose interest in the

matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE:

A hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at 225 West Main Street, Harrison, MI. 48625 / Contact Court for Zoom instructions for appearance via video before judge Marcy A. Klaus to change the name of: Charlotte Marie Sturdavant to Charlotte Marie Eichhorn.

TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU SAW THEIR AD IN THE CLEAVER! CLARE COUNTY CLEAVER EST. 1881

VFW 1075 HARRISON BECOME A MEMBER You can join the VFW if you: Are a US citizen or US national Have served honorably or are currently serving in the US Armed Forces Received a campaign or service medal for overseas service Served at least 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days in Korea anytime since 1949 Received Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger Pay Visit vfw.org/Join for a complete list of eligibility. Contact 989-539-6172 if you have any questions or would like to enroll!

MICHIGAN WORKS! REGION 7B Michigan Works! Region 7B is seeking Attorney Services for the Clean Slate Initiative covering the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Iosco, Ogemaw and Roscommon. Request for Proposals (RFPs) is available at www.michworks4u.org or by calling Robert Caillier or Barb Hawkins at 989-539-2173. Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 19, 2021. Michigan Works- an American Job Center, is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Michigan Relay Center: #711 Voice and TDD. Funding provided by the State of Michigan.

CROSSWORD LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS B R A V E S T A E T N A R E S I D U E B O D E S A L L I T E R A T I O N M I V I E M I A O S M E N O N E I R O N K I S I S E P A R A T E S S I R E N S A L E S M O R O S E I S M S C A R S A N O D E S N O T E C P E D E S S U P E R H E A T O B I S M E R L S B W T U N O M A S A T A E H L C O E L E N T E R A T E E A R T H A E R A T E D M E A N S R A G G E D Y

Harrison City Council April 19, 2021 The regular scheduled meeting of the Harrison City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. MEMBERS PRESENT Members Present: Ashcroft, Cauchi, Kellogg, Haley, Rowe, Sullivan, and Mayor Stocking. A motion was offered and supported to adopt the minutes of the April 1, 2021 meeting. A motion was offered and supported to approve the bills as presented. A motion was offered and supported to approve the hiring of Mike Saupé for the baseball season. A motion was offered and supported to approve the Resolution repair of the boat launch. A motion was offered and supported to approve the parking lot paving. A motion was offered and supported to approve the CIP Plan. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m. by Mayor Stocking. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. ATTESTED: Tracy Connelly City Manager and Clerk

CITY OF HARRISON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPATION WATER RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE (MEDC-WRI) FUNDING FOR THE 2022 SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT City of Harrison will conduct a public hearing on May 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm at 2105 Sullivan Dr., Harrison, MI for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to examine and submit comments on the proposed application for a CDBG grant. City of Harrison purposes to request \$2,000,000 in MEDC-WRI funds to do the 2022 Sewer Project. The City of Harrison will commit \$220,000 from the sewer funds. Zero persons will be displaced as a result of the proposed activities. Further information, including a copy of the City of Harrison's Community Development Plan and the MEDC - WRI narrative is available for review. To inspect the documents, please contact Tracey Connelly, City Manager and Clerk or review at 2105 Sullivan Dr., Harrison, MI. Comments may be submitted in writing through May 16, 2021 at 4:00 pm or made in person at the public meeting. Citizens' views and comments on the proposed application are welcome. City of Harrison Tracey Connelly City Manager & Clerk 989-539-7145

CROSSWORD CLUES ACROSS 1. "Sleepless In Seattle" actress Ryan 4. One of Santa's reindeer 10. Before the present 11. Type of butter 12. Location of White House 14. Motion 15. Tree part 16. Regions around the North Pole 18. Fits on a boat's gunwale 22. Discuss after it's happened 23. Milk substitute for coffee 24. Describes one who believes in supreme being 26. Equally 27. Famed director Forman 28. Popular apartment style 30. British School 31. Advanced degree 34. Order of architecture 36. Investment account (abbr.) 37. Snakelike fishes 39. Children's tale bear 40. Norse personification of old age 41. Atomic #58 42. Moving your head 48. 1878 Kentucky Derby winner 50. Frankfurter 51. Small, seedless raisin 52. Device in papermaking machine 53. Go 54. Open payment initiative (abbr.) 55. "Westworld" actor Harris 56. Saturated with salt 58. Marry 59. Report on 60. Midway between north and northeast CLUES DOWN 1. Rays 2. Self-centered person 3. One you look after 4. Prosecutor 5. Portion 6. Speaks ill of 7. Formal system for computer programs 8. To make angry 9. Rural delivery 12. Group of languages 13. Large First Nations group 17. Circulating life force in Chinese philosophy 19. Excludes 20. Body cavity of a metazoan 21. Swedish monetary unit 25. Works with 29. Partner to "to" 31. Rewards (archaic) 32. One of Caroline Islands 33. Type of alcohol 35. Eat a lot 38. Nuns 41. Dog 43. Become more serious 44. Choose 45. Newspapers use it 46. World's longest river 47. Commanded to go faster 49. Cabs 56. Mr. T's "A-Team" character 57. Document signed (abbr.) Watch For Answers In Next Week's Issue... Crossword printed from www.metrocreativeconnection.com - 2020

COVID-19 VACCINE IS HERE! SCHEDULE TODAY! There are three ways to schedule your first appointment: Call 2-1-1 Visit www.cmdhd.org Scan QR code below with phone's camera. Vaccines will be provided by the Central Michigan District Health Department, which covers Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon counties.

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LOCAL EVENTS & NEWS

THE AMISH COOK - *By Gloria Yoder*

Mashed Potato Casserole a Hit at the Yoder's

Wednesday was one of those days. It was after supper, the children had gone outside to play, and Joshua was extra fussy. This handsome little boy with bright blue eyes, a pet by all, was having a rough day with teething. Warily I glanced across the messy house, wondering just how much management I had left.

Stepping in the living room with Joshua in my arms, I glanced at the western sky and noticed a beautiful sunset. A fleeting thought crossed my mind, "What if God had sent that sunset for me?" Allowing it to drift to the back of my mind, I headed for the kitchen and met Daniel, who came in with our mail, much later in the day than we usually fetch it. Leafing through it, I pulled out two envelopes, one from a reader and the other from a dear friend, Hannah, and her family. They have personally experienced the joy of adoption, as well as a highly traumatic foster situation. Sitting in the hammock, hanging from the kitchen ceiling, gently rocking Joshua, I tore open the envelope, "Perhaps I can glean a tidbit of encouragement through this," I told myself. I glanced over the gorgeous card, then looking up, my eyes caught sight of the sunset, which was now lined up



from my perch on the hammock.

Surely it couldn't be true! No, how could it? The sunset which had caught my attention a few minutes earlier was almost identical to the one on the card I held in my hands! In my skepticism I noticed a small pink spot right above the sun on the card, looking a bit different from the actual sunset. Then the words, "Do you want me to make that part like the card, as well?" came to my mind. "Yes Lord!" came my quick response.

"Daniel, Daniel! Come quick! You need to see this if you have a minute- that is." Getting up from his desk in the office, he joined me. Now it was his turn to take a

look, then another one. He agreed. There was no mistaking it; it looked as if a painter had simply painted tonight's hues of blue and pink, and bright sun rays right on the card.

After a few minutes, I felt drawn to go back to the living room and take a closer look. My eyes bulged, "Daniel, come look at this- you won't believe it- beyond the pink and blue sunset, the clouds on the card have the exact same pattern as the actual clouds!" Several minutes later a rich pink spot could be seen above the sun- just like the card. We marveled together, savoring the moment and the awesome handiwork of God. It was too rich to tell.

When the children came in from their play, I told them about it. In awe, they listened, knowing how much Mom enjoys sunsets. Sometimes they summon me to the living room as the sun sets to show me the pretty colors.

Hannah, who had sent the sunset card, used to live in our community some years ago. We enjoyed having them as neighbors and friends. She would make this amazing mashed potato casserole. The meatloaf layer was always perfectly moist and absolutely delicious. On several occasions, she served it when they hosted church services. Hannah would often bake the meatloaf the day before then cool it, and the following day, add mushroom soup and mashed potatoes.

DELICIOUS MASHED POTATO CASSEROLE

Meat mixture:
1 1/2 pound ground beef
3/4 cup quick oats
2 eggs, beaten
1/4 cup chopped onion
2 teaspoons salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
1 1/2 cup tomato juice

Sauce:
1/2 cup catsup
1 tablespoon mustard,
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 (10 oz.) can Cream of mushroom

3 quarts mashed potatoes
1/2 pound melting cheese

Combine meat mixture ingredients and pack into 9 by 9" pan. Whisk together catsup, mustard, and brown sugar. Next spread over meat. Bake at 350 for 1 hour. Spread mushroom soup over baked meat, layer mashed potatoes on top, next place slices of cheese over mashed potatoes and return to oven until heated through.

Outside Looking In *Back at Wilson*

By Charlie Ziesemer



What a difference a year makes. Last week, the Ziesemer siblings kicked off the 2021 camping season at our favorite campground: Wilson State Park. It was the annual "take the campers out of storage" and camp for the weekend. Tom and I have stored our campers at the Clare County Fairgrounds for many years. Usually, we have to have them out by May 1, which is also the date that Wilson first opens for the season. So, it made sense for us to just schedule the first weekend in May as a camping weekend. It was a great excuse to camp and spend some time together.

Last year was the first time we didn't do it due to COVID. We were especially looking forward to this year because the new restrooms would be open and ready for use. It was equally exciting since brother Rick and sister Carol decided to join us. It was the first time I can ever remember when just us siblings would be together camping at Wilson.

Tom and I used our campers and Rick and Carol stayed in the mini-cabin. It definitely was a cold weekend, and the portable heaters came in handy in both the campers and the mini-cabin. We burned a

lot of firewood as we sat around the campfire and talked about our family and growing up.

It's also appropriate to be in Harrison since our great-grandparents once owned a log cabin along M-61 between Harrison and Gladwin. That was the main reason our family camped at Wilson. This area was home to our grandpa Em who would also come up and camp with us along with my uncle Howard's family. It was a yearly occurrence, usually during the Clare County Fair, for our families to come together and camp.

Wilson State Park and the town of Harrison has been a part of our lives for almost 70 years. It made sense to us that our first road trip of the weekend would be a visit to the gravesite of our great-grandfather Gustav Yek and our great-

grandmother Wilhelmina Yek who, after the death of Gustav married Ferdinand Drachenberg and lived on his farm adjacent to St. John's Lutheran Church.

We were very pleased to see the changes at Wilson. The new restrooms are great and were much needed. Although Rick thought it just wasn't the same to not have the old restrooms there. I suppose I felt the same way at first, but I learned to like and appreciate the new ones. I also loved the look from the lakeside campsites. John and staff worked all year to clear out the scrub on the hill between the lake and the campsites. What a difference; you can actually see the lake from the campsite.

Overall, the campground is looking fantastic. John and staff have done a great job continuing to make Wilson a great park, and from the looks of the upcoming reservations, it seems that many campers are coming back to camp again. But then we always knew that. We've been coming back for almost 70 years. We know a good thing when we experience it. To us it's about family and the happy times that go with it. Looking forward to future years and especially coming up for the Clare County Fair.

Do you have any stories to tell? Send them to me at cziesemer49@gmail.com or in care of the Cleaver.

Sustainability Conference To Foster Community Collaboration

Registration open for virtual event set for June 2-4

LANSING – The Michigan Sustainability Conference (MISCON), a one-of-a-kind event for transforming social and environmental sustainability, is planned June 2-4.

The virtual conference, hosted by EGLE (the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy), in partnership with Michigan Green Communities and Michigan Health and Hospital Association, will allow attendees to network with hundreds of business and community leaders to learn from, collaborate with, and together drive meaningful change.

This year's three-day program offers a multitude of sessions focusing on successful business case studies, community sustainability efforts, the linkage to public health, and funding opportunities.

Attendees will gain the tools they need to move from traditional procedures to best practices using science, technology, storytelling, and partnerships to meet the underlying demand for social and environmental sustainability. Session topics include carbon reduction, transportation, recycling

electronic waste, landfill avoidance, and sustainable economic growth.

Those interested in attending MISCON as a participant or exhibitor are encouraged to view event information and register online. Continuing education and professional development hours are available.

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 Clare County Murders 1871-2020 by Jon H. Ringelberg	 Gangsters Up North by Robert Knapp	 Small-Town Citizen Minion of the Mob by Robert Knapp	 Clare County Michigan Plat Book 2020 Sold for the Boy Scouts

Obituaries

TERI LEIGH DARLING

APRIL 17, 1960 - APRIL 25, 2021

Teri Leigh Darling, 61 of Bell, Florida passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Haven-Tri-Counties Hospice Care Center, Chiefland, Florida. Teri was born April 17, 1960 in Lansing, Michigan the daughter of Lee C. Darling and Jo Ann (Dalrymple) Darling. Teri graduated from Harrison High School, Harrison, Michigan in 1978. Teri served in the Army National Guard, then enlisted into active duty and honorably served in the United States Army during Operation Desert Shield as well as Operation Desert Storm.



stresses of everyday life.

Teri had resided in Bell, Florida for several years, moving from Harrison. Teri was beyond passionate about her animals, acting as a foster mom for many homeless or rescued souls, always anxious to receive any whom were not able to be fostered or cared for at local animal shelters. For several years, Teri volunteered at Operation Cat Nip of Gainesville, Florida, an organization that spays, neuters and vaccinates free-roaming cats. Teri enjoyed driving her Kubota RTV, as it gave her freedom and an escape from the

Surviving Teri are the many animals that loved her, as well as the love she held for them, two sisters: Toni Darling of Bell, Florida and Tracy Gillie and husband Roger of Harrison, one brother, Scott Darling of Harrison, two nieces, three nephews, three great-nieces and four great-nephews, plus many extended family members, friends and acquaintances. Teri was preceded in death by her parents.

To share an online memory or condolence with Teri's family, please visit: www.stockingfuneralhome.com.

RONALD "RON" LEE BARTLETT

SEPTEMBER 21, 1952 - OCTOBER 8, 2020

Ronald "Ron" Lee Bartlett, 68 of Florida, passed away October 8, 2020 in Fernandina Beach, Florida after a long and courageous battle with his illness. Ronald was born September 21, 1952 in Owosso, Michigan the son of Robert and Marge Bartlett. Mr. Bartlett was united in marriage to Ms. Sherry McKee on September 27, 1993 in Flint, Michigan.



Ron retired from General Motors Corporation-Buick Division after thirty-four years of dedicated service. He then moved to Harrison in 2008, coming from Davison, Michigan. Ron and Sherry fulfilled a dream and moved to Florida full-time in 2018. He loved restoring automobiles, traveling with his wife Sherry throughout the United States, watching sun rises and sun sets in Florida beside his beloved Sherry, as well as dining together in Florida at their favorite restaurant, "Down Under".

Surviving Ronald is his loving wife, Sherry Bartlett of Harrison, one daughter, Jennie Garber and husband Randy of Traverse City, Michigan, four sons; Erich Pyles and wife Heather of West Virginia, Chris Pyles and wife Andrea of Tennessee, Randy Bartlett of Owosso, Michigan and Ryan Bartlett of Langston, one grandson, Austin Pyles and

his fiancé Olivia, two brothers; Bobby Bartlett and wife Debbie of Perry, Michigan and Steven Bartlett and wife Michelle of Owosso, many loving nieces and nephews. Mr. Bartlett was preceded in death by his parents.

Celebration of Life services honoring Mr. Bartlett will be held Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. from Stocking Funeral Home, Harrison with Mr. Joel Johnson officiating. Family will receive guest and visitors on Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. until time of services. To share an online memory or condolence with Ron's family, please visit: www.stockingfuneralhome.com. Arrangements for Mr. Bartlett are entrusted with Stocking Funeral Home, Harrison (989) 539-7810.

RICHARD ALLEN SCHMIDTFRANZ

JULY 12, 1952 - MAY 9, 2021

Richard Allen Schmidtfranz 68 of Harrison passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 9, 2021. Richard was born July 12, 1952 in Owosso, Michigan the son of Leonard Wesley Schmidtfranz and Virginia (Chunko) Schmidtfranz. Mr. Schmidtfranz had resided in Harrison since the early 1980's, moving from Owosso.



Richard worked several years as a Licensed Plumber with Ackerman Plumbing and Heating of Clare, Michigan. Richard enjoyed spending his time away from work, hunting, fishing, training dogs, mushroom picking, collecting coins, watching old black and white movies and watching the televised episodes of The Great Outdoors and the History Channel. He also enjoyed dirt bike racing, listening to country music, cooking and grilling.

Surviving Mr. Schmidtfranz are his four daughters: Kristina Bridges of Midland, Traci Toner and husband David of Saginaw, Michigan, Erica Sczepanski and husband Shane of Midland, Michigan and Amanda Bird and husband Jason of Harrison, three grandchildren: Austin Sczepanski, Gavin Vaughn and Rosemary Bird, his mother, Virginia Schmidtfranz of Owosso, two sisters: Connie Luckhurst and husband Dan of Owosso and Cynthia Brewbaker and husband Rick also of Owosso, three brothers: Randy Schmidtfranz and

wife Laurie of Owosso, Roger Schmidtfranz of Owosso and Gary Schmidtfranz and wife Cathy also of Owosso, plus many nieces, nephews, extended family members and his beloved fur baby, Fancy. Mr. Schmidtfranz was preceded in death by his father and one brother, Timothy Schmidtfranz. Graveside services honoring Richard will be held Friday, May 14, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. from Pleasant Plains Cemetery, Harrison with Pastor Gary Biggs officiating. Memorial gifts in memory of Mr. Schmidtfranz may be considered to the Schmidtfranz family, in care of: Amanda Bird. To share an online memory or condolence with Richard's family, please visit: www.stockingfuneralhome.com. Arrangements and care of Mr. Schmidtfranz are entrusted with Stocking Funeral Home, Harrison (989)539-7810.



Harrison High School Class of 1971

Due to the uncertainty of COVID restrictions they have decided to have a reunion picnic. The class and friends will meet at Noon at the Harrison City Park on July 17. Help is needed to locate classmates. Please spread the word!

Please RSVP to Bill Simpson by June 1 so a count can be taken. Call Bill at 989-339-8925 with attendance information.

Michigan Consumers Reminded That Mental Health Care Is Covered By Most Health Insurance Plans

LANSING – May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) is reminding Michiganders that many health plans cover mental health services, including telemedicine, which can help people get the support and services they need.

"The last 14 months have been challenging for all Michiganders. Many people could use some help or someone to talk to as they cope with the health and financial worries caused by the pandemic," said DIFS Director Anita Fox. "It is important that Michiganders know that mental health services are considered an essential health benefit under Marketplace health insurance plans, and that many other types of plans also provide coverage. This can include things like office or virtual visits with a licensed mental health professional, substance abuse disorder treatment, or medications."

Consumers should know that most health plans cover mental health and substance use disorder benefits and that out-of-pocket costs and coverage for those services are required to be similar to the out-of-pocket costs and coverage for other types of medical care. Consumers are encouraged to check with their health insurer to confirm coverage for mental health services and to make sure they understand their out-of-pocket expenses. If consumers have concerns about mental health-related insurance claims that cannot be resolved directly with the insurer, contact DIFS Monday through Friday 8

a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling 877-999-6442 or filing a complaint at Michigan.gov/DIFScomplaints.

"Mental health is as important as physical health and should not be neglected, especially when insurance coverage is available," said Fox. "If you are currently uninsured or if you want to change to a plan that offers mental health coverage, there is a special enrollment period that is open until Aug. 15 and new, expanded subsidies that can help you afford coverage. You can get started by visiting HealthCare.gov."

The Health Insurance Marketplace and application process, available at HealthCare.gov, has been updated to reflect newly expanded tax credits from the American Rescue Plan. Michiganders who need Marketplace health coverage should start a Marketplace application by visiting the Health Insurance Marketplace or by calling 800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325). Coverage will start on the first of the month after a plan is selected, so coverage will start June 1 for plans selected in May.

DIFS can help consumers with health insurance questions and complaints and can provide information about the Health Insurance Marketplace Special Enrollment Period that is currently open through Aug. 15. Contact DIFS Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 877-999-6442 or Michigan.gov/HealthInsurance.

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To Honor Our Fathers

When we call God "our Father in heaven" we are honoring both God and our earthly fathers by calling to mind the virtues proper to a good father. A good father is first and foremost someone who loves his wife and his children. He manifests this love by providing materially for them, by protecting them, and by disciplining and teaching his children. There may be times when he cannot always do these things. Good, hardworking men sometimes lose their jobs through no fault of their own, or find themselves in situations where they cannot protect their families. But even then, a good father will exemplify certain virtues, such as steadfastness or persistence in seeking re-employment, or he will show bravery in the face of danger or uncertainty. A good father will be brave, but never reckless or foolhardy, realizing that his life is precious to his family. A good father will also manifest temperance and moderation in the pursuit of pleasures, thereby teaching his children to enjoy life, but also to delay gratification when necessary. A good father is a model of responsibility and dependability, of loyalty and honor. Our earthly fathers, like our Heavenly Father, are mighty fortresses under whose protection we withstand the torrents of the world's weather, and yet they are also capable of tenderness and loving kindness. Thanks are due to God for giving us such loving fathers and also to our fathers for giving us such good examples of the attributes of God.

As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him.

New K.J.V. Psalm 103:13

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Michigan's More Than Half A Million Jobs In High-Demand, High-Wage Industries Highlighted As Part Of Professional Trades Month

LANSING – With nearly 530,000 Michigan jobs and 47,000 annual openings in the professional trades projected by the year 2028, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer joins the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) to proclaim May as Professional Trades Month to honor those in these fields, show the value of this work, and encourage others to explore educational opportunities and gain career awareness.

"Hardworking Michiganders in the professional trades provide critical services to us all, from fixing cars to building new homes and much more," said Whitmer. "These highly-skilled workers help our communities thrive, and this month and beyond, we honor their contributions and encourage Michiganders to consider exploring rewarding professional trade career paths."

For the state's economy to continue to grow and become more competitive, we must continue to educate and employ individuals in professional trades careers.

Businesses across Michigan need highly skilled workers in industries such as agriculture, construction, energy, healthcare, information technolo-

gy, manufacturing and mobility. Many of these high-demand, high-wage careers do not require a four-year degree, and have pathways that focus on credentials, certificates, on-the-job training, registered apprenticeships, and other preparation elements.

"Michigan offers several tools that support career awareness and exploration and can help propel residents towards taking the leap in pursuing a new and different professional opportunity," said LEO's Office of Employment and Training Director Stephanie Beckhorn. "Professional trades opportunities will continue to grow, and we want Michiganders to be ready when those opportunities present themselves."

Professional trades careers in Michigan pay about 39% higher than the statewide median for all occupations, with a median salary of \$57,000 with little to no student debt.

"These are by no means the traditional jobs of the past," Beckhorn added. "These are careers in high-tech, high-demand industries that will position our state as a leader in innovation."

Check out the Michigan Career and Education Pathfinder site to explore careers and identify educational opportunities throughout the state. Pathfinder helps users make informed choices about educational and career options and plans to reach their goals. This free tool uses labor market information, wage data and other metrics to best match users and their skills with career paths and jobs.

Michiganders can also explore the Going PRO Day in the Life series to learn more about these careers firsthand from professionals in the trades.

Those ready to find their first, next or another job, should visit Pure Michigan Talent Connect, the state's online platform for connecting job seekers and employers, to create a free account and connect with employers who have immediate needs.

Links to these resources and other career exploration tools are available at Michigan.gov/SkillsToWork.

WITHDRAWAL OF FINAL RULE A WIN FOR WORKERS

LANSING – Advocacy by the Michigan Department of Attorney General and several other states has resulted in the U.S. Department of Labor terminating a rule put in place during the Trump administration, thus strengthening protections for working Michiganders.

The withdrawal of the rule, known as the Final Rule, was announced May 5.

The rule changed the test for independent contractor status, making it easier for employers to strip employees of legal protections – such as minimum wage, benefits and unemployment eligibility – by changing their classification.

The Department and many others have engaged with lead states Pennsylvania and New York since Sept. 2020 to combat the Final Rule.

The previous administration rushed the Final Rule to completion in just over three months with a truncated comment period.

Below is a timeline of events:

-On Sept. 29, 2020, the various states first argued for a longer comment period, which the prior administration denied.

-The states then submitted a letter in opposition on Oct. 26, 2020, arguing that withdrawing the Final Rule would allow workers and businesses to continue recovering from the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the Final Rule contradicts 80 years of precedent interpreting the Fair Labor Standards Act while also violating the Administrative Procedures Act.

-Despite efforts to the contrary, the Final Rule was published on Jan. 7 of this year with an effective date of March 8.

-Citing the states' Feb. 24 letter in support of a delayed effective date, the Biden administration delayed its effect to May 7.

-Finally, on April 12, the states' submitted a fourth letter that supported withdrawing the Final Rule, reiterating its prior arguments raised in the Oct. 26 letter.

-Effective May 7, the Final Rule is withdrawn.

AG Nessel offered the following statement in response to notice of the withdrawal:

"When I took office, I was serious about protecting hardworking Michiganders. I created the Payroll Fraud Enforcement Unit in April 2019 to focus on individual allegations of wrongdoing, but also to ensure our office is engaged with national efforts to protect workers. Misclassifying workers is a significant issue here and throughout the country. It has the effect of cheating workers and robbing them of statutory protections—minimum wage, overtime pay, workers' disability compensation, and eligibility for unemployment benefits—while also imposing higher tax burdens. The prior administration's attempt to expand the scope of who can be considered an independent contractor is just plain wrong and hurts Michigan families at a time when they need as much assistance as possible. I applaud the states' efforts and the Biden administration's willingness to withdraw the Final Rule. This is a significant win for Michigan workers."



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MMDC from page 10

zations. He said the other 70% of funding comes from the partners listed: Central Michigan University, Charter Township of Union, City of Clare, City of Harrison, City of Mount Pleasant,

Clare County, Hayes Township, Isabella County, Mid Michigan College and the Village of Farwell.

"I want to restate how appreciative we are of the funding that comes from you folks every year," McBryde said. "We couldn't do our job without you."

He also thanked Tracey Connelly, saying she does a stand-out job on the MMDC Board and Executive Committee.

Connelly followed up by saying how hard MMDC personnel had worked over the last year, particularly in light of the obstacles pre-

sented by COVID-19 and the sheer number of grants that had gone out.

"It's amazing how much you were able to do," she said. "That they were given the honor to be responsible for distributing all of that says a lot, too."

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Jobs, Business Growth Happening Despite Pandemic Fetters

Council Hears of MMDC Project Progress



During his May 3 presentation to the Harrison City Council, Jim McBryde, Middle Michigan Development Corp. president/CEO, points out MMDC administered programs aimed at assisting businesses and restoring the local economy post-COVID. Pictured at left is Pam O'Laughlin, MMDC Clare County director. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY
Cleaver Staff Writer

HARRISON – Visiting the May 3 Harrison City Council meeting were Jim McBryde and Pam O'Laughlin of Middle Michigan Development Corp., who presented the MMDC 2020 Annual Report. O'Laughlin began the update by thanking the City of Harrison for its support of MMDC, then introduced McBryde, who highlighted specific areas of the report.

He started out by noting MMDC had always said that job and business retention was its top focus.

"There's been no year that business retention was more important than it was in 2020 with the COVID pandemic," McBryde said. "So, we really had to buckle down and work on trying to save a lot of businesses we normally wouldn't even focus on."

That, he said, was because MMDC primarily focuses on base economy jobs, manufacturers and the industrial sector. However, with all the grants MMDC administered, they came to know many restaurants, fitness centers and other types of businesses that really needed help to stay afloat.

McBryde then pointed out the section of the report which he said speaks to the metrics MMDC is created by. Those statistics included: \$134,472,995 invested; \$4,240,706 grants received; 298 new hires; 542 company visits; and 1,219 company assists.

The first MMDC funds distribution effort noted was the Michigan Small Business Relief Program, which supported 169 eligible small

businesses through the provision of \$200,000 in small business relief grants in Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot and Isabella counties. Small businesses also received \$45,000 from contributors Dow Chemical, Clare County Community Foundation and TFC Bank. Those awards were selected from among 558 applicants from the four counties.

The second listing, Michigan Economic Development Corp.'s Match on Main, was expanded and supported 22 small businesses in downtown Mount Pleasant, each receiving from \$2,000 to \$2,500. That program provided access to more communities and helped to focus resources for recovery on existing businesses.

The third effort was the Michigan Small Business Restart Program issued by Senate Bill 690, wherein MMDC helped to distribute some of \$100 million of state issued CARES Act funding. MMDC distributed \$3,325,000 in grants to eligible small businesses in six counties. Of the 871 small business applying for this program, 842 were approved.

O'Laughlin said that \$683,000 was distributed in Clare County alone, noting that the Doherty Hotel acquired a \$50,000 loan with exceptional terms: a 10-year payback and 0.25% interest.

McBryde explained that although MMDC covers only Clare and Isabella counties, the state had called on MMDC to help distribute grant money effectively and efficiently at the local level.

"So, they called on us to distribute grant funds, not just in Isabella

and Clare counties, but also in Arenac, Gladwin, Midland and Gratiot counties," McBryde said. "So, when you look at that 842, that's all of those counties combined."

"All together that's \$733,000 back into Clare County businesses," O'Laughlin said. "And that doesn't count grants that have continued into this year."

McBryde also noted how positive and appreciative the many counties' economic development corporations were for MMDC's assistance in seeking and securing grant funding. He said understanding each county's population was key, as well as working to ensure the money got to where it really needed to go.

"Pam was really in charge of Clare County," he said. "And she made sure the businesses that really needed the money the most did get the help."

"It gives me goosebumps when I think about some of the stories that were shared when these businesses got the dollars," O'Laughlin said. "Some of these amounts were \$1,000 but the feedback from the businesses was so thankful and appreciative – and it really made a difference for them to be able to keep moving forward."

In addition to accounts of various businesses in the area, the report also included a page noting the 2020 grand opening of Harrison's Town Square which features a splash pad, entertainment pavilion, digital information sign, bathrooms/changing rooms, a town clock, adjacent bus stop shelter and additional parking. The article noted that the \$700,000 project was the third phase of a larger plan to make the downtown a more desirable place for community members to gather. A total of \$450,000 in grant dollars was contributed by the USDA, MEDC, MDOT, DNR Passport Program and the Rising Tide Community Program.

"The Town Square is a great asset to be able to help catalyze movement forward for the redevelopment of the entire downtown

and community," O'Laughlin said. "So, kudos to all of you for having that vision and being able to make that a real center point for the town."

The report also addressed a year in economic development, citing accomplishments such as:

- Consumers Energy's "Our Town" campaign which provided the Clare Area Chamber of Commerce with an additional \$24,000 to spend at community businesses.

- The revitalization of the Blanchard Elementary School into a new community center.

- The 50th anniversary of Future Mold Corp. of Farwell.

- Mid Michigan College's ranking of No. 2 for the best online community college in Michigan.

- MidMichigan Medical Center-Clare being recognized as a Top 2020 Rural Hospital in the Leapfrog Annual Patient Safety Survey – one of only 19 nationwide to receive the honor.

- The Isabella County Wind project, nearing completion, will include more than 136 turbines across more than 55,000 acres which will have the capability of powering nearly 97,000 homes.

- The State of Michigan Going Pro Talent Fund business awards which go toward employee training: \$28,590 to Advanced Battery Concepts; \$11,470 to Central Restoration; \$3,599 to Four Leaf Brewing; \$33,550 to Integrity Printing; and \$33,550 to Mid Michigan Industries.

- The Mid Michigan College and Michigan Works! 7B collaboration which resulted in development of the Trade Apprenticeship Readiness Certificate which can be earned by taking four college-level courses to equip the student with necessary skills to help them excel, while helping to fill the talent pipeline for employers.

McBryde closed out the presentation by noting that roughly 30% of MMDC's funding comes from sponsors and indicated a list of 37 sponsoring businesses and organi-

See MMDC on page 9

Harrison Boosters Needs YOU ~ Times Two!

The Harrison Community Schools All-Sports Boosters took on a massive, meaningful project this year in a drive to make the high school football field bleachers ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant so that wheelchairs and walkers can be accommodated.

Through fundraising and grant applications, thus far they are only about one-third of the way to their goal of raising \$40,000. The deadline for funds has been extended until May 24, as a decision will need to be made at that time as to the fate of this project.

So far, private donations in amounts ranging from \$100 to \$2,000 have been made. Anything fellow community members are willing to donate would help AND secure your logo on a banner made to honor those who helped this project become a much-needed reality.

Finally, if you or someone you know has a giving, energetic spirit and can donate just a few hours a month to a worthy program, Boosters is still looking for new members! Boosters is made up of four seat-holding board members, and seven trustees. At this time, there are only eight members serving, and several are set to resign in the next few months.

This is a program that provides upgrades to Harrison High School athletic facilities, purchases uniforms, helps pay for tournaments, as well as other things that the athletic department of Harrison High School may need financial help with.

Boosters is able to raise these funds through running concessions, the football field sign project, and the Annual Fall Classic Golf Outing. This is a non-profit organization that could really use your help!

If you would like to donate to the bleacher project, you can simply mail a donation payable to: Harrison Community Schools All Sports Boosters, P.O. Box 223, Harrison, MI 48625.

Anyone interested in becoming part of Boosters, their next meeting is at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 26 in the Harrison High School cafeteria. Thank you, Hornet Nation!



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