

# Clare County Cleaver

75¢

~ Locally owned and independently operated since 1881 ~



Volume 142, Issue 51

Thursday, December 21, 2023 • 989-539-7496

clarecountycleaver.net • Harrison, Michigan

## BUCK TALES

The Cleaver office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25 and 26. The submission deadline for the Dec. 28 issue of the Cleaver is Thursday, Dec. 21.

The Cleaver also will be closed New Year's Day. Submission deadline for the Jan. 4 issue is noon, Dec. 29.

## COMING EVENTS

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) offices will be closed from Dec. 22 through Jan. 1 in observance of the holiday season. Regular services will resume on Tuesday, Jan 2. For emergencies, please contact 911.

Save the Date for the **Snowball Dance** will be in March at the Harrison Moose Lodge. All proceeds will serve homeless veterans. Sponsored by Veterans3usa.



Auto Guys is located at 4450 N. Clare Ave. in Harrison and they are ready to detail cars this winter.

## Auto Guys Ready to Serve Community

By ANGELA KELLOGG-HENRY  
Cleaver Managing Editor

Josh Ward is already familiar with running a business in Harrison and is eager to share his new venture with the community. Ward and his wife, Jennifer, manage Scooter's Bar and Grill for his father-in-law, Lee Martin. The bar and grill is across the street from Ward's new business, Auto Guys.

Auto Guys is starting out detailing cars, and Ward has applied for his license to sell and service cars as well. He's looking forward to offering those services down the road but is focusing on detailing cars for now. Ward plans to obtain his ASE certification to become a licensed mechanic in the state of Michigan.

Ward, along with Rob Walters, has experience detailing cars and they plan to hold a grand opening in January. They also are making minor repairs and fixing up the garage.

Ward gave the Cleaver a tour of his garage where he was currently working on two cars of his own. He is putting two cars owned by his family through restoration.

"My wife's great-grandmother bought this car new," Ward said.

See **NEW BIZ** on page 1B



*and Happy New Year!*

*From all of us  
at the Cleaver*

# Letters To Santa

All letters from the Santa mailbox in Harrison were forwarded post haste to the North Pole. Some letters to Santa are printed in the Cleaver per Santa's request.

-Editor

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Cora. I am five years old. I live in Harrison, MI. This year I've been nice. For Christmas, I'd like a unicorn, Wob Jesr.

Love, Cora

**Dear Santa,**  
My Name is Ava. I am 5 years old. This year I've been nice. I cleaned my bedroom and helped my mom a lot. For Christmas I'd like a doll.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Serenity. I am 5 years old. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like a bike without training wheels.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Annabelle. I am 5 years old. I have been naughty and nice this year. For Christmas I would like a unicorn.

**Dear Santa,**  
I will take you to the mall to show you the Elsa dolls I would like.

Love, Mackina (age 3)

**Dear Santa,**  
I would like a fishing pole. A real one! That's what I would like for Christmas.

Love, Thomas (age 4)

**Dear Santa,**  
My sister, Gloria, would like a pink puppet for Christmas since she did not get it last year.

Love, Thomas

**Dear Santa,**  
Pokémon cards, Cow Squish mallow, Barbies, Mama Surprise, Playdough, toy Christmas tree, Squishes, Monster High, Rainbow High, tea set.

From Kendall

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Lillyana. I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I'd like Bluey.

**Dear Santa,**  
I have been trying really hard to be good this year! I think I have been just super good. For Christmas, may I please have a

Gabby Dollhouse, Minnie Mouse Camper set, Gabby Stuffie, makeup set, toy cat and cage, and a pillow and blanket.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Iris. I am 5 years old. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I would like a baby doll and teddy bear.

**Dear Santa,**  
Skateboard, Semi, 2 Monster Trucks, 10,000 RC Monster Trucks, real Dirt Bike.

From, Mason

**Dear Santa,**  
This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a Skateboard, Dirt bike, Toy Semi, Monster Truck, and Googles Goggles.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Jayde. I am 5 years old. This year I have been naughty. For Christmas I'd like a doll.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Arielle. This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a unicorn.

**Dear Santa,**  
This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a robot, a monster truck with tank, a big tank, a Spidey toy, and a monster truck.

Love, Christian

**Dear Santa,**  
I hope you're staying warm in the North Pole. I was good. This year I would like for Christmas: LOLs, flying fairy, elf on the shelf, dog treats, gift card, hot chocolate bombs, mini brands, 3D pen.

Love, Rhiley

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Weston. I am 5 years old. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I would like a Lula patch.

**Dear Santa,**  
This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a posca marker, jarale park, Lego, liny box, i-phone 15 golden, i-phone 15 golden

Love, Nolan

**Dear Santa,**  
I am 5 years old. My name is Memphis. This year I've been nice. I cleaned my bedroom. For Christmas this year, I'd like a doll.

**Merry Christmas**

**Dear Santa,**  
All I want is 3 Squishmallows, a makeup set, a hoverboard, a 2 colored Stanley cup, big pop-its, Crazy Aarons, slim panda fake nails, a panda dlatit, a bice panda slippers, a panda sweatshirts.

From, Maycie Jo

**Dear Santa Clause,**  
My name is Traxston. I am 7 years old! This year I've been really good and it would be super nice if you could bring me a Nintendo switch, shotgun, camo back-pack, Hey dudes, a clock radio, Gravedigger on tracks, telescope, my own dog. Thank you! You're the best Santa ever!

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Jaxson. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like a cat nm toy and a blanket.

Love, Jaxson

**To Santa**  
From the north pole

**Dear Santa**  
Here is my list of toys  
Smashers Dino Skull, Beast Creator lizard, Playmobile 9060 aquarium, Wild Kratts Race Around the World board game, Hoard the Hams, the Game of Life Jurassic Park, and a Zygarde snake Pokemon plush, last a Shiny Rayquaza plush  
Thank you for listening.

From Timothy  
Have a nice day

**Dear Santa,**  
I love Christmas time, I love opening presents, but what I love most is spending time with my family and putting ornaments on the Christmas tree. What I would like for Christmas is a bike, an art set, fidgets, Squishmallows, ear buds, crazy Aarons slime, a Stanley cup, and some jewelry, new shoes and new clothes. If I don't get everything that I need it is okay.

Merry Christmas, love,  
Kinsley

**Dear Santa,**  
I hope you're doing good in the North Pole I've tried to be really good this year. For Christmas I would like a sewing kit, a axolotl plush, a tomahawk, some Hershey kisses, some tea, a we the people shirt, that coal candy, Krabby Patty gummy, peace tea.

Oliver

**Dear Santa,**  
I love Christmas, but I love to spend time with my family, what I want for Christmas is a bike, more Crazy Aarons slime, toy race cars, slippers, touch screen laptop, a guitar, boy Squishmallows, toy gun.  
Merry Christmas!

From Bowen.

**Beau's List**  
Blue Air Jordans, silent basketball, Spiderman mask, hoverboard, drum set, Minecraft hoodies, light up sensory board, elf zip up jammies, ninja turtle rc, foam runners, Optimus prime converting rc car, dog 6- interacting robot dog

**Dear Santa Claus,**  
From Ma'ya  
For Christmas I want one of those owl Squishmallows I am so excited for Christmas. Do you have my surprise.

**Dear Santa,**  
I hope you have a wonderful Christmas. For Christmas this year I would like 2 things. 1, for everyone in my family and friends to be safe and find happiness. 2, a old style Christmas sled that is red with blue on it, please be wooden. I have tried my hardest to be good this year.

- Sincerely, Carter

**Santa,**  
may I please have a coloring set and a play set and a Stitch blanket and a T-shirt and a doll house and a 3D eraser and my dad said Hi.

**Dear Santa,**  
I want coloring supplies and Lego friends than I want some perfume for my mom?

Love, Alivia

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Connor. I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas

this year, I would like a drone.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Lula. I am 6 years old. This year I have been naughty. For Christmas this year I would like Bluey.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Dani. I am 5 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas, I'd like dolls and blanket.

Love, Dani

**Dear Santa,**  
I might have been good or naughty, I hope I was good. This year what I want for Christmas is a gabby cat doll house.

- Skylar

**Dear Santa,**  
For Christmas I want these things, crayons, cat, may flower, nail polish, art supplies, reindeer, window stickers, Sorry, new cup. Santa tell Dasher I said hi. I'll leave him a carrot.

Love Josie.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Jagger. I am 5 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas, I'd like a toy dinosaur.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Wyatt. I am 6 years old. This year I have been nice and naughty. I played this year. For Christmas I would like a teddy bear and phone.

**Dear Santa,**  
This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like a chocolate pumpkin, chocolate crayons, rainbow alphabet - chocolate, chocolate sticky note, chocolate monkey pencil.

Love, Kole

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Andrew. I am 5 years old. This year I have been Nice. I cleaned my bedroom and helped my mom and dad. For Christmas this year I would like a computer.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Travis. I am 5 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like a X-box and Nintendo Switch.

**Dear Santa,**  
This year I have been nice. For Christmas this year, I would like Tobots, toy triton, Transformer.

Love, John

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Nevaeh. I am 6 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been Nice. For Christmas I'd like a doll house and blanket.

Love, Nevaeh

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Hunter. I am 6 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like a yo-yo, a jack-in-the-box, and rings.

Love, Hunter

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Lyhley I am 5 years old. This year I have been nice. For Christmas, I'd like school and America.

**Dear Santa,**  
I am 6 years old. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like a phone and blanket.

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Mia. I am five years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like Mr Mad Top, and slime, and a phone, a warm sweater, and warm pants

Love, Mia

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Olivia, I am 5 years old. This year I have been nice. I have done nice things like held the door open for someone. For Christmas this year, I would like a mini toy te.

**Dear Santa,**  
This year I have been nice. For Christmas I would like toy weapons, a bad guy suit that holds weapons, and a kid's motorcycle.

Love, Oliver

**Dear Santa,**  
My name is Skylar, I am 5 years old. This year I have been very nice. For Christmas I would like a Nintendo switch.

**Saylem's Christmas List:**  
Guinea pig toy, Spirit eat toy, Free Reign toy, Set of Spirit toys, horse clothes, cow-girl pants, cowgirl sets, horse racing game, Bowser and Princess Peach toys, Nintendo switch, guitar, quad, shirt

with rigs on it, markers, sharpies, comet the reindeer toy, animal sets, dog toys, horse hat, cowgirl hat, fake earrings, extremely clean hoodie, Lions shirt, Spen the reindeer toy, dirt bike racing game, horse sets, Lions football, horse movies, wooden deer to paint, cooking set, toy grill with food, unicorn academy toys, lizard tank,

**Dear Santa,**  
I want a Poly Pocket mermaid, and a princess Poly Pocket, and a boy Poly Pocket, Santa I've kinda been a good girl this year. Please Santa, I love you.

Love, Tomi

**Dear Santa,**  
I want a My Little Puppy, a princess shirt with all the princesses on it, I want a doll that talks and cries, I want a Polly Pocket undersea, and princess Polly Pocket, I want a unicorn doll that can eat carrots and apples, I also want a fairy toy like Tinkerbell that talks and makes fairy noises with her wings, and glows different colors. Santa I want a stuffy that looks just like you. Santa can I have a unicorn doll box, Santa you are the nicest man in the whole world. Santa I want a shirt with a bunny on it like my bunny, thank you Santa you are special to me. Santa I like you when you give me presents.

Love, Charlee

**Dear Santa,**  
I've been good, this year and I, think I, presents. I would like, 1) Kitty LOL Doll 2) mirror for locker purple 3) girls vanity. Please and thank you.

Love, Novalee

**Dear Santa,**  
I want for Christmas is a LOL. And a phone and a xbox but what I want the most is a baby doll.

Thank you, Karma



## Warmest Wishes

We're all aglow with gratitude for great customers and friends like you!

Thanks for dropping in on us this year. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## Positive Hearth of the Home

234 East Pine Street | Harrison, MI. 48625  
989-539-3551 | www.HearthOfTheHome.com

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

Candy canes & boughs of holly, festive scenes that make us jolly. The Christmas season is finally here, bringing with it joy and cheer; And on that note, the time is due, to share best wishes with all of you. May Your Season Be Blessed and Happy!

**Clare County Treasurer Jenny Beemer-Fritzingler & Staff**



We wish you many blessings, happiness, and good fortune this holiday season.

**Clare County Prosecuting Attorney Michelle Ambrozaitis & Staff**



**Dan Durga, Agent**  
185 W Main Street  
Harrison, MI 48625  
Bus: 989-630-0701  
www.dandurga.com

May the joy of the season bring you love and peace. Merry Christmas to a wonderful community!

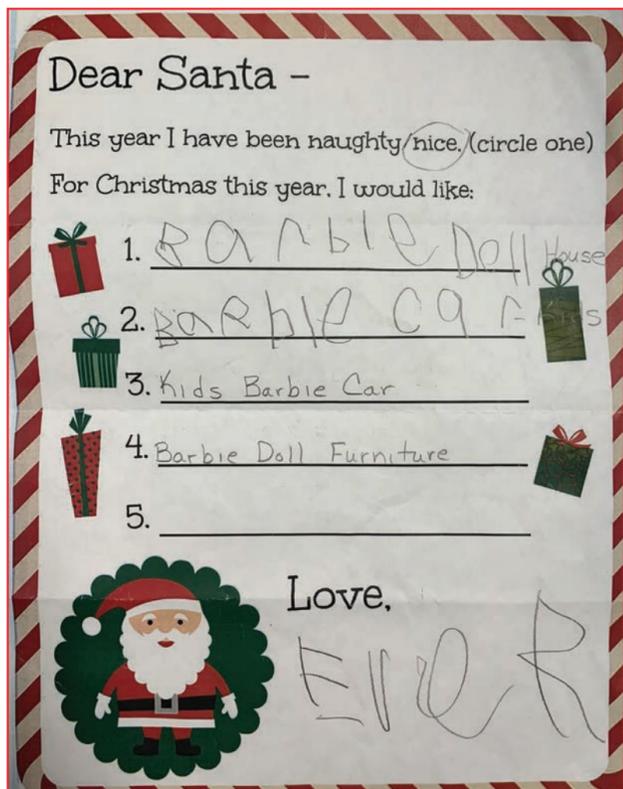
**Here to help life go right.®**



**State Farm**

State Farm  
Bloomington, IL

1708158



My name is Braxton, and I am 3 years old, and I have been very good this year. I hope you've been watching. I brought the cookies. I want a dirtbike, wrestling figures, PAW Patrol stuff, cars and tracks and Tech Decks.

- Braxton

Dear Santa, I have been trying really hard to be good this year I think I have been extra super good. For Christmas, please may I have a Barbie car.

From Aries (age: 4)

Dear Santa, I miss Jingles, send help. I am being good. I want an atm bank, rc truck, necklace, LED lights, squ kur, hot wheel set, globe, gimble machine.

From Richard.

Dear Santa, I have been good I would like a red rider gun thank you

Love Alyssa

Dear Santa, My name is Jaxon King and I am 4 years old! I just started preschool this year,

and even started preschool this year, and even though I had a rough start, I love it now! I'm being so good at school and at home!

For Christmas this year, I would like: a Lego tractor w/ trailer, logging blue semi truck, harvester tractor, Transformers clothes, Mighty Pups toys, silly goose books, art supplies, school bus/coco melon, gel beads gun, magna tiles, real slinky, dino eggs, train table, ninja turtles, PiKachu, playdoh, mini brands, kinetic sand.

That's my list Santa! I don't want everything on the list but there are some ideas! Thank you Santa and Merry Christmas! P.S.- I put another piece of paper in the envelope this year to show you how I write my name! I'm so proud of myself!

Love, Jaxon

Dear Santa, I have been trying really hard to be good this year! I think I have been just super good. For Christmas, please may I have: Oculus Controllers, tablet, board games, movies, activity books, math books, bluey books.

From Annie (age 10)

Dear Santa, Hi! My name is Hayden and I am 3 years old! I am fully potty trained now; and I have been such a good boy at home. And I think I deserve presents this year again! Here is my Christmas list: Mighty Zuma, Mighty Rocky, "two presents, actually", all of the mighty pups, garbage truck, boat toy, books, art supplies, coloring books, Sonic toys, "actually just 5 presents". That's my list Santa! Thank you so much and Merry Christmas! Be safe!

Love, Hayden

To Santa I want slime and a fox snow globe! And LOL dolls, and anything you give me I will be happy!

From Emberly

Dear Santa, My name is Jack and I am one year old. I am a busy little guy and would love a busy board for Christmas. I would also give a good home to any toys in need. My love to you, Mrs. Claus, the reindeer, and the elves!

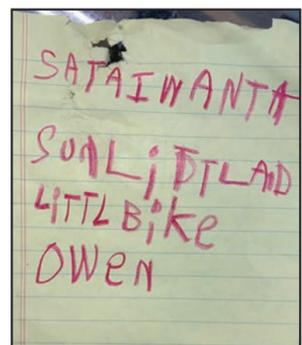
Dear Santa, My name is Jameson, I am 5 years old. This year I have been nice, I cleaned my room and helped my mom and dad. For Christmas I would like a doll and apple i-pad.

Please Santa Claws What I wat for Christmas is 100 Pokémon cards, lanqybox plush games ace ghosty milky, Pokémon stand, Pokémon belt with Poké balls, plants vs zombies for switch, Pokémon lets go PiKachu, and more stuff.

Love Axton

Dear Santa, My name is Cade. I am 6 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas I'd like a yo-yo and cat kit.

Love Cade.



Dear Santa, My name is Everly. I am 5 years old. I live in Harrison. This year I've been nice. For Christmas, I'd like a phone warm.

Love, Everly

Dear Santa, This year I have been nice. For Christmas this year I would like, a race track with

2 cars, a workout set, a toy sled with wheels, a Santa suit with beard, a grinch outfit with dog.

Love, Desmond

Dear Santa, This year I have been nice. For Christmas this year, I would like, a robot and a stuffed Santa.

Love, Hendrix,

Dear Santa, My name is Ryan. I am 5 years old. This year I have been Nice. For Christmas I want a Santa toy.

Dear Santa, This year I have been nice. For Christmas this year, I would like a Barbie doll house, a Barbie car, a kids Barbie car, Barbie doll furniture

Love, Ever

Dear Santa, This year I have been naughty and nice. For Christmas I would like a baby chick- en, a puppy, a blanket and Gummy Bears.

Love, Skylar

Dear Santa, This year I have been nice. For Christmas this year, I would like a makeup set, a princess kitchen, Barbie princesses, walk- ing kitty, binky pig.

Love, Summer

Dear Santa, My name is Paisley. I am 5 years old. I live Harrison. This year I've been nice and naughty. For Christmas I'd like Slsnl mol.

Love, Paisley

Dear Santa, This year I have been nice. For Christmas this year, I would like a Gabby doll house with Carlita, Gabby DJ Catnip, reindeer stuffed head shake and dances, Barbie house, spell the word game.

Love, Chavalla

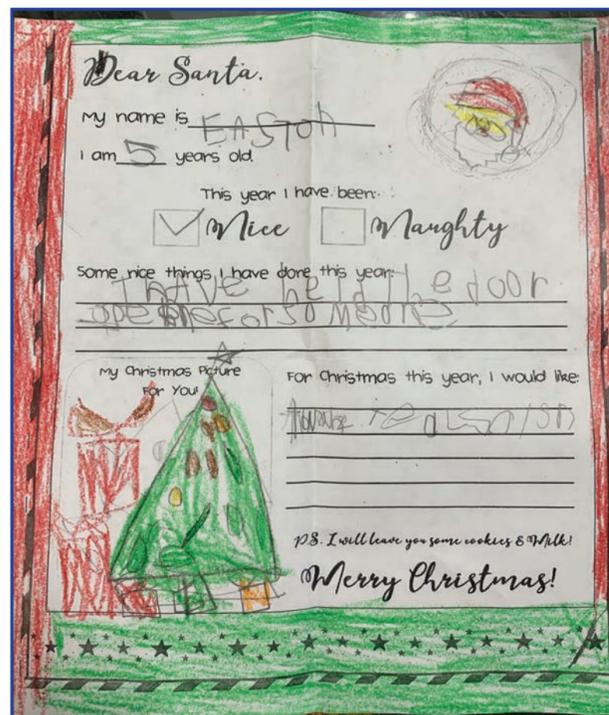
Dear Santa, The number 5 things I want for Christmas are a PC, a tablet, a phone 14 or the new i-phone, mini brands, and my family I want to see my Dad

From, Autum

Dear Santa, This year I want a Barbie dream house and Barbie. I also want more toys, and clothes for my Barbies, a bin for my barbies, a water bottle a new bed and toys for my family.

-Hazel

Dear Santa, This Christmas I am 6 months old. I wanted to let you know that I have been a perfect angel. One thing I would love to have this year is real food! No more purees!. Some other things are toys, books, snuggles. Some things I would like to give are hugs, kisses and sneezes.



Thank you for the happiness you bring to children across the world!

Love, Wiley

Dear Santa, Can I please have slippers or jewelry?

From Cheyanne

To Santa RC car and Monopoly

Jason

Dear Santa, I have been good. I want a hand control car! I want hand workouts. I want V bucks.

Love, Joshua

**FABER'S**  
BARBER SHOP

(989) 539-5446  
440 South First Street, Harrison

# Make It Merry!

The spirit is building & we want to say, "Have a happy holiday!"

Thank you for your valued support and friendship too, we're really grateful to all of you!

Come by and see our new renovations!

## Harrison Lumber Do-It-Center

989-539-7136 • 201 East Beech Street • Harrison

Peace and Joy

Wishing you every happiness this holiday season.

**Terin Wales**  
Quality Residential Building  
HARRISON

# Peace Be With You

As we welcome another holiday season, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to be surrounded by such good friends and neighbors. Folks like you fill our hearts with gladness and we thank you for your kindness and support.

**CLARK-STOCKING**  
FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATION SERVICE

We wish you a warm and cozy Christmas filled with plenty of joy, happiness, and all the comforts of home. We would like to thank all of our patients and our community for making this another wonderful year.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Maureen Gierucki, DDS & Staff

**CLARE COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE**  
Sheriff John Wilson

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

**COYNE OIL & PROPANE**  
513 W. 5th St. • Clare, MI.  
989-386-7731

*Merry Christmas To You!*

Please accept our sincere best wishes & heartfelt thanks during this festive time of year. Your friendship makes every day a good one for us!

# Merry Christmas

## Harrison Chamber Community Memorial Tree Lighting Endowments

The tree is lit each year in memory of those we have lost and miss during Christmas time. The following is a complete endowment list. (\*Indicates 2022 Endowments)

Bill Abbott, Winifred Abbott, (Grandma) Mary Adair, Henry Adamski, Al Adsit, David Alanis, Gayla Albert, Joseph Albert, Harold Albertson, Harold Albertson Sr., Carl Aldrich, Carl F. Aldrich, Florence Allbee, Ralph Allbee, Jacqueline Allen, Leon Alwood, Mildred L. Bailey Alwood, Anne Marie Anderson, Kenneth O. Anderson, Michael W. Anderson, Shirley "Shy" Anderson, Dorothy L. Ashcraft, Joseph Ashcroft, Charles Atha, Goldye Atha, Hiram Awuires, Gary Baase, Frances Bachleda, Lillian Price Badger, Lucian Baginski, Arthur Bailey, Carl Bailey, Clarissa Bailey, Donald (Dude) Bailey, Gerald Bailey, Jim Bailey, Joseph J. Bailey, Merton U. Bailey, Nelson F. Bailey, Ralph Henry Bailey, Rex Bailey, Robert (Bob) Bailey, Roy Bailey, Scott Bailey, Todd Bailey, Marcia Baker, Florence Baldwin, Sade Bartell, Donald Bartkowiak, Alice Bates, Catherine Bates, George Bates, Frank Battle, Bob Baukus, Dorothy Baumer, Duane Baumer, Loyal Beadle, Lucille Beadle, Author L. Bebee, Art Beck, Eddie Bell Beck, \*Harold E. Becker, Wilson Becker, Devere "Bill" BeDour, Kymberly Beemer, Mary Belisle, Rene "Joe" Belisle, Walter Belkowski Sr., Belson & Bailey, Carrie M. Bennett, Stella Benoit, Janet Bernard, J.B. "Barney" Bernon, Glenn L. Berry, Mary Bess, Mr. William Bess, Mrs. William Bess, Elaine Betot, Theodore J. Bilky, Vernice L. Bilky, George Black,

Ryan Anthony Blaine, Geraldine Bliss, Kenneth Bliss, Phyllis Blossom, Anthony Bodoh, Evelyn Bodoh, Olive Bodoh, Richard Bodoh, Lenny Bohr, Elmer Bond, Marion F. Bond, Reve Bond, Jennie Borst, Ralph Bower, Ralph Paul Bower, Jane Bowhall, Raymond Bowhall, George M. Bowles, Jerry Brabbs, Emma L. Bradley, Helena Bragg, Ralph Bragg, Arnold V. Bringold, Walter Bringold, Mary Jo Brink, Clarabelle Brockett, Howard Brockway, Ila Brockway, Alice L. Brown, Billy Brown, J. Robert Brown Sr., Otis Brown Sr., Robin Brown, Sharon King Bruce, \*Ray Bruff, John Bruyn, Clifford E. Bucholz, Dean M. Bucholz, Edith Bucholz, Emil M. Bucholz, Glenn Bucholz, \*Charlie Budd, Cheryl L. Budd, Doris L. Budd, Elvin E. Budd, Jake L. Budd, Joseph Budd, Lois M. Budd, Ruby (Vollmar) Budd, \*Vesta Budd, Zeno C. Budd, Zeno R. Budd, Bullitt, Ruth Buggid, Bruno Burgess, M.D., Karen Busch, Ardel Butcher, Grandpa Jay Calkins, J.L. Calkins, Larry Calkins, James M. Campbell, Ethan Carl, Mark Carlstrom, Michele M. Carlstrom, Maude Carrier, Liz Carroll, Bryanna B. Carver, Tina Casali, Gale Eaton Cascadden, Genevieve Casselman, Louis Cattell, Louis I. Cattel, Alan Cauchi, Max Chadwick, Debbie Challiss, William Chamberlain, Lola Chapman, Sandy Chapman, Daniel A. Chopp, Geraldine Christensen, Vernon Christensen, Edith Churchill, Eugene Churchill, Robert Churchill, Bonnie Jean Clark,

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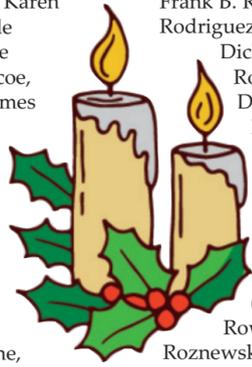
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**Merry Christmas**  
**Thanks for Dropping In on Us!**  
As we celebrate the holidays, we're reminded of how fortunate we are to be surrounded by good friends and neighbors like all of you. We greatly appreciate your support and friendship, and we look forward to sharing more visits with you in the coming year.  
*May your holiday season be trimmed with every happiness, including friendship, love, health and good fortune. We wish you all the best.*  
*Merry Christmas!*  
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### LOCAL DEMOCRATICS DONATE TO SENIORS



The Clare County Democratic Party put together 60 gift bags for Clare County Seniors, doubling their donation bags from last year. A big thank you to all the Meals-On-Wheels drivers who delivered the gift bags.

### Greenwood Township collected for Animal Shelter



Greenwood Township held its annual Christmas Party several Saturdays ago. Donations of food, blankets, laundry soap, and checks will be given to the Clare County Animal Shelter. Thank you to all that attended and/or donated.

## True angels run Angel Tree project for local children

By ANGELA KELLOGG-HENRY  
Cleaver Managing Editor

You may pass by Christmas trees at various businesses in Clare County and see angel ornaments with names and Christmas wishes written on them. It sounds simple to pluck a name, shop, and wrap for the chosen child and the gifts are given to a little boy or girl. The entire process is anything but simple!

The Angel Tree is a Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Christmas project for all of Clare County. The program is carried out by St. Athanasius church of Harrison, through their Christian Service Commission.

Names and information of children in need of a Christmas gift are collected by the MDHHS from the schools. Information is transferred to angel ornaments by the St. Athanasius volunteers and distributed to businesses with angel trees. Each child, aged newborn to 13

years, had written down a clothing and a toy wish which are fulfilled by the business and/or its customers who choose an angel.

This year's participating businesses were Buccilli's Pizza of Clare, Community Baptist Church, Clare County District Court, Farwell United Methodist Church, Harrison Lumber, Living Hope Church, Shell Gas Station, Dan Durga State Farm, St. Athanasius, St. Luke Lutheran Church, The Gathering Church, Clare County Treasurers office, and Witbeck's Foods.

Each business fulfilled 3-15 children's wishes. St. Athanasius volunteer shoppers take the unfulfilled



Marlene Moll, Monica Lawrence, and Christine Smith are stand in the back of the St. Athanasius common room. Moll has been shopping for Angel Tree gifts since 2007. (Photo by Angela Kellogg-Henry)

wishes and shop with donations collected for that purpose. They fulfilled 26 families wishes purchasing for 53 children. The entire program fulfilled over 150 children's wishes. A food box is provided to families of the children who request them.

This all equates to the community room of the St. Athanasius parish filled to the brim with neatly organized tables of Christmas packages of all shapes and sizes in addition to food boxes lining the walls.

Christine Smith and Monica Lawrence are in charge of the effort at St. Athanasius.

"We have the most kids at St. Athanasius. In total we have 156 kids which is 69 families." Said

Smith. "I contact the organization in September for their commitment, I ask how many angels they would like. In November we deliver the angels to them with the gift ideas to the businesses. The organizations bring their gifts in on Monday, and we sort and check them to make sure we haven't missed any kids. We have to make sure they have gifts, so we check and double check."

Parents or guardians are notified when to pick up gifts. The gifts are picked up curbside at St. Athanasius.

The Angel Tree program is just one of the programs that MDHHS administers to help children in Clare County.



The Clare County Cleaver would like to thank all of our advertisers and our subscribers! We appreciate you all very much & wish Happy Holidays to all!

# THE AMISH COOK - By Gloria Yoder



Hi there, good evening, it's... well, I won't tell you what time it is. We'll just say I'm usually in bed at this hour of the day; why lay there with sleep out of sight? Why not seize the moment and touch base with you all and enjoy a chocolate in the meanwhile? That's right, a Lindor chocolate from a reader and dear friend, and no little ones asking if they can have one too! Mmm. It's delicious, I mean both the milk chocolate and the moment of solitude. And some apple cider to go with it.

Can you imagine that Christmas is actually just around the corner? Honestly, I can't. Today my mother and I were tossing around ideas of what we want to do on Christmas day. In a way those plans make it more real, still, it seems like so much less than a year has elapsed since a year ago.

And guess what, that's also a year closer to the day we are called home to be with Jesus! We are so blessed in the here and now, yet surely nothing will compare with being in His very presence with not a care in sight.

It would be quite interesting to hear more of what you do for Christmas- especially those of you who do not have family, or have faced painful situations, causing Christmas season to cut deep. I know. I care.

This is the first year my parents and siblings are gathering for the holiday. In past years Christmas has usually been spent with my mother's family. This year we look forward to spending the day at my parents' new home where they moved into a few weeks ago. Their cute little cabin is perfect for them and the attached garage ideal to host all their children and grandchildren.

I loved Mom's ideas about

Christmas day. She's planning a little program of everyone getting a slip of paper then doing what it says, such as "tell of a sweet smell that brings back a favorite memory of your past, share the greatest example of love you have personally seen, or tell of a teacher who has blessed your life."

The children will sing a few songs, then we'll also have songs sung by all. As long as I remember Mom was especially fond of songs rejoicing over the birth of Jesus, so I'm sure we'll sing our share of those. In the afternoon, we plan to fix love bundles for those in need, and perhaps the thing that is closest to my heart is having a time of prayer for those who are having a difficult Christmas. If you have any specific prayer requests for yourself or others around you, going through hard times over the holidays, don't hesitate to let us know. We'd be blessed and unworthy to join you in prayer about it.

Before I head back to bed, I've got to tell you about our Christmas surprises today. Mr. and Mrs. Kittlitz, from Pennsylvania, had made arrangements to come to our house this forenoon. After chatting a bit, Mr. Kittlitz remarked that they could use help to bring packages from the car. Eager little children ran out the door and came beaming back to the house with package after package.

When I told the children to all sit down, they promptly sat on the floor right next to the packages. Their smiles widened even more as Mrs. Kittlitz handed them their very own packages. Surely, she had gone above and beyond. Happy voices chattered as they showed each other gifts of tennis balls and racket, squishy balls, tea shirts, tablets for the girls, and blankets for all of the children.



It was an amazing start to their Christmas season. Surely, we had done nothing to deserve these love gifts, but then isn't that a beautiful picture of the Father Himself? We have done nothing to deserve the gift of Jesus becoming man on earth to show us the way to heaven!

As much as I would love to send a Christmas card and letter of thanks to all who touched our lives this winter, time will not allow me, so a heartfelt thank you is extended to each and every one of you. Your tokens of love are a true blessing! It makes me eager to meet you someday, if not here, then in heaven.

Lastly, I'll be sharing my mom's lasagna recipe with you. She has used this recipe countless times for guests who have passed through our home. If you have an opportunity to cook for others over the holidays, give it a try for yourself. It's like Mom used to say, "No one would ever know how simple this really is!"

### No Fuss Lasagna

- 12 uncooked lasagna noodles
- 1 1/2 # hamburger, fried
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoon oregano, optional
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder, opt.
- 3 cups pizza sauce, divided

- 2 1/2 cups water
- 4 oz. cream cheese
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup mozzarella cheese

### Instructions

Fry hamburger with seasonings, add 2 1/2 cup pizza sauce. Next layer noodles and meat mixture alternately in a 9 by 13 pan, beginning and ending with 4 noodles. Pour water over all, then spread with the remaining 1/2 cup pizza sauce. Cover with foil and bake at 350 for 1 1/2 hour or until noodles are tender. Mix cream cheese, milk, and onions together and spread on top. Sprinkle with cheese then return to oven until cheese is melted. Note: One cup of sour cream may be used to replace the milk and cream cheese. Serves 8-12



## Want to capture a wild Christmas tree?



Looking to cut down a fresh-from-the-woods Christmas tree? You have options!

First of all, though, cutting of Christmas trees is not allowed in Michigan state forests. Only dead and downed trees in certain areas are available to people who have purchased a \$20 fuelwood permit.

However, you can buy a \$5 permit to cut a tree in Michigan's three national forests: the Huron-Manistee in the northern Lower Peninsula and the Hiawatha and Ottawa forests in the Upper Peninsula. Permits allow people to cut a Christmas tree within designated areas of the forest.

Trees are for personal use only and cannot be sold. All stumps must be cut within 6 inches of the ground, and you may not take a tree taller than 20 feet. You have to take the whole tree; don't cut the top off of a taller tree.

If stomping through deep snow

in the forest isn't your jam, or you don't live close to a national forest, good news: Michigan is among the nation's top producers of Christmas trees and there are plenty of you-cut farms to help you find the perfect tree to bring a little piece of the forest inside for your holiday season.

To make sure your fresh tree stays that way, cut off about an inch on the base after you get it home to make sure it can take up water. Use a Christmas tree stand with a large water reservoir and check it daily. Display your tree away from heat sources such as fireplaces, vents or south-facing windows. Only use lights certified as safe by Underwriters Laboratories. Never leave lights on when you're not home.

General questions about Michigan's forests? Contact Kathleen Lavey at 517-930-4218 or visit Michigan.gov/Forestry.

*The Clare County Cleaver would like to thank the many business that sell our paper for us.*



*We appreciate you all very much and could not have the distribution that we do without you, thank you!*



*Merry Christmas*

At this special time of year, we recall all the good people we've had the privilege to serve and wish you all much peace, joy & harmony at Christmas. We value your friendship and are sincerely grateful for your loyal support.

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# OBITUARIES

## GERALD ALAN SCHANHALS

November 13, 1946 – December 12, 2023

Gerald "Jerry" Alan Schanhals passed away in Anchorage, Alaska at the age of 77, with his family by his side. He was the son of the late William and Carmen (Arline) Schanhals of Michigan. He attended Harrison High School, where he was the captain of the football and basketball teams and loved his Harrison Hornets, blue and gold! After a year of college at Ferris State University, he married his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Terry Brown (Schanhals) and had two girls, Tammara and Lori. He was the Deputy Sheriff in Clare County and attended Carpenter school. He was also a construction teacher for a short time at Mid Michigan College. In 1973, Jerry moved his family to Anchorage, Alaska, where he worked with Eley Construction, and became a General Contractor, owning his own business, Schanhals Enterprises, until he retired.



Jerry was an avid trapper, fisherman and hunter his entire life, sharing his best stories along the way with his family and friends. He was a bush pilot and owned his own airplane (Cessna 180 on floats) and flew to remote fishing holes on lakes and rivers. He was a Fishing Guide on the Kenai River for 16 years with Riddle's Fishing Lodge, where the fisherman named a fishing hole after him (Jerry's Hole) due to the number of fish his customers would get out of it. He was a member of the Anchorage Moose Lodge for 25 years and a member of the Sierra Club. He loved gambling and playing cards, putting puzzles together, attending car shows, NASCAR and drag races, golf tournaments and spending time with his family and friends. Recently, Jerry enjoyed playing poker at venues around Anchorage and made many new friends. He started his day going to Jackie's Place

(restaurant), where he did crossword puzzles and Sudoku while visiting friends. Another passion of his was assisting at Knights Taxidermy and Grizzly Expeditors. Jerry is preceded by his father and mother, William and Carmen (Arline) Schanhals, his brothers Ward, Tom and Curt Schanhals, and his wife and love of his life, Terry Schanhals. He is survived by his daughters Tammara Casey and Lori Schanhals, grandchildren Kyle Dennis, Katelyn Dennis, Kira Casey, great-granddaughter Everly Wilkenson-Dennis, and son-in-law Thomas Casey. His family and friends meant the world to him and will be missed by all.

A Celebration of Life will be held on January 13, 2024, from 2 pm - 6 pm, at the American Legion (Post 28), 7001 Brayton Dr., Anchorage, Alaska, 99507. There will also be a Celebration of Life in Beaverton, Michigan, on May 11, 2024, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Beaverton Lions Community Center, 138 Saginaw Street. Jerry's final resting place will be next to the love of his life, Terry Schanhals in the Beaverton Cemetery following his Celebration of Life.

### Keeping Holidays Tasty and Safe: CMDHD Offers Tips for Healthy Celebrations

With the holidays coming up, Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) wants everyone to have a great time while staying healthy. CMDHD knows holidays mean yummy food, and we're sharing easy tips to keep your celebrations sickness-free.

"When we celebrate with family and friends, we want everyone to enjoy good food without getting sick.

Following these simple tips will help keep everyone safe and happy," said Steve King, CMDHD Environmental Health Director.

To make sure your holidays are safe and fun, CMDHD suggests that you:

- Wash Your Hands: Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially before touching food.
- Handle Food Safely: Keep raw meats away from other foods to avoid making people sick. Use different cutting boards and utensils

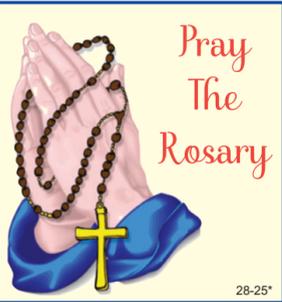
for raw meat, including chicken and fish. Cook food to the right temperature and put leftovers in the fridge quickly.

- Thaw Food Safely: If you're cooking frozen meat, thaw it in the fridge or cold water, not at room temperature.
- Store Food Right: Keep perishable foods in the fridge at 40°F (4°C) or lower. Check expiration dates and toss anything past its prime.
- Take Care of Leftovers: Leftovers are part of the fun but put them in the fridge within two hours and heat them up properly.
- Watch Raw Eggs: Be careful when using raw eggs in recipes. Try using pasteurized eggs for dishes that need raw or slightly cooked eggs.
- Think About Guests: Know if your guests have food allergies or special diets and be careful not to mix their food with others.

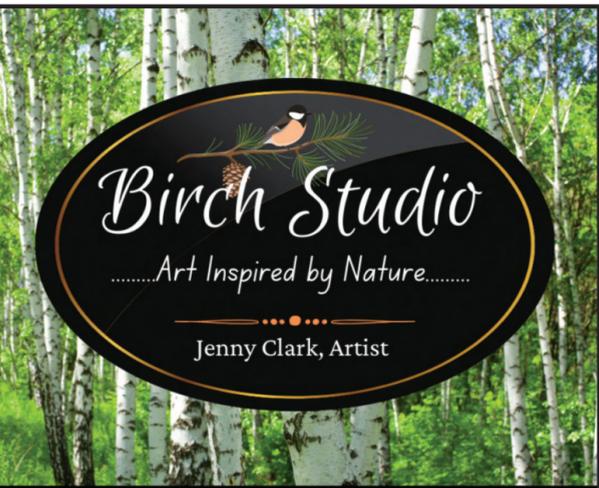
CMDHD hopes everyone can share these tips with friends and

family to make the holidays safe for everyone. For more help with holiday food safety, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/prevention/foodsafety-seasons-holidays.html>. Protect yourself and your loved ones by getting vaccinated for COVID-19 and the seasonal flu. Find a walk-in clinic or appointment at <https://www.cmdhd.org/countyimmunizations>.

The Central Michigan District Health Department serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon. Visit our website at [www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org) and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.



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## WILLIAM "BILL" HAROLD BISHOP

March 22, 1939 - December 8, 2023

William "Bill" Harold Bishop, 84, of Harrison formerly of Midland, died Friday, December 8, 2023, surrounded by his family. He was born March 22, 1939, in Bay City, son of Harold and Isabell (Anderson) Bishop.



He graduated from T.L. Handy High School in Bay City and continued his education at the University of Michigan, where he received his bachelor's degree. While attending UofM, Bill was pledged by Eta Kappa Nu, a National Honorary Fraternity, for being in the top 1/8 of his class. On August 19, 1961, he married the former Joan Annette Nowland. Together they raised 3 children. He was employed at Dow Corning Corporation for 38 years until his retirement. Bill was a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Harrison. He loved golf, woodworking, and any outside activity. Bill also loved to spend time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Joan; daughters, Tracie (Geoff) Brandle and Sheri (Steve) Ensing; grandchildren, Haley (Ryan) Hill and Jordan Ensing; sister-in-law Nancy Bishop. In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his son Jeffery William Bishop, and brother Gerald Lee Bishop.

Funeral services for Bill will take place at 11 a.m., Saturday, December 16, 2023, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 505 E. Carpenter Street. Graveside burial will take place at Midland Memorial Gardens Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Ware Smith Woolever Funeral Home, 1200 W. Wheeler Street on Friday from 4-7 p.m., and at the church on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the time of services.

Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider St. Luke Lutheran Church of Harrison.

All of us at Ware Smith Woolever are honored the Bishop family has entrusted us with the care of their loved one.

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For information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons breaking into our cabin in Piney Woods subdivision, 109 West Al Heiden, Harrison, around the last week of October to first week of November. Stolen items include: \$800 worth of tools from lawn shed, Mercury 9.9 short shaft motor serial # OB 388088.

Please contact Clare County Sheriff's at 989-539-7166 ext. 4315, Eric Stephenson, case number 23-307-13.

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**The Gathering - A United Methodist Church**  
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**St. Lukes Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**  
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616 S. 4th St., Harrison  
989-539-6312

**Community Baptist Church**  
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# COMMUNITY LIFE



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## BOC Passes Motions

HARRISON – The Clare County Board of Commissioners passed the following motions at its Dec. 13 meeting. The Board moved to:

- Approve the Dec. 13, 2023, meeting agenda.
- Approve Board of Commissioner Minutes of Nov. 3, 2023.
- Meet in closed session under section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act, to consult with our attorney regarding the *Clare County Prosecuting Attorney v. County of Clare and Clare County Board of Commissioners*.
- Return to Open Session.
- Enter into contract with Axon Enterprise Inc. for Body Cams and approve a yearly payment schedule.
- Appoint Joe Phillips as an alternate to the MSHN Substance Use Disorder Oversight Policy Board with the term ending Aug. 21, 2024.
- Approve the amendment to the transportation Services Agreement as presented.
- Approve the Lease Agreement between the County of Clare and the Clare County Transit Corp.
- Approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of Nov. 13, 2023, in the amount of \$64,863.08 and minutes of Nov. 27, 2023, in the amount of \$157,977.89
- Approve the expenditures for the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$3,342,363.61 with the General Fund expenditures totaling \$1,109,362.13
- Approve Budget Adjustments Nos. 24-22 and 24-19 in the amounts of \$95,384.46 and \$200,000.
- Approve the Board of Commissioners meeting dates through December 2024 with dates consistent with the third Wednesday of the month, unless specified on the posting, with meetings to begin at 9 a.m.
- Approve the Finance meeting dates as presented through December 24 starting at 9 a.m. with dates consistent with the off week of payroll.
- Approve the Holiday Schedule as presented for calendar year 2024.
- Approve the grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the State Land Bank Authority.

• Approve the attached Letters of Understanding: 1) Clare County and Command Officers Association of Michigan Command Bargaining Unit; 2) Police Officers Association of Michigan Non-Supervisory Group; 3) Police Officers Association of Michigan 911 Central Dispatch Bargaining Unit; 4) Police Officers Association of Michigan Corrections Bargaining Unit.

A motion to approve the 2024 meeting dates for the BOC Committee of the Whole led to Commissioner Dale Majewski raising the concern that as many of the Committee of the Whole meetings had been canceled, perhaps those meetings should be held only as needed. He posited that if something came up, one could be scheduled. Commissioner George Gilmore stated that he believed the meetings were a “waste of time” because no business was transacted there. Board Chair Jeff Haskell spoke in favor of the meetings, an opinion supported by Commissioner David Hoefling. Hoefling noted that some of the meetings have been canceled, but that it was better to have it in place than to have to make time in everyone’s schedules. Clerk Lori Mott interjected that it was a much simpler process to notify commissioners of a canceled meeting than to put into place all the elements required for a special meeting, and the extra work that it entails. A roll call vote landed with dissenting votes cast by Commissioners Majewski, Gilmore, Rickie Fancon, Jack Kleinhardt and Marlene Housler.

Also included on the agenda was a motion to: Approve the Release of Claims and Settlement Agreement between the Clare County Prosecuting Attorney and the County of Clear and Clare County Board of Commissioners. However, Commissioners opted not to read that motion, in effect denying the settlement agreement.

The Clare County Board of Commissioners meets next at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, in the Commissioners Board Room in the Clare County Building, 225 W. Main St. in Harrison.

## FIRE CLAIMS HOME IN CLARE

At 12:28 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, the Clare Fire Department responded to a report of fire in the wall at 809 Schoolcrest Ave. On arrival they found heavy fire on the north side exterior of the house, as well as inside the home. Firefighters were able to bring the fire under control within 30 minutes, and crews remained on scene for over two hours.

The homeowner, Carol Taylor, was home at the time of the fire and was able to escape without injury. The home was insured and is a total loss. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental.

The Clare fire department was assisted on scene by MMR and Surrey Township Fire Department. There were no injuries. Chief Chapman said it is a terrible thing to lose your home and belongings to a fire.

“The holidays are the worst,” he said. “As we prepare for the holidays, I encourage everyone to check your smoke



(Photo courtesy Clare Fire Department)

detectors and CO alarms. Use caution with open flames and decorative lighting as well as the use of extension cords.”

## Hornets of the Month

Pictured, from left, are Harrison Middle School Hornets of the Month Robert Brand, Ryder Devore and Leah Wallace. Congratulations!



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## NEW BIZ from page 1

“It’s a white Gran Torino Elite and it has 99,000 miles on it.”

He plans to restore the Gran Torino to enjoy it, realizing the value wouldn’t be there if he made the car perfect. For now, he’s using the car as a marketing tool of sorts: splitting the car in half



and working on one half at a time so customers can see what a good cleaning and detailing can do for a car.

“I can do detailing without a whole of licensing,” he said. “I’m not trying to get rich. I need something to do, and this is my hobby and I enjoy it.”

“I still run the bar, that’s still my life. I have to go every day and clean the ice machine. This takes my mind off all of it. When I’m detailing a car, I’m not thinking about anything else except this beautiful lady right here,” he said, gesturing to the Gran

Josh Ward stands in his garage with a car he’s currently detailing. He uses the car as an example of what he can do: the ultimate before and after you can expect for your vehicle. (Clever photos by Angela Kellogg)



Torino.

The best part of Ward’s new business is he gets to hang out in the garage several days a week. He invites you to join him and see what he can do for your vehicle this winter.

“Whenever you clean your car,

it looks good, but when I clean your car it looks brand new,” said Ward.

Auto Guys is located at 4450 N. Clare Ave. in Harrison. Follow them on Facebook at Auto Guys or call them at 989-424-0007. (See their ad on page 5B.)

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## Outdoors With Jeff

Three more days and it will be Christmas Eve. Everyone is so excited and can't wait for Christmas to arrive. On Christmas Eve, they will be sitting down in front of the tree and just stare at the gifts wondering what's inside the packages. Christmas relatives will gather for a Christmas dinner.

I used to do that same thing when I was really young. When I got older, I started doing something else. I would go into the forest and spend most of the night there. Back then I remember getting on snowshoes and going into the woods as the sun went down and the moon started to rise. The snow was pretty deep, and you needed snowshoes.

As I entered the forest I sat on a log and ate some wintergreen berries. There were times that I took one of the leaves on the plant and tasted that too. The moon was bright, and something moved on a tree in front of me and I learned that it was a snow owl. That old owl stayed up there a long time stared at me and after some time he flew away. As I walked on the snowshoes for some time, I watched a bunch of deer walking and grazing. It was a year that there weren't any acorns in the area. They were chewing jack pines and tag alders if they could find it. It gets scary as you walk through the woods and all you hear is the noise of the snowshoes going through the wooded area.

Another thing that will scare you when you're walking through the woods, you're shocked when a grouse flushes in front of you. That will increase the heartbeat.

Some would ask why I was out in the woods at midnight, I had to tell how all this occurred. Many years ago, the old timers of the woods talked about going out in the woods and stay in the woods until after midnight. We kept doing that for several years before we realized those old timers had tricked us. They claimed to us that at midnight the deer would be able to talk, of course we never found that.

Over the Christmas vacation, we would spend constant time out in the woods mainly shooting snowshoe rabbits. There was a lot of snow back then, not like now



JEFF GOYT

where we get less now. Anytime that we went hunting we all had to wear snowshoes because the snow was at least a foot or two deep. It was so deep back then that our Consumers Power meter reader, Joe Johnson went from house to house on snowshoes reading meters back in fifties and sixties.

It's not known when the lakes will be safe during the Christmas break. Someone asked me if there are still hunters that hunt cotton tailed rabbits anymore and I said that I have not seen a rabbit hunter is several years. It's my understanding that if you are interested in shooting snowshoe hares you will have to go up to the U.P.

Several years ago, north of Newberry near the shore of Lake Superior there were snowshoes near the mouth of the Two Hearted River. They were just recovering back then.

Remember you can still hunt with a bow and arrow until January 1. Also, check with the DNR to see if there is an extended doe permits area and where that is located.

As you sit around the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve and what you see is a dad with a great big grin on his face. He knows what's in the gift and he's pretty proud of his son. On Christmas Day his son will open that box and see a new gun. The young lad will set around the house and grin continually. He can't wait to get out in the woods and hunt with his dad.

I remember long ago, I felt like this dad and his son. I hunted with my dad and that old English setter for many years. I will remember just about every hunt with my dad. I wish each and every one a Merry Christmas.

## ~ CLARE COUNTY HISTORY ~



A Simple Postcard

### A Simple Postcard

By Angela Kellogg-Henry  
Cleaver Managing Editor

This early 1900 postcard is not out of the ordinary but that is what I like about it. A collage of early Clare buildings in Clare colorized and published by a company out of Toledo, Ohio. It was mailed from Clare to Harrison to Mrs. Jos. Newbound. This card also calls Clare, "The Market City". I was curious about this title and sure enough found a mention of "Market City" on the front page of a 1909 Clare Sentinel. It read, "In accord with a movement on in many cities Clare has fallen in line and adopted a slogan. "THE MARKET CITY." The adoption was made Monday, a committee determining that A. E. Maynard's suggestion as given above be the city's choice. This is an admirable one as interpreting what Clare does today. It is much to be doubted if any other town in Michigan in

proportion for her size can show such an array of wagons and buggies as come to Clare, especially on Saturday. "One and all" for "The Market City", not to inject it into our political differences, not to boost just on the eve of a municipal election and forget it immediately, but on a sane, consistent basis let us all boost for better markets, a greater Clare and a city of pure homes and ambitious lives."

What I like about this card is the simple message on the back. It is a quick communication between two friends when a letter wouldn't suit and not everyone had phone service. The card reads, "Hello Fannie, how are you coming? Trust everything is O.K. Think I am going to like it fine when I get acquainted. Ans soon. Laura" It was mailed in August of 1910. Since I'm naturally curious, or nosey as my husband likes to say when it comes to my genealogy, I looked up the receiver of the card. It went to Fannie



(Melvin) Newbound. Fannie was born in Highland in Oakland County and died in Harrison in 1942. Her husband Joseph was born in England and died in Mt. Pleasant in 1947. They appear to have lived in Harrison from 1900 until their deaths and are both buried in Highland.

I enjoy it when I find a common everyday event like this postcard saved by someone and make its

way back to where it came from. In an age where we can communicate instantly a little postcard from 113 years ago is a sweet reminder of how life has changed. I still like to send cards and letters but there is no denying cell phones and text messages are quicker and easier. Merry Christmas and I hope you get a few cards in the mail this season!

Michigan now offers more track chairs for public use than any other state parks and recreation system

## DNR reaches track chair fundraising goal to expand access at more state park beaches and trails



Visitors enjoy the trail at Hartwick Pines State Park in Grayling. Some 15 locations around the state now have track chairs available for use at no cost, with 10 additional locations soon to receive chairs, thanks to a multi-year fundraising campaign.

The effort to make outdoor recreation in Michigan more accessible for everyone continues to gain steam, with the Department of Natural Resources reaching its funding goal of more than \$400,000 to purchase track chairs for a growing number of state parks and trails.

More than 300 donors have raised \$444,931 over the past five

years to purchase track chairs, which are off-road, electronic chairs that can easily handle trails, snow, sand and even up to 8 inches of water, allowing users to explore areas of the parks that traditional wheelchairs might not reach. Some 15 locations around the state now have track chairs available for use at no cost, with 10 additional locations soon to receive chairs, thanks to the multiyear fundraising campaign.

The cost of one track chair is about \$16,000.

The donor difference Support has come from DNR partner organizations including Kali's Cure for Paralysis Foundation, Safari Club International, Family Hope Foundation, and Friends of Ludington and Grand Haven state

Expanding access From Maybury State Park and Bald Mountain and Island Lake recreation areas in southeast Michigan, and west Michigan's Warren Dunes, Ludington and Muskegon state parks, to the Upper Peninsula's Tahquamenon Falls State Park and others around the state, track chairs give people with injuries or disabilities greater access to park beaches, picnic sites and trails.

Chairs are rented out on a first-come, first-served basis at no cost to the individuals needing assistance. Pets and service animals may accompany track chair users but owners must follow park rules. O'Kelly calls the track chair

program's growth "life changing" for countless people seeking enhanced access when exploring the outdoors. Park supervisors, who witness up close the positive impacts of these chairs, agreed.

"With the track chair at Maybury State Park, the Friends of Maybury volunteers are engaged as hike leaders and the chair users, along with their families, can enjoy the meadows, forests and rolling hills areas of the park," said Traci Sincock, park supervisor at Maybury State Park and Belleville Lake Boating Access Site in Northville. "Having a track chair at Maybury has provided residents with access to this gem of southeast Michigan."

Along the Lake Michigan shoreline, visitors can use a track chair at Holland State Park to access the beach.

"We hear heartwarming stories from people who thought they would never be able to enjoy a day at the beach, and who tell us how thrilled they are to be here," said Sean Mulligan, park supervisor.

"It really does mean a lot for us to make these experiences possible for even more folks. We try to provide a great place for people to come and create those lifelong memories, and having the ability to expand those opportunities is phenomenal."

The hope is to continue to add to the state's fleet of track chairs over time. Anyone wishing to contribute to this anticipated program expansion – or other efforts to enhance state parks – can make a donation by visiting the DNR state parks giving page.

"This effort is just one component of the DNR's department-wide strategy to make outdoor recreation – beaches, campgrounds, fishing, hunting, trails and more – accessible to even more people," O'Kelly said.

"I'm really proud of Michigan for being on the forefront of recreation for all."

Learn more about track chair availability at Michigan.gov/DNRAccessibility.



December 25 - 29

60+ years old, donation of \$2.25 requested. Under 60 years old, \$5.00 per meal. Please Note: We are delivering Meals on Wheels Monday - Friday. Congregate Centers are OPEN to the public. All Seniors (60+), can pick up a meal to go. You must call: Harrison 989-539-6515 OR Lake George/Clare 989-588-9841 ext. 01 to reserve.

Monday, Dec. 25

CLOSED

Tuesday, Dec. 26

Chicken Pot Pie, Mashed Potatoes, Succotash, Orange Juice, Milk

Wednesday, Dec. 27

Fish Sandwich, Dilled Carrots, Broccoli Caesar Salad, Choc. Milk

Thursday, Dec. 28

Hamburger Stroganoff, Over Noodles, Brussel Sprouts, Collard Greens & Bacon, Apricot-Orange Jello, Choc. Milk

Friday, Dec. 29

CLOSED



# EDITORIAL



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

## News From Your Sheriff

### Welcome to December, Clare County

To date, we are at 34,777 incidents for this year in Clare County. The Clare County Sheriff's Office has handled 20,293 of those incidents. We currently have 97 people in our jail: 51 local, two Michigan Department of Corrections, and 41 federal detainees.

This past week we had the Michigan Department of Corrections Jail Inspections Team inspect our facility. This is a yearly inspection of all aspects of the jail. I'm proud to say that we passed the inspection 100%. Congratulations to the entire corrections team and Lt. Bryan Dunn for leading them.

We would like to congratulate Christian Cooper who will be grad-



SHERIFF JOHN WILSON

uating from the Delta Police Academy. Christian was sponsored by the Clare County Sheriff's Office for the fall academy at Delta. He will start his Field Training time immedi-

ately following, which will last between 12 and 14 weeks. We would also like to congratulate Aaron McLearn for passing the physical entry test in order to start the winter academy at Delta. Aaron is currently one of our dispatchers and will be leaving for the academy in January.

We currently have one in training in Dispatch and are looking for applicants for another position in our Central Dispatch. We are also looking for a couple of corrections officers for our jail. If you are interested in the field of corrections, you can obtain information and an application online. If you are interested in applying for the Central Dispatch position, you can go to [www.clareco.net](http://www.clareco.net) and then to "Departments", Central Dispatch, and employment opportunities.

We will be receiving four new

Dodge Durangos soon for our Road Patrol. Our aging fleet is in need of being replaced. We work with a leasing company so it's not so much of a cost up front and with a program to replace patrol units on a 3-year rotation. We are scheduled to receive another five patrol units around March, with one of those going to the City of Harrison contract. I want to thank the Clare County Board of Commissioners for their continuous support in this matter.

We here at the Clare County Sheriff's Office want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Spend some good time with your family and friends over the holiday season. We will be here if you need us. Stay Safe – Stay Strong

**GOD Bless Sheriff John S Wilson**

## Celebrate the holidays with a gift for the whole family: College credits that come with a tax break

*Unwrap the state's 529 prepaid education savings program for your loved ones*

LANSING – There's no better time than the holidays for contributing to a Michigan Education Trust plan – especially for grandparents, caregivers or anyone looking for a perfect gift that provides a child a lifetime's worth of value.

"By paying for future education at today's costs, MET's 529 prepaid tuition savings program is a special gift for the whole family," said Diane Brewer, executive director of MET, the 529 prepaid tuition savings program administered by the Michigan Department of Treasury. "When it comes to holiday giving, Michigan Education Trust is a bargain you can't beat."

"We encourage grandparents, other relatives and friends of the family to open or contribute to a MET plan," Brewer said. "The holidays are a wonderful time to give a gift that will last a lifetime, but you can contribute to an existing account at any time and for any occasion – and it's as simple as any other online purchase."

Brewer encouraged Michigan-ers to enroll in MET before the end of the year to take advantage of the program's tax benefits.

Michigan residents who are MET contract holders can claim a state

tax deduction on the total contribution they make during a calendar year. Purchases or contributions made by Dec. 31 qualify for a deduction on this year's Michigan individual income tax return.

Financial expert Rick Bloom of Bloom Advisors in Farmington Hills echoed Brewer's recommendation to consider opening a MET account not only for the tax advantage but, more importantly, as a long-term financial tool to reduce tuition debt by buying future college credits at today's prices.

Withdrawals from MET are not taxed by the state or federal government when it comes time to pay for qualified higher education expenses.

If a friend or relative has already started a Pay-As-You-Go MET account, anyone can add to that contract throughout the year. All that's needed is the contract number.

Electronic payments to the contract can be made through MET's secure online pay site. MET gift declarations allow contributors to print out certificates acknowledging their contributions designed for holidays, birthdays, graduations and more that can be put in a card or gift-wrapped.

### HOW DOES MET WORK?

The program is specific to tuition. A MET contract buys credit hours right now at today's price so in the future it doesn't matter when tuition costs go up because account holders have already purchased their credit hours and the Trust makes up any difference.

MET benefits are portable, transferable and refundable.

MET benefits can be used for postsecondary education at public and private Michigan and out-of-state universities, colleges, community colleges and technical schools.

If a student chooses to attend a private Michigan school or out-of-state college or university, funds can be directed to that institution.

MET benefits may also be transferred to other eligible family members or terminated for a refund to get back what you put in plus potential earnings if a child decides not to pursue higher education. There are three types of MET plans: the Full Benefits plan, the Limited Benefits plan and the Community College plan. Families can purchase one plan or mix and match options.

More information about MET is available at [SETwithMET.com](http://SETwithMET.com) or 800-MET-4-KID. MET also hosts webinars throughout the year to inform families about the features and benefits of the program and offers one-on-one consultation sessions to make savings with MET more accessible.

## AG Announces \$700M Settlement with Google over Play Store Misconduct

LANSING – On Dec. 19, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and a bipartisan group of 52 other attorneys general today announced a \$700 million agreement with Google in their lawsuit about Google's anticompetitive conduct with the Google Play Store.

"Anticompetitive practices stifle innovation and business growth, and ultimately harm consumers in a consolidated marketplace where one massive company holds all the power," said Nessel. "Google has agreed to \$630 million in restitution, and eligible affected consumers do not need to take any action, they will receive their damages automatically."

Google will pay \$630 million in restitution, minus costs and fees, to consumers who made purchases on the Google Play Store between August 2016 and September 2023 and were harmed by Google's anticompetitive practices. Google will pay the states an additional \$70 million for their sovereign claims. Consumers eligible for restitution do not have to submit a claim – they will receive automatic payments through PayPal or Venmo, or they can elect to receive a check or ACH transfer. More details about that process will be forthcoming. The agreement also requires Google to make their business practices more procompetitive in a number of important ways.

The attorneys general sued Google in 2021 alleging that Google unlawfully monopolized the market Android app distribu-

tion and in-app payment processing. Specifically, the States claimed that Google signed anticompetitive contracts to prevent other app stores from being preloaded on Android devices, bought-off key app developers who might have launched rival app stores, and created technological barriers to deter consumers from directly downloading apps to their devices. The states announced a settlement in principle on September 5, 2023, and Dec. 19 released the finalized terms of that deal.

The settlement requires Google to reform its business practices in the following ways:

- Give all developers the ability to allow users to pay through in-app billing systems other than Google Play Billing for at least five years.

- Allow developers to offer cheaper prices for their apps and in-app products for consumers who use alternative, non-Google billing systems for at least five years.

- Permit developers to steer consumers toward alternative, non-Google billing systems by advertis-

ing cheaper prices within their apps themselves for at least five years.

- Not enter contracts that require the Play Store to be the exclusive, pre-loaded app store on a device or home screen for at least five years.

- Allow the installation of third-party apps on Android phones from outside the Google Play Store for at least seven years.

- Revise and reduce the warnings that appear on an Android device if a user attempts to download a third-party app from outside the Google Play Store for at least 5 years.

- Maintain Android system support for third-party app stores, including allowing automatic updates, for four years.

- Not require developers to launch their app catalogs on the Play Store at the same time as they launch on other app stores for at least four years.

- Submit compliance reports to an independent monitor who will ensure that Google is not continuing its anticompetitive conduct for at least 5 years.

## Grammar Guy

### How to purposefully punctuate the holiday season



CURTIS HONEYCUTT

This is most likely my oldest son's last year believing in Santa. I think he's onto the big lie my wife and I have been spinning. Will he ruin it for his younger siblings? I sure hope not. After all, our 6-year-old told me just yesterday, "Dad, if you're naughty, Santa will give you Coke in your stocking." Bless her heart.

As you know, my expertise isn't in Mr. Claus; it's in mystery clauses. Christmas has plenty to teach us about punctuation, so let's delve down the chimney of Christmas present tense.

Semicolons can really slay if you use them the right way. In fact, they connect clauses better than Mrs. Claus Facetimeing Santa from the North Pole. A semicolon connects two related independent clauses; they replace a comma and a coordinating conjunction. Here's an example: Last Christmas Eve, it was too foggy to navigate the sleigh safely; Santa called on Rudolph to save the day.

Speaking of sleighs, it helps to buckle up while dashing through the snow (lest you get upsoot). In punctuation, a dash adds emphasis to a phrase. Dashes take the place of commas to offset writing in a dramatic way. For example, "The Grinch – who hated anything related to Christmas – stole Christmas from all the citizens of Whoville."

Christmas is a season of anticipation. For those who celebrate the spiritual aspect of Christmas, the Advent season reminds us that the long-awaited Messiah would be born in a humble stable

in Bethlehem. Toy-loving kids find great anticipation in going to bed on Christmas Eve so Santa can bring them toys. In punctuation, colons build a sense of anticipation. They indicate something exciting is coming, whether it's a list, quote or explanation. Curtis has a long Christmas wish list: new pens, novelty socks and a 1968 Nolan Ryan/Jerry Koosman rookie card.

The best way to spread Christmas cheer is by singing loudly for all to hear. Similarly, commas are like Santa's helpers in the magical realm of punctuation. They help to clarify sentences. Commas tell your reader where to pause and break up the flow of words, making it easier to understand what you mean. Noticing the cookies and milk, Santa took a few seconds to devour a midnight snack.

Think of punctuation marks like glitter – a little bit goes a long way. When you go overboard with punctuation, your sentences are littered with excessive, sparkly dots.

*Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist. He is the author of "Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life." Find more at [curtishoneycutt.com](http://curtishoneycutt.com).*

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**State Rep. Tom Kunse, R-Clare** will host local office hours at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 20 at the Harrison District Library. No appointment necessary.

**NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meetings** will be held at Sheri's Diner, 316 E Park St., at noon and 7 p.m. every Monday, and at 7 p.m. the second, third and fourth Wednesday of each month at Harrison District Library. Join for food and conversation.

**Hope For the Future – Suicide Loss Survivor Support Group** meets from 6:30-8 p.m. second and fourth Tuesdays of every month, Quality Inn conference room, 10318 S. Clare Ave., Clare. Direct any questions to Maxine Lago on Facebook.

**Al-Anon Family Group** meets at 8 p.m. Thursdays at First Congregational Church, 211 W. Spruce St., Harrison.

**Lake George Booster Club**, 89 S. Bringold, north of Lake George, hosts Euchre Tuesday year-round. Doors open at 6 p.m. and cards start at 7 p.m. Public welcome.

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**Deadline is Monday at 5:00 PM**

Online posting of classifieds is included FREE with your print ad at [ClareCountyCleverer.net](http://ClareCountyCleverer.net)

**Not Responsible For Ads Taken Over The Phone!**

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**Meowy Christmas from Purple Panther Catnip**  
Don't forget the kitties this holiday season! Purple Panther Catnip makes an irresistible & unique stocking stuffer!  
Premium, chemical & pesticide free catnip. Locally grown in Harrison, MI. Available at the Clare County Cleaver office in Harrison & Elm Creek in Farwell.

Like us on Facebook: [PurplePantherCatnip](https://www.facebook.com/PurplePantherCatnip)

**Firewood for sale**  
8-foot firewood for outdoor woodstove. Hardwood and popple mix. 10 cord min., \$70/cord, delivered. Please call 989-329-6784.

### RECREATIONAL

Come join us at Trails End Pub in Leota to play Euchre starting at 6:30 pm. \$5 at the door. 50/50 raffle will be played. Thursdays starting on 12/14.

### RECREATIONAL FOR SALE

House on Lily Lake, 740 Harding Ave. Please call 989-578-2868.

### WANTED

As a senior I need occasional rides to and fro. Contact me at 942 S Clare Ave., Harrison.

As a senior in Harrison I want to meet and date a special lady for companionship. Send me a pic and I will send back mine. 942 S. Clare Ave., Harrison.

### LEGAL NOTICES

**STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE 55TH CIRCUIT COURT FOR CLARE COUNTY**  
Case No. 23-900345-CH  
**Hon. Tara Hovey**  
JOHNNY WILLIAMS MULHERIN and KATHY JEAN MULHERIN, Husband and Wife, Plaintiffs,  
v.  
MILDRED E. KISH, and EDITHE RUOTTINEN, and UNKNOWN Heirs,

Devises, or assignees of a deceased person who may have been interested in the subject matter of the action, and ALL UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS, Defendants.  
JEFFREY J. KLAUS (P59563)  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
127 West 4th Street Suite 1  
P.O. Box 265  
Clare, MI. 48617  
989-386-3454  
To: MILDRED E. KISH, AND EDITHE RUOTTINEN, AND UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, OR ASSIGNEES OF A DECEASED PERSON WHO MAY HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE ACTION, AND ALL UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS  
**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. You are being sued in this Court by the Plaintiffs to Quiet Title by adverse possession to the following described Real Property:  
A parcel of land situated in the Township of Frost, County of Clare, State of Michigan, and described as: Lot 17, Block 2, of Long Lake Summer Resort, as per plat thereof recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 37, Clare County Records, AND ALSO, all land between said lot and the water's edge of Long Lake by extension of Lot lines, as decreed in Clare County circuit order recorded in Liber 269, page 149. Subject To County Road user over traveled portion of Heckley and Hume Road. Also Ridge Road. Also known as East Long Lake Road. ("Property")  
2. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this Court at the Court address of 225 W. Main Street, Harrison, MI 48625 on or before January 15, 2024. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this case.  
3. A copy of this order shall be published once each week for three consecutive weeks in the Clare County Cleaver and proof of publication shall be filed in this Court.  
Dated: November 20, 2023  
Honorable Tara S. Hovey P54258  
55th Circuit Court Judge  
Clare County, Michigan  
\*\*\*

**Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement**  
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Clare County, starting promptly at 11:00 AM, on January 10, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.  
**Name(s) of the mortgagor(s):** Keith Parker and Nicole Parker, Husband and Wife, Joint Tenants with Full Rights of Survivorship  
**Original Mortgagee:** Mortgage Electronic Registrations Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, FKA Quicken Loans, LLC, its successors and assigns  
**Foreclosing Assignee (if any):** Rocket Mortgage, LLC, FKA Quicken Loans, LLC  
**Date of Mortgage:** March 8, 2022  
**Date of Mortgage Recording:** March 18, 2022  
**Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice:** \$45,382.96  
**Description of the mortgaged premises:** Situated in the Township of Freeman, Clare County, Michigan, and are described as: Part of the West one-half of the Southwest one-quarter, Section 16, Town 18 North, Range 6 West, Freeman Township, Clare County, State of Michigan, described as: Commencing at the West one-quarter corner of said Section 16; thence South 139.44 feet; thence along the Easterly right-of-way line of M-115 761.80 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing along said right of way 150 feet; thence North 65 degrees 30 seconds East 152 feet; thence North 33 degrees 09 minutes 40 seconds West 150.02 feet; thence South 65 degrees 30 minutes West 152 feet to the point of beginning, containing 0.5 acres.  
**Commonly Known as:** 9864 Cadillac Dr., Lake,

MI 48632  
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judiciary Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.  
**Attention Purchaser:**  
This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney.  
**Attention homeowner:**  
If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.  
This notice is from a debt collector.  
Date of notice:

11/30/2023  
Potestivo & Associates, P.C.  
251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307  
248-853-4400  
318206  
(11-30)(12-21)  
48-3  
\*\*\*  
**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT CLARE COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**Decedent's Estate CASE NO. 23-18972-DE**  
**Court address:**  
225 West Main Street  
Harrison, MI. 48625  
**Court telephone:**  
989-539-7109  
Estate of Robert L. Benham, Jr.  
**TO ALL CREDITORS:**

**TOWNSHIP OF LINCOLN Clare County P.O. Box 239 Lake George, MI 48633**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
The Lincoln Township Planning Commission will conduct a **Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm** at the Lincoln Township Hall, 175 Lake George Avenue in Lake George, Michigan. The Planning Commission will consider an Application for a Special Exception Use Permit from Stuart Cline regarding the use of the property located at 440 Lake George Street, Lake George, Michigan. The property will be used for boat and ATV rental. The property number is 18-010-275-001-00. Written comments may be sent to the Lincoln Township Planning Commission, P.O. Box 239, Lake George, MI 48633 or by e-mail: [clm@lincolntwp.com](mailto:clm@lincolntwp.com) and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2024.  
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:**  
The decedent, Robert L. Benham, Jr., died January 11, 2022.  
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jackie L. Benham, personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.  
Dated: 12/13/2023  
Christopher P. Atallah P73224  
805 Oakwood Drive Ste 125  
Rochester, MI. 48307  
248-613-0007  
Jackie L. Benham  
11250 E. Kilarea Ave. Unit 252  
Mesa, AZ. 85209  
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51  
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**City of Harrison PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**New Extended Office Hours at Harrison City Hall**  
Starting January 8, 2024, Harrison City Hall will offer new, extended office hours to provide greater accessibility to our services. These changes come as a direct response to detailed traffic analysis and valuable feedback from our residents.  
To ensure maximum convenience, City Hall will now remain open over lunch and will extend its closing time to 5:30 PM from Monday to Thursday. After a careful review of resident visitation patterns, City Hall will adjust its operations to close on Fridays. This change supports our new extended hours from Monday to Thursday, ensuring we are open when you need us most. To cater to more intricate service needs, we will gladly offer personalized appointments on Fridays.  
**Our new operating hours are as follows:**  
• Monday: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
• Tuesday: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
• Wednesday: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
• Thursday: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
Friday: Office Closed – Available by appointment only  
We are committed to better serving you with these new hours and appreciate your understanding as we continue to enhance our city services.  
46-6

**TOWNSHIP OF LINCOLN Clare County P.O. Box 239 Lake George, MI 48633**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
The Lincoln Township Planning Commission will conduct a **Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm** at the Lincoln Township Hall, 175 Lake George Avenue in Lake George, Michigan. The Planning Commission will discuss a proposed ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Provide for Hazardous Material Spill Cost Recovery". Written comments may be sent to the Lincoln Township Planning Commission, P.O. Box 239, Lake George, MI 48633 or by e-mail: [clm@lincolntwp.com](mailto:clm@lincolntwp.com) and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2024.  
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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
The Hayes Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday January 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Hayes Township Municipal Complex, located at 2055 E. Townline Lake Rd., Harrison MI 48625.  
In accordance with MCL 125.3103, Hayes Township is publishing notice of this public hearing. The public hearing is being held to address the adoption of a PUD Ordinance Amendment to the 2019 Hayes Township Zoning Ordinance.  
If you are unable to attend, written comments may be submitted to Hayes Township, P.O. Box 310, Harrison, Michigan 48625 Attn: Zoning Administrator, until 3:00pm Wednesday January 10, 2024.  
All related information may be reviewed at the Hayes Township Clerks office during normal business hours, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm.  
Debra Hoyt  
Hayes Township Clerk  
Publication date December 21, 2023, and January 4, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**  
The Hayes Township Planning Commission will hold a special meeting on Wednesday January 10, 2024, immediately following the scheduled 7:00 pm public hearing at the Hayes Township Municipal Complex, located at 2055 E. Townline Lake Rd., Harrison MI 48625.  
This meeting will be held to vote on recommending the proposed PUD Ordinance Amendment to the Hayes Township Board for approval.  
Debra Hoyt  
Hayes Township Clerk  
Publication date December 21, 2023, and January 4, 2024.  
51

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976 HILLCREST 47.5 ft of waterfront on Budd Lake. 3BR/2BA two separate units could make great income property potential. \$206,000  
For Info Text RBJZSPF To 52187  
4985 WILSON 2022 Clayton 16x60 2 bd 2 ba mobile new well septic square 10 acre parcel pond guest house state land nearby \$199,000  
For Info Text RBJXNFN To 52187  
6.1 ACRES CLARE AVE Great site with high traffic flow to build your business. Freeway exposure on partially cleared lot. \$150,000  
For Info Text RBGVBI To 52187  
40 ACRES ATHEY AVE Gated 40 acres! Hunters Paradise, Deer Blind, Outhouse, no electricity, no septic, hand pump well. \$150,000  
For Info Text RBJTPZ To 52187  
4971 WESTWOOD Well-kent 3bd 1 ba ranch knotty pine interior ample kitchen corner lot attached garage paved drive \$125,000  
For Info Text RBJXHV To 52187  
9647 HUGHES This 1 acre parcel has 32x48 garage with power and well and is prepped for you to pull in your camper. \$77,000  
For Info Text RBJXPZX To 52187  
NHN RIVERS TERRACE this lot would make a beautiful building site for a home or hunting cabin. Walking distance from Secord Lake. \$55,900  
For Info Text RBJZBN To 52187  
5237 HAMILTON Secure a happy future with this rewarding Cottage-style in lakefront setting. Well water. A pleasing choice! \$52,000  
For Info Text RBJTRFM To 52187  
NHN CARPENTER Waterfront Lots on a no motor Duck Lake. Take in the sights with your rowboat or kayak \$22,400  
For Info Text RBJHGN To 52187  
30 RED PINE RIDGE Great building site on paved road. Comes w/3 years free golf membership for 2, possible owner financing. \$19,900  
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Rob Dimmer

**Merry Christmas!**  
From All of us at **Condell Wonder Land Realty**

# THE AMISH COOK - By Gloria Yoder



Owning sheep has been a dream of mine for years.

After purchasing over 1000 chestnut saplings, Daniel told us how efficient it is to have sheep grazing among the trees. Besides keeping the grass clipped, the trees are also naturally fertilized.

Not only that, growing children equals more energy to be spent somewhere. Having hands-on experience with sheep and nurturing young trees sounded appealing to both Daniel and me.

Now, a couple of years later, I find myself gazing across the chestnut field time and again, wondering if my dream has become a reality. A flock of sheep contentedly munching on lush green grass among seven-foot trees, reaching for the skies and growing with each rain shower.

Our first group of three lambs arrived a month ago. The children were elated. Who wouldn't want to be the shepherd whom the sheep would learn to trust?

The sheep were bouncy and full of energy- who knew sheep could jump that high? I had no idea. Then, since they needed names, Snap, Crackle, and Pop seemed to be the perfect fit, so it was a deal.

I watched with keen interest, observing the very nature of sheep. If they were scared, they stayed in

one tight group; where one went, they all went. My mind flashed to the reality that, as people, we, too, are much more protected when not on our own.

A few weeks later, we all went to a local sheep farm to buy four more sheep. Our neighbors, the Josh Raber family, went with us and also picked out sheep to add to their growing herd.

The old-time farmer and his wife helped us fetch and load the sheep.

Austin had an eye on a chunky-looking brown sheep. I agreed it looked promising for it to have a lamb this fall. "By November, it should be lambing," the farmer said.

We were all eyes as we watched a llama strut among the sheep, acting as if he were the owner of them all. The little boys weren't sure of this strange-looking animal as he curled up his lip, glaring at us.

After an hour or two, we all piled into the 15-passenger van and headed home.

This group of sheep was unloaded at Josh's for the first couple of weeks since they came from a different farm.

Last Monday night, I felt an urge to fetch Brownie at Josh's (as Austin named the new brown sheep). "But then, why be in a rush? Farmer Joe had said she

wouldn't have her babies till November," I reasoned.

"We'll wait till sometime in October to bring her home," I told Austin.

The following morning, Austin answered a phone call. It was Josh. "We have three extra animals on our farm," he said. "Two of them are your horses that came last night." (Sigh, they managed to knock down the gate, then paid a visit to the neighbors.) "And the third animal stays close to Brownie."

Austin erupted with, "A lamb! A lamb!"

It was true. If I had only followed my instinct, she would have been home. It didn't take long to plan to see Brownie and baby.

Everyone thought she was the cutest thing ever. "Could we name her Frisky?" Austin asked.

That evening, Brownie and Frisky came to their new home, getting the utmost care from six happy children.

Hopefully, soon, we'll bring Twinkie, Whoopie, and Cookie (the other sheep we got from the farm) home to join the herd. First, we need to get our fencing system fixed. Our little nanny goat, which runs with the sheep, discovered how to get through the fence; then, of course, she's got a following of all the sheep, thinking the grass may be greener on the other side of the fence.

With the older children in school, Jesse and Elijah are pleased to do anything they can for the sheep. We hope to have one more ewe with babies this fall; they should all be lambing by next



spring. Who is the most excited about that? I have no way of knowing. We plan to build up our herd by keeping the ewes and see where it takes us. At any rate, we'll keep you in the loop.

With all our little shepherds around here, I couldn't resist sharing our Shepherd's Pie recipe with you. I have no idea where that name comes from, but in my mind, I picture an old-time shepherd, weary from an entire day of being outside caring for the sheep, coming to the house with soothing shepherd's pie set in front of him to

give him the needed nourishment!

water, mash and add the following:

### Homemade Shepherd's Pie

- 6 pounds hamburger
- 2 1/2 cups oatmeal
- 3 eggs
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 4 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon onion
- 3 cups milk

- 4 ounces cream cheese
- 1/2 stick butter
- 4 teaspoons salt
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon onion salt

Mix together and bake in a large roaster at 350 for 1 hour. Cool. Cook 6 quarts peeled and cut-up potatoes. When soft, pour off

Add milk till it is creamy. Cool. When both meat mixture and potatoes are cold, add 2 cans cream of mushroom soup on top of hamburger then layer with mashed potatoes. Top with Velveeta cheese. Refrigerate overnight. Bake at 250 for 3 hours.

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# MORE NEWS & VIEWS

4 Interviewees Step Forward to Fill School Board Vacancy

## BOE Appoints New Board Trustee



Brian Noel

Andrew Morris

Mick Haley

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
Cleaver Staff Writer

HARRISON – The Dec. 11 meeting of the Harrison Community Schools Board of Education included interviews of four candidates for the open school board seat created by the resignation of Courtney McCrimmon. Those interviewees included two previous candidates, Brian Noel and Andrew Morris, and first-time candidates Mick Haley and Zachary Driver.

Candidates were asked to leave the room so as not to prematurely hear the Board's questions/candidate's answers, and after each candidate's interview was completed, he was allowed to stay and hear the remaining interview(s).

As has been done when the

board member?

-What strengths, skills and qualities will you bring to the Board of Education?

-In your opinion, what are some of the biggest challenges or opportunities facing public education today in Michigan, and specifically in Harrison?

-What comments or questions might you have for us?

All the candidates spoke with sincerity and openness about education and the possibilities for cooperative work to be done on behalf of students – with each of them prioritizing students.

Noel brought an openness to learn, along with a desire to ensure his grandchildren have a quality school to attend. He also spoke of the importance of being willing to

problem-solving and a rational thought process.

Haley brought his extensive educational background and admiration for the Board, school district

Evaluation, which yielded strong scores, however, due to the unavailability of M-STEP data, finalizing the evaluation was tabled until the January meeting.

### In the Candidate's Words

This is the complete answer candidate Zachary Driver provided to the HCS Board of Education question: *In your opinion, what are some of the biggest challenges or opportunities facing public education today in Michigan, and specifically in Harrison?*

"Collectively, I think one of the biggest challenges is something that our board has talked about [the terminology is] democratization of education," Driver said. "Offering the ability to share the success points across the school – not just thrive at being our own success point, but also share *what* has made us successful: everything down from a teacher's relationship with a student and how to build that relationship, to how a school is better able to coordinate their administrative level to get the funding that they need to ensure that their teachers are well supported – that schools are safe.

"It's a struggle for a lot of communities throughout the country to be able to do everything that they need to do funding-wise and regulation-wise without having to cut corners or make sacrifices. Unfortunately, one of those first sacrifices is the salary of teachers. The ability to have a consistent income that is competitive against other careers ... that's a big one for the country.

"Locally, for the community, I think it's a real understanding of what community exists – what we *are* as a community. We have a diverse group, both economically and our belief system, and politically – and that's just part of a good community. Diversity is great, but it also means there are challenging conversations that need to be had of what's in the schools, what's talked about, and what is supporting youth. You're very traditional in a sense. It may seem uncomfortable to talk about, or something you absolutely don't want to deal with, but I think it's worth having a conversation. And I think more of those conversations being had, sooner rather than later, gives us an opportunity to build that bond with those community members sitting there."

and students. He noted his experience on Harrison City Council and spoke of the importance of listening and being supportive of all teachers and students, ensuring the best environment to ensure their success.

Driver described his varied experience in technology [The Institute for Excellence in Education technology coordinator] and coaching Little League, and his belief that education comes down to a set of priorities, with the first being the kids. He said the Board's job is finding ways for guiding administration through the schools, understanding ways to support teachers, and again, connecting with kids and how they can be supported.

All spoke of their experiences, pointing out how those experiences would translate into priorities and decision-making value in service to the district. They also described their experiences in education and how they relate to HCS District on a personal level.

When it came time for the Board to make its selection and turn four possibilities into one certainty, discussion included a great deal of positivity about each of the candidates – something refreshing and promising in times which seem to have become all too divisive and negative.

All Board members cited the quality of all the candidates, noting that each would make a fine addition to the Board. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken which yielded a unanimous vote to appoint Zachary Driver to fill the open seat. His duties will begin with the Board's Jan. 8 meeting.

In other actions, the Board conducted the annual Superintendent



Quilt of Valor recipient Fredrick Priest, is shown with presenters Judy Tritten, left, and RaeAnn Loafman. (Photo courtesy of Dale Tritten)

## Quilt of Valor Awarded

Fredrick Priest of Harrison was recently awarded a Quilt of Valor for his military service at American Legion Post 404 in Harrison. Priest is an American Legion member, as well as being a member of the Honor Guard, and the awarding was done Dec. 13 at the Honor Guard Christmas Party.

Priest served in the U.S. Army from 1984 to 1987, serving at Fort Ord in California and Camp Long in Korea. His MOS [military occupational specialty] was 52D Power Generation Equipment Repair/Operator. He was honorably discharged as a Spec 4 (E4).

Priest's quilt was a special signature quilt, where individual star blocks are signed for veterans, some with messages of gratitude. Many of these blocks were signed by members of Post 404. One special block was signed by Post 404's late commander Patrick Loafman, who passed earlier this year. Pat's wife, RaeAnn, assisted Judy Tritten, QOVF volunteer presenter, in awarding the quilt.

To nominate your favorite active duty military member or veteran to receive a quilt in 2024, go to QOVF.org. Quilts of Valor is celebrating 20 years, having presented almost 370,000 quilts.



District Administrative Assistant Sarah Rust administers the oath of office to newly appointed HCS Board of Education Trustee Zachary Driver immediately following the Dec. 11 school board meeting. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)

board interviewed to fill previous vacancies, identical questions were posed which sought to inform the board of the candidates' strengths, intentions, applicable skills and their take on what/where education is, should be and could be.

Each candidate was asked to introduce himself and to share why he was interested in serving on the school board. The remaining questions included:

-What do you see as the roles and responsibilities of a school

be part of the solution rather than the problem. He also counted as a strength his recent awareness that sometimes things just have to work themselves out and can't be forced.

Morris, who is the parent of a middle-schooler, said his interest in the seat arose from seeing a paucity of community participation at school board meetings, leading him to want to help however he can. He said that as someone who has managed a business for 13 years, his biggest strengths are

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