



## BUCK TALES

We heard from many readers last week reporting that they too had spring plants reblooming. Lilacs, forsythia, and one reader reported her roses bloomed three times this year and she currently had a rose in a vase! And of course, the pesky Asian Lady Beetles love the warmup too.

## COMING EVENTS

**Early voting in Clare County** starts Saturday, October 26 and continues from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Sunday, Nov. 3 in the Clare County Building, 225 W. Main St., Harrison. Call with questions to the Clare County Clerk at 989-539-7131.

**Clare County Arts Council Craft Show** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at Grant Township Hall, 3022 Surrey Road, Clare.

**Annual Marion Eagles Auxiliary 4087 Pies, Baked Goods & Craft Show** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, at 221 S. Mill St., Marion. Book table space for \$10. Call 231-743-9716.

**Ole Time Country Gospel Jamboree** from 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at the First Congregational Church, Harrison. Refreshments to follow. Come enjoy and join in the singing or tap your feet to a fun filled night of great entertainment praising the Lord. All musicians/signers are welcome.

**Benefit for the Richards Family** from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27 at the Harrison Masonic Lodge. Food, silent auction, 50/50, and bake sale. Ed Richards and his son Kahl are both battling cancer.

**Saturday, Nov. 2 (Note winter distribution location)**

**Free Drive Thru Mobile Food Distribution, Clare County Transit Building, 1473 Transportation Drive, Harrison:** Food distribution from 10 a.m. until at least 11:30 a.m. Food will be placed in your trunk/hatchback; make room in advance. Bring empty boxes or baskets in your trunk for volunteers to put the food. Restrooms will not be available. If you do not have access to a vehicle or are feeling ill, please stay home and arrange for someone to pick up your food.

**Harrison Area Genealogical Society** will meet at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at the Harrison District Library. The public is welcome. Bring your research questions and roadblocks. For questions call Barb at 989-240-0251 or Linda at 989-539-9796.

**Michigan Log Marks** presented by **Jon H. Ringelberg** at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at the Pere Marquette District Library in Clare. Ringelberg will share and present his project collecting and compiling Michigan log marks, share types of log marks and hammers and other lumbering tools, discuss Michigan log mark law and share his best discoveries and favorite log marks.

## BOC Hears Public's Response to Airport Budget Action

# Voices Raised Over Airport Defunding Issue

**Reporter's note:** *The people who addressed the Clare County Board of Commissioners Oct. 16 occasionally referred to the closure of Clare County Airport 80D. To be clear, there has been no discussion during BOC meetings specifically directed at closing the airport, but rather the BOC had acted solely to defund it. However, street/Facebook gossip aside, it is a logical thought progression to reach the conclusion that lack of funding ultimately would lead to the airport's demise.*



Pat Adams



Kim Kennicott



Carl Lounsbury

By **DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY**  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON – The Clare County Board of Commissioners' Sept. 30 defunding of Clare County Airport 80D on a 5-3 vote has drawn much comment and no small amount of consternation on the part of those who support the maintenance, refurbishment and growth of the airport. So, it was no surprise to find a full house at the Oct. 16 BOC meeting, the majority of whom sought reconsideration of that defunding action. Absent [excused] from this meeting were Commissioners Samantha Pitchford and Rickie Fancon.

First to address the Board was Pat Adams, who asked if he was to approach the City of Harrison and Hayes Township and secure a possible \$10,000 commitment from each for the airport, would the county reconsider putting the \$20,000 back into the budget? Chair Jeff Haskell replied that he couldn't speak for the whole board, but that he thought it would maybe be a start to repair it.

Adams then expressed a desire to speak with a couple former no-voters after the meeting, and offered to do any research that might ease their concerns about the airport.

Next to speak was Kim Kennicott, former airport manager, who said it wasn't so much the defunding per se, but *how* it was defunded. He noted the argument of Harrison and Hayes not stepping up to be in a contract for the airport, but reminded that they had been in a contract previously and the county had backed out *on them*.

"We'd like them to be in, that would be nice," Kennicott said. "But there was never a timeline put on that – no one ever said 'Hey, if we don't have them onboard by the time budget time comes around, we're gonna defund the airport.' To me, that was just something Commissioner Fancon and Commissioner Gilmore came up with because they want to defund the airport – and that's what they do.

It occurred to me in that meeting that there were commissioners sitting up there who were willing to say anything to get what they want, whether it was completely factual or truthful, or not. To me, that brings up conflicts and ethics issues for those folks who are running the county.

"What makes it worse, to me, is that they found three of you folks to throw in with them on this thing. And honestly, if you were involved in the motion defunding the airport, shame on you. We, the people, have a right to expect more from our elected officials than what I saw at that meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Defunding the airport was a bad idea; it was based on bad information and very poorly done – it didn't need to be that way." Kennicott then urged restoration of airport funding and allowing a year to try to get Harrison and Hayes onboard again. He pointed out that the only request from Commissioners Gilmore and Fancon had been to be presented with a direc-

tion for the airport where's it going and what were the plans for it. "They've been given all that the last year. Commissioner Ambrozaitis has done that. We've done a lot of things down there this year to make the airport better. Restoring the funding for it would be the *right* thing to do."

Carl Lounsbury, aircraft and hangar owner, spoke about previous reference by Gilmore that the airport is only used by drug dealers.

"None of us are drug dealers," he said. "And I doubt very seriously if the Coast Guard and the National Guard crews who frequent the restaurant out there with their choppers are drug dealers. And the way that proposal was put to defund the airport, and the way it was voted on, it wouldn't surprise me one bit that you were in violation of the Open Meetings Act. I could say a lot of things about the integrity of some of the members of this board, but I don't need to – they demonstrated that by themselves very adequately."

Pilot Robert Ash spoke next, noting he owns two properties in the area, which he purchased specifically because of the convenience of the airport. "I think the conception is the airport doesn't generate any money for the community," Ash said. "I come up here all the time; I spend money at the hardware stores, at the auto parts stores, restaurants. I have friends that fly in here, when they come up hunting, that go out boating with us. Everybody spends money in here, and that's a lot of money that's generated for the community. Maybe it doesn't show that it specifically comes from the airport, but they're coming here because I'm up here. Because my family comes up here. Friends come up here. And the reason we come up here is to enjoy what Harrison has to offer. And, if they close the airport or they don't fund it anymore, I have no reason to be here anymore. I'll go someplace else

See BOC on page 2

## Student Athlete Academic Eligibility at 99%

# Athletic Director Provides Positive, Extensive Sports Update

By **DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY**  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON – The Oct. 14 meeting of the Harrison Area Community Schools Board of Education kicked off with a definite sports theme with a group of the district's athletes: youth cheerleaders, high school cheerleaders and three cross-country runners leading the Pledge of

there are 21 high school volleyball players. Carlstrom said that looking at the eighth-grade numbers this year, he expects there could be a freshman team next year.

"Conference realignment is going well," he said. "Especially with no quads for our scheduling, it makes it a lot smoother schedule." That has resulted in shorter game nights, for which a lot of positive compliments had been received. "But they're competing night in and night out ... we're very excited about our volleyball program."

Carlstrom noted this year's Districts will be held in Farwell, and will include Beal City, Beaverton, Farwell, Harrison, Pinconning and Sanford. He said that scoring for volleyball has been switched, and once that's completed a schedule will be sent for the event slated to be held the first week in November.

The next sport addressed was cross country, which Carlstrom said is seeing the highest participation Harrison's had in at least three years. He noted one of the Harrison Middle School runners had broken the Middle School record the previous weekend, which he also deemed "exciting." "Oct. 26 the Regionals will be at East Jordan," he said. "Once we get the schedule for that, all of our runners will go run in the Regionals at East Jordan."

Carlstrom reported there are 22 cheerleaders at the high school level who had been cheering at all home JV games and all home and away varsity games. He said there are a total of 46 JV and varsity athletes, with JV football sitting at 5:2, and varsity undefeated.



The huge American flag recently installed at the Harrison athletic field waves gently with the Harrison Hornet statue in the foreground.

"We are the 2024 Jack Pine Conference Division 2 champions," Carlstrom said, adding that the Hornets would be playing Ogemaw Heights the coming Friday. He noted that Ogemaw Heights had lost to Standish Sterling the previous Friday, but were the "big seed in Division 2" and Harrison would be playing them for the Overall Jack Pine Conference Championship.

"It's extremely exciting," Carlstrom said. "It's been a long time since we've been in that situation." [Unfortunately, that game saw Harrison fall on a score of 64-28.]

Carlstrom further reported that overall participation in fall sports sits at about 33% at the high school, which he said was on par nationally and slightly below the Michigan average of 40%.

"But once winter sports begin, we'll pick up some more athletes," he said. "With skiing, bowling and basketball, we'll have other opportunities for kids and hopefully we can hit that 40%."

Another point of pride expressed by Carlstrom was that 99% of the district's athletes had

been academically eligible all season, smiling and describing it as "a pretty good number."

He also acknowledged the addition of three new scoreboard sponsors: Members First Credit Union at the football field; S&S Collision and Federal Broach in the gym. Contributions from Snowbird Lanes and the Harrison Sports Boosters resulted in another addition to sports: a new LED scorer's table for the high school gym, with the old one moved to the middle school.

More good news came when Carlstrom reported Harrison being selected to receive \$5,000 from the T-Mobile Friday Night 5G Lights Sweepstakes, which he said would be used for the football program.

Also new are two new HUDL live-stream cameras at the football field and one in the high school gym which will serve much better than what was used previously.

Carlstrom then spoke of the new flag at the football field provided by the Boosters and others.

"We're excited for the fall season to keep going and what the future holds," he said. "And winter sports is next."



**Athletic Director Brad Carlstrom informs HCS Board of Education members of the current state of Harrison athletic activities, accomplishments and upcoming sports seasons. (Cleaver photos by Dianne Alward-Biery)**

Allegiance.

Athletic Director Brad Carlstrom then provided the Board with an update on the district's athletics program – a rather lengthy and positive summary of achievement. He noted that JV and high school level volleyball teams were playing that evening at Ogemaw Heights, adding that

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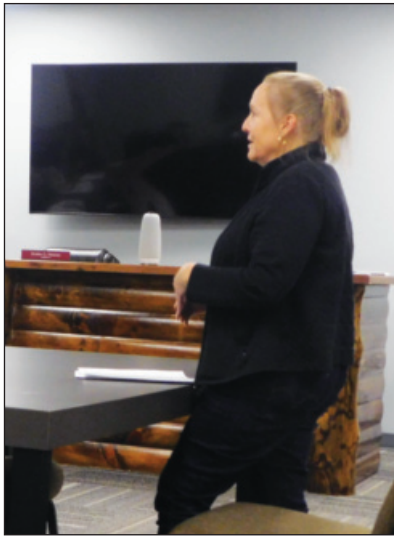
# COMMUNITY LIFE



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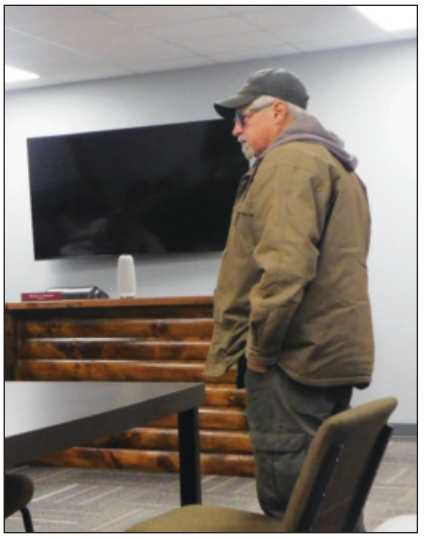
Kelly Harrison



Kevin Gucken



Gale Peterson



Mark Baugher

## BOC from page 1

where there is an airport. I think you guys should reconsider funding the airport; there's a lot it has to offer this community."

Kelly Harrison, who identified herself as someone who comes from Tier 1 and Tier 2 Automotive, and said when she thinks about business, she didn't believe an airport would bring business to the area. She conceded that there are people who use the airport for "hobby purposes" and that she was "all about that." Harrison recounted remembrance of visiting the Flint airport and riding in an airplane as a small child, which she thought "was a cool thing."

"I like Jackie's Airport Restaurant," she said. "But when I think about funding, I can't ignore there's another airport in the county and we don't fund that at a county level. So, in my mind, it seems strange we would fund this airport in Harrison." She also touched on the county's lower income status, and the fact that a minority of the people would be using the airport.

Local pilot Kevin Gucken noted having a Grummond AA-5 and a hangar at the airport. "I just think that people that are not connected to the airport in any way don't realize the value of that airport to the area," he said. "First of all, we would like to grow Harrison. That airport also brought me here; I retired in 2023, but I bought my place in 2009 simply because I could fly my plane here to get to this community. Now I'm here; I'm not going anywhere if you get rid of this airport – but drawing new people with money – it's a very important part of this community. I don't see how – what's the funding, \$20,000 – I mean, come on. What did you fund for \$700,000? It's such a minor amount of money, it makes me think to myself there's some other ulterior motive for closing this – \$20,000 is nothing in the County's budget, in my opinion. Really, we're talking about closing a civic structure with the significance of an airport over what I feel is chicken feed."

Then, stepping up with attitude and a little bit of anger was Gale Peterson, owner of Jackie's Airport Restaurant. "I come from 4557 N. Clare Ave., and so do 14 other people who depend on me for a job," she said. "What does this have to do with my restaurant?" She then challenged one of the commissioners to stand and answer that question. "And you want to know something else? The damn people that I feed! Old people, you people that I



Larry Szyska

feed, that come in because they have no one else to feed them. And they come in, and we have their phone numbers – when they don't show up, we're on the horn. Somebody knows where they live, and there's hundreds of them in this county – not town, county – and Gladwin and Houghton Lake that come to my restaurant. And I employ 14 people that depend on me, that have children. Can you answer my question now? What does this have to do with my restaurant? What's gonna happen to me? Anybody?" Jeff Haskell responded by saying he did not have an answer for her.

Peterson then noted having just signed a 10-year lease, and asked who would compensate her for the remaining nine years and seven months of business. She stated that she maintains the building on her own dime, has always paid her rent on time with the exception of four months in 2020 when the County waived it due to COVID. She then asked who among the commissioners was from Harrison, and who was from Clare. "Who wants to keep the Clare Airport open? And who's digging a gosh darn river to land planes in it? What's going on there? So we can land water planes that have wheels? They can land at our airport. And what about Redi Med? Is Redi Med going to be able to land there when it's full of solar panels or whatever the gossip I'm hearing around town is?" She went on to speak of the Coast Guard, and the crewman who runs all the way from where they land on the runway and carries out 15 orders of food "because it's the only restaurant they'll come to – not that there's a bunch of them at airports in Michigan. Who's gonna do their drills? Has Grayling been told they're not going to be able to land their helicopters



Karl Randall

there and do their drills and training? Does that matter to anybody? Just say it. Keep my people employed and keep my ... older people fed, and cared for! Because I care about this town, and I think it sucks everything's closed."

Mark Baugher told the Board he had been flying up to the airport for 25 years, described it as where he met his wife and then moved to the area. "We've had dozens of airplanes fly into the Harrison airport strictly because of the restaurant," he said. Baugher noted coming from Livingston County Airport and having six to 10 airplanes from there fly in on the weekends. "You can't do that in Clare; if you want to go to Clare and go to a restaurant, hey, they've got a courtesy car. You can't put people from eight or 10 airplanes in a courtesy car – it'd look like a clown bus. There's a very minimal amount of airplane places you can go to stop and get in a restaurant, eat, walk back out and get in your plane and fly home." He said the airport hasn't been used a lot lately, but urged commissioners to consider that people are still recovering from the financial after effects of COVID.

Larry Szyska, who said he lives across from the airport, was adamantly opposed to funding it. He spoke of the need for developing employment opportunities for the here and now, and discredited the likelihood of aeronautics-related jobs being developed in a timely way to benefit the county. He also spoke of helicopters making deliveries directly to manufacturing businesses, and that defunding of the airport didn't mean Redi Med and the Coast Guard couldn't still land there. The

focus of his comments was on a linear solution of bringing in businesses [his model reference for this was the Amazon distribution warehouse in Warren] that in turn bring in money so people could afford to live here, as well as the need for housing those people.

Karl Randall, an attorney and currently a Grant Township trustee, spoke of his years in Oakland County government, focusing on his last 24 there as aviation manager for Oakland County government, overseeing three airports. He cited the Oakland Airport as being completely self-funded – in what is

considered the richest county in the state. He compared that to Clare County, noting it as being in the bottom five in terms of money available for the BOC to distribute. Randall went on to say Oakland had three airports which were not funded by the county, but were a separate line item in the county budget called Enterprise Fund and ran on the money that was generated at the three airports. He also mentioned the Clare City Airport, which the city pays for. He then cited the need for cost-benefit analysis, and consideration of the entire county, not solely the local area around the airport. Randall further suggested there could be things done at 80D that would allow it to become self-sustaining, which "would take some work." He then voiced his opinion that the County had better places to spend its limited resources than to subsidize its airport.

*[For clarity, the Clare City Airport is a NPLAS Airport, meaning it receives \$150,000 annually in federal funding – federal tax monies that are paid by citizens across the entire county, and for which 80D is ineligible. It also is a fact that the City of Clare contributes financially to its airport and, according to its previous airport manager, it has never broken even financially.]*

After the public had voiced their opinions [seven for funding, and three against funding] the commissioners moved on to the day's motions. That was followed by Reports, and when Jeff Haskell spoke of attending Career Quest at Saginaw Valley State University, which saw 5,000 10th- and 11th-graders in attendance with the opportunity to do virtual welding

**Dewayne Rogers, CCRC managing director, puts forth the offer to hear any requests for assistance at the airport, and the possibility the road commission might be able to help. (Cleaver photos by Dianne Alward-Biery)**



and hands-on nursing, he added that he thought there needed to be more discussion regarding the airport at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Commissioner Gabe Ambrozaitis reminded that the Airport Committee would be meeting at 4 p.m. the following Tuesday, and that he looked forward to continuing the discussion.

In the final Public Comment portion of the agenda, another positive voice was raised by Dewayne Rogers, road commission managing director, who said the road commission would be open to possible discussion of ways to maybe help to eliminate some of the problems at the airport. "We have a lot of knowledge and a lot of equipment and personnel," he said. "And I'm just going to say I am willing to listen to any conversations you guys would like to have with me in regards to that. And maybe I can help in some way."


Carl Lounsbury then rose with a tongue-in-cheek question. "A lot's been said today about people shouldn't have to pay taxes for something they're not using," he said. "I've never had kids. Can I get a refund on all the school taxes I've paid over the years?"

Kevin Gucken rose to make additional comment, saying, "A piece of infrastructure like that, that land area, once it's gone it will be very difficult to replace. I think the funding is minimal and I just believe that if you let it go, when this community grows that's going to be gone and you're not going to be able to put it back. People are going to go somewhere else. I just don't understand what the problem is."

Another gentleman, who didn't identify himself, raised the question of whether the airport could be privately funded via a landing fee from those who utilize it. He further conjectured that insurance received of private owners would be prohibitive. Essentially the answer received was that the airport has liability insurance paid for by the county, and that the airport is county owned since about 1937 and is a publicly-owned, public-use airport, thus currently cannot be privately funded.

His comment was followed by Lori Mott, county clerk, who said she was once again speaking as a citizen in Public Comment. She noted her husband had purchased a hangar to make a business building airplane engines, but that he hasn't continued pursuing it because of the BOC's rumblings about the airport. She said his business would be a big benefit to the county, then pointed out the BOC choosing not to fund the airport at its Sept. 30 meeting because it touted that action as being fiscally responsible. Mott reminded that the Board had decided not to pay a requested stipend to the County Clerk for the extra hours of work generated by early elections. She then emphatically declared that it was not fiscally responsible for the Board at its Sept. 18 meeting to send double that amount of money out of the county for election work rather than keep the money and work in-county.

The BOC Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6 in the Board Room of the Clare County Building, 225 W. Main St., Harrison.




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## Outdoors With Jeff

The first week of bow season has passed and individuals that have been out hunting every day they could, state the deer movement that was pretty slow. I would expect a better chance of seeing other hunters the second week of the season.

Some hunters have told me that they are not even going out in the woods until the deer start to get frisky. One person tells me that he won't go out until someone tells him that the bucks are chasing the does. One hunter said that last week he didn't see anyone out in the woods hunting.

The first week of the deer season the temperature was too warm, last week hunters stayed in their homes where they could get to their air conditioner. Most hunters stated that he believed ever since that a whole bunch of hunters would be out in the woods chasing deer.

Last week through the news media I notice that the DNR director, passed some legislation that will allow hunters to shoot does for a couple weeks. They have designated several locations where this doe shooting will be allowed. They extended the deer season to certain locations. On this bill, the DNR stated that it will allow you to shoot does and the cost for a hunter are going to be five dollars; It will only last for a short time. I didn't see any of those indications in Clare County. The closest location to Clare County I seen was Isabella County and others down in southern Michigan. Check with the DNR and they will show you where these permits are issued.

Some have asked if this area will be extended into Clare County and all I could say it's not on the list right now. If you need more information on this, contact the DNR for more information.

While reading this and the new rules of shooting does reminds me when I was a younger and the State of Michigan was going to start issuing doe permits. I was in grade school I think or a little older. I was out in the woods along with the



JEFF GOYT

Wizards of the Woods we were small too and all of a sudden, we spotted a bunch of fairly big signs, on these signs, it showed a drawing of a hunter and it was printed on cardboard and a picture of someone shooting a deer. That went over and over, and they tried to stop shooting does, they never stopped shooting does with a permit and have since over many decades.

Hunters are worrying that they won't be able to process deer; despite the loss of a meat processor that closed there are still some of you can go to. The Gladwin meat processor Lamberts, Ebels store and down on the south end of the county is Stutsman's Butcher Shop on Brand Ave south of Colonville Rd.

Long ago, when I was a child, we didn't go to places to process our deer, we did that with just the family. I remember when we were young, the entire family would assist cutting up the deer, and I think more people go to meat processors.

It won't be long and rifle deer season will start up again, some have asked me if a lot of people come to Harrison, all I can say we will have to wait and see. I loved those days, when I'm up and hunting deer. I remembered what it was like when you were in Harrison for the opening of deer season. The stores were full to the top, all the bars would fill out and restaurants would also be full. I wonder what the weather will be like before deer season, I remember last year and it was really warm all of deer season, will it do that again. Who knows? Several people are still staying at home instead of hunting, they told me that several times.

I wish everyone a great day of hunting and I wish you all luck.

# ~ CLARE COUNTY HISTORY ~ Scotty Tyler – A Plains Farmer

By JULIE BERRY TRAYNOR

Since I was small, I have loved pioneer stories. My grandmother kept me supplied with family pioneer stories as well as stories of rugged people much closer to home. One such story that has always fascinated me is the story of one Scotty Tyler, a resident of Winterfield Township more than 100 years ago. This little man, who came such a long way from his beginnings to live on the Pine Plains of Michigan, held a great fascination for me.

Fair weather Sundays and summer evenings often found us engaging in one of our favorite family pass times of "taking a ride". That's what it was, and what we did. We climbed into the car, picked up Grandma, and toured the gravel roads and two-tracks of Winterfield's now wooded Plains. One of our favorite routes took us to the last couple of miles of McKinley Road, and past what was left of the Scott Tyler place. By the 1960's it was only a sandy spot on the overgrown Plains marked by a few fence posts, a big spread of lilacs, and the settler's favorite, a Balm of Gilliad poplar, large and aged, remained. A few weathered boards, glass and pottery shards were scattered about the homestead site. A lone cement wall stood; the remnant of a small barn was in the distance. My young imagination ran free. This was a pit stop in the past.

As a small boy, my dad knew Scotty Tyler from his visits to Marion. The boys were all taken with stories of his life elsewhere. My dad took this photograph for his mother, who used it to accompany a news item she sold to the Cadillac Independent newspaper in 1930.

The piece says that Scotty Tyler was born under slavery in Kentucky, one of 14 children. Members of his family fought in the Civil War, although Scott was too young. After the war, his father went to Indiana and was forced to sue his former master for the release of his family. Once reunited, the Tyler family moved to Ohio, then on to Michigan in 1884. The piece does not make mention of how the Tyler's, Scott and his wife, came to spend their last years in Winterfield Twp. They had one daughter.

From the solid information I've been able to gather, the Tyler's came to Winterfield sometime between 1906 and 1915. His name appears on

120 acres in Section 11 on the 1915 plat. By 1930 he had acquired another 40 acres and owned the entire northeast quarter section. A later plat shows this split into two eighths, one under the name of S. Tyler and the other F. Tyler, Scott's brother. The Tyler name disappears from maps after 1941.

Other than working hard to farm and raise a few animals on the sandy Plains, Scotty Tyler gathered and sold medicinal plants and medicines. And as many did, he harvested huge quantities of huckleberries and bog cranberries in season and sold them to neighbors in Austa and in nearby towns.

I've come across some additional bits and pieces about the Tyler's in the archives of the local newspaper. The Tyler's were mentioned from time to time in the neighborhood news. On April 4, 1921, Scott Tyler was elected to be one of four constables in the township. Others were Serene Gable, Lee Flinn and Ruby Gaskill. Yes, a woman constable, and in 1921. Nealie Cook, of the family for which Cook Ave. is named, was chosen as supervisor. This was a position he held for many years.

The late Gertrude Nederhood Boven, whose family were pioneering residents of Winterfield's Austa community, remembered the Tyler's. When she was a little girl her mother drove the elderly Tyler's to doctor's visits in nearby McBain. She recalled that in the days of minimal car heaters, the Tyler's would not sit in the warmer front seat, no matter how much her mother insisted or how cold it was. Mrs. Boven also knew them to be a most kind and appreciative couple, very well thought of by their neighbors. In November 1930, the Austa news noted that "Mrs. Tyler is very ill and not expected to recover." There are no records of the Tyler's deaths or burials in Winterfield.

I still don't know a lot about Scott Tyler, even after all these years, but I still love his story. I keep looking and asking. Grandma's piece notes that at the time he was over eighty and had left his farm on the Plains sometime after his wife's death for "Village life". Ancestry.com helped to supply a bit more. It seems that the village Mr. Tyler retired to was likely Coleman, where his wife and brother are buried. Although not



Scotty Tyler.

proven, it is possible that his daughter lived near there.

Scotty Tyler is remembered by some folks in our township, even a hundred years later. In fact, the legend of the little black man of the Plains lives on, especially among local history buffs. The Balm of Gilliad has passed on, and Jack pine and scrub oak have long since taken over the Tyler acres. But no matter how harsh the winter may be the lilacs still flower each spring. And a ride past his old home site, at any time of the year, is still one of my favorite jaunts.

## Outdoor decorations and wildlife: Use care out there

With Halloween just around the corner, you're sure to see pumpkins, ghosts, cornstalks and more adorning homes and businesses in your neighborhood. If you're planning to join the fun, take a moment before purchasing supplies or decorating outside to consider if your display could attract or harm wildlife.

Rachel Lincoln, a wildlife outreach coordinator with the DNR Wildlife Division, said it can be as simple as being aware that pumpkins, gourds, potted plants and flowers may bring deer, squirrels, birds and other animals to your property, or avoiding the use of paint, bleach or other chemicals on pumpkins because those substances can be harmful to wildlife that eat the pumpkins.

Beyond that, it's about taking a few extra precautions.

"Be sure your decorations are clean and scent-free. Every October, we get reports of wildlife with Halloween candy buckets or decorations stuck on their heads or feet from trying to reach the sweets that were inside," Lincoln said. "It's easy to prevent this by cleaning up candy wrappers or spills around outdoor decorations and not placing food-related decor that might lure animals." Here are other tips for wildlife-safe decorations:

Be cautious with fake cobwebs and string lights. Placing these decorations over bushes or between trees can accidentally entangle bats and birds flying through. Position these items away



from natural flight paths or wildlife habitats to reduce the risk.

After the holiday, check decorations for any small critters that may have used them as

shelter, such as birds, squirrels or insects, to ensure you don't accidentally trap or harm them.

Questions? Contact Rachel Lincoln at 517-243-5813.

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October 28 - November 1

60+ years old, donation of \$2.25 suggested. Under 60 years old, \$5.00 per meal. Please reserve your meal one day in advance by 1 p.m. by calling the Harrison Dining Center at 989-539-6515 or Lake George Dining Center at 989-588-9841 ext. 01. Meal is served at noon daily. Centers are closed on holidays.

Monday, October 28

Cheesy goulash, peas, carrots, tossed salad, cranberry grape juice, and chocolate milk.

Tuesday, October 29

Chicken enchilada casserole, roasted corn and black bean fiesta, sauteed spinach, apple, and milk.

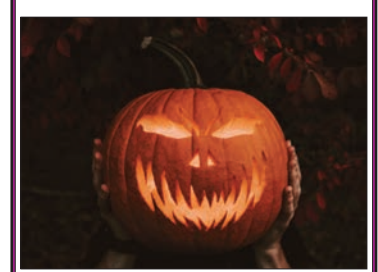
Wednesday, October 30

Cod almondine with tartar sauce, baked potato with sour cream and chives, parisian carrots, fruited jello, and chocolate milk.

Thursday, October 31

Happy Halloween. Mystery meatloaf, garlic mashed potatoes, italian green beans, chunky apple sauce, and a spooky treat.

Friday, November 1



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# EDITORIAL



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• 989-539-7496

## MEET THE CANDIDATES

### Haley Running to Retain HCS School Board Seat

Hi, I'm Therese Haley and I am currently a candidate for the Harrison Community Schools Board of Education. I am serving on your board currently as secretary, and I have been on the board since retiring from HCS with 30 years of service.

My late husband, John, and I raised our five children on a farm in Franklin Township where I grew up. John and I were the second of four generations of our family to graduate from HCS, including our children and grandchildren.

We are the proud parents of five children: Joe (Renee) Haley of



Harrison, Shannon (Theron) Haines of Harrison, Mike (Tara) Haley of Gladwin, Dr. Joni (Joe) Ashcroft of Harrison, and Tanya Bork of Mount Pleasant.

I am a member of St. Athanasius Catholic church and also serve as trustee on the Franklin Township Board, and

chairperson of the Clare County Jury Board.

I have worked in education 45 years, starting at HCS while my children were in elementary school. I started at Larson Elementary as a parapro on the playground, then moving to the library, and ending my career in the high school office as a clerk. After retiring, I worked at St. Cecilia Catholic School in Clare as librarian for 11 years, and I am currently working at Gladwin High School as a parapro in the after school and summer school programs. I have been there for 11 years, starting while I was still at Saint Cecilia's during the day.

Working with kids from preschool through high school has been my life's work and joy! Students, employees, and the community have, and will always

lead my decisions while on the board. Children are our gift and our responsibility. We need to educate them to grow up with knowledge, drive, a sense of self-worth and compassion.

I appreciate your past support, and I am hoping that I can count on you once again.

With all the negativity that is surrounding us at this time, I am encouraged by the smiles on our students' faces and all of the positive things happening at HCS! I would love to be able to continue moving our school and students in this direction.

I have always been proud to be your representative on the Harrison Community Schools Board of Education and would like to serve you one more time.

Please vote Nov. 5 to re-elect Therese Haley, thank you.

### Atwood Seeks Re-Election

Current Clare Board of Education Trustee Susie Atwood is seeking re-election for another 4-year term. Atwood has taken 54 hours of classes through MASB (Michigan Association of School Boards) and received the Certified Board Member Award. She has only missed one meeting (a special meeting) during her tenure on the board. Atwood is also a trained Michigan

election inspector and a member of the Clare County Chapter of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel.

Academics, small class sizes, student behavior, transparency, and communication are very important priorities for Atwood. She feels a school culture of respect and kindness among all stakeholders at Clare Public School can help achieve these priorities.

Atwood has lived in Clare for nearly 47 years and was employed

at Clare Primary School for 40 years. She attends the Clare Church of the Nazarene where she is currently co-leading a Sunday School class and is part of the Café Crew. She has two sons who are graduates of Clare Public Schools. Paul is a wildlife biologist for the state of Oregon. Ashley, his wife, is also a

Clare graduate and a middle school counselor. Brian is a financial advisor and lives in Clare. Susie also has three granddaughters who live in Oregon.

Atwood states, "I would appreciate your support in securing a second term on the Clare Board of Education."

**NOTICE:** The Clare County Cleaver will print one Announcement of Candidacy for a registered candidate per election not to exceed 700 words. The views of candidates for office do not reflect the views of the Clare County Cleaver editor or employees. Personal letters of endorsement are considered advertisements.

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### Celebrating 89 Years of Social Security

By Hillary Hatch, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

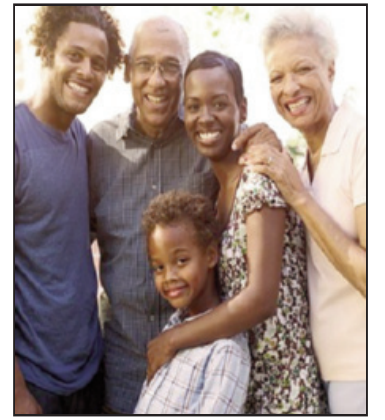
For nearly 90 years, Social Security has provided income protection to millions of retirees, people with disabilities, their dependents, and families who've lost a family member who worked and paid Social Security taxes before they died. In addition to paying benefits, we issue millions of Social Security numbers each year, maintain wage records to make sure workers get the benefits they have earned, and much more. The scope of what we do is enormous, and we are proud to serve the American people. Whether providing service online at SSA.gov, over the telephone, or in person, our goal is to help you understand your eligibility for benefits and the best way to apply for them.

We also work to make sure our programs, particularly Supplemental Security Income (SSI), remain accessible to you. SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness, and to adults age 65 and older, who have limited income and resources. This year we announced that we are expanding SSI eligibility criteria by:

Updating the public assistance household definition. Removing food from in-kind support and maintenance.

Expanding rental subsidy nationwide. Find more information about SSI at [www.ssa.gov/ssi/](http://www.ssa.gov/ssi/).

We are dedicated to protecting the well-being of the people we serve. It is important to us that



every person who is eligible for benefits gets them timely and accurately. That is how we help secure today and tomorrow.

To learn more about the history of Social Security, visit [www.ssa.gov/history](http://www.ssa.gov/history). Please share this information with your friends and loved ones who may need it.

### Social Security questions and answers

**Q: A few years ago, I lost my Social Security card. Now my credit report shows that someone might be using my Social Security number. I'm afraid they might ruin my credit. What should I do?**

**A:** Identity theft and fraud are serious problems, not just for you, but for the financial integrity of our agency. It's against the law to use someone else's Social Security number, give false information when applying for a number, or alter, buy, or sell Social Security cards.

Keep in mind, you should never carry your Social Security card with you. If you think someone is using your Social Security number fraudulently, you should report it to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) right away.

You can report it at [www.idtheft.gov](http://www.idtheft.gov) or you can call FTC's hotline at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4261) TTY (1-866-653-4261).



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# LOCAL EVENTS & NEWS



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## HALLOWEEN FUN

**Clare Assembly of God Trunk or Treat** 5-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, Parking Lot 3557 E. Collinsville Road. Come join for a journey through the biggest moves of God in the bible and get some treats.

**Trunk or Treat at Sunrise Marathon Harrison South** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. 3704 N. Harrison Ave., Harrison.

**Trunk or Treat at the Harrison Sportsman's Club** from 5:30-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. 3704 N. Harrison Ave., Harrison.

**Trunk or Treat** is noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Emerald Isle Recreation Complex in Clare.

**Clare Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk** on Saturday, Oct. 26. Registration begins at 9 a.m.; costume contest at 9:45 a.m. and run/walk begins at 10 a.m. Event begins at Emerald Isle Recreation Complex at 303 Pinecrest St., Clare.

**Deadwood Grove Haunted Forest** from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at Mid Michigan College. \$10 per person, \$5 12 and under.

**Village of Farwell Presents Halloween in Farwell** 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. Halloween Boo Bash at the Farmer's Market. 4:30 p.m. Halloween Parade, line up at the Farmer's Market, 5-7 p.m. Trunk or Treat in grass lot between Superior and Webber streets. For information, call 989-588-9926.

**Clare County Senior Community Center Candy Handout** at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, 101 W. Michigan, Farwell.

**3rd Annual Halloween on Second Street Oct. 31!** The Venue on Main will be transformed into a free Haunted House. Second Street will be lined with trick or treat tables for kids, free food for all, s'mores pit, Sanderson Sisters, games, and Beetlejuice!

**Trunk or Treat at Lincoln Twp Hall in Lake George** from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31.

**Clare Moose Lodge 2268 indoor Trunk-or-Treat** from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 31.

Visit [www.clarecountycleaver.net](http://www.clarecountycleaver.net) for more local events. Submit your event online or by emailing editor@clarecountycleaver.net.

*Halloween is all fun and games, but drivers are reminded to keep an eye peeled for happy Trick or Treaters!*



## CCRC Gets OK for Construction Bond Issue

*County Onboard with New Road Commission Facility*

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
 Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON – Some 50 years ago, the Clare County Road Commission underwent a huge construction project, which resulted in construction of the current CCRC 80- by 100-foot garage addition and new office building. Respectively, the two portions were projected to cost \$76,700 and \$89,000. That massive project was approved by the BOC on Feb. 4, 1974, and financed by a \$150,000 20-year bond issue, along with monies then currently in the Building Fund. The final payment of \$10,000 on the existing garage facility was to be paid the following May.

But as the march of time always reveals, *new* was then and *old* is now. Dwayne Rogers, Clare County Road Commission managing director, along with staff and county road commissioners, have been working on a plan to correct the facility's ever-mounting deficiencies through construction of a brand new facility.

Rogers approached the Clare County Board of Commissioners Oct. 16 to present a plan for a new facility, along with a process for funding it via municipal bonds. Rogers drew commissioners' attention to a handout that noted the facility's current deficiencies along with the benefits to be realized with a new structure. Deficiencies included: Structural integrity [foundation, rusting steel beams in garage, built in 1963 and updated in 1975]; ADA compliance; Women's locker room [current female drivers have to use

office facilities]; Equipment storage; Fire suppression [smoke detectors, sprinkler system]; Testing lab [basically nonexistent]; Heating and cooling [boiler/piping issues]; Mechanic shop [ventilation, heavy equipment area, fabrication area].

Benefits included: Staging for emergencies [i.e., working with Emergency Management during a large weather event]; Parking garage [weather protection for all vehicles/longevity for equipment]; Board room large enough to accommodate large community service/trainings/informational meetings; Meeting code regulations; Future insurance savings; Energy efficiency; Same location [retaining current outbuildings, salt shed, enabling continuous service throughout the project]; and Adequate parking for both staff and the public.

Rogers also noted having done some exploration of financing options, which led to the realization that a municipal bond would be a better option than a private bond which would have higher interest (thus higher cost) or a USDA loan which would add time and cost by requiring the project be bid and pay prevailing wage costs. He was direct in his choice for cost.

"The municipal bond route is by far the best option for the Road Commission," Rogers said.

In attendance was Gary Rae with F.E.D., which has been the CCRC's construction management group, working on the design and overall plan for the facility. Rogers also was



**This rendering shows the design for the new Clare County Road Commission facility, which was presented at the Oct. 16 meeting of the Clare County Board of Commissioners. (Image courtesy of Clare County Road Commission)**

accompanied by two other gentlemen, whom he described as the experts who had been providing financial and legal advice on the project.

Eric McLaughlin, a partner with Dickinson Wright, informed of the municipal bond process which would include publication of a notice of intent to issue bonds that starts a 45-day referendum period. He said if no referendum is requested, the county will have at that point obtained the authority to proceed and issue bonds. He said the notice states the maximum principal amount, describes the project that can be financed with the proceeds of the bonds that are to be issued, and explains the right of referendum to the electorate of the county. McLaughlin noted the proposed resolution before the Board also satisfied the requirement under the federal tax code; the current plan was to issue tax-exempt bonds, and under

[generally sold to banks] was ruled out as a bank is unlikely to issue a bond in the project term length needed, coupled with banks having higher interest rates currently than the public market. He also explained that the municipal option would include a competitive sale for the process to get the best financial term.

Part of that process would be to obtain a bond rating for the county, accepting every bid possible by a specific date, and the best financial bid would win. He clarified for the Board and the public that there is no expectation of a new tax, as the bond payments would be structured into the current Road Commission budget. Campbell said the sale is anticipated to take place in early February and a conservative interest rate is being estimated at 4.36%.

Rogers informed that the estimated \$10 million project cost would include a new office area, parking garage, and mechanic shop area.

"The idea is to build the new one," Rogers said. "Stay functioning in the old one, so we never miss a beat, and move to the new one."

BOC Chair Jeff Haskell then asked Rogers if his budget looked good, so he could afford the project.

"Yeah," Rogers said. "I put a lot of thought into it; that's how I function. I want what's best for the community, the county, the road commission going forward. This is a long-term fix; I think we're kind of in that area where it's do it or figure out some other option. We're certain we've got things figured out."

The Board then moved on to passage of motions to adopt the resolution of intent to issue limited tax general obligation funds; approve the financial advisement contract with Bendzinski & Co.; and the agreement between Clare County and Dickinson Wright for legal representation to the County as Issuer of Bond.

With Haskell offering a wish of "Good luck to you," the gentlemen stepped away – and the process had begun.



**Valerie Kusiak President, left, and quilt designer Rebecca Eben, far right, present the quilt to happy winner Mary Secor. The "Birds and Blooms" quilt is a one of a kind, no pattern is available. (Photo courtesy Clare County Crazy Quilters)**

## Longtime Ticket Buyer Wins Quilt Raffle

Mary Secord, a Bay City area resident, was the winner of "Birds and Blooms" quilt raffled by Clare County Crazy Quilters. A meeting was arranged to deliver the quilt to Secord at the Amish Deli-Kuntry Market in Clare. Turns out Mary has been a ticket buyer of the group's annual raffle quilt for many years. Proceeds of quilt raffle ticket sales go to the First Congregational Church UCC of Harrison. We meet there every Monday, for those interested in joining us.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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Sale Features: Kubota UTV, Z-Turn Riding Mower, Tractors, 3 Pt. Equip., Implement Trailers, Like New Storage Trailer, Quan. Shop Tools, Sporting Items, Shelving Racks, Antiques, Collectibles & Household Related Items.

the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property.

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): MidFirst Bank

Date of Mortgage: July 10, 2014

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 15, 2014

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$75,956.02

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Hayes, Clare County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 449 of Ash Acres No.7, as per plat thereof recorded in Liber 10, Page 12, Clare County Records.

Common street address (if any): 3844 Lapham Dr, Harrison, MI 48625-8018

The redemption period shall be 6 months from

the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to 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 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 been 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: October 10, 2024

Trott Law, P.C. 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1542543 (10-10)(10-31) 41-3

Notice of SUMMONS and COMPLAINT

KELLY WINCHELL, Plaintiff, and ZACHARY RIGGS, Defendant, take

notice that on 09/16/2024 an Order was made by Honorable Judge David M. Glancy in the Trial Court of Lake County, 800 Tenth Street, Baldwin, MI 49304 that the Defendant, ZACHARY RIGGS, shall be served substitutionally, specifically service by the publication of the Summons and Complaint issued in case 2024-010826-DS on 09/27/2024 and again on 10/18/2024 notifying the Defendant of this Court's intention to go forth with Child Support Establishment and Enforcement proceedings.

If you wish to defend, you must enter a written appearance personally or

by attorney and file your defenses or objection in writing with the Court within 30 days of the date of this publication.

You are warned that if you fail to do so, the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you without further notice for the relief requested by the Plaintiff. You may lose money or property or the rights important to you.

Blake M. Riemer Attorney for Lake County Friend of the Court Establishment Division 800 Tenth St., Suite 300 Baldwin, MI 49304 231-745-4614

42-2 \*\*\*

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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, November 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Lincoln Township Hall, 175 Lake George Avenue in Lake George, Michigan.

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature 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 November 13, 2024.

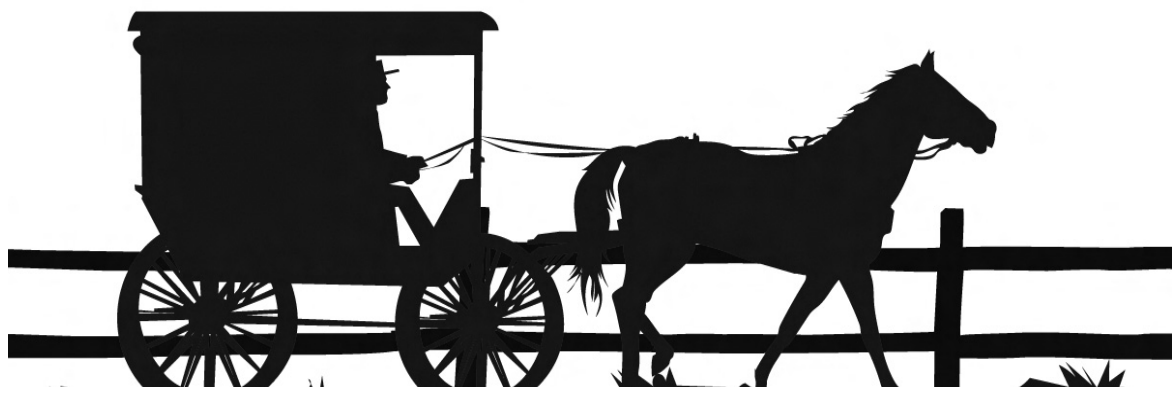
TOWNSHIP OF LINCOLN
Clare County P.O. Box 239
Lake George, MI 48633
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
The Lincoln Township Planning Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Lincoln Township Hall, 175 Lake George Avenue in Lake George, Michigan.

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# THE AMISH COOK - By Gloria Yoder



"They're here! They're here!"

A glance towards the driveway confirmed the information to be accurate. The second van was only a minute or two behind.

The children had been eagerly waiting in the front yard. They knew some of the out of state guests, and others not so much. The youth group from Daniel's former church in Danville, Ohio had come for the weekend. Included in those two large vans were three of Daniel's brothers and his only sister Mary.

The week up to that point was filled with the norm of family life along with painting our living room and getting ready to host overnight guests. Now the work was behind us and the fun part was here.

Mr. Strutter, which you may remember as our black tom turkey, did his best in welcoming them as he proudly strutted with an open fan and an occasional gobble.

We walked on past the flower beds with petunias, which for the first time in years, were not blooming well and the rose plant the goat had carefully clipped all the pink roses and brilliant green leaves.

In the house the girls took their belongings in the basement where they would camp out for the night. We chatted and caught up on basic news while we waited until the bacon wrapped smokies were finished baking in the oven.

My mind flashed to Daniel, who relished hosting guests, especially when we got to feed them. I missed him keenly, yet it was a sense of comfort to have his friends and family from Ohio join us even after he has passed.

Daniel's parents, who had also stopped by joined us for the moment, as Dad led in prayer and welcomed everyone.

We opened the double doors out to the deck where we all found a place to sit while we

snacked. Now, some of these youth, I had not known all that well, but it did not take long to discover that there was no need to spend time being shy or bashful; why they're all people just like us- we just hadn't gotten to know all of them well up to that point.

The hour and a half at our house passed quickly and soon it was time to head for the volleyball game at school. While us girls waited until the Flat Rock youth were ready for volleyball we decided to walk over to the graveyard. It was a precious time together. Most of the girls had faced death in the family in one way or another in the last couple years; the unseen bond was there.

Heading back to school the youth got started playing. Though I enjoy volleyball I opted to watch and take care of the children then go back home and get some food ready for supper and have some time with God.

It was intriguing for me to observe the two youth groups together- the one at home, and the one with Daniel's family. I do not cease to be amazed how God created everyone, none are the same, but all with a plan and a purpose.

By 5:30 we all headed for Daniel's parents where we had haystacks, ice cream, and cobbles.

After the return back to our house we had a party like you can only have with a dozen girls. Candy, stories, singing, and a yummy snack served by one of the Ohio girls, fitted out the

evening. And who would want to go to bed early on a night like that?

The children were impressed to be a part of it all and found candy on the floor long after we were done with our candy tossing game. Joshua was 'training' one of the girls exactly how to hold his foam airplane and send it, as the flew it back and forth. Jesse and Elijah had a blast trying out the remote-control tractors one of the Ohio youths had bought for them.

The next morning, we enjoyed warm baked oatmeal with yogurt and fresh fruit the girls had brought along. It felt good to have Daniel's sister Mary here again, to help with the Sunday morning prep of getting off for church. The other girls pitched in and did the dishes in no time.

Before we left, we had a few special moments of all gathering in a circle for prayer as the children and I do just before we leave for church.

The forenoon seemed to pass quickly with Daniel's brother sharing 'standing in the gap' and being there for others during hard times in their lives and Mr. Wengerd sharing on the life of Daniel in the Old Testament and his trust in the Father.

After lunch we had a brief singing before the youth gathered at our house and we had our goodbyes. These girls, who had tremendously helped us out after Daniel passed, by stocking our freezer with baked goods and canning soup and applesauce for

us, once more touched our hearts. It tugged at my heart as I watched them drive out the lane, nonetheless, I was blessed.

Now this morning as I think of them getting back to their jobs and duties, I relive the memories.

I'm sure you would enjoy the baked oatmeal the Miller sisters had made for our Sunday morning breakfast. Here's a recipe similar to theirs, only theirs had an extra yummy flavor which I'm guessing may have been a dash of maple flavoring. Raisins, blueberries, chocolate chips, or a sprinkle of cinnamon may also be placed on top before baking. So, here you go, and remember, today's moments are tomorrow's memories.

### Baked Oatmeal

- 1 cup brown sugar\*
  - ½ cup butter, melted
  - 2 eggs, beaten
  - 3 cups quick oats
  - 2 teaspoons baking powder
  - 1 teaspoon salt
  - 1 cup milk
1. Stir all together.
  2. Spread in a 9 by 13-inch cake pan.
  3. Bake at 350 for 30 minutes or until golden brown.

Delicious served with milk, yogurt, or fruit. Serves 7

\*Like the Miller sisters, you may use natural sweeteners may be used instead of brown sugar.

# COYOTES ROAMING MICHIGAN



By ANNA ROSSOW  
Capital News Service  
LANSING –

Some residents across Michigan are becoming more familiar with unexpected visitors roaming the streets.

Coyote sightings in residential neighborhoods have become more common due to the canines' drive for food and quick adaptability skills, experts say.

Coyotes prey on rabbits, chipmunks and squirrels, small animals that enter in and out of urban and suburban areas.

According to Michigan Wildlife Solutions, a pest control company in Fenton, coyotes traditionally stay in wooded, secluded regions, but have become increasingly comfortable with entering residential areas.

They typically weigh around 25 pounds, with lanky legs and a fluffy coat.

"People just don't realize coyotes are there and now they're being spotted," said Brian Roell, a wildlife biologist and the large carnivore specialist at the Department of Natural Resources. "Most of these animals have been here for years and years – you just never saw them."

"They may be getting a little bit more bold right now," Roell said. Roell said coyotes don't follow territorial lines as much as wolves do and may step out of their home range.

Due to the spring mating season, he said this year's pups are now old enough to disperse from their litter. Younger ones may be on the hunt for a place to live.

Although coyotes can be found in every county,

according to news outlets the most recent sightings of these animals in residential areas include Rogers City, Dearborn and Metro Detroit.

Justin Tomei, the policy and government affairs manager at the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, or MUCC, said another reason for them creeping into residential areas is the loss of habitats due to human expansion.

However, he said coyotes are good predators and prey on many species. He also said that they don't have many natural predators in the Lower Peninsula.

Their biggest predators in Michigan are gray wolves and cougars, both of which are typically found only in the Upper Peninsula.

According to the DNR, the most recent reported cougar sighting in the Lower Peninsula was in Clinton County in 2017.

Overall, humans pose the biggest threat to coyotes.

"They have learned that they can live in and around humans, and they have dealt with that lifestyle where they can try to avoid humans," said Roell. "Obviously humans are a danger to them, whether it's killing or whether it's hunting."

Due to their drive for food, coyotes are overcoming their fear of humans, he said, "People that have well-manicured lawns with ornamental trees, a lot of which are fruit trees, will draw in the squirrels, rabbits, the deer, all those kinds of things," said Roell. "If you bring in the prey, the predators will follow."

Some of them are so smart that I've seen that they can figure out which day is garbage day. When you're setting out those garbage cans, that's basically a dinner bell for a lot of different wildlife," he said.

He said all wildlife can be dangerous, but coyotes aren't usually a threat to humans.

Roell said that in general, wildlife are more scared of humans than humans are of them. He also said some people may not like the idea of a predator near them, and it's "in the eye of the beholder" as to which is more scared of the other.

Regulations for hunting coyotes in Michigan changed this year. Tomei said the state Natural Resources Commission shortened the hunting season, which had been year-round, but starting this year runs for nine months from mid-July to mid-April.

MUCC has sued the commission over that decision on the grounds that spring "is the best

time to manage coyotes, both at local levels and for depredation on livestock and other game species," said Tomei.

In 1996, voters gave the commission "exclusive authority" to determine hunting regulations. It is charged with using science and data in decision-making, he said.

"When they closed the season in March, from MUCC's perspective they violated their legal charge and responsibility of following the best available science," said Tomei.

Although the DNR doesn't track the coyote population, Tomei said they can be managed through nuisance calls, sightings and hunter satisfaction.

Roell said people historically have tried to get rid of coyotes in various ways such as bounties, poisoning with cyanide and explosives. None of them worked.

"They're kind of like the cockroach of the mammal world," said Roell.

**Annual Marion Eagles Auxiliary #4087**  
**Pies, Baked Goods, & Craft Show**  
 October 26, 2024 9am - 3pm  
 221 S. Mill Street, Marion MI 49665  
 Christmas Shopping & Holiday Pies!  
 Crafters and Vendors Wanted  
 Book your table space for \$10.  
 (Bring your own tables)  
 Call (231) 743-9716

**CITY OF HARRISON**  
**NOTICE OF ZONING VARIANCE REQUEST**

The City of Harrison will hold a public hearing regarding a Zoning Variance request for the property at 2764 N Harrison Ave. The owner is requesting a variance to build a gazebo, which requires a side setback of 10 feet in the Residential 1 (R1) district. The property is non-conforming with an existing setback of 8 feet, and the request was denied based on the current zoning ordinance. The hearing will take place after the City Council meeting on November 4, 2024, beginning at 6:00 PM at Harrison City Hall, 2105 Sullivan Dr., Harrison, MI 48625. Public comments are welcome at the hearing or can be submitted in writing to City Hall or via email at [manager@CityofHarrison-MI.gov](mailto:manager@CityofHarrison-MI.gov).

**NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**

The Hayes Township Planning Commission will hold a special meeting on Wednesday November 13, 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 discuss and vote on the Collins Land Services Site Plan Review.

Debra Hoyt  
Hayes Township Clerk

Publication date October 24, 2024, and October 31, 2024

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Hayes Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing during the Special Meeting on Wednesday November 13, 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 Site Plan Review for Collins Land Services at 5528 N. Clare Ave.

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 November 13, 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 is October 24, 2024 and October 31, 2024.

**BINGO NIGHT** Players' Guide **BINGO NIGHT** Post Your Bingo Games Here For Only \$5/week

<p><b>Harrison Women of the Moose</b>  <b>Sunday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  5185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison                  License # A22334                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>	<p><b>Harrison Moose Lodge</b>  <b>Monday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  5185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison                  License # A21561                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>	<p><b>Harrison Lions Club</b>  <b>Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  Harrison Lions Club Bldg.                  Fairgrounds, Harrison                  License # A01110                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>	<p><b>Harrison Women of the Moose</b>  <b>Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  5185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison                  License # A20074                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>	<p><b>Harrison Lions Club</b>  <b>Thursday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  Harrison Lions Club Bldg.                  Fairgrounds, Harrison                  License # A01110                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>	<p><b>VFW Post 1075</b>  <b>Friday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  VFW Post 1075 - Harrison                  License # A00154                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>	<p><b>VFW Post 1075</b>  <b>Saturday - 6:00 p.m.</b>                  VFW Post 1075 - Harrison                  License # A21883                  Proceeds for General Fund</p>
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# Sports & School News

CLARE COUNTY • JACKPINE CONFERENCE

Clare **PIONEERS**

Harrison **HORNETS**

Farwell **EAGLES**

## Harrison Falls to Ogemaw Heights 64-28 in JPC Title Game

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

The best of the Jack Pine Conference Division 1 and the best of the JPC Division 2 met up on the football field on Friday. Harrison ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the Division polls were hosting Ogemaw Heights, a squad ranked sixth in Division 5, and it was the visiting Falcons that had the upper-hand, 64-28.

"It was a tough loss for us," head coach Jamie Lipovsky said. "The kids expect to win every Fright night so to give up 64 points was frustrating for them and the coaches."

The Falcons, who improved to 7-1 with the victory, controlled the opening quarter and took a 23-6 lead. By the half it was a 43-20 O-H advantage, and they also led 57-28 entering the fourth.

"Ogemaw is a great team, and we knew that going in," Lipovsky said. "They had a tremendous speed advantage and that hurt throughout the game. I am proud of our kids to continue to battle throughout. Only Clare has scored more points on them this season so we felt we battled offensively. We just couldn't make the defensive stop."

The Hornets were led on the ground by Wayne Baehr, who carried the ball 18 times for 150 yards and two touchdowns. Logan Williams rushed 26 times for 107 yards and a score and Matt Latunski was two-of-six passing for 41 yards. Kaleb Williams had one reception for 35 yards and Baehr added a six-yard grab.

For the defense, L. Williams led things with 11 tackles, Talon Hamilton brought down seven and K. Williams had five tackles, and he tracked down one interception as well. Aiden Brewer and Casey Brand had four tackles apiece and Hunter Lafève took down three. Getting two apiece was Ray Cosgrove, Latunski and Gavin Vanburen.

Harrison (7-1 overall) hopes to bounce back from their first loss on Friday when they host Evert (5-3) for a non-league game in their regular season finale. The Wildcats are coming off a 49-26 victory over Houghton Lake last week.

"(We want) a simple rebound," Lipovsky said of the team's hopes for week nine. "We hope to tackle better and find a way off the field defensively."

## Cross teams compete at final JPC meet; boys race marred by wrong turns

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

The final Jack Pine Conference cross country race of the season was held on Wednesday, Oct. 16 at Pinconning's Spartan Forest. The day started off on an unfortunate note, when nearly the entire field in the boys' race was disqualified inadvertently running the course incorrectly. As a result, accurate places and times were not reported.

The girls race went much better, with Shepherd taking the win as a team with 48 points, finishing ahead of Clare who had 59 points. The Lady Pioneers also had sophomore Sophia Buzzelli win the race, clinching her spot as the JPC individual champion.

"Sophia continues to get faster and faster as the season progressed," Clare girls head coach Kyle McKown said. "We are very proud of the way that she ran with confidence to win the final jamboree and become the conference champion."

Buzzelli's winning time was 19:55. She was followed by Lauren Leis who was 12<sup>th</sup> with a 22:00, Elizabeth Letherer was 14<sup>th</sup> with a 22:07 and Olivia Forsberg was 15<sup>th</sup> with a 22:13. Leah Leis placed 17<sup>th</sup> thanks to her run of 22:25, Ava



From left, Clare's Sophia Buzzelli crosses the finish line to win the race and claim the individual JPC championship; Harrison's Hope Purvis approaches the finish; Farwell's Ivy Frisch makes her final strides to the finish; and Logan Young of Harrison at the finish of last week's JPC race. (Cleaver photos by Ben Murphy)

Robinson ran a 23:18 and was 26<sup>th</sup>, in 33<sup>rd</sup> was Emma Stotzel thanks to her time of 23:51, Allison Nobis placed 37<sup>th</sup> at 24:29 and Catherine Taft was 40<sup>th</sup> with a 24:36.

Next up for the Pioneers, Brooklinn Barcia was 43<sup>rd</sup> on her run of 24:59, Taylor Seibt was 47<sup>th</sup> at 25:15, Kayla Villa-Bilton was

75<sup>th</sup> at 31:39 and Anmarie Green was 79<sup>th</sup> at 35:24.

Also in the race, Farwell finished seventh and Harrison was ninth.

The Lady Eagles were led by Isabelle Eppert, who had a solid top-10 run, coming in eighth with a time of 21:32. Addyson Thormeier was 30<sup>th</sup> at 23:29, Ivy Frisch placed 38<sup>th</sup>

on a run of 24:30, Evalynne Bell was 51<sup>st</sup> at 25:53 and Ryhlee Wladyiak finished 77<sup>th</sup> on her time of 34:00.

As for the Lady Hornets, Arie Workman had a 48<sup>th</sup> place finish when she crossed at 25:15, Hope Purvis timed a run of 26:08 to come in 57<sup>th</sup>, Madylyne Gross placed

68<sup>th</sup> at 29:36, KyLeigh Briggs managed a 30:18 to come in 68<sup>th</sup> and Isabel Heath was 69<sup>th</sup> at 30:26.

Clare, Harrison and Farwell all compete in a Division 3 regional meet in East Jordan on Saturday, where they'll battle it out to qualify as a team or as individuals for the state finals meet.

## Clare Takes Care of Pinny in JPC Crossover Action

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

Aside from a bit of a slow quarter, Clare continued to play solid football on Friday. The seventh ranked Pioneers were taking on visiting Pinconning in a Jack Pine Conference crossover game, and Clare was able to take control the contest in the second quarter, on their way to a 54-28 victory.

"Obviously, we are happy with a win, but we still have a lot to improve on," head coach Steven Spranger said.

Clare turned the ball over on their first drive, which allowed the Spartans scored the only points in the opening quarter, converting on a three-yard touchdown run, making it 6-0.

While that score remained until the second, it was there that the Pioneers took over the game. They found the endzone four times in the frame, beginning with a 14-yard touchdown pass from Jayden Arthur to Jacob Halicek. Aiden Van bonn followed

that with a nine-yard scoring rush and Arthur connected with Halicek two more times, getting scoring passes of 65 and 40 yards; all to give them a 26-6 lead at the half.

"We had the ball first to start the game, we ended up losing a fumble and Pinconning held on to the ball for the rest of the first quarter," Spranger said. "The next time we touched the ball was the first play of the second quarter, so credit to them for following their game plan of keeping the ball away from our offense. We knew it was just a matter of time before we started making explosive plays, and that's exactly what we did. Proud of the guys for finishing off the half with score, recovered onside kick, and score in the span of 30 seconds coming off the clock."

Pinny put the first points on the board in the third quarter, converting on a short one-yard plunge to pull within 26-13. The Pioneers answered with a 21-yard scoring jaunt by Dane Alexander, and while Pinny scored again later in the quarter, Arthur kept

them three scores ahead entering the fourth quarter, rushing in from seven yards out to make it 41-20 entering the fourth.

The Spartans pulled within 41-28 with a four-yard touchdown run early in the final frame, but Clare iced the game with two more touchdowns. Arthur had a 10-yard scoring rush and Van bonn hauled in a 37-yard pass from Arthur.

For the Pioneer offense, Arthur was nine-of-nine passing for 277 yards and four touchdowns and he also ran for another 55 yards and two scores on eight attempts. Van bonn carried the ball 13 times for 105 yards and a touchdown and Alexander had one carry for a 21-yard touchdown.

Joey Bouchey also had one carry for 13 yards. Halicek led the receivers with 129 yards and three touchdowns on four catches and Conan Weeks had three receptions for 92 yards. Van bonn had a 37-yard touchdown reception and Alexander added a 19-yard reception.

The defense saw Bouchey get 13

tackles, Brody Allen had 11, Van bonn and Ethan Reeves were both able to get nine and Dylan Kruskamp chased down eight tackles. Mason Heintz and Triston Gauthier had seven tackles each, Porter Harsh and Chase Randall both brought down five, while Levi Darnell and Collin Howitt both added four. Weeks and Halicek managed three tackles each.

Offensively, we were extremely efficient, Jayden Arthur did a great job commanding the offense, and making the right reads," Spranger said. "Defensively, we did much better once we were able to get comfortable with what Pinconning does. They run an offense that is pretty old school, and doesn't even have a traditional quarterback, so they will cause issues if you're not getting lined up correctly."

Arthur did so well in fact that he broke a record for passing touchdowns in a season, now sitting at 24.

"Arthur had a tremendous game," Spranger said. "Van bonn, had another great game offensively and defen-

sively. I also thought that Brody Allen had a good game defensively."

Clare (7-1 overall) wraps up the regular season on Friday, when it welcomes Petoskey (8-0) to town for a non-league game. The Northmen, a Division 3 team, are enjoying an impressive season and were ranked seventh in last week's A.P. poll and are coming off a week eight win over Sault Ste. Marie, 61-0.

"Closing out the season with a very good Division 3 school in undefeated Petoskey, they do a really good job of controlling the tempo of the game and causing turnovers," Spranger said. "We will need to control the line of scrimmage, and come out ahead in the turnover battle."

DAN DURGA STATE FARM

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

SOPHOMORE MALACHI COULSON

**SPORT: CROSS COUNTRY**

Malachi had a personal best of 20:08.5 at the 2024 Late Seasonal Warrior Invitational at Chippewa Hills HS

Malachi's favorite subjects is band and math. His favorite sport is soccer. His future plans are to attend college to teach music and attend seminary to become a pastor.

**Go Hornets!**

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## Farwell Football Plays Well in Loss to Shepherd

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

Farwell took part in its Jack Pine Conference crossover game at home against Shepherd on Friday. The Eagles made one of their better showings of the season, but still came up short against the BlueJays, 24-7.

"I thought our boys played well," head coach Travis Waddell said. "Shepherd is from the big division and has over double the number of students in their school then we do. (Farwell 249 - Shepherd 519) Our players showed heart and determination in this game and I am proud of the effort."

Shepherd started the contest with the ball, but a strip tackle by Wyatt VanBuskirk put the ball in the hands of the Eagles.

They weren't able to cash in on that possession though, having to punt it back to Shepherd. The BlueJays cashed in on their ensuing possession on a 15-yard rush-

ing play, giving them a 6-0 lead.

The Eagles were able to take the lead in the second quarter. The drive was highlighted by a long pass play from Brent Ellul to Zane Hanna that set the up with a first-and-goal inside the 10-yard line. Hanna capped the drive off two plays later with a four-yard scoring run.

An extra point by Ellul put the Eagles in front 7-6.

The BlueJays were able to connect on a pair of big pass plays in the final five minutes of the second quarter however, and they were able to take an 18-7 lead into the half.

Neither team scored in the third quarter, with the BlueJays scoring the final points of the night with just under two minutes left to play in the contest.

The Eagle offense was led by Ellul who seven-of-15 was passing for 15 yards and Hanna had 79 yards rushing and a touchdown on eight carries; and he also had the

Open at 11 a.m. Thursday-Sunday

**Saturday Oct. 26**  
DJ Mike War

**Sunday Oct. 27**  
Pool Tournament 12:30 p.m.

Open Mic 7 p.m. - Close

Harrison Area Chamber of Commerce Queen of Hearts drawing at 7 p.m. (weekly)  
Tickets are \$2 and can be purchased at Snowbird Lanes or the chamber office.

**Monday Oct. 28**  
Karaoke 7 p.m. - Close

**Tuesday Oct. 29**  
Live Music 7-10 p.m.

**Wednesday Oct. 30**  
NIGHT SHIFT Friday, Oct. 25

**Harrison's #1 Bowling Alley!**  
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3185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison



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• 989-539-7496

# MORE NEWS & VIEWS

## Clare's Alissa Brandon Wraps Up Season at State Finals

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

Clare senior Alissa Brandon got to face off against some of the best golfers in the state on Friday and Saturday. She took part in the Division 3 state finals at Bedford Valley Golf Course in Battle Creek, where she finished 100<sup>th</sup> overall with a two-day score of 238.

Brandon finished with a 124 on 18 holes in the first day and improved her performance significantly on day two, carding a 114.

"You could tell there were some nerves on day one, which showed up on the putting greens which were super-fast," head coach Bob Toccoo said. "Once she got the speed down, she settled in and showed her game that got her there in the first place. On day two she shot 10 shots better than day one. She represented the Clare girls' golf program so well on those two days. She will be missed going into next year."



## Harrison Drops 3-Set Match at Ogemaw

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

The Harrison volleyball team made the trip over to Ogemaw Heights on Monday, Oct. 14. Despite their best efforts, the Lady Hornets weren't able to top the quality Lady Falcon squad in the Jack Pine Conference meeting though, falling in straight sets on scores of 25-6, 25-15 and 25-17.

As a team the Hornets had nine kills and about 40 digs. "They kept a positive attitude all night," head coach Larry Flemming said of the setback.

On Wednesday, Oct. 16, Harrison was swept by visiting Bullock Creek in more JPC play, 25-2, 25-16 and 25-21.

Mya Gardner led the team with 14 digs in a solid defensive effort, she also had one kill and four assists and was six-of-eight serving. As a team they had 14 kills, two blocks and two aces.

Harrison had a road match over at Standish-Sterling on Monday, the Hornets were at home to take on Gladwin Wednesday and will also make the trip down to Shepherd on Wednesday, Oct. 30 for another league meeting.



Harrison's Mya Gardner sets the ball for a teammate during last week's road game at Ogemaw Heights. Below, Harrison's Lydia Kendall tracks down the ball to make a play. (Cleaver photos by Ben Murphy)

Below, Jayla Howerton goes up for a kill.



## Clare Volleyball Sweeps Rival Farwell as Amelia Rzyk Reaches 1,200 Career Assists

A clean sweep over a nearby rival. A milestone for their setter. It was a great night for the Clare volleyball team, as they defeated host Farwell in straight sets on Wednesday, Oct. 16, 25-9, 25-15 and 25-11. On top of the victory, it was a night that saw sophomore Amelia Rzyk reach 1,200 career assists.

"Demonstrating exceptional skill, the Pioneers showcased a powerful serving performance, racking up an impressive total of 11 aces throughout the game," head coach Shannon Taylor said of the Jack Pine Conference match. "They kicked off the competition with a commanding victory in the first set."

Things were a bit closer in the second and third frames, but the Lady Pioneers still had control of the action there too.

Rzyk finished with 23 assists, putting her above the 1,200 career mark.

"A significant milestone," Taylor said of the feat. "(It was) a

thrilling conclusion to an already exciting evening."

Rzyk also had seven digs and three aces to go along with her assists. Tessa Kelly had eight kills and 10 digs with Addie McMillan chasing down 16 digs and getting one ace. Syerra Mills contributed with five kills, Taryn green added three aces and five digs and Marlee Clark added three kills, three aces and four digs.

Farwell also lost a road JPC game in Shepherd on Monday, Oct. 14 on set scores of 25-10, 25-17 and 25-21.

Stats for the contests Farwell played in last week were not provided.

The Eagles had a road match at Ogemaw Heights on Monday, was back at home against Bullock Creek on Wednesday and will welcome in Chippewa Hills on Monday in non-conference action.

On Monday, Oct. 14 Clare hosted Beaverton for another JPC battle. The Lady Beavers entered the game undefeated in league action

at 6-0, but Clare had the upper-hand in this key contest, getting a sweep, 25-23, 25-18 and 25-13.

"Monday was a significant night for (us)," Taylor said. "They are a well-coached team that deserves respect. We been focused on improving our mental and physical skills by one-percent each day while also chasing joy. Once they found their rhythm, (we) won the first set 25-23. They kept that energy going, winning the second and third sets. The team supported each other, motivated one another, and showed what great teamwork looks like."

The Pioneers had Rzyk finish with 25 assists, three kills, three aces and nine digs, Klyle Wyman had 10 kills, three aces and five digs and Kelly finished with nine kills and six digs.

Clare (7-1 JPC) leads the league currently and had a home JPC match with Meridian on Monday, was over at Pinconning on Wednesday and will host St. Louis on Wednesday, Oct. 30.

## Farwell's Jacey Stover Competes at D4 Golf Finals

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sportswriter

In the final weekend of girl's high school golf action, Farwell junior Jacey Stover took part in the Division 4 state finals. The event was held Friday and Saturday at Forest Akers West in East Lansing, and Stover finished tied for 56<sup>th</sup> overall thanks to her two day score of 219.

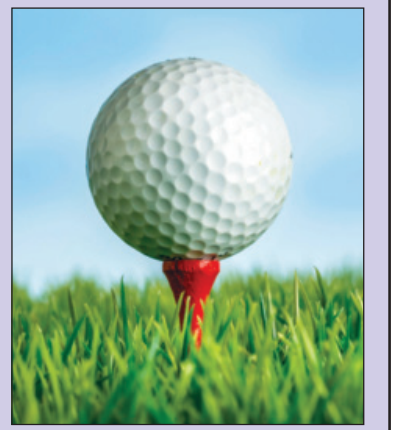
"Overall, it was a great experience," head coach Hugh Lewis said. "Jacey did not golf as well as she wanted to. She played good with her driver and second shots during the event. It was chipping and putting that was more difficult due to the speed and breaks of the green. If you hit a ball on

the green it would roll off the back unless you could put a ton of spin on the ball. When it came to putting there were times when the put was missed by inches, but then would break after the hole and roll six feet or more away from the hole."

Stover managed to shoot a 111 on 18 holes on the first day, and improved her score with a 108 on day two.

"I hope that with her going this year it will help her know what she needs to do better next year to improve her score next year at the event and she can give tips to her teammates on what they will need to do to be successful if they qualify next year," Lewis said. "I am

very proud of her for qualifying and finishing 56<sup>th</sup> out of 105 golfers at states. My hope is she builds on this for next year and comes back to place higher next year."



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# OBITUARIES

## CODY ALLEN COMER

March 8, 1990 – September 13, 2024

Cody Comer, 34 years old of Harrison, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, September 13, 2024, at his home. Cody was born March 8, 1990, in Clare hospital.

Cody worked at Bay Masonry. Cody loved to fish and hunt, which allowed him to connect with his family and friends.

Cody was survived by his fiancé, Morgan and her two daughters Adrianna & Ariella, and their son Jasper. His mother Kimberly Comstock, grandmother Alice Comstock, sibling's Ryan Burgos (Alyssia Bryant), Kayla Comer (Eric Wentworth), Jazmine Huntington, and Sarah Maizonet-Johnson (Andrew), his paternal grandfather Rex Comer, aunts and uncles Laura McCuistion, Gary McCuistion (DeeDee), Debbie Richards, Jim Martin and Lori Mott, and numerous cousins Anthony Richards (Victoria), Ashley Richards, and Sean Richards are just a few of many. And close friends like Brian Engel.

Cody was preceded in death by his father Ernest Comer, grandfather Thomas Comstock, grandmother Dianne Laporte and Wanita Comer.

Cody family and friends will



forever remember his warm smile and the impact he has on their lives.

Cody's celebration of life was on

September 20, 2024.

My son Cody, I love you with my heart and miss you. Fly high my son.

## MICHAEL "MIKE" GENE SCHROEDER

July 19, 1961 - October 20, 2024

Michael "Mike" Gene Schroeder age 63 of Harrison passed away suddenly at MyMichigan Medical Center-Clare. Michael was born July 19, 1961 in Richmond, Indiana the son of Donald Gene Schroeder and Peggy Lou (Brusher) Schroeder. Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage to Ms. Theresa Marie Umscheid on April 9, 1988 in White Lake, Michigan. Mike had resided in Harrison since 1996, moving from Waterford, Michigan.

Mike was an avid NASCAR fan, as well as a San Francisco 49ers fan. He was passionate about re-building and fabricating utility trailers to re-sell, repairing cars and equipment, motercycling, taking trips to various casinos, landscaping and beautifying the family property. Mike also enjoyed being outdoors, and loved being in and around water.

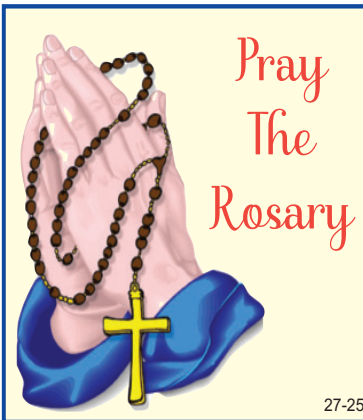
Surviving Mr. Schroeder is his loving wife and best friend of thirty-six years, Mrs. Theresa Marie Schroeder of Harrison, two sons; Michael Thomas Schroeder and wife Sara K. of Harrison and Travis Gene Schroeder and wife Sam of



Houghton Lake, Michigan, seven grandchildren; Edie Starr, Michael Robert Schroeder, Bentlee James Schroeder, Brianna Pearson (William Zinn), Bennie Pearson, Jarred Hamrick and Timmy Pearson, one great-grandchild, Zara Zinn, his mother, Peggy Lou Kobleck of Charlotte, Michigan, step-mother, Pam Schroeder of Onkama, Michigan, three brothers; Donald Schroeder and wife Debbie of Plant City, Florida, Mark Schroeder of Charlotte, Michigan and Chuck Kobleck and wife Emma of Kent, England,

three step-siblings; Sue Baumgartner of Biloxi, Mississippi, Lenny Hunt of Florida and Kris L. Hunt of Manistee, Michigan, plus many nieces, nephews and extended family. Mr. Schroeder was preceded in death by his father, one brother, Dale Schroeder, and his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Visitation and a time of sharing will be held Friday, October 25, 2024 from 12:00-3:00 pm, at Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel and Cremation Service, 165 W. Oak St., Harrison. A luncheon will immediately follow at Clark-Stocking Reflections Reception Center. Memorial gifts in memory of Michael may be considered to: National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. To share an online memory or condolence with Mike's family, please visit: [www.clarkstocking.com](http://www.clarkstocking.com). Arrangements for Mr. Schroeder are entrusted with Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel and Cremation Service 989-539-7810.



27-25

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- Bob's Party Store
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- Clare**
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- JD Market
- The Depot



## Vote to re-elect

✓ **INCUMBENTS**

Therese **HALEY** & Chelsea **ROLAND**  
Zach **DRIVER**  
(Write-in 2-year term)

**HARRISON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS - BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Therese Haley, 6580 E. Long Lake Rd. Harrison MI 48625

43-1\*

## ORDER OF THE EASTERN STARS

*Christmas Craft Show*



Saturday, November 2

9 am - 3 pm

Harrison Masonic Center

230 Main Street, Harrison

43-1

## Re-Elect

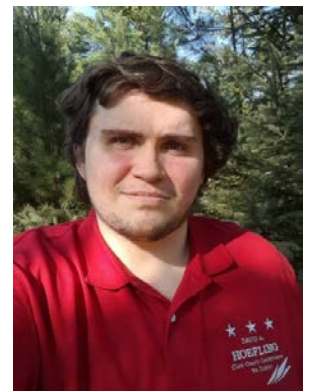
**David A. Hoefling**

**Republican for Clare County Commissioner, 5th District**

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- MSU Extension Advisory Board
- Broadband Committee
- Bluegill Lake Board
- Long Lake Board



Vote Early at the Courthouse starting: **October 26**

Or at your Township on Election Day: **Nov 5**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect David A. Hoefling, 3835 E. Long Lake Rd. Harrison MI. 48625

43

## Places of Worship

<p><b>St. Athanasius Church</b> Mass Schedule Sunday 11 am 310 S. Broad St., Harrison 989-539-6232</p>		<p><b>First Congregational UCC</b> Church School 10:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am 211 W. Spruce St., Harrison 989-539-7163</p>		<p><b>The Gathering - A United Methodist Church</b> Join Us Sunday 11 am 3090 N. Clare Ave., Harrison 989-539-1445</p>		<p><b>St. Lukes Lutheran Church Missouri Synod</b> Service Sunday 10:30 am 616 S. 4th St., Harrison 989-539-6312</p>		<p><b>The Spiritual Center of Clare</b> Sunday Service 11 am 215 W. 6th St., Clare 989-539-0935</p>		<p><b>Harrison United Brethren Church</b> Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 11 am 989-539-9131</p>		<p><b>Sponsor: Hilts Plumbing &amp; Heating</b> 426 N. 2nd St. • Box 250 Harrison 989-539-5551</p>	
<p><b>Community Baptist Church</b> Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Service 11 am Evening Service 6 pm Wed. Serv. &amp; King's Kids 6:30 pm</p>		<p><b>Sponsor: Harrison Lumber Do-It Center</b> Building Supply Center 989-539-7136</p>											

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meetings** are 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.

**Adult Grief Support Group-** Grief support focuses on the value of support during grief, the idea that each person's grief is unique, myths about grief, creating a memory relationship, and self-care during emotional healing. There will be education on coping skills to deal with intense emotions as well as a time for sharing, if desired. This program is facilitated by a bereavement counselor. Participants may attend all or some of the sessions. Group is provided FREE of charge to participants. Location: The Gathering UMC Church: 3090 N. Clare Ave. Harrison 989-539-1445. 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 7. Sponsored by: MyMichigan Health. For more information about this service or others, call 800-862-5002.

**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.

**Clare AA meetings** at United Methodist Church in Clare are held: Monday at noon (open meeting); Tuesday at 8 p.m. (Step meeting); Wednesday at 8 p.m. (general meeting except third Wednesday is Open Speaker meeting); Thursday at 1 p.m. (Women's meeting); Friday at 8 p.m. (Big Book Study); and Saturday at noon (open meeting). Direct questions to Pat M. at 231-642-1303 (leave message for ASAP response).



### Flagpole Completes Beautification Project in Harrison

The flagpole at the City of Harrison's property on First Stret, the site of the former Remedy Restaurant, was installed last week. The city is waiting for Consumer's Energy to complete electric service before Old Glory flies every day. (Photos courtesy of the City of Harrison DPW)



### BOC Passes Motions

HARRISON – The Clare County Board of Commissioners passed the following motions at its Oct. 16 meeting. The Board moved to:

- Approve BOC meeting minutes of Sept. 18 and Sept. 30.
- Accept the Apportionment Report as presented and authorize the Equalization Director to spread the tax roll.
- Adopt Resolution 24-19 Intent to Issue Limited Tax General Obligation Funds.
- Approve the contract with Bendzinski & Co. for municipal financing advisors to provide guidance and time structure of debt as outlined in the contract.
- Approve the agreement between Clare County and Dickinson Wright as legal representation to the County as the Issuer of Bond.
- Increase the euthanasia expense from \$45 per procedure to \$55 per procedure. [Chair Jeff Haskell explained the reason as the increase in cost for the euthanasia drug.]
- Appoint Keith Hayes from Waste Management to the Materials Management Planning.
- Approve Statutory Finance Committee meeting minutes of Sept. 16, 2024, in the amount of \$73,003.22 and meeting minutes of Sept. 30, 2024, in the amount of \$303,318.63
- Approve expenditures for the month of September 2024 in the amount of \$3,461,470.36 with General Fund expenditures totaling \$851,537.68
- Ratify the wage opener agreement ratified by the following bargaining units: International Union United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW Units 3, 4 and 5, and Local Union 1974.
- Renew the Master Services Agreement between MGT Impact Solutions, LLC and Clare County to provide the required annual cost allocation planning.

### MARSP CCC Elects 2024-2025 Officers

At the Oct. 8 Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel Clare County Chapter business meeting, officers were installed for the 2024-2025 year. The officers include those pictured, from left, Robin Randall, vice president; Fred Schuster, treasurer; Terry Petrongelli, president; and Deborah Sherrod, secretary.



Along with the induction of officers, committee chairmen were appointed. The remaining slate of executive board members is as follows: Joan Long, calling chair; Sheryl Judd, web page manager; Kathy McAndrew, historian; Liz Smith, membership chair; Chris Schuster, publicity chair; Tom House, legislative chair; and Kathy Laubon, insurance chair.

MARSP CCC generally meets at noon the second Tuesday of the month, May through October, in the Esther C Room at Mid-Michigan College. Meetings start out with a luncheon catered by Jack Pine Restaurant followed by a guest speaker and a business meeting.

The organization is open to all current and retired public-school personnel and encourages all interested persons to attend. These meetings are an excellent way to stay informed about what is happening at the state level with school employees' retirement activities.

Direct questions about the organization to Liz Smith at [ecsmith06@hotmail.com](mailto:ecsmith06@hotmail.com) or 989-368-2346.

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# MORE NEWS & VIEWS

## Schools Strategic Plan Update Presented

*BOE Hears of Candidates, Employee Retaliation Threat, Schools of Choice Balance, More*



**HCS Superintendent Judy Walton provides an update on the district's Strategic Plan during the Oct. 14 school board meeting. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)**

By **DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY**  
 Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

**HARRISON** – The Oct. 14 Harrison Community Schools board meeting included the 2023-2024 audit report provided by Shelly Browning of Weinlander Fitzhugh, a typically lengthy report that showed the district to be on sound financial footing.

Superintendent Judy Walton also provided an update on the district's Strategic Plan, breaking the plan down into three categories and their components:

**Achievement** – Facilitate learning environments that focus on continuous academic improvement PreK-12;

Aug. 20-Sept. 18 (learning and half-day inquiry cycles); Evaluate student voice (BOE student member); Mid Michigan Career Quest; and Career exploration trips (Project R.E.D.)

**Culture** – All students, staff and families will create and contribute to a culture of kindness, respect, and safety

across our school community.

Poverty and trauma training new teacher orientation; Restorative practices training new teacher orientation; MTSS teams, SEL; Guiding Beliefs recognition; and Oct. 24 event (plus CGRESSED event on Nov. 12).

**Excellence** – Create and grow an environment that fosters connections among our students, staff, Board, and community.

Marketing (Social media); Student BOE member [senior Jonathan Sterling, who was in attendance at this meeting and will begin providing his update with at the November meeting]; More Grow Your Own dollars; New teacher onboarding (extended to two days) and check-ins; and Aligning MICIP with everyday work.

Under the Non-consent Agenda, the Board moved to approve the audit results, as well as the HEA Letter of Agreement.

Informational Items included resig-

nations received from four of the district's paraprofessionals. Two were special education paraprofessionals: Shontell Kelts-Walt from Larson Elementary, and Jade Samples from Harrison High School. The other two were Erin Cottrell and Melissa Keener, both Great Start Readiness Program paraprofessionals.

The Board heard public comment from former HMS social studies teacher Mick Haley, who announced his write-in candidacy for the school board in the Nov. 5 election. Also proclaiming his candidacy was Brian Noel, who also voiced complaint against the administration for perceived inaction on an employee complaint (that the employee supposedly had been told that if they complained they would be fired). It was explained to Noel that there had been no complaint lodged and that his refusal to

name the employee – or the specific school personnel or contractor accused of the misconduct – would prevent the administration or school board from taking action. Kendra Durga, BOE president, was specific in urging Noel to speak with the superintendent in a more private setting to provide specifics so the accusation could be addressed.

"Judy Walton is one of the most approachable people I've ever met," she said.

Noel also voiced concerns regarding ongoing problems of bullying, however, he did not provide any specifics, but rather used terms indicating that what he had heard about such bullying was not first-hand. Another question Noel had was about how many students who live in the HCS District attend elsewhere, and how many students were attending Harrison schools who

live in other districts. The superintendent fielded the attendance question by saying that Schools of Choice accounts for some of the student transfers, both into and out of the district, and that she believed there was a balanced transfer overall.

"I turned down two this year due to their disciplinary history," Walton said. She also urged Noel to reach out to the District's whistleblower and anti-retaliation policies. "I truly operate under See Something, Say Something."

In her report, Walton also spoke of an Oct. 24 event wherein she would be spending about 40 minutes with community leaders reviewing student survey data. Further noted was science curriculum work that was to begin the following week, and the intention to "make a deep dive into science stan-

dards." Also taking place the next week were Honor Society inductions.

Walton further noted having sent out an apology for a yearbook spread which she said shouldn't have happened, adding her intention to ensure it won't happen again.

Under Committee Reports, topics included completion of the HVAC work with only the punch list remaining; the need for a part-time maintenance person who would focus on exterior work; the need to strike a new lease contract with the Veterans Freedom Park; athletic field bathrooms; the much-appreciated letter "H" which had been marked on the football field; and the need to seek out a knowledgeable person to work on landscape enhancement.

The HCS Board of Education meets next at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 4 in the Board Room at 224 W. Main St.

## Student safety the focus of Operation Safe Stop

To ensure students' safety when traveling to and from school, police officers across Michigan will be ramping up patrols looking for drivers illegally passing school buses.

Description automatically generated "Operation Safe Stop" (OSS) is a statewide enforcement campaign that will be conducted October 21-25 in conjunction with School Bus Safety Week. Participating police agencies will work with their local school districts during Safety Week to provide education and enforcement for their communities. OSS enforcement efforts will focus on drivers who ignore the flashing red lights and extended "Stop" arm of a school bus that is stopped to pick up or drop off students.

According to the Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC), in 2023 in Michigan:

-There were 988 crashes involving school buses. In those 988 crashes, five people were killed, including one student. None of the victims, however, were riding on school buses.

-There were 73 crashes that occurred at school bus stops, where the bus lights and Stop arms were activated. Of those 73 bus stop crashes, there were 31 injuries—some of which were life-changing.

-The majority of school bus-involved crashes occurred between 3 p.m. and 5:59 p.m., and October had the highest number of school bus-involved crashes (134).

A one-day survey conducted by Michigan school bus drivers in May 2024 reported 1,362 incidents where a motorist passed a school bus illegally.

"Every time a driver ignores the flashing lights or Stop arm of a school bus, they are putting a stu-

dent's life in danger," said Kellie Dean, CEO of Dean Transportation. "'Operation Safe Stop' will help keep students safe and will educate drivers on how to safely share the road with buses."

Drivers should prepare to stop when they see the overhead flashing yellow lights of a school bus and stop at least 20 feet away from a bus when the overhead lights flash red.

Drivers who pass stopped school buses may be charged with civil infractions carrying a fine up to \$500. Drivers who pass a stopped school bus and cause an injury face a misdemeanor charge and a fine up to \$1,000 and/or up to one year in jail. Drivers who pass a stopped school bus and cause a death are subject to a felony with a fine up to \$7,500 and/or up to 15 years in jail.

For more information about OSS and school bus safety, visit [www.Michigan.gov/SchoolBusSafety](http://www.Michigan.gov/SchoolBusSafety).



42-2

**VOTE**  
**Ambrozaitis**  
 for **55<sup>th</sup>**  
**Circuit Court**

### Fair and Experienced

Michelle Ambrozaitis is a skilled attorney, having worked in both private practice and, for the last 15 years, as the Clare County Prosecutor. With her experience, Michelle will bring considerable knowledge to the bench. With this knowledge, comes strong priorities for the 55<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court serving all of Clare and Gladwin Counties.

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- ✓ Safe Communities
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