



## BUCK TALES

### Remember Mom

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 11 — Time for that special dinner and a moment to just say "Thank you!"

## COMING EVENTS

**Yoder's Amish Flea Market** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17 at 10885 N. Leaton Road, Clare.

**26th Annual Memorial Day Car and Bike Show** will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 24 at the Clare County Fairgrounds. Call the Harrison Chamber at 989-539-6011 for food truck/vendor information.

**Harrison High School Alumni will host the 2025 Coffee Hour and Business meeting** Saturday, May 24 beginning at 6 p.m. at the high school auditorium. Admission is \$5 at the door. 50/50 tickets will be sold. Invite your classmates and plan to attend!

**40th Annual Twenty Lakes Antique Engine and Tractor Club Show** from June 12 to June 15 at the show grounds west of Harrison on M-61.

**Ole Time Country Gospel Jamboree** 6-8 p.m. Saturdays, June 18, Aug. 23 and Oct. 25 at the First Congregational Church, Harrison. Refreshments to follow. All musicians/singers are welcome. For more info call 989-539-7163.

**Clare County Senior Center**, 101 Michigan St., Farwell, hosts Euchre at 6 p.m. Mondays; Soup Kitchen open 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; Bingo held Tuesdays, doors open at 4:30 p.m., Bingo begins at 6 p.m.

### And That's What Makes a Horse Race!

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

While a likely majority of media outlets were rooting for Journalism — the Kentucky Derby's odds-on favorite — sadly, he was scooped in the muddy home stretch by Sovereignty. As the adage says, "there's always more to the story," so it will be interesting to see how second-place finisher Journalism's follow-up story unfolds if he takes on the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes assignments [the Triple Crown's last two races]. In the meantime, those disappointed media outlets can take solace in knowing that, despite getting scooped, Journalism did *not* bury the lead.

## 2 Children Critically Injured in Car-Buggy Crash

Gladwin County Sheriff Department release

At approximately 8:25 p.m. Friday, May 2, deputies from the Gladwin County Sheriff's Office were called to investigate a personal injury incident near the intersection of Bard Road and Calhoun Road in Beaverton Township, involving a motor vehicle and Amish buggy.

Through the course of the investigation, it was determined the buggy was occupied by a 62-year-old Amish husband and his wife who is 60 years old from Clare, along with two of their granddaughters, ages 1 and 10 years, from Gladwin; at the time of the crash. The buggy was traveling southbound on Bard Road approximately one-tenth of a mile south of Calhoun Road. Their buggy was hit from behind by a 2016 Nissan Versa Note, also traveling southbound on Bard Road. The Nissan was being driven by a 61-year-old male from Mt. Pleasant.

The male operating the Nissan was transported by ambulance to MyMichigan-Midland Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. The Amish husband was transported by ambulance to Midland Hospital for minor injuries and his wife accompanied him. The Amish children

suffered life threatening injuries and were transferred from Midland Hospital to Flint Hurley Hospital, in stable but critical condition, at the time of the press release.

The section of Bard Road where the crash occurred was shut down for several hours while the accident reconstructionists from the Michigan State Police were on scene. The Gladwin County Sheriff's Office was also assisted by Beaverton City Police Department and Beaverton Fire and Rescue. The crash is still under investigation. Reports will be forwarded to the Gladwin County Prosecutor's Office for review.



(Gladwin County Sheriff Department photos)



## Hayes Plans Public Hearing on Shipping Containers

Township Rescinding Cumbersome Golf Cart Ordinance

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON — The recent second Hayes Township Board meeting of the month followed a meeting where in the agenda's New Business items all were tabled due to on trustee feeling he had not had time to properly review those items. Thus, the April 22 meeting contained those additional items.

Road Commissioner Bill Simpson reported on road projects underway, along with an update regarding the U.S. 27 tree cleanup. He said that cleanup would resume with better weather. Road funding was still a topic of concern, although Simpson said he had spoken with Rep. Tom Kunse whom the commissioner said had been still hopeful for resolution.

Simpson also informed that a Clare County Road Commission crew had gone north to assist after the ravaging ice storm, but had returned after two days.

Under New Business, the Board moved to:

-Approve Wade Trim quote to update Zoning Maps in the amount of \$500, which includes two 24x36-inch maps.

-Approve MVW and Associates contract for Aug. 1, 2025-July 31, 2028 at a rate of \$3,400 per month (last contract was \$3,200 per month and was a three-year contract).

-Approve an Audit Engagement letter with Yeo & Yeo for \$13,500 for audit and \$4,000 for a single audit: \$17,500 total.

-Approve Hayes Township Soccer Field License Agreement for 2025 and authorize Supervisor Powell and Clerk Hoyt to sign.

-Approve the contract with Clare County Equalization, effective July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 in the amount of \$500.

-Adopt Resolution 24-16 third quarter budget amendment.

-Approve the Four Seasons Extermination proposal with the initial service fee of \$190 and \$75 per month



During the April 22 Hayes Township Board meeting, Road Commissioner Bill Simpson describes the state's as-yet unresolved road funding legislation, which leaves road commissions unable to plan for the coming season. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)

after initial service. Discussion items included a lengthy dissection of a proposal that the township drop all permitting fees, and an extensive "what if" report from Treasurer Savannah Cavanaugh. Zoning Administrator Ken Hoyt reported that annually an average of 130 permits are pulled, and some 18 to 20 projects are found not to have pulled a permit, which results in issuance of fines. Zoning permits have cost \$75, which has been in place since 2019.

It also was proposed that the \$1,500 site plan review fee be dropped to \$550 and include elimination of

See HAYES on page 2



Young Benjamin, grandson of this year's first pitch honoree Bryan Umphrey, lofts the first pitch of the Harrison Little League season. (Photo courtesy of Reese Wilde Photography)

## Umphrey Throws First Pitch to Open Little League Season

### Play Ball!

This year's first pitch honoree to officially open the Harrison Little League season was Bryan Umphrey. The league celebrated their opening day on Saturday with a parade around the fields and the VFW Honor Guard raising the flag. Once again, local resident Carol Stier sang the national anthem and Hunter Taylor, youth pastor at Brown Corners Church, offered a prayer.

Umphrey was a Harrison Little League player himself. His four children played through Juniors and now he's

watching his grandchildren play. He was a coach and even the president of the league. Several current board members were in the league when Umphrey coached.

"I have loved Little League as a player, coach, board member, parent and grandparent," Umphrey said. "It warms my heart to see players that I coached are now coaching and leading. Thank you so much for this special day!"

Umphrey chose to have his grandson Benjamin help him throw the first pitch. Benjamin begins the third year of his baseball career as an 8U player.

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100 Women Treated to Afternoon Steeped in Enjoyment

## VFW Auxiliary Brews Truly Delightful Tea

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON – The VFW Post 1075 Auxiliary pulled out the stops once more on May 27 to bring the community the group’s second annual VFW Auxiliary Tea. The event saw some 100 tickets sold, and it would seem every one of them was used as the post’s tables filled with brimming.

And, speaking of brimming, all those tables were set elegantly with a colorful mix of florally decorated china teacups and plates, as well as a bountiful assortment of teas. The variety of teas enabled attendees to try out multiple possibilities without having to commit

to a full box purchase. As the room filled, the spirit of fanciful spring was embodied by the many ladies who took the opportunity to dress festively, sporting their finest elaborate hats and fascinators.

Auxiliary members, as always, took great care of the attendees by being highly attentive. The classic Tea repast offerings included (in part) baguette slices with cream cheese spread, croissant/chicken salad sandwiches, scones, assorted shortbreads and cream, and the crowning touch of fudges and truffle confections.

Tea ticket purchase included an opportunity to win a substantial

raffle prize from Riverwalk Place in Gladwin (yes, that included a massage package and more). Door prizes also were drawn, which after each name was drawn, that winner then drew the next name. These included a bounty of bulb flowers enhanced with gift cards. Additionally, each attendee received a gift card from Texas Roadhouse embellished with a Buddy” Poppy, so no one went away feeling left out of the prizes.

Throughout the event, diners were tended to by a cadre of gentlemen servers (each dedicated to a single table) who were kept busy ensuring each table was

stocked with hot water for tea. They also served the courses courteously, employing all the flourishes they could comfortably muster. (Yeah, they were kinda cute – and thoroughly appreciated.)

Subtle keyboard music provided a quiet background as the ladies made the most of the special ambiance of the day.

It cannot be stated emphatically enough that – through some hard work and coordinated planning – the Auxiliary members created and executed a truly special experience for those in atten-

dance. While the ticket offering increased to 100 this year, it was stated that 100 is enough to handle and will be the limit for next year’s Tea. So, when the tickets become available in 2026, it will be advisable to snap them up ASAP – it’s a good bet that this year’s attendees will be looking for an encore.



Table 10’s dedicated server Tim places a tray of shortbreads at the recent VFW Auxiliary Tea. (Cleaver photos by Dianne Alward-Biery)



## Mid Offering Summer Courses, Tuition-Free Options

Journeys begin at Mid Michigan College and lead beyond. With personalized guidance and support to explore options and navigate the college experience, Mid moves students forward.

“Whether they are working toward a career or have plans to transfer, we help students achieve their goals,” shared Beth Binder, director of admissions. “Students still have time to register for summer courses, but should do so soon!”

Registration for summer courses at Mid is underway now, and courses begin Monday, May 19.

“Tuition-free options make it easier than ever to get started,” said Binder. “Michigan’s Community College Guarantee and Reconnect scholarships, along with traditional financial aid, are easy to apply for and eliminate nearly all financial barriers.”

The Community College Guarantee (CCG) provides a tuition-free path for in-district stu-

dents, significant financial assistance for out-of-district students, and an additional \$1,000 for students who qualify to cover costs like textbooks and transportation. Recent high school graduates are eligible for the Community College Guarantee and have 18 months to begin their college journey and take advantage of CCG benefits.

Michigan Reconnect covers in-district tuition and fees after financial aid funds have been awarded for in-district and out-of-district students – significantly offsetting the cost of attendance. Michigan Reconnect is available to students 25 years of age and up who do not have a college degree.

“Students aged 21-24 were temporarily eligible for Michigan Reconnect, but had to apply before Dec. 31, 2024,” noted Michelle McNier, director of financial aid. “If students applied by that deadline, they must begin at Mid during the Summer 2025 semester or their



Reconnect benefits will expire.”

Financial aid funding is provided by state and federal governments and includes grants, loans, and other specialized types of financial assistance, that may or may not need to be paid back.

To apply for these tuition-free options and financial aid, students must complete the FAFSA at studentaid.gov.

“Our team is available to help students complete the FAFSA and answer any questions they might have regarding these options and their requirements,” said McNier. “Michigan Reconnect does require an additional application, and we can help students complete that as

well.” Students also have access to career planning, internet hotspots, transportation vouchers, mental health counseling, the College’s food pantry, and other support services throughout their journey at Mid.

“Life happens, and sometimes it’s tough,” said Amy Campbell, director of counseling and wellness services. “We’re here for our students and provide or connect them with resources to help them navigate life’s challenges as they pursue their educational goals.”

Whether students are taking a small step or a bold leap, they can pursue their goals, achieve meaningful milestones, and celebrate their wins – in and out of the classroom – at Mid.

Prospective students can apply to Mid online at midmich.edu/apply or contact admissions@midmich.edu or 989-386-6661 to get started.

Current or returning students should contact their Mid Mentor for assistance at midmich.edu/mentors.

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## Outdoors With Jeff

As I got out of bed this morning, I grabbed my cup of coffee and the sun was starting to rise, it was a beautiful morning. It wasn't long and a few deer came out and started to eat. After an hour or so several more came out and joined the group. As usual the birds came in and took over and remained there for most of the day.

Lately I've been out in the woods wandering, walking in places where my mother and my dad used to look for mushrooms. When I got to the woods the liver mushrooms were already popping up and, in some places, there were some morels too.

One of the best places I remember going was out on Arnold Lake Road. My mother was always a fan of going out to the gas fields, and it was a beautiful place to search. As it got warmer, we would always notice that the fiddle head ferns started to grow. Some people would not know that those ferns at this young age were one of the best things to eat back at home. The liver mushroom is large and back then they tasted really good, however later in life we learned some of those mushrooms started to affect your digestive system and you had to stop eating them.

Those fiddle head ferns after they were cooked could be found to taste better than the larger ones. If the fern starts to get a little bigger, they don't taste very well.

On May 11 a very special day arrives and this date is Mother's Day. Our group growing up, the Wizards of the Woods, would meet and get our mothers a special gift for our mothers. There were several times in our life that we would often get lost, mostly when we were hunting or fishing. Our mothers would stay up all night waiting and eventually have to call Sheriff Jim to come



JEFF GOYT

to look for us. He would always tell them they would be ok. He was right.

Eventually we would wander out of the woods with the sunrise and mom would always have breakfast all made up. It's a special time when you go out in the woods. My mother was a great lady; she was always there when I needed her. I wish her a very happy heavenly Mother's Day. She always thought of us before she did anything for her, I really miss her.

I wish everyone a very happy Mother's Day. Mother's Day is a wonderful time to honor the one who gave us so much.

Now people are questioning all the new proposed laws and rules. There's so many being proposed that people tell me and they can't keep up. Some new changes are being shown and some I've talked to haven't read them yet. I will try to keep you updated as the legislature and NRC hammer out any new laws. I know the proposed license increase is a hot topic that will be watched.

Well, it's time to start hunting turkeys. I've seen a lot of flocks of turkeys out there this year. I think it's going to be a great hunt this year. At my house this morning I looked at the window and there were 4 males and two females. They were attacking my son's car. There were four males and only two females. The toms had long beards dragging in the mud. The males were looking at my son's vehicle, it was very shiny and the male's pecked at my son's car. The car was so shiny, and the turkey could see own faces he mistook the car for another tom turkey.

I wish everyone a very Happy Mothers Day.



# Clare County History



Happy Mother's Day from 1915! This uncut real photo postcard of the interior of the Congregational Church in Clare in 1915 is ready to honor mothers. The church was the second building of the Congregational Church denomination in Clare and was built in 1909. The church building became a Michigan and National Historic Site in 1994.

## Field Office Happenings Endangered Species

**Kirtland's Warbler** - A small songbird that is globally rare. They were on the verge of extinction 50 years ago. Kirtland's Warblers are listed as an "Endangered Species" by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, therefore they receive special consideration during the management of Michigan's State Forests. These birds spend their winters in the Bahamas, then return to North America to nest in late spring. They prefer to nest in young Jack Pine Forest stands. Large tracts of Jack Pine habitat are identified and set aside by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources specifically for Kirtland Warbler management.

Summerfield and Winterfield Townships of Clare County contain some of this dedicated Jack Pine habitat. I worked on many of the timber management efforts to cultivate these Jack Pine stands. When I was a Forest Fire Officer, we used to conduct prescribed burns to induce natural Jack Pine reproduction. Later, as a Forest Technician, I set up large timber sales in Jack Pine forests in Clare County.

In 1995, I set up the largest timber sale that was ever proposed in Clare County. It was an 890-acre cutting that was on both sides of Haskel Lake road in Winterfield Township West of Leota. The timber was mostly Jack Pine. The US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) owned a few hundred acres of land out that way. USFWS had proposed that the State coordinate a cutting with them to expand the Kirtland's Warbler habitat in that area. The nesting

habitat for Kirtland's Warblers had diminished partly because we had become so efficient at preventing and suppressing forest fires.

I went to work on the timber sale in August/September of 1995. It was a big undertaking for one person, but I trudged onward. Jack Pine forests are not very attractive places to work and there isn't much else growing on these poor soils. I wanted to get this job done as quickly as possible, but it still took several weeks. The soil was parched from the dry summer heat causing it to be a dirty and dusty job. There were plenty of ornery yellow jackets that emerged from their ground nests to attack me. But I was outside getting paid to work in the woods. You can't beat that.

I often stopped at the little store in Leota (the Leota Mall) to get a cold drink to go with my lunch. One day, the store owner asked me what I was doing out that way all the time. I told him that I was setting up a big clearcut timber sale for the benefit of Kirtland's Warblers. I told him that "When it is done, there would be so many Kirtland's Warblers flying around that they would be getting stuck in the radiators of peoples cars." I went on to tell him that this clearcut was so big that, "He would be able to go out in his parking lot and use his binoculars to see if the hardware was open in Marion." I was just joking. But, when I returned to the office at the end of the day, my boss told me that he needed to see me. Apparently, the store owner had

called. He failed to see the intended humor in my comments. The boss told me NOT to do that kind of thing again.

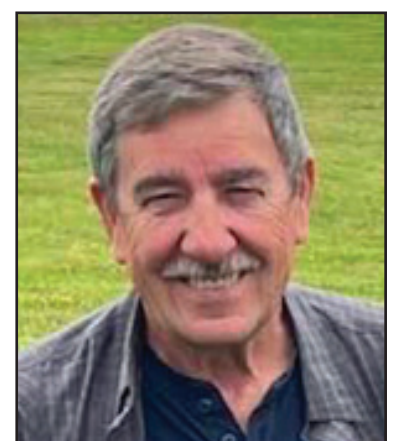
There were times that made me wonder about the DNR's attempts at managing critters. For instance, a Wildlife Technician once asked me if I had ever seen a Kirtland's Warbler. I told him that I had never seen one. That morning, he was going out to do a population survey where they listen for the singing of the male Kirtland's Warbler. I went along. Soon the Technician said he heard one singing. We got out of the truck to go see the bird. Sneaking through the young Jack Pines, the Technician pointed in the direction of where the bird was singing. Low and behold, there he was, sitting in a young Black Cherry tree. This was my chance to get in a dig on the Technician. I said, "No wonder we don't have many Kirtland's Warblers. You guys are managing for the wrong kind of trees. It's obvious that they like Black Cherry trees not Jack Pine."

**Prairie Chickens** - Up near Marion, there was an area designated as a prairie chicken management site. The Wildlife Biologists were trying to manage Prairie Chickens on an old, abandoned farmstead. There were open fields that were no longer being farmed, and the prairie chickens had become established. We used to go up there and do burns in the grasslands

and farmers were contracted to plow and plant crops that Prairie Chickens preferred. In all the times that I had been at that site, I had never seen a single Prairie Chicken.

I happened upon one of the neighboring farmers near this Prairie Chicken Management Area. The farmer was just shaking his head as I approached him. He said, "All these Scientists! We used to have a lot of Prairie Chickens here before the State started trying to manage them." He added a suggestion, "Why don't you guys try managing skunks? Then there wouldn't be so many of them around." That farmer might be right.

*Ken Rouston is a retired from the MDNR and lives in Grayling. He spent 14 years in Harrison, 13 years in Gladwin and 10 years in Kalkaska for a total 37 years of service.*



KEN ROUSTON



May 12 - 16

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, May 12

Closed

Tuesday, May 13

Chili, Irish boiled potatoes, spinach, corn muffin, and chocolate milk.

Wednesday, May 14

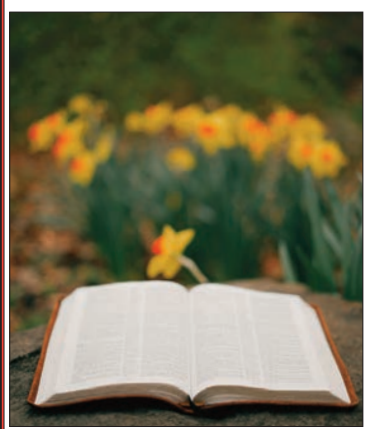
Chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, succotash, apricot orange jello, and milk.

Thursday, May 15

Hamburger stroganoff, over noodles, brussel sprouts, cottage cheese, orange juice, and chocolate milk.

Friday, May 16

Chicken breast patty with basil tomato relish, duchess potatoes, california vegetable blend, apple, and milk.



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# EDITORIAL



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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Student Voices Tariff Concerns

I am writing to express my concern about the recent increase in tariffs on imported goods. While proponents claim that these tariffs

will protect domestic industries and create jobs, I believe that they will ultimately harm our economy.

Tariffs raise the price of imported goods, making them more expensive for consumers. This can lead to a decrease in consumer

spending, which can slow economic growth. Additionally, tariffs can lead to retaliatory measures from other countries, resulting in trade wars that hurt businesses on both sides.

I urge policymakers to reconsid-

er the use of tariffs and instead focus on policies that promote free and fair trade. This will benefit consumers, businesses, and the economy as a whole.

**Kaleb Morgan**  
Harrison Hive Student

### You may be eligible for SSI and Social Security Benefits

**By Hillary Hatch, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist**

You may be able to get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) even if you already receive Social Security benefits. About 2.5 million adults and children get SSI and Social Security at the same time.

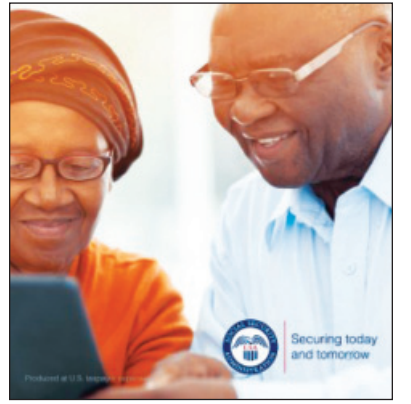
We pay Social Security benefits to workers and their eligible family members based on the worker's earnings. SSI is a needs-based program that provides payments to people with little or no income and few resources.

People younger than 65 must be blind or have a disability and meet SSI income and resource limits, while people 65 and older do not have to have a disability. About 1.4 million people 65 and older receive both SSI and Social Security.

What do we mean by "little or no income"?

In 2025, you may be eligible for SSI if your total income – including your Social Security benefit – is less than \$987 per month (the 2025 SSI monthly federal benefit rate plus \$20).

We consider income from all non-work sources, including pensions, veterans' benefits, unem-



ployment, and Social Security disability, retirement, and survivor benefits. We also count some – but not all – earnings from work, including self-employment.

What do we mean by "few resources"?

Resources are things that you own that you could change to cash and use to support yourself. They include vehicles (if you own more than one) and money in bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. We do not count your home and the land it's on, as long as you live there. To be eligible for SSI, your resources cannot be worth more than:

- \$2,000 for a single person.
- \$3,000 for a married couple living together.

For more information visit our blog article, You May Be Eligible for SSI and Social Security Benefits at [blog.ssa.gov/you-may-be-eligible-for-ssi-and-social-security-benefits](http://blog.ssa.gov/you-may-be-eligible-for-ssi-and-social-security-benefits).

Please share this information with others who may benefit – and post it on social media.

### Social Security question and answer

**Q: I usually get my benefit payment on the third of the month. But what if the third falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday? Will my payment be late?**

**A:** Just the opposite. Your payment should arrive early. For example, if you usually get your payment on the third of a month, but it falls on a weekend or legal holiday, we will send payments on the business day prior to the due date. You can find the payment

schedules at [www.ssa.gov/pubs/calendar.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/calendar.htm). Any time you don't receive a payment, be sure to wait 3 days before calling to report it missing. To ensure that your payments go to the right place, create a personal my Social Security account. There, you can verify and manage your benefits without calling or visiting an office. Please visit [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) to create your account.

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SHERIFF JOHN WILSON

Welcome to May Clare County! Seems it has been a little colder spring than normal, or I'm getting old. For the months of March and April 2025 our Clare County Central Dispatch logged 6,409 total incidents for the county. Your Clare County deputies handled 4,409 of those incidents. Clare City Police answered 1,098 incidents, with the Michigan State Police helping out with 19 calls. Our Animal Control Officers investigated 59 calls. Our five fire and rescue agencies responded to 336 calls. There were 428 ambu-

## News From Your Sheriff

lance calls throughout the county. The Clare County Road Commission Weighmaster made 53 stops on commercial vehicles. Other law enforcement handled seven calls. The jail currently has 143 individuals in it. They consist of 69 Clare County inmates, 29 out of county renters, 44 Federal Detainees, and one Diverted Felon.

In March and April, we investigated 14 methamphetamine cases which resulted in several arrests and search warrants. We arrested 22 individuals for operating while intoxicated by alcohol or drugs. We arrested three people involved in the theft of three pickups stolen from Arizona, Colorado and Michigan. The individuals involved in this case were here illegally and working major marijuana grow operations in the county. 39 people were arrested on 79 felony charges during this period. The deputies made 820 traffic stops during the time period. This is mostly the criminal aspect of what we have done during the past two months. This does not show all of the non-criminal calls we go

on, which is a large number.

I want to congratulate Deputy Keegan Chicilli and Deputy Lance Shilling on completing our Field Training program. Both deputies are flying solo, as we would say, and handling calls for all of you. I want to congratulate Sgt. James Dawson who will be receiving the Michigan Sheriff's Association Medal of Honor award at the summer conference in June. This stems from the selfless action Sgt. Dawson took in getting a 12-year-old out of a house that had been shot in the leg. In our Central Dispatch, Tabatha Simon is completing the last week of her Shadow Phase of training. In June we will be having our entire radio system upgraded in dispatch. We will be able to do all of this upgrade without interruption due to having a backup dispatch capability at Clare City Police Department.

Congratulations to Corrections Officer Rideout who has completed the CTO training and can now train new correction officers here at the jail. We are sending two correction officers to the 160-hour

Correction Officer Training program. Our ORV patrol has started in the county, and we are getting our Marine Patrol ready for the summer.

I would like to congratulate the graduating class of 2025 for our three schools, Clare, Harrison, and Farwell. Congratulations to all the Valedictorians and Salutatorians.

I want to take time to honor my mother, Shirley Wilson. On April 20, 2025, (Easter Sunday) she went home to heaven. She was with us for 89 years here on earth. She raised five children who are all successful in life because of her and our father and what they instilled in all of us. She spent the last couple of years with my sisters, Kathy and Terri, in Tennessee. They cared for her until the end; thank you sisters. I will miss her dearly, like anyone that loses a mother or a father would. Spend as much time with your parents as you can and build those memories. I love you, Mom!

Take care and have a great and safe summer.

**GOD Bless**  
Sheriff John S. Wilson

## Rep. Kunse introduces bill to defend property rights from warrantless EGLE inspections

State Rep. Tom Kunse, R-Clare, introduced a plan to protect the rights of Michigan property owners by requiring the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to obtain a warrant before entering private property.

"Most people are shocked to learn that EGLE can currently enter private property without a warrant," said Kunse. "My bill simply makes sure state officials follow the same rules as everyone else when it comes to respecting private property rights."

Under current law, EGLE employees are not required to obtain a warrant to inspect or investigate potential environmental issues on private land. House Bill 4421 would establish clear legal boundaries, ensuring that EGLE follows the same constitutional procedures as other government agencies when seeking access to private property.

"Protecting Michigan's environment is important, but it must be done without trampling on the rights of our citizens," said Kunse. "This bill brings transparency and accountability to the way EGLE operates and restores trust between property owners and the state."



Rep. Kunse introducing House Bill 4421 at the clerk's office in the Capitol.

## May is Teacher Appreciation Month and This Week is Teacher Appreciation Week

LANSING – Videos of students in Michigan expressing gratitude to their teachers are a part of state efforts to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Month in May.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and State Board of Education are recognizing Michigan teachers for all they do for children – and sharing words of appreciation from their students – during the month. MDE is also celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week, May 5-9.

"Michigan teachers do so much for children. Teachers help their students learn. They give them support as they grow up. They prepare them for the future and help them realize their dreams,"

said State Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice. "Who better than their students to talk about how important teachers are to young people?"

Recruiting and retaining quality educator supports Goal 7 of Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan, to increase the number of certified teachers in areas of shortage.

"I am always amazed to observe the tremendous positive effect that our hardworking and caring teachers have on Michigan's children," said State Board of Education President Dr. Pamela Pugh. "The State Board and I want to thank our teachers for everything they do for chil-

dren and families."

To show gratitude for teachers' commitment to their profession, MDE invited families, parents, guardians, and community members to help highlight the state's remarkable teachers by submitting videos of students expressing

appreciation for their teachers.

These videos are featured on MDE's YouTube channel and the Teacher Appreciation Month webpage. The MDE Office of Educator Excellence's Facebook social media page will promote the videos throughout the month.

**Monday - Friday:**  
10am - 5pm  
**Saturday:**  
10am - 2pm  
**Sunday:**  
Closed  
**989-630-0038**  
**155 North 2nd St.**  
**Harrison**

**Clothing \* Furniture \* Household**  
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IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

# LOCAL NEWS



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

*Stories Spring to Life at Storybook Stroll Grand Opening*

## Harrison's New Outdoor Literacy Trail Brings Families Together for a Day of Stories, Nature, and Shared Memories

By MEGAN BARRON  
Cleaver Guest Writer

HARRISON – Do you remember the pure joy of getting lost in the pages of your favorite childhood books? Letting your imagination run wild as you brushed your hands across vibrant illustrations and dialogue, with beloved characters traversing pages beguiled with wonder and mystique. Harrison City Park now hosts a brand new, captivating storybook stroll, bringing that enchanting and youthful magic to life for our community, thanks to the City of Harrison's support in establishing this literary haven.

On Wednesday, April 30, the Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District's (RESA) Great Start Collaborative, in partnership with the Harrison District Library, launched the permanent storybook stroll with a joyful kick-off event. With approximately 40 people in attendance, families gathered to experience the playground's newest addition while enjoying a leisurely stroll on a sunny, spring day. Wonder-filled eyes and giggles of glee echoed as children explored story panels winding through the playground area.

Sarah McCurdy, Parent Services and Support Coordinator of Clare-Gladwin RESA, and her team hosted a table filled with snacks and drinks for everyone to enjoy throughout the stroll. Each family received a copy of a book to take home at the end of the stroll, enhancing the festive vibe.

The first book to grace the permanent storybook stroll was "Ribbit!" by Rodrigo Folgueira, illustrated by Poly Bernatene. This book is captivating readers of all ages with its whimsical illustrations and heartfelt tale of friendship and acceptance. Its cheerful pink pig chanting "Ribbit!" to connect across differences, set a joyful tone for the grand opening.

The storybook stroll winds through the park's northwest playground area, starting with a weatherproof podium sign near the main entry path displaying the cover and first page of a children's book.

The storybook stroll arrives at a critical time, as many young students in our region face challenges in early reading. Joyful, accessible literacy initiatives like this are more vital than ever, offering a delightful way to inspire a lifelong love of stories and reading.

Euri Garcia, Harrison District Library program coordinator, partnered with McCurdy to secure grant funding for the weatherproof signs. "The storybook stroll promotes literacy, outdoor time, and family fun," Garcia said. "Stories tie to seasons or our library's summer themes."



Weatherproof signs weave through Harrison City Park's northwest playground, guiding families along a literary trail.



Euri Garcia and Sarah McCurdy stand proudly at the storybook stroll's opening podium, showcasing Ribbit!'s first page at Harrison City Park, April 30, 2025. (Cleaver photos by Megan Barron)

The storybook stroll offers fun, engagement, and literacy in the outdoors for families and community members of all ages.

"It is open to everyone – we want to get everyone excited for reading," McCurdy said. "When we had our temporary rotating one, there was an older lady and she was so cute – when we would go set it up she would be there and she would be like 'Oh, I can't wait for a new story!' Even though it is a kid's story, I was like how exciting – that's so fun! She walks that path like every other day and she was always super excited to read it. And I was like, you know, I love that it's not only kids getting excited." The trail offers a delightful way to spark that love, blending stories

with nature.

Open spring through fall, the stroll will feature new books monthly, with QR code surveys offering free book copies to encourage visits and track usage.

"After each book, scan a QR code to take a survey and get a free book copy at the library," McCurdy said. For book rotation updates, follow the Harrison District Library and Clare Gladwin Parent Network Facebook pages or visit [claregladwinstart.com](http://claregladwinstart.com).

The storybook stroll invites all to discover tales in nature's retreat, fostering a lifelong love of reading and community connection. Visit Harrison City Park to experience the magic!

## A Northern Tradition Raises Over \$75,000

Nearly 600 people attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual A Northern Tradition, Mid Michigan College's annual fundraiser, which took place recently at Jay's Sporting Goods in Clare. This year's event raised over \$75,000, and over 22 years, A Northern Tradition, has raised more than \$2 million to support the college's services to students and the community.

"As we gathered together all the generous support received during A Northern Tradition, we were so near the mark of raising \$2 million dollars since the event began," said Alexa Carey, executive director of the Mid Michigan College Foundation. "And thanks to a generous donation from the Poet Family, we were able to push past this historic fundraising milestone!"

A Northern Tradition is the college's biggest fundraiser. The proceeds from this event allow the Mid Michigan College Foundation to support the college's services to students through scholarships,

program development, improved facilities, and student success initiatives.

Attendees enjoyed an evening of exclusive shopping and exceptional food provided by local restaurants, and were excited to meet the Featured Artist, Cheryl Myer, an instructor at Mid and local resident.

Ticket holders were also entered to win a \$1,000 Jay's Gift Certificate. The 2025 lucky winner was Tony Voisen.

"I am so impressed and grateful for how the community stepped forward to support the college again this year," shared Carey. "This event wouldn't be possible without the generosity of Jay's Sporting Goods. We're so thankful to the sponsors, the restaurants and demonstrators, the many volunteers, and the attendees. It was a great event."

For more information about A Northern Tradition, visit [midmich.edu/ant](http://midmich.edu/ant).



Pictured, from left, are (top row) Brooklyn Zemko (Clare), Evan Umphrey (Harrison), Lauren Nobach (Gladwin), Tommie Murrell (Beaverton), Kelsey Kihn (Farwell), Chrissa Morgan (Farwell), and Gabriel Lewis (Harrison); (front row) Jacob Bowermaster, Alekz Shook (Gladwin), Mason Root-Pyle (Harrison), Payton Corrigan (Beaverton), Dyanne Andrews (Harrison), and Aiden Samalik (Gladwin).

## Clare-Gladwin CTE Criminal Justice Students Earn Certification

Several students from the Clare-Gladwin RESA Career & Technical Education (CTE) Criminal Justice program recently earned industry-recognized certifications by passing the National Law Enforcement Certification (NLEC) exam. The NLEC measures the skills and knowledge needed for a career in law enforcement and is endorsed by a national organization of police training directors.

Congratulations to these students on their achievement!



Pictured, from left, are (top row) Elliot Vasquez (Farwell), Seth Strasser (Farwell), and Gabby Mathews (Gladwin); (front row) Toby Miller (Farwell), Casey Brand (Harrison), Russell Davis (Harrison). Not pictured is Savannah Wilson (Gladwin).

## Students Win Awards at Showcase

In order to highlight student work and innovation, Mid Michigan College hosted a Student Showcase on each campus. The showcase on the Harrison campus featured 68 projects from 86 students, while the Mount Pleasant campus event featured 83 projects from 98 students. Projects highlighted work from various programs of study including welding, biology, education, drafting, visual arts, and more.

"The Student Showcase is an important event that allows students to interact with staff, faculty, and community members as they present their work and answer questions," said Ryan Dziedzic, biology lectureship and Student Showcase Committee member. "The event closes the loop on skills like strategic planning, critical thinking, and public speaking."

Exhibits included an array of projects and displays, including research papers, speeches, sculptures, short films, posters, and demonstrations, from both general education and career-technical courses.

"We learn so much when we learn from each other," noted Mid President Tim Hood. "The Student Showcase celebrates both our students' accomplishments and our faculty members' commitment to supporting student learning."

Students were recognized for their efforts that went above and beyond typical projects, winning several awards at the recent Student Showcase.

### Harrison Award Winners:

Janelle Henry, Analytic inquiry Award; Walter Smith, Jasper Arrington, Dylan Gould and Micah Nickel, Applied & Collaborative Learning Award; Ricky Hollister and Steven Ferris, Civic Engagement Award; Dale Jameson, Communicative Fluency Award; Jordan Nelson, Engaging in Diverse Perspectives Award; Khloe Thurlow, Ethical Reasoning Award; Tim Mansell and Derek Ficek, Quantitative Fluency Award; Eli Patterson, Sustainability/Environmental Exploration Award; Makenna Matzke, Health & Wellness Award; Chase Regina, Live Performance Award; Alton Camp, Mid Michigan College Artist's Award; Mariah Huguélet, Showcase Engagement & Professionalism Award; Daisey Maxwell and Sydney Himes, Board of Trustees Award; Shane Horton Jr., President's Award and Shane McConnell, President's Award.

**Mount Pleasant Award Winners:**  
Ellexia Puvalowski, Analytic Inquiry Award; William Moreno, Applied & Collaborative Learning Award; Logan Spicer, Communicative Fluency Award; Jillian Larson, Civic Engagement Award; Jillian Larson, Engaging in Diverse Perspectives Award; Dakota Lawrence, Ethical Reasoning Award; Emylee Crane and Emma Somerville, Quantitative Fluency Award; Hunter Frisbie,

Sustainability/Environmental Exploration Award; Laura Nicholson, Health and Wellness Award; Cloie Bennett, Live Performance Award; Wren Crowe, Mid Michigan College Artist's Award; Kaylynn Giddings and Emily Branigan, Showcase Engagement and Professionalism Award; and Vanessa Guzman, President's Award.

For more information about the Student Showcase, visit [midmich.edu/student-showcase](http://midmich.edu/student-showcase).

**Clare County Senior Community Center**  
101 W Michigan St., Farwell  
(behind Palmer's Hardware)

### Euclre

Mondays, doors open 5:30 p.m.

### Tuesday Soup Kitchen

10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Bingo doors open 4 p.m.  
Licence # A-22094

### Wednesday Bingo

Doors open at 10 a.m.  
License #A-22769

### Line Dancing

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

### Pinochle

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 12:30 p.m.

### Painted Wine Bottle or Spinner

2-4 p.m., Monday, May 12  
\$20 per person  
Call Helen or Sue, 989-621-5783

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**\$6.00 for 24 words**  
**.05¢ for Each Additional Word**  
**Deadline is Monday at 5:00 PM**

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

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

**Miscellaneous For Sale**

**Purple Panther Catnip**  
Your kitty is craving our premium products! Locally grown without chemicals.

Available at the Clare County Cleaver office in Harrison & Elm Creek in Farwell.

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

131f

**1995 Cub Cadet**

1641 mower/ snowblower 16hp Vtwin Briggs & Stratton. 44" mower deck, 44" snowblower. Heat houser, wheel weights, and chain. Good running and good condition. \$2,100 OBO. Please call 517-270-0458.

**Services**

**Laforet Logging LLC.**  
Buyer of standing timber. Red pine white pine popple competitive prices and insured. Contact Andy at 989-429-0946

131f

**Spring Sale**

Spring mower tune up, Small engine repair, residential lawn mowing. Please call 989-539-4443.

**Yard Sales**

**Moving Sale**

May 10 and 11 at 3576 North Finny Lake Ave., Harrison.

**For Rent**

**Beautiful 2 bed 1 bath** house located in Cranberry Lake subdivision with many amenities. Comes with water, sewer, garbage for \$1,000 a month. Freshly painted, updated kitchen & bedroom, newly remodeled. Washer & dryer hookups. No pets and no smoking. Open June 1st. 941-408-5351

**Legal Notices**

**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.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clare County, starting promptly at 11:00 AM on JUNE 4, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joshua Lothamer and Felicia Dawn Lothamer, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, Mortgagee, dated July 21, 2023 and recorded July 27, 2023 in Liber 1560, Page 216 Clare County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Mortgage Research Center, LLC d/b/a Veterans United Home Loans, a Missouri Limited Liability Company, by assignment. There is claimed to be due

at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Three and 64/100 Dollars (\$170,163.64). Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Clare County, Michigan at 11:00 AM on JUNE 4, 2025.

Said premises are located in the Township of Grant, Clare County Michigan, and are described as: Lot 25, The Meadow, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 15 of Plats, Page 1, Clare County Records. 9881 Meadow Lane, Farwell, Michigan 48622

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, 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 damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: May 1, 2025  
File No. 25-003330  
Firm Name: Orleans Law Group PLLC  
Firm Address:

1650 West Big Beaver Road,  
Troy MI 48084  
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400  
(05-01)(05-22) 18-3

\*\*\*  
**STATE OF MICHIGAN CLARE COUNTY 80TH DISTRICT COURT CASE NO 25-01312-SP HON. JUDGE JOSH FARRELL EUGENE C. RINGLEY, JR. PLAINTIFF, V. MICHELLE M. HELM DEFENDANT. David T. McAndrew P58250 Attorney for the Plaintiff 651 Richard Drive Harrison, MI 48625 989-539-2105 MICHELLE HELM 11097 INDIANWOOD COURT SOUTH LYON, MI 48178**

**ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Harrison, Michigan, on April 22, 2025 Present: Honorable Josua Farrell P60752 Clare County District Court Judge Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the motion and the accompanying affidavit and exhibits, the court finds that the Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot

reasonable be made on Defendant MICHELLE M. HELM, by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated that diligent attempts to locate Defendant and her current address and to service Defendant by personal delivery and by mail have not been successful. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(I), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard. IT IS ORDERED:

1. Plaintiff may serve process on Defendant by publishing the following notice once each week for a period of three consecutive weeks in a newspaper, as defined in MCR 2.106(F), that is published in the county of Defendant's last known address: "A Complaint for Possession After Land Contract Forfeiture has been commenced by Plaintiff Eugene C. Ringley, Jr. against Defendant Michelle M. Helm, in the Clare County District Court for the State of Michigan, Case No 25-01312-SP, and Defendant must answer or take other action permitted by law within 28 days after the last date of publication. If Defendant does not answer or take other action permitted by law within the time allowed, judgement may be entered against her for the relief demanded in the complaint." 2. Plaintiff must mail a copy of this order, along

with a summons and a copy of the complaint, by registered mail, return receipt requested, to Defendant at her last known residence.

Honorable Judge Joshua Farrell P60752 18-2

**Legal Notice**

Consumers Energy, 1945 W. Parnall Rd, Jackson, MI announces that it is planning to apply a herbicide to its right-of-way in order to maintain the reliability of its gas pipeline system.

The herbicide will be applied with hand pumped-backpack style sprayers and UTCV mounted spray units. The crews will selectively apply herbicides to woody tree species throughout the pipeline right-of-way as needed. Crop areas and gardens will be avoided.

Herbicides that will be used are a combination of the following: Garlon 3A (Active ingredient: Triclopyr), Milestone (AI: Aminopyralid), Escort XP (AI: Metsulfuron Methyl), Garlon 4 Ultra (AI: Triclopyr), Arsenal (AI: Imazapyr), and Stalker (AI: Isopropylamine Salt of Imazapyr), with 85% to 94% water as a diluent.

The application is scheduled for May 15th through December 31st in Clare, Missaukee, Kalkaska Counties.

All treatments will be completed according to label requirements and all state and federal requirements. Please keep people and pets off treated areas until sprays have dried. There are no restrictions on your use of the treated area after the material has dried on the plant.

Thunder Bay Tree Service has been contracted to perform this work.

Any questions should be directed to:

**Thunder Bay Tree Service**  
Attn: Shawn Payne  
1172 Halley Rd.  
Alpena, MI 49707  
1-877-333-8950

19

**Fox Towing & Wrecker Service**

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Monday - Friday: 9 am - 5 pm  
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3265 E. Hamilton Road  
Harrison, MI



19-4

**ENTER YOUR HOME ARTS INTO THE 2025 FAIR!**  
Call Clare County Fairgrounds at 989-539-9011 and ask for Donna

A copy of the proceedings of the Clare County Board of Commissioners' regular meeting held on April 16, 2025 is available, without charge, at the Clare County Clerk's Office at 225 W. Main St., Harrison, MI.

18-1

**CITY OF HARRISON MI**  
**Harrison Library Board Appointment Available**  
The City of Harrison is seeking letters of interest from residents interested in serving as the City's representative on the Harrison District Library Board. This is a volunteer position with a four-year term beginning July 1, 2025. The Library Board meets regularly to provide governance and oversight of the Harrison District Library. Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest to the City Manager by email at manager@cityofharrison-mi.gov or in person at City Hall, 2105 Sullivan Drive, Harrison, MI 48625. Letters must be received by Friday, May 23, 2025 to be considered. The Harrison City Council will review all applications and make an appointment in June.

18-2

**CITY OF HARRISON MI**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
The City of Harrison will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 2105 Sullivan Drive, Harrison, MI 48625, to consider the creation of:  
• A Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) under Public Act 147 of 1992; and  
• A Residential Housing District (RHEC) under Public Act 346 of 1966.  
The proposed districts cover properties located south of Mostetter Road along Old County Farm Road, Weldon Street, and Dean Street. A full list of affected properties is available by contacting the City Manager at manager@cityofharrison-mi.gov. Public comments will be heard at the meeting. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk, 2105 Sullivan Drive, Harrison, MI 48625.

18-1

**CUMMINGS REALTY**  
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Email us: info@cummingsrealty.properties  
Website: cummingsrealty.properties  
Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
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286 S. First St - P.O. Box 147 - Harrison, MI 48625

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Harrison Office: 989-539-2261  
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**PROPERTIES FOR EVERY BUDGET**

**4110 N. Clare Ave** Triplex with 3BD, 1BA in each unit! \$900/mo/unit income & room to grow. New roof 2024! Invest in your future! \$225,000 For Info Text RBLBZCK To 52187

**511 Lansing St** 6BR/3 and 1/2 baths. Airy interior, ceramic tile flooring, wood flooring. Garage. Immediate possession. \$190,000 For Info Text RBLBZCB To 52187

**200 Westwood** 3-bed, 1-bath home on double corner lot offers peek-a-boo views of legendary Higgins Lake 9,900-acre \$185,000 For Info Text RBLBQXC To 52187

**526 Park** Fenced 3BR/2BA Ranch. View of Budd Lake, Private den, family room, Living room, 2 fireplaces. Attached garage \$172,500 For Info Text RBLBJZD To 52187

**8601 Fir** 11 wooded acres w/ cabin shell, new roof, power at road, near Muskegon River & ORV trails, wildlife haven! \$75,000 For Info Text RBLBZDL To 52187

**10 Acres Harrison** Parcel is located just north of the Harrison City Limits on paved street. older camper of no value. \$54,900 For Info Text RBLBZCH To 52187

**3046 & 3056 Tobacco** Two lots feature a well and septic on each, set up for the ideal camping spot with a full standalone bathroom \$36,500 For Info Text RBKZKLG To 52187

**13 White Pine Ridge** Great building site on paved road, this lot is overlooking the 11th green of an 18-hole golf course. \$29,900 For Info Text RBCZKKT To 52187

**15 White Pine Ridge** Great building site on paved road, this lot is overlooking the 11th fairway of an 18-hole golf course. \$29,900 For Info Text RBGHCQV To 52187

**06 Tamarack Ridge Rd** Great building site on paved road, this lot is overlooking the 7th Fairway of an 18-hole golf course. \$29,900 For Info Text RBGHCQV To 52187

**4948 Grant** 80x100 ft. lot with older structures on it, also a 100x100 lot. Well and septic in unknown condition. \$24,500 For Info Text RBLBZCJ To 52187

**Lot 34 Seelinger** Level and nicely wooded building lot in the city of Harrison measuring 95x151 ft. Walk to schools and town. \$17,500 For Info Text RBKFPXR To 52187

**NOW DOING BIDS FOR 2025**  
**RIGHT-WAY ROOFING & SIDING**  
**ROOFING & REPAIRS**  
CALL **989-387-5650**  
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In Business 34 Years!

**8070FirMacRdHarrison. IsForSale.com \$98,000. Text 888-866-9492 enter P98682**

**927NAttheyAveGladwin. IsForSale.com \$90,000. Text 888-866-9492 enter P98838**

**4193EOakleyRd. IsForSale.com Remodeled 2Bdrm., garage, partly fenced in yard, newer roof, flooring, many updates, & near trails. \$199,140**

**MarylandLot137. IsForSale.com Nice wooded 1+ acre in a with Lily Lake beach access. \$24,900. Text 888-866-9492 enter P97146**

**16 S. CLARE AVE. High traffic business location! Intersection of old 27 & M-61 Large restaurant with plenty of seating & parking, coolers, & previously served beer and alcohol. RED. \$198,000. MLS 50123763**

# THE AMISH COOK - By Gloria Yoder



I have made a few attempts in answering reader Mrs. Miller's question, and for one reason or the other, it never did come together. So here we are again. The question takes me to a portion of my heart that is now so different than what it used to be, yet I will never be the same because of that part of my journey on planet earth. Sometimes I wonder how I can be the same person I was when I married Daniel. Then I keep coming back to my starting point of the reason I was created in the first place- no it has never changed! When God chose every one of us to be created, He did so with a plan and a purpose, no one but you will be able to change it. Even the hard things that really are not fair are used to reveal a depth of who God made us to be.

So taking a moment to come back to Mrs. Miller question, "What would you change in your marriage if you could?" Fair question, food for thought. My mind travels back over the years with Daniel, and I realize that there are things I have learned and freedoms I've gained since his passing, so naturally there are things I'd be glad to do better if I could, nonetheless I was living then, not now. The reality stays the same, if we live in union and clearness with our fellowman, we will have no regrets if we would be separated at an instant. I praise God, because of that, there were no regrets when he passed. God's grace had taken care of any failures, and we were in love.

Still, as I step back and ponder over Mrs. Miller's inquiry, I know there is much this lass needed to learn over the past years as a single mother. While I still believe that marriage in the Lord is one of the richest blessings known to mankind, I also see a new and shining reality that God alone deserves our primary love, our

complete trust, and absolute dedication in all of life's circumstances. To me, something such as love, now looks more like a beautiful river flowing from God's very throne. As He loves His own through the love of a spouse, it is a gift straight from the Father who made it. He in turn is the One to be thanked and honored for every dimension of this valuable gift. Daniel used to tell me I'm his gift from God and vice versa. I understand it in a new way.

Daniel was the type whose identity in our relationship was not set on how good he was or wasn't in what he did. I, on the other hand, fought the identity thing that crippled who God made me to be. I am learning, a bit a time to let go of what used to be of importance to me. If I fumble at a ball at the school picnic, who cares? I'm enjoying time with my children and their friends. Nothing will touch who I am in Jesus. He chooses our identity, not the level of performance or effort.

On the other hand, let's not fool ourselves into thinking that once we have reached a certain level, our relationships will all just click or fall into place. The best of relationships have been tried and seasoned and come out sweeter than before.

I picture God by our side, waiting as we try our best for a while, then all at once we've had enough and hand it all over to Him. He deftly and simply takes it, turns it over, adjusts it, and leads us on, in ways we never knew He could.

It makes me excited to think that as long as we live, we'll be drawn ever closer to Him. We won't stop learning until we see His shining face and thank Him for all He's ever done for us.

Also, it's okay to be real, I say this tenderly, as I know the pain of trying to be real in relationships, to have it come

back and haunt you later. Take it in proportion of what works for you; as much as you are able, be real with what you feel. If you are scared that you'll do the wrong thing, speak it out, if at all possible, pray together. Oh, the beauty of people who can be together, go to their Lord, and unburden at the cross. When our resources have ended, His everlasting reservoirs have just opened.

Now that there is no recipe that speaks on this subject, so I'll give you one that is a symbol of it. There were few things I enjoyed more than cooking what I knew Daniel would enjoy eating. Many times I would tweak the recipe to what I used to call 'Daniel-ize' it. Here is a Daniel-ized version of sticky buns that I renamed to Hubby's Ultimate Sticky Buns.

Though you may not have a spouse, take a moment to show a gesture of kindness to someone somewhere in a way you know will make them feel loved. As one of my favorite speakers would say, "It is about loving another at your own expense."

## SAVORY HAM STICKY BUNS

6 hamburger buns  
 1/2 pound ham  
 6 slices baby Swiss cheeses  
 1/2 can onion and chive cream cheese spread\*  
**SAUCE:**  
 1 tablespoon prepared mustard  
 1 teaspoon dried onion flakes  
 1/2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce  
 1/2 cup brown sugar  
 6 tablespoons of butter, melted  
 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese, optional  
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spread 1 tablespoon sauce mix on the bottom half of bun. Top with ham and cheese slices. Spread cream cheese on under side of the top bun and place on top of ham and cheese. Spread the remaining sauce on top of the prepared buns. Bake for 10 minutes uncovered then 10 minutes covered or heated through. Serve with plenty of napkins!

\*I made my own spread by adding chives and seasonings to softened cream cheese.



# Michigan blood lead testing rules finalized; physicians now required to order testing for children at ages 12 months and 24 months

LANSING – To help prevent and address lead poisoning of Michigan children as soon as possible, laws requiring physicians provide blood lead testing to all young children in Michigan are now in effect.

In October 2023, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed two bills into law requiring blood lead testing for all Michigan children at ages 12 months and 24 months of age (Public Act 146 of 2023) and that these tests be recorded on the child's immunization record (Public Act 145 of 2023). This age-based approach to blood lead testing requirements is commonly called "universal testing."

The legislation also required the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to create administrative rules to implement the bills. Those rules have been finalized and are in effect.

The rules require physicians to test or order a blood lead test for all children at ages 12 months and 24 months, and at other intervals based on lead exposure risk. If there is no record of these tests, children must receive a blood lead test between 24 months and 72 months of age.

"By ensuring Michigan children universally receive a blood lead test at a very young age, we can more quickly address the health risks associated with elevated blood lead levels, which will lead to healthier lives," said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, chief medical executive. "Families can also be alerted to the need to identify and address any hazards in their home that could be causing elevated levels, such as paint, plumbing or soil."

There is no safe level of lead in the blood.

Children and fetuses are most at risk of dangerous health effects. Exposure to lead can cause problems with: Learning; Behavior; Speech; Hearing; Growth rates; and Development of the nervous system.

A blood lead test measures the amount of lead in a person's blood. Visit Blood Lead Testing to learn about the different types of tests and what it means to have an elevated blood lead level.

Universal blood lead testing will increase the number of children tested in the state. Children with elevated blood lead levels may qualify for nursing case management services with staff trained to visit with families at their homes to discuss ways to help lower

blood lead levels.

Children with elevated blood lead levels may also qualify for services provided through the Lead Safe Home Program, which can help eligible families find and fix lead hazards. Eligibility for the program is based on Medicaid or household income status and home location. Eligible families must also submit a completed application.

Lead exposure can come from many sources including paint in homes built before 1978, dust, soil, drinking water from older plumbing, jobs or hobbies that involve lead and some imported goods. When a child has an elevated blood lead level (3.5 micrograms per deciliter or higher), the

following should occur: Identify the source of lead; Stop the lead exposure; Determine any other tests or follow-up that might be needed.

Blood lead testing is a preventive health service under the federal Affordable Care Act and must be covered without additional copayment or coinsurance charges.

It is important for parents and legal guardians of children under 6 years old to talk to their child's health care provider about blood lead testing, especially if there is concern

about lead exposure. Families may opt out of universal blood lead testing requirements.

Visit Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe for more information about lead hazards, blood lead testing and lead services.



## CITY OF HARRISON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING THE WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The City of Harrison, Michigan will conduct a public hearing on May 19th, 2025, at City Hall, located at 2105 Sullivan Dr, Harrison, Michigan 48625, during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting that begins at 6:00 PM, for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to examine and submit comments on the proposed application for CDBG grant.

The City of Harrison proposes to request \$1,440,910.00 in CDBG funds to perform critical improvements to the City's water system, in conjunction with \$178,090.00 local match provided by City local street, general, and water funds, which will benefit City residents by providing higher quality water while reducing the financial impact to its users. The project will benefit at least 51% low to moderate income persons. No people will be displaced as a result of the proposed activities.

Further information, including a copy of Harrison's Community Development Plan and CDBG application are available for review. To observe the documents, please contact (989)-539-7145 to schedule an appointment to review at City Hall at 2105 Sullivan Dr, Harrison, Michigan 48625. Comments may be submitted in writing at any time prior to the public hearing, or made in person during the hearing.

Review and commentary on the proposed application are welcome. Written comments shall be addressed to Justin Cavanaugh, City Manager, City of Harrison, 2105 Sullivan Dr, Harrison, Michigan 48625.

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# BINGO NIGHT

## Players' Guide

### Harrison Women of the Moose

**Sunday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 5185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison  
 License # A22334  
 Proceeds for General Fund

### Harrison Moose Lodge

**Monday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 5185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison  
 License # A21561  
 Proceeds for General Fund

### Harrison Lions Club

**Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 Harrison Lions Club Bldg.  
 Fairgrounds, Harrison  
 License # A01110  
 Proceeds for General Fund

### Clare County Senior Community Center

**Tuesday doors open at 4:00 p.m.**  
 101 W. Michigan St., Farwell (behind Palmer's Hardware)  
 License # A22094

### Harrison Women of the Moose

**Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 5185 N. Clare Ave., Harrison  
 License # A20074  
 Proceeds for General Fund

### Clare County Senior Community Center

**Wednesday doors open at 10:00 a.m.**  
 101 W. Michigan St., Farwell (behind Palmer's Hardware)  
 License # A22769

### Harrison Lions Club

**Thursday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 Harrison Lions Club Bldg.  
 Fairgrounds, Harrison  
 License # A01110  
 Proceeds for General Fund

### VFW Post 1075

**Friday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 VFW Post 1075 - Harrison  
 License # A00154  
 Proceeds for General Fund

### VFW Post 1075

**Saturday - 6:00 p.m.**  
 VFW Post 1075 - Harrison  
 License # A21883  
 Proceeds for General Fund

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# BINGO NIGHT

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19



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LOCAL SPORTS

Wunderlich walk-off highlights Lady Eagles sweep of Beaverton

By BEN MURPHY
Cleaver Sports Writer

Game one was full of drama. Game two was Farwell's the entire way. The Lady Eagles turned both efforts into Jack Pine Conference softball victories on Tuesday, Jan. 29, when they swept visiting Beaverton 8-7 and 14-3.

In the opener, the Lady Beavers went ahead 7-6 after scoring in the top of the seventh inning.

The Eagles got an RBI single from Haiden Cassiday to tie the game at 7-7; forcing extra innings.

After keeping Beaverton from scoring in the top of the eighth, Farwell was able to cash in; getting a walk-off RBI single from Allena Wunderlich to get the thrilling victory.

"The girls never gave up and were able to win the game," head coach Alan Esterline said.

Lindsay Esterline was the game winning pitcher, she went all eight innings and gave up seven runs, one earned and she also walked one batter.

Jacey Stover had three hits, Karleigh Ames had two hits and two RBI and a Esterline, Anna VanBuskirk and Cassiday all had two hits. Adding one hit apiece was Wunderlich (one RBI), Evalynne Bell (one RBI) and Ava Darnell.

VanBuskirk was the game two winner, she threw four innings and gave up three runs, one earned on one hit, one strikeout and two walks.

Wunderlich had another three hits and four RBI in this game. Getting two hits each was Ames (three RBI), Esterline (three RBI), Stover (two RBI) and VanBuskirk (one RBI). Macie Carrow, Chloe Miller and Alaina Slocum all had one hit, with Slocum driving in one run.

On Friday, Farwell hosted Ogemaw Heights in two more JPC games; they lost these games on scores of 12-2 and 14-0.

"It was a bad day, we will regroup and get ready (four our next game)," Esterline said.

Esterline took the loss in game one, though she did strikeout nine batters.

The Eagle offense had Carrow get two singles and one RBI, Wunderlich had one hit and one RBI and Ames also had a hit.

VanBuskirk took the loss in game two, striking out one batter.

Miller had one single and Esterline was able to get on base thanks to a walk.

Farwell was at Harrison on Tuesday, will host Meridian today (Thursday), they'll head to Standish-Sterling on Tuesday and host Gladwin on Wednesday.

Harrison softball goes 1-1 at Lake City tourney

By BEN MURPHY
Cleaver Sports Writer

The Harrison softball team was playing a bit shorthanded at the Lake City tournament on Saturday. The Lady Hornets still played well at the event, and while lost to the host Lady Trojans 12-4 in the opening contest, but they bounced back nicely with a win over Whittemore-Prescott later in the day, 12-4.

"Good to win a game even with four starters missing," head coach Jamie Lipovsky said. "The other kids worked hard and took advantage of their opportunity."

In the loss to Lake City, Allison Whitaker took the setback; she went five innings in the circle and gave up 12 runs, four earned on eight hits, five strikeouts and four walks.

Marianna Buff had one double, one single and she came in two score twice as well. Haley Neff had two hits, one walk and one RBI and with one single each was Whittaker and Haley McDonald. Alexis McDonald also had one walk and one RBI.

Against W-P, Harrison was able to score three runs in the bottom of the first, seven in the second and three more in the third to take a 12-2 lead. In the fourth and final inning, W-P put up a big rally, scoring eight runs, but the Hornets were able to get the final out to escape with the win.

Whittaker got the win in the circle, going three

and one-third innings and giving up 10 runs, four earned on five hits, five strikeouts and three walks. Neff got the final two outs of the game to get the save, striking out one batter and walking two.

The Hornet offense proved to be patient; as they earned 10 walks in the game. Janessa O'Day had one double, one single, two walks, two RBI and two runs. H. McDonald had one double, two walks, one RBI and two runs while getting one single each as well as Buff, Grace Burkhard (one RBI) and Madison Whitey.

On Tuesday, April 29, Harrison lost two Jack Pine Conference games at Gladwin, on scores of 13-6 and 22-5.

Whittaker suffered the game one setback, going six innings and allowing 13 runs, six earned on 12 hits, four strikeouts and three walks.

As for the offense, Mya Gardner had two doubles, one single, two RBI and two runs and Buff was able to get one double and one single. H. McDonald added two hits and one RBI and with one single and one RBI was A. McDonald.

Game two highlights included a solo home run from Bri Graves and Gardner had two doubles and one RBI. Burkhard had one hit and two RBI, with Buff and Neff adding one single each.

Harrison played at home against Farwell on Tuesday, travels to play St. Louis today (Thursday), will make the trip for Clare this coming Tuesday and on Wednesday it's a road twinbill at Shepherd.



Wins over Bullock Creek keep Clare softball in first place

By BEN MURPHY
Cleaver Sports Writer

Clare continued to pass each challenge thrown its way on the softball field last week. On Tuesday, April 29, the Lady Pioneers were playing at Bullock Creek in Jack Pine Conference play, and they came away with a sweep, topping the Lady Lancers in convincing fashion, 14-2 and 10-0.

"The girls are playing really well right now they are hitting well playing great defense and we are getting some great pitching as well," head coach Shane Kelly said. "The girls are working hard in practice to make sure we are ready on game days."

In game one, Maddison Jones got the victory, striking out six batters. The game two winner in the circle was Kyley Wyman, who struck out an impressive 14 batters.

Offensive totals for the day included Tessa Kelly getting four hits and six RBI, Olivia Forsberg had four hits and she drove in three runs and getting three hits apiece was Breeze Yarger, Morgan Campbell and Madison Jones.

Clare (10-0 JPC) was at Beaverton on Tuesday, they'll host Ogemaw Heights today (Thursday) and on Saturday they will compete in a tournament at Boyne City. This coming Tuesday they will play at Pinconning and on Wednesday they will serve as hosts against Harrison.

Harrison baseball splits games at Lake City tourney

By BEN MURPHY
Cleaver Sports Writer

The day started off with a tough loss. It ended with a solid victory. The Harrison baseball team was at a tournament at Lake City on Saturday, where they came up just short against the host Trojans, 6-4; before ending with an 8-2 win over Whittemore-Prescott.

Against Lake City, Logan Williams took the loss, he went five innings and gave up eight runs, two earned on five strikeouts and zero walks.

Matt Latunski had a nice game on offense, getting three hits. Wesley Stillion added two hits while L. Williams and Gavin Vanburen had one hit apiece. Kaleb Williams and Vanburen had one RBI each.

Russell Davis threw his team to the win in game two, going five innings and giving up two runs, zero earned on two hits, nine strikeouts and two walks.

Evan Umphrey had two hits to lead the offense and L. Williams and Kegan Chaskey had one hit apiece. Chaskey, Davis and Tommy Hamilton all drove in runs as well.

"I was happy to see us being more aggressive and swinging the bat more," head coach Nick Halm said. "We know that is a serious focus for us moving into the second half of the season."

Harrison was at home with Farwell on Tuesday, heads to St. Louis today (Thursday), will make the trip for Clare this coming Tuesday and on Thursday, May 15, they'll be at home against Pinconning.

Harsh elements cause trouble for Clare golf at Falcon Invite

By BEN MURPHY
Cleaver Sports Writer

Things were pretty challenging at the Falcon Invitational, hosted by Ogemaw Heights at the West Branch Country Club on Thursday. On top of playing on a tough course, teams battled it out through horrid weather conditions, but Clare still played well considering, taking third place out of the Jack Pine Conference teams in attendance with an 18-hole score of 355.

"The weather was not conducive to low golf scores," head coach Chris Fedewa said. "It was 40 degrees and rained the whole day. Players were having problems hanging on to their clubs. The guys managed to grind through it."

Shepherd was the top finishing JPC team with a 333 and Pinconning took second with a round of 344.

The Pioneers were led by Pierson Gallagher who shot a season best

round of 80. Dane Kruskamp carded an 88, Kolton Pung shot a 93 and Bryce Wieferich shot a 94.



Clare blanked by Pinny in low scoring JPC soccer game

By BEN MURPHY
Cleaver Sports Writer

The league title hopes for the Clare girls soccer team took a serious hit on Thursday. The Lady Pioneers were hosting Pinconning, and they came up short in the Jack Pine Conference contest, 1-0.

Clare had defeated Pinconning in a 1-0 game earlier this season, but this time it was the Lady Spartans getting their revenge.

Clare also had a JPC road game at Gladwin on Monday, April 28, and they finished with a 1-1 tie.

"It was a back-and-forth game the whole time with both teams having chances," head coach Jim Bond said.

After things were scoreless at the half, the Pioneers were able to net the first goal of the game, getting

Grace Nobis to find the back of the net.

The Flying G's tied the game up with about 20 minutes remaining, and it remained deadlocked the rest of the way.

"Plenty of chances both ways, but neither team was able to score again," Bond said. "The tie was not the result we wanted."

Kaitlin Zeilinger was in goal for the team and made six saves.

Clare (6-4-1 overall, 6-3-1 JPC) had a home JPC game with Ogemaw Heights on Tuesday, they'll head for Shepherd today (Thursday), they'll play a non-league game against visiting Ithaca on Friday and on Tuesday they'll play at league leading Standish-Sterling. Standish has a 9-1 conference record and is an impressive 12-1 on the year.



Mid Michigan College Women's Basketball Student-Athletes Earn All-American Honors

Mid Michigan College's Women's Basketball team recently wrapped up an outstanding 2024-2025 season with a trip to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II National Tournament.

Recently, individual NJCAA and Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) awards were announced, and finally, the much-awaited NJCAA All-American Division II Women's Basketball Team has been revealed.

Chloe Watson (Hemlock) was named as a Second-Team All-American, and Rachel Resio (Saginaw) was named a Third-Team All-American.

All-America selections are made by the NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee.

"We're all so proud of Chloe and Rachel," shared head coach Lance Maney. "Their

drive, dedication, and hard work were an inspiration to the team throughout the season."

The women's basketball team won the MCCAA North Conference, the MCCAA State Championship for the third consecutive year, the Great Lakes District C Tournament, and competed in the NJCAA Division II National Tournament.

With a first-round loss and consolation bracket victory, the team finished seventh in the nation, the best finish in the NJCAA D II Tournament by a Mid Michigan College team.

Mid Michigan College competes in the MCCAA against other community colleges for conference, regional/district, and state championships. The Lakers also compete in the NJCAA for national tournaments.

Mid currently fields teams in the following sports, men's basketball, women's basketball, men's bowling, women's bowling, baseball, softball, men's cross country, women's cross country, and co-ed clay target shooting.

For more information about Laker Athletics, visit midmichlakers.com or email athletics@midmich.edu.



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# LOCAL SPORTS & MORE

## Harrison, Farwell track teams compete in meet at Meridian

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sports Writer

Harrison and Farwell had their track and field teams see action at an invitational at Meridian on Friday. On the boys' side, Harrison was eighth and Farwell placed ninth in the nine-team event. The girls had the Lady Hornets come in fifth and Farwell placed eighth.

Starting with the Harrison boys, Jayden Bobzien was sixth in the 200-meter dash and eighth in the 200, while Daniel Stewart was 14<sup>th</sup> in the 100. Bobzien was also able to come in seventh in the 400 while Collin Dennis was fifth in the 800 (2:10.01). Logan Young was fourth in the 3200 (10:40) and he was ninth in the 1600.

Lyriq Hill was ninth in the 110 hurdles and 15<sup>th</sup> in the 300 hurdles. Hunter LaFeve was 14<sup>th</sup> in the shot put and 13<sup>th</sup> in the discus, with Bobzien coming in eighth in the high jump. Gavin Jensen finished seventh in the pole vault and Stewart was 15<sup>th</sup> in the long jump.

For the Lady Hornets, Samantha Hopkins had a solid second place finish in the 100 (13.19) and Madison Wheaton was seventh in the 200. Kyleigh Briggs was 16<sup>th</sup> in the 400, Caitlin Kirby finished 14<sup>th</sup> in the 800 and she was also 11<sup>th</sup> in the 1600. As for the 100 hurdles, Lydia Kendall was seventh.

They also had a third place 4x200 relay, with runs by Melissa Hopkins, Alivia Winters, Wheaton and S. Hopkins.

Winters was third in the discus (102-08) and 10<sup>th</sup> in the shot put, Kirby was eighth in the high jump, Madalynne Gross was 10<sup>th</sup> in the pole vault and S. Hopkins won the long jump with a distance of 16-11.75. Jayla Howerton was also fourth in the long jump.

For the Farwell boys, Memphis Peever was 13<sup>th</sup> in the 400, Kegan Terrian was 13<sup>th</sup> in the 800 and Tristan Szott was eighth in the 110 hurdles and 11<sup>th</sup> in the 300 hurdles.

Marshall Gauld was 11<sup>th</sup> in the discus and 17<sup>th</sup> in the shot put, Szott placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the high jump and in 13<sup>th</sup> in the long jump was Marcus Hunziker.

Meanwhile the Lady Eagles had Ivy Frisch placed fifth in the 400 (1:07.08), with Janella Fouts following in sixth. Isabelle Eppert was fifth in the 800 with a time of 2:35 and she won the 1600 with a time of 5:35. Charlotte Vasquez was also eighth in the 1600 and Aubrianna Terrian was 10<sup>th</sup> in the 3200.

In the hurdles, Nora Z. was fourth in the 100 and ninth in the 300. Their top relay was the 4x800, which took fourth on runs by Addyson Thormeier, Frisch, Eppert and Vasquez.

Carlee Campbell was 11<sup>th</sup> in the high jump and Hunter Green placed sixth in the long jump with a leap of 13-08.5.

Farwell and Harrison are both at the Jack Pine Conference championship meet in Pinconning on Saturday.

## Clare track teams take 1<sup>st</sup> at quad JPC meet in St. Louis

By BEN MURPHY  
Cleaver Sports Writer

The Clare track and field teams battled it out with three other squads in a Jack Pine Conference meet in St. Louis on Wednesday, April 29. The Pioneers were able to pick up first place finishes in both the boys' and girls' side of the event.

Highlighting things for the boys was Jacob Halicek winning the 100 meter dash (11.24), followed by Silas Donaldson in third and Dylan Kruskamp in fourth. Halicek won the 200 (22.92) as well, and he was followed by teammates Donaldson and Judah Woods in third and fifth. In the 400, it was Halicek (54.25) in second, Connor Schmidt was third and Logan Carstensen was fourth. William Warner placed second (2:13.87) in the 800, followed by Sutton Klaus in third and Joseph Haupt in fourth. As for the 1600, Caiden Gaskill was second (4:59) and Christian Villabillon was third. Klaus was also second in the 3200 (11:25) and Ian Letherer placed third.

Conan Weeks won the 110 hurdles (16.04) and

Donavan Hoogerhyde won the 300 hurdles (45.53). Logan Carstensen was second in the 110 and Ty Allbee was second in the 300.

They had the winning 4x200 relay (1:35.42) on runs by Brendan Burton, Calvin Clark, Adrian DeMatteo and Andrew Garver, with the 4x800 also winning (9:34) on runs by Cole Grundy, Edward Higbee, Connor Lowe and Tucker Rowell.

Burton won the shot put (43'3.75"), followed by Kage Greenfield in third. James Brown won the discus with a throw of 130'5" and Colin Barber was second and Burton placed third.

Hoogerhyde was second in the high jump (5'6") and Ethan Reeves cleared the bar in first in the pole vault at 12'3" Marek Michalski was second in the pole vault. Conan Weeks (19'3.5"), Greenfield and Hoogerhyde were first-second-third in the long jump.

As for the Lady Pioneers, they went one-two-three in the 100-meter dash, with Abby Boyd winning (13.15) and Cara Heintz and Hannah Goethe following. Sophia Buzzelli won the 200

(29.05), while Lauren Leis and Calaya Leonard were second and third. Buzzelli also won the 400 (1:04.29), followed by Goethe in second. Leah Leis won the 800-meter run at 2:33.40, with Elizabeth Letherer following close behind in second. Lauren Leis was a winner in the 1600 (5:49), with Letherer taking second in that one and Taylor Seibt was third in the 3200 at 15:58.

Brenna Campbell was third in the 100 hurdles and second in the 300 hurdles and they took first in the 4x100, 4x200 and 4x400 relays.

The shot put had Justine Ogg place third with a heave of 25'7.5" and Annmarie Green was fourth in the discus at 71'9. Kiley Wentworth was third in the high jump (4'4") and Catherine Taft was a winner in the pole vault at 9'3". Caitlyn Harris and Maya Haley were also second and third in the vault, while the long jumper had Boyd winning with a 15'11 and Skyler Kingsley was second and Bri Smith was third.

Clare is at the JPC championship meet at Pinconning on Saturday and is at a Division 2 regional meet at Cadillac on May 16.

## Clare baseball gets well-played road sweep over Pinconning

After rain washed out their Jack Pine Conference doubleheader two days earlier, Clare went to Pinconning for the make up games on Saturday. The Pioneers were able to come away with two big victories, 7-1 and 3-2.

In the opener, Clare was able to score three runs in the top of the second and they tacked on two more in both the third and fourth innings to build a 7-0 lead, and they kept the Spartans from mounting a rally in their final at bats.

Dane Alexander threw well to get the win, he went six innings and gave up zero runs on three hits, seven strikeouts and four walks. Brody Allen threw the final inning and allowed one run on one hit and one walk.

Ryan Louch had a couple of big hits on offense, getting one home run, one triple, one RBI and one run. Alexander and Tustyn Yarger both had two hits and one RBI and Blake Sian had one double, one RBI and one run. Chase Randall was good for two hits and he came

around two score twice and getting one hit each was Jayden Arthur, Matt Mast and Cole Drake (one RBI).

Game two was deadlocked 2-2 going into the bottom of the seventh, where Clare was able to send across the game winning run.

Sian got the win, he went all seven innings and gave up two earned runs on four hits, 11 strikeouts and two walks.

Louch had one double, one single and two RBI in the game, Arthur had one hit and he drove in a run and Alexander singled and reached twice on walks. Mast managed one single and Porter Harsh got on twice on walks.

Clare was also at Bullock Creek on Tuesday, April 29, where they came up with two more JPC wins, 10-3 and 6-5.

Arthur got the win on the mound in game one, throwing the first five innings and giving up zero runs on two hits, three strikeouts and four walks. Lincoln Older and Smith combined

relief efforts to finish the game off.

Sian had three singles and one RBI to lead the offense. Louch had one double, one single, two walks and one RBI and Arthur added two hits and one RBI. Adding one hit each was Alexander (three runs), Randall, Yarger (one RBI), Mast, Older (one RBI) and Harsh.

In game two, Sian was the winner in relief; he threw the last inning and didn't allow a run and struck out two batters. Randall struck out five batters and Smith saw time on the mound as well, striking out two.

Sian had three hits and two RBI, Randall had one single and one RBI and adding one single each was Arthur, Mast and Smith. Clare won the game on a walk-off thanks to a run-scoring error.

Clare played at Beaverton on Tuesday, will return home to play Ogemaw Heights today (Thursday), they'll also host Harrison this coming Tuesday and on Thursday, May 15 it will be a home date with Meridian.

## Michigan to Hold First-of-its-Kind Uncrewed Triple Challenge on May 20 Across Sea, Air and Land

LANSING – The Uncrewed Triple Challenge (UTC), a state-sponsored first-of-its-kind competition across sea, air and land that is driving innovation in autonomous drone technology, will hold an opening ceremony for the competition at 9 a.m. on May 20 at the Alpena Harbor Bay View Park Bandshell in Lake Huron's Thunder Bay. The ceremony will include remarks by U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Paul D. Rogers and Alpena Mayor Cindy Johnson, a performance by the 126th Army Band of the Michigan National Guard, a military flyover, food trucks, science and technology displays and a viewing area to watch the competition unfold. The race will start at 9:30 a.m. The air and land segment of the competition will conclude between 1-5:30 p.m. at the Parade Field Finish Line at Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center (CGJMTC) located at 4 Howe Rd., Grayling, MI 49738. Members of the community can walk the Parade Field while listening to music provided by local station Q100 and engage with military displays and community-based vendors as they watch the drones reach the finish line. The competition is open to the public and free to attend.

The UTC, in its inaugural

**UNCREWED TRIPLE CHALLENGE**  
-INAUGURAL DRONE COMPETITION FEATURING SEA, AIR AND LAND SEGMENTS-  
**YOU'RE INVITED - MAY 20TH**  
9:00AM OPENING CEREMONY | 9:30AM START OF RACE - ALPENA HARBOR  
1:00-5:30PM FINISH LINE | MILITARY DISPLAYS - CAMP GRAYLING PARADE FIELD  
Viewing Locations: Alpena Harbor, Camp Grayling CACTF & Parade Field  
RSVP by May 12th  
The Michigan National Guard, Michigan Department of Transportation and Michigan Economic Development Corporation invite you to experience one of the first drone competitions of its kind! This State sponsored competition is to drive innovation in autonomous drone technology. Scan QR code for more information.  
Scan for Details

year, will take place across Northern Michigan's National All-Domain Warfighting Center (NADWC). The competition requires each team to move a package across sea, air or land using unmanned systems from point to point while encountering varying conditions and obstacles with no human intervention. The competition, which features participants from seven states and three countries, has three distinct courses and two transfer zones.

The maritime course is located at the City of Alpena Harbor, runs out to a boat five nautical miles from the shore in Thunder Bay, and returns to the maritime transfer zone where teams will transition the payload for the air course. Following the water segment, teams will complete the air segment of the competition. The total distance of air travel is approximately 58.5 miles. Following the air segment, teams will complete the land segment as the final leg of

the competition. The CGJMTC Combined Arms Collective Training Facility (CACTF) Soccer Field will be the final transfer zone, followed by 23.5 miles of land travel. The competition concludes at Camp Grayling's Parade Field. The top three fastest overall times for the course will place on the competition podium with the winning team having the fastest overall time through the entire competition. Additionally, there are four awards for best in class: Best in Maritime, Best in Air, Best on Land and Best at Payload Transfer.

Community members may watch the competition from three viewing locations: Alpena Harbor in Lake Huron's Thunder Bay, and two locations at CGJMTC,

CACTF Soccer Field and Parade Field. CGJMTC will provide roundtrip bus transportation from the Parade Field to the CACTF Soccer Field to watch the package transfer.

To register to attend, visit Uncrewed Triple Challenge Registration. If you are unable to attend, you can watch the competition unfold via a live stream at Michigan National Guard - YouTube.

The UTC is sponsored by the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Michigan National Guard, Michigan Department of Transportation and Michigan Economic Development Corporation. To learn more, visit Uncrewed Triple Challenge.

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# OBITUARIES

## BASIL "MICHAEL" WEAVER

December 22, 1955 - April 29, 2025



Basil "Michael" Weaver, age 69, of Farwell, passed away on Tuesday, April 29, at Woodland Hospice House in Mt. Pleasant. Mike was born the son of Basil J. and Jeanne (Henry) Weaver on Dec. 22, 1955, in Grand Rapids. His family moved to Farwell when Mike was in Elementary

School. He had been a member of the NHS and was Salutatorian of the Farwell High School class of 1974. Mike married Brenda Strothers on Sept. 17, 2001, and she preceded him in death on Aug. 22, 2017. He had been a firefighter with Surrey Township Fire Department and had served for 20 years. He had also served as Surrey Township Supervisor for a couple terms. Mike had worked for a time as a material handler for Surrey Products until he bought and operated the Farwell NAPA Parts store. After selling the NAPA Store, he worked as a die setter and Union Steward at Evert Products / Ventra. He took great enjoyment in his 57 Chevy and his purple 73 Challenger.

Mike is survived by his mother, Jeanne, his two sons, Michael Weaver, Matthew (Angie)

Weaver, Step-children, Melisa, Lisa, Mark, Crystal, and Jesse, his sisters and brother, Sue (Amos Brasington) Huntoon, Tony (Pam Worden) Weaver, and Carista (Greg) Weaver-Ross, four grandchildren, Tucker, Austin, Aiden, and Mason, as well as seven step grandchildren six Great-grandchildren. Mike was preceded in death by his father Basil, his wife Brenda, his sister Monica, a sister-in-law Lynette, a brother-in-law Fred Huntoon and stepson Larry.

Mike will be laid to rest with Brenda in Surrey Twp. Cemetery, in a private ceremony. Arrangements were made with the Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Homes of Clare and Farwell. You are invited to leave his family an online condolence message on Mike's tribute page at [www.stephenson-wyman.com](http://www.stephenson-wyman.com).

## SHIRLEY ANN WILSON

August 17, 1935 - April 20, 2025



Shirley Ann Wilson, 89 years old, of Harrison, Michigan, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025. Shirley was the daughter of George and Marion (Herendeen) Snyder. In 1952, Shirley graduated from Harrison High School where she played basketball and met many lifelong friends. Later that year, she was married to Malcolm "Doc" Wilson. They shared many cherished years together, while raising 5 children. Throughout her life, she was a homemaker, a newspaper carrier for The Bay City Times, and a caseworker for the Michigan Department of Social Services. Shirley was the utmost example of patience and kindness. She inspired her children to follow

their passions and was always there for them. Her grandchildren treasured her and knew she had a special place in her heart for each and every one of them. She enjoyed many hobbies such as reading, sewing, knitting, crocheting, gardening, and cross-country skiing. In her later years she liked to play games on her computer. She loved to take vacations with her family and enjoyed many camping trips, several cruises, a train trip out west, but her favorite was camping in Benzonia and splashing in the waves of Lake Michigan. After retirement, Malcolm and she traveled south for the winter months. Her family was her life, and she shined with pride. She was a magnet to the family pets who preferentially made her "their person". We will forever miss her love, patience, and kindness.

She is survived by two sisters: Carmen (Moe) St. Onge and Linda Thurlow, one brother: Robert (Miko) Snyder; her five children: Terri (Tom) Levegood of Jonesborough, TN, Malcolm "Jamie" (Christine) Wilson of Boyne City, MI, Kathy (Ray) Balzer of Jonesborough, TN, Ann (Brian) Segraves of Kalamazoo, MI, John (Jennifer) Wilson of Harrison, MI; fourteen grandchildren: Yvonne, Nicole, Sophia, Krystal, Malcolm III, Olivia, Earl, Elizabeth, Justin, Erika,

Jessica, Laura, Ross, and Evan; 6 step-grandchildren: Natasha, Jericka, Jeff, Emma, Ryan, and Lydia; twelve great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, her dear friends, Lavona, Helen, and George, and her beloved Pomeranian, Jax. Shirley was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, sisters, Delores Nelson and Marion "Jeannie" DeGuise, and brother, George Snyder, Jr.

Honoring her wishes, cremation has taken place, and a celebration of life will be held Saturday, May 31, 2025, at 12 p.m. at Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel, 165 W. Oak St., Harrison. A time of gathering will take place prior at 10 a.m. until time of service. Luncheon will immediately follow at: Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel Reflections Reception Center. Memorial gifts in memory of Shirley, may be considered to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, or a random act of kindness for someone in need. Memorial envelopes available at Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel. To share an online memory or condolence with Shirley's family, please visit: [www.clarkstocking.com](http://www.clarkstocking.com). Arrangements for Shirley Wilson are entrusted with Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel (989)539-7810.

## WILLIAM H. STEWART

May 5, 1934 - April 16, 2025



William H. Stewart, age 90, of Gladwin passed away on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at the Hospice of Valley Ryan House in Phoenix, AZ.

A Memorial Mass for Bill will be held at St. Athanasius Catholic Church on Saturday, May 24, 2025, at 11 a.m. with Rev. Father J. Marcel Portelli officiating. A Luncheon will immediately follow in the Reflections Reception Center at Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel.

The family will receive friends at the church the day of the service from 10 a.m. until the time of Mass. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or the American Cancer Association. Envelopes will be available at the church and the funeral chapel.

Bill was born on May 5, 1934, in Detroit, son of Henry and Cecilia (Mauer) Stewart. He married Mary Anne Vespek on April 23, 1955, in Detroit. Bill and Mary Anne moved to Harrison in 1996, relocating from Warren. Bill proudly owned and operated William Stewart and Son's Masonry. He was a parishioner at St. Athanasius Catholic Church, he obtained full Knighthood as a third degree member of the Knights of Columbus, Harrison, Michigan, and a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, Lodge 2235. Bill enjoyed hunting, golfing, woodworking, gardening, fishing, but most importantly spending time with his family and grandchildren. Bill will be remembered as quite the joker.

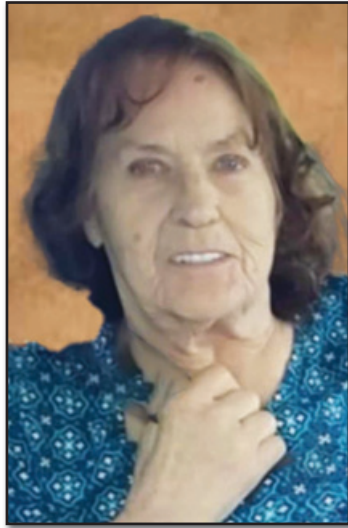
Bill was blessed with his eight children; William J. Stewart (predeceased), Rosemarie Fagan and husband John of Hampstead, North Carolina, Cynthia Stewart of Harrison, Michigan, Joyce Stewart of Phoenix, Arizona, Steven Stewart and wife DeAnna of New Baltimore, Michigan, Kenneth Stewart and wife Kelley of Asheboro, North Carolina, Katherine Mitchell of Mesa, Arizona, and Kristin Stewart of St. Joseph, Michigan. Also surviving are 15 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren with one on the way; sisters, Louise (Ron) Nightengale of Axle, TX; and many nieces and nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, Mary Anne Stewart in 2024; son, William J. Stewart in 1996; parents; two brothers, Ted Stewart and Henry Stewart; and sisters, Marion Peerboom and Phyllis Page.

You may view Bill's obituary online and send a condolence to the family at [www.clarkstocking.com](http://www.clarkstocking.com).

## LELA LOUISE THOMPSON

November 17, 1942 - May 3, 2025



Lela Louise Thompson age 82 of Harrison, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at MyMichigan Medical Center-Midland. Lela was born November 17, 1942, in rural Greenwood Township, Harrison, the daughter of Mildred (Christie) Davis and Archie Davis. Lela was united in marriage to Mr. Rexford "Rex"

Thompson on June 16, 1962, in Harrison. Mr. Thompson preceded Lela in death on December 29, 2010, after forty-eight years of marriage.

Lela had resided in Harrison her entire lifetime. She worked twelve years at Northwoods Nursing Center-Farwell in the housekeeping department. Lela enjoyed floral and vegetable gardening, canning, playing bingo, and spending time with her family.

Surviving Mrs. Thompson are her three children; Jerry Thompson of Gladwin, Michigan, Jay Thompson and long-time companion, Jane of Hillsdale, Michigan and Lori Ball of Monroe, Michigan, ten grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, three sisters; Mabel Bucholz of Harrison, Juanita Johnson of Marion, Michigan and Dolly Gross of Coleman, Michigan, plus many nieces, nephews and extended family. Lela also was preceded in death by her parents, one son, Jeff Thompson, one son-in-law,

Rodney Ball, one sister, Irene Smith and three brothers; Arthur "Buck" Davis, Bill "Billy" Davis and Melvin "Mel" Davis.

Funeral services honoring Lela will be held Friday, May 9, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. from Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel and Cremation Service with Pastor Connie Bongard officiating. Visitation will take place on Friday, May 9, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. until time of service. Inurnment will be held at a later date at: Hillcrest Cemetery, Greenwood Township, Harrison. Memorial gifts in memory of Lela may be considered to: Alzheimer's Association. Memorial envelopes will be available at Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel. To share an online memory or condolence with Lela's family, please visit: [www.clarkstocking.com](http://www.clarkstocking.com). Arrangements for Mrs. Thompson are entrusted with Clark-Stocking Funeral Chapel and Cremation Service 989-539-7810.

## ANGELA (ANGIE) DAWN CARLTON

June 14, 1974 - January 26, 2025



Mrs. Angela (Angie) Dawn Carlton peacefully yet unexpectedly passed away in her home on January 26, 2025. She was a strong woman who always fought for her family and loved them with every bit of her heart. Her family is what brought her the most joy and always looked forward to the holidays where

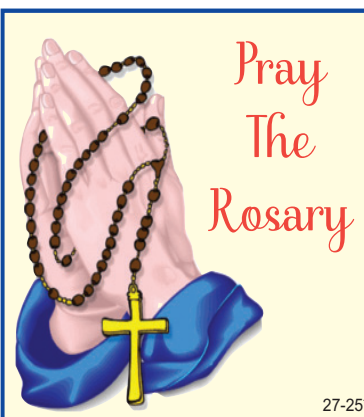
everyone was gathered and spending time together.

Angie was born in Clare, MI on June 14, 1974, to Jeanette Bailey and Robert Payne. She married her one love Michael Carlton Jr on June 27, 1992, and had five wonderful boys with him as well that they raised in Harrison, MI. Angie stayed home attending her boys and her grandchildren until the day she left us. She loved to play pool and was even in a pool league with some of her many sisters. Angie also loved to dance, and once she was up you couldn't get her to sit back down! Most of all Angie enjoyed her diamond art, making so many beautiful pictures for all of her family members in the styles that they enjoyed the most.

Angie is survived by her mother Jeanette Bailey, her husband Michael Carlton Jr., and her many siblings; Cheryl Sehy, Carmen Allen, Carolyn (Pepper) Lee, Amy

Miller, Jeri Bailey, Barb Bailey, Rose Pepper, Randy Pepper, and Chris Pepper. Along with her sons and grandchildren; Michael Carlton III, Adam Carlton, Mathew Dell, Damian (DJ) Carlton, Ariel Carlton, Hayden Carlton, Bentley Carlton, Zander Carlton, Damian Carlton Jr, Sebastian Stephison, Nixx McCormick, and Leilani Woods. Angie is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and aunts. Angie was preceded in death by her father Robert Payne and her youngest son Glenn Carlton.

Angie's celebration of life will be held on May 10, 2025, at 6432 N. Old State Ave., Harrison, where we can all gather and enjoy the outdoors just as she would've wanted. She will forever be missed in everyone's hearts she touched and will never be forgotten by her loved ones.



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<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>St. Athanasius Church</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Mass Schedule</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Sunday 11 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">310 S. Broad St., Harrison</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">989-539-6232</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>First Congregational UCC</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Church School 10:30 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Worship Service 10:30 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">211 W. Spruce St., Harrison</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">989-539-7163</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>The Gathering - United Methodist Church</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Join Us Sunday 11 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">3090 N. Clare Ave., Harrison</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">989-539-1445</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>St. Luke Lutheran Church Missouri Synod</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Service Sunday 10:30 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">616 S. 4th St., Harrison</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">989-539-6312</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>Community Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Sunday School 9:45 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Morning Service 11 am</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Evening Service 6 pm</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Wed. Serv. &amp; King's Kids 6:30 pm</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>Sponsor:</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>Harrison Lumber Do-It Center</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Building Supply Center</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">989-539-7136</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>Sponsor:</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><b>Hills Plumbing &amp; Heating</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Box 250 • Harrison</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">989-539-5551</p>

UPCOMING MEETINGS

**MARSP Clare County (Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel)** will meet at noon Tuesday, May 13 in the second floor Ester C Room at Mid Michigan College, Harrison campus. A \$10 lunch, prepared by the Jack Pine Restaurant, may be purchased. A business meeting will follow the luncheon.

**The Clare County Democratic Party** at 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month. The next meeting will be May 14 in the basement meeting room of Pere Marquette Library, 185 E. 4th St. in Clare. Public welcome. To join the meeting by Zoom contact Jennifer Koch, County Party Chair, at chair@clarecountymocrats.com. For more information go to www.clarecountymocrats.com or www.facebook.com/clarecountymocrats.

**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.

**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.; 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).

Budget cuts threaten Great Lakes weather forecasting

By DANIEL SCHOENHERR  
Capital News Service

LANSING – Proposed federal budget cuts could cripple the ability of Michigan forecasters to monitor extreme weather and climate shifts, researchers warn.

A draft plan from the White House would dismantle the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research and shut down the Great Lakes Observing System.

That system powers hundreds of buoys and models that monitor lake conditions in real time.

President Donald Trump and his administration argue that cuts like these will reduce unnecessary government spending.

But the impacts could be severe, said Ayumi Fujisaki-Manome, a lake-effect weather expert at the Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research in Ann Arbor.

The loss of these monitoring tools would result in "crude" forecasts that fail to reflect the complexity of lake-driven weather.

According to the Great Lakes Observing System, roughly 11 million meteorological observations are shared with the National Weather Service annually to inform public forecasts and weather alerts.

This data include lake temperature and ice cover readings — both essential for predicting the lake-effect snowstorms that frequently hit the Lake Michigan and Lake Superior coasts. Wave height and current data also help forecasters predict flooding and storm surges.

"We're not going to be able to predict where and how much snow we get," Fujisaki-Manome said. "If you don't have that ability, municipalities might over-prepare or under-prepare for storms."



The National Weather Service used lake-effect data to forecast the duration and severity of the 2022 Christmas blizzard in Northwest Michigan. (National Weather Service/Gaylord photo)

Less reliable forecasts could mean unnecessary labor for salting roads and more preemptive school closures, she said.

The National Weather Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration did not respond to requests for comment.

Less reliable lake-effect forecasts could leave communities and schools in West Michigan and the Upper Peninsula facing more snow days and wasted resources, Fujisaki-Manome said.

The proposed budget cuts would also slash funding for university partnerships, coastal resilience programs and long-term climate research connected to Michigan's changing climate, storm surge and flood risks, scientists say.

One major project at risk is the Great Lakes Coastal and Inland Flood Inundation Mapping Project, Fujisaki-Manome said.

Launched after the 2019 Lake Ontario flood caused millions of dollars in damage, the project created a model to predict future flooding events. After proving successful, the project expanded to other Great Lakes.

Now, Fujisaki-Manome said, it faces a shutdown.

It's one of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's many models preparing Michigan's coastal communities for the inevitable impacts of climate change hindering economic growth, she said.

Abby Hutson, a climate scientist with the Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research, called the proposed cuts "disheartening."

"We'd be losing a leader in the world of research," she said. "It's like saying you can't use Tom Brady in the NFL."

Hutson noted that operational forecasters used lake-effect data to accurately predict the duration and severity of the 2022 Christmas blizzard in Northwest Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

The storm dropped up to 3 feet of snow in areas like Antrim County, and forecasts from the National Weather Service helped local officials warn the public in time.

Hutson said losing the Great Lakes Observing System's real-time lake monitoring network would have significant recreational impacts as well. Its data is available online for snowmobilers, boaters, anglers and others planning for safe travel.

Although Congress has the final say on the budget, NOAA can appeal specific cuts.

U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., said he hopes to send a final version of the budget for the next fiscal year to Trump's desk by Memorial Day.

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Representatives of the Clare County Prosecutor's Office, Northern Michigan Alliance for Children, neighboring advocacy groups and local supporters gather for a group photo prior to the start of the Crime Victims' Rights Awareness Walk. More walkers trickled in, as the event spanned a 3-hour time frame. (Cleaver photos by Dianne Alward-Biery)

## Walkers Step Out to Support Crime Victims

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON – National Crime Victims' Rights Week marks the ongoing effort to secure justice for victims. In support of that effort, members of the Clare County Prosecutor's Office, the Northern Michigan Alliance for Children, advocacy group members from neighboring communities, and supportive local folks gathered Sunday, May 4 at the Harrison athletic field to participate in the Crime Victims' Rights Awareness Walk. Participant ages ranged from tenured to teen, and tween to toddler – all enthusiastically stepping out in support of crime victims.



Walkers of all ages participated in the May 4 Crime Victims' Rights Awareness Walk at the Harrison athletic field. Here walkers set out on and return from their first lap around the track.



At left, Kim Keeley, victim advocate, notes the lanyards and beads walkers could use to keep track of their walking laps.

A structure of cutout letters forming CVRW [Crime Victims' Rights Week] provided an opportunity for participants to complete paper slips printed with "I Walk For" to post there. The notes were completed with "The Children," "My Sister," "Hope," and more.

Before the walk officially began, victim advocate Kim Keeley offered participants an update on local crime victim advocacy efforts along with some words of encouragement.

"Thanks all for coming, I appreciate everybody being here," Keeley said. "So far, we've raised over \$2,000 for our Crime Victims' Rights Fund. We're able to use that money for transportation: getting people here – from out of state, especially, because the grant doesn't actually pay for that travel when we have to bring somebody in from out of state. We have our Court Closet up and going, and it is a shared adventure with the Northern Michigan Alliance for Children."

She pointed out that doughnuts and water were available for the walkers, as well as lanyards. After



Some of the enthusiastic younger participants easily shifted from walking to running.

each lap, walkers could pick up a bead to thread onto their lanyard, enabling them to keep track of their progress and accomplishment.

"Track how many beads you do," Keeley said. "Walk as much as you want, and thanks for com-

ing."

After Keeley put on some steady-stepping music, the walkers set off to make their many laps around the track and collect their beads as they went. Each had a personal reason for participating, and a drive to make a difference for others.

Placed around the track were a multitude of signs, noting supporting businesses and organizations. Additionally, there was one sign that addressed Crime Victim Compensation. It stated: "If you or someone you know is a victim of crime, certain expenses may qualify for Crime Victim Compensation coverage. This program may help pay out-of-pocket medical expenses, lost earnings, funeral bills, counseling, or other expenses for people who have been harmed as the direct result of a crime." Included was the website [www.michigan.gov/crimevictim](http://www.michigan.gov/crimevictim).

## Airport Property Encroachments to Be Explored, Addressed Pilot Interest in Airport 80D Survival Multiplying

By DIANNE ALWARD-BIERY  
Cleaver Senior Staff Writer

HARRISON – The April Airport Committee meeting saw attendance by pilots and interested persons who had not previously attended. Committee members present were Gabe Ambrozaitis and David Hoefling; Rickie Fancon was absent as was Lori Phelps, interim airport manager. The agenda noted that Phelps' Airports 101 Training was scheduled for April 29 in Kalamazoo.

Old Business reminded that the Turf Runway 9/27 leveling, fertilizing and seeding remains scheduled for August of this year.

New Business included three items: the first being a Multi-Unit Agreement draft that was near completion [six pages], and is expected to be presented at the May 20 meeting.

The other two related to information presented by Ambrozaitis concerning encroachment on airport property by adjacent business entities, and two motions were presented in address of that situation.

–Survey and stake of Lot A (007-272-000-01) and Outlot B (007-272-000-01) of the Airport property to confirm or deny Parcel Encroachment on Airport Property.

–For the County Attorney to send a Cease and Desist Letter to any encroaching businesses and to give follow-on legal advice for next steps if there is non-compliance.

Under Events, it was noted that a Harrison Area Pilots Association meeting was slated for May 3 to finalize plans for the upcoming 8-11 a.m. May 17 Spring Fly-in/Dawn Patrol. Still scheduled is the Fall Fly-in/Dawn Patrol slated tentatively for Oct. 4.

Also touched on by Ambrozaitis was the intent for a CTE meeting to explore the possibility of how to incorporate aviation mechanic certification into that program. That certification would open the door to airplane maintenance business(es) based at 80D.

Public Comments took up the lion's share of the meeting, with new visitors bringing some voices to the airport discussion. Ypsilanti pilot Craig Maxfield had flown in that day and attended in support of keeping the airport open. He expressed great interest in being able to fly into Clare County Airport 80D, particularly now that the runway is in such improved condition. He did note there is an obstacle for those who want to do more than drop in for a bite at Jackie's Airport Restaurant or trot across the road to Scooter's. He said he wants to come to Harrison and bring money into the community, but those options are limited by

access to fuel and a courtesy car, which if available would enable pilots to better spend resources in the community.

The Clare County Board of Commissioners' vote to table acceptance of \$254,000-plus in no-match grants [directed to lighting upgrade and crack sealing] also was discussed, and it was noted there had been much disbelief that the BOC would not accept that funding. Ambrozaitis clarified that the Board needed to know that it would be a bad decision to turn it down.

Robert Vandebrook said the airport provides a vital service to the community, and that bringing in investment requires a functional airport.

"What they have to understand is that the feelings they're creating amongst the people that live here –

wherein pilots had said that if there was airplane maintenance servicing available, those plane owners would choose to have service performed locally rather than in places such as metropolitan Detroit.

“Community involvement is crucial”

–GABE AMBROZAITIS  
Clare County Airport Committee

Ambrozaitis affirmed that having more choices is always better. "More choices is better in anything, especially in aviation," he said. "More choices for fuel, more choices for maintenance, more choices for a courtesy car, motels – it just continues to build."

Ambrozaitis also equated that to recreation opportunities, such as when people fly in, park their plane and stay for a week.

Corder added that when looking at a map of Michigan, there is a big hole in the middle of the Lower Peninsula as regards a lack of A&P mechanics, with 80D in the center of it.

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the Airport Committee will meet next at 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Clare County Building, 225 W. Main St. in Harrison. This will be three days after the Spring fly-in/Dawn Patrol and the day prior to the next Board of Commissioners meeting where a vote will be taken on acceptance of the MDOT grants — and possibly the airport's very survival.



Commissioner Gabe Ambrozaitis, left, describes the original airport property deed(s) and the substantiation behind pursuing action against those who have encroached on that county property without authorization. Also pictured is fellow Airport Committee member Commissioner David Hoefling. (Cleaver photo by Dianne Alward-Biery)

## Harrison Eagles

Events Open to the Public:

Friday, May 23  
Fish Fry 4-8 pm  
Band at 6 pm  
The Dancing Lyrebirds

Reminder:  
Saturday, June 21  
Beer tent, band, dancing, barbeque

Club is Open  
Monday to Friday  
2-10 pm  
Saturday & Sunday  
12-10 pm

Every Tuesday  
Tacos with specials  
4-8 pm

Every Wednesday  
Musical Bingo 4-8 pm  
Euchre at 6 pm

Every Friday  
Fish Fry &  
Live Entertainment  
4-8 pm

Every Saturday  
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