



Tyler Davidson, founder of Elden Medicinals, led a Foraging and Therapeutic Mushroom class for all ages Friday evening at Divine Pine Gathering 2026 in the Irish Hills.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE MCLEMORE

When is a threat ‘real’?

Napoleon school threat case tests First Amendment boundaries

By Julie Riddle

A former Napoleon Community Schools student accused of threatening to kill several school staff members and a school resource officer in 2022 won't get First Amendment protection for his words, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled last week.

Nathaneal Christopher Mann, now 24, allegedly told a friend he intended to kill people at his school if they didn't let him graduate. He faces multiple criminal charges which could result in sentences of up to life in prison if he is found guilty.

Mann's case was paused in November for the higher court to consider Mann's argument that he was only expressing frustration when he made the threats.

Mann's actions indicated otherwise, the higher court said last week, declining to interfere with his case. He will now continue toward trial on two of his original three charges.

Unlike most opinions issued by the Court of Appeals, the Mann opinion was designated "for publication," which means it becomes an official statement of Michigan law that courts across the state can use in determining future case outcomes.

As high school senior in the spring of 2022, Mann had been banned from school property after he was involved in a violent altercation on school grounds. When Mann was at a friend's house, the friend's father allegedly overheard him saying that if the school did not let him participate in graduation ceremonies, he "was going to go in and shoot the principal and the teachers." He also heard Mann talk about killing the school's liaison officer, according to Court of Appeals documents.

The father reported the incident to the school, setting off an investigation which revealed that Mann had purchased a shotgun and attempted to purchase two pistols sometime after being banned from school property.

Mann was arrested and charged with intentionally threatening to use a firearm to commit an act of violence against a school employee on school grounds. A person found guilty of that offense can be sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

He was also charged with threatening to commit an act of terrorism, punishable by up to 20 years in prison. That charge was later dismissed.

Several months later, Mann was charged for allegedly trying to arrange for the murders of several witnesses while he was in jail awaiting trial. That case has been paused as the Court of Appeals considered Mann's appeal.

In its definitions of First Amendment protections, federal law criminalizes speech based on the fear it creates.

"The existence of a threat depends not on the mental state of the author, but on what the statement conveys to the person on the other end," the appellate court stated, citing the U.S. Supreme Court. "A 'true threat' does not turn on whether the speaker intends to carry out the threat, but on whether the speaker intends to communicate the threat."

Michigan, like several other states, has created laws that more narrowly define school-based threats. Prosecutors must prove that a person making



See *School threat* page 2

EXPONENT

Open to all parties • Controlled by none

A MEADOWBROOK MEDIA NEWSPAPER

\$2⁰⁰

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

Napoleon Township

Township addresses lake bottom, docking issues



The Napoleon Township meeting room had a standing-room-only crowd on Monday, July 13 for a public information meeting on Big Wolf Lake bottomlands and lake access rights.

Story and photo
By John Hummer
Editor

An estimated standing-room-only crowd of 75-80 people showed up on a hot Monday evening for a public information meeting to hear Napoleon Township's presentation and explanation of their recent actions and future plans to enforce state law on lakefront/lake bottom issues. The issue had arisen in the last couple of months on Big Wolf Lake, particularly in the Oak Point subdivision.

The presentation, delivered by Napoleon Township Supervisor Dan Wymer, was titled "Oak Point Public Information Meeting: Riparian Rights, Road Ends, Lake Bottom Ownership, Docks, Property Tax."

Wymer made the presentation in a question-and-answer format, trying to anticipate the many questions stirring in the minds of both lakefront property owners and so-called "backlotters" — those who own property near the lake but don't own lakefront property.

At the center was Wymer's first question: Why are people being told to remove docks and watercraft moored to them at road ends adjacent to the Oak Point public walk? His answer, "Complaints have been received by Napoleon Township from nearby property owners who object to the adverse impact of the docks and moored watercraft."

Wymer's second question, which was raised by residents at the township's June board meeting and seems to be the one in which many people have objections: Why now, when docks have been at these locations every summer for years? "The City of Jackson owns the lake bottom these docks are on and has, until now, taken a "hands off" approach," he stated. "Napoleon Township has, until now, seen itself as unable to enforce township ordinances on property owned by the City. The City of Jackson signed an inter-governmental agreement with Napoleon Township and is now cooperating with the Township on enforcement."

The third question deals with abiding by enforcement actions: Why should people told to remove their docks do

so? There are strong arguments for why the docks should stay. One example Wymer brought up says, "My deed does not say it but the previous owner I bought the lot from, the real estate agent who sold it to me, and my neighbors all told me my property came with the right to put my dock in the lake, so I have the right to put my dock in the lake."

Wymer responded, "No. In the court case *Thies v Howland*, 424 Mich 282: The Michigan Supreme Court ruled that only property owners whose land directly abuts

would mean unless Napoleon Township enforces an ordinance against every violator everywhere all the time, it cannot enforce it against any violator anywhere ever. No township or other level of government has enough resources to do that. Enforcement is discretionary and has to start somewhere, not everywhere."

Wymer then addressed another issue brought up at the June board meeting of a public walkway that goes across most property owners' lots in the Oak Point subdivision.

"This is very important because the things being done at these road ends are now misdemeanors and they can be punished as a civil infraction."

Dan Wymer,
Napoleon Township supervisor

a natural inland lake possess riparian rights, such as erecting docks or exclusive lake access. Owners of non-riparian backlots may gain limited access only if expressly granted by recorded easement or deed language. This ruling established the principle that mere proximity or shared access strips do not convey riparian status."

Wymer then brought up another example: "Docks have been there so long people have acquired the right to continue having them." Again, Wymer stated that it is not true. "That claim is based on adverse possession — having openly and notoriously used land you don't own long enough to have acquired rights to it. Under Michigan law, specifically MCL 600.581, a claim of adverse possession cannot be made against public property."

Wymer raised another argument he has heard on recent enforcement actions. "This is selective enforcement. Not everyone who has these docks was sent a Cease and Desist letter to remove them. Selective enforcement is prohibited." He countered that with, "No. That

Michigan Supreme Court decision that backlot owners without a recorded easement or deed do not have docking rights, and contrary to Michigan law prohibiting claims of adverse possession against public property?"

Wymer also debunked the possibility of backlot property owners attempting to negotiate an agreement with Napoleon Township that allows their docks to remain. He stated, "No. Michigan riparian law as defined by the Michigan Supreme Court's *Thies v Howland* decision requires backlot owners to have access granted by recorded easement or deed language. Napoleon Township does not have the power to overrule, supersede or negate state law. It cannot make an agreement that it knows to be in violation of state law. Backlot owners with recorded easement or deed language establishing their riparian rights are, of course, welcome to exercise those rights."

Regarding the walkway, Wymer addressed the question: What about property owners adjacent to the lake but separated from the water by the walkway? Are they considered lakefront property owners? Wymer noted, "Yes. When the City sold lake bottom parcels in front of those lots to the owners of those lots the intent was clearly to create riparian docking rights for the lots."

Wymer then posed some additional questions about property taxes and the levels paid by lakefront owners and backlot property owners. One key question he posed was: Can backlot property owners appeal to the Napoleon Township Board of Review requesting a reduction in the assessed value of their property? He said, "Yes. Backlot property owners could present the March Board of Review with examples of similar property without riparian rights that sold for less than the assessed value of their property. Property owned for a long time will usually have a taxable value far less than the assessed value, so reducing assessed value does not reduce the tax bill. Property purchased recently that uncapped might see a reduction in the tax bill."

Nearing the end of the

See *Lake Issues* page 2

Maintenance agreement approved and signed for Brooklyn/Columbia trail

**By John Hummer
Editor**

At its July 13 meeting, the Brooklyn Village Council approved a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) maintenance agreement between the village, Columbia Charter Township, and Columbia School District. To date, the village and township have signed the agreement. The township tabled a decision on signing it until its Aug. 17 meeting.

The village, in collaboration with the township and school district, will be building a SRTS trail from the elementary campus in the village to the Columbia Central Jr./Sr. High School campus utilizing public right-of-way and school property. Construction on the trail is expected to commence in the spring of 2027.

SRTS is a movement that aims to enable students to get regular physical activity by making it safer and easier to walk and bike to school

The SRTS Program is funded through federal transportation funds, managed and awarded by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan Fitness Council.

"We have to have a long-term plan to maintain the trail after it's completed," Swartzlander said. "We've been working with the school district and the township to develop the agreement and make sure that we are putting the funds and the plan in place to maintain the trail long-term."

The agreement lays out the financial commitments for each organization to ensure long-term maintenance costs and asset management are planned for in ad-

vance, as well as specific responsibilities for which part of the trail each organization will undertake.

In other business, the council chose and approved Civic Plus as the village's new website vendor. "We've been a long-time customer - they've hosted our online ordinance portion of the website," noted Swartzlander. In particular, the village has utilized the Municode system from Civic Plus. In a memo to the council, he noted that the company's website services and capabilities have been recommended by other communities in the state.

He noted that new federal regulations on ADA accessibility and ease of use catalyzed the move to a new website vendor. "Over the next few months we'll be working on upgrading the village website and creating those accessibility opportunities and new options for residents and businesses," Swartzlander said.

He thanked Sandy Schneider of Hawthorn Design, a local small business, for past work on the village website. "They've done a phenomenal job for us," he stated.

The council also approved the appointment of village resident Bob Ball to the Village of Brooklyn Planning Commission for a term ending Dec. 31, 2028. "That brings us back to full strength on the planning commission," Swartzlander stated.

A parcel split/combination of 308/312 N. Main Street was approved, while a parcel split at 120 Sherman was tabled.

In other notable news, Swartzlander also reported that Swain Memorial Park is once again fully open for public use.

"There is one piece of equipment that is damaged and we're going to be working on repairing and/or replacing it, depending on what our vendor says," he noted. "It looks like we're going to have a little money left on the Swain Park grant to be able to pay for the replacement of the equipment. Hopefully, we won't have to file an insurance claim which will save us money long-term."

"We were extremely lucky that of all the trees that fell, they fell right where we needed them to, to avoid any significant damage to a lot of the playground equipment. I'm very happy that once we started pulling trees off there wasn't the damage we thought there was going to be."

Finally, the Village of Brooklyn Home Rehab Program should be launching soon. Village officials are awaiting finalization on a HUD regulation impacting the program. The federally funded program is designed to assist income-qualified homeowners with necessary repairs to improve health, safety, accessibility, and housing stability.

"We are hoping to launch the program and start working with applicants [soon]," said Swartzlander. The program is for Village of Brooklyn residents only. A one-on-one informational meeting is set for Wednesday, Aug. 19. More details on the program will be provided in a near-future edition of the Exponent. For more information and to complete a Home Rehab Interest Form, visit villageofbrooklyn.com/homerehab.html.

What's buggin' us?



Photographer Lynn Okenka caught this American Painted Lady butterfly on camera. It is considered the most widely distributed butterfly species in the world. They can be found on every continent except Antarctica, and while they may seem "common," a closer look shows them to be anything but.

EXPERIENCE MATTERS.
★★★★★
When it comes to our roads, proven leadership makes a difference.
VOTE AUGUST 4
to
Retain
TODD BROWN
LENAWEE COUNTY
-- ROAD COMMISSIONER --
★★★★★
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TODD BROWN

School threat . . . from page 1

such a threat actually intended to carry it out or had taken steps toward doing so.

Mann, who has not been found guilty of the charges against him, argued that a judge should not have allowed his case to move toward trial because the prosecution had not yet shown proof that his threat was anything more than "venting to a friend."

The appellate court was swayed by a witness who, at Mann's preliminary examination, said Mann's statement

seemed sincere. That, and the purchase and attempted purchases of guns were enough to make a reasonable person believe he intended to carry out his threat, the higher court said.

Mann also argued that his threats couldn't have frightened the alleged intended targets because the statements were not made directly to those people or intended to be passed along to them. Nothing in Michigan law requires that the threatened person be aware of a threat against them for it to be a criminal act,

the Court of Appeals said.

Mann's case will continue toward trial in Jackson County's 4th Circuit Court on the school threat and solicitation of murder charges. If found guilty by a jury, Mann will have another opportunity to appeal his conviction or sentence.

His bond, initially set at \$750,000, was reduced to \$1,000 in February 2025, the same time the court dismissed the act of terrorism charge.

Lake Issues . . . from page 1

presentation, Wymer brought up a question that stirred some debate on the long-time dock-users' arguments: If backlot owners don't have the right to put a dock on public property at Oak Point, what lake access rights do they have at the road ends?

"His response, "They can launch watercraft like kayaks, canoes, paddleboards and smaller fishing boats that can be carried to the water. They can fish, swim, walk, watch the sunrise or sunset.

"All other members of the public have these same rights at the road ends," he continued. "No one pays taxes on public property. A private dock on public property gives control of public property to the private user and stops all the rest of the public from exercising their right to use it.

"That's really why we've continued forward with it, Wymer went on. "The ownership of the City of Jackson of the lake bottom, as we learn more and more about what the laws are, became less and less of a factor.

Wymer concluded his presentation with an explanation

of an excerpt from the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act – Act 451 of 1994, "Section 324.30111b Public road end; prohibited use; violation as misdemeanor; fine; civil action; definitions."

"There was a change in the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act back in 2012," he stated. "This is very important because the things being done at these road ends are now misdemeanors and they can be punished as a civil infraction. Each day that the offense persists is a separate misdemeanor and each one of those is subject to a fine of up to \$500." Wymer then read the entire excerpt of that section of law to those in attendance.

During public comment, a common theme among those in attendance questioned why the township has waited 14 years to enforce this state statute. In his reply, Wymer reverted back to the start of his presentation, noting that it is because complaints have been received by Napoleon Township from nearby property owners who object to the

adverse impact of the docks and moored watercraft. The township then explored how to address those complaints which resulted in the inter-governmental agreement with the City of Jackson, which is now cooperating with the Township on enforcement.

Township board meeting brings out strong comment

At the Napoleon Township board meeting the next day, Wymer summarized the meeting. "It accomplished what I was hoping it would accomplish – that was getting the information out that was really very important for everybody to be aware of and to give everyone an opportunity to speak and ask questions and give feedback," he stated.

During public comment, Kathy Rice shared that she is not pleased with the handling of the situation on Oak Point at Big Wolf Lake. "Nothing about the Oak Point situation has been handled in a cooperative or appropriate manner," she said. "It has only opened suspicion and favoritism within the walls of this building...You have made numerous public statements regarding the complaints, yet you have produced no documentation to support these claims. The conduct of this office including intimidation, threats, and bullying – of which I am a victim of – is unacceptable.

She continued, "Furthermore, singling out five households, because in your words, 'We can't take you all on,' is both inappropriate and difficult to justify. Before this matter is concluded, particularly when the suspicion of favoritism and corruption proceeds to the attorney general's office, are each of you as board members prepared to have your actions and the operations of this office thor-

oughly scrutinized to include a forensic financial audit, as well as a review of all documents, emails, and other [inaudible], dating back to the first year Mr. Wymer became supervisor and to the point at which [the Napoleon Township ordinance enforcement officer] began to personally campaign against us? It appears there seems to be some back-pedaling going on already..."

Stop In For A Tour!

Give your parents new friends & yourself peace of mind.

- Beautiful private apartments with full kitchen or come down to the dining room to eat with friends
- Have someone to talk to everyday
- Keep your independence
- Let us help with chores or errands
- Housekeeping
- Grocery Delivery Service
- Month to Month Lease
- 24 Hour Trustworthy Staffing
- Maintenance Free Living
- Planned Events/Activities

BROOKLYN LIVING CENTER
Senior Apartments
(517) 592-2828
Give us a call today!

The
Exponent

Volume 144 Number 52 ACCOUNT NO. USPS 793-460
160 S. Main Street, Brooklyn, MI 49230
Telephone (517) 592-2122 • Fax (517) 592-3241
Founded September 1, 1881

Matthew B. Schepeler
Publisher

John Hummer
Editor

Postage Paid at Brooklyn, MI 49230
SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$70 per year
E-mail address: news@theexponent.com
Web site: www.theexponent.com
Postmaster: Send address and change to:
The Exponent 160 S. Main Street, Brooklyn, MI 49230

Publication Day: Tuesday; Periodicals
Materials cannot be used without written permission of the publisher.

the Lily Pad garden center **Wilcox** Lawn & Landscape

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR 40TH Anniversary CELEBRATION!

AUGUST 29TH 8 AM – 3 PM

FOOD & VENDOR LIST TO COME, SO KEEP AN EYE OUT!

Come celebrate with us!

PLUS, ENJOY: BEAUTIFUL PLANTS | EXPERT ADVICE | GREAT SELECTION

3027 Blue Ridge Rd, Clarklake | 517-529-4550

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GROWING TOGETHER!

GROWING MEMORIES SINCE 1986

THANK YOU FOR 40 YEARS OF SUPPORT!

DON'T FORGET! BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE ANNUALS!

Correction

In a press release we ran last week about Somerset Township Supervisor Tim Shaw serving on the Michigan Township Association Board of Directors, it was incorrectly stated that shaw served as chief of Addison Fire & EMS, in Addison Township (Oakland Co.) for 30 years.

The Addison Fire & EMS Chief Shaw served on is based in Lenawee County.

Home from War

Revolutionary War soldiers-turned-pioneers to be discussed at Wooden open house

Marcia Cole, of the Lenawee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, will be a guest speaker at the Wooden Old Stone Schoolhouse August 1. Cole will present about Lenawee Revolutionary War soldiers from 12 - 1 p.m. There will also be a colonial/revolutionary war coloring activity on site for youths as well as docents to share history of this 1850 school and period artifacts.

The event is free to the public and the site will be open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The school is located at the corner of North Hawkins Hwy. and Stephenson Road (north of Onsted). To stay up on Wooden School events, follow facebook.com/woodenoldstoneschoolhouse.

Sheila Cote
517-921-8651

Debbie Crownover
517-262-3000

Stoney Green
517-206-5522

Let Our Experience Improve Yours!

Brooklyn Office
517-592-0100

131 N Main Street - Downtown Brooklyn
In the heart of the Irish Hills!

111 E Michigan Ave
Open 10 to 5 Tues-Sat
(517) 522-8514

A 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting local non-profit groups in our community

Visit Us on Facebook!

LOCATED IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN GRASS

Tune Up SPECIAL

Save \$10 With this ad

Free Estimates

In Business Since 1923

Workmanship Guaranteed

Your One Stop Vacuum cleaner shop

Monday 10-6

Tues 9-5

Wed Thur Fri 10-6

Rowell's SWEEPER SHOP

517-789-7566

637 E. Michigan Ave. Jackson

Back 2 School Bash

FREE BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLIES WHILE THEY LAST

AUGUST 8TH 10-NOON

SKIFF LAKE BIBLE CHURCH

8277 S. JACKSON ROAD, CLARKLAKE

Onsted Schools

Several changes in positions highlight coming school year

Story and photos
By Michelle McLemore
Staff writer

Onsted's new administrative team highlighted student academic successes along with opportunities for the coming school year in their buildings at the Monday, July 20 regular board meeting.

In addition to annual duties such as master scheduling and freshman and new student orientation, High School Principal and Continuous Improvement Coordinator Dyan Biringer shared a few district-related updates that stirred the board.

Biringer announced, "All grades, K-11th, tested at, or above, grade level on NWEA reading and mathematics during spring 2026 testing." (NWEA is the Northwest Evaluation Association, an organization that creates academic tests for students.) The data is based on the latest national NWEA normative scale created in 2025.

Additionally, the team is awaiting the results of three grants which would help orient the science curriculum to a career-focused approach. She also noted the ongoing question of how best to increase awareness of the multiple personalized pathways to education offered at Onsted. As an example, she outlined the six paths in which students can earn credits and degrees at OHS:

The Traditional Pathway requires all in-person coursework allowing for a combination of general education, special education, and/or advanced classes as the student desires.

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway draws on courses tailored toward careers of interest with coursework offered in biomedical sciences, engineering and robotics, business management, Lenawee Intermediate School District (LISD) Tech Center courses, work-based learning, or others.

The Early College/Middle College Pathway enrolls students simultaneously at Onsted High School and Jackson College over a five-year period. They receive one or more of the following in addition to their high school diploma: associate's degree, 60 transferrable credits, a professional certification, Michigan Early Middle College Technical Certificate, and/or participation in a registered internship.

Early College students take their non-college classes at Onsted High School, whereas Middle College students take their non-college classes at the LISD Tech Center with other students in the county enrolled in the Middle College Program. Students in this program are able to transfer to four-year college programs with two years' worth of credits towards their bachelor's degree.

College Prep/Dual Enrollment Pathway students replace multiple courses towards their high school diploma with college courses or advanced placement (AP) courses. Students often don't take as many college courses as the Early College Pathway, complete high school in four years, and often begin college with multiple college credits ahead of their peers.

Virtual School Pathway students take most or all courses from home using an online course program completing the traditional courses and credits.

Alternative Education Pathway students use a modified in-person schedule to allow flexibility to meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum while receiving in-person support.

Board Trustee Ray Tessier remarked, "We want to publicize that! There are awesome people in this district – great staff and leaders. That's another reason folks may want to bring their kids here."

Middle School Principal and District Safety Coordinator Phil Stark explained that as part of the end of year wrap-up, he gave tours to the fourth and fifth grades and that the fifth grade teachers were able to pick their own rooms. He is assisting in the building of a new Middle School PTO organization, promoting a color run fundraiser, and preparing a fifth- and sixth-grade orientation for parents and students.

For his safety position, he shared that the fire hydrants on the property will need to be replaced this year. He is updating the safety drill schedule and working with Marsha Davis on Emergency Operating Plan updates. Additionally, Stark is reviewing possibilities to offer a hunter's safety and/or firearms safety course.

Elementary Principal and Title I Coordinator Jodie Holt shared that they had 10 applicants for three openings and interviews were underway. In addition to working on the building schedule, she is considering how to invite the family/community in and may try a math night this year. Her requirements for the Title I position are actively being addressed.

Meet the team in their new positions

Dyan Biringer



New Position: Secondary High School Principal and Continuous Improvement Coordinator

Responsibilities: Oversee grades 9–12 while leading the district in curriculum, assessment, MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports), and school improvement.

Serving OCS since: 2006

Prior positions: mathematics, biology, and Project Lead the Way teacher, department chair, instructional coach, middle school interim principal, and district continuous improvement coordinator.

Personal guiding principles for job: Accountability with support.

What you'd like parents, students, or the community to know about you: I graduated with a degree in mathematics and biology from Adrian College where I also played soccer. I have my master's in mathematics education (from Siena Heights) and a K-12 Administrator's Certification with a specialty in curriculum and instruction.

Hobbies/likes: Creating things using my cicut (like shirts, gifts, decals, etc.), sewing and designing dance costumes for my daughter, gardening, canning/freezing, and going on remote hiking trips in the Upper Peninsula.

Anything else you'd like to share? My priority is to promote a high-quality educational environment. I want to know that our students are prepared to leave high school with the skills they need to take the next steps in their chosen pathway.

Laura Klutsarits



New Position: Athletic Director and Graduation Coach

Responsibilities: Oversee the district's athletic programs and support students on their paths toward graduation and post-secondary success.

Serving OCS since: 2026

Prior positions: Associate athletic director, senior women's administrator and head coach at Keystone College; most recent 20 years at Siena Heights University as head softball coach and assistant sports information director.

Personal guiding principles for job: Transparency, honesty and communication. Athletics can teach teamwork and collaboration, discipline and goal setting, resiliency and response to failure as well as being a general microcosm of life. As a graduation coach, I look forward to helping guide students towards the successes they desire.

What you'd like parents, students, or the community to know about you: I'm passionate about sports and believe every student has the ability to achieve. We are all here to help them to become the best version of themselves as possible; helping students find their passion points and to understand the need for their education pursuits – that is what I am excited to help do.

Hobbies/likes: I love watching sports but also enjoy spending time with friends and family. U.S. history is also something I enjoy.

ing, swimming, and hunting. Anything outdoors, is competitive, and makes you move.

Jodi Holt



New Position: Elementary Principal and Title I Coordinator

Responsibilities: Oversee building operations, instructional leadership, student support systems, and Title I services

Serving OSC since: 2015

Prior positions: Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) teacher, teacher, literacy interventionist at Onsted Elementary School, and mentor teacher

Personal guiding principles for job: Integrity, kindness, and a student-first mindset. My goal is to build a school culture where everyone feels welcome, respected, and encouraged to reach their fullest potential.

What you'd like parents, students, or the community to know about you: I'm excited to serve the Onsted community and look forward to partnering with families to make this a great year for our students.

Hobbies/likes: I enjoy reading, traveling, and spending time with my husband, Jake, and our two children, Gabe and Paige. I love supporting them in their activities.

Marsha Davis



New Position: Director of Business, Grants, and Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) and Preschool

Responsibilities: Oversee district financial operations, grants management, and early childhood programming while continuing to support the long-term success and sustainability of Onsted Community Schools.

Serving OCS since: 1996

Prior positions: Third grade teacher, elementary principal, director of GSRP and tuition preschool, Title I director, director of state and federal programs

Personal guiding principles for job: Integrity, communication, securing more grant funds

What you'd like parents, students, or the community to know about you: My new office is in the Board of Education Building. My phone number is 517-467-2173 and my email remains the same. Drop me a note. Give me a call or stop in. I'm glad to listen, problem solve, and talk about all the wonderful things that happen at Onsted Community Schools.

Hobbies/likes: Swimming, watching my children's sporting events, and listening to audio books.

Did you know...

A gathering of wildcats is called a Destruction.

There are around 40 different species of wildcats.

Only four big cats can roar: The lion, tiger, leopard, and jaguar.

Brooklyn woman represents Michigan in Orlando pageant

Emily Mast showcases achievements at International United Miss 10th Anniversary Pageant

By John Hummer Editor
Brooklyn's Emily Mast, 24, represented Michigan July 12-18 at the International United Miss 10th Anniversary Pageant in Orlando, Fla., an international scholarship competition that brought together titleholders from around the world.

Emily's pageant title was International United Miss Michigan. "I placed in the top 10 out of 30 women in my division," she said proudly. "I also received 4th Runner Up for the Community Service Award with over 150 hours submitted."

"After 14 years in pageantry, this opportunity was especially meaningful as it allowed me to showcase not only my journey in competition, but also the service and advocacy work behind my title."

Mast completed an intensive pageant training experience the previous six months preparing for the event. "I have the most incredible pageant coach," she says.

She shared a bit about her preparation. "We focus a lot on – not just how to walk in a pretty dress or what different outfits I should be wearing – but truly on developing who I am as a woman and my mindset going into it. So, having an unshakable foundation that – no matter the outcome of the pageant, I am still worthy, I am still successful, and I am still an amazing person. And that's what I really love about how I approach pageantry. It isn't just about the crown, it isn't just about the outfits that I get to wear, it's really about the personal development I get to go through so that I'm the best version of myself, so I can continue to make an impact for others. I've really learned that to pour into others and help lift them up, you must do that for yourself first."

Emily's pageant platform, Big Sister Advantage, focused on empowering women in the workplace through storytelling, mentorship, and education. Through her *Margins of Strength: A Global Journal of Women's Workplace Stories, Strategies, and Support* initiative, Emily sought to collect and share real women's experiences.

"It's a physical journal that I created," she noted. "Women from around the world are writing their stories of work-



Above: Emily Mast's official international United Miss Michigan 2025-26 titleholder portrait. Below, left, Mast holds the Margins of Strength Journal that she created. PHOTOS SUBMITTED

place challenges, strategies, and experiences inside this journal. It's been in multiple countries and multiple states at this point. Right now I have no idea where it is. It's out circulating the world for more women to share their stories. I truly do believe that story telling is a great way to make change. They are the only ones who have gone through this experience. To read through a journal and realize there are so many other women out there who are going through similar things, have overcome them, and have achieved great success is incredibly impactful.

Women have been leaving encouraging comments in the margins of different stories, Emily noted. "Eventually, when I have the journal back, I will be turning it into a digital format and it will be published so that anyone can read through these stories and hear what other women are saying and see the support

and encouragement," she said. "That's the long term goal, but I'm excited for that step."

How will the journal ever get back to Emily? "I have a lot of faith and trust that it will find its way back to me," she says.

In addition to the journal, Emily has a social media account with Big Sister Advantage. "I've reached over 2,000 women," she noted. "The reach is getting out there and the word is spreading about what women deserve in the workplace and how they can overcome challenges. In addition to the *Margins of Strength* journal, I'm hoping to launch additional journals because I want so many people to be involved in it. Overall, I want to remind women and share with them that they deserve a seat at the table, and that one way they can get there is by being part of a global sisterhood who is all lifting each other up."

Emily wishes to thank two local Brooklyn business sponsors who helped achieve her pageant success: Savanna Rose Dance Studio – her walking space sponsor; and Speakeasy Beauty Bar – her hair services sponsor.

About Emily Mast

A Brooklyn area native, Emily is a Jackson College Emerging Alumni Award recipient.

After attending elementary school at Ezra Eby in Napoleon, she went on to graduate high school from Jackson Preparatory and Early College (JPEC).

While at JPEC, Emily earned more than 60 college credits through Jackson College starting from when she was 14. She graduated with an associate's degree from Jackson College at the age of 16.

Emily then enrolled at Purdue University and spent a little over two years there to earn her bachelor's degree in professional writing with a minor in business – at 19. She was a member of the

Honors College.

"I was part of the Honors College Mentors Program where I was actually mentoring students who were all older than me," she noted. In her first year at Purdue while she was 16, most of the students she was mentoring were 18 and 19 years old.

Following graduation from college at 19 from Purdue, Emily began working as a social media marketing specialist for GlobalHealth, based in Oklahoma, working remotely. "I quickly accelerated through my career," she explained. "In my first eight months, I went from being a social media specialist to managing the entire marketing department on my own. I had over a million-dollar budget I coordinated and I helped lead that company through one of its most successful sales seasons ever."

After her employment with GlobalHealth, she went on to work for Crexendo, based in Tempe, Ariz., also working remotely. "We're one of the fastest growing companies in North America in the technology space," Emily stated. "We sell business phone systems. Right now I work in their marketing department and I've received quite a few different awards," noting that one of them is the "Channel Marketing Association Rising Star Award" for her early-career success.

Letter to the editor Friends of Watkins Lake's mission clarification

Dear editor,

I appreciate *The Exponent's* continued coverage of issues affecting Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve. However, I would like to clarify the role and mission of the Friends of Watkins Lake (FoWL) following your recent article.

Friends of Watkins Lake was established to provide **stewardship, education, and advocacy that fosters appreciation for Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve and helps sustain its unique natural, cultural, and recreational attributes into the future.** Our organization exists to support the park through volunteerism, community engagement, habitat stewardship, educational programming, and partnerships with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and other stakeholders.

While members of FoWL, like many area residents, may hold personal opinions on issues affecting the park, the organization itself is committed to ensuring that Watkins Lake remains a place where wildlife, natural communities, and people can thrive for generations.

I was disappointed by the photographs accompanying the article. The images create the impression that Friends of Watkins Lake is an advocacy group organized around opposition to a single issue. In reality, those photos were taken during a presentation about Watkins Lake State Park and the Friends group's

mission. The presentation focused on the park's ecological significance, volunteer stewardship, and the value of protecting and enhancing this remarkable public resource. Using those images in the context of an article about the proposed gravel mine is misleading because it does not accurately represent the purpose of the presentation nor the mission of Friends of Watkins Lake.

Watkins Lake State Park is one of Michigan's most unique natural areas. We hope the community will continue to engage in thoughtful, respectful conversations about its future while recognizing the broader work that Friends of Watkins Lake does year-round to support the park and the people who enjoy it.

Spencer Kellum
President, Friends of Watkins Lake

The Vac Shoppe



- Two-motor system
- 14-inch cleaning path
- Variable speed control
- 360° hose swivel
- Telescoping wand
- 4-level height adjustment
- 28-foot retractable cord
- Accessory tool package

We Repair Most Vacuums!

The Vac Shoppe

2740 W. Beecher • Adrian
517-263-6727
Mon.-Fri. 9-4 • Sat. 9-2

Designs by Judy



Florist & Greenhouse

3250 Wolf Lake Road • Grass Lake MI • 522-5050
Monday-Friday 9-6 • Saturday 9-3 • Sunday closed
designsbyjudyflowers.com

Lakefront Deck now Open!

Jerry's Pub

ON THE LAKE

EAT. DRINK. ROCK. ROLL.

Come to the lake

Open Wed-Sun 11 a.m.

Kitchen closes Wed & Thurs 9 pm; Sun at 8 pm; Fri & Sat 9:30 pm

Live Entertainment
Karaoke
Fridays 7:30pm

GREAT DRINK and delicious lunch & dinner SPECIALS DAILY

650 Egan Highway On the South Shore of Beautiful Wampers Lake
Phone: 517-467-4700 Fax: 517-467-7848
www.JerrysPub.com
Serving the community for 47 years

Lakefront Deck now Open!



August 9, 5-7PM
Kdg—Senior High

- Food!
- Free Supplies!
- Games!
- Art Activities!
- Water Slide!
- Bring a towel!

Lutheran Church of the Lakes
8800 N. Rollin Hwy., Addison, MI
517.547.4261 - lcoloffice@gmail.com

A mixed bag of concern

Cyclosporiasis outbreak raises awareness, increase in farmer stand business

“Only a few patrons have said, ‘Hold the lettuce on the sub.’”

Travis McDonald
C o-owner, Loofy's

Story and photos
By Michelle McLemore
Staff writer

Despite the 8,176 total Michigan cases of confirmed cyclosporiasis per the State of Michigan since early July, Irish Hills residents and business

owners shared trust in home gardens, local farmer stands, restaurants, and stores.

Staff at Big Boy, Subway, and Loofy's all mentioned that customer inquiry on where their lettuce is sourced has been minimal. A few “more

concerned customers” requested orders to be made without the standard lettuce at each restaurant, but overall, there has been no drop in orders or sales, staff consistently noted.

Farmers' stands, however, have seen a marked increase in business. Jacob's Fresh Farm in Dexter described a larger impact from the food scare. “Demand is way up, 30 to 40 percent. People know that local farms are safer, our wash batches are smaller, and we are dedicated to food safety,” officials there noted.

Cory and Staci Hunt of Hunt Family Farm at 7500 Seymour Road, Grass Lake, opened their first roadside market this summer, so couldn't comment on if more patrons were buying farm fresh or not. Yet, Staci Hunt was excited to share, “We sell fresh eggs, zucchini, yellow squash, tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, cantaloupe, watermelon, and a few other things as they come into season. We will have several varieties of winter squash and pumpkins in the fall. We also sell feeder pigs and whole and half hogs.”

Though they did not plant greens this year for sale, Hunt noted, “We are very careful about keeping the animals separate from the produce and washing everything well.”

Travis McDonald, co-owner with Jen Pittman of Loofy's on Jefferson Road, also noted, “Only a few patrons have said, ‘Hold the lettuce on the sub,’ since the outbreak began.” One year into owning Loofy's, in addition to doing a complete remodel and expanding inside seating, the Loofy team proved well educated and proactive about the public food safety concern.

One team member, Blue, was able (without hesitation) to share their proactive steps. “When we noticed an uptick in the cyclosporiasis cases in Michigan, we decided to increase our cleaning practices from double washes to also adding a white vinegar wash. We now also only keep part of the lettuce, and we use the same cleaning procedures with the tomatoes, onions, and mushrooms.”

Blue and McDonald also both noted the reliability of their area distributors, SOFU and Gordon and Sons. SOFU



Staci and Cory Hunt display their vegetable stand.

reached out to assure their clients that they were “proactively testing their own lettuce.”

Still, when area residents were asked how the vegetable issue has impacted their shopping or menus, many respondents shared they eat only their own home-grown vegetables, wild forage, or have quit buying vegetables and fruits from stores and restaurants while waiting for the summer harvests at farmer markets to expand.

Kimberly Dean of the Grass Lake Facebook group noted, “I am eating frozen fruits and vegetables and buying from local farmers and orchards. Also, I'm buying the heads of lettuce and taking off the first several layers.” She continues to wash all purchases as soon as she gets home.

Robin Rowley and Wisper Babineau, both of Grass Lake, noted nothing much had changed for them. Rowley shared, “I have a few cultivated vegetables but mostly I forage for wild growing plants – have been for years. We just need to learn how to identify them and eat as people have for thousands of years.”

Babineau noted, “I stopped buying fruits and veggies at the store a long time ago. Learning about the chemicals and preservatives and seeing and tasting the difference in the



Loofy's co-owner Travis McDonald finalized Brian Rideout's order in between questions and walk-ins. McDonald shared his trust in their local veggie distributor and the safety measures his staff are using to ensure food is high quality and safe.

food...our food hasn't been healthy for years.”

Tomi Zagata who had caught the sickness, shared a response representative of others who had also been ill: “I

haven't bought strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, salad mix, barely any fruit – and I'm dying for it.”

Beth Arnold of Onsted noted her family's caution. “We have quit buying lettuce altogether,” she said. “We don't order anything with lettuce on it when we eat out or no tomatoes or fruit. If we can't wash it, we aren't eating it.”

Numerous media strands began to share trusted local farmers' stands and booths. Jacob's fresh Farm, Fusilier Family Farms, Mark Priellip Greenhouse & Mohr, Tillison's, Kapnick's, and Hunt's Family Farm were all mentioned.

On July 17, Taylor Fresh Foods voluntarily recalled iceberg lettuce from their Central Mexico farms for “possible contamination” under the brand names of CV, JB, Mark and more. The products were being sold as chopped lettuce, salad mix, and blends or salad kits with romaine, shredded, and iceberg lettuce. The products of concern were distributed June 29 through July 16.

In a July 22 Public Health Bulletin for Health Care Providers from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, it noted that cases were “concentrated in Monroe, Lenawee, Washtenaw, Wayne, Shiawassee, Jackson, Oakland, Ingham, and Livingston counties.”

It noted, “Cyclosporiasis outbreaks have previously been linked to the consumption of contaminated fresh produce, such as raspberries, basil, cilantro and bagged salad mixes. Because this enteric illness can be protracted and relapse if untreated, provider awareness and timely clinical recognition are critical to managing the ongoing public health impact.”

BUMMAGE SALE
ST. JOSEPH SHIRINE 8743 U.S. 12, BROOKLYN, MI

Wed. Thurs. Fri. August 5, 6, 7

WEDNESDAY
9AM - 7PM
\$5.00 - \$10.00

THURSDAY
9AM - 5PM
\$3.00 - \$5.00

FRIDAY
9AM - NOON
Free Will Offering

8743 U.S. 12

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER
1920s GANGSTERS
AUGUST 15th

Irish Hills Eagles Auxiliary Presents
Death of a Gangster
Interactive Whodunnit Experience

Doors Open @ 5:30pm
Dinner @ 6pm, Show @ 7pm

Tickets \$40 each
At the club or call Patty 517-206-3410
Photo Backdrop Costumes are Encouraged
PreSales Only - No Tickets at the Door
Dinner and Dessert plus Cash Bar
9500 Wamplers Lake Rd, Brooklyn, MI

CHECK US OUT NO PROPERTY TAXES
In Somerset!

Choice lots going fast!
Country Lake Atmosphere

Single Wides
Sectionals
Modulars
Preowned Homes

SALES

On Site Natural Gas, Cable/Telephone & Water/Sewer
All Underground utilities • Paved Streets • Attached garages
Ranch/Capes/2-Story sites • Paved Drives & Walks
Landscaped • Porch-decks
15 minutes from Jackson, Hillsdale, & Adrian

12851 U.S. 12

Ideal Retirement \$ 410.00 Monthly
Check Us Out!

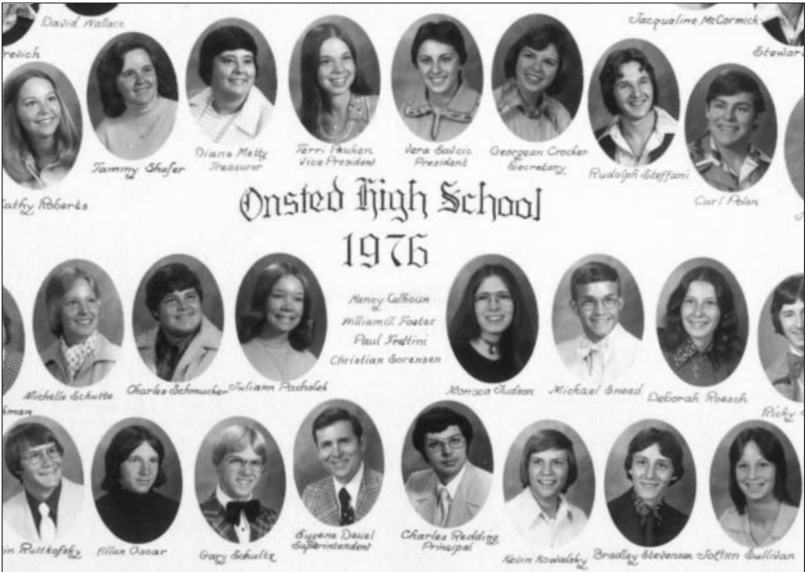
SOMERSET CENT'RE ESTATES
1-517-688-9276

A gathering of Wildcats

The 26th Onsted All School Reunion will be held Saturday, August 1 at the high school auditoria, with doors opening for registration at 1 p.m.

This year's 2 p.m. program highlights the class of 1976 along with the theme of "Yearbooks and Journalism". Historical artifacts and light refreshments will be available along with time to mingle.

The event is hosted annually by the Onsted Alumni Association. Attendees do not need to be a member of the association to attend; however, the treasurer will be on hand for anyone who would like to pay the \$10 dues to join or renew. More information may be found at ohsalumni.weebly.com/ or the Onsted Alumni Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/27710947141.



The Class of 1976 will be spotlighted at the Onsted All School Reunion on August 1. Photo courtesy of the Alumni Association historian Lisa Cyrus.

Shelby ‘Shelebration’

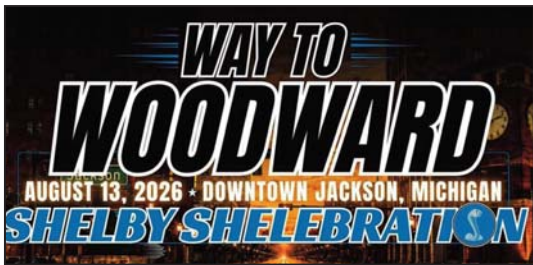
The Way to Woodward Starts in Jackson: Inaugural “Shelby Shelebration” celebrates automotive heritage, racing history, veterans, and community

Before the Woodward Dream Cruise takes over Metro Detroit, the journey begins in Downtown Jackson.

On Thursday, August 13, from 5–8 p.m., automotive enthusiasts, collectors, veterans, families, and community members are invited to experience “the Way to Woodward: A Shelby Shelebration” — a one-night extravaganza officials say will bring together legendary vehicles, racing history, live entertainment, and the spirit of community.

This event is a collaboration between Mike Sadler of Speed and Shine, Jackson Cruise-In, and The Carroll Collection. Together, these partners are creating a unique automotive experience designed to celebrate automotive performance, honor veterans, and showcase downtown Jackson.

“This event brings together everything that makes the automotive community special — incredible vehicles, passionate people, history, and a shared love of speed,” said Mike Sadler, owner of Speed and Shine and host of Jackson Cruise-In. “The Way to Woodward is about creating



an experience that enthusiasts and families will remember while celebrating the incredible automotive culture we have right here in Jackson.”

The event is open to all cars, not just Shelys. The first 350 to register cars will receive an event T-shirt, poster, goodie bag and be registered for raffles every 15 minutes.

A celebration of automotive history

Jackson has a legacy-rich connection to Michigan's automotive story, with generations of innovation, craftsmanship, manufacturing, and automotive passion helping shape the community's identity.

Way to Woodward celebrates that legacy by creating

a unique starting point for enthusiasts traveling toward the Woodward Dream Cruise while introducing visitors to Downtown Jackson. Guests will experience an incredible showcase of classic and modern Mustangs, Shelby vehicles, specialty performance cars, and rare historic automobiles from the Carroll Collection.

One of the evening's featured attractions will be the legendary race car the 1966 FORD GT40 Hero Car showcased in the award-winning film Ford v. Ferrari. This remarkable race car pays tribute to the Shelby-American racing legacy and the historic 1966 Le Mans victory that forever changed motor sports history.

Also, in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary, Way to Woodward will recognize and celebrate local veterans who share a passion for automotive history, innovation, and performance.

Veterans will receive free vehicle registration and have a dedicated location within the event where their vehicles and stories can be celebrated by the community.

Adding to the experience, the Michigan Theatre of Jackson will host a free community showing of Ford v Ferrari from 5:30–8 p.m. at 124 N. Mechanic Street. The film provides the perfect backdrop to celebrate the innovation, determination, and racing history behind these legendary machines.

The evening will also feature Nitro Jen, a high-energy local classic rock band.

The celebration will extend throughout Downtown Jackson and Horace Blackman Park, creating a destination experience for automotive enthusiasts, families, and visitors of all ages.

Columbia Charter Township police report

July 16

Property Security: Hewitt Road; **Property Security:** Hyde Road (3); **Suspicious Situation:** Jefferson Road; **Personal Welfare:** South Main Street; **General Non-Criminal:** Marshall Street; **Parking:** Brooklyn Road; **Personal Welfare:** Constitution Avenue; **Accident:** Brooklyn Road; **Fraud:** Nicole Drive; **Domestic:** Brooklyn Road; **Inspect Vehicle:** North Grand Pointe Drive; **General Non-Criminal:** Irwin Street; **Disorderly:** Jackson Street; **Larceny:** Cook Street; **Ordinance Violation:** North Parker Street;

July 17

General Non-Criminal: South Stony Lake Road; **Property Security:** Hyde Road (2); **Field Contact:** Hyde Road; **Hit and Run:** Golfview Drive; **Alarm:** Brooklyn Road; **Disorderly:** Hill Court; **Accident Private Property:** Brooklyn Road; **Personal Welfare:** Eagle Pointe Drive; **Personal Welfare:** Jefferson Road; **General Assistance:** Lions Lane; **Run-away:** Ernest Street;

July 18

Personal Welfare: Palo Alto Drive; **Property Security:** River Street; **Property Security:** Hyde Road (2); **Accident:**

Brooklyn Road; **Operating While Intoxicated:** South Meridian Road; **Parking:** South Main Street; **Loud Music:** Eagle Point Road; **Hit and Run:** Marshall Street; **Conservation:** Constitution Avenue;

July 19

Operating While Intoxicated: Brooklyn Road/Daugherty Road; **Property Security:** Hyde Road (2); **Peace Officer:** Jefferson Road; **Hit and Run:** Brooklyn Road; **Parking:** Hyde Road; **Domestic:** Jefferson Road; **Parking:** Oakwood Avenue; **Domestic:** Kelly Road; **Traffic Hazard:** Coral Drive; **Domestic:** Vicary Road; **Animal Complaint:** Marshall Street;

July 20

Property Security: Hyde Road (2); **Accident:** Deland Road; **Disorderly:** Finch Street/Hyde Road; **Peace Officer:** Monroe Street; **General Non-Criminal:** Palo Alto Drive; **Malicious Destruction of Property:** Vantage View; **Parking:** North Main Street; **Field Contact:** River Street;

July 21

Field Contact: Jefferson Road; **Operating While Intoxicated:** Wampers Lake Road;

Property Security: Hyde Road; **Accident:** Jefferson Road; **Found Property:** Jefferson Road; **Warrants:** Sheridan Street; **Suspicious Situation:** Holiday Drive; **General Assistance:** South Price Lake Drive; **Alarm:** South Main Street; **Fraud:** Hyde Road; **Property Security:** Hyde Road; **Personal Welfare:** Hayes Road; **Warrants:** Michigan Street; **Suspicious Situation:** Hill Court; **Threats-Person:** Cement City Road; **Alarm:** Chicago Street;

July 22

General Non-Criminal: East Mill Pond Drive; **Property Security:** Hyde Road (2); **Personal Welfare:** South Main Street; **Conservation:** Jefferson Road;

Columbia Charter Township Fire Department Report

July 16

Rescue: South Main Street; **Rescue:** Marshall Street; **Rescue:** Irwin Street;

July 18

Rescue: Palo Alto Drive; **Assist other Agency- Fire:** South Meridian Road; **Rescue:** Somerset Drive; **Rescue:** Marshall Street; **Rescue:** Palo Alto Drive;

July 19

Rescue: Taylor Road; **Fire:** Coral Drive; **Fire:** Tejon Trail;

July 20

Rescue: Sherman Street; **Rescue:** Palo Alto Drive;

July 21

Rescue: Constitution Avenue; **Rescue:** Bellflower Drive;

July 22

Rescue: East Mill Pond Drive; **Rescue:** Marshall Street; **Rescue:** Cement City Road; **Rescue:** Hyde Road;

ARTESIAN WELLS GARAGE

Steven & Julie Haas, Prop.
GOOD WORK WINS GOOD WILL

- Towing 24 Hours • Brakes • Oil Changes
- New & Used Tires • Overall Vehicle Repair

18696 U.S. 127 • 517-206-6728 • Cement City MI

NEW Lunch Specials

(11am - 2pm)
Carryout, Dine-in or \$2 DELIVERY*

- Sub & Fountain Drink
- Any Personal Pizza, ½ Order of Breadsticks & Fountain Drink
- Pasta, Garlic Roll & Fountain Drink
- Pizza Pocket & Fountain Drink
- Chicken or Beef Wet Burrito & Fountain Drink
- Small Salad, ½ Order of Breadsticks & Fountain Drink
- Lunch Buffet (Dine-in only)

*\$2 Delivery within ~1 mile of B.C. Pizza.
\$10 order min.

Pinetree Antiques & More

Full Line of Antiques and Collectibles

Different Merchandise Weekly

Good rental rates ~ good store location make this a wonderful experience
129 N. MAIN STREET • ON THE SQUARE • BROOKLYN
Open Daily 10 to 5 • For information call 592-3808

R.D. Kleinschmidt, Inc.

"We Build Our Reputation Around Your Home"

Roofing – Siding – Gutters Windows & Doors

Residential & Commercial

734-428-8836
www.rdkleinschmidtinc.com
19860 Sharon Valley Road, Manchester

Family Owned & Operated for over 50 years!

MODERN WASTE IS NOW LRS

As one of America's leading waste diversion, recycling and portable service providers, we're proud to be pioneering a new path forward in sustainability and service.

WE OFFER THESE SERVICES:
RESIDENTIAL | COMMERCIAL | DUMPSTER RENTALS | TRANSFER STATION

GIVE US A CALL AT 517.536.4900 TODAY!

7245 BROOKLYN ROAD, JACKSON, MI 49201

WATERLOO TOWNSHIP

Public Hearing Notice –Waterloo Township
Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 7:00pm

52

The Waterloo Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 7:00pm at the Waterloo Township Offices located at 9773 Mt. Hope Road, Munith, MI 49259. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive public comment on proposed text changes to sections 11.11A1 and 11.11A3 on township kennels. A copy of the proposed text changes may be viewed at the township offices during regular business hours.

Written comments should be mailed or emailed to the township offices, 9773 Mt. Hope Road, Munith MI 49259 or dropped off prior to August 17th, 2026.

Individuals with special needs requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Waterloo Township Board by writing or calling the Clerk's Office, 9773 Mt. Hope Rd, Munith, MI 49259. Phone: 517-596-8400.

Ralph Schumacher
Planning Commission Secretary

LEONI TOWNSHIP

LEONI TOWNSHIP OFFICE
913 FIFTH ST
MICHIGAN CENTER MI 49254
517-764-4694 PHONE

52

NOT I C E

The Leoni Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing, Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the Leoni Township Meeting Hall, 913 Fifth St., Michigan Center, Michigan, 49254.

000-09-31-176-004-00 & 000-09-31-176-001-04
3306 E. Michigan Ave.
Wendy's Properties LLC

Purpose of hearing: Site Plan Review

Legal Description:
000-09-31-176-001-4-00
BEG AT CEN OF SEC 31 TH N ALG N&S 1/4 LN OF SD SEC TO CEN OF US-12 HWY TH SWLY ALG SD CEN LN 587.9 FT TO THE POB TH SWLY ALG CEN OF SD HWY 209.4 FT TH N 202.61 FT TH NELY PAR WITH CEN OF US-12 HWY 209.4 FT TH S 202.61 FT TO BEG. SEC 31 T2S R1E .98A

000-09-31-176-001-04
BEG AT CEN OF SEC 31 TH N ALG N&S 1/4 LN TO THE CEN LN OF MICHIGAN AVETH S 71DEG 52'W 587.92 FT TH N 202.61 FT TO A PT FOR PL OF BEG OF THIS DESCN TH N 353.24 FT TH S 89DEG 52'W 199 FT TH S 417.95 FT TH N 71DEG 52'E 209.4 FT TO BEG. SEC 31 T2S R1E 1.83 AC +/-

Cindy Norris, Clerk

HANOVER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

52

The Hanover Township Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 7:00PM at the Hanover Township John H. Tallis Boardroom at 311 Farview, Horton, MI 49246 to consider amending "ARTICLE IV ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS" of the Hanover Township Zoning Ordinance.

An Ordinance to amend the Hanover Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended, to allow and regulate the keeping of animals and to allow the keeping of farm animals in the AG-1 and RS-1 districts.

The proposed text may be viewed at the Township office during regular business hours.

All persons having interest in the township or their duly appointed representative will be heard at the Public Hearing. All comments will be considered.

Members of the public may ask questions or provide input or comments prior to the meeting by submitting such questions, input, or comments to the Township Clerk by mail, email or by calling, Hanover Township, P.O. Box 40, Horton, MI 49246, at clerk@hanover-tpw.org, or 517-563-2791. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Clerk at the email or telephone number provided herein at least six (6) hours in advance of the meeting to request such assistance, or by using the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) before the meeting.

Rachel L. Heath
Hanover Township, Clerk

VILLAGE OF GRASS LAKE

Village of Grass Lake
119 N. Lake St., Grass Lake, MI 49240
(517) 522-4550

52

SYNOPSIS OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Grass Lake Village Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 7:04 PM at the Village Hall.

Present: President David Keener, President Pro Tempore Jane Fitzgerald, Council Member Gina Lammers, Council Member Wes Shemwell, and Council

Member Monica Stevenson Absent: Council Member Jennifer Stanton and Council Member Cindy Popovitch, Staff Present: Village Manager Sabrina Edgar, Village DPW Supervisor Paul Lammers, Village Treasurer Julie Muszynski, Village Clerk Jennifer Keener. Public: Joyce Sager, Joe DeBoe, and Dick Jarzynka.

Items Approved:

1. Agenda for July 7, 2026
2. Minutes from June 16, 2026 Regular Meeting
3. Disbursements
4. Motion to a move a one-time transfer of \$8,000.00 from the Building Department to the Equipment Fund and to adopt the policy of transferring \$40.00 of the \$60.00 base permit fee from the Building Department to the General Fund, quarterly, to provide for the overhead expenditures of the Building Department.
5. Motion to provide Village Council support to Joyce Sager to wrap the downtown black poles in red, white, and blue lights and to pay for the electric bills associated with them until January 6, 2027.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Prepared by Clerk Jennifer Keener.
Approved by Village President David Keener

Complete Copies of the meeting minutes are available at www.villageof-grasslake.com or upon request from the Village Clerk. Office Hours are 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday – Thursday, closed between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jennifer Keener

Village of Grass Lake, Clerk

GRAPHICS
Exponent
160 S. Main St.

GRAPHICS
Exponent
160 S. Main St.



Kiwanis
Korner

By Chris Holbert
President, Brooklyn Kiwanis



we don't require a membership card if you'd like to pitch in and help out. In reality, we welcome anyone who is interested to come to our monthly meetings and folks of all ages are welcome to do service in the community with us. In fact, it's a great way to help teach our future generations the meaning of community.

It has me thinking that we haven't done a great job letting folks know how they can get involved in Kiwanis and help out with the programs that they love so much in our community. So, we added a new volunteer form to our website at www.BrooklynKiwanisMI.com. If you are interested in receiving an email or text when we are working on one of our many programs - flag building, park clean up, parade or festival organization, sewing and knitting, etc. - you can sign up on our website to receive an email letting you know when and where we will be doing the things you are interested in and how you can help. I'm here to tell you that while we often say that our club is small but mighty, that's not the way we want or need it to be. **We need help!** We need you to help us keep the flags flying, the parades parading, the crafters crafting, the scholarships scholarshiping... well you get the point. We do love the service we do in this great community and if you'd like to



Debbie Hartwick who won the coverall jackpot at Kiwanis Bingo. Presenting the check is Mark Holbert.

help us out, we'd love to have you.

One last note, we celebrated the second anniversary of Kiwanis Bingo this month. Congratulations to Debbie Hartwick who won our coverall jackpot. Next month, proceeds will benefit our local teachers so come on out and show your support as our teachers and kiddos get ready to head back to school.

Mark your calendars:

Night meeting - Wednesday, 7/29, 6 p.m. at Jerry's Pub & Restaurant (please RSVP at brooklynkiwanismi@gmail.com if you'd like to join us so we can add you to our reservation)

Day meeting - Tuesday, 8/4, 11:30 a.m. in the back room of the American Legion in Brooklyn

Bingo night - Wednesday, 8/19, doors open at 5 p.m., games start at 6 p.m.

It's YOUR Business

By Cindy Hubbell, President/CEO
Irish Hills Regional
Chamber of Commerce
517-592-8907 • www.irishhills.com



Run Clark Lake takes place on Saturday, August 1, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Go to stmarksih.org for more information or to register. The post-race party takes place at the **Beach Bar** patio. Proceeds benefit the maintenance of the **Spirit Trail**.

Sunday, Aug 2 marks the 65th annual celebration of Raft-O-Rama at Clark Lake. The boat parade starts at 10:30 a.m. at the west end of the lake and travels in a counterclockwise direction.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church is holding Vacation Bible School Monday, August 3 through Friday, August 7 from 9 am to noon. All kids ages 4

to 12 are invited to join. Go to stmarksih.org for more information or to register.

US-12 Heritage Trail's 180 Mile Garage Sale is coming up Friday, August 7 to Sunday, August 9. **Irish Hills Print Co** (the old Prehistoric Forest) has spots for vendors for only \$20 for the weekend. Call (517) 258 4744 to reserve your spot. The 127 World's Longest Garage Sale takes place Thursday, August 6 through Sunday, August 9.

The **Home Builder's Association of Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee's** inaugural Golf Outing takes place on Friday, August 7, beginning at 9 a.m.

at the Wolf Creek Golf Club in Adrian. Go to hbajmi.com for more information.

Ang & Co in Manitou Beach Village is holding a Rose' and Blooms Weekend, Friday, August 7 through Sunday, August 9. Treat yourself to wine tasting, charcuterie boards, and create your own fresh flower arrangement with **Black Dog Flower Co.** Go to angandco.net for more information.

Manitou Beach Farmers and Crafter's Market takes place in **Manitou Beach Village** on Devils Lake every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. throughout the summer.

Questions for booth space, email mbcraftersmart@gmail.com or call 419 377 5653.

The **Walker Tavern Farm and Craft Market** takes place on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy local produce, homemade goodies, merchants, and crafts every Sunday until the end of September.

Check out the Irish Hills community calendar at Irish-Hills.com to find tons of events going on in and around the Irish Hills, including bike nights, live music, classes, family fun events, craft shows and more

What's up at the Brooklyn Food Pantry?

Building Campaign Update

Brooklyn Food Pantry President Bob Wahr reports that the Brooklyn Food Pantry building campaign fundraising "is doing extremely well."

"We are only \$30,000 short of our goal of \$150,000. We are very excited about the community support we have received," he noted.

He said that volunteers at the food pantry recently raised more than \$3,100 toward the building fund demonstrating their commitment on top of the countless hours they have devoted to helping relieve food insecurities in our community.

"We hope to reach our fundraising goal by Labor Day which coincides with our plan to start construction in the fall."

The Brooklyn Food Pantry is a 501(c)3 organization which means donations are tax-deductible. Donations are accepted by check designating "Building Fund" and can be mailed to PO Box 122, Brooklyn, MI 49230. If you wish to donate online, please visit our website at www.brooklynfood-pantry.com.

The new building (2,400 square foot pole building) will be constructed at the corner of Irwin and Sheridan streets in the Village of Brooklyn. Construction will start once our engineered plans have been approved by the Village and building permits are issued. "Our contracted engineering firm has stated that building plans will be ready for submission to the Village of Brooklyn no later than mid-September," said Wahr.

Brooklyn Food Pantry

16590 US Hwy 12, Cement City, MI

(517) 513-1223

Distribution Dates

The Brooklyn Food Pantry will be distributing food on the following dates:

Tuesday, August 4th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Thursday, August 6th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Tuesday, August 18th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Thursday, August 20th, from 10:00 to 2:00

Tuesday, September 1st, from 10:00 to 2:00
Thursday, September 3rd, from 10:00 to 2:00
Tuesday, September 15th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Thursday, September 17th, from 10:00 to 2:00

Tuesday, October 6th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Thursday, October 8th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Tuesday, October 20th, from 10:00 to 2:00
Thursday, October 22nd, from 10:00 to 2:00

Reminder: If Columbia Schools close due to weather, the Pantry is closed.

Distributions are limited to one per client per week
Please return empty boxes that are in good condition.

Obituaries

Adolf Hetke

Adolf Hetke

Adolf "Al" Hetke, age 85 of Brooklyn, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, July 19, 2026. Al's family and friends will gather on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., with a vigil scripture service at 7 p.m. at Eineder Funeral Homes, Brooklyn Chapel. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 11 a.m. following visitation at 10 a.m. at St. Rita Catholic Church, Clarklake, Mich. Rev. Fr. Bosco Padamattummal will serve as celebrant. Burial to follow at Jefferson Cemetery. Al was born on November 13, 1940, in Kalisch, Germany, to Siegesmund and Anastasia (Gularski) Hetke. At the age of 15, Al boarded the USS General W.C. Langfitt with his family and set sail for a new life in America. Determined to make the best of every opportunity this new country gave him, Al worked



Adolf Hetke

hard to make friends, learn English, and rise to the top of his class. He graduated from Cass Technical High School and a few years later, married his high school sweetheart, Sylvia Doddie. They were married on June 16, 1962, in Detroit, Mich. Al continued his education, earning a metallurgical engineering degree from General Motors Institute (Kettering), a master's degree in manufacturing systems from the University of Michigan, and an MBA from Michigan State. God blessed Al and Sylvia with three wonderful children, Kurt, Erich, and Angie. While they were growing up, Al coached baseball, led Boy Scouts, and never missed a daddy-daughter dance. He was a loving father and husband who provided for his family in every way he knew how. Al worked for Ford Motor

Company and VP market development nemak for several years before starting his own company, Hetke Consulting, in 1998. He spent the next 27 years bettering the processes of aluminum casting and held several patents. Al never truly retired, but as the years passed and he was blessed with grandchildren, he began to enjoy other hobbies. He and Sylvia moved to Lake Columbia in Brooklyn, Mich., and embraced life on the lake. From fishing with his grandchildren to making sure the jet ski was running to piloting the pontoon, Al made sure that everyone around him had a good time. He enjoyed gardening and had the most beautiful hydrangea bushes that Lake Columbia has ever seen. Al also loved the years of driving his grandchildren across the US in the RV and taking trips to see friends and family, and was a longtime parishioner of St. Rita Catholic Church in Clark Lake. Al is survived by his wife of

64 years, Sylvia; his children, Kurt (Jamie) Hetke, Erich (Angie) Hetke, and Angie (Steve) McKee, as well as 10 grandchildren: Veronica, Luke, Cade (Ariel), Tanner (Georgia), Tyler, Grace, Troy, Nathan, Josh, and Greta, his brother-in-law: Jack (Doris) Doddie, and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Grette Harris, and great-grandson, Asher Hetke. Al lived a life of perseverance, determination, and love. He overcame adversity with humility and encouraged others to do the same. He created a legacy that lives on in the hearts and lives of all who knew him. Memorial contributions can be made to Lewy Body Dementia (LBD) at lbda@lbda.org. Please leave a message of comfort for Al's family or sign his guestbook at www.Eineder-FuneralHomes.com.

Ronald Lee Belman

Ronald Lee Belman, age 63, of Norvell, MI, passed away, July 24, 2026. He was born May 8, 1963, in Hudson, MI, the son of Robert & Marsha (Coffey) Belman. On May 19, 1995, he married Susan Weinstein, she survives. Ronald retired from Lynair Inc., after 30 years of service, where he made very special



Ronald Belman

friendships. He loved riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle. Ronald made sure his lawn at home was immaculate. He likes playing darts, shut the box and shoot the s**t on Friday nights with his brother and sister in law, Russel & Sheryl, uncle Dan and cousin, Kim. In addition to his wife Susan Belman, he is survived by his sons, Matthew

(Meghan Martin) Belman and Matthew (Kristana) Diehl; his daughter, Kellie Bays; his grandchildren: Tristianna "Anna" Delaney, Bentley Waybright and Tyler Waybright; his father, Robert (Gail) Belman; his siblings, Randy (Debbie) Belman, Russel (Sheryl) Belman and Raina (Kevin) Ohm; many nieces and nephews; special uncle, Daniel Whetstone and special friend Maggie Mae. He was preceded in death by

his mother, Marsha Belman; two sons, Jeffrey Villeneuve and Justin Villeneuve. Visitation will be held on Sunday August 2, 2026, from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Purse Funeral Home, 2959 N. Adrian Hwy, Adrian, MI. Memorial Service will follow at 3:00 PM at the Purse Funeral Home in Adrian, MI. Private Burial will take place at a later date in Norvell Twp. Cemetery. www.PurseFuneralHome.com

Richard 'Dick' Reinhold Filter

Richard "Dick" Reinhold Filter, age 95, passed away peacefully at his home on Friday, July 17, 2026. Dick was born on August 25, 1930, in Adrian, Michigan, to Reinhold and Dorris Filter. He proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He also played semi-professional football for the Adrian Big Reds. In 1954, he married Phyllis M. Ehlinger, and together they built a loving family and shared a lifetime together. He retired from American Chain & Cable,

where he worked for 33 years as a Tool and DieMaker. Dick found joy in the simple pleasures of life. He loved tending to the garden with his wife, Phyllis, as well as spending time on the golf course and fishing. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, and their children, Connie Sturtevant; Mark Filter and his wife, Penny; and Gary Filter and his wife, Diana. He is also survived by his grandchildren, John Sturtevant and his wife, Kiyoko; Paul Sturtevant; Matt Filter; Josh Filter; Andrea Filter; and Brian Filter and his wife, Madi; and his great-grandchildren, Ken-

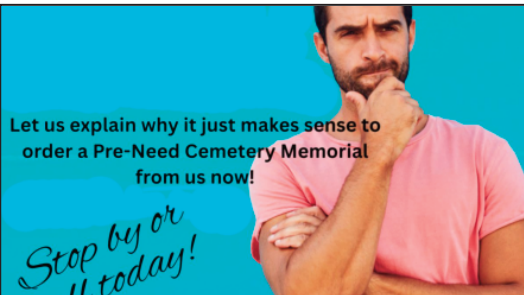
shiro, Rei, and Ayaka Sturtevant; and Nicole, Cheynne, and Connor Wortley. He is further survived by his siblings, Sue Adams, Butch Filter, and Ken Filter. He was preceded in death by his parents, Reinhold and Dorris Filter; his son, Richard Filter; his daughter-in-law, Patricia Filter; and his great-granddaughter, Akane Sturtevant. A private funeral service for close family will be held at North Rome Cemetery. The service will be officiated by Reverend Bryan Varblow of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Full military honors will be conducted by the Onsted American Le-

gion. Memorial contributions may be made in Dick's memory to St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Brooklyn, Michigan.

Death notices

Cierra Sowle, Jackson County clerk, reports the following recent recorded deaths:

Robert J. Hagerman, 80, Fayette Township; Wayne Odell Payton, 31, Jackson; Robert Keith Potter, 77, Blackman Township; Dina Lee Thompson, 84, Leoni Township; Marie Augusta Castle, 61, Moscow Township; Larry Leonard Nau, 74, Rives Township; Randolph Lee Weiner, 73, Ann Arbor; Darrell Joseph Shrum, 62, Columbia Township; Robert Duane Stokes, 45, Jackson; Judith Marilyn Soles, 82, Henrietta Township; Joan Louise French, 81, Blackman Township; Roy Thomas Bartlett, 72, Jackson; Dionte Martinez Croft, 30, Blackman Township; Joanne Hoover, 78, Henrietta Township; Cary Ann Willoughby, 58, Jackson; Rubio Dolores Imelda Sanchez, 89, Spring Arbor; Ernst Charles Hessler Jr. 78, Kinderhook; Gay Marie Flores, 68, Summit Township; Charity Estelle Brown. 91, Summit Township; Lois Rae Hunt, 94, Summit Township; Conner Andrew Pacunas, 18, Parma; Barry Duane Gallentine, 83, Summit Township; Charles Douglas Holland, 88, Norvell Township; John Rene Verbecken, 84, Summit Township; Karen Jean Fletcher, 81, Grass Lake Township; John Robert Carrick, 52, Norvell Township; Nicole Leigh Chamberlain, 40, Springport Township; Michael John Mullins, 71, Spring Arbor Township; Isabell Peterson, 78, Jackson; Muystafa Salameh, 42, Jackson; Susan Ruth Campbell, 77, Jackson; Janice Elaine Deboe- Havens, 88, Spring Arbor Township; Todd Daniel O'Dell, 60, Leoni Township; Kim Maxine Wireman, 63, Woodstock Township; Bradley Sherwood, 56, Blackman Township; David Brooks Andrews Sr., 70, Summit Township; Brian David Correll, 71, Tompkins Township; Nelladene Ruth Poole, 63, Rives Township; Colleen J. Tripp, 91, Brooklyn; Clifford Edmond Verbecken, 90, Grass Lake; Glenn Thomas Miller, 83, Blackman Township; Thomas Edward Phelps, 72, Jackson; Jennifer Ann Williams, 59, Summit Township; Ruth Ann Bunker, 88, Napoleon Township; Kenneth Robert Dinges, 48, Jackson; Terry Bradley Hollenbaugh, 57, Hanover Township; Ronald May Harper, 81, Summit Township; Ricky Leroy Rice, 69, Concord Township;



Let us explain why it just makes sense to order a Pre-Need Cemetery Memorial from us now!

Stop by or call today!

2830 Francis St., Jackson
(517) 782 3116
www.jacksonmonumentworks.com

Star Theatre update



Cody Morehead (left) and Rachel Smith gave away popcorn and seat cushions at Brooklyn's Art in the Park last week. The two were representing the Star Theatre, and Morehead noted that progress is steadily being made in refurbishing the Brooklyn institution. "It is going really well," and we plan on getting the roof done soon," he said, adding that Columbia Central High School Leadership Development class recently spent time working on the theatre. "They students worked hard — even filling an entire dumpster full of waste," noted Morehead. Donations can me made at www.restorethestar.com/donate.

Here for you. Here for our community.

For more than 100 years, Bank Michigan has believed strong communities start with local commitment. That's why we're proud to offer competitive rates for nonprofit organizations—helping you make the most of every dollar so you can focus on making a difference. Because when local nonprofits thrive, our entire community benefits.

bank
MICHIGAN
Better. Thinking. Banking.™

417 S. Main St. • Brooklyn, MI • Tel: 517.592.3205 bankmichigan.bank Member FDIC

EXPONENT Classifieds

RUMMAGE SALES

Skiff Lake Bible Church Rummage Sale

52X3



8277 South Jackson Road, Clarklake. Friday, August 14, 8 am to 4 pm, and Saturday, August 15, 8 am to 12 pm. All proceeds will go to the Jackson Interfaith Shelter

RUMMAGE SALE Wed. Thurs. Fri. August 5,6,7

ST. JOSEPH SHRINE 8743 U.S. 12 - BROOKLYN

WEDNESDAY 9AM-7PM \$5.00 full 5-bag

THURSDAY 9AM-5PM \$5.00 full 5-bag

FRIDAY 9AM-NOON Free Will offering

8743 U.S. 12

HEATING AND COOLING



- Serving Jackson, Lenawee & Hillsdale counties
- 30+ years Experience
- Residential and commercial
- Installation & 24 hour service
- Free Estimates
- MechanicalExtremes.com • 517-812-2484



BROOKLYN Plumbing, Heating & A/C, Inc.

In business since 1987



HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS
Innovation never felt so good.™

Service • Sales • Installation
(517) 529-9437

www.brooklynplumbingandheating.com

Free Estimates 2tf

WORK WANTED

Work Wanted: Concrete flat work, driveways, barns, patios, etc. Large or small accepted. Call 517 499-1869 tfn

HELP WANTED

Administrative assistant needed at local funeral home serving three locations. Looking for professional part-time administrator who has a minimum of four years of administrative experience, computer literacy is necessary, willingness to learn, be a team player, people oriented, must be able to multitask and prioritize tasks. No calls, please submit resumes to: Jeff@EinederFuneralHomes.com tf

BRUSH HOG MOWING Call Ed Bendele 517-917-6441

CARS WANTED

HW Towing – Licensed, buying junk cars and trucks, free pickup 7 days a week, pay in cash. Call 517-605-6388 or 734-223-5581. 6

MOTO 1 CYCLE

Moto 1 cycle & ATV – Great prices, great service! 9934 W. U.S. 223, Rome Center. 517-467-9311 www.moto1cycle.com tf

CARPENTRY WORK

Semi-retired carpenter – doors, windows, kitchens, bathrooms, plumbing repairs, light electrical and fall cleanups, tree and brush removal. Call 517-937-3571 to schedule your spring project. 20TF

WANTED TO BUY

Looking to purchase existing mineral rights in Lenawee, Jackson, Hillsdale and Washtenaw counties, please call or text 734-497-1841 #38x12

BUILDERS / CONTRACTORS / CONSTRUCTION

**RL Baker
CONSTRUCTION**

LAKEFRONT SPECIALISTS
517-592-4167

rlbakerconstruction@outlook.com

Visit our Web Site at www.rlbakerconstruction.com

William J. Bendele Jr.

3517 Ocean Beach Rd.
Clarklake, MI 49234

P:517.592.5467

Bendeleconst@comcast.net



Playing in dirt for over 50 years!

Excavating, Seawalls, Septic Systems,
Beach Sand, Top Soil & Hauling

**M-R
BUILDER**

**NEW HOMES/ADDITIONS
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
REMODELING
LAKE HOME SPECIALIST
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
DESIGN/BUILD
517-536-4300**

J. MASON CONTRACTING

- Home additions
- Garages
- Pole Barns
- Finished Basements
- Design/Space Planning
- Insulated Concrete Form Foundations

Call Jon at 517-592-3001

jon@jmasoncontracting.com • www.jmasoncontracting.com
180 Wamplers Lake Rd. Brooklyn 13tf

OUTDOOR / PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

C.P.M. Complete Property Maintenance

Loren Ebersole
(517) 416-1043

LAWN CARE
SNOW REMOVAL
LANDSCAPING
SPRING/ FALL CLEANINGS
BRUSH CUTTING/HOGGING
TREE & BRUSH REMOVAL
STUMP REMOVAL
LAND CLEARING
FORESTRY MULCHING
SITE PREP
EXCAVATION
GRAVEL DRIVEWAYS
SEPTIC SYSTEMS
AND MORE!

STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL

Over 65 years of service
UNDERWOOD'S
Lawn Care • Tree Care • Nursery
Irrigation Systems • Landscaping

Structural Pest Control Managers
(517) 265-2481

4373 N. Adrian Hwy. (M-52)
www.underwoodsnursery.com
Call today for an estimate 7tf

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

**Quick
Quality
Affordable**

A+ ELECTRIC Inc.
LICENSED • INSURED
Residential • Commercial • Industrial
517-529-0000
APLUSELECTRICPRO.COM

DOCKS/SEAWALLS

SEAWALLS
Rock, steel repairs,
retaining walls,
site work, grading,
driveways.
Call Crosslake Construction.
(517) 937-6979 tf

DOCKS/SEAWALLS

SEAWALLS
Rock, steel repairs,
retaining walls,
site work, grading,
driveways.
Call Crosslake Construction.
(517) 937-6979 tf

MOTO 1 CYCLE

Moto 1 cycle & ATV – Great prices, great service! 9934 W. U.S. 223, Rome Center. 517-467-9311 www.moto1cycle.com tf

HANDYMAN

Retired carpenter offering handyman work and home improvement Call Mark 517-960-8184 25tf

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP ACCURACY TEST

NOTICE

52

Notice Hereby Given that a public accuracy test for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday August 4th 2026 will be conducted on Thursday August 30, 2026 at 9:00 am at the Liberty Township Hall, 101 West Liberty Road, Clarklake, MI 49234. This accuracy test will be held to test the programs to be used in processing ballots for the Primary Election, which will be held August 4, 2026. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Debbie Jacobson,
Liberty Township Clerk

Copies • Printing

The Exponent • 160 S. Main St. 517 592-2122

Visit Our New Office in the Heart of The Brooklyn Square! 105 N. Main Street, Brooklyn, MI 49230



Jason Aldrich
734-474-0579



Jim Anderson
517-745-6046



Margaret Boldon
517-937-9005



Rick Reardon
Broker/Owner



Mark & Jenna
Chmielewski
517-937-5232



Collin Cote
517-812-0035



Carrie Duvall
517-917-2989



Mary Faulkner
517-403-1765



Darren Grodi
517-937-4368



Julie Hackworth
517-206-6426



Meredythe
Hill-VanDusen
517-206-9802



Annie Hoover
517-812-3209



Tim Jacobs
517-937-5458



Janet Jedele
517-960-6570



Sherry Johanson
517-902-7014



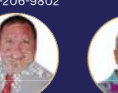
Nicki Kennedy
517-414-9418



Cindy Livermore
517-414-5464



Linda Milkey
734-320-3536



Jonathan Nichols
517-260-0563



Ian Stewart
517-414-9979



Katherine Stewart
517-962-9092



Jacquelyn Svinicki
719-510-5450



Larry Wetherby
517-206-2294



517.592.8326

WWW.ERAREARDONREALTY.COM



CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING
MARSH/LYSTER ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

52x2

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: a public hearing to renew the MARSH/LYSTER ROAD MAINTENANCE special assessment district will be held at 6:40 P.M. on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at the Cambridge Township Hall, 9990 W. M-50, Onsted, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: that the district within which the improvements are to be made and within which the costs thereof are proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as: All those parcels designated by tax number set out in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference being located within the limits of the Township of Cambridge, Lenawee County, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: that the said plans and special assessment district may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk from the date of this notice until and including the date of the public hearing hereon and may be further examined at such public hearing. This special assessment for the maintenance of Marsh/Lyster Road maintenance is proposed to run for a period of five (5) years beginning in 2026.

Any written comments for or against this action will be received at the Cambridge Township office, 9990 W. M-50, Box 417, Onsted, Michigan 49265 up to and including the time of the public hearing.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk
Cambridge Township

EXHIBIT A

CA0-112-3700-00
CA0-112-3780-00
CA0-112-3810-00
CA0-112-3820-00
CA0-112-3850-00
CA0-112-3860-00
CA0-112-3870-00
CA0-113-1055-01
CA0-113-1100-00
CA0-113-1120-00
CA0-113-1130-00
CA0-113-1150-00
CA0-113-1210-00
CA0-113-1220-00
CA0-113-1230-01
CA0-113-1250-00
CA0-113-1260-01
CA0-113-1290-00
CA0-113-1300-00
CA0-113-1330-01
CA0-590-0010-00

CA0-590-0020-00
CA0-590-0030-00
CA0-590-0050-00
CA0-590-0060-00
CA0-590-0070-00
CA0-590-0080-00
CA0-590-0090-00
CA0-590-0100-00
CA0-590-0110-00
CA0-590-0120-00
CA0-591-0370-00
CA0-591-0390-00
CA0-591-0410-00
CA0-591-0430-00
CA0-591-0450-00
CA0-591-0470-00
CA0-591-0490-00
CA0-591-0500-00
CA0-591-0510-00
CA0-591-0521-00
CA0-113-1815-00

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TO CONFIRM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL
MEADOW LANE MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

52x2

A public hearing will be held on the 14th day of July, 2021 at 6:55 P.M. or any adjourned date thereof, at the Cambridge Township hall, 9990 W. M-50, Onsted, Michigan for the purpose of hearing comments or objections to the confirmation of the Special Assessment Roll for the Special Assessment District known as the MEADOW LANE DRIVE MAINTENANCE DISTRICT.

The amount of funding and the cost to each parcel is available for examination at the Cambridge Township office during regular business hours (8:00 A.M. to Noon and 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.-Monday through Friday) beginning with the date of first publication of notice.

APPEARANCE AND PROTEST AT THIS HEARING TO CONFIRM THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE AMOUNT OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL.

Any owner or party in interest, or his or her agent (with written permission from the owner), may appear in person at the hearing to protest the Special Assessment, or you may file a protest by letter in which event personal appearance is not required. Any protest by letter must be received at the Cambridge Township office no later than the conclusion of the scheduled hearing and should be addressed to: Cambridge Township Clerk, 9990 W. M-50, Box 417, Onsted, Michigan 49265.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk
Cambridge Township

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TO CONFIRM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL
MARSH/LYSTER ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

52x2

A public hearing will be held on the 12th day of August, 2026 at 6:40 P.M. or any adjourned date thereof, at the Cambridge Township Hall, 9990 W. M-50, Onsted, Michigan for the purpose of hearing comments or objections to the confirmation of the Special Assessment Roll for the Special Assessment District known as the MARSH/LYSTER ROAD MAINTENANCE special assessment district.

The amount of funding and the cost to each parcel is available for examination at the Cambridge Township office during regular business hours (8:00 A.M. to Noon & 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.-Monday through Friday) beginning August 24, 2021.

APPEARANCE AND PROTEST AT THIS HEARING TO CONFIRM THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE AMOUNT OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL.

Any owner or party in interest, or his or her agent (with the owners written permission), may appear in person at the hearing to protest the Special Assessment, or you may file a protest by letter in which event personal appearance is not required. Any protest by letter must be received at the Cambridge Township office no later than the conclusion of the scheduled hearing and should be addressed to: Cambridge Township Clerk, 9990 W. M-50, Box 417, Onsted, Michigan 49265.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk
Cambridge Township

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

52

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, 08/19/2026, 7:00 P.M., AT THE CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP OFFICE, 9990 W. M 50, ONSTED, MICHIGAN IN REGARDS TO THE PROPERTY AT 258 LAKESHORE DR, BROOKLYN, MI (CA0-465-0600-00), TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION OF DECK ON FRONT YARD (LAKESIDE) WITH LESS THAN THE REQUIRED FRONT YARD SETBACKS

RICK RICHARDSON
CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP CLERK

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

52

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, 08/19/2026, 7:30 P.M., AT THE CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP OFFICE, 9990 W. M 50, ONSTED, MICHIGAN IN REGARDS TO THE PROPERTY AT 218 TWIN LAKES DR, ONSTED, MI (CA0-1 08-4900-00), TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION OF AN SACCESSORY STRUCTURE IN FRONT YARD (LAKE-SIDE) WITH LESS THAN THE FRONT YARD SETBACK AND SIDE YARD SETBACK. ALSO ADDRESS HEIGHT AND SQUARE FOOTAGE OF STRUCTURE.

RICK RICHARDSON
CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP CLERK

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING

52x2

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: a public hearing to renew the MEADOW LANE DRIVE MAINTENANCE special assessment district will be held at 6:50 P.M. on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at the Cambridge Township Hall, 9990 W. M-50, Onsted, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: that the district within which the improvements are to be made and within which the costs thereof are proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as: the "Patterson's Addition to Dewey Lake Beach" subdivision, Section 17, Cambridge Township, Lenawee County, Michigan: ALL PARCELS WITHIN THE ABOVE NAMED SUBDIVISION, as well as the following unplatted parcels in Section 17, Cambridge Township: CA0-117-1905-00, CA0-117-4040-00, CA0-117-4060-00, CA0-117-4150-00, CA0-117-4200-00 and CA0-117-4500-00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: that the said plans and special assessment district may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk from the date of this notice until and including the date of the public hearing hereon and may be further examined at such public hearing. This special assessment for the maintenance of Meadow Lane Drive is proposed to run for a period of five (5) years beginning in 2026.

Any written comments for or against this action will be received at the Cambridge Township office, 9990 W. M-50, Box 417, Onsted, Michigan 49265 up to and including the time of the public hearing.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk
Cambridge Township

COLUMBIA CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Synopsis

52

A regular meeting of the Columbia Charter Township Board of Trustees was held on July 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Church, Calhoun, Beamish, Tackett, Hulburt, Marsh. Deland was excused. There was public comment from Estella Roberts, Zack Kanaan Sr., Jordan Valentine, Heather Lee, Landon Cathers, Seth Mulencamp, Mередythe Hill-Van-Dusen, Greg Kinney and Steve Zemke. There was communication from the Building Official. The agenda was amended to move an action a. item to discussion and to table action items e., f., g., and h. Agenda was approved as amended. The consent agenda was approved. Accounts payable were approved in the amount of \$539,947.37. There was discussion on a Clarklake paving project and the Safe Routes to School Agreement. A permit fee refund was approved. An installment payment agreement was approved. The 026 L-4029 tax rate request was approved. The Police Department's request to hire was approved. The Hyde Road Park tree planting proposal was approved. A sewer pump purchase was approved. There was public comment from Roger Lyons, Faith Bull, Jordan Valentine, Zack Kanaan Sr., Denny O'Dowd, Mike Hohnacki, Landon Cathers and Steve Zemke. There was final Board comment from Supervisor Marsh recognizing a resolution for Lieutenant Wayne Marta's retirement. Adjournment was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Jo Hulburt, Township Clerk

GRAPHICS
Exponent

160 S. Main St.

PRINTING
Exponent

160 S. Main St.

UNIVERSAL
Sudoku Puzzle

7	2		9	5				
	3	4		7	1			
								5
		7			8			
	1	9		2		3	5	
			1			6		
7								
				2	1		9	3
				4	8		5	1

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Today's puzzle solution

2	1	5	7	8	4	3	9	6
7	3	6	9	1	2	9	8	4
4	9	8	6	3	5	1	2	7
6	7	9	3	9	1	8	7	2
8	5	3	4	2	7	6	1	9
1	2	4	8	9	6	7	5	3
9	8	7	2	4	3	9	6	1
9	6	2	1	7	8	4	3	5
3	4	1	5	6	9	2	7	8

7/26

© 2026 by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg July 26, 2026

ACROSS

1 Jamaican fruit also called a uniq

5 Spanish for "daddy"

9 Queen of Hearts' pastries

14 Fourscore?

16 Filmmaker Kurosawa

17 "Just try!"

18 It may be everything

19 Only Beatles surname that fits here

20 Kidney-related

22 Half a giggle

23 Lions or Tigers or Bears (oh my!)

25 Goodies

27 Idiosyncrasies

28 Bread category?

30 "Great to be home!"

32 Mount where Moses received two 9-Down

33 Poke tuna

34 Sandwich that might be served with Cajun french fries

36 Tax prep expert

37 Hits on the noggin

40 Steadfast

43 "Now pay attention here ..."

45 "Acoustic Soul" singer India.____

46 "Gateway to the Japanese Alps"

47 Drescher who made her screen debut in "Saturday Night Fever"

48 Oldest "Little Women" sister

49 Hope chest wood

51 Vigor

55 Useful

57 Where a cook gets cracking?

59 "The Lovely Bones" author

60 Backyard pendulum

61 Ecclesiastical council

62 Kernel

63 ____ buco (Italian for "bone with a hole")

9 See

32-Across

10 Alias letters

11 Exactly when expected

12 Forest scene

13 Event for shoppers

15 Tell actors what to do

21 (I'm a doggo!)

24 "Stat!"

26 Nickname for singer Grande

27 "Not so!"

28 Buffalo athlete in skates

29 Sorento manufacturer

30 "Now wait just a minute!"

31 Activities that foster connection?

33 Do something

35 2026, e.g.

38 Bar barrel

39 Satisfied the munchies

41 Atlanta

23-Across that won the 2021 World Series

42 Extension at the office

44 Number that is its own square

47 Jacques of song

48 CEOs' degrees, often

50 Friend, in French

52 Hank Aaron got a record 2,297 of them, for short

53 Movers' vehicles

54 "And so ..."

56 Military abbr. hidden in "division commander"

58 Spearheaded

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

E	N	G		T	H	I	S		P	A	R			
T	A	U		G	E	I	C	O		M	O	L	E	
T	R	I	P	L	E	S	E	C		S	U	E	D	
A	C	T	I	O	N		D	I	G	E	S	T	I	F
	S	A	L				L	A	N	A	I			
		R	A	J		H	A	L	A	L	C	A	R	T
C	O	R	F	U		A	T	I	T		A	S	I	A
A	R	I		L	G	B	T	Q		F	L	I	N	G
R	E	F	E	R	I	E			O	T	T	O		
O	F	F	S	E	T	S			E	C	H	O		
		A	V	E					Y	I	E	L	D	S
S	H	A	K	E	N	B	A	K	E		A	D	A	M
P	A	P	E	R	T	O	W	E	L		T	Y	R	A
A	L	P	I	N	E	L	A	K	E		E	O	N	S
N	O	T	D	E	A	D	Y	E	T		R	U	S	H

© 2026 Andrews McMeel Universal
www.upuzzles.com

7/26

Themeless Sunday 193 by Mike Graczyk

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17										18				
19						20			21			22		
			23		24			25			26			
			27					28						29
	30					31				32				
33					34				35		36			
37			38	39		40				41	42			
43					44				45					
	46							47						
48				49			50			51		52	53	54
55			56			57			58					
59						60								
61						62					63			

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Dave Boutette Trio will perform at the Dexter Summer Festival at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8.

Dexter Summer Festival set for Aug. 7-8

By JACKIE KOCH
Meadowbrook Media

More than 50 years ago Dexter Days began as a yearly sidewalk sale, and over the decades it evolved into a bigger event with crafters and more. In 2024 the Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce took over the event operations, renamed it the Dexter Summer Festival, and will host this year's event Friday and Saturday, Aug. 7 and 8.

"We are a very non-traditional chamber. A lot of chambers, they do all those businessy things, you know, lunch and learns, and seminars, and that kind of stuff. We tried that, and that's not what our businesses want. Our businesses want to show investment in the community and be part of a good time," said chamber president Becky Cobler.

The Dexter Summer Festival, like all the chamber events, is supported by various businesses that Cobler said are "the essence of what small town is supposed to be."

The festival will begin at 10 a.m. Aug. 7. The social tent will open at 11 a.m. each day and there will be performances in the social district throughout the festival. Some of the scheduled musical entertainment in the social district includes the bands The Gravel Shakers, Outbound Packard, the Step Aside Band, Randy Brock, The Dave Boutette Trio, Cadillac Cowboys, Revival – a Tribute to the Allman Brothers, and Still Rain.

The festival will offer a variety of vendors, a children's area called the Action Zone at Mill Creek Park North with bounce houses, putt-putt golf, magicians, free balloon animals, demonstrations from the robotics team at Dexter Community Schools and more. "The parents can literally

flop down on a bench and turn the kids loose because with our volunteers and National Honor Society and the business that provides all the bounce houses, there is plenty of supervision for the kids, and everything is completely free," she said. A children's entrepreneur zone will showcase kids with businesses.

Entertainment in the Action Zone includes a Copper Tom jump around party, Dexter Drama, Animal Magic, Kevin Devine, a live performance by Bri's Bubbles and demonstrations by the Black Belt Academy.

Friday night's festivities will be capped off with fireworks, sponsored by Dexter Orthodontics. Saturday morning at 10 a.m. the festival parade will travel through downtown Dexter, and on Saturday evening the family-friendly film "The Princess Bride" will be shown outdoors on a large screen in the Dexter Amphitheater.

"We've added more things this year," said Cobler. "There's a cornhole tournament, and bingo, and trivia, so we wanted to do more interactive things for adults, not just wandering around the park... We have situated the event so it is all contained within the social district."

The social tent is a fundraiser for the Dexter Area Fire Department, where beer, wine coolers and seltzers will be sold.

Previous years have included a choreographed flash mob dance, and this year the tradition will continue.

"It's just crazy what a little town can do when people buy in," Cobler said. "I've been in a lot of places and I'm just so grateful we landed on this little map dot because who knew it was going to be such a wonderful place."

Find a schedule of entertainment and activities at dextersummerfestival.com.



Festival goers dancing at the 2025 Dexter Summer Festival.

MAIN STREET MULTIVERSE

Superheros, comic book legends, Pokémon and more

By JACKIE KOCH
Meadowbrook Media

Superhero, comic book, anime and gaming fans will want to check out Main Street Multiverse, a new event in downtown Tecumseh set for Saturday, Aug. 8 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The event will transform the downtown area into a celebration of legends with fandom fun for all ages.

Rhonda Nowak, event and marketing coordinator for the city of Tecumseh, said the new event came to be when the economic development department was trying to think of something new and different to offer that might appeal to teenagers and young adults. "We thought this might be one way for them to interact with the downtown area and for them to have a little fun

downtown," she said. Thirty businesses will be taking part in the event.

Main Street Multiverse will feature a Pokémon-themed scavenger hunt, where participants will use the Goosechase app while they explore downtown businesses in search of hidden Pokémon cards. Those who complete the missions in the app will have a chance to win a gift card package worth more than \$200 from participating businesses.

Nowak said they will need to download the app to their phone and scan the QR code that will be available downtown and in various stores to find the Main Street Multiverse page.

"There will be different missions," she said. "Some of the missions will include taking pictures. Some are selfies,

but it will all center around Pokémon cards that will be hidden throughout the stores."

Attendees are encouraged to dress as their favorite superhero, comic book character, anime icon, or gaming legend and immerse themselves in the adventure. There will be themed stations to take photos to commemorate the experience.

"We want everybody to dress up in their favorite cosplay character. The more people we have dressed up downtown, the more fun it becomes," said Nowak. "We've encouraged some of the businesses to do the same, so hopefully they will also do that."

For more information and updates, visit the Downtown Tecumseh Facebook page or downtowntecumseh.com.

Out and About: more things to do

The Crowell: "Matilda"

The Crowell Opera House will present the musical, "Matilda," based on the novel by Roald Dahl, starting Thursday, Aug. 6. The musical tells the story of a young girl with astonishing intelligence and powers as she triumphs over indifferent parents and a cruel headmistress, and learns that everyone has the power to change their story.

Matilda is treated poorly by her parents but she finds support and encouragement in her teacher, Miss Honey. While the headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and loves punishment for those who don't follow her rules, Matilda has the courage and cleverness to be the saving grace that the students need.

"Matilda" will have a performance at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 6 as well as at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9; 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Aug. 13 and 14; 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16.

Tickets range from \$26 to \$46 for adults and \$16 to \$26 for students, available at crowell.org or by calling 517-264-7469. The Crowell is located at 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian.

Macon Creek: The Myriad Project and Chris "Chilly" Rodriguez

On Sunday, Aug. 16 at 2 p.m., The Myriad Project will perform a concert of original works and new arrangements of modern music at Macon Creek, 8759 Clinton Macon Rd., Clinton, unfolding alongside the creation of a live mural by artist Chili Rodriguez. It will be an immersive, multi-sensory event where sound and visual art evolve together, each shaping and inspiring the other, offering audiences a rare chance to witness creativity happening in the moment. Visit maconcreek.org for further details.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

An exhibit of the nature-inspired art of Taina Mantey is now on display in the Visitors Center of Hidden Lake Gardens.

org for further details.

Hidden Lake Gardens: Floral Paintings by Taina Mantey

The floral paintings of Adrian artist Taina Mantey will be on display in the Visitors Center of Hidden Lake Gardens, 6214 Monroe Rd., Tipton, through September 28. A lifelong painter and educator, Mantey creates work with layered colors, suggestions of foliage, and overlapping forms that create ethereal compositions inspired by the beauty of nature. The exhibit is included with admission to the gardens. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday; closed Mondays. Visit ipf.msu.edu/hidden-lake-gardens.

Meadowbrook Media

Raisin Township to celebrate 200 years

By JACKIE KOCH
Meadowbrook Media

The community is invited to help celebrate the 200-year anniversary of Raisin Charter Township during a family-friendly day of fun on Sunday, Aug. 9 from 2-4 p.m. The celebration will take place at the township hall, 5525 S. Occidental Hwy., Tecumseh.

Township trustee Shelley Hunt was part of a committee that worked on the celebration. She said the event will feature bounce houses, live music, cake, refreshments, and more.

Music will be provided by Marcus and Tiffany Shelton, a husband and wife vocal duo based in Jackson. According to their website, Marcus's international career includes performances with Seattle Opera, Greek National Opera, and Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra, while Tiffany has a background in musical theatre, jazz, and choral masterworks.

"We will be doing an unveiling of a live Christmas tree that's been donated from Underwood's Nursery and we have a big rock with a plaque on it that will state, 'Raisin Charter

Township Bicentennial' with the dates," Hunt said. The monument will be dedicated during the celebration and the tree will serve as a focal point for Christmas decorations each holiday season.

Hunt said that Deb Russo, township supervisor, asked her to spearhead the event, and she was joined by fellow trustees Kelly Williams and Blaine McDonald. "We knew we were going to need some donations, so we've had some wonderful sponsors that have donated, not including the tree or the bounce house, about

\$2100 in donations to help cover the costs of everything, which has been a huge blessing," she said. "I'm proud to be a part of this community."

The government of Raisin Charter Township was organized in 1826, after being created as Raisin Township in the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, according to raisinchartertownship.com. The township was a forest of large trees with pockets of rich soil and the River Raisin, the dominant geographic and economic feature to earlier settlers, who were hardy farmers who traveled west from the states

of New York, Pennsylvania, and several other New England states.

Elizabeth Margaret Chandler (1807-1834) was a noted poet and writer and the first woman writer in America to make the abolition of slavery her principal theme. She relocated to Raisin Township with family members in 1830 to start a farm. She became an active participant, along with other township residents, in the Underground Railroad, which provided safe passage of escaping southern slaves to the Northern States and Canada.



B & B
HARDWARE

122 W. BROOKLYN RD.
NAPOLEON, MI
517-536-8696
STORE HOURS
 Mon.-Fri. 7:30am to 7pm • Sat. 7:30am to 6pm • Sun. 8am to 5pm

BUY ONLINE BANDBHDWR.COM
PICKUP IN STORE!

CANNING SUPPLIES IN STOCK!

BALL Pint Wide Mouth
 Can-or-freeze
Mason
Canning Jars
 (12-count)



sku# 661153

BALL Wide Mouth Dome Canning Lids
 (12-count)

sku# 660671

PUBLIC AUCTION

Estate Auction



By Michelle McLemore
Staff writer

Changes are coming to the Irish Hills Music Festival. Jason Lake, CEO and Manager of the Irish Hills Music Festival and collaborators have reviewed the 2025 kickoff experience and made some changes to ensure the second annual free festival and benefit is even better for the September 12, 2026 event.

Lake shared that most of the 14 bands and food trucks have been secured for all-day entertainment on two stages at the Onsted American Legion Post #550. Now the team is accepting vendor applications.

"We are looking for custom crafters, artists, health/wellness professionals and wares, musical instrument vendors, and information booths on music instruction, programs, and teachers."

IHMF was founded in memory of three local musi-

cians who dedicated their lives to bring music to the Irish Hills. Jim Kilpatrick, Bob Williams and Doug Lake played in many bands together. They also played with many of the musicians who are performing in the festival. Their passion for music was handed off to their children as well. Benny Kilpatrick (drummer Jaded Soul), Jamie Williams (drummer of the Stray Shot Band), and Jason Lake (musician with Jaded Soul) have picked up the family tradition and will be performing in the festival.

The Michigan Parkinson's Foundation was chosen as one of the benefactors because both Doug and Jason Lake suffer from a rare form of Parkinson's.

This year, Vendor Alley will be on the main lot entrance with room for up to 47 vendors. However, booths may be combined if requested or reserved early. Spaces are \$40 for a 12'x12', non-pow-

ered booth. Vendors must provide their own tents/tables/and display equipment. Set up begins at 10 a.m. and vendors are expected to be present at their booths from noon to 7 p.m.

Food trucks will be in the north Legion parking lot this year. Along with the food and entertainment, a charity bake sale, two drink centers, a wellness center, cash raffles, and giveaways will be part of the fun.

Interested vendors may apply at irishhillsmusicfestival.com/sign-up/ or inquire for more information at (517) 438-1579 or info@irishhillsmusicfestival.com.

Lake also shared, "IMHF is always looking for donations to continue to keep this live concert going. In particular, additional business/corporate sponsorships could help tremendously. 'You are the Difference.'"

Music, Art, and Wellness

Preparing to party: I.H. Music Fest call for vendors



Bille Lewis and The Soulbacks were one of several area musical groups that donated their time and talents to the 2025 Irish Hills Music Festival and Fundraiser. Photo by Michelle McLemore

New PTO throwing a Color Run fundraiser

By Michelle McLemore
Staff writer

Melinda Coughington is using Wildcat motivation to start up a Middle School PTO program and launch a color run as its first fundraiser. The event will allow participants to choose between a 1 mile or 5K course for runners and walkers. It is open to everyone and is scheduled for September 19, with a rain date of September 20.

Middle School Principal Phil Stark explained, "Our goal is to create a fun community event while raising funds to support Onsted Middle School students and staff."

Business, individual, and community sponsorships will propel the event, and fund balance, to a positive kickoff. Sponsorships are set up across four monetary levels with some offering booth space at the event along with various levels of advertising. Stark added, "We will also offer a 'Sleeper Sponsor' option for those who want to support the event by paying the registration fee without participating, as well as an option to make an additional donation during checkout."

into the PTO account with one of the organization's first objectives to support the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program beginning its third year at the middle school. Stark shared, "I've used the PBIS program heavily in elementary school as Dean of Students because discipline and PBIS go hand in hand."

Stark explained the PBIS framework revolves around three building expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Resilient. "Through the PBIS system, students earn tickets in which they may redeem for items like cookies, tangible items, and spirit gear. Also, students who achieve, are without behavioral referral, and have good standing attendance receive an extra incentive at each nine weeks. Examples include a trip to the movies, movie/popcorn day, and or hands on activities. The whole system revolves around rewarding positive leadership quality behavior."

Those interested in learning more about becoming a color run event sponsor may contact Courington at 517-902-9929 or email oespto@onstedschools.us.



PROVIDING BOTH

COLLISION & MECHANICAL REPAIR SERVICES

FOR MORE THAN

36 years

OUR FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS IS ROOTED IN
HONEST, EFFECTIVE & AFFORDABLE

Auto repair

MECHANICAL REPAIR SERVICES OFFERED



AUTO ACCIDENT?

WE'LL COVER UP TO

\$250

OF YOUR DEDUCTIBLE!

✓ Alignments

✓ Brakes

✓ Coolant Flushes

✓ Diagnostics

✓ Exhaust

✓ Heating & Cooling

✓ Oil changes

✓ Steering & Suspension

✓ Tires & more!

Mount, Balance, Rotations & Repairs

RENTALS AVAILABLE ON SITE AT ALL 3 LOCATIONS!



enterprise

NEED TIRES?

TIRES ONLY AVAILABLE AT
BROOKLYN & NAPOLEON LOCATIONS

GET **\$80** Back

NOW THROUGH 8/31/26

BRIDGESTONE

WHEN YOU BUY A SET OF 4 ELIGIBLE BRIDGESTONE® TIRES

GET **\$110** Rebate

NOW THROUGH 8/31/26

Continental

WHEN YOU BUY A SET OF 4 QUALIFYING CONTINENTAL® TIRES

GET UP TO **\$70** Back

NOW THROUGH 8/31/26

Firestone

WHEN YOU BUY A SET OF 4 ELIGIBLE FIRESTONE® TIRES

IRISH HILLS Collision & Service Since 1990

14221 US-12

BROOKLYN

AUTO BODY & SERVICE • 517-592-5987

IRISH HILLS Collision Tecumseh Since 1990

5555 S OCCIDENTAL HWY

TECUMSEH

AUTO BODY • 517-815-1223

JIM'S AUTO BODY & Service Since 1990

7439 BROOKLYN RD

NAPOLEON

AUTO BODY & SERVICE • 517-536-8171

3 LOCATIONS

Pinetree Antiques & More

**Full Line of Antiques
and Collectibles**

Different Merchandise Weekly

Good rental rates - good store location make this a wonderful experience

129 N. MAIN STREET • ON THE SQUARE • BROOKLYN

Open Daily 10 to 5 • For information call 592-3808