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Ogemaw County

SUPERIOR NEWS

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Lights and laughter fill the Ogemaw County Fairgrounds



Courtesy photo

Visitors to the 44th Ogemaw County Fair enjoyed a sunny week wandering through the exhibit halls, Antique Village, carnival and barns. There is something to interest young and old alike with this year's theme "Pioneer Days to Modern Ways." From glass blowing, farm implements and old oil rigs to modern tractors, booths displaying the latest home improvements, and the midway that lights up the night sky, the fair lived up to its theme. Thanks to all the volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year, the Ogemaw County Fair again delights us all. Pictured above, it's a family affair for the Miller's. Regan (l-r), Malorie and Cameron with their award-winning livestock. For more fair photos see pages 8 and 9.

Ogemaw Heights High School Marching Band is ready to raise spirits

BY LAURA BENDER

A week of band camp culminated in a performance of recently learned music and movement for the Ogemaw Heights High School Marching Band. Family and friends gathered on Aug. 8, behind Surline Middle School to watch the band's first public presentations of Katy Perry's "California Gurls" and Miley Cyrus' "Party in the USA." Two other pieces in this year's show entitled Pop Revolution: The2000s Rewind are Britany Spear's Toxic and Nicki Minaj's Starships.

Creating a show takes a lot of work. First, the students must rehearse the music until they know it almost by heart. Then, they must learn the intricate marching patterns. Finally, they take to the field with their instruments to put it together. During the nine-hour days of band camp, the OHHS



The Ogemaw Heights High School Marching Band is ready for the upcoming season. *Photo by Laura Bender*

Morris-Richardson Real Estate celebrates 65 years

BY LAURA BENDER

In 1962, an unnamed local banker said, "Real estate activity in West Branch was pretty stagnant until Jack Morris established his Strout Agency."

That quote is from an article that proudly hangs over Jack's son Greg Morris's desk at the Morris-Richardson Real Estate Agency.

"My grandpa had a farm in West Branch. He also drove horses on Mackinac Island," Greg said. "My dad grew up here. When I was a boy, we spent a year in California, then a few years in Flint. We moved back home when I was in third grade. My dad opened his real estate business in 1960 in a trailer on South



Photo by Laura Bender

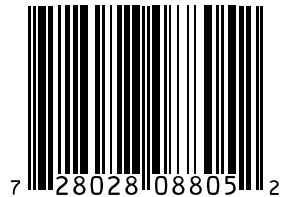
Greg Morris, owner of Morris-Richardson Real Estate in West Branch recently celebrated 65 years in business.

Thank you for your service



Photo by Laura Bender

At the monthly Veterans Coffee on Aug. 6, Army veteran Mike Thorne (l) presents a hand-carved, eagle-headed Patriot Cane to Navy veteran William C. Jones. Jones began his active-duty service in 1953, transferring to the Naval Reserve after four years. In his honor, Bill's family made a surprise appearance for the presentation.



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With everything changing daily, if not hourly, we would advise that you call ahead to be sure the event is still scheduled.

Ongoing
Mondays – Disabled American Veterans meet the third Monday, 5 p.m. at the VFW/American Legion Post 496 E. Houghton Ave. in West Branch. Call 989-473-3416.
Mondays – Rose City Lions Club meets the second and fourth Monday, 6:30 p.m. at the Log Cabin in the Rose City Park. Call Ed 989-387-0609.
Mondays – (Second of each month) **Coalition of Hope** 9 a.m. Meeting virtually. Suicide prevention, intervention and post-vention. Call 989-345-5571.
Monday – (Third of each month, April-Dec.) **Ogemaw County Genealogical and Historical Society** 12:30 p.m. at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 100 E. Houghton Ave., West Branch. Call 989-701-2525.
Tuesdays – Kiwanis Club of West Branch meets at noon at China Inn, 601 W. Houghton Ave. in West Branch. Call 989-345-0978.
Tuesdays – Rose City Area Historical Society meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., April through November, except August. Meet at the Rose City Lions Club Cabin. Call Cathy 989-345-5659.
Tuesdays – T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) **weigh in** at 1-1:30 p.m., meeting starts at 1:30-2 p.m. Ogemaw Hills Free Clinic, 2106 S. Gray Rd. in West Branch. Call

Robin 989-343-0592.
Tuesdays – (First of each month) **West Branch Creative Arts Association meeting**, 7 p.m. located at 124 N. Fourth St. in West Branch. Call 989-345-1451.
Tuesdays – (First of each month) **West Branch Area Retail Merchants Association meeting**, 6 p.m. Held at the West Branch City Police Department. Call 989-345-5226.
Tuesdays – (Second of each month) **Christian Motorcycle Association** 6 p.m. for food and fellowship, 7 p.m. business meeting at G’s Pizzeria, 200 W. Houghton Ave. in West Branch. Call Gary 989-343-9876.
Tuesdays – (Fourth of each month) **Rifle River Quilt Guild** 9:30 a.m. at the K of C Hall, 601 Columbus Dr. in West Branch. The meeting will be followed by a Show and Tell, mini-classes, quilting tips, demos and time to sew. Bring your sewing machine, a project and your lunch. Any level of quilter is welcome. Call Diane 989-345-7206.
Tuesdays – (Third of each month) **Cardinal Optimist Club of Skidway Lake.** Third Tuesday 5:30 p.m. at Café International, 4761 Sage Lake Rd. in Prescott. Call Janet 989-387-2640.
Tuesdays – (Second of each month) **Survivors of Suicide Support Group** 6:30 p.m. Call Vicki 989-510-0911 or info@coalitionofhope.net for location. National Suicide

Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255 or text 741741.
Tuesdays – (Fourth of each month) **Ogemaw County Democratic Party** 5pm at China Inn downtown West Branch. Call Ken at (989) 345-1066.
Tuesdays – (Fourth of each month) **Ogemaw County Republican Party** meeting 5:30 p.m. at G’s Pizzeria in downtown West Branch. Call Kristine 989-343-5120.
Tuesday – (Last of each month) **Diabetes Support Group** 1-2 p.m. Medical Arts Center, diabetes education conference room. Call 989-343-3276.
Wednesdays – West Branch Area Business and Professional Women’s Organization meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Different locations each month. Call 989-745-4067 for information.
Wednesdays – (First of each month) **Veterans coffee hour** 9-10 a.m. Held at the Ogemaw County Commission on Aging, 1528 S. M-33 in West Branch. Call 989-345-3010.
Wednesdays – (First and third) **Grief Support Group** 6:30 p.m. Faith Alive Church, 2945 Hansen Rd. in West Branch. Open to the entire community. Call 989-345-5440.
Thursdays-GriefShare Support Group. 2-4 p.m. Fresh Start Community Church, 690 Campbell Rd.,

West Branch. March 7 through May 30. \$20 for workbook. Scholarships available. Call Brenda 989-312-0105 for registration or info.
Thursdays – (First and third of each month) **Newborn Parent Support Group** 6-7:30 p.m. MyMichigan Health - West Branch in the executive dining room. Call 800-999-3199.
Thursdays – Northern Blend Sweet Adelines meets every week 7 p.m. at Logan Township Hall, 4507 E. M-55, Prescott. Call Ellen 989-345-0978.
Thursdays – (Second and fourth) **Sit & Knit**, 1 p.m. Knitting, needlework, and friendship. Whatever you craft. Ogemaw Commission on Aging, 1528 S. M-33 in West Branch. Call Alicia 989-345-3010, ext. 201.
Thursdays – (Third of each month) **Rose City/Lupton Chamber of Commerce meets** at 6:30 p.m. at the Rose City Council Chambers. Call Carl 989-473-3268.
Thursdays – Optimist Club of West Branch meets at 7 a.m. at the Loggers Depot in West Branch. Call 989-942-6608.
Thursdays - The Ogemaw County Fair board meets the first Thursday of each month in the main building at the fairgrounds. Call 989-345-5393.

Aug 23
Jeep Jam, Saturday, Aug. 23, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., downtown West Branch. Jeep Show and live music. Call 989-345-5226 to register. www.westbranchevents.com.

Aug 24
All Free Teen Fun Day, sponsored by the Cardinal Optimist Club of Skidway Lake, Aug. 24, noon to 4 p.m., Cole Canoe Base Boy Scout Camp, 1356 E. Greenwood Rd., Skidway Lake. Zipline, kayaking, wall climbing, swimming and more. Free lunch provided at noon. Open to kids aged 13 to 18 or still in high school. To sign-up, call or text April at 989-578-8768.

Sept 21
Mom2Mom Sale, Sunday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m., Safe Haven Doula, 322 W. Houghton Ave., West Branch.

Oct 25
Fall Harvest Craft Show, Saturday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Faith Lutheran Church, 5315 Henderson Lake Rd., Prescott.

To place your event in the Community Happenings, email information to deanna@superior-news.com

FAITH & WORSHIP

God is love

“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
—Romans 8:37-39 NIV

God is love. And He loves us all no matter where we are in life. God’s love is unconditional. God’s love is without limit. God loves us so much and his love is so deep that nothing can change his love or stop him from loving us.

God loves us in all seasons of life. God loves us every second of everyday. God loves us. God’s love is permanent. God’s love can never fade away.

God loves us and because of his love he cares for us. God Himself his love. God is full of love.

When I am waking up it’s God loving me, God loves me in every situation and his love is always present in our lives. Even when I am not feeling well, his love is still there and yes I am not feeling well but that does not stop God from loving me, God does not want me to be in pain but his love is present to heal me of the pain. When I feel disappointed God loves me.

When I have failed God loves me. We need to start believing and accepting that God is love and he loves us deeply.
— www.SermonCentral.com

Gladwin Cornerstone Baptist Church
3925 Round Lake Road, Gladwin, MI 48624
989-426-6897
Sunday School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:30
www.gladwincornerstone.com
Pastor Scott Bradstreet

Churchill United Methodist Church
501 E. State Rd.
(corner of State and Morrison roads)
989-685-2350

Worship & Children’s Sunday School: 11:30 a.m.
Rev. Helen Alford

Calvary Baptist Church
235 Minzer Ct. • West Branch
989-345-1651

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. all ages
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. • Youth Group - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Evening Service - 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Youth Group - 6:30 p.m. • Awana - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 7 p.m.
Pastor Tom Teall • Youth Pastor Josh Pierce
www.cbcbw.org

Edward’s Community Church
4520 Greenwood Rd., West Branch
989-345-4227
Pastor Jon Scott

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m.
(Greenwood Rd. west of S. M-30)

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Sunday Worship - 10am



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FB & IG: Hale Methodist Church



Singles Ministry

Hey Christian singles!

Are you looking for a place that ministers to the unique blessings and challenges of being single?

Well, we have just the place for you...

Join us at Faith Alive Church Event Center for fellowship with other Christian singles. We will be studying God’s word and exploring what God has to say about this season of your life, and about your place as a single person in the church. Periodically, there will be separate group activities such as community events, outdoor activities, and other fun outings. Open to Christian adult singles of all ages, you do not have to go to Faith Alive to attend.

Groups meet at the Faith Alive Event Center
601 Progress st.
West Branch MI. 48661
At 6:00-7:30 PM on Thursday nights.
Hope to see you there!



faith alive

Love God. Love Others. Serve the World.

Victorian Art Fair draws large crowds to Irons Park



Photos by Laura Bender
Visitors to the 45th annual Victorian Art Fair weathered the heat to shop for handmade gifts and household items on Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10. An occasional stop under a shade tree or a chance to wade in the cool water in Irons Park provides relief for both the young and the young-at-heart. Giggles filled the air as children enjoyed minnow races, face painting and other activities especially for them. Chance meetings with friends, inspiring performances and viewing the creative work of so many artisans, make up for the heat. Of course, cold drinks and ice cream help, too!



County United Way grants \$22K to local charities

Since 1986, the Ogemaw County United Way (OCUW) has been helping residents of Ogemaw County through its generous financial support to local non-profit organizations.

Most of the money received by OCUW comes in the form of payroll deductions from community members. Their contributions are pooled, and grants are awarded each year to local charities in need.

Recently, the all-volunteer board of the OCUW met to award \$22,000 worth of grants to community groups working for the betterment of our community.

This year, the organizations receiving funds are:

- \$2,000 to Commission on Aging Food Program
- Provides home delivered meals, chore services, homemaking and personal care to individuals 60 and older.
- \$5,000 to The Community Support Team
- Provides physical, emotional and financial support to families of victims of severe medical illnesses.
- \$2,500 to The Cardinal Optmist Club of Skidway Lake

Purpose is to bring out the best in local youth.

- \$3,000 to Rayola, Inc.
- Dedicated to assisting children in the foster care system and any other child in need.
- \$2,000 to The Ogemaw County Child Protection Council
- Serves as a voice for Ogemaw's children and families and promotes their health, safety, and welfare by funding effective local programs and services that prevent child abuse and neglect.
- \$2,000 to Fresh Start Club of West Branch
- A nonprofit club that hosts meetings and fellowship events with various 12 step groups to prevent drug and alcohol abuse.
- \$1,000 to Ogemaw Youth Basketball
- The program focuses on teaching and developing basic fundamentals, gaining an understanding of the values of being part of a team, practicing good sportsmanship and having fun.
- \$1,500 to Maxwell Therapy Center.
- Enhancing the lives of kids through the use of animal assisted activities by giving happiness and

GRANTS continues on page 14 »

Ogemaw County
SUPERIOR NEWS

would like to say THANK YOU
to the following vendors who participated in
Senior Day at the Ogemaw County Fair:

MyMichigan
West Branch Area Chamber of
Commerce & Visitors Bureau
The Villa
Wellspring Lutheran Services
M&I Graphics & Promotions
The Care Team

Thank you to West Branch Greenhouse.
Special thank you to Arlie Morgan.
Thank you to the Ogemaw County Fair Board and
congratulations on another successful fair. We appreciate you!

Ogemaw County
SUPERIOR NEWS

Proud Supporter of
Senior Day

Update on the Ogemaw County Museum

BY SALLY A. REA

I have been really busy rearranging our kitchen. It has taken me many hours and without my grandson, Jackson Guntzville, I could never have been able to tackle this job. I am still not finished.

On Friday, Sept. 5, we will be having a large group of home-schooled students and their parents touring our museum. Did you know that we have 166 families in Ogemaw County that are home schooling their children?

While many of our members were out at the Ogemaw County

Fair running our booth and selling our RADA cutlery and books, a group of us were at the Brook Retirement Home. I gathered up old dolls and toys to show to the residents. Pat Sciotti and Jan La Fond were my helpers. Jan brought old prices going back 75 years and played a game with the residents and if you got the prices right you got a prize. She also wrote a wonderful poem called "Hardly Nothing Stays the Same." I will share this at a different time. Pat passed the dolls

dolls' names. It was so nice to visit with all the residents who attended our visit. Leah Pauley had my oldest daughter, Julie, in Girl Scouts; I babysat Betty Smith's first two daughters; Sharon Fritz and I have been friends for years; Dianne Grezeszak, who I bowled at their bowling alley for many years. We enjoyed our time there with all the residents. We will return back in October and the residents would like us to bring jewelry. Our last music on our porch got rained out and but will continue next year. Don't forget about our Civil War Walks in September. The first one will be Sept. 6 at Richland Cemetery and the second one will be Sept. 20 at Rose City Cemetery. Call LuAnn Zettle for more information at 989-701-5422.



SALLY A. REA
HISTORIAN AND
CURATOR

News from the Skidway Lake area



APRIL
HARKEY-MASON

The new ordinance officer, Steve Yuchasz, is doing a wonderful job, according to the Mills Township board and public. He has closed six cases already and is moving forward with about 40 more. Campers and vehicles have been removed and scrapped. Visible progress is seen and is much appreciated.

The Mills Township board voted to do gravel upgrades to Chipewa, Van, Lakeview and Turner roads. It will be a 50/50 split with the road commission and township.



Courtesy photo
Pictured is one of three buildings at Newman Park that received new roofs.

Mills Township will be hosting a tire recycle for township residents only on Aug. 23 and 24, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to the Mills Township, Ogemaw County Facebook for details.

Our parks and recreation

workers put new roof on three of the buildings at the Newman Park and look very nice.

Remember to share any news you have with me at 989-578-8768.

Until next time, God bless.

Kiwanis of West Branch

Our annual 1-2-3 Lottery Winners are picked weekly. We will be taking the flags down the first week of September. Weather permitting, we will put them up again for Veterans Day.

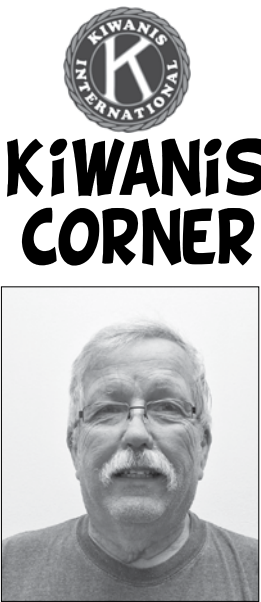
You can be a part of our team. The Kiwanis Club meets at noon on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the G's Pizzeria. Anyone interested in learning about our organization is welcome to attend. If you would like to be a guest speaker to show us what you do, call JoLin at 989-873-4532.

AKTION CLUB

The Aktion Club continues to collect bottles and cans. You can call 315-725-1199 and make arrangements for pick up or drop off locations.

We had our annual carnival on July 19; fun was had by those that came. We also sold water and even hot chocolate at the Music in the Park. The final night we even had a cook-out for members at the park.

It has been a great year for us so far, which means lots of donations going out. We support numerous organizations in Ogemaw County. Those with special needs interested in joining our club, come on the second Wednesday of the month at



DENNY SHUMWAY

noon at the First United Methodist Church on the corner of Fairview and State roads.

OGEWAW COUNTY
FOOD PANTRY

We are always in need of donations of food or money to help us with the influx of families. You can add to your grocery bill at Meijer Store with a card found at the checkouts or customer service. We will take donations every Wednesday of the month from 8:30 to 11 a.m. We are located in the outreach building behind the Trinity Episcopal Church, 100 E. Houghton Ave., P.O. Box 543, West Branch. We want to thank those that have donated. If bad weather, call ahead at 315-725-1199 to see if we are open. We are open every Wednesday from 9-11 a.m. or until we run out of food. Families can come once a month. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FOOD TRUCK

The monthly food truck will be at the First United Methodist Church on the corner of Fairview and State roads on Sept. 19. Line-up at 9 a.m. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Ogemaw County Superior News

The Ogemaw County Superior News is published the second and fourth Saturdays of the month and distributed in West Branch, Rose City, Prescott, Lupton, Alger, Skidway Lake and Hale. It is available at newsstands for 75 cents per issue or annually for \$50.

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OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Optimist Updates

The Optimist Club of West Branch meets every Thursday morning at 7 a.m. Loggers Depot. in downtown West Branch, hosts our meeting and feeds us a great breakfast with many menu options to choose from. We would love to have you come and join us for breakfast and let us show you what the Optimist Club is working on next to benefit the children of our community and the world.

This week was our monthly board meeting with President



JOE BELL, PRESIDENT

Larry Watson presiding. Discussion and approval were voted to fund our annual school supplies donation. The club will match donations up to \$400 to be given to local schools of a variety of school supplies. The \$400 was donated by members Thursday at our regular weekly meeting. We also got an update on the Seed Spitting Contest held at the

Victorian Art Fair annually for many years now. We also approved money for the local Kids Health and Wellness Fair.

Steve Zdon is a newer member who is trying to develop a junior Optimist Club in cooperation with the West Branch-Rose City school system students. Membership in the club helps develop leadership and community service skills. It also teaches the value of the optimistic way of living life, which I have found to be a very worthwhile pursuit.

We close each meeting by reciting the Optimist Creed, part of which states: "Promise yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind!" What a great way to approach your life. Bye for now.

Welcome back for the 2025-26 school year

BY GAIL HUGHEY

With the Ogemaw County Fair behind us and August coming to a close, it signals the start of another school year. It is my pleasure to welcome our West Branch and Rose City students back to school for the 2025-26 school year, as well as our schools of choice students. Join us as we continue our commitment to excellence in education.

One highlight of this year is the unveiling of the newly remodeled spaces at Ogemaw Heights High School. Over the summer, contractors worked tirelessly to complete a wide range of improvements in time for the first day of school.

These renovations are part of the \$25 million bond proposal approved by voters in May 2022. Following the design and planning phase during the 2022–23 school year, final plans were completed in fall 2023, with bidding soon after. Construction began in spring 2024, starting with updated restrooms and a new central office.

While the majority of these



GAIL HUGHEY
SUPERINTENDENT
WEST BRANCH-ROSE CITY SCHOOLS

projects have been funded by the 2022 Bond Fund, additional work has been made possible through other sources, including a MDHHS grant, Food Service funding, and the district's Sinking Fund.

The following areas will be ready for student use as school begins: the kitchen/serving area, auditorium, music room, CAD lab, health occupations classroom/lab, pool locker rooms and new filtration system, gym floor, parking lot/sidewalks, locker rooms, livestock lab, and storage barn.

The following work will continue into the fall: culinary arts, bleachers in the gym, building trades expansion, metal shop, and the greenhouse.

We are excited for our students and community members to enjoy these upgraded spaces, and we look forward to celebrating them with you. This fall, we will host a community open house to showcase the renovations and thank everyone who helped make them possible.

Here's to a wonderful year for the West Branch–Rose City Area Schools and our communities.

EDC partners with KCC to offer Excel class



PENNY PAYEA
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR OGEMAW COUNTY

The Ogemaw County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), in partnership with Kirtland College, is hosting a hands-on Excel class designed specifically for local business owners. The class will be held Monday, Sept. 29, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Michigan Works!/Ogemaw County EDC offices, 2389 S. M-76, West Branch.

This training will focus on giving business owners the tools they need to maximize Microsoft Excel for financial tracking, data analysis, inventory management and other real-world business applications. Thanks to a unique registration process, including

a QR code sign-up, participants can share their current skill level and learning goals in advance. This ensures the session is customized to meet the needs of those in the room — whether you're a beginner looking for the basics or an experienced user wanting to learn advanced functions.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops to follow along and practice skills in real time. Space is limited, so early registration is highly encouraged to guarantee your spot.

Registration: Scan the QR code provided by the Ogemaw County EDC to sign up and share your training needs. Deadline for registration is Monday, Sept. 15, by 5 p.m.

Further questions, ppayea@michworks4u.org.



Letter to the editor policy

The Ogemaw County Superior News encourages all readers to submit letters to the editor for possible publication. Please limit letters to 200 words or less.

The author must include a daytime phone number as they will be contacted prior to publication.

Unsigned letters will not be published. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject any letter.

Letters can be submitted via email to deanna@superior-news.com or by traditional mail to P.O. Box 603, West Branch, MI 48661.

Obituaries

Jessica Lee Cloutier

July 6, 1990 – Aug. 8, 2025

Jessica Lee Cloutier, beloved daughter, sister, wife, and mother,

passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 8, 2025, at MyMichigan Health in West Branch, Mich., after a long and hard-fought battle with kidney disease.

She was born on July 6, 1990, in West Branch, to Jim and Paula Killinger. Jessica graduated from Ogemaw

Heights High School in 2008 and attended Delta College, where she laid the groundwork for a successful career in the food and beverage industry. She went on to become the director of operations at the Golden Glow Ballroom in Thomas Township Saginaw, Mich.

Known for her fun-loving nature, straight-forward personality, and the joy she brought to those around her, Jessica had a special way of making every moment

count. She loved events with Brooke, camping and spending time with family and friends, always eager to attend concerts, and share in the joy of others.

Her most cherished role was as a mother to her daughter Brooke, who she devoted herself to wholeheartedly. She loved watching Brooke dance, and theater performances and going shopping together.

Jessica was also a wonderful gift giver, known for spoiling her nieces and nephews, Aiden, Boston, Madelyn, Leah, and Eli.

Jessica leaves behind her husband, Clay Cloutier of Midland; her daughter, Brooke of Midland; her parents, Jim and Paula Killinger of West Branch; and her sisters: Ashley (RJ) Wolosonowich of West Branch, Shelby (Matthew) Marchewka of Midland, and Kelsey (Kody) Smith of West Branch. She is also survived by

her in-laws, Daniel and Cynthia Cloutier of Linwood, and several close aunts, uncles, and cousins, along with her beloved pets, Tucker, Macy, and Jaxx.

Jessica was preceded in death by her Grandpa Irving Killinger, Bill and Jean Reed, Great Grandma Dilly Shore, and several aunts and uncles.

The family wishes to highlight the importance of the Gift of Life organ donation, exemplified by Jessica's fight against kidney disease. In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial donation to the Gift of Life Michigan. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2025, at Steuernol & McLaren Funeral Homes - West Branch. A funeral service took place on Thursday, August 14, at Ogemaw Hills Free Methodist Church, West Branch. A private burial will be held amongst family in West Branch.

Online condolences can be shared at www.steuernolmclaren.com.



Ogemaw County SUPERIOR NEWS

IS SEEKING A

Graphic Designer

The Ogemaw County Superior News is seeking an experienced freelance graphic designer to join our dynamic team. Remote position.

For more information, including a detailed job description and required skills, please submit your resume and cover letter to: Publisher Deanna Surbrook at deanna@superior-news.com.

SERVING THE WORLD

IT'S WHO WE ARE...IT'S TANGIBLE.



WE ARE READY FOR YOU TO FIND YOUR PLACE OF IMPACT.



Faith Alive Church 2945 Hansen Rd. West Branch • www.faithalive.church



Forgotten Eagles helping fellow veterans

BY LAURA BENDER

The Forgotten Eagles motorcycle club rolled into town on Friday, Aug. 8, to a warm welcome by local veterans, police and other community members. The Forgotten Eagles is a non-profit organization formed in 2002 by concerned veterans to press for the fullest possible accounting of America's POW/MIAs, assist disabled and needy veterans, and to participate in community projects that benefit those veterans.

Money raised during the 2025 ride will be donated to the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund, the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette, the Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center in Saginaw, and Veterans Serving Veterans in Cadillac. During the ceremony in West Branch, local veteran organizations added their contributions in support.

For more information about the Forgotten Eagles, visit <https://www.forgotteneagles.org>.



Photo by Laura Bender

Members of the Forgotten Eagles Motorcycle Club recently honored fellow veterans, pictured above, at the Ogemaw County Veterans Memorial in West Branch.

Band

« Continued from page 1



Photos by Laura Bender

musicians work to perfect their performance, but this is only the beginning. Evening rehearsals prior to the start of the school year, and daily rehearsals during their school day, prepare the band for a flawless half-time show worthy of acclaim.

During the week of camp, director Mark Andersen, drum majors Malloreay Schleicher and Lenny Gates, and section coaches, Julisa Westheim, Nathan Jasper, Laney Short, Emily Smith and Sam Magoon, led the

marching band with humor and expertise.

The result? Smiles, displays of talent and camaraderie, and an obvious team effort that made everyone proud.

The 2025 Ogemaw Heights High School Marching Band includes 17 freshmen, 18 sophomores, seven juniors and five seniors. The seniors are Elena Martinez, Ayden Santos, Malloreay Schleicher. Preston Poe and Hunter Kowalski.

Go Falcons!



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Ogemaw County Fair

« Continued from page 1



Macie Slee warms up for the barrel races at the rodeo on Wednesday, Aug. 13.

Photo by Emily Reed



Photo by Deanna Surbrook

For all their contributions to the Ogemaw County Fair, Eric and Shelly Clemens were crowned king and queen by the fair board.

Delaney Quigley, of West Branch, had a very successful fair week with her horse, A Lexus Loper, a.k.a. Lexi. Together they won first places in Western Pleasure and Western Equitation, second in Showmanship and English Pleasure and third place in English Equitation. They also won Grand Champion in the 20 and over adult class.



Courtesy photo



Photo by Emily Reed

Barrel race contestants Julia Charvat (l) and Sandra Ramsey (r) wear matching outfits.



Courtesy photo

Nash Linsenman, of West Branch, shows off his award winning drawing he created for the fair.



Courtesy photo

John Wiltse, 3, of Lupton is loving the fair.



Photo by Emily Reed

Reid Arnold shows off his bull riding skills at the rodeo on Wednesday, Aug. 13.



Photo by Laura Bender

The art of glass blowing was just one of many demonstrations that took place throughout the week in the Antique Village.



Photo by Laura Bender

There is nothing quite like the bond between a boy and his livestock.



Courtesy photo

Gracie Linsenman, of West Branch, won an award in the Peeewe Showmanship category for lambs.



Courtesy photo
Trent Winter, of West Branch, on his aunt's horse, Cyan, competed in the Open Speed Show. He placed third in keyhole, third in barrels and first in dash.



Courtesy photo
Shannon Champagne, with her very green thumb, place second for her flowering pot and fourth for her flower hanger at the fair. She's shooting for Best of Show next year.



Courtesy photo
Kendra Tullis, 2, judging by that smile, might need a pony of her own.



Courtesy photo
Jolie Murchie (l-r), of Rose City, Brynlee Murchie, of West Branch, and Madelyn DeMatio, of West Branch are as cute as can be with all the face paint.



Courtesy photo
The National Anthem played as Millie Chrivia, 6, of Rose City, and Applejack prepare for the Open Performance Horse Show on Saturday, Aug. 16.



Photo by Deanna Surbrook
Karen Brewer (l-r), Lois Bergquist and Nancy Griffin representing the Ogemaw County Historical Society during fair week.



Courtesy photo
Peter Ryley Hennard VI, of Prescott, won the Bump and Run heat race and the main event in the stock division on Saturday, Aug.



Courtesy photo
Kinsley Buck, of Rose City, visits with the many farm animals at the fair.



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A central illustration of a young boy with brown hair, wearing a blue jacket, tan pants, and black shoes, walking towards the right. He is carrying a large blue backpack. Surrounding him are various safety-related icons and text boxes.

Map it out. Plan out your child's walking route with them ahead of time. Review street names and landmarks to help orient them.

Road rules. Make a fun and interactive game out of guessing the correct traffic signs and meanings with your child.

Set a good example. Never jaywalk or run to cross the street. Where possible, cross at intersections with a pedestrian crossing light or marked crosswalk.

Look. Teach your child to make sure all vehicles have stopped before entering the road. Show them how to make eye contact with drivers before crossing, even when the walk signal is on.

Listen. Make a habit of putting away all electronic gadgets/ear buds etc. while you're walking, so you can hear approaching traffic that may be hard to see.

Be seen. Make sure your child is wearing bright clothes and/or reflective gear especially at night and in poor weather.

Railway crossings. Only cross railway tracks at designated signals or signs and watch your step. Discourage play around or on railways.

Parked vehicles. Avoid shortcuts through parking lots or around parked cars where it's harder for drivers to see small children.

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See answer key on page 14.

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MyMichigan Health named to Becker's 100 Great Community Hospitals list

MyMichigan Health has been named to the Becker's Hospital Review 2025 list of 100 Great Community Hospitals.

According to Becker's Hospital Review, the awarded hospitals stand out for delivering expert care, strengthening local economies and driving innovation, even with limited resources. Many have earned recognition from top rankings and ratings organizations for their exceptional clinical outcomes, patient satisfaction and high performance in specialty services. Each is deeply committed to uplifting its community while providing accessible, affordable care close to home.

"We're proud to be recognized by Becker's for delivering exceptional clinical care across every community we serve - no matter the size," said Lydia Watson, M.D., president and CEO, MyMichigan Health. "Our teams

work tirelessly to ensure that our patients receive the highest standard of care, fostering trust and wellness throughout all of our communities. This honor means so much and is reflective of our commitment to excellence, equity and compassion in health care we give each and every day."

The Becker's Hospital Review editorial team selected these standout hospitals based on nominations and insights from respected rankings and ratings organizations, including U.S. News & World Report, Healthgrades, CMS, The Leapfrog Group, the National Rural Health Association and The Chartis Center for Rural Health.

Those interested in viewing a complete list of winners may visit www.beckershospitalreview.com/rankings-and-ratings/100-great-community-hospitals-2025/

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Grants

« Continued from page 3

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- \$2,000 to The Northern Michigan Child Assessment Center
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- \$1,000 to Ogemaw Scouting Association
- Provides citizenship training, physical fitness and career education for youth in first grade through age 21.

OCUW is proud to partner with these community groups who are using United Way dollars to fund programs helping children, the

elderly, handicapped people and the terminally ill. These local non-profit organizations rely upon the Ogemaw County United Way for all or part of their operating budgets. The OCUW is always seeking donations so that it can continue to assist those local charities in need.

If you would like to donate, you can send a contribution to Ogemaw County United Way, P.O. Box 588, West Branch, Mich., 48661. You may also wish to inquire with your employer about the availability of a payroll deduction. Contributions of any size would be greatly appreciated.

Happy 95th Birthday Doyle Brindley



Courtesy Photo
Korean War veteran Doyle Brindley achieved the grand age of 95 on July 8, 2005. At a recent surprise party in his honor, 120 of his closest family members and friends helped him celebrate. Doyle's wife, Sharron, made sure he attended in a shirt appropriate for the occasion. It said, "I'm not old. I'm a classic." Pictured (l-r) are great grandsons Leo and Collin Stubby, granddaughter Chrystal Stubby, son and daughter-in-law, Leo and Tammy Stubby, and Sharron and Doyle Brindley.

Morris

« Continued from page 1

Fourth Street in West Branch."

Today, Morris-Richardson Real Estate, located at 3148 W. M 76 in West Branch, is Ogemaw County's oldest real estate agency. They are members of the Northeastern Michigan Board of Realtors Multi List Service covering Ogemaw, Iosco and Arenac counties, especially the towns of West Branch, Rose City, St. Helen, Lupton, Alger, Hale, Tawas and Prescott.

"My dad started out as a land developer. He broke up a lot of parcels in Ogemaw County," Greg said. "He also had a satellite office for a time in Gaylord, where he did a lot of work for the Fisher Brothers. I think he also did a lot of snowmobiling."

Greg's older brother, Ron, was the first to join their father Jack in the growing family business. Right after high school, Greg got a job laying asphalt. Then he spent some time as a truck driver, but felt it kept him away from home too much. Looking for greater stability, he joined the agency in 1978. A short time later, Jack died. Greg and Ron continued working together until Ron died in 2004.

Most of what Greg sells now are residential and commercial properties.

"Currently, I have 93 listed," he said. "But the market fluctuates. During the real estate downturn around 2008, I had 200 listings averaging four years on the market. Having been in the business for a long time, I just wait for a turnaround."

Greg has been named Realtor of the Year three times by the Northeastern Board of Realtors. He is especially proud of this honor because it is a peer-nominated award.

"I've been in the business long enough to be serving third-generation clients. There is one piece of property that I've sold six times," he said. "Another that sticks in my memory is one that sold itself. As I was driving the client through the vacant land along the west branch of the Rifle River, four deer stood on the edge of the dirt road."

"Soon, we passed two more. Then a flock of partridges flew overhead. Near the river sat a family of ducks, and in the river, the salmon were running," Greg added. "The client, who

was looking for a piece of land to bring him close to nature, made only one comment. 'I'll take it.'"

Besides real estate, Greg's other passion is the Ogemaw Browns football team. For 20 years, he coached the third through eighth graders and continues now to manage the stats for varsity games.

"A few kind words to these kids can stay with them through their entire lives," he said.

And as with his real estate business, he is now seeing the children of his former players joining the team.

With 65 years of faithful service to the community, it is only natural for Morris-Richardson Real Estate to get its best referrals from past generations. Happy Anniversary, Greg. Your father, Jack, and your brother, Ron, would be proud.

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Public Hearings and Notices

CITY OF ROSE CITY
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 15, 2025

Mayor Protem Scott Hamel called the Regular Council Meeting of the City of Rose City to order at 6:03 p.m. on July 15, 2025.
Present: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Brent Hinkley, Claire Myers
Absent: Mayor Mike Samples (excused), Ashley Herrick (excused)
Others present: City Clerk Jennifer Hurley, Treasurer Carol Lee Butler, DPW Supervisor Cody Curley and Amy Hensel.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Meyers to approve the agenda. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mrs. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Don Freeman to approve the Minutes for the July 1, 2025 Regular Rose City Council Meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Evans to pay bills as presented, in the amounts of \$28,444.84 from the Common Cash Account and \$2,070.23 from the Sewer Account. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers, Scott Hamel, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
Brent Hinkley gave a Fireboard Report.
Cody Curley gave a DPW report.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Meyers to approve the purchase of a flail mower up to \$5,000. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried.
Carol Lee Butler gave a treasures report.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Meyers to accept H2O Towers estimate for \$4,750.00 Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mrs. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the purchase of the flatbed truck in the amount of \$8,500.00. Ayes: Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans Nays: Brent Hinkley. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Meyers to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

CITY OF ROSE CITY
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 1, 2025

Mayor Michael Samples called the Regular Council Meeting of the City of Rose City to order at 6:05 p.m. on July 1, 2025.
Present: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley, Claire Myers-6:10.
Absent: none
Others present: City Clerk Jennifer Hurley, Treasurer Carol Lee Butler, DPW Supervisor Cody Curley, Police Chief Allen Muma, Deputy Clerk Nicole Pennell, Brenda Butler, Theresa Erickson
A Motion made by Mr. Hamel and seconded by Mr. Hinkley to approve the agenda. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Herrick to approve the Minutes for the June 17, 2025 Regular Rose City Council Meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to pay bills as presented, in the amounts of \$55,915.78 from the Common Cash Account and \$1,007.06 from the Sewer Account. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
Nicole Pennell gave an All-Ages Committee Report.
Theresa Erickson gave a DDA/Planning Report.
Cody Curley gave a DPW report.
Allen Muma gave a Police Report.
Carol Lee Butler gave a Treasurers Report.
Mayor Michael Samples gave mayor comments.
A Motion made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the request to apply for the MAMC grant. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to accept the appointment of Mark Berdan and Kristina Danforth as Rose City's representatives for the Interlocal Community Center. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Ashley Herrick, Scott Hamel, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Herrick to approve the Resolution to appoint Cody Curley as the Street administrator. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the banner for the Chamber of Commerce. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Ashley Herrick, Scott Hamel, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mrs. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Hamel to accept the resignation of Mary Florian from BOR. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to remove Chase Wiltse from the City Credit Card. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Ashley Herrick, Scott Hamel, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to add Cody Curley to the City Credit Card with a limit of \$5,000.00. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Clair Myers, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.
A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Herrick to appoint Anthony Evans to the Critical Fire Management system. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Ashley Herrick, Scott Hamel, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried

A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Herrick to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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