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Vol. 2, Issue 17

Your source for positive community news!

Sept 13 - Sept 26, 2025

Klemmer's Processing receives \$25K 'Match on Main' award



Klemmer's Processing, in West Branch, was recently awarded a \$25,000 'Match on Main' grant, which will be used to double the size of the business. Pictured (I-r) Melissa Guoan, Owner Micheal Deyarmond, Lyle Vanhorn, Trent Vance and Gavin Davis.

BY LAURA BENDER

Micheal Deyarmond, owner of Klemmer's Processing in West Branch, sent his application to the Match on Main program in February, then waited. In July, the answer came. Out of 133 applicants, his business was one of the 63

"We are using the money to nesses, like Klemmer's, are

double the size of our harvest facility," he said. "That means we will go from processing 12 to 15 cattle a day to around 30. Doing that will also create three or four more full-time positions."

Now that West Branch Township is a Redevelopment Ready Certified Community, area busieligible to apply for the Match on Main program created to support new or expanding place-based businesses by providing up to \$25,000 in funding for them to launch or grow in core downtown areas and commercial districts.

"Michigan's small businesses are the heart of our downtowns,"

KLEMMER'S continues on page 8 »

Approaching the

Pouring for a purpose

Country Corner Winery hosts fundraiser for children battling cancer

BY JAMIE STOUT-SHIRKEY

In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness month and their own little warrior, Addie Walsh, Country Corner Winery is hosting a fundraiser for children in the pediatric care unit at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital on Sept. 20 from noon to 5 p.m.

Tara Walsh, co-owner of Country Corner Winery, located at 2487 N. M-33 in Rose City, and mother of Addilyn "Addie" Walsh, wanted to do something to give back to the cancer patients and their families at Mott as the experience is all-to-familiar for her family.

WINERY continues on page 10 »



one-year mark after receiving her life-saving bone marrow transplant at Mott Children's Hospital, Addie Walsh wants to invite everyone to a fundraiser at Country Corner Winery in Rose City on Sept. 20, from noon to 5 p.m., to raise money for the pediatric cancer unit. A portion of every wine purchase will be donated to the children and their families navigating through a cancer diagnosis and treatments.

Courtesy Photo

Ana's Treasures hosts golf outing to benefit foster kids

BY LAURA BENDER

Golfers, on the way to your next game, ponder this:

Things haven't been going well at your home. Perhaps there's been a lot of arguing, door slamming and tears. Or perhaps you've been left to care for your younger siblings, but you're too young to know how. Maybe there's not enough food, or your parents are always drunk, high, or neglectful. Then one evening a social worker comes to your door and tells you to pack your things. You grab a trash bag and stuff some clothes in it, and maybe a toy. Soon you are in a different house, with adults you don't know. They seem friendly, but everything is different.

Becoming a foster child is scary and disorienting. What are the rules? What am I allowed to do in this new place? Will I be safe? How do I get what I need? Will these people take care of me?

Becoming a foster parent is also challenging. How can we

best care for this child? Are there trauma or displacement issues to work through? Do we have the time needed? Can we afford to do

To ease some of the challenges facing foster parents and children, Mindy Thompson founded Ana's Treasures, a thrift store in downtown West Branch that provides free essential items to foster families. She named it after her daughter, Ana, who joined their family at five weeks old, and through adoption, has become Mindy and Todd's forever daughter.

Ana's Treasures, which is manned by volunteers, sells clean and gently used donated items to the public at reasonable prices. The money raised from the thrift shop pays for free clothing, bedding, toys, hygiene products, and diapers for foster families. Seasonal events provide for additional needs, such as the August Back to School Event that provided foster children with a free backpack filled with school supplies.

GOLF OUTING continues on page 6 »

Rose City Veterans Music Fest is loud and proud

BY LAURA BENDER

Music and the military have a long-standing connection. The Continental Army had "Yankee Doodle." Soldiers in World War I sang "Over There." The battles in Iraq and Afghanistan were fought "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue."

Every branch of the military has its own service song. The Marines stand tall to "From the Halls of Montezuma." The Navy sets sail to "Anchors Aweigh." The Air Force soars off into "The Wild Blue Yonder." While the Army's "Caissons Go Rolling Along," the Coast Guard lets the world know they are "Semper Paratus," which is Latin for "Always Ready."

Even in death, a veteran's final honor is "Taps" sounded by a lone bugler.

Music not only motivates and inspires the military; it also helps them get back to themselves after hard duty. Often it is the therapy of choice to calm the soul, refocus

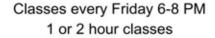
and get on with life.

To that end, Steven Jacob Lull, Sean Molloy and John Woolard are sponsoring the Rose City Veterans Music Fest on Saturday, Sept. 27. This concert for veterans by veterans at Rose City Park starts at noon and continues until 11 p.m. One band already set to play is Rose City's own TRIBE 989, a high-energy rock/metal band whose sound is a powerful fusion of melody and grit.

If you or your group is interested in playing or setting up a free vendor booth, contact Steven through Facebook at https://www. facebook.com/leaf.leaf.31.

"Come and get LOUD with us!" - Steven Jacob Lull





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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 postvention. 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 Wom**en'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-

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. My-Michgan 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.

Sept 21

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

Sept 24

Ana's Treasures Golf Fundraiser, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 9 a.m. shotgun start. Registration includes 18 holes, cart, lunch and dinner. \$100 per person. To register, call 989-345-1500. Proceeds from the event helps support local foster children and families.

Sept 24

Rose City Veterans Music Fest, Saturday, Sept. 26, noon to 11 p.m., located at 371 to 413 Cleveland Circle, Rose City. Free to attend.

Sept 28

The Iron Bandogs and the West Branch Free Masons are hosting a charity bike ride, Sunday, Sept. 28, Masonic Lodge, 191 Page St., West Branch, to benefit Rayola Foundation, which helps children entering foster care. Kickstands up at 11 a.m. Following the ride, a Spaghetti Dinner, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. All you can eat, \$10.

Oct 3

Witches & Warlocks, "A Wickedly Mettlesome Assemblance," Friday, Oct. 3, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., downtown West Branch. Costume contests, hayrides, wine tasting and more.

Oct 12

Texas Hold'em Tournament, to benefit Max-Well Therapy Center, Sunday, Oct. 12, noon, West Branch Moose Lodge, 1731 W. State Rd., West Branch. All proceeds go towards the Center.

Oct 16

Ogemaw Hills Free Clinic, 2106 Gray Rd., presents Operation: Game Night, Thursday, Oct. 16, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Food, silent and live auctions and games. Free admission. All proceeds from the event benefit the clinic.

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

Oct 31

Trunk or Treat, organized by the Cardinal Optimist Club of Skidway Lake and hosted by the Skidway Lake Chamber of Commerce, Friday, Oct. 31, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Parents are asked to park at St. Stephens Church. Sign up your trunk to pass out candy by calling or texting April at 989-

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 lovina us.

God loves us in all seasons of life. God loves us every second of everyday. God loves us. God's love permanent. God's love can nevel 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

www.SermonCentral.com

New Beginnings Lutheran Church

960 S. M-33, next to Ogemaw Heights High School, West Branch, MI Pastor David Jansen 989-836-6133 Sunday Service - 9 a.m. 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 www.cbcwb.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)

Hale Methodist Church

<u>Everyone Welcome!</u> Pastor: Mike Tullis Sunday Worship - 10am; Sunday School - 11am



201 W Main/Esmond, Hale; 989-728-9522 FB & IG: Hale Methodist Church

OHHS announces Homecoming Court



Courtesy photo

Ogemaw Heights High School has announced its 2025 Homecoming Court. Pictured back row (I-r) Brenson Keith, Logan Raymond, Zander Benjamin, Hunter Zettel, Calvin Marshall, Lykon Palmreuter, Corie Kantz and Colton Schwartz. Pictured front row (I-r) Lillee Inmon, Brooklyn Smith, Tessa Kreiner, Madilynn Kujawa, Teagan Agren, Tess Barron, Keara Wangler and Kennedy Hornbacher. The king and queen will be crowned during halftime at the homecoming game on Friday, Sept. 26. The OHHS Falcons will go head-to-head against Clare at 7 p.m.

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TEEN FUN DAY in Skidway Lake lives up to its name



Courtesy photos

Despite a little rain, TEEN FUN DAY, co-sponsored by the Cardinal Optimist Club of Skidway Lake and Cole Canoe Base/Boy Scout Camp, was a great success. After being served lunch, the teens enjoyed many activities, including ziplining, kayaking, gaga pit, wall climbing and swimming. There was also outdoor bowling, cornhole and an outdoor giant chess board. Four of the teens also walked away \$100 richer, by winning the raffle. "The kids had a great time," said organizer April Mason-Harkey. "Even though it rained a couple times, it did not last long and did not stop the fun."





The power of a hug

IF YOU NEED A HUG I HAVE A HUG

Photo by Deanna Surbrook

Keyna Darling (r), along with her daughter, DeVette Bardoni, and two of her grandchildren, Sawyer and Meadow, recently spent a pleasant sunny day handing out hugs to anyone who wanted one, in front of Crazy Train Coffee Co., across from the Post Office on S. Third Street in West Branch. The response was overwhelmingly positive as people crossed the street to get their hug and some even pulled over on the side of the road. "The Lord made it clear to me that the world is hurting, and everyone seems to be disconnecting...," said Keyna, adding she also gave out hugs last year at the West Branch Walmart. "He (God) told me when you are hugging others, it will be ME hugging them through you. God is love and with so much hate in the world, I believe this is why He wanted me to do this."

Women Veterans Benefits Fair and Town Hall set for Sept. 16

BY LAURA BENDER

As a female veteran, I know finding resources specifically designed for women who have served in the military can be difficult. But thanks to Lori Parrish, LMSW, the Women's Health Social Work Coordinator at the Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center in Saginaw, female veterans in Ogemaw County and surrounding areas will have an opportunity to find what we need.

On Sept. 16, the VA is holding a Women Veterans Benefits Fair and Town Hall at the Ogemaw County Commission on Aging. The Benefits Fair begins at 4 p.m. Informational booths include:

•Women Veteran Program National Health Educational Information

•Women Veterans Program Outreach and upcoming events.

•Women Veterans Case Management services for health care – mammography & cervical care screenings, maternity care and fertility care.

•Women Veterans Pharmacy, Nutrition, Mental Health, and Whole Health (including aromatherapy and acupuncture treatments)

•Toxic Exposure Screening information regarding benefits for women veterans.

•VA Eligibility & Community

•VA Homeless Program; Suicide Prevention Program and Transition Services (M2VA–Military to Veteran Affairs services Case Management)

•VA Intimate Partner Violence & Military Sexual Trauma Programs

•Ogemaw County Veteran Services Benefits Office

•Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency •Vet Centers from Saginaw and Traverse City

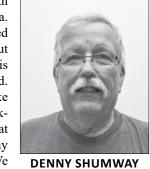
At 5 p.m., the open forum Town Hall meeting will begin, where veterans can ask general care questions and receive updates on VA programs.

The event is open to all female veterans, their family members and caregivers. The Ogemaw County Commission on Aging is located a mile north of the M-55 and M-33 intersection. The address is 1528 S. M-33, West Branch, MI 48661.



KIWANIS OF WEST **BRANCH**

Come be a part of our team. The Ki-wanis Club meets at noon on the second corner to the second and fourth Tues 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 Denny 315-725-1199. We are rebuilding our



club. If you want to help the children of West Branch and around the world, we are here.

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 will be handing out checks at our October meeting to organizations that help in the community.

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

OGEMAW COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

We are looking for 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. nations Wednesday 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., PO 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.

SALLY A. REA HISTORIAN AND We will take do-**CURATOR** every This is a letter that was in the of

1975 "Time Capsule" that was opened recently, written by a loving mom and grandmother, Ann Alley. I have permission from Stacy Alley to share this letter. June 26,1975

Dear Amy, Jim, Pam, and Mi-

I am writing this letter on a beautiful sunny morning in the Ski Do Shop. (you all remember this place!) I hope you all are healthy and happy. When you read this letter, you should all be married and have children and grandchildren of your own by now. I hope your grandchildren give you as much pleasure as each of you has given to me.

All the fun we used to have, riding Ski Doos, camping, going to Cedar Point and all the other things we did together. Remember how grams always had to work but as little as you are, each took his turn at helping me at the "Chicken Picking" Shop. Amy, Jim, and Pam are living in Lansing at this time, so I don't get to see you as much. Michael comes almost every day and rides his bike - when his dad lets him. He just learned to ride the big two-wheeler and is quite proud.

This is the year, Amy, that you got invited to the ninth-grade prom, but didn't go because the right boy didn't ask you. Remember that? But you are such a lovely girl, and everyone has always been so proud of you. You were gram and grandpa's first girl and we loved you more than you will ever know. Grandma used to bug you about standing straight with

your shoulders back and now do it without being told. I'll always remember how you used to give me a kiss as you walked by.

I loved it - like I loved to sing the Song" "Stranger's when you were a baby.

Jim was our first boy. How we loved him and thought how good God was to us to give us a boy. A beautiful boy with black curly hair and black eyes. Grandpa and your dad had plenty of plans for

you. Remember going fishing with gramps? The time you lost the big bass on Uncle Bill's lake!! How they let you drive the boat down the river. I always remember those scary rides at Cedar Point. You turned white the first time on the "Blue Streak" but wouldn't give up. Jim, I hope you are as thoughtful of everyone now as you used to be. You always worried about everyone and took care of Pam like a little man. We sure enjoyed you more than you could ever know.

Pam, when you were born you were something else. A darling girl with red, red hair. I couldn't believe it. As you grew up you made life a little more pleasant for everyone. If things and circumstances got people down, you always came up with something to make us laugh. I hope your house is spotless because from the time you were little you were always cleaning and straightening the house. Remember the time you polished my furniture with oven cleaner? Your mother almost had a heart attack and discovered it in time or do you remember when gramps took you and Jim fishing, and you had to go to the bathroom and gramps told you to go in the bushes. You looked at him and said, "Jimmy can go but I can't grandpa. You don't understand that girls are made different than boys." We sure laughed at that. I always thought that you would



ANN ALLEY

get along well and enjoy the world. I hope I was right 'cause grandpa and I sure loved our Pam.

As of now Michael is our baby. He has always been a joy to all of us. He loved his Amy, Jimmy, and Pam. He stayed with me last night and had his first bad tumble on his bike. He said, "grandma, it was as bad as getting hit by a car." You have been a real well-mannered child even though your mom and dad say I spoil you. Your mom always keeps you so well dressed that I tell you I don't have near the clothes you do. That always makes you laugh. Your mom is writing you a letter too. I hope when you read this that you have made your dad and mom as proud of you as they are proud today.

Well, this Centennial Celebration is coming to a close tomorrow. Thank goodness. So much celebrating it's getting the best of me. They made me the queen down at Rau's Tavern the other nite. Just a surprise!! I'm enclosing a picture. The robe was made out of green burlap. We sure had fun. The joke was on me. Everyone else knew about it. Your dad had his back to the camera. Michael's dad is plain to see and grandpa too.

Amy, Jimmy, Pam and Michael, I will be praying for you in Heav-

LETTER continues on page 5 »

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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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.

We had a follow-up discussion about the school supplies program that was just completed.



JOE BELL, VICE PRESIDENT

Barb Watson told us that she had purchased almost \$850 worth of school supplies and distributed them to local schools. This money was donated by club members and was matched by club funds raised during the annual Camel Races held in March. All donated monies are used locally to support the children of our community.

Club member Sheriff Brian

Gilbert gave us an update on the difficulties he is encountering trying to staff a night shift for the road patrol in Ogemaw County. He cited the lack of qualified applicants is what has been hampering his efforts. Kirkland Community College President Gary Roberts, who is also an Optimist Club member, explained that the school is having a difficult time recruiting candidates for their law enforcement training program. Lack of interest in law enforcement careers is a regional and statewide concern for law enforcement and community leaders.

We close each meeting by reciting the Optimist Creed part of which states: "Promise yourself to talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet!" What a great way to approach your life. 'Bye for now!

Celebrating homecoming at Whittemore-Prescott Area Schools



LADONNA SCHULTZ

For students, homecoming is a fun-filled week full of activities like pep rallies, semi formal dances, a crowning of a "king" and "queen," and, of course, the centerpiece of homecoming, a varsity football game.

For alumni it is an opportunity to reconnect with former schoolmates, relive old memories and show support for their alma mater. At the big homecoming game, students and alumni alike

express their school spirit, honor the school's heritage and demonstrate their loyalty and pride in their school.

The Cardinal Optimist Club of Skidway Lake will be attending the Whittemore/Prescott High School's homecoming game on Oct. 3 to help foster this sense of school pride. Our members will have a table set up near the entrance gate where students can enter a free drawing to win one of 30 Cardinal knit pom hats paid for and supplied by our club. Not only will these hats keep the winners warm during the big game, but they are also a great way to show off their school spirit in style.

Other Cardinal fans can purchase a hat at a cost of \$15. Any money raised will go into our general fund and be used to



support the students at W-P High School in their many diverse activities

So, if you want to show your support for your school, stay warm and comfortable at the big game while looking absolutely fabulous, be sure to stop by the COCOSL table and sign up to win or purchase a hat.

GO CARDS!

Downtown West Branch offers shopping, charm and a community in full bloom

BY PETER FABBRI

Downtown West Branch is enjoying a renaissance that blends small-town charm with fresh opportunities, creating a destination that's as inviting to visitors as it is beloved by locals. At the heart of this transformation is the enhanced shopping district, now buzzing with boutiques, specialty shops, and experiences that make every stroll feel like a discovery.

But shopping downtown is about more than transactions — it's about connection. Tree-lined sidewalks, welcoming storefronts, and free, easy parking encourage visitors to linger, chat, and savor the atmosphere. A seasonal Saturday Farmers Market, and new Crafters Market, along with many community events add to the buzz and make this a destination for many.

West Branch recently earned the Redevelopment Ready Communities certification from the



PETER FABBRI

Michigan Economic Development Corporation — an impressive accolade that highlights the city's commitment to streamlined, transparent development and economic readiness.

These events, paired with infrastructure improvements and an active DDA and Merchants Association all working together with other townships, reflect a bigger picture: West Branch is investing in its future while holding tight to its small-town soul. With projects like the upcoming Gathering Place, the community is creating

spaces designed for coming together, celebrating, and showcasing all that downtown has to offer.

With summer soon turning to fall many small communities tend to slow down, but not West Branch! Just look no further than the community calendar schedule to find the Homecoming Parade, the Quilt Walk and the Holiday Art Walk and Wine Tasting event, just to name a few.

Downtown West Branch is no quiet crossroads — it's a vibrant, walkable, and warmly revitalized district. Whether you're shopping for a keepsake, sipping local wine, or craft beer, or catching a new movie release on a summer Friday, our town delivers more than just goods — it delivers an experience. It's a place where history meets progress, where storefronts shine a little brighter, and where every visit feels like coming home.

Fall comes to the Skidway Lake area

BY APRIL MASON-HARKEY

Oh, the temperatures are falling fast, I am not ready for cold nights and turning on the furnace. I have seen spots of color in the trees already and yes, it is so beautiful the way God paints the trees for us.

The plans for our Halloween parade and the Cardinal Optimist Trunk or Treat are all set. The Skidway Lake Halloween parade will be Oct. 25. Line up will be at Rosati's parking lot at 2 p.m. The parade starts at 3 p.m. and will travel to the end of the boardwalk. Any questions, text me at 989-578-8768. The Cardinal Optimist Club of Skidway Lake will have the Trunk or Treat at the Skidway Lake Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 31. Times this year will be an hour earlier than last year, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. There will be indoor or outdoor setups this year for the ones passing out candy. There will be first, second, and third place ribbons for the three best set ups. NO PETS ALLOWED. To sign up to pass out your candy text me at 989-578-8768.

Consumers Energy is working on new poles in our area. They are rerouting where our power comes from so we should have less power outages. The rerouting will allow for just parts of our area to go out and not the whole area. They are running lines in the direction of less wind blowing trees on the lines and from a different transfer station. This is great news for all of us.

On Saturday, Sept. 6, there was a Civil War cemetery walk at the Richland Cemetery on Scheffer Road in Prescott. Those who participated received a booklet with the soldier's information included. This was an awesome way to



APRIL MASON-HARKEY

learn a lot of history about our founding fathers.

The next Animal Swap and Craft Show at the Skidway Lake Chamber of Commerce is Sept. 20. Lots of crafts, baked goods, animals and fun. It runs from 10 a m to 3 p m

The Whittemore-Prescott Elementary School open house was Sept. 3. Visitors got to see the school and all the projects the students and teachers have done.

Whittemore-Prescott Schools football and volleyball has kicked off for the season. You can follow the Facebook Whittemore-Prescott Cardinals Football, or Whittemore-Prescott Jr./Sr. High School, to keep up with the dates

I would like to give recognition to a special lady who works hard at keeping our area beautiful. Lori Corlew cares about our area so much she has spent hours picking up trash throughout Skidway Lake at her own expense. This lady is extremely valuable to us all and an inspiration. Thank you for all you do, Lori Corlew.

Remember to share any news you have with me, 989-578-8768. Until next time, God bless.

Letter

« Continued from page 4

Must close saying that I've enjoyed raising your dad and mom. They are 29 and 32 years old. Hope you are able to read this, Jim and Tom. My mother is 86 years old and sharp as can be. Hope the good Lord is as good to you through the years.

Be good and pray often. You will probably be flying to the moon or mars. We think it's great

to fly to California in three or four hours. How time passes.

I just want each of you to know you all have the best Mom and Dad in the world and I hope you have enjoyed reading this and got a chuckle now and then.

Love and kisses to each of you.

A time to celebrate and remember

BY GAIL HUGHEY

The communities of West Branch and Rose City are gearing up for one of the most anticipated events of the year: Ogemaw Heights High School's Homecoming. This year's celebration promises to bring together students, alumni, and families in a week full of pride, traditions, and memories with a Wild, Wild West theme.

Festivities will kick off on Tuesday, Sept. 23, with the annual homecoming parade at 6 p.m. This year, the parade will be in downtown West Branch. Local businesses, school clubs, athletic teams and community groups will take part in the parade, which will feature brightly decorated floats and a performance by the Ogemaw Heights marching band.

The excitement will continue Friday, Sept. 26, when the Ogemaw Heights Falcons face off against Shepherd High School at 7 p.m. The traditions continue with the crowning of the king and queen during halftime.

While all are welcome, alumni from the classes of 1980 and 1985 are making the special trip back to cheer on the Falcons and reconnect with old friends. Come visit with family and friends on a crisp, fall Friday evening under the stadium lights. Enjoy a dinner of hot dogs, popcorn and ice cream while we rally behind this year's varsity football team.

Join us as we come together for a wonderful week of community spirit. New memories will be created, and old memories will be shared.

Go Falcons!



GAIL HUGHEY
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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.

Thank You Willards Equipment for buying my 2025 Market Lamb & Hog.





Sincerely, Reese Parliament



Photo by Laura Bender

Revving up tradition:

West Branch Moose Car Show shines

BY LAURA BENDER

"HEMI?"

"RAT engine?"

"Hey look! That's got an original AFB. You almost never see a Carter Carburetor anymore."

Conversations over open hoods brought local enthusiasts and antique vehicle owners together at the West Branch Moose Lodge's second annual car show held on Sunday, Aug. 24.

Sixty vehicles of all ages, makes and models were on display in the afternoon sunshine as a curated list of car-related songs filled the air. With food and drinks available in the Moose Hall and the Ogemaw Heights High School Wrestling Team selling hot dogs and sodas outside, visitors were in no hurry to leave. Small children

romped in the playground; friends chatted and laughed all the while listening to hear if their ticket would be the next drawn for a prize. Toward the end of the event, Moose members called up the military veterans and presented them with a coin honoring their service.

Thanks to all the sponsors whose generosity made the West

Branch Moose Lodge's second annual car show a success!

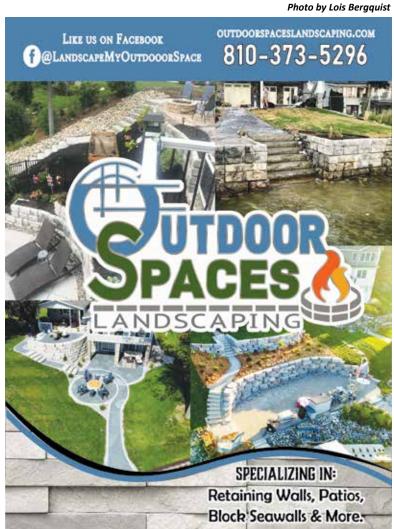
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Parts, SNAP-ON Tom Martin, Griffin Beverage, Diebold Insurance, Big Boy, Lehner's Collision, Village Quik Lube, West Branch Auto Zone, O'Reilly's **Auto Parts**

For more information about Moose Lodge No. 2051, call 989-345-1620, or visit the hall at 1731 State Rd., West Branch. They open at 2 p.m. daily.

Jeep Jam draws large crowd to downtown West Branch







Courtesy photo

Jeeps of different years and models lined up on Houghton Avenue in downtown West Branch on Saturday, Aug. 23, for the 2025 Jeep Jam. Besides the Jeeps, live music filled the air adding to the festive atmosphere. "It was a fantastic night, and I am proud of how it turned out," said Samantha Fabbri, organizer of the event. "The band Zang was great, and people were dancing in the street. I saw so many people, families and friends walking around enjoying our downtown, it was very well attended, by hundreds. I have received so much positive feedback about the event and people are already looking forward to the 2026 event."

Golf Outing

« Continued from page 1

While many needs are funded by money raised at Ana's Treasures, that income is only part of the equation. The rest comes from local businesses, individuals, and fundraisers, like the one you, as a lover of golf, can enjoy.

Ana's Treasures' Third Annual Golf Fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 24, at the Nightmare. The four-person scramble begins with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. In addition to

18 holes of golf, lunch and dinner, there will also be raffles and games of chance. Registration is \$100 per person, which includes golf, meals, a cart, and the opportunity to help those in foster care. To register, call 989-345-1500.

Ana's Treasures now has thrift stores in Standish and Alpena, as well as in West Branch. You can visit them at 511 W. Houghton Ave., West Branch; 315 S. Main St., Standish, and 150A N. State

St., Alpena. All locations are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, visit www.anastreasures. org. There you will also find a list of the 2025 sponsors and a volunteer application. You can reach the West Branch store at 989-305-0508 or talk with Mindy about how you can become a supporter of foster children and parents at cell 989-709-6402.

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Richard William Hewson

Aug. 27, 1936 - Aug. 19, 2025

Richard "Dick" Hewson passed away peacefully in his home on Aug. 19, 2025, in Loveland, Colo.

Richard Hewson was born on Aug. 27, 1936, to Richard Charles Hewson and Alma Evangeline Hewson in Imlay City, Mich. He is survived by his wife Marion Hewson and his four children and their spouses, Sam and April Hewson of Arizona, Tom and Tracey Hewson of Loveland, Colo., Bob and Maureen Hewson of Loveland, Colo., and Liz and Anson Damosso of Fort Collins, Colo.; his three sisters, Ann Bray of West Branch, Mich., Alice Schulz of Fremont, Mich., and Amy Wooley of Indianola, Iowa; his nine grandchildren, Laun Hewson, Mackenzie Hewson, Kate McCrimmon, Sara Mickelson, Nate Hewson, Galen Damosso, Tristan Damosso, Ben Hewson and Jacob Hewson, and his five great-grandchildren, Harvey and Hodge Hewson, Bodhi and Lennie McCrimmon, and Covey Hewson.

Richard attended high school in West Branch at West Branch High School where he ran track and played football and basketball. He went on to attend college at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, Mich., where he was a cross-country runner and

track athlete. One of his favorite memories in college was when he met Jesse Owens at an athletic banquet and got his autograph. After graduating college with a degree in physical education, Richard married Marion Elizabeth Peurach, June 14, 1958, in West Branch. Richard began his long career of teaching and coaching at the high school level. Throughout his career in Michigan, he taught physical education and coached football and track.

In 1964, Richard and Marion traveled west for a relaxing camping trip without their three boys. Neither one had ever been to Colorado let alone Loveland. Richard heard that Thompson School District may be hiring, so he threw his hat in the ring and left an application in the office while on the camping trip. Before heading back to Michigan, he got the call that there was a coaching and teaching position open. The decision as whether to take the job was made easier while sitting at the top of what is now Pine Wood Reservoir overlooking the town of Loveland. It was then they knew they wanted to raise their children here in Loveland. So, they went back to Michigan and packed up their three boys and moved to Loveland. Their youngest child,



Elizabeth, was born in Loveland soon after.

Richard began his Colorado teaching and coaching career in 1965 at Loveland High School in what is now Bill Reed Middle School. He then moved to the newly built Loveland High School the following year. Not ever having been a swimmer let alone coached the sport, it was his Red Cross swimming card that proved he at least knew how to swim and was therefore qualified to manage the LHS pool. He got busy forming the high school swim teams, and this is where his name changed from Richard or Dick to "Coach Hewson." It is a known fact that Coach Hewson never cut anyone from his swim teams. In 1966, Coach Hewson started the Loveland Swim Club, which is still going strong to this

day. He put Loveland, Colo., on the swimming map. He has been inducted into the Thompson Valley and Loveland High School Hall of Fame. In 1995 he was inducted into the Colorado High School Activities Association Hall of Fame.

In 1976, Thompson Valley High School opened, and Coach Hewson and his oldest son, Sam, made the change from being an Indian at LHS to being an Eagle at TVHS. All four of Richard Hewson's children were graduates of Thompson Valley High School where they swam under the coaching of their dad.

Richard Hewson has had many state swimming championships throughout his career. He helped with the planning of Thompson Valley pool and was a huge help in getting the Loveland High School pool remodeled and the design of the Mountain View High School pool. After he retired, he was a swimming official for many years at the local and state level. For a decade he served on the board of directors of NISCA Swimming and Diving Rules and Regulations committee, where they wrote all the rules and regulations for high school swimming and diving. Coach Hewson was a chairman for the American

Red Cross Aquatics Division for Larimer County for several years. He worked closely with families after the Big Thompson flood in the summer of 1976. He was also a member of Colorado Youth Outdoors for over 20 years. He took great pride in being part of this group that helped support teen and parent relationships in northern Colorado.

Along with teaching and coaching, Richard's passions were gardening, hunting and fishing, following college and national sports, reading Louis Lamour and CJ Box novels, and enjoying quiet moments with his wife, Marion, on the patio.

With "Mrs. Coach" by his side, Coach Hewson's accomplishments as an outstanding husband, father, teacher, coach, community leader, grandfather, friend and hunting and fishing buddy will be his legacy.

Services for Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13, at 10 a.m. at Good Shepherd Church, 3429 N. Monroe Ave., Loveland, CO. 80538. Dick Hewson was passionate about the following two organizations and contributions can be made in his name to:

Loveland Swim Club and Colorado Youth Outdoors.

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« Continued from page 1

said Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "Today's Match on Main grants will provide 63 small businesses across the state with the support they need to grow, thrive, and create bustling, vibrant main streets. By investing in our communities and developing attractive places across the state, we will continue to make Michigan a place where businesses and families choose to locate, grow and succeed."

Match on Main is a reimbursement grant program provided by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Of the FY25 Match on Main grantees awarded, 17 are new businesses and 46 are existing businesses, including 20 restaurants, 22 retail establishments, four service businesses, and 17 other businesses that demonstrate a commitment to revitalizing community infrastructure and boosting local employment. Klemmer's Processing LLC is the only one representing a

"I've worked with cows since I was 16," Micheal said. "First, I worked on local farms. Later I drove a cattle hauler. In February 2020, I bought this business from Jim Klemmer, who started it in 1973."

After the enlarged harvest facility is complete, at the urging of many local folks, Micheal would like to increase the size of his retail shop to include produce and other grocery items.

The father of five, Micheal laughs as he says what he doesn't plan to increase are the the hard-working staff of Klemnumber of his offspring.

"The twins were born just as

COVID hit, and our youngest son was born on the day before Brian's Fruit and Meat Market burned. That's enough of that."

As hunting season approaches, Micheal says he is ready to process all the deer, bear and elk brought to him.

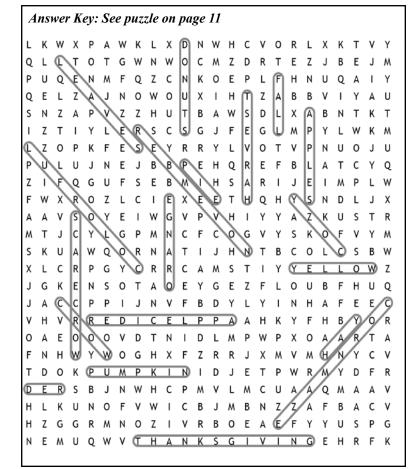
"Good luck to all the hunters," he said. "I can't wait to see what you bring in."

Congratulations to Micheal and Sara Deyarmond, their family and

mer's Processing on the well-deserved Match on Main grant, which benefits not only them, but our entire community.

To learn more about Klemmer's Processing, 2831 M-76, West Branch, visit https:// www.facebook.com/profile.

php?id=100028127605419, call 989-345-2869 or email deyarmo2@gmail.com. The retail shop and the processing center are open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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Dept. Health and Human Services	989-345-5135
Emergency Assistance Program	989-345-8312
Ogemaw County Clerk	989-345-0215
Probate/Family Court	989-345-0145
Emergency Shelter	989-217-0973
Friend of the Court	989-345-5520
Healthaccess	
Ogemaw Commission on Aging	989-345-3010
Options Resource Clinic	989-345-7398
Ogemaw Public Transit	989-345-5790
Children's Assmt. Center	989-275-7145
Salvation Army	989-345-4690
Community Food Pantry	989-345-0493
MSU Extension/4-II	989-345-0692
Ogemaw County Prosecutor	989-345-5700
Michigan State Police	
Ogemaw County Sheriff	989-345-3111
West Branch Police	
Rose City Police	989-685-3051

Public Hearings and Notices

CITY OF ROSE CITY REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 5, 2025

Mayor Mike Samples called the Regular Council Meeting of the City of Rose City to order at 6:04 p.m. on August 5, 2025.

Present: Mayor Mike Samples, Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley

Absent: non

Others present: City Clerk Jennifer Hurley, DPW Supervisor Cody Curley, Chief of Police Allen Muma, Deputy Clerk Nicole Pennell and Amy Hensel. A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the agenda. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Motion made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mrs. Myers to approve the Minutes for the July 15, 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 \$22,201.16 from the Common Cash Account and \$72.07 from the Sewer Account. Ayes: Anthony Evans, Don Freeman, Claire Myers, Scott Hamel, Ashley Herrick, Brent Hinkley. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Claire Myers gave a Library Board Meeting.

Cody Curley gave a DPW report.

A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the sale of the dump truck with a bid of \$12,000.00 or best offer with a minimum bid of \$10,00.00.

Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to approve the sale of the flatbed truck with a bid of \$5,000.00 or best offer with a minimum bid of \$3,500.00.

Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mrs. Herrick to approve the testing of the wells. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried. Police Chief Allen Muma gave a Police report.

A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to table garbage. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Motion made by Mr. Hinkley and seconded by Mr. Hamel to pass Resolution for #25-8-5 to apply for the Par Plan Risk Reduction grant for security cameras for up to \$5,000.00. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Ashley Herrick, Scott Hamel, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Motion made by Mrs. Myers and seconded by Mr. Hinkley to approve Chief Muma entering into EMS response agreement with Ogemaw County EMS. 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 Mrs. Myers to prohibit parking at bottom of hill in the park and to enforce no motorized vehicles without permit. Ayes: Brent Hinkley, Ashley Herrick, Scott Hamel, Claire Myers, Don Freeman, Anthony Evans. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A Motion made by Mr. Hamel and seconded by Mr. Freeman to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.



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Winery

« Continued from page 1

After baby Addie was diagnosed at just eight weeks old in March of 2024, with not one but two forms of leukemia, the Walsh family spent around nine months in the children's pediatric cancer unit of Mott Children's Hospital.

While in the hospital, they had gifts which came from former patients and their families or other generous people who wanted to do something to make the time spent in the hospital a little more enjoyable.

"In the long days filled with treatments, it was nice for the kids to get something new to keep their mind off reality," Tara said.

In approaching almost one year since Addie received the bone marrow transplant which ultimately saved her life, Tara thought it was the perfect time to host a fundraiser to brighten up the days spent in the hospital for other children and families.

Mott accepts donations of new toys and other comfort items to share with the families and patients receiving treatments, Tara

"They have what they call a 'Family Room' where you can go in and pick out a gift for your child – I still have some of the things that Addie got while we were there," she said.

Some popular items or articles they need are baby blankets, puzzle books, handheld games, reading books and items for infants.

"Other things that were given to us while we were there which were extremely helpful were gas cards and restaurant gift cards," Tara said.

In an effort to give back, Country Corner Winery will be donating a portion of the proceeds from every purchase on Sept. 20 to Mott Children's Hospital, specifically for this program.

There will be several local vendors and a food truck the day of the event as well.

If anyone would like to donate items or gift cards for the children and families but are unable to make it to the event on Sept. 20, they can either drop them off at the winery during business hours or contact Tara Walsh at 989-709-1955 or Jamie Stout-Shirkey at 989-965-0033 to make other arrangements.

They will be accepting donations until Sept. 30 as the Walsh's will be making a trip to the hospital on Oct. 8 to prepare for Addie's one-year check-up on Oct.

For more information about the event, please visit Country Corner Winery's Facebook page.

Visit Our Website At www.superior-news.com

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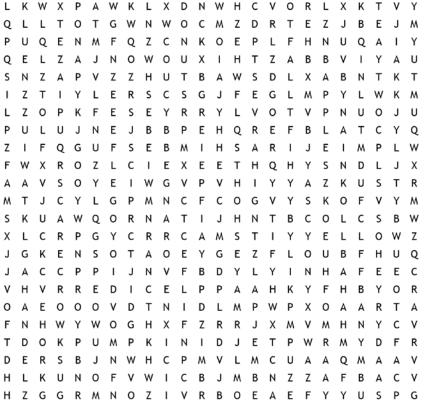


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