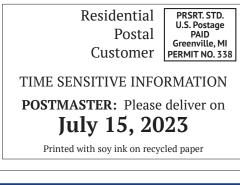




Your Good News Paper.



## Moody on The Market Pat

Moody

#### SJPS Consider Early Childhood Center in Former **United Federal Building**

The St. Joseph Public Schools Board of Education is studying the feasibility of creating an early childhood center in the district. At a meeting this week, the board approved an agreement with United Federal Credit Union for an exclusive option to purchase its former headquarters at 2807 South State Street in St. Joseph in 2024. The move comes out of the 2021 strategic planning effort, which identified early childhood education as a significant need for the district. St. Joseph Public Schools

Superintendent, Jenny Fee, says the purchase option provides the district a lowrisk position through which to research and develop funding options for an early childhood center. She says, "a centralized early childhood center would create equitable access to much needed education for our youngest learners. A dedicated early childhood facility would also allow us to expand our before and after school programs, more adequately prepare children to start our kindergarten curriculum, and provide quality preschool and childcare for families." The district is now studying funding scenarios that could include a voter approved bond in 2024.

The building under consideration is the large, two-story office building at State Street and Gard Avenue, in the guarter block behind Wendy's. It initially was the headquarters building of Whirlpool Federal Credit Union, which later became United Federal. UFCU built a new banking branch immediately South on State Street several years ago

*Continued on page 6* 



## Vote "YES" on LMC Millage Renewal

## Arthur Havlicek

President, SMR Chamber

#### We've all seen the headlines about labor shortages, declining workforce participation rates, and an aging population. If it seems like the issue of talent is in the news on an almost daily basis, it's because it's the number one issue facing our region, state, and the country.

Thankfully, some of the solutions to this issue reside right in our own backyard as community colleges are uniquely positioned to address these concerns and meet the needs of business and of the community.

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Continued on page 14

Page 2 July 15, 2023 MailMax



#### **Give Me Sound Doctrine**

For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 2 Timothy 4:3,4

Around the year 1900, a man named Clark Stanley captivated audiences. A small stage was built in the town square, and Stanley created a spectacle. His sensationalist show involved using rattlesnakes to create a healing ointment. Stanley claimed his special Snake Oil Liniment was a quick and miraculous cure-all.

People ate it up. The spectacle, combined with the promise of a quick and easy remedy, proved too much to resist. People wanted what Stanley was selling. Even the term "snake oil" appealed to popular imagination since it was associated with exotic and mysterious healing substances.

Clark Stanley called himself the Rattlesnake King, but that's not how he is remembered. Stanley is the original snake oil salesman known for selling fraudulent and ineffective products. His ointment was found to have very little, if any, snake oil and was primarily mineral oil. It couldn't cure anything.

But people jeopardized their health and wasted their money because it looked and sounded so good. In the same way, we are tempted to jeopardize our spiritual health when we turn to teachings that look and sound good to us. These teachings might appeal to our desire for physical blessings or our need to make ourselves look good compared to others. Maybe some sort of secret and mysterious teaching makes us feel special.

Whatever it might be, if it turns us away from the truth of sound doctrine, then it is dangerous to our souls. Here is the sound doctrine that we need to hear again and again. I am a sinner for whom Jesus died. My relationship with God is repaired through Jesus, and I can do nothing to acquire this grace apart from receiving it freely as a gift from Jesus.

This is the sound doctrine to which we hold. May God keep it before us all the days of our lives.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, forgive me the times I've tried itching my ears with anything other than your truth. Keep me in your truth. Amen.

Submitted by Pastor Glenn T. Rosenbaum Administrative Pastor Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Joseph Originated by: www.What AboutJesus.com

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## Photo of the Week



Got a light? Photo by Cathy Taber

Please email your favorite photo with a brief description to Photos@MailMaxOnline.com Photos must be horizontal orientation to be considered for Photo of the Week.

# Water resources to help **City of Benton Harbor residents.**

#### Learn what they are and how to access them.

The State of Michigan, City of Benton Harbor and partners are working to help keep you and your family healthy. To support residents, free, easy-to-access resources are being offered, including:

#### 1. Free home water filters.

Water filters help reduce lead in drinking water until home plumbing is cleared by MDHHS.

Order your filter today at Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe.

#### 2. Free home lead inspections.

Lead inspections can find and help reduce lead exposure at home.

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#### In Pie We Crust

A great many of this column's readers reside in Indiana and Michigan, and last week I left them hangin' about what "classic comfort food" was identified by CNN, in a "50 States, 50 Plates" food "quiz," as most beloved in the Hoosier and Wolverine states.

Well, here's the skinny (Full disclosure: These foods may not contribute to skinniness.)

CNN declares the most Indiana-y of all Indiana foods is – of course, something that I, a native Hoosier, born and raised, don't recall ever having eaten -- Sugar Cream Pie.

The baseline recipe for this pie is super-simple, with just basic ingredients: flour, milk, sugar and butter. (Note that occasionally the cook may mix these by using her/ his fingers; it is then acceptable to call it a Finger Pie.)

This dish may have caught CNN's eye because apparently Indiana lawmakers once proposed it be named the state pie of Indiana. This was in 2009, but for some unknown reason the bill never made it to the governor's desk. The point may be moot; marthastewart.com has a recipe for Indiana Sugar Cream Pie, and in an accompanying video, Martha calls it Indiana's official pie. Based on what I know about Martha, if she sez it is so, it is so

A couple things you might NOT like about sugar cream pie- especially if you're a devout Hoosier: It's thought the pie was introduced to Indiana by Quakers relocating from North Carolina...hmph!; and because of the aforementioned super-simple recipe, it belongs to a category called Desperation Pies, which were made when one just didn't have much to work with, ingredient-wise.

Okay, northward now to Michigan, where the CNN-anointed classic comfort food is. . .Tart Cherry Pie! Hmmm, I sense a theme developing for this column!

Did you know that nearly 75% of the tart cherries grown in the USA are grown in Michigan? Did you know that the main variety of tart cherry is the Montmorency? Did you know that I got confused by the Wikipedia entry for Montmorency cherry, which calls it not a tart cherry, but a "sour cherry"? Did you know I shouldn't have been the least bit confused about this, because, per a webpage belonging to Michigan State professor Dr. Amy Lezzoni, tart and sour cherries are the same thing? And lastly, did you know Dr. Amy's last name perfectly illustrates the grammatical rule that it's "I before E, especially before two Zs"?

Incidentally, do you think I used too many question marks in the preceding paragraph? Well, if so, could you maybe tell the folks at Traverse Bay Farms, in Bellaire, MI, the same thing? Because doesn't it seem a little askew that on their webpage titled "The Difference Between Tart and Sweet Cherries," the first sentence, in bold face type, no less, reads "Cherries rank among the most popular fruits for many people?"?

Let me conclude this section by saying this about cherry pie, which is definitely my very favorite pie type: I've never had a slice of any cherry pie that had the slightest whiff of desperation.

TakeFiveT5@yahoo.com

July 15, 2023 MailMax Page 3



Caring Cupboard volunteer Ron Gallert brings his own "air traffic batons" every month to help direct traffic at Feeding America West

Michigan's mobile food pantry at Woodland Shores Baptist Church! When you have dozens of cars lining up, this is a huge help! The person who nominated Ron called him "dependable" and "terrific" - and we think so, too!

Thanks for being AWESOME!



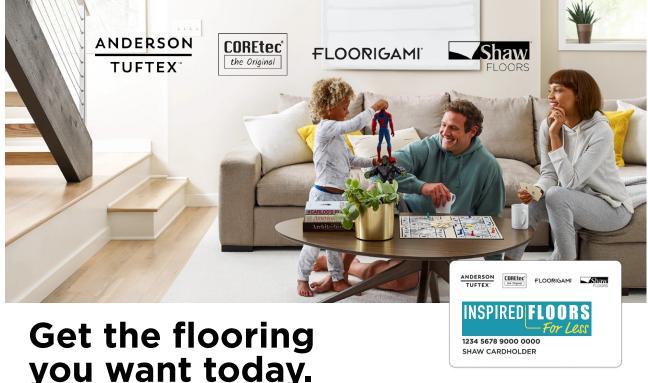
Do you know someone doing good in Berrien County?



Help us recognize them! Nominate them for our Gotcha Doin' Good feature to celebrate acts of kindness in our community! Scan the QR code or visit



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Page 4 July 15, 2023 MailMax



#### The Pet Corner

If you spend any amount of time on social media, you're bound to see it. A photo of a very cute litter of puppies or kittens someone is rehoming. When I see that word "rehoming," I always have to wonder if those sweet pups and kittens are the result of someone not bothering to spay their pet. And is it really rehoming when you are then forced to find adopters? I've always felt rehoming was when a pet's owner wasn't able to keep them, for whatever reason, and turned them into a rescue or shelter, who then had to find a new home for the pet. But somehow the word has become synonymous with needing to find a new owner, even if the litter is the result of an on-purpose backyard breeding. While it is admirable to try and find good homes for them instead of dumping them at the shelter, I just think if you need to find homes for a litter of puppies or kittens, no matter how or why it happened, don't call it rehoming. My opinion.

Unfortunately, there might be another reason why we see those photos online. They are scams, aimed at someone who is looking to adopt a pet. The posts appear on social media platforms and play on the excitement and desire of folks searching for that type of puppy or kitten. Often times, those images are stolen from other websites and posts. Those who fall prey to these scammers are hurt both emotionally and financially when they lose their money with still no pet. One red flag that might signal the puppy post is by a scammer is they avoid your phone calls. A legitimate poster will agree to a phone conversation and/or a video call where you can see the pet live. If they will only communicate by email, avoid them like the plaque. Even if the pups or kittens are free, beware. A reliable person will not usually give them away and will take the time to make sure they are going to good homes. They won't be in a hurry to get rid of them by using pressure tactics. If at all possible, meet in person before agreeing to adopt and ideally before any money transpires. Ask questions, about vaccinations, what kind of food the pet has been eating, and ask to see the parents.

Adopting from a shelter or rescue group is a safer way to go, but if your heart is set on a particular breed, deal only with breeders you know are reputable. Check with a local veterinarian, dog club, someone else who owns that breed, and the AKC website, akc.org for their breeder referral page. Ask for references. A breeder should want to protect their reputation and be willing to supply all of that information.

Of course, you want to avoid puppy mills at all cost, and it's better to adopt than shop, but often there is a very good reason for wanting a particular breed. If that's the case, do your homework and don't be taken in by someone whose last intention is to bring you and your next best friend together.





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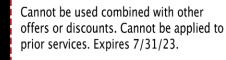
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#### Moody Continued from cover

and later moved its headquarters to the much larger former Whirlpool and Zenith building on Hilltop Road. The State Street building has been mostly unused for several years. However, it appears to be in excellent condition and has considerable open concept space that would be developed for educational use.

#### Monte Package Headquarters Expansion in Hagar

Cornerstone Alliance has announced Monte Package Company is investing \$1.9 million in the construction of new headquarters offices spanning 6,500 square feet in Hagar Township. According to a statement from Cornerstone, the expansion project will result in the creation of 10 new jobs, contributing to the economic growth of the region. Monte Package is a Michigan company, founded here in 1925.

Hagar Township approved the expansion on Monday evening. "Monte Package has been an outstanding corporate citizen for Hagar Township," said Hagar Township Supervisor, Izzy DiMaggio. "Their continual growth and expansion, increasing jobs and tax base, validates success of the township's mission to support light manufacturing businesses. It has been a pleasure for the Township Board to work with Monte Package and Cornerstone Alliance on this project." www.MailMaxOnline.com Monte Package Company is recognized as a leading player in the packaging industry, providing innovative solutions to various businesses. The expansion of the company headquarters will not only strengthen its presence in the market but also enable it to better serve clients and meet growing demands. Cornerstone leaders say that with the investment in this state-of-theart facility, Monte Package is contributing to the continued growth and prosperity of Hagar Township and the surrounding communities.

Cathy Tilley, Director of Business Development at Cornerstone Alliance, expressed her enthusiasm about Monte Package's decision to expand its opera-



tion. "Monte Package is a community-oriented company, and with the support of Hagar Township, we are proud they have chosen to further their investment and expand their operations here. This expansion project not only demonstrates Monte Package's commitment to our region but also creates new opportunities for our local workforce.

The construction of the new headquarter offices is expected to be completed by April 2024. Once operational, the offices will serve as the central hub for Monte Package Company's administrative and managerial functions, fostering collaboration and innovation among the company's management team.

#### Berrien 'Relay for Life' July 29 at Lakeshore HS

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event in Berrien County will be July 29 at Lakeshore High School. The society's Cindy Kovacik says they're seeking to raise \$100,000 with a variety of activities set to take place at the Kohn Athletic Complex all day long. "The relay is Berrien County's way of fighting back against cancer," Kovacik said. "This year, we're focusing on fighting childhood cancer specifically. So, we have a lot of activities are our event geared toward youth including a GLO Run, a ninja warrior course, soccer, volleyball, and flag football."

Kovacik says the main running event will be the GLO Run, which is done in the dark with fireworks going off and the runners carrying glow sticks. Opening ceremonies for this year's relay will be at 2 p.m. and the fun continues through dark with the GLO Run. Last year's Relay for Life raised about \$80,000. Those who want to support the event and contribute to the American Cancer Society can donate online at bit.ly/R4LBerrien.

July 15, 2023 MailMax Page 7 Large 3 Topping Pizza Exp. 9/4/23 PREMIUM MOZZARELLA & 3 TOPPINGS 269-985-0085 2922 Niles Ave. St. Joseph, MI 49085 P1774 JetsPizza.com A-1 We Have **B**rown's SAFES! PARTYS • EVENTS • TOOLS ocksmiths Partyphis **IAYLOR RENTAL** & ardware 2524 S. M-139 Benton Harbor, MI • (269)-925-2125 2912 Niles Avenue, St. Joseph • 269-983-0569 Open Mon-Fri 9-5:30 • Most Sat 9:30-1 www.taylorrentalofmichigan.com

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IVIORF	140
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	445
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Hot Pepper Red, 2.7 Ecoboost V6 Engine, 20 Inch Six Spoke Wheels, Fog Lamps, Trailer Hitch, STX Appearance Package, Black Platform Running Boards, Locking Rear Axle, and Much Morel F23065

Axie, and Much More: 123003				
MSRP\$48,875				
SIEMANS DISCOUNT 1,380				
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Package, 20 Inch Premium Painted Aluminum Wheels, Adaptive Cruise Control, Navigation, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, and Much More! F23170

MSRP\$50,	610		
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	615		
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<b>SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE \$46,9</b>	995		
MILITARY APPRECIATION EXCLUSIVE CASH REWARD* -	500		
AS LOW AS \$46,49 PLUS 0.9% FOR 36 MONTHS, 1.9% FOR	)5		
PLUS 0.9% FOR 36 MONTHS, 1.9% FOR 48 MONTHS, or 2.9% FOR 60 MONTHS			

48 MONTHS, OF 2.9% FOR 60 MONTHS (WITH APPROVED CREDIT) (\*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT) (\*MUST TRADE-IN QUALIFYING FORD VEHICLE/RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY)



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Automation on pper body, and material more. 122210
MSRP\$66,960
ADD FOR VOTH CHIPPER BODY
SUBTOTAL\$101,746
SIEMANS DISCOUNT 3,751
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(*MUST QUALIFY)	



#### 2022 JEEP CLADIATOR OVERLAND 43X4

Black, Leather Seats, Trailer Tow Package, 3-Piece Hardtop, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Remote Start, Alpine Premium Sound System, and Much More! C22213

MSRP.....\$53,760 SIEMANS DISCOUNT......- 5,765





#### 2023 RAM 1500 GREW CAB 4X4

Bright White, Vinyl Seats, Anti-Spin Rear Axle, 3.6 V6 Engine, Trailer Hitch, Back-Up Camera, Touchscreen Radio, and Much More! C23110

MSRP\$46,390
SIEMANS DISCOUNT 656
STANDALONE 10% OFF MSRP RETAIL BONUS CASH - 4,639
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE \$41,095
MILITARY OR FIRST RESPONDER BONUS CASH* - 500
AS LOW AS \$40,595
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2022 RAM 1500

**GREW CAB BIG HORN 43:44** 

Patriot Blue Pearlcoat, Bucket Seats, Sport

Appearance Package, Power Seat, Touchscreen

Radio, Power Adjustable Pedals, Rear Power Sliding

Windows, Anti-Spin Rear Axle, Navigation, Remote

Start, 20 Inch Aluminum Chrome Clad Wheels, and

Much More! C22230

MSRP.....\$57,305

SIEMANS DISCOUNT......- 6,810

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#### 111500 QUAD CAB 43X4 BIG HORN Diamond Black Crystal, Night Edition, Bucket Seats, 3.6 V6 Engine, 20 Inch Wheels, Anti-Spin Rear Axle,

Power Seat, Touchscreen Radio, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Remote Start, Rear Power Sliding Window, Power Adjustable Pedals, Power Seat, and Much More! C23064

MSRP\$54,060
SIEMANS DISCOUNT 1,359
STANDALONE 10% OFF MSRP RETAIL BONUS CASH - 5,406
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MSRP\$	76,270
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	4,675
BONUS CASH	1,000
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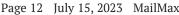
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500











#### Page 14 July 15, 2023 MailMax

#### Havlicek Continued from cover

Locally, Lake Michigan College has served as a great example of this. After hearing that over 132 police officers could be retiring in Berrien County over the next five years, LMC announced they would be opening a new police academy in 2024. When a shortage of truck drivers hit the economy, LMC announced a partnership for truck driving certification. When area vintners needed help building the next generation of winemakers for Southwest Michigan, LMC developed the Welch Center for Wine and Viticulture the only teaching and working winery of its kind in the Midwest.

Those are just a few of the reasons why the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and others have unanimously endorsed the Lake Michigan College millage renewal in the upcoming August 8th election.

This is a renewal of a millage supported by the community for decades, not a tax increase. In fact, it represents an opportunity to freeze that millage

rate for 20 years - a pretty square deal in my opinion. With inflation ravaging our pocketbooks, it's comforting to see that LMC is willing to hold the line on the tax rate. This 20-year standard levy provides nearly 25% of the College's operating revenue and must pass if they are to continue providing critical training and other essential services to Southwest Michigan.

To put their work in perspective, an independent study by the research firm Lightcast estimated the social and economic impact of the LMC at \$426 million per year. Here are some more examples:

Behind the scenes and often without much fanfare, Lake Michigan College will work with area businesses and organizations to align talent needs with shortterm, certificate, and degree programs. LMC has apprenticeship agreements with more than 40 different companies and works closely with local manufacturers to ensure programs meet industry standards. They allow companies to utilize the state-of-the-art Hanson Technology Center and have created 5-week accelerated training programs that can expedite a student's apprenticeship pathway.

short-term training programs include Casino Management (with Four Winds Casino), Child Development, Cybersecurity, Hospitality Management, Machine Tool Technology, Manufacturing Production, Cisco, Small Business Management, Sales and Customer Service, Web Development, and Welding Production Technology to name just a few.

Some examples of certificate and

LMC also has clinical agreements with multiple hospitals, outpatient clinics, long term care facilities and medical practices. The LMC nursing program is one of the top 5 in Michigan and its most recent class achieved a 100% passing rate on the national exam. The Health Sciences Division delivers Nursing, Radiowww.MailMaxOnline.com

logic Technology, Sonography, Certified Nurse Aid, Phlebotomy, Pharmacy Tech, and Medical Assistant in collaboration with healthcare employers such as Corewell Health South, InterCare, and others.

And let's not forget the thousands of folks who enjoy performances every year at LMC's Mendel Center and Hanson Theatre.

Make no mistake, Lake Michigan College is a critical part of the economic, cultural, and social fabric of Southwest Michigan. If we are to build a talent pipeline for economic growth, LMC is a key building block for our success. I hope you will join me - and hundreds of area leaders - and vote YES on the LMC Millage Renewal on August 8th.



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Dave Ramsey

Financial Expert The Ramsey Show

#### **Dave Says** Let's Shift the Focus Dear Dave.

I graduated from college six years ago with a business degree. Currently, I'm in data analytics making about \$40,000 a year and have \$155,000 in student loan debt. Do you have any recommendations as far as refinancing my student loans and getting the interest rates and monthly payments down?

#### Austin Dear Austin.

I'm not trying to be mean here, but what in the world are you doing in data analytics that pays so poorly? Most of the folks I know in that area make a ton more. And you're going to need to start making a whole lot more to pay off \$155,000 in student loans.

For starters, you shouldn't be looking at this from a what-can-l-do-to-makethis-manageable perspective. You don't want to give this Sallie Mae nightmare a haircut, then tell her to sit in the corner all nice and pretty. You want her to leave! Now, there's nothing inherently wrong with refinancing to get a lower

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interest rate, or lower payments, if you do it the right way. But in most cases that translates into keeping the debt around forever. You need a better plan.

Instead, let's shift the main goal from that to paying this thing off as fast as possible. That means big, hairy chunks of payments on the principal. And that'll probably mean picking up an extra job or two, because right now you've got what I call a shovel-to-hole ratio problem. The hole you're in is a big one-a \$155,000 one. And you're working with a \$40,000 shovel. You need a bigger shovel, and a lot of extra work, instead of trying to keep these loans around like they're pets. What can you do-for a short period of time-that's legal, moral and will make you the most money the fastest?

On the day job side of things, you may want to consider looking for a position with a different company, Austin. You're way underpaid if you're in data analytics and making just \$40,000 a year. Good luck!

– Dave

Description automatically generated \* Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national *bestselling author, personal finance expert* and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Mornina America. CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company Ramsey Solutions.





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NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT. To the qualified electors of the City of Bridgman, Berrien County, State of Michigan: Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the City of Bridgman Election Commission has been scheduled for Friday, July 28, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. EST, at Bridgman City Hall, 9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, Michigan to conduct the Public Accuracy Test. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law. This notice is posted in compliance with Open Meeting Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, MCL 15.261, et seq., and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids should contact the City Clerk by writing or calling the

following: Sheila Reitz, City Clerk (269) 465-5144, 9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, MI 49106.

July 15, 2023 MailMax Page 17 **MISCELLANEOUS** 

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