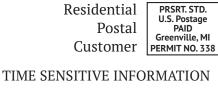




Your Good News Paper.



**POSTMASTER:** Please deliver on

## January 11, 2025

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper



Moody on The Market

Pat **Moody** 

#### Mid-West Family launches WIRX superstation

Southwest Michigan's rock station WIRX is becoming a regional superstation.

Owner of Mid-West Family Marketing & Media made the announcement with the launch this week that WIRX will now be simulcast on 94.3 FM in South Bend, in addition to continuing to broadcast at 107.1 FM in Southwest Michigan. WIRX also streams live via the website and the WIRX The Superstation app.

Vice President of Content, Bill Gamble, tells us WIRX has been incredibly popular in Southwest Michigan, and the team decided to expand the station's reach. He says listeners in South Bend will now be able to hear the same content their neighbors to the north hear.

"Everything that's on in Southwest Michigan will now be broadcast in South Bend. We already know it's a great radio station, now we're expanding the audience. It's literally going to more than double the coverage area. You'll be able to hear the station from Southwest Michigan, through South Bend and Elkhart, and into Plymouth."

Gamble says this is a huge move for WIRX and its popular on-air staff. Also, the change creates a big opportunity for advertisers.

"It's making an already great value for advertisers even better. Business owners know people are mobile and they have a choice where to spend their money in our market. Now we're serving up a larger potential audience to businesses across the region."

Gamble says the WIRX superstation lineup will now include The BOB & TOM Show in the morning, John Cruz midday, and Brock & Kiki - The Plan B Show in the afternoon.

Gamble calls it an exciting time for Mid-West Family Marketing & Media as it now has launched its first regional superstation.

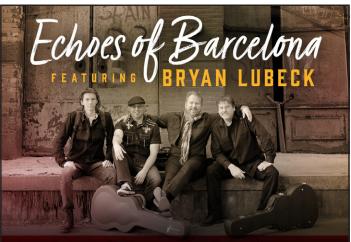
Huge \$6 million grant for Andrews University from Eli Lilly Foundation Andrews University has received a grant of

\$6,326,735 from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its Ministry in Rural Areas and Small Towns

*Continued on page 12* 



Make your entertainment plans now for the New Year at the Lake Michigan College Mendel Center!



Friday, February 14, 7:30 p.m.



Special Engagement European Royal Classical Ballet presents Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake Sunday, March 30, 3 p.m.







Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience Sunday, April 27, 2 p.m.

## Order tickets today at TheMendelCenter.com/events

#### Lake Michigan College Mendel Center 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Programs subject to change

01/25 © 2025 Lake Michigan College



### Marcy Simpson

Executive Director, Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council

#### Fun and interesting things to do in Southwest Michigan

Dancing, music, crafts, chili, and hiking, Southwest Michigan has something for everyone in the winter weeks ahead.

Winter is in the air and it's the perfect time for a hike. Saturday, January 11 at 1:00 p.m. you can join the Harbor Country Hikers adventure at Tower Hill Woods. Hike leader Pat Fisher, President of HCH, will give a short talk about how some of our local animals survive the winter. The best views nature has to offer are yours to see on this hike, so bring your friends. Tower Hill Camps and Retreat Centers span more than 60 acres of a beautifully forested landscape. These trails are not

Continued on page 2

#### **Inserts & Promotions**

- Dollar General
- Family Fare
- Jets Pizza
- Martins Super Markets
- Renewal By Andersen

Inserts may vary by zip code

# Page 2 January 11, 2025 MailMax **Simpson** Continued from cover

long but provide a nice workout as they wind over and around ancient back dunes created thousands of years ago. You will see excellent examples of planted and native flora along the trails.

Warm up at Vineyard 2121 on Saturday, January 11 at 6:00 p.m. for their 3rd Annual Chili Cook-off. There will be two categories to vote on, traditional red chili or non-traditional chili. Prizes will be awarded for the top three chilis in each category. Reserve your spot today.

Brush + Bloom DIY Studios and Banana Knots will be hosting a Plant Hanger Terrariums workshop on Thursday, January 16. Plant Hanger Terrariums with Banana Knots. It's an exciting workshop where you'll craft your macrame plant hanger and terrarium. Choose from a variety of cord colors upon arrival. The class is open to 8 years and older. Don't miss this chance to bring a touch of greenery and style into your home. Registration fee includes plant hanger, glass terrarium, your choice of up to 3 plants, and decorations for your creation. Two time slots available: 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. The project takes about 60 minutes.

The Sunset Coast Country Dancers invite you to a night of country swing dancing. They will focus on the fundamentals and progress from there. No prior experience or partner is needed to learn and dance. Drop-in only, no pre-registration is required. Lessons will be on Wednesday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. at our Sunset Coast Dance Studio. On Thursday, January 23 at 6:30 p.m. Bee Crafty & Apothica Teas are teaming up to get creative. This workshop features stoneware pottery mugs (pre-formed) and pottery glazes. They will have several mug shapes and several glaze combos to choose from. The workshop will include your project, supplies, instructions, tea, and nibbles. We will paint at Apothica and when your mug is fired and ready you will pick it up at Bee Crafty within 2 weeks of the workshop.

Local supergroup Modern Vultures hits the stage at The Livery ready to rock on Friday, January 24 at 8:00 p.m. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Modern Vultures is a progressive/ psych band from Southwest Michigan. Drawing members from various acts in the area, they have a unique blend of style and influences. The band's first release is a live album recorded at The Livery Brewpub.

Everything is vibration, including us. That is why sacred sound instruments, played with intention, can be such a profound and powerful experience. The Sound Medicine Collective will be at Sarett Nature Center, for an afternoon of music medicine with their Sacred Sound Journey. This event will take place in the beautiful great room with a cozy fire in the stone fireplace on Sunday, January 26 at 1:00 p.m. Please bring what you need to be comfortable resting on the floor.

If you would like more information on these and other events and activities in the area, please visit our website at swmichigan.org.

# Your Good News Paper

#### 50,314 Weekly Readers!

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# Photo of the Week



Iced Camel Latte Photo by Cathy Taber

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

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Ramsey Financial Expert The Ramsey Show

#### **Dave Says** The Game's Not for Everyone

Dear Dave.

I'm 38, and after looking and waiting for years, I think I've found a rental property scenario I like. My plan is to take \$30,000 out of my retirement account, and use it as a down payment on a property. My loan payment would be \$1,400 a month, but I could easily rent the place for \$1,800 a month. What are your thoughts?

Colin

Dear Colin,

No offense, but I can tell you've never been a landlord before. Bringing in nearly \$1,800 a month, while paying out \$1,400 may seem like a nice place to be. But you've left one very important factor out of your equation-risk. Rental properties just sit there empty sometimes. And this happens to all rental properties. You'll also have repairs to contend with, renters who don't pay and other expenses. See what I'm saying? You won't be able to count on an easy \$400 in your pocket every month.

Now, I love real estate. I understand the excitement and allure. But what you're really saying is you want to cash out part of your retirement, get hit with a penalty and take on debt, all to buy an investment property. This is not a good plan.

My advice is to save up, and pay cash for one small, decent rental property to see if the landlord game is really for you. – Dave

**The Safest Place?** 

Dear Dave, Where is the best place to keep my savings?

> Angie Dear Angie,

In my mind, when it comes to savings, the idea is to park the money in a safe place-like a money market account or basic savings account-and keep it separate from the rest of your cash, so you don't accidentally spend it on the wrong thing. I'm not really concerned with making money in a savings scenario, so things like setting money aside for an emergency fund or vacations fall into this category.

Investing, on the other hand, is when you're going to leave the money alone for a bare minimum of five to 10 years to grow it. Things like college planning and retirement fall into this category. In these instances, I recommend good, growth-stock mutual funds that have stable track records of at least 10 years.

I hope this helps, Angie!

Dave

\* Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning 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 Ramsey Solutions.



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Page 4 January 11, 2025 MailMax



#### **January Events**

After a few Thursdays that felt like Mondays, we're now back to some level of normalcy and routine with the first full week of the month happening. Last week I shared a quick look at 2025 with you, this week I want to focus specifically on January events that you may be interested in attending. It is worth mentioning, that if you are not a Chamber member, you are still welcome to join us and see what exactly we are about!

I mentioned it last week, but I really feel like it's worth mentioning again - our **NextGen**: Young Professionals group is partnering with Lake Michigan College Career Services for a new fun event called Young & Rising: Level Up Your Career on Wednesday, January 29th, from 4:00 -6:00 p.m.! They'll be gathering inside the Multipurpose Room above the Library at the Main Building on the Benton Harbor campus. Light appetizers and drinks provided.

Not only do they have four powerhouse females that are guaranteed to give you the best advice on taking the next step in your professional career - plus some that can easily be used in your personal life as well. Kathleen Wolf, The Purpose Partners will discuss Leveraging Professional Strengths, which is ideal if you do and don't know what your strengths are. Elizabeth Meeth, Rip Current Creative Marketing will share how to Lead Effective and Purposeful Meetings, if you've ever been in one you know how painful and discouraging these can be to an organization. Alexis Harris, Horizon Bank will help with Interview Tips & Attire, times have changed and interviewing is NOT the same as it was even 5 years ago. Kathi Szabo, Lake Michigan College will share how to Create Your Own Luck: Embrace Happenstance and Propel Your Career, even if it's at the same company and in the same position forward momentum for growth is possible! You can register at our website, smrchamber.com!

The very next night, January 30th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., you can Join the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber for the First Business After Hours of 2025 at Sturgis Bank in Niles! Enjoy beverages, appetizers, and fun while building valuable relationships and learning more about the incredible services Sturgis Bank offers all while being entered into a prize drawing!

Sturgis Bank and Trust joined the Niles community in the Summer of 2022, continuing their Western Market expansion further into Berrien County following the area's positive response to the St. Joseph Downtown branch. Before opening their doors, they spent time updating the space to create a modern and welcoming environment to best serve their customers

This branch is home to Patrick Swem, VP **Commercial Lender** serving customers across Berrien County, and is led by Nick Barber, Branch Manager of the Southwestern Market. Along with our Niles branch, Nick also oversees our two St. Joseph locations. He specializes in consumer lending and financial literacy, and his team of banking professionals is a one-stop shop that can handle any banking transaction, account maintenance, and loan inquiry. This branch also offers a convenient drive-through and ATM.

Our hosts for the evening also include Julie Fair and Leanne Brownfield. In addition to general banking services, the Niles branch is proud to offer mortgage origination services through Julie Fair. Julie brings over 25 years of financial services experience, including roles as a mortgage loan originator, escrow officer, and account executive. She assists first-time and seasoned homebuyers with loans for construction, second homes, investment properties, and more. Julie also provides access to FHA, VA, RD, conventional, and portfolio lending programs.

Leanne Brownfield, who has been with Sturgis Bank since 2020, specializes in Treasury Management, Business Banking, Private Banking, and Municipal Banking. Leanne's expertise ensures businesses and municipalities have the tools and support they need to thrive.

For more information on these and other Chamber events, head to our website www.smrchamber.com or feel free to connect with me directly at sspoonholtz@smrchamber.com or 269-932-4040. See you around Southwest Michigan!



#### Help With New Year's Resolutions

Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. ~ Hebrews 2:18

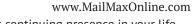
Happy New Year! Are you making any resolutions for the new year? Have you already broken them? It's a time-honored tradition to resolve to do better in some way as you enter a new year. It's also a time-honored tradition to fail quickly in your new resolve.

It doesn't have to be a new year for you to resolve to fight harder against temptation. You are reminded of temptation every time you pray, "Lead us not into temptation," in the Lord's Prayer.

And the Lord you are praying to understands how difficult temptations can be. Jesus is God, and when he became human, he made himself subject to temptation. He even suffered when he was tempted. He knows what you are going through when you feel tempted.

He is able to help you when you are tempted. In his power and love, he provides a way out. And when you fall into temptation, he provides forgiveness and the prom-

MailMax



ise of his continuing presence in your life. Don't let temptation drag you away from a Christian life. Cling to Jesus, he understands. His mercies are new every morning. Great is his faithfulness! Happy New Year!

Prayer: (Christian Worship: Hymnal -367)

Gracious God, in years to come, we pray your hand may guide us, and, onward through our journey home, your mercy walk beside us until at last our ransomed life is safe from peril, toil, and strife when heaven itself shall hide us. Amen.

Submitted by Pastor Josh Bishop Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Joseph Originated by: www.What AboutJesus.com



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#### The Kiss"-ing ... and Telling!

Usually this time of year I've got you all ROTFL over my clever punning and wordplay with the names of college football players. This year, due to how long I've been prattling on about my Romantic Danube cruise, I had people asking about whether I'd get around to writing any of those "Names in the Games" columns this year. Well, I had one person ask anyway. It was No. 3 son, and he asked me about them because I asked him to ask me about them. Enabling me to (semi-)legitimately bring them up in this column, and thereby consume 110 or so words of my weekly 550-word column quota.

While I doubt I'll get around to any "Names/Games" fol-de-rol this season, since I've got, let's see, about 19 more cruise columns to go, there IS one hilarious name-play in this column - see if you can find it!!

We resume this week in Vienna, Austria, where we toured The Imperial Treasury and its wealth of gaudy imperia-phenalia, including a unicorn horn!! Not. The museum label DOES read "Unicorn Horn," but also gives this lowdown: "Ferdinand I received the horn as a gift from King Sigismund II of Poland in 1540. The mythical unicorn was held to be an actual animal, which might only be captured in a virgin's lap. The unicorn was thus regarded as (some blah-blah-blah about divine power). The horn was also thought to be an antidote to poison."

The upshot to all this: "In the 17th century it was recognized that the unicorn's horn was in fact the twisting tusk of the narwhal." Ol' Ferdie fell for Siggie's whale of a scam!

Our tour package included an evening concert entitled "Musical Vienna," at a grand venue called the Kursalon. The program included waltzes, polkas, balletic dancing, and opera arias. When the Kursalon was first constructed in the 1860s, then-Emperor Franz Josef I decreed that "amusements and social events were not allowed." Thankfully this edict didn't last long, and we were treated to a lively concert.

(Note: One wonders what Franz Josef I would've thought of the "amusements" of his descendant, Karl Von Hapsburg, current head of the formerly royal Hapsburgs, who, in the early 1990s, hosted a TV game show. Really.)

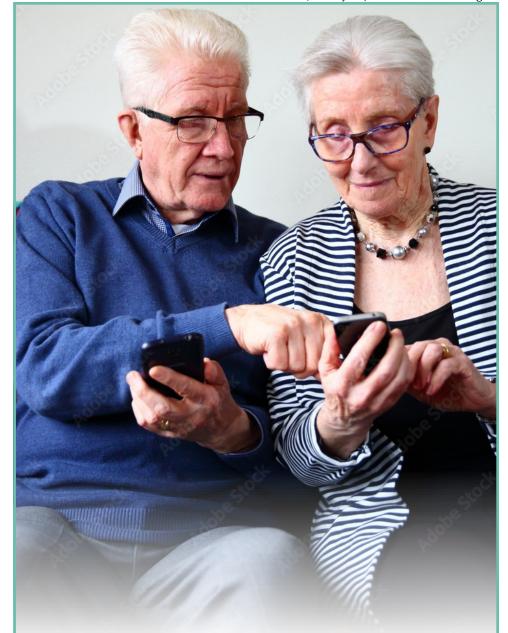
The next day we visited the Belvedere palace/art museum. It was here that my wife's life changed forEVER. She fell madly in love! And it only took one kiss!

To clarify, it was "The Kiss," a painting by Gustav Klimt. Besides its artistry, "The Kiss," and lots and lots of other Klimt works, are especially notable because, Klimt made them using real gold leaf, silver and platinum. When we reached "The Kiss," my wife

waited patiently for all the selfie-takers to disperse so that she could get her picture next to it, taken by me. And probably seven other nearby selfie-ers.

She now tells everybody "The Kiss" is her new favorite painting. I don't know what her previous favorite painting was, but thankfully, I believe that's now a tearful "Do you really know me?" accusation that I'll never have to answer!

In the gift shop, she further expressed her artistic ardor by purchasing a tea mug featuring "The Kiss." It dawned on me then and there - I'm married to a Klimt-o-maniac!



January 11, 2025 MailMax Page 5

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Rails with Cross Bars, and Much Mo	ore! F24181
MSRP	\$67,330
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	2,835
RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH**	<u>- 3,000</u>
<b>SALE PRICE FOR EVERYON</b>	E \$61,495
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SIEMANS DISCOUNT	1,820
RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	1,500
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Lane Management, and Much More! C2:	5001
MSRP\$6	
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	5,310
NATIONAL RETAIL CONSUMER CASH -	4,000
NATIONAL BONUS CASH	1,500
NATIONAL START SOMETHING NEW BONUS CASH	l <u>- 1,000</u>
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE \$5	6,495
NATIONAL FORD CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 2,000
MILITARY OR FIRST RESPONDER BONUS CASH*	- 500
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Bright White, S Appearance Package, Dual Panel Sunroof, 20 Inch Wheels, Power Liftgate, Power Sliding Doors, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Adaptive Cruise Control, Lane Departure Warning, Parksense Rear Park Assist, Remote Start,

10 Inch Touchscreen, and Much More! C24122
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SIEMANS DISCOUNT 1,490
MIDWEST BC RETAIL BONUS CASH** - 1,000
BONUS CASH 1,500
RETAIL BONUS CASH 2,000
NATIONAL START SOMETHING NEW BONUS CASH - 500
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MILITARY OR FIRST RESPONDER BONUS CASH* - 500
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Much More! C24101
MSRP\$67,770
SIEMANS DISCOUNT 3,775
BONUS CASH 3,000
NATIONAL START SOMETHING NEW BONUS CASH - 500
<b>SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE \$60,495</b>
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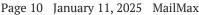
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#### Moody Continued from cover

Initiative. The aim of the initiative is to provide resources to help churches in rural areas and small towns enhance the vitality of their ministries and strengthen the leadership of the pastors and lay leaders who guide them.

Andrews University's project has two goals: to strengthen rural and small-town pastoral leadership and to create and expand resources that address pressing rural and small-town challenges. The University will carry out these goals in several ways.

First, Andrews will provide mentoring in community engagement to rural and smalltown pastors and their congregations. The Center for Community Change, established in 2023 by the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, will work with surrounding rural and small-town congregations to engage their communities with the goal of becoming community hubs.

Second, the University will work with partner organizations to develop a comprehensive range of resources to be used by these congregations to address the needs of their communities (e.g., mental health, drug addiction, loneliness and abuse). The development of these resources will be coordinated by the Center for Community Change and the North American Division's Adventist Learning Community (ALC), Adventist Community Services department, and Ministerial Association. The resources will then be made widely available through the ALC platform. In addition, the Center for Community Change will be incorporated into the ALC platform, integrating the resources developed with the mentoring provided by the Center.

Finally, the grant will fund projects on campus as well as at other Adventist universities. Undergraduate theology students at North American Adventist institutions such as Andrews University, Burman University, Oakwood University, Southern Adventist University and Southwestern Adventist University will receive funding to participate in rural and small-town placements during their programs of study. The grant will also provide financial backing for the International Center for Trauma Education & Care at Andrews University to help rural and small-town congregations address the causes and impact of trauma within their wider communities.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolisbased private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly, Sr. and his sons Eli and J.K. Jr. through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. Although the gifts of stock remain a financial bedrock of the Endowment, it is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct gov-



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In keeping with the founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion and maintains a special commitment to its founders' hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana. A primary aim of its grantmaking in religion is to deepen the religious lives of Christians, principally by supporting efforts that enhance congregational vitality and strengthen the leadership of Christian communities.

#### Area Agency on Aging receives \$1 million HUD grant

Region IV Area Agency on Aging (AAA) will soon offer more support for low income older adults and people with disabilities in Southwest Michigan, thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

The \$1 million grant through the Older Adult Home Modification Program (OAHMP) aims to address critical housing needs within underserved communities by providing home modification services on the primary residence of eligible, low-income senior renters and homeowners who are at least 62 years old.

"The program will improve residents" quality of life by funding essential home modifications to reduce seniors' risk of falling,

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improve general safety, increase accessibility, and to improve their functional abilities in their home, thereby promoting independent living within the community," said Area Agency on Aging CEO Christine Vanlandingham.

Those eligible for the service include residents of Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties who meet age and income eligibility requirements and face mobility challenges or other physical limitations that hinder their ability to "age in place."

"The Older Adult Home Modification Program utilizes a community-based approach to make homes safer, more accessible, and supportive of the residents' health and independence," Vanlandingham said. "This grant fits perfectly with AAA's mission:



Friday February 7th FISH ] ] ; } ; 6pm-8pm, CALL ME While Supplies Last **TO DISCUSS YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS!** Friday February 28th For more information : ©269<u>-757-6057</u> **TED LANGE & MOLLIE B** ☑AnnaGlassman1egmail.com \$25 PreSale Tickets available at the DANK GlassmanRE.com Doors open at 6:30 ANNA GLASSMAN® Couples Sushi Rolling Class Tuesday, January 21, 2025 6:00 PM Learn how to roll 4 different types of Sushi! Take home your own rolling mat and chopsticks. Tickets available on eventbrite.com

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