

# MSP-led fundraiser gives a boost to Iosco Coats for Kids



Photos by Jenny Haglund

Spearheaded by the Michigan State Police (MSP) West Branch Post, a Stuff a Blue Goose fundraiser was held on Jan. 8 at Tawas City Walmart, to benefit Iosco Coats for Kids. Led by MSP Community Service Trooper Shane Noble, he was joined by members of the Tawas City Fire Department, Iosco County Sheriff's Office and Tawas City Police Department, all pictured here in the upper left photo. Coats for Kids volunteers were also present, including June Pursey – who heads up the nonprofit – Tony Pursey and Linda Adams. In a four-hour period, contributors provided 77 coats and 11 pairs of boots, as well as some hats and gloves. Further, monetary donations of cash and gift cards totaled more than \$1,700. Iosco Coats for Kids caters to not only the youngsters in the area, but also older children and adults who are in need of warm clothing for the winter. June Pursey said the coat drive at Walmart was a real boost for the group, which gives out an average of 1,300 coats per year in the county. Noble also commended the community generosity he witnessed during the event and, even as the winter gear was being loaded up for transport to the Coats for Kids building, people were still approaching the volunteers to make a gift. Noble said it was the MSP's first time doing an event such as this in the area, and there are already plans to bring it back next year. Pictured with the donations in the photo at right are, from left, Adams, June Pursey, Noble and Tony Pursey. Shown at bottom left are some of the vehicles which were lined up in front of the store last Friday. For more information on Iosco Coats for Kids, call 362-8161 or visit their Facebook page.

## DHD2 sets COVID-19 mass vaccination clinics later in January

WEST BRANCH – District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) has scheduled three mass COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Ogemaw, Oscoda and Iosco counties.

The first will be held Jan.

15, from 3 to 8 p.m. at Ogemaw Heights High School; the second is set for Jan. 22, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Mio Community Center; and the third is scheduled for Jan. 23, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Oscoda High School.

According to a news release from DHD2, the health department is actively vaccinating individuals in Phase 1A of the priority group which includes EMS, Medical First Responders, and Medical Care Facilities. DHD2 said it has used its first allotment of vaccine and as we receive more shipments, DHD2 plans to finish as many of the 1A group as possible.

Last week, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) updated their vaccine priority guidance and has authorized local health departments to begin vaccinating the following groups starting Monday, Jan 11:

- People age 65 years or older.
- Frontline, essential workers with frequent or ongoing exposure as a part of their work. This includes some, but not all essential workers previously designated in 1B. First responders, police officers, jail and prison staff, pre-K-12 teachers and childcare providers are included.

Registration for the mass vaccination clinics began the afternoon of Jan. 11. Online signup is at [dhd2.org](http://dhd2.org). Persons are asked to not call or email for an appointment

if they can go online. Those who have issues with internet access, can call District Health Department at 1-800-504-2650 or 989-345-5020.

## State Farm offers new grant opportunity for teachers

OSCODA – Employees at State Farm are encouraging teachers across Michigan to apply for a new grant opportunity, State Farm Teacher Assist program starting on Jan. 11.

The program is giving away \$100,000 to teachers across Michigan. Forty teachers in Michigan will win a \$2,500 grant to implement their innovative ideas.

As a teacher, you are essential to the community, now more than ever. State Farm knows that this year your job has been harder than ever, and that's why they want to help.

The submission phase opens on Jan. 11, and ends on Jan. 15, or when 200 submissions are reached. Teachers can prepare now by going to the website to download the rules and preparing their answers to the following three questions including:

• If you receive a \$2,500 grant, how will you use the funding to resolve your challenges?

• What opportunities will this funding help your students realize?

• How can the program be replicated by teachers at other schools?

The winning teachers will be announced on Feb. 1, on State Farm Teacher Assist. State Farm appreciates everything you do to inspire the youth and help them reach their full potential. Teachers are vital to our community and they deserve our full support.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

The Air Force Civil Engineer Center is holding a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Michigan, on January 20, 2021, via GoToWebinar from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

During the meeting, Air Force officials will present information on the status of the PFOS/PFOA Remedial Investigation and Interim Remedial Actions and the cleanup of legacy Installation Restoration Program sites.

RAB attendance is required for RAB members and open to the public.

For more information visit the website at:

<http://www.afcec.af.mil/Home/BRAC/Wurtsmith.aspx>.

To register for the RAB meeting, follow the link below <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9017745082134460428>

For additional questions or concerns contact AFIMSC Public Affairs at: [AFIMSC.PA.workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:AFIMSC.PA.workflow@us.af.mil) or call 1-866-725-7617.

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## Rehab at its Best!

Joseph Easho recently came to Lakeview Manor for rehab. When asked about his stay he said, "My therapy was excellent. I feel that they made me stronger and more aware of my surroundings. I liked Ed in therapy. It was nice having a male therapist, we related well to each other. The food was above average; I really like the biscuits and gravy and creamy chicken soup. Everything about my stay was excellent!"

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## DIG UP

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