A SPECIAL PUBLICATION OF SHORELINE MEDIA • AUGUST 2026

READERS' CHOICE

SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice



Lotus Wellness Studio

Best Business Overall + Best Business in Shelby + Best Spa/Massage

BEST BEST

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!

Thanks for voting us BEST!

Auto Repair Shop and Oil Change

PENNZOIL 10 MINUTE OIL CHANGE®

No Appointment Necessary

Regular $49.95
SAVE ..... - $ 2.00
UP TO 5 QTS **$47.95**

- Oil Change, up to 5 Qts. Synthetic Blend Motor Oil
- New Oil Filter
- Chassis Lub • 18 Point Service

AVENUE TIRE & SERVICE

EXPIRES 11-15-26 WITH COPY OF THIS AD. NOT VALID WITH OTHER OFFERS.

$25 Off SERVICE WORK $250 OR MORE

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AVENUE TIRE & SERVICE

Your one-stop shop for brakes,
10 Minute Oil changes,
tires and all your auto repair needs.

55 Years of Proudly Serving Our Area

5797 West US 10, Ludington
231-843-3414

PENNZOIL 10 MINUTE OIL CHANGE lube oil filter

Not just oil, Pennzoil.™

THANK YOU FOR VOTING FOR US!

FAVORITE BUSINESS IN BOTH PENTWATER AND SHELBY



FULL MENU • FULL BAR

LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS

THE BROWN BEAR DOWNTOWN

TAKE-OUT
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

2 LOCATIONS

278 S. HANCOCK - PENTWATER **231-869-5444**
147 MICHIGAN - SHELBY **231-861-5014**

From our Family to Yours... *Thank you!*

Dear Community,

Five years ago, we opened our doors with a simple mission: to build the kind of healthcare experience we would want for our own family - and for yours.

As we celebrate our 5th anniversary, we are incredibly humbled to once again be voted Best Physician and Best Chiropractor by the communities we have the privilege of serving. To receive this honor every year since opening our doors is something we will never take for granted. It is a reflection of the trust you have placed in our team, and we are deeply grateful.

Because of your support, our vision continues to grow.

This year, we are excited to welcome Dr. Spencer Panse, who chose to return home to West Michigan to serve the community that helped shape him. We are expanding into Manistee, bringing podiatry and chiropractic care together under one roof while continuing to proudly serve our patients in Ludington and Scottville. We will also continue our mobile podiatry services, bringing exceptional foot care to patients in their homes and residential care communities when traveling to our offices is not possible.

While our practice continues to grow, our purpose remains the same: to create a place where people feel heard, cared for, and treated like family.

Thank you for allowing our family to care for yours. We are honored to grow alongside the communities we call home, and we are excited for all that is still to come.

With gratitude,

Dr. Alexus Squires & Dr. Weston Squires



BEST CHIROPRACTOR
Dr. Weston Squires DC, CSCS

BEST PHYSICIAN
Dr. Alexus Squires DPM, AACFAS

VOTED ONE OF THE SQUIRES CHIROPRACTIC BEST BUSINESSES



330 E. MAIN ST. | WALKERVILLE | 231-898-0881 | OPEN MON.-SUN. 7 AM-10 PM

THE Ten31 Stop EST. 2023

Heartfelt thanks to West Michigan for honoring Ten31 Stop Best Business in Scottville and Favorite Overall Business! We're here because of our stellar team and your fantastic support. It is an honor to serve you.

STOP IN FOR ALL THE BEST:

- Always hot, ready-to-go meals
- Daily specials and delicious pizzas
- Extensive selection in our Beer Cave
- Fine wines and spirits
- Proudly family-owned and operated

Ten31 Stop: Serving up convenience with a side of community!



460 W. US 10 | SCOTTVILLE | 231-936-1009 | OPEN MON.-FRI. 4:30 AM-10 PM; SAT. & SUN. 6 AM-10 PM

West Shore Eye Care

VOTED BEST EYE CARE

2026 WINNER — The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice

Thank You for Trusting Us

WITH YOUR EYE CARE NEEDS



westshoreeyecare.com

West Shore Eye Care
Dry Eye Center of West Michigan
231-843-4117
info@westshoreeyecare.com



TODD & BRAD REED PHOTOGRAPHY AND RACHEL GAUDETTE
TODDANDBRADREED.COM

Thank You!

2026 WINNER — The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice



LAKESHORE AUTOMOTIVE & TIRE
231-425-3526

TRUST OUR PROFESSIONALS WITH:

- Alignments
- Brakes
- Tires
- Oil Changes
- Tuneups
- Heating & A/C
- Steering & Suspension
- Engine Repair & Replacement
- Automatic Transmission Replacement





2026 WINNER — The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice

2026 FAVORITE — The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice

BEST MECHANIC - JACK CURRIER
FAVORITE AUTO REPAIRS AND FAVORITE OIL CHANGE

FAVORITE FOR BEST TIRES - ROB CASTONIA

702 S. James St., Ludington, MI **231-425-3526** Open Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm

THANK YOU for voting for us! It is an honor to serve the community. Bringing you our best everyday!

TWO LOCATIONS, Six Master Technicians Ready to Deliver Expert Care at Either One

Your New Car Is Waiting!



YOUR FAVORITE USED CAR DEALERSHIP!



2026 FAVORITE — The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice

FRESH INVENTORY, FAIR PRICES, AND NO FLUFF – JUST HONEST DEALS FROM FOLKS WITH 25+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

- Auto Sales
- Alignments
- Brakes
- Tires
- Oil Changes
- Tuneups
- Heating & AC
- Steering & Suspension
- Engine Repair & Replacement
- Automatic Transmission Replacement

LAKESHORE MOTORS
Sales & Service

4413 W. US Hwy. 10, Ludington, MI **231-292-5768** Open Monday - Friday 10 am - 6 pm

Best of the Best

Your guide to the 2026 Shoreline Media Readers Choice Winners

Celebrating Community Favorites: 2026 Reader's Choice Awards



The results are in, and once again, Shoreline Media readers have made their choices.

The 2026 Readers' Choice Awards celebrate the businesses, organizations and people our readers turn to every day — where they eat, shop and do business, who they trust for services and the places they recommend when someone asks, "Who's the best?"

These awards aren't selected by a panel of judges or decided in our newsroom. They are determined by our readers. Each vote is a personal recommendation — the restaurant you return to, the mechanic you trust, the store where you like to shop or the person you call when you need a job done.

For the businesses and individuals featured in these pages, that makes the honor especially meaningful. Earning a customer's business is important. Earning that customer's recommendation is something worth celebrating.

Some of this year's honorees are familiar names that have served West Michigan for generations. Others are newer businesses building a following and becoming part of their communities. Whether large or small, each has earned the support of the people who voted for them.

Local businesses are an important part of what keeps our communities going. They employ our neighbors, sponsor youth teams and community events, support local organizations and contribute to the local economy. When there is a fundraiser, festival or community project that needs support, local businesses are often among those asked to help — and many do.

That relationship works both ways. Supporting a local business helps keep dollars closer to home and supports the variety of shops, restaurants and services that help our communities thrive. Readers' Choice gives us a chance to honor those businesses while giving readers a useful guide to some of West Michigan's favorites.

You might find a restaurant you haven't tried, a shop you've never visited or a service you didn't know was available close to home. Consider these pages recommendations from your fellow West Michigan residents about businesses, organizations and people they know and trust.

To this year's winners and favorites, congratulations. Being chosen by your customers and neighbors is an accomplishment worth celebrating. Thank you for the work you do and for the many ways you contribute to the communities you serve.

And to our readers, thank you for voting. Your participation makes Readers' Choice possible and gives local businesses and individuals something especially valuable: the endorsement of the people they serve.

We hope you enjoy the 2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice Awards — and perhaps find a new favorite along the way.

Paul Heidbreder
Interim Publisher
Shoreline Media Group

Arts & Entertainment 10
Automotive / Recreational 10
Community 12
Financial Services 16
Food & Beverage 16
Furry Friends 20
Health Care 20
Home & Garden 22
Retail / Shopping 24
Services 26

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White Lake Beacon
PO Box 98
Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 894-5356
(231) 873-4775 fax

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THANK YOU

FOR VOTING US
BEST BREWERY
BEST RESTAURANT
BEST DINNER
BEST STEAK

JAMESPORT BREWING Co.

JamesportBrewingCompany.com - 410 S James St - Ludington, MI



JBC's PORTSIDE GARDEN

PORTSIDE GARDEN KITCHEN + BAR
OPEN DAILY 3-9PM, LIVE MUSIC THURSDAYS 5-8PM

Shoreline Media Best of West Michigan Winners

Best of the Best Arts & Entertainment

BEST BOWLING ALLEY
- ★ **Stix**
- ★ Spartan West Bowling Center
- ★ Eagles

BEST CAMPGROUND/RV PARK
- ★ **Kibby Creek Campground**
- ★ Poncho's Pond RV Park
- ★ Ludington State Park

BEST ENTERTAINMENT VENUE
- ★ **Sand Bar**
- ★ Stix
- ★ Waterfront Park

BEST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT
- ★ **Silverback Offroad Rentals**
- ★ S.S. Badger Lake Michigan Carferry
- ★ Mac Wood's Dune Rides

BEST FESTIVAL/OUTDOOR EVENT
- ★ **Rhythm and Dunes**
- ★ Asparagus Festival
- ★ Western Michigan Fair

BEST GALLERY
- ★ **Art Rocks Gallery**
- ★ Todd and Brad Reed Photography
- ★ Ludington Area Center for the Arts

BEST GOLF COURSE
- ★ **Lakeside Links Golf Course**
- ★ Lincoln Hills Golf Club
- ★ Hemlock Golf Club

BEST LOCAL PARK
- ★ **Ludington State Park**
- ★ Stearns Park
- ★ Waterfront Park

BEST MUSEUM
- ★ **White Pine Village**
- ★ Sandcastles Childrens Museum
- ★ Port of Ludington Maritime Museum

BEST PHOTOGRAPHER
- ★ **Todd and Brad Reed Photography**
- ★ Vince Rockwell Photography
- ★ Thocher Media

BEST TOURIST SPOT
- ★ **Ludington State Park**
- ★ Stearns Beach
- ★ Silverback Offroad Rentals

BEST WEDDING VENUE
- ★ **Treetop Meadows**
- ★ Cox Ranch
- ★ The Lake House

Best of the Best Automotive/Recreational

BEST AUTO BODY REPAIR
- ★ **Benedict Auto Center**
- ★ Lakeshore Collision
- ★ Dusty's Auto Body

BEST AUTO PARTS STORE
- ★ **NAPA Auto Parts Ludington**
- ★ Auto Value Ludington
- ★ O'Reilly Auto Parts



THANKS FOR VOTING US YOUR FAVORITE FAMILY CAMPGROUND!

KIBBY CREEK CAMPGROUND
LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN





Thanks for Your Vote!

2026 Favorite — The Ludington Daily News

2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice



Winner for One of the Best Bakeries, Lunch, Business in Ludington and Business Overall

110 W. FILER, LUDINGTON • 231-843-3327

Thank You to our loyal customers who voted us BEST BUSINESS IN MUSKEGON 4 years in a row! As well as FAVORITE MATTRESS and FAVORITE FURNITURE store! We are honored you chose us!

2026 Winner — The Ludington Daily News

2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice

2026 Favorite — The Ludington Daily News

2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice



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733-2528
langloisstore.com

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HOME FURNISHINGS
SINCE 1947

Your Car Your Choice!

Don't let insurance dictate where you go for body shop work

From dings to collisions, trust our expert team for top-quality repairs.

Drive with confidence!

We're on Cloud Nine Thanks to Your Tremendous Support!

2026 Winner — The Ludington Daily News

2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice



Benedict's Auto Center

1742 W. US 10
Scottville
231.613.4111

Celebrating Over 50 Years of Serving our Community

A heartfelt thank you for voting the Ludington Senior Center as the best non-profit organization!

2026 Winner — The Ludington Daily News

2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice

The Ludington Senior Center

Vitality at its best!

"Keeping Seniors Active and Independent"

Providing Activities for Healthier Living

- Matter of Balance Classes
- Painting and Craft Classes
- Tax Credits
- Medicare/Medicaid Assistance
- Exercise Classes - Enhance Fitness, Zumba, Yoga, Stretch/Fit, Line Dancing, Cardio Drumming, Feldenkrais
- Clubs - Coin, Walking, Garden, Men's Breakfast, Book Club
- Fun in-door activities
- Ping Pong
- Billiards
- Trips
- Cards/Games



Stop in and see what's new, or read a copy of our monthly newsletter! A digital copy can be accessed on our Facebook page. Come join in on the fun, ages 50 and up!

308 S. Rowe, Ludington
231-845-6841
http://ludingtonseniorcenter.org

Shoreline Media Best of West Michigan Winners

BEST AUTO REPAIR/SERVICE
- ★ **Avenue Tire & Service**
- ★ Lakeshore Automotive & Tire
- ★ Brand's Auto Repair

BEST BOAT SALES/SERVICE
- ★ **Lakeshore Motorsports and Marine**
- ★ Hamlin Lake Marina
- ★ Charlie's Marina

BEST MECHANIC
- ★ **Jack Currier - Lakeshore Automotive & Tire**
- ★ Peter Larsen - Lakeshore Motorsports and Marine
- ★ Derrick Brown - Meyers Chevrolet

BEST MOTOR SPORTS SALES/SERVICE
- ★ **Lakeshore Motorsports and Marine**
- ★ U-Win Motorsports
- ★ Fox Power Sports

BEST NEW CAR DEALERSHIP
- ★ **Urka Auto Center**
- ★ Meyers Chevrolet
- ★ Watson's Ludington

BEST OIL CHANGE
- ★ **Avenue Tire & Service**
- ★ Lakeshore Automotive & Tire
- ★ Lighthouse Car Care

BEST RV SALES/SERVICE
- ★ **Bish's RV**
- ★ Finish Line Motor Sports
- ★ Matt Miner

BEST TIRE SHOP
- ★ **Lakeshore Automotive & Tire**
- ★ Steve's Tire & Automotive Service
- ★ Tire It Wholesale

BEST TOWING SERVICE
- ★ **Fiers Towing & Recovery**
- ★ Oceana Auto
- ★ Auto Ranch

BEST USED CAR DEALERSHIP
- ★ **Vander Haag Car Sales LLC**
- ★ Lakeshore Motor Sales
- ★ Meyers Chevrolet

Best of the Best Community

BEST BUSINESS IN HART
- ★ **La Probadita**
- ★ Hansen Foods
- ★ Birch & Blossom

BEST BUSINESS IN LAKE COUNTY
- ★ **Jones Ice Cream**
- ★ Best Bear Lodge
- ★ Nah-Ta-Kah

Overflowing with Gratitude

We're thrilled and thankful to receive this golden accolade from our community. Your continued support fuels our commitment to providing top-notch plumbing solutions.



Thank You for Voting Us #1 Plumber!

- Expert solutions for any plumbing challenge
- Prompt, professional service every time
- Advanced techniques for efficient problem-solving
- Dedicated to ensuring your home's comfort and safety

SCHOLTENS PLUMBING INC.

142 S. Main St.
Scottville, MI 49454
(231) 757-3049
www.scholtensplumbing.com

Thank You!



Thank you for voting us Best Landscaper.
The growth we've experienced over the past 27 years is because of customers like you who rely on our dependable, professional service. We value your trust and we'll do our best to continue to provide the level of service you deserve.

2026 WINNER
2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice

LARSEN'S LANDSCAPING & LAWNCARE LLC

3091 N. US31, Scottville, MI 49454
231-757-3850



PROUD TO BE A 2026 READERS' CHOICE ONE OF THE BEST!

- 50+ years of trusted experience
- Customer service is our #1 priority
- We work directly with your insurance company
- Precision repairs. Friendly faces. Peace of mind.

YOUR LOCAL COLLISION EXPERTS – WHERE CARE MEETS CRAFTSMANSHIP

LAKESHORE COLLISION SERVICE LLC
Quality Repair With Hometown Care.

111 South Pere Marquette Highway, Ludington, MI 49431
231-425-4586

Thank you for voting Mike Fennema Painting as Favorite Painter in the Region!





This local support means everything to me and my small business. I am truly grateful for your trust and confidence in my work. I look forward to continuing to provide quality service and craftsmanship to the community.

MIKE FENNEMA PAINTING

Visit Mike Fennema Painting on Facebook.

(616) 717-8394 • Ludington

Thank You

2026 WINNER
2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice

to our community for voting Magee Insurance the BEST insurance agency in Mason County

231-845-5000
5965 E Ludington Ave
Ludington, MI 49431

See us for your Auto, Home, Health, Life, Business Insurance needs

Magee Insurance Group also has Boat, Mobile Home, Motorcycle, Farm and Disability Insurance available

Call for a free quote today

MAGEE INSURANCE GROUP

Shoreline Media Best of West Michigan Winners

BEST BUSINESS IN LUDINGTON
★ **The Side Room**
★ Trail's End Baking Company
★ Lakeshore Motorsports and Marine

BEST BUSINESS IN MONTAGUE
★ **Montague Foods**
★ Hanson Hill
★ Coldwell Banker Woodland Schmidt

BEST BUSINESS IN MUSKEGON
★ **Langlois Home Furnishings**
★ 231 Towing
★ Costco

BEST BUSINESS IN PENTWATER
★ **Deb Stevenson Group - Greenridge Realty**
★ Antler Bar
★ Brown Bear

BEST BUSINESS IN SCOTTVILLE
★ **Ten31 Stop**
★ Pro-Master Cleaning & Restoration
★ Squires Chiropractic

BEST BUSINESS IN SHELBY
★ **Lotus Wellness Studio**
★ Brown Bear
★ Pizza Factory

BEST BUSINESS IN SILVER LAKE/MEARS
★ **Chicken Shack**
★ Mac Wood's Dune Rides
★ Silverback Offroad Rentals

BEST BUSINESS IN WHITEHALL
★ **Bell's of Whitehall**
★ Colby's Cafe & Brew

BEST BUSINESS OVERALL
★ **Lotus Wellness Studio**
★ Ten31 Stop
★ Trail's End Baking Company

BEST CITY TO CALL HOME
★ **Ludington**
★ Pentwater
★ Hart

BEST HEALTH & FITNESS CLUB
★ **Ludington Athletic Club**
★ HarborFit Studio
★ America's Fitness Center Ludington

BEST LOCAL NON-PROFIT CAUSE
★ **Ludington Senior Citizens Center**
★ Mason County Mutts
★ C.O.V.E.

Thank You
FOR VOTING US
WINNER
BEST AUTO LOAN PROVIDER
BEST CREDIT UNION



Safe Harbor CREDIT UNION
Your success is our success, we belong to you.
(231) 843-2323
safeharborcu.org

Thank You!
FOR VOTING US
ONE OF YOUR FAVORITES FOR
THE BEST TOWING SERVICE!

Local & Long Distance Towing
24/7/365 Towing & Roadside Assistance
Largest Scrap Steel/Auto
Buyers In The Area



SERVING MASON & OCEANA COUNTIES

Oceana Auto

5170 W. Polk Rd., Hart
Hart 231-873-3500
Ludington 231-843-6500
www.oceana-auto.com

We would like to thank everyone who voted for us for the honorable title of Best Contractor, One of the Best for Kitchen & Bath Remodeler and Construction Company. We take our trade very seriously and truly appreciate that you the readers have noticed that. We are approaching our 18th year and are very excited to see what the future holds. With a community as great as ours we are sure that only great things are to come.

I am Jackson Quick the founder and president of Jackson Quick Building Inc. I am a licensed builder with a passion for turning dreams into reality. Since establishment in 2010, we've been dedicated to serving Mason and Lake County with a commitment to quality, craftsmanship, and personalized experiences. We take care of every step of the construction process and build like it was our own.



Our Philosophy:
Local Roots: As an alumni and member of the CTE/Building Trades program, I'm proud to contribute to our community by employing local subcontractors and workers. Premium Products: We believe in using the best, which is why we source premium materials locally to ensure the highest quality for your home.

Communication: The key to a successful project lies in open communication. We prioritize regular updates and discussions to make your vision come to life seamlessly.

Our Commitment:
Excellence: We strive for excellence in every project, delivering a premium product that reflects our dedication to craftsmanship. Neatness: A clean and organized job site is crucial for efficiency and safety. We take pride in maintaining a tidy work environment.

Let's Build Together:
We look forward to the opportunity to work with you. Together, we can create the home you've always dreamed of.

SERVING MASON, LAKE AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES
LICENSED & INSURED

Jackson Quick BUILDING INC.
231-233-2164
JacksonQuickBuilding.com

Shoreline Media Best of West Michigan Winners

Best of the Best Financial Services

BEST ACCOUNTING/CPA FIRM
- ★ **Heyse & Associates, Inc.**
- ★ Rob Bednarz, Merskin & Merskin
- ★ Cameron Accounting

BEST AUTO LOAN PROVIDER
- ★ **Safe Harbor Credit Union**
- ★ Preferred Credit Union
- ★ Filer Credit Union

BEST BANK/CREDIT UNION
- ★ **Safe Harbor Credit Union**
- ★ West Shore Bank
- ★ Filer Credit Union

BEST FINANCIAL ADVISOR
- ★ **Julee Sarto - EP Wealth Advisors**
- ★ Austin Garcia
- ★ Brian Madl - Edward Jones

BEST MORTGAGE/HOME LOAN PROVIDER
- ★ **Metro Mortgage Group**
- ★ Preferred Credit Union
- ★ Safe Harbor Credit Union

Best of the Best Food & Beverage

BEST BAKERY
- ★ **Country View Bakery**
- ★ Trail's End Baking Co
- ★ West Shore Market

BEST BAR
- ★ **Sand Bar**
- ★ Sportsman's Restaurant and Bar
- ★ Alley Bar & Grill
- ★ Jamesport Brewing Company

BEST BARBEQUE
- ★ **The Q Smokehouse**
- ★ Country View Bakery
- ★ Cluck Bucket

BEST BREAKFAST
- ★ **Jolly Plate**
- ★ Old Hamlin
- ★ Cafe 106

BEST BREWERY
- ★ **Jamesport Brewing Company**
- ★ Starving Artist
- ★ Ludington Bay Brewery

BEST BURGER
- ★ **Burger Bliss**
- ★ Sportsman's Restaurant and Bar
- ★ Jamesport Brewing Company

BEST CATERING
- ★ **Gloria Ann's Catering & Takeout**
- ★ Cluck Bucket
- ★ Big Apple Bagels

BEST CUP OF COFFEE
- ★ **Book Mark**
- ★ Trail's End Baking Company
- ★ Red Rooster Coffee & Community

Thank You Mason County

Proud to be Voted as the Best

Hookin' with a smile

2026 WINNER The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice



Winch-out • Lockout
Fuel Delivery
Tire Change • Jump Start
Local & Long Distance Hauling

24 HR. TOWING SERVICE
231-757-4479
231-923-0828

FIERS TOWING & RECOVERY LLC
1947 S. Darr Rd., Scottville

THANK YOU FOR MAKING US "ONE OF THE BEST GROCERY STORES!"
WEST SHORE MARKET CELEBRATES WITH GRATITUDE



A huge thank you to our community for voting us One of the Best Grocery Stores! Your support makes every day sweeter at West Shore Market. We are honored to serve up the treats that bring a smile to your face.

WEST SHORE MARKET



Thank you

for voting us Best Wedding Venue!

2026 WINNER The Best of West Michigan — 2026 SHORELINE MEDIA Readers' Choice



Large Capacity Venue, Secluded Country Setting, Full Weekend Rental, Open June-October

- Comfortably accommodating up to 450 guests indoors
- On-site ceremony availability
- Featuring a bridal suite & grooms' room for attendants to prepare
- Side entrance attached to prep area for caterer's convenience
- ADA accessible men's & women's restrooms
- Seating provided

Looking forward to the first day of your Happily Ever After

NOW BOOKING FOR THE 2027 - 2028 WEDDING SEASON

treetop meadows

For more information or contact info visit us on
Facebook@treetopmeadows • www.treetopmeadows.com
5230 West Angling Road, Ludington, Michigan 49431

Thank you!

A very large and heartfelt thank you to my clients and community for your support, trust, and business. I, *very literally*, couldn't do this without you!

Also, a big shout out to my fellow industry professionals - I am so thankful for your professionalism and dedication to our community.

REALTOR® of the YEAR 2026

2026 FAVORITE — '25 FAVORITE



Raquel Rae
CALL (231) 881-2167
BROKER | OWNER | REALTOR®

AVAILABLE HOMES
SCAN ME

Lighthouse Realty
503 S. Rath Ave. • Ludington • 231-845-7500

Shoreline Media Best of West Michigan Winners

BEST DINNER
- ★ **Jamesport Brewing Company**
- ★ Table 14
- ★ Stix

BEST DONUTS
- ★ **Wesco**
- ★ Orchard Market
- ★ Brunch Babes Food Truck

BEST FARM MARKET
- ★ **Orchard Market**
- ★ The Market
- ★ Ludington Farmers' Market

BEST FISH FRY
- ★ **Bortell's Fisheries**
- ★ Cluck Bucket
- ★ Scotty's Restaurant

BEST FOOD TRUCK
- ★ **Brunch Babes Food Truck**
- ★ The Wooden Paddle Pizza And Wings
- ★ Burger Bliss

BEST GROCERY STORE
- ★ **Meijer**
- ★ Family Fare
- ★ Aldi

BEST ICE CREAM
- ★ **House of Flavors**
- ★ Dairy Queen of Ludington
- ★ Krave

BEST LIQUOR/BEER/WINE STORE
- ★ **Northside Market**
- ★ Ludington Liquor
- ★ Family Fare

BEST LUNCH
- ★ **Big Apple Bagels**
- ★ Trail's End Baking Compnay
- ★ Cluck Bucket

BEST MEAT MARKET
- ★ **Sanders Meats**
- ★ Ludington Meat Company
- ★ Northside Market

BEST MEXICAN FOOD
- ★ **El Rancho**
- ★ La Probadita
- ★ The Grand

BEST PIZZA
- ★ **Hungry Howies**
- ★ Hart Pizza
- ★ Sportsman's Restaurant and Bar

BEST RESTAURANT
- ★ **Jamesport Brewing Company**
- ★ Table 14
- ★ Ludington Harbor Cafe

BEST STEAK
- ★ **Jamesport Brewing Company**
- ★ Bungalow
- ★ Timbers Prime

BEST WINERY
- ★ **Love Wines**
- ★ Pere Marquette Winery
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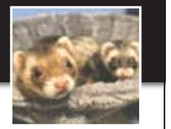
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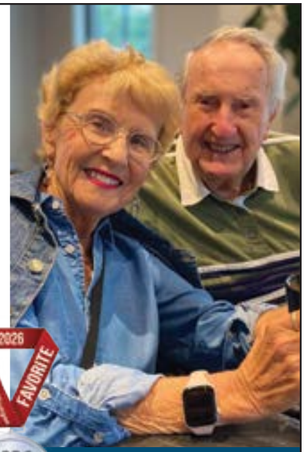
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Best Business in Ludington: Less than a year after opening, The Side Room earns Ludington's top Readers' Choice honor

BY KATE BABEL
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF REPORTER

LUDINGTON — Opening a new business is never easy. Earning the community's vote as the best business in town before celebrating a first anniversary is even more rare.

That is exactly what happened for The Side Room, which captured the 2026 Shoreline Media Readers' Choice Award as Best Business in Ludington less than a year after opening its doors.

Located in the Pier building on Ludington Avenue, The Side Room welcomed its first customers on Nov. 13, 2025. In just a few months, the cocktail lounge has become a popular gathering place for both local residents and visitors.

For owner Steve Sides and his son, Jeremy, the recognition came as a surprise.

"I still don't think it's real, really," Steve said. "It was so easy designing the whole place and then building it, and I didn't think people were gonna like it as much as they do."

Jeremy shared his father's disbelief.

"I mean, we were obviously really surprised," he said. "We've only been open not even a year, but I'm glad everybody's liking it. Really, that's what blows us away. We had no expectation of possibly being the best business in Ludington."

The business itself almost came together by chance.

Steve said the opportunity arose after talking with Sarah Candance, owner of Pier to Pier Picnics, who had purchased the building. When he learned a liquor license was included with the property, he began envisioning a cocktail lounge in an unused side room.

"The rest is history," Steve said. "So we built a bar."

Jeremy admitted he initially wasn't convinced the idea would become reality.

"He called me one day and said, 'I think I want to open a bar in here,'" Jeremy recalled with a laugh. "He's had a lot of pipe dreams, so sometimes you kind of take it with a grain of salt. But once we got in there and started remodeling, before we knew it, it all started to become an actual place."

The name itself carries a double meaning, combining the family's surname with the bar's location tucked into the side of the building.

From the beginning, Steve envisioned something different from a typical neighborhood tavern.











Inspired by the cocktail lounges of the 1920s and 1930s, The Side Room features vintage décor, period-inspired music and handcrafted cocktails made with premium ingredients.

"I think it's mostly the theme," Steve said. "We wanted that 20s and 30s style. We wanted high-quality ingredients, high-quality liquors and even high-quality food. We wanted to be a nice establishment all around."

Rather than simply creating another place to grab a drink, Steve said he wanted guests to feel as though they had stepped somewhere entirely different.

"I wanted people to walk in and forget they were in Ludington," he said. "Nothing against Ludington, but people have told us, 'Wow, it's like we're not even in Ludington anymore.' That's exactly what I was going for."

That attention to detail extends beyond the décor.

"We wanted the music to match the era," Steve said. "You just come in and chill. We wanted people to feel like they were sitting in a lounge in a big city."

Steve also credits the staff for helping create the atmosphere customers have embraced.

"We hired good staff," he said. "We have awesome bartenders. The better your help is, the more satisfied your customers are."

Although the business has quickly found success, the Sides family says they have no plans to stop improving.

They're continuing to refine the business while preparing their next venture, the Side Counter Deli, and hope the Readers' Choice recognition is only the beginning.

"We're just going to keep trying to tweak things to benefit the customers," Steve said. "It's really weird how many people really like it as much as they do. I'm blown away, honestly."







Best of Whitehall: Bell's of Whitehall earns fourth straight Readers' Choice honor

BY LARRY LAUNSTEIN JR.
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

Located on East Colby Street, Bell's operates both its main showroom and a two-story Clearance Center, offering furniture, flooring, mattresses and home accessories in a wide range of styles and price points.

The repeat recognition reflects a business that has evolved from a small furniture store into a regional destination while remaining family-owned for nearly seven decades.

Store manager Dennis Spira said the business was founded in 1954, well before either he or salesperson and designer Marci Thielman were born.

Bell's has been owned by the Thielman family since 1957, when founder George Bell sold the business to Gene Thielman. Gene's son, Chuck Thielman, joined the business after graduating from college in 1970, helping transform the small neighborhood furniture store into a regional destination by expanding both the showroom and its product offerings.

Over the decades, the family purchased neighboring buildings, growing the showroom to approximately 40,000 square feet.

Today, the main showroom features living room, dining room and bedroom collections, along with flooring, carpeting and home accessories. The Clearance Center specializes in closeouts, one-of-a-kind pieces and more affordable options.

Marci Thielman, whose husband is Gene Thielman's grandson, said she joined the family business nearly 20 years ago after she and her husband moved from Grand Rapids to Whitehall.

"After we got married, I decided to see if it was something I liked and I've been here for almost 20 years," she said.

Spira said Bell's distinguishes itself by displaying furniture in complete room settings rather than rows of individual pieces.

"I think the biggest thing that is different about our store is that, like a vignette or a display where it's fully accessorized," Spira said.

"You have rugs, lamps, accessories, pictures — everything is done and we set up our whole entire store in vignettes as opposed to rows of sofas or rows of chairs."

While some areas, such as the La-Z-Boy gallery, are organized by brand, most of the showroom is arranged as complete bedroom, dining room and living room collections.

Thielman said the displays are constantly changing.

"We get new furniture added to our inventory every day and change our displays and layouts throughout the store weekly," she said. "The store is constantly changing and furniture gets added and removed regularly."

Bell's also offers complimentary design assistance to help customers furnish their homes.

"We'll help you design your room to make sure that it looks good and is functional, and doesn't get overpowered by putting too big of furniture in," Thielman said.

Customer service continues after the sale, she added.

"We've got a great service team," Thielman said.





"We have always put our customers first, so we have continued to offer the guaranteed lowest prices on the merchandise we carry, along with a knowledgeable sales staff to assist you in making the best decisions for your home," she said.

Thielman said Bell's delivers furniture every day the store is open, serving customers throughout West Michigan and across the state.

"This includes putting the furniture in your home, moving your old furniture if needed, and setting up so it's fully functional before they leave," she said.

The store carries brands including Lexington, Stanley, Leather Italia, Canadel, Vaughan-Bassett, Flexsteel, La-Z-Boy, Rowe, Hammary, Norwalk, Smith Brothers and Hooker. Bell's also offers Shaw carpeting, Mannington hard-surface flooring, laminate, vinyl, wood flooring and mattresses.

The Clearance Center opened in 1994 as what was intended to be a temporary three-month sale. Customer response was so strong that it became a permanent part of the business.

"Our Clearance Center continues to be a great source for one-of-a-kind closeouts, along with custom order furniture at the guaranteed lowest price," Thielman said.

Looking ahead, Thielman said Bell's remains committed to the same values that have guided the business for more than seven decades.

"Our goals this year include providing the same great service and selection that has made us a trusted source for furniture since 1954, along with offering high quality furniture and design to as many people as we can," she said.

"We will continue to educate people so they can make the best choices for their home and lifestyle.

"Because we're a destination store, we will continue to serve the community by recommending other local businesses to visit while they are here."

Bell's of Whitehall is located at 116 E. Colby St. Its Clearance Center is located at 104 E. Colby St. The business recently began accepting American Express at both locations.

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Best of Business Silver Lake/Mears: Chicken Shack keeps winning over Silver Lake visitors

BY DAVID BARBER
SHORELINE MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

The best thing a person can spend at the Silver Lake Chicken Shack is time.

Spend time taking in its family-friendly atmosphere.

Spend time savoring its acclaimed foods — especially its signature chicken wings — and sampling its extensive selection of craft beers, wines and more.

Spend time listening to its live entertainment.

Most of all, spend time among the thousands of local residents, campers and visitors who make the award-winning Lake Michigan-area business part of their summer traditions.

That loyalty has once again earned the Silver Lake Chicken Shack the Readers Choice Award for Best Business in the Silver Lake/Mears area, marking the restaurant's second consecutive year receiving the honor.

Located in the Oceana County shadows of the Silver Lake Sand Dunes, the Chicken Shack sits on West Hazel Road in Mears, where it shares close quarters with its neighboring Silver Lake businesses.

Season after season, from May through September, local residents, campers and visitors from communities far and wide converge on the seemingly quaint restaurant. They come for flavorful meals, live entertainment and an atmosphere that encourages guests to slow down, relax and enjoy the experience.

If the restaurant has a signature food — and it does — it would be its tender chicken wings, served plain or coated in a variety of sweet, spicy or tangy sauces. For those who take advantage of the Chicken Shack's take-out service, those orders often need to be carried with two hands.

There's more — much more.

Burger lovers will find juicy, made-to-order burgers that pair perfectly with the restaurant's creamy macaroni and cheese. Pulled pork sandwiches, crinkle-cut fries, specialty dips and other customer favorites round out a menu that keeps visitors coming back year after year.

The drink selection is equally impressive, featuring Michigan craft beers, wines, soft drinks and more. Guests traveling with four-legged companions will also appreciate that the Chicken Shack is dog-friendly.

Though its reputation is long-established, the Chicken Shack isn't quite 20 years old. Since opening in 2008, it has grown from a restaurant seating just over two dozen guests to a nearly 300-seat destination, often filled during the height of the summer season.

Owner Scott Butcher credits much of that success to the people who have worked there over the years.

Many seasonal employees have returned summer after summer, learning the business before stepping into leadership roles.

"A great staff is able to do what we do," Butcher said.

The Chicken Shack has become more than a restaurant. It's a place where families gather after a day at the dunes, friends meet over dinner and vacationers make memories that bring them back each summer.

Earning the Readers Choice award for the fourth straight year is especially meaningful because it comes directly from the customers who continue to support the business.

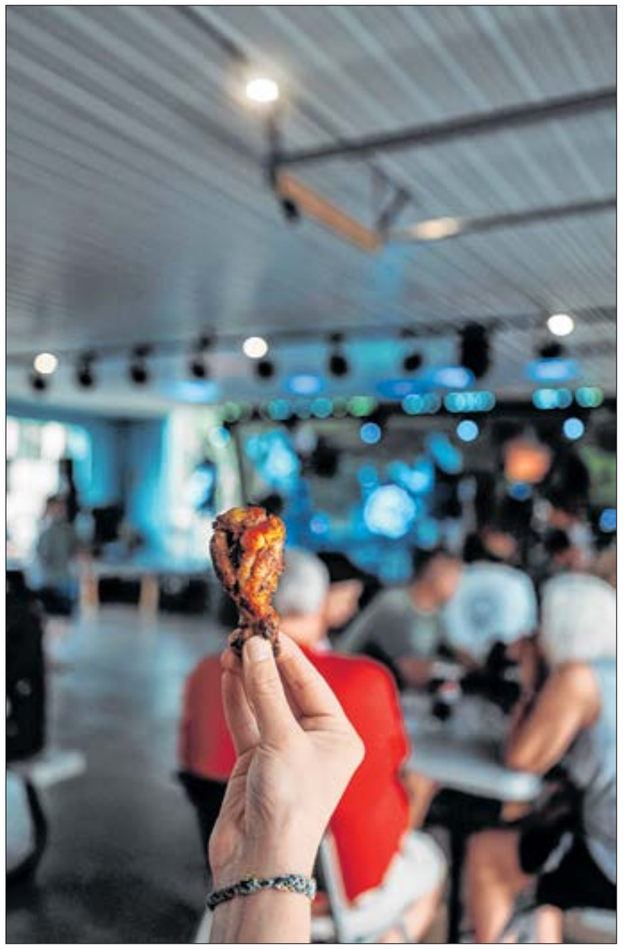
"It's quite the honor in the business because there's a lot of great businesses around," Butcher said after receiving last year's award.

Planning ahead isn't a bad idea. During the busiest summer weekends, reservations are recommended.

For more information, visit besteverwings.com, where the restaurant offers this humorous promise:

"Momma said it wasn't nice to brag, but Momma didn't always make good choices (ask her about Woodstock). We are here to tell you that we have the Best Ever Wings you will ever eat."







Best in Baldwin: Jones's serving up another year of sweet success

BY SHANNA AVERY
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

Jones' Homemade Ice Cream Shoppe continues to be a favorite for ice cream fans who make that special trip to get their favorite scoops right in downtown Baldwin.

Jones' has once again been voted Best Business in Lake County in this year's Shoreline Media Readers Choice Awards.

"We would like to thank everyone for all of their support, helping keep us thriving year after year and in business. I'd like to thank the employees — we couldn't do it without their support. We thank the readers for continuing to choose us as the best business," said Angela Johnson, who owns the business along with her mother, Joy Parrott.

The new patio installed this spring is the perfect touch, complementing the exterior of the building and adding to the charm and comfort for those who frequent the shoppe.

The new patio was made possible with a 2025 Match on Main award from the Michigan Economic Development Corp. The business was eligible to apply for $25,000 toward the costs of replacing critical production equipment and creating an accessible and dog-friendly outdoor seating area after the Village of Baldwin received its Redevelopment Ready Community Essentials Certification from the Michigan Economic Development Corp. in late 2024.

"The seating is such a wonderful addition to the store. It's almost quadrupled our seating, increased our business, and customers can enjoy their favorite treats both indoors and outdoors," Johnson added.

Jones' Homemade Ice Cream Shoppe takes customers back decades with its old-fashioned ice cream parlor décor and friendly service, staying true to the shop's heritage when founder Mark Jones opened it in 1942, even using many of the original recipes.

The interior walls showcase photographs, notes and other pieces of local history, commemorating the area's past while adding to the nostalgic experience visitors enjoy with each taste of the shop's locally famous ice cream.



Best of the Best in BALDWIN

2026 The Best of West Michigan WINNER

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Best Business in Hart: Family tradition fuels Readers' Choice winner

BY CRISTINA JUSKA
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

HART – For nearly 30 years, La Probadita Mercado and Taqueria has been located at the heart of downtown Hart – literally and figuratively.

"It's always been a family business," owner Maria Luna Rosas said, a tradition that began with her parents in Ludington, in 1990, and continues to this day. At the age of 8, Rosas began to learn the ins and outs of running a shop and creating the warm and welcoming atmosphere that is La Probadita's signature.

The business moved to Hart in 1998; Rosas and her husband, Ramon, took over when mom and dad retired in 2010. Rosas' parents still help out during the busy summer months.

This year, La Probadita also continued the tradition of taking home the Readers Choice Best Business in Hart award! Rosas is grateful for the repeat recognition and wants to thank everyone who voted and who continue to support the business.

La Probadita – which translates to "little taste" – is known for serving homemade, authentic Mexican food, primarily recipes from central Mexico in the state of Guanajuato. Rosas' mother-in-law Celia serves as head chef, with a reputation that preceded her.

"Many people knew of her cooking skills and followed her over to the store," Rosas said.

With a kitchen that draws in local residents and visiting foodies, Rosas is thankful for their diverse clientele. She says that you can never go wrong with tacos – but their menu goes far beyond! They offer gorditas, burritos, tostadas, tortas and tamales with your choice of meat, including al pastor, barbacoa, pollo, carne asada and more.

"If you are really hungry, I suggest the Probadita Combo," Rosas said. This giant meal comes with one steak taco, one shredded beef gordita, one pork tamal, rice and beans, cebollitas (Mexican green onions), chile toreado (grilled jalapeno) and a slice of grilled cheese.



Best of the Best in HART

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The La Probadita grocery store carries a wide variety of authentic Mexican products, with tortillas, veggies, drinks, charcoal, cakes, guacamole and more. The traditional carniceria (meat counter) offers a range of prepared Mexican meats, including carne al pastor, home-made chorizo, and chicken and beef fajitas.

La Probadita is located across from the Hart Commons at 19 S. State St. (corner of State and Main). Hours vary seasonally; visit www.laprobaditami.com or follow them on Facebook for updates.

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Best Business in Muskegon: Readers' Choice winner Langlois Home Furnishings continues tradition of service

BY LARRY LAUNSTEIN JR.
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

MUSKEGON - When one walks into Langlois Home Furnishings, they will be met with a wide array of furnishings for their living room or family room, their dining room, and their bedrooms.

The store has been named Shoreline Media's Reader's choice as the Best Business in Muskegon for 2025, after also receiving the honor in 2024.

Langlois began in 1947, according to the store's owner, Dan Langlois, when his father Bill decided to start an air conditioning and refrigeration repairs business in his garage, with a passion and hard work.

"When customers walk into Langlois, whether it's their first visit or the 50th, they can expect a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere," Dan said. "We believe shopping for your home should be enjoyable-not stressful."

Dan also said, "That's why we give our customers the time and space to browse at their own pace, without any pressure or pushy sales tactics."

Terry Huffman and Sharon Kolker of Norton Shores visited the store and said that they appreciate Langlois' honesty and willingness to correct problems without issues.

Terry said about why he keeps coming back to the store, "Quality … I like the way they do their service."

"If you've got a problem, they listen to you and they normally take very good care of you," Huffman said. "If there's a misunderstanding on something, they explain it and they show me and you'll understand."

"I've never had a problem here, never," Huffman said.

Kolker said about the store's reputation for honesty, "They are, because if for some reason you have a problem with something here, they'll take an interest and see that the problem is solved without any issues."

Dan continued by saying, "Our team is here to help when needed-offering honest advice, product knowledge, and personal service that comes from years of experience."

"Whether you're just looking or ready to furnish an entire room, we're here to make the process easy, comfortable and tailored to you," Dan said.

According to Dan, Bill opened his first appliance and refrigeration store on Peck Street in the early 1950s.

"At the time, the focus was on servicing and selling essential home appliances, offering quality products and dependable repair service the community could trust," Dan said.

And Dan said that as the business grew, so did the things that they could sell.

"By the late 1950s and 1960s, televi-







sions were added to the lineup, reflecting the changing needs of the modern household," Dan said.

"During the late 1980s, Langlois expanded into furniture, gradually shifting the focus to complete home furnishings," Dan said. "That shift marked a major turning point, eventually transitioning from a mix of appliances and electronics to a full-service furniture store."

When they first moved out of the garage, they offered brand names such as RCA, Frigidare, and General Electric.

But now firmly entrenched in the furniture business, they offer Lay-Z-Boy, Flexsteel, Ashley, England, Serta, Millennium, and TempurPedic.

"One of the most exciting things has been Stearns & Foster, a premium mattress brand known for its craftmanship, comfort and lasting quality," Dan said about a recent offering.

"We're proud to now offer this line alongside other trusted names, giving our customers even more options for quality and relaxation," Dan said.

In addition to their main store, which opened in 1974 on Henry Street, they also have a clearance outlet behind the store.

"The Clearance Center features a wide selection of items, including discontinued pieces, overstocked inventory, and special buys-all marked down for great savings," Dan said.

Dan also said that Langlois sources their furniture directly from the manufacturers, enabling the store to pass along deep discounts without sacrificing quality.

In addition, Dan said some of the items come from their own 30-thousand square foot warehouse, in which inventory is rotated to keep their showroom fresh and up-to-date.

"From living room sets and dining tables to mattresses and bedroom furniture, the Clearance Center is perfect for shoppers looking to furnish their homes for less, without compromising on style or quality," Dan said.

And between 2024-2025, the store has made several upgrades, according to Dan, by refreshing showroom layouts to updated displays.

"Our goal has been to make it easier for customers to envision how our furniture fits into their own homes," Dan said.

And Langlois has developed a wide customer base, stretching way beyond the Muskegon area.

Dan said, "Over the years, we've built strong relationships with customers from across West Michigan and beyond."

"We regularly welcome shoppers from Ludington, Grand Rapids, Holland and Coopersville-many of whom make the drive specifically because of our reputation for quality products, fair pricing, the relaxed, no-pressure atmosphere.

Dan said that his sales team brings more than 10-years average of experience, offering in-depth knowledge in the store's relaxed, no-pressure approach to helping customers find the perfect furniture for their home.

The office team has an average of over five years of experience, and the delivery crew, which delivers to homes all across the area, have over eight years of experience.

Langlois offers delivery services with fees ranging from $79 to $199, depending on the size of the order and location.

On mattress purchases of $1,199 or more, the store has free delivery.

In addition to personal service in the store, the store has a website, which one can visit at www.langloisstore.com.

The store is located at 3000 Henry Street in Muskegon. Their phone number is (231) 733-2528 and their email address is langloisstore@gmail.com.



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Best Business in Montague: Montague Foods continues tradition of excellence with another Readers' Choice honor

BY LARRY LAUNSTEIN JR.
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

MONTAGUE — For generations of White Lake area shoppers, Montague Foods has been more than a grocery store.

Readers have once again selected the locally owned supermarket as Shoreline Media's Readers' Choice Best Business in Montague, again earning the honor for its fresh foods, knowledgeable employees and the hometown service that has made the store a community staple for decades.

Fresh meat may bring shoppers through the door, but longtime customers say it's the friendly faces and hometown service that keep them coming back.

"It's friendly," longtime customer Lynn Glaser of Whitehall said. "It's well stocked and it's a local business."

Located at 8178 Water St. in downtown Montague, Montague Foods offers many of the conveniences of a larger supermarket while maintaining the atmosphere of a neighborhood grocery where employees know many of their customers by name.

One feature that continues to set the store apart is its full-service meat department. Most of the fresh meat sold at Montague Foods is processed in-house, allowing employees to ensure quality while offering customers custom cuts and special requests.

Richard Kriesel, who owns the business with his brother, Jason, said that commitment to freshness has long been one of the store's priorities.

"We take a lot of pride in cutting fresh meat daily instead of having it shipped in and putting it on the shelf," Richard said.

"We have six butchers who cut meat every day," he added. "It usually comes in large sections, and most of these butchers have 20 to 30 years of experience, so they're breaking down the meat into different steaks, different cuts and using the remainder to make freshly ground burgers."

Another service customers appreciate is the meat department's willingness to prepare special orders.

"We do cuts and orders, and one can call the store to schedule processing so meat can be prepared just the way they want it," Richard said.

Freshness extends well beyond the meat counter.

The produce department receives deliveries six days a week, helping ensure fruits and vegetables remain well stocked throughout the store. Montague Foods also features an extensive selection of beer and wine, including labels from Michigan and around the world.

Its full-service deli has become another customer favorite, offering prepared foods for busy families and shoppers looking for convenient meal options.

The emphasis on quality products is matched by a commitment to customer service, something shoppers repeatedly mention when describing what keeps them coming back.

"I would say the quality looks fantastic, friendly faces and the convenience," longtime customer John said.

Employees say attention to detail is part of the store's everyday routine. From unloading deliveries and stocking shelves to preparing fresh-cut fruit and vegetable trays, the goal is to ensure customers consistently find fresh, high-quality products throughout the store.

That commitment extends throughout the aisles, where longtime shoppers say the store is known for its cleanliness, organization and well-stocked shelves.

Employee Lisa Bush has spent more than 20 years working in the store's deli and said the close-knit atmosphere is one of the reasons she has stayed.

"Because it's like a family," Bush said. "I like everything I do over here."

Bush said she has worked in several departments over the years, including the produce section, before finding her niche in the deli.

The family atmosphere extends beyond employees to customers, many of whom have shopped there for generations.

For Glaser, who has shopped at Montague Foods for decades, it's the combination of friendly service and convenience that keeps bringing her back.

"It's nice and bright; it's fun to shop in here," she said. "You can see everything really well, and they've got plenty of employees so you don't have to wait a long time to check out your groceries and everything's always fresh."

For Montague Foods, another Readers' Choice award reflects the relationships it has built with generations of shoppers. Those customers continue to value the store's fresh products, experienced staff and hometown service — qualities that once again earned it recognition as Montague's Best Business.



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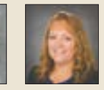

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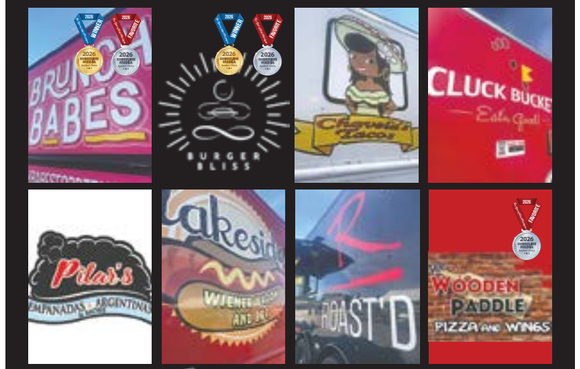
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Best in Scottville: Where convenience meets community: Ten31

BY SHANNA AVERY
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

Convenience is taken to stratospheric heights at Ten31 of Scottville.

To again be recognized as the Readers Choice Best Business in Scottville says a lot, because this quaint Mason County community is patch-worked with a number of outstanding businesses that feature family-friendly hospitality and excellence for local residents and those who are just passing through.

But what makes Ten31 truly stand out is the enormity of products and services it offers in a single location, all under one roof and kept in buffed and polished cleanliness.

Strategically and creatively carved into the crossroads of the bustling U.S. 10 and M-31 highways, the business offers a little bit of this, a little bit of that and a whole lot of the aforementioned family-friendly hospitality, all delivered in laid-back lakeshore style. The granddaddy of all the Great Lakes, Lake Michigan, is located just a few miles to the west.

Owners Chad and Danielle Viening purchased the property in 2018 and opened Ten31 Stop in September 2023, creating the business they designed, built and continue to operate together.

The business is no stranger to Readers Choice recognition. Last year, readers selected Ten31 not only as Best Business in Scottville, but also as the overall Best Business across Shoreline Media's multi-county readership.

"This is super cool," Danielle Viening said after receiving the honor. "I'm proud of the ladies for all the hard work and treating the customers right."



Ten31 is a rest stop, gas station, food, beverage and essential products market, grab-and-go snack center that specializes in pizza, along with a sit-down dining area where customers can relax and enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner.

And that's just the beginning.

The menu also features subs, quesadillas, tacos, chicken, Chinese specialties, smash burgers, hot beef sandwiches, lasagna and much more, depending on the day of the week.

For the early birds there are muffins, rolls, doughnuts, juices and fresh coffee. For the midday travelers there's a buffet of lunch possibilities. And for those wanting a tasty supper, there's an inviting salad bar and a menu of daily specials posted on Ten31's Facebook page.

"The salad bar has been probably their biggest draw," Viening said. "We always have something hot and ready for our customers."

In addition to the salad bar, the hot case changes daily.

"In addition to all the other things we offer, the hot case mixes it up with featured food items and delicious specials such as pasta dishes, fried fish and chicken, fried rice, smash burgers, toasted subs and many options in between," she said. "The freshly baked pizzas also are a hit."

For adults seeking adult beverages, shelves and coolers are filled with thirst-quenching selections.

Not lost in all the business offers are the workers who greet customers with shared smiles and friend-making greetings, the kind of put-at-ease exchanges that thankfully are still found in small towns like Scottville, where convenience and customer service still matter.

The employees themselves credit that atmosphere for the business' continued success.

"It's very amazing," one staff member said of the recognition.

"It's something to be proud of," another added.

"We've got the best customers," a third employee said.

"And the best team. They make it work," another chimed in.

Whether someone is fueling up, grabbing a quick snack, sitting down for a hearty meal or simply stopping in for a friendly conversation, Ten31 has become far more than a convenience store. It's a gathering place, a community landmark and, once again, Readers Choice's Best Business in Scottville.





Lotus Wellness - Best Business in Shelby and Best Spa/Massage

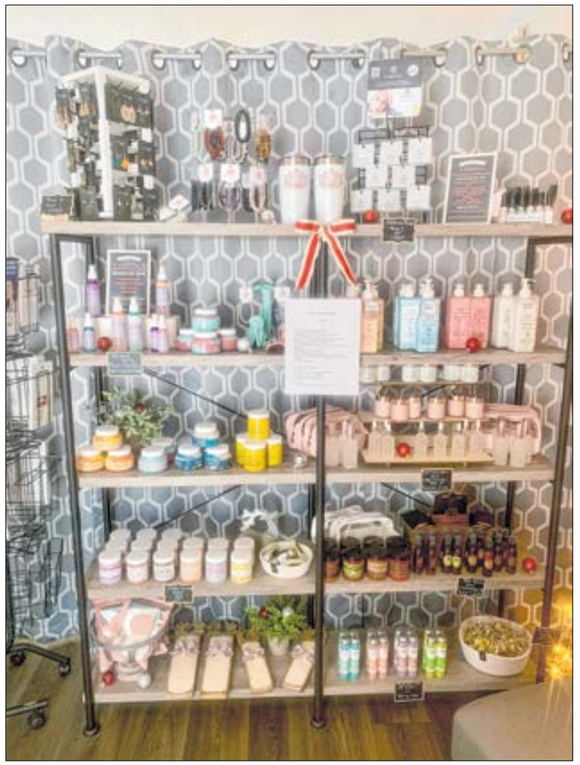
BY CRISTINA JUSKA
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

The readers have spoken, and Lotus Wellness Studio was named both the Best Business in Shelby and Best Spa/Massage. Located on the outskirts of Shelby in the middle of several acres of woods, Lotus Wellness is a welcoming space that has everything you need to achieve maximum relief.

"We opened our own studio in May 2020 during COVID," said Marnee Furman, owner of Lotus Wellness Studio, speaking for herself and her husband, as they made the decision together. With nearly 18 years of massage experience behind her, Furman previously worked at a medical rehabilitation facility in Hart. Her spacious studio and outdoor waiting area made patients feel safer in the midst of the pandemic.

Their decision to open a home studio was a wise one, as Lotus Wellness is beloved by summer visitors and year-round residents alike. "We have been telling clients, appointments are in demand, so plan accordingly," Furman said.





The studio is so popular that Furman has plans to expand the business next year, with a bigger space and more staff. Furman currently has a massage student working with her part time, who will eventually move into a full-time role.

Furman believes in a holistic healing approach, and so her business has grown to include Lotus Lab Blends, a line of all-natural bath, body and facial products. The product line began as a way to blend modern medicine and holistic health, and to help her clients avoid the overuse of pain medications such as opioids.

"I started with three products, and it grew from there," Furman said. She uses natural ingredients such as arnica, magnesium, turmeric, and essential oils to ensure her concoctions are both safe and effective. All products are made by Furman in small batches.

Another service offered is Halotherapy, which is a dry salt therapy using a "halogenerator"" to grind up pure sodium chloride into micronized particles and disperse them into a salt cave or salt room. It is anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial and treats a host of respiratory and skin conditions.

Lotus Massage and Wellness Studio is located in the back of Furman's home and offers a lovely patio where clients can wait for their appointments. "I have people who come an hour early just to sit on the patio and read a book," Furman said. "One client meditates, another bird watches on our property, and another photographs my flowers."



The grounds are beautiful, with flower beds surrounding the house and woods in all directions. Even the drive onto the property is relaxing and gets you in the right head space for a massage.

To learn more about Lotus Wellness Studio and Lotus Lab Blends, visit www.lotuswellnessstudio20.com or call 231-742-2009.

Best of the Best

Best overall: Lotus Wellness Studio

Lotus Wellness Studio grows, innovates and brings home three Readers Choice awards

BY CRISTINA JUSKA
SHORELINE MEDIA STAFF WRITER

SHELBY — Exciting things have been happening for Lotus Wellness Studio during the past year, and now the business can add Readers Choice Best Business Overall to the list. At the beginning of 2026, owner Marnee Furman completed a 1,300-square-foot expansion, adding treatment rooms, a halotherapy salt lounge, an infrared sauna and vibro-acoustic therapy to the studio's repertoire.

With more than 20 years in the wellness industry as a massage therapist, Furman started Lotus six years ago in her Shelby home. Since then, the business has grown into more than a massage studio — it's a wellness community offering a unique set of services.

"I always say I'm a forever student who hates school," Furman said.

Looking for additional ways to help her clients feel their best and achieve positive outcomes, she began learning about services that would complement massage therapy. Today, Lotus Wellness Studio offers a unique combination of science-based, results-oriented wellness services.

"We have ALL the options, right here in Oceana County," Furman said.

Furman's staff has grown, too. She now works alongside Brandie Friedman, a reiki master and yoga instructor, as well as wellness techs Jamie Lindgren and Sarah Davilla. Studio dog Finn is also there to bring a smile to clients' faces. Furman said she is looking to hire another licensed massage therapist to round out the Lotus team.

Each service Lotus offers can be used as either a massage add-on or a standalone treatment.

Halotherapy, also known as dry salt therapy, requires a machine called a halogenerator to grind pure sodium chloride into micronized particles and disperse them into the air. Furman said halotherapy may help respiratory and skin conditions because it is anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory and highly absorbent. She said it may benefit people with skin conditions such as eczema, psoriasis and acne, as well as respiratory conditions including asthma, bronchitis and COPD. Furman also has a halotherapy tent for shorter, individual sessions or to treat pets. Friedman also teaches Salty Yoga classes in the salt lounge.

According to Furman, the infrared sauna can benefit heart health, circulation, pain relief, relaxation, weight management and detoxification. The temperature is adjustable, and the unit also provides red-light therapy or other light settings as desired.

Furman said the addition of vibro-acoustic therapy has become a surprise favorite among clients. Coordinated sound and vibration work together to provide what she describes as a nervous system reset, using different frequencies depending on the desired effect, from relaxation to increased energy.

Reiki sessions, a form of holistic energy healing offered by Friedman, have become popular as well, Furman said. The practice is believed to help balance energy, promote relaxation and support the body's natural healing processes.

"People just love her," Furman said of Friedman. "We are blessed to have her here."

A multi-year Readers Choice Award winner, Lotus Wellness Studio earned three honors this year: Best Business Overall, Best Business in Shelby and Best Spa/Massage.



"At the core of everything we do is our community," Furman said. "These recognitions mean so much to us because they come directly from the people we serve. We don't take that lightly."

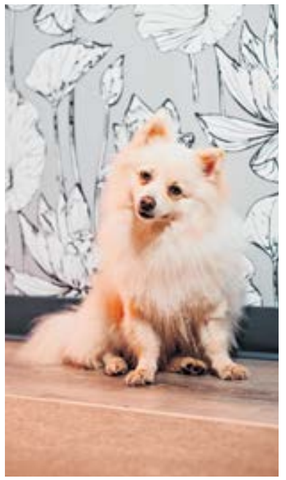
In celebration of the community she has cultivated, Furman will host the third annual Lotus Awards Party in November, an event honoring the clients and supporters who have contributed to the studio's success and growth.

"Lotus is not just a place you come for a service," Furman said. "It's a space where each person is seen, heard and cared for as the unique individual they are. That's something we've built very intentionally."

For a full list of services, visit lotuswellnessstudio20.com. To schedule an appointment, call or text 231-742-9611.









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