



CAPtions



A publication of FiveCAP, Inc.

January—March 2022



Ludington Head Start moves to new school building!

January 2022 came in with a New Year and Head Start children welcomed to the brand new Ludington Elementary School building located at 5771 W. Bryant Road, Ludington.

The new facility houses three (3) classrooms dedicated to the Ludington Area FiveCAP Head Start Center. FiveCAP staff worked diligently over the winter holiday break to ensure classrooms were fully equipped and ready for children come January

FiveCAP Head Start gives low-income families access to the same quality preschool education their more affluent neighbors can provide their children, but

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Avid supporter Veronica Taylor raises \$3,810 for Lake County Walk for Warmth fund!

In the midst of cold winter temperatures, low-income families and senior citizens struggle with the higher cost of utilities. The fear and reality of facing having your heat shut off in the dead of winter can be devastating and a tragedy for some.

FiveCAP, Inc. Walk for Warmth events are held annually in February to raise awareness and help ensure that funding is always available to keep the heat on for these local residents that fall through the cracks or when state and federal funds are exhausted or delayed. FiveCAP Walk for Warmth fundraiser events are two-mile walks in Mason, Lake, Manistee, and Newaygo counties.

Due to COVID-19, walk events were cancelled this year. However, one very special supporter, Veronica Taylor (pictured above with FiveCAP board member Martin Brown in 2016) showed her “warm heart” again to help raise funds to help people in the Lake County community. Over the years, Ms. Taylor has been a recipient of the Warm Heart Award several times for raising the most donations.

Unable to walk this year, Ms. Taylor reached out to Lake Osceola State Bank in Baldwin who took on a campaign to raise pledges in her honor for a program which she avidly supports....collecting **donations totaling \$3,810!**

A special thank you to Veronica Taylor and Lake Osceola State Bank for their support.

Donations are accepted year round. To make a donation, send check with Charitable Contribution Form (available at <https://www.fivecap.org/charitable-giving.html>) to FiveCAP, Inc., PO Box 37, Scottville, MI 49454. Call your FiveCAP County Office or (231) 757-3785 for more information.



FiveCAP, Inc. County Office Locations

Mason County (Main Office), Scottville—(231) 757-3785

Lake County, Baldwin—(231) 745-4617

Manistee County, Manistee—(231) 723-8327

Newaygo County, White Cloud—(231) 689-6688

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.fivecap.org

Idlewild Historic & Cultural Center website: www.historicidlewild.org



HEAD START...continued from page 1

without the cost.

FiveCAP Head Start is a full-day preschool program that runs Monday through Thursday, with qualified teachers who use a research-based curriculum to prepare students for kindergarten-readiness with fun activities and lessons.

Teachers reinforce the concept that parents are their child's primary teacher. Parent involvement is encouraged and supported through a variety of activities and opportunities.

The program offers a well-rounded experience, with a wide-range of educational opportunities for children, while also addressing needs such as nutrition, health and dental care, and family literacy as well as making sure that parents have access to resources that will help them make ends meet.

Social and emotional growth are important components of the program, as well as physical skills, language and communication, math, phonics, social studies, science and technology.

Children use computers and tablet devices, preparing them for the technology used in many elementary schools.

Healthy breakfasts and lunches are provided for free, ensuring that at least two-thirds of the kids' nutritional requirements are met during the days they are in school.

We are now enrolling for the 2022/2023 Head Start program year. To apply or for more information on the FiveCAP Head Start program and Center locations, visit our website www.fivecap.org or call (231) 757-3785.



Spring seems to have finally arrived and summer-time agendas are already filling up. Golfers are getting their clubs out and beginning to map out where and when they will play.

FiveCAP, Inc. is asking golfers to reserve Friday, August 5th for their 18th annual Golf Charity event, which will again be held at Manistee National Golf & Resort, 120 County Line Road in Manistee.

People don't have to golf to be a part of the event. The community is welcome to attend the live auction and raffle event when the golfers return (approximately 1:00 p.m.) in the big white tent for a fun time and lots of great donated items to bid on!

All proceeds will benefit FiveCAP programs Golf/Walk for Warmth and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library which provides a book each month to enrolled children from birth until they are age 5.

How can you support or participate? Watch for more information to be released soon on our website www.fivecap.org or call (231) 757-3785.





Above— FiveCAP's warehouse ready for the Mason County distribution!

Right—Lake County: In February, a call to the county and local businesses brought Lake County Sheriff Rich Martin and local business owner Jennifer Heiney of Pompeii's (Baldwin) right over to help packing boxes.



Volunteers needed to help with FiveCAP Food Distributions

FiveCAP provides USDA CSFP and TEFAP food distributions to low-income residents in Mason, Manistee, Lake and Newaygo counties.

The senior Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) is every two months. The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for families is every three months (quarterly). See page 4 for upcoming schedule.

“These programs rely heavily on volunteers to help when the truck arrives to unload, assemble boxes, organize and pack food, and distribute to client vehicles as they drive up”, stated Mary L. Trucks, Executive Director. “The COVID-19 pandemic took a toll on us. We lost volunteers and are short staffed, yet we use all our resources to ensure each distribution happens.”

Seniors and families are often forced to choose between essential costs and too often, good, nutritious food is sacrificed so they can pay other bills. These food boxes provide some of the staples from each food group, and help them stretch their grocery budget.

Your support is appreciated! For information on how you can volunteer, call your County FiveCAP Office.

FiveCAP brings over a **HALF MILLION \$** so far in tax returns to area residents!

With tax day approaching April 18, 2022, many people are freed from thinking of their tax returns for another year, and a number of low-income senior citizens and families have FiveCAP, Inc. to thank for giving them extra money to make ends meet.

FiveCAP Community Support Services staff provide free tax preparation services and e-filing to low-income residents in its service area, which includes Mason, Manistee, Lake and Newaygo counties.

Tax appointments are still in progress, but over a half millions dollars has already been returned to residents who had their taxes prepared by FiveCAP. This is money that is infused right back into our local economy...for people to catch up on their bills,

help pay some of the high cost of heating their homes through the winter and purchase essential items for their households.

While the tax deadline is April 18th, residents still have time to claim tax credits if they haven't filed a tax return yet.

The tax deadline for the home heating credit isn't until September 30, so FiveCAP encourages anyone who hasn't yet to still make an appointment to have your taxes prepared by calling your local FiveCAP Office.





602 N. Main Street, P.O. Box 67, Scottville, MI 49216

Return Service Request

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
Scottville, MI 49454
Permit No. 46

CAPtions

Anita Brown
Chairperson,
Board of Directors

Mary L. Trucks
Executive Director

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Phone: (231) 757-3785
Fax: (231) 757-9669
Email: fivecap@fivecap.org
Website: www.fivecap.org

Mark Your Calendar

Our offices are open, but appointments encouraged. Guests required to wear face mask. Secure drop boxes are provided for documents at all FiveCAP locations.

APRIL

- April 4-8 Head Start Spring Break (Newaygo County)
- April 13 [CSFP Bi-Monthly Food Distribution—Seniors](#)
- April 19 HS/EHS Policy Council Meeting, 10am
- April 28 FiveCAP Board of Directors Meeting, 4pm
- April 29 COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic—Lake & Newaygo counties

MAY

- May 10 HS/EHS Policy Council Meeting, 10am
- May 20 COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic—Lake & Newaygo counties
- May 26 FiveCAP Board of Directors Meeting, 4pm
- May 26 Tentative last day for Head Start children (except duration Centers—SNFHSC & MCDC)
- May 30 *Memorial Day Holiday—Offices and Centers closed*

JUNE

- June 2 [TEFAP Quarterly Food Distribution—Families](#)
- June 8 [CSFP Bi-Monthly Food Distribution—Seniors](#)
- June 14 HS/EHS Policy Council Meeting, 10am
- June 20 *Juneteenth Holiday Observed—Offices and Centers closed*
- June 30 FiveCAP Board of Directors Meeting, 4pm

JULY

- July 4 *Independence Day Holiday—Offices and Centers closed*
- July 12 HS/EHS Policy Council Meeting, 10am
- July 21 Tentative last day for Head Start children (SNFHSC & MCDC)
- July 28 FiveCAP Board of Directors Meeting, 4pm

FiveCAP Programs & Services

- Head Start**
- Early Head Start**
- Weatherization**
- Home Ownership Counseling**
- Foreclosure Prevention**
- Single Family Housing**
- Multi Family Housing**
- TEFAP**
- CSFP**
- Garden/Food Preservation**
- Educational Workshops**
- Food Pantry**
- Tax Preparation Assistance**
- Energy/Utility Assistance**
- Walk for Warmth**
- Toys for Tots/Gifts for Teens**
- Information & Referral**
- And more.....**