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TIMES HERALD

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'There were a lot of people that stepped up'



Staff members pose inside the Teen Health Center at the Port Huron High School campus on Dec. 15, 2025. From left: Sarah Cliff, nurse coordinator; Candyse Ezekiel, clerk; Kaitlyn McDonald, social worker; Chelsea Thompson, nurse; and Sandy Mangan, nurse practitioner. ANDY JEFFREY/TIMES HERALD

Port Huron police to encrypt radio traffic

This change will end the public scanner access

Andy Jeffrey

Port Huron Times Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PORT HURON — Police radio traffic in Port Huron is expected to go silent to the public this week as the department begins encrypting its communications, a change tied to statewide requirements aimed at protecting sensitive information.

Once implemented, traditional radio scanners and mobile apps used by the public will no longer be able to pick up police transmissions.

In an April 20 email to the mayor and City Council, City Manager James Freed said the change is part of a broader effort.

"As part of a statewide officer-safety effort, all police radio traffic is required to become encrypted," Freed wrote. "We are scheduled to begin encrypting our radio traffic within the next 48-72 hours, with completion expected by Wednesday (April 22)."

While residents may notice the sudden loss of access, officials say the change will not affect day-to-day operations for officers or dispatchers.

"It doesn't affect how we communicate day to day, it just won't be picked up by anyone without the proper encryption," said Port Huron Police Chief Brian Kerrigan.

The move stems from guidance issued by the Michigan State Police requiring law enforcement agencies to comply with federal Criminal Justice Information Services security standards.

See SCANNERS, Page 2A

PHASD taps Community First for high school health center



SCCHD renovated the Teen Health clinic at Port Huron High with modern upgrades and new equipment. PROVIDED BY THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Andy Jeffrey

Port Huron Times Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

PORT HURON — Port Huron Area School District has selected Community First Health Centers to take over operations of the Teen Health Center at Port Huron High School.

Superintendent Theo Kerhoulas informed the Board of Education during its April 20 meeting.

"From the beginning, our focus has been clear — keep the doors open for our students who rely on these services," Kerhoulas said in a news release.

In February, the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners voted to end its agreement with the district to operate the school-based clinic, following a

recommendation to transition services to an outside provider model.

That recommendation came after an internal review identified concerns with oversight and practices, prompting county officials to shift away from directly operating school-based primary care services and toward providers such as federally qualified health centers.

The county's decision did not immediately close the clinic. Instead, it set a transition timeline aligned with the current Child and Adolescent Health Center grant cycle, which runs through the end of September, allowing time for a new provider to be identified and operations to continue without interruption.

See TEEN HEALTH, Page 2A

ANALYSIS

Vaccines in limbo after court ruling

Several FDA-approved shots awaiting guidance

Julie Steenhuisen
REUTERS

CHICAGO — Americans may face the next respiratory disease season without clear guidance for COVID shots and updated flu vaccines after a federal court ruling in March left several vac-

cines in limbo, and raised questions about whether some newly approved products would be covered by insurers.

The decision by Boston-based U.S. District Judge Brian Murphy froze the work of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the panel that advises the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on how vaccines should be used.

Murphy ruled that most members of a panel appointed last year by Health



Kennedy

and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. were unqualified and ordered that their votes be put on hold, effectively restoring the previous childhood immunization schedule that Kennedy and his allies had sought to revamp.

See VACCINES, Page 6A

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