

Elsie Downtown Redevelopment Group Meets

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – Shane Grinnell, Elsie Village Manager, in cooperation with Tim Fair, Clinton County Catalyst, brought together seventeen local merchants, business owners, village officials, and interested community members to discuss the future of the downtown area and the needs of local businesses. In addition, Rachel Elsinga, community development coordinator for Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) was in attendance to outline possible grant and low interest loan opportunities for area businesses. The new interest in the businesses in the Village of Elsie was prompted by the future development of the former Elsie High School and the potential of thirty-two apartments becoming available. The additional housing will bring additional residents to the village has prompted a renewed interest in the downtown area and area businesses. The meeting served as a time for the business community to get to know one another, brainstorm a vision for the Village of Elsie and to simply talk. Businesses asked questions regarding funding opportunities for expanding, improving and purchasing new business sites. It was decided that the group meet every six months and that property owners who desire sell business opportunities attend the next meeting. A date for the next meeting will be announced at a later date.