



1010 S. Main Street | Chelsea, MI | 48118

Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHELSEA STATE BANK CONTRIBUTES OVER \$30,000 TO YOUNG FARMERS AT LOCAL COMMUNITY FAIRS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2026, | WASHTENAW, JACKSON AND LENAWEE COUNTIES, MI — Chelsea State Bank invested over \$30,000 in young agricultural exhibitors across three Michigan counties through the purchase of nine livestock animals at local community fairs, advancing agricultural education and keeping resources within the communities it serves.

“We are proud to support local kids and young adults through the purchasing of the livestock they have worked all summer to raise and train,” said Joanne Rau, President and CEO of Chelsea State Bank. “Their dedication is evident in every livestock show and auction. Founded by farmers and local business owners nearly 130 years ago, Chelsea State Bank remains committed to carrying forward its legacy of supporting agriculture and the communities it serves.”

Chelsea State Bank has a longstanding tradition of partnering with employees to purchase livestock at local community fairs. Employees may purchase animals at fair market value, while the Bank contributes the remaining balance directly to the young exhibitors who raised them. In 2026, Chelsea State Bank doubled its contribution relative to employee purchases, strengthening its investment in local youth, agricultural education, and the communities it serves.

“To sum it up – we help our employees by providing a benefit, support our customers by purchasing their product and assist the community by our participation in the fair and putting resources into the pockets of community members to spend locally. It’s a holistic approach!”

About Chelsea State Bank

Chelsea State Bank is a full-service financial institution with offices in Chelsea, Dexter, and Jackson. The Bank was formed over 125 years ago by local business leaders to provide timely financial solutions to individuals, families, and businesses in the community. This tradition of community service continues today. For more information, please call 734.475.1355 or visit www.chelseastate.bank. Member FDIC.



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Caleb Benedict, Reserve Grand Champion, Manchester Community Fair, 2026



Andy Dillon (Posey Creek Farms, LLC), Reserve Champion Gilt, Lenawee County Fair



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Easton Powers (Powers Show Pigs), Reserve Champion, Barrow, Chelsea Community Fair. Photo Credit: Sarah Norris