



*Pictured here are Lieutenants Chris Goldman (at left) and Zac McNamara, escorts of Elsie Engine 1, which carried the casket of Elsie Fire Fighter, Zach Miller. Captain, Heath Arnette drove Elsie Engine 1 from O-E high school after the funeral service for a final pass of the fire station in Elsie where the flag was at half staff and to his final resting place in Fairfield Cemetery.*

## Community Mourns Loss of Zachary Miller

by Deb Price

On Saturday, January 22, 2022, members of the Ovid-Elsie communities gathered to pay their respects during the funeral of Elsie Fire Fighter, Zach Miller. The funeral was held in the gymnasium at OE High School. Forty-five fire trucks lined up outside representing over 30 area fire departments that would also take part in honoring their fellow firefighter. Following the service, Miller's casket was loaded onto Elsie Engine 1 and preceded from the high school, lights on, no sirens, to Elsie for one last pass by the fire station on it's way to his final resting place at Fairfield Cemetery. The Elsie Fire Department, along with the help from the Montcalm County Fire Honor Guard performed a full fire honors funeral for Miller which included a graveside service with the ringing of the bells and last call. Zach joined the department as a cadet at the age of 16. He graduated from OE in 2020.

On January 18th, 2022 at 7:20 a.m. the Clinton County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to a 3 vehicle injury traffic crash on M-21 just west of US 127 in Bingham Township. Upon preliminary investigation, a passenger vehicle driven by Beronica Duttonhaver age 20 of Maple Rapids was exiting the MDOT parking lot to pull out onto M-21 and stopped in the roadway due to traffic, she was then struck by westbound pickup truck driven by Zachary Miller age 20 of Elsie. After the initial crash all occupants were sharing information checking for injuries. A westbound vehicle driven by 17 yr old from Ovid struck two of the individuals in the roadway, one was a bystander with minor injuries and the second was Miller.

Miller was unresponsive at the scene and transported to Sparrow Clinton where he passed away from his injuries.

The traffic crash remains under investigation

The Elsie Fire Department has set up a benefit account at Journey Federal Credit Union for those who wish to donate to the Miller family. During the O-E varsity boys basketball game on Tuesday, January 25th, a 60 second change drive was held during halftime of the game. A total of \$1,700 was collected from OE and Chesaning game attendees for the Miller family.



## Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – The monthly meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, January 24, 2022.

Board action was taken to approve the 2022 designated signatures, the credit/debit card authorization; the designation of the superintendent's administrative assistant to post the public notice of board meetings and the approval of Thurn Law Firm as Ovid-Elsie retainer firm for the 2022 calendar year.

Additional annual actions for 2022. The board officers elected: President Josh Miller, Vice President Eric Jones, Secretary, Brooke Wooley and Erin Bancroft, treasurer. Board meetings were set for third Monday of the month, except March 21, and June 20, and the July meeting.

Dr. Ryan Cunningham took the opportunity to recognize the members of the Ovid-Elsie Board of Education: Mr. Mike Schiffer, Mrs. Erin Bancroft, Mrs. Brooke Wooley, Mr. Eric Jones, Mr. Josh Miller, Mrs. Dana Bancroft and Dr. David Huff.

Board members were updated on the activities taking place in the individual building. Building reports: Ms. Rachele Parsons, Leonard Elementary Schools principle, extended a thank-you to the board members. She further reported that the coaching cycles for staff and students is ongoing. Data days are being conducted and the information reviewed in depth and then action steps will be developed. Reading and math intervention after school is being developed for implementation.

Mrs. Alicia Ormesbee, EE Knight principal, also, thanked the board for support and a tremendous this year. Also, data and interventions are being developed and prepared for implementation. Coach cycles have been invaluable. She further commented that Melissa Jones, the school nurse, has been an amazing asset.

Mr. Brian Powell, Ovid-Elsie Middle School principal, again, thanked the board. Addressing health concerns with COVID has not been an easy task and the addition of the behaviorist, Amber Foster, is truly helping with behavior and assisting students in making better choices. NWEA scores are being evaluated and data utilized to improve instructional practices and student outcomes.

Mr. Jason Tokar presented a quick high school update. Current happenings at the high school include participation in Snow Fest in Frankenmuth January 28-30, Science Olympiad and Robotics are underway, and the 2022 prom is slated for April 23 at the M57 barn. Tokar offered board members the opportunity to participate chaperones. Finally, to address students who did not pass first semester courses credit recovery opportunities are available Mondays and Tuesdays after school for the next four weeks. Then the program will switch from credit recovery to intervention to address student needs and to assist students in achieving academic success.

Dan Davenport, technology director, reported that the refresh of technology hardware and services is ongoing. He noted that the district has been able to recover approximately 65% of the cost from various grants and funding sources.

Next, Kelly Nethaway, District parent, addressed the board under public comment. She also thanked the Ovid-Elsie Board of Education for allowing the parents the choice regarding masks. However, she would like to encourage officials to get rid of quarantine guidelines, in her opinion they do not make sense.

Ryan Cunningham, superintendent, presented the administrative salary formula for approval. He noted that there was nothing new but the formula needs to be renewed for the next three years, 2022-2025. Approved.

Officials took action to approve the following employee contracts – Amber Foster, behaviorists, mental health specialist; and para professional at EE Knight, Christine Pugh. In addition, administrative contracts were extended for three years (2022-2025): Rachele Parsons, Leonard Elementary; Alicia Ormesbee, EE Knight Elementary; Brian Powell, Ovid-Elsie Middle School; Jason Tokar, Ovid-Elsie High School; and Randy Barton, assistant superintendent.

Dr. Ryan Cunningham presented the last action item the Mark H. O'Donnell Stadium improvement bids which were approved unanimously by the Ovid-Elsie Board of Education members who were present. Noting that the contractors will break ground May 23 with completion to be August 2022.

Cunningham stated, "We will be remodeling Mark H. O'Donnell Stadium to include the tear out and resurfacing of the track and field events. We will also be tearing out the field to correct the drainage issues that we have and while reviewing cost estimates for rebuilding the field, the Committee recommended to the Board (which was approved last month) installing an artificial surface in order to not lose a season on our field. This synthetic surface will allow more use on our football field and be more inclusive of other extra-curricular activities that have been previously prevented from using our field."

Furthermore, "the track replacement was slated out of the last bond extension and is under the amount we had projected. Thus, we are able to utilize additional savings to put towards the other renovations. Further, we have corporate donations in excess of \$200,000 and are continuing to solicit donations for these improvements. We anticipate taking about \$500,000 out of our fund balance and financing the remainder of the project which would be about \$1 million. We anticipate paying this back utilizing the savings from the field maintenance and solar savings which will be equal to or greater than the annual payment for financing.

Other renovations will be done throughout the District utilizing our current maintenance and operations budget."

# Social

## Family Fun Nights

Starting this February Vineyard Creative Arts Theatre will be offering Family Fun Nights.

The events will be Sat. February 12 & Sat. February 26 from 4-8pm.

There is no Cost for this event.

Snacks & Drinks will be sold

There will be a movie available (TBD), many board games available to play.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The building is now handicap accessible with a lift



## CSFP and TEFAP

submitted by Rebecca Zemla

Applications for the USDA Commodity Food Programs through Capital Area Community Services, Inc. Distribution will begin on Wednesday, February 2 - 11, 2022 for both programs.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Seniors 60 years of age and up provides nutritious food on a monthly basis to low-income residents living in Shiawassee County, must meet the 130% Poverty index. Family size 1 - \$16,744; family size 2 - \$22,646; family size 3 - \$28,548. For each additional family member add \$5,902.

The Temporary Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) provides nutritious food to low-income residents (singles and families) of Shiawassee County who meet 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Family size 1 - \$25,760; family size 2 - \$34,840; family size 3 - \$43,920. For each additional family member add \$9,080.

Distribution for Shiawassee County will begin Wednesday, February 2 - 11, 2022.

This will be drive thru only on February 2, 2022 (FIRST DISTRIBUTION DAY). No food will be placed on the front or back seats of the vehicle. "Trunks" should be open before driving up to receive the food. After Wednesday, February 2, 2022 you will need to load your own food into the vehicle.

If you do not already have someone designated to pick up your food, you may call the CACS office at 989-723-3115 and let us know who you are designating to pick it up. If you are not registered, please call CACS at 989-723-3115 to pre-register before November 2, 2021.

Available hours are 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



## Ovid Public Library

The Ovid Public Library will be hosting their Adult Bookstasting on Monday February 7th. This starts at 1:00. If you are interested in hearing what good books others are reading or would like to let people know about a good book you just read, please join us.

On Wednesday, February 9 we will be showing the movie "By the Light of the Silvery Moon" starring Doris Day. Movie time is 1:00. There will be another Classic Movie on Wednesday, February 23. We have not chosen the movie for this date yet.

Remember that on Tuesdays at the library we have our crafting/crochet group that meets at 1:30. All are welcome!

Some of the new books that you can find at the Ovid Public Library:

The Horsewoman by James Patterson

The Last House on the Street by Diane Chamberlain

Invisible by Danielle Steel

Reckless Girls by Rachel Hawkins

The Winter Guest by Pam Jenoff

These Silent Woods by Kimi Cunningham Grant and Her Hidden Genius by Marie Benedict

If you're looking for a warm inside activity, we have lots of jigsaw puzzles and DVD's that you can borrow.



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## Prom Dress Give Away Drive

Do you have a gently used or new formal dress, shoes or jewelry you would like to donate?

This event will occur in Early April specific date is to be determined, on when proms are scheduled for the local area schools.

Cost of receiving a dress/jewelry/shoes is a cash donation. If a young woman can not afford to donate money she will still be able to receive what she wants at no cost to her.

Dress drop times can be coordinated by calling 989-307-9771

Dress drop off is located at Vineyard Creative Arts Theatre, 222 N. Main Street, Ovid, MI

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Play Adapted by: Art Reach Theatre Plays

**AUDITONS:** Feb. 2-4 & 9-11

**Audition Time:** By appointment

Call: (989) 307-9771

**Ages:** 8-17

**Start:** Feb. 21

**Practice Days:** Mon & Thurs.

**Time:** 6-8pm

**Shows:** June 3-5 & 10-12

**Cost:** \$245

\* This is a 16-week Program!

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## Shiawassee Arts Center Offering Classes

The Shiawassee Arts Center is offering a six week class of Introduction to Acrylic and Oil Painting, with Artist/Instructor, Philip Ruehle, MFA. Classes will be held on Fridays, February 4 - March 11, 1-4pm.

If you are wanting to get started with painting, but don't know where to begin, these sessions are for you! This course will serve as an introduction to various painting techniques, methods, materials and how to use them. The focus will be placed on the still life and landscape when developing both single and multiple session paintings. Students may choose to work in either oil or acrylic. Class will consist of numerous demos and one-on-one instruction. Pre-registration and payment required. There is a supply list online at shiawasseearts.org or it can be picked up if stopping into the Arts Center. The Arts Center is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. Call the Arts Center at (989) 723-8354 for questions regarding any classes or registration. The cost is \$145 SAC Member or \$155 Guest. An individual, annual membership is \$40 or a senior membership is \$35 annually.

Beginning Watercolor Class with Lisabeth Curnow, Artist/Instructor

Six Weeks, Thursdays, January 20 - February 24, 9:30am - Noon

This Watercolor Basics course with Lisabeth Curnow is perfect for beginners. Starting with an introduction into essential watercolor supplies and tools, followed by weekly demos and exercises to help students learn basic techniques and skills. By the end of the course you will have a good understanding of what is needed to complete a painting that you would be proud to hang on your wall or give as a gift. Cost: \$105 SAC Member or \$115 Guest. There is a supply list available online at shiawasseearts.org or when at the Arts Center.

Watercolor Class for Returning Watercolor students with Lisabeth Curnow, Artist/Instructor

Six Weeks, Thursdays, January 20- February 24, 1pm - 3:30pm

Have you wanted to spend more time painting or you have an idea about what you'd like to paint - but you're just not sure where to start? Do you wish you could have one on one instruction from an experienced artist while you paint? This weekly class is for you, a small group setting of watercolor artists who have some experience and understanding of their supplies and want to take their skills to the next level. (This class is for artists who have previously painted in watercolor - check out our Beginner's Watercolor class if you have not had experience in watercolor)

Give yourself time to work at your pace and on your own projects. We'll enjoy the company and inspiration that comes from time spent with fellow watercolor enthusiasts. Each week class will have a brief demo or warm-up exercise, followed by individualized guidance throughout the painting process. Have your questions about technical elements, conceptual processes, or problem solving ideas addressed as you work on individual projects. Cost: \$105 SAC Member or \$115 Guest.

Pre-registration and payment required. Call the Arts Center at (989) 723-8354. The Shiawassee Arts Center is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. The classrooms are handicap accessible.

## Painting Event to be Held at Ashley Sportsman's Club

by Dawn D Levey

BANNISTER - A painting event at the lodge is once again being hosted by Ashley Sportsmans Club, Saturday, February 5, 2022, 6 pm-8pm, 8554 S. Mason Rd, Bannister, MI

The painting with be a friendly "Gnome" all instructions and painting supplies will be provided at a cost of \$30. In addition, light horderves and soft drinks will be provided. Seating is limited to 24. Reservations and pre-payment are required, (517) 204-4075 or ashleysportsmansclub@gmail.com.

Join ASC for an evening of relaxation, creativity and fun.

## Moolenaar Office Accepting Summer Internship Applications

The office of Congressman John Moolenaar is currently accepting applications for congressional internships in his Washington, D.C. office for Summer 2022.

The internship program is open to college students and recent graduates who are interested in learning more about the legislative process and working in Congress. Applicants are asked to provide a cover letter, resume and any specific legislative issues or areas of interest. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come basis. The deadline to submit applications is February 26th.

College credits are available per school requirements.

For more information and to apply for an internship, visit: <https://moolenaar.house.gov/internships>

## Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center

An exhibit named Some Avail by Andrew Rieder is being featured at Lansing Art Gallery

Andrew states: "My current body of work explores the concept of work ethic and the various ways in which it is quantified. In my paintings, I utilize imagery from activities that can be considered 'leisurely labor' (fitness and strongman competitions as well as pick-your-own fruit). I choose these images to question whether or not an activity needs to seem undesirable to a participant in order to qualify as 'work'."

Andrew Rieder was born and grew up in Raleigh, NC where he also attended NC State University's College of Design and received his Bachelors of Art & Design. Later, Andrew moved to the Midwest to study painting and drawing and earn his BFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He went on to receive his MFA in Painting from Michigan State University.

In 2010, Andrew began working in the Great Lakes Bay Region of Michigan where he continues to teach at Delta College as an Associate Professor of Art & Design. He lives in Owosso, with his wife and daughter.

Visit the Gallery

View the exhibition from February 2 - March 26 during our expanded open hours: Wednesday - Saturday 11 AM - 3 PM. Learn more about Andrew's work [HERE](#).

Reception

Be inspired on-site and meet the artist!

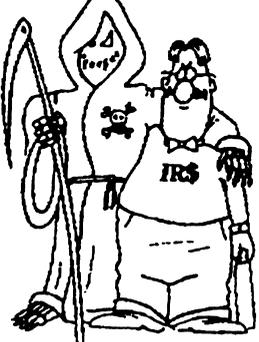
Thursday, February 10 from 6 - 8 PM, learn more [HERE](#)

### SCIOTA TOWNSHIP Notice of Annual Budget Workshop PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sciota Township Board will hold a public budget workshop for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This workshop will be held at 6:00 pm on Monday, February 14, 2022, at the Sciota Township Hall, 3990 Leland Road, Laingsburg, MI. The township board meeting will follow the budget workshop, beginning 7:00 p.m. Please contact the clerk for a reasonable accommodation 5 days prior to the meeting.

Jamie Parker-Wing  
Sciota Township Clerk  
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[clerk@sciotatownship.net](mailto:clerk@sciotatownship.net)

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### VICTOR TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REFERENDUM ON BECOMING A CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of Victor has a population of 2000 or more according to the most recent United States census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 (MCL 42.3a). The township board has the right to exercise one of three options concerning status as a charter township, as follows:

1. Adopt by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township;
2. Adopt by majority vote a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township
3. Adopt by majority vote a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

In the event option 2 is adopted by the township board, the citizens of the township have the right to file a "Right to Referendum Petition". This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between passage of a resolution to incorporate as a charter township.

The petition shall follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law, and in the heading will indicate "Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township". The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of the township based on the vote cast for all candidates for supervisor at the last election as which a supervisor was elected.

If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

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# Obituaries

## Violet Irvine Smith

Violet Irvine Smith, age 100, of Owosso, MI, passed away Sunday, January 23, 2022, at McLaren Regional Medical Center, Flint, MI.

Violet was born in Ontario, Canada on 6 Nation's Reservation on September 6, 1921, the daughter of Herbert H. and Christine Sophia (Hill) Martin. Irvine and David moved to Flint in 1950 for work. After David's retirement they moved to Wiggin's Lake in Gladwin, MI. After David passed away she moved to Owosso, MI to be closer to her family. She was very active with the Gladwin Eastern Stars, Owosso Eastern Stars, and the Salvation Army in Owosso. She was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Corunna, MI. Irvine loved to travel!

She is survived by her son David G. and Linda Smith of Ovid, MI; and step-grandson John Buck and Kim Seagers of Ovid, MI.



## Richard Allen "Red" Moore

Richard Allen "Red" Moore, age 85, of Ashley, MI, passed away Friday, January 21, 2022, at Memorial Healthcare, Owosso, MI with his family by his side.

Richard was born in Owosso, Michigan on June 5, 1936, the son of Chauncey and Gladys (Burtis) Moore. On July 25, 1964, Richard married Virginia Sylvia Holmes. They were blessed with nearly 57 years of marriage prior to her passing on April 7, 2021. Together they owned and operated Town and Country Auto Salvage for 50 years. They were members of Owosso United Missionary Church.

Richard liked to drive race cars. On race day, he would drive his race car to Owosso Speedway or Crystal Speedway and race. He enjoyed watching wrestling and playing cards. He collected coins. He loved spending time with his grandchildren and telling stories.

Richard is survived by five children: JoAnn (Greg) Parcher of Owosso, MI; Richard L. (Jennifer) Moore of Ashley, MI; Jennifer (Robert) Surdock, Jr. of Elsie, MI; Ricky (Melissa) Moore of Ashley, MI; and Christina (David) Murdock of Brant, MI. He is also survived by 14 grandchildren: Margaret (Danny), Melissa, Gregory (Nichole), Jesse, Kari (Richard), Robert (Kylie), Debra (Jamie), Katie (Austin), Alysha (William), Randy (Shy-Ann), Shelly, Kimberly, Nicholas, and Noah; 24 great-grandchildren; one brother David Moore, one sister Betty Bailey, one sister-in-law Mary Moore, and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Virginia, grandsons: Michael Whitaker and Brent Albring; brothers: Robert and Donald Moore, brother-in-law Gordon Bailey, and sister-in-law Noni Moore.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI, on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, with Pastor Terry Bailey officiating. Burial followed at Ford Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Owosso United Missionary Church - 1595 N. Hickory St., Owosso, MI. Online condolences may be made at [www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com). The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



**FAITH ★ FAMILY ★ FRIENDS ★**  
MAKES ALL THINGS POSSIBLE. FOREVER AND ALWAYS. THE GREATEST OF BLESSINGS.

**I /we wish to thank all of our family (both genetic and church), friends, neighbors and those that read my column who have been so generous with their time, gifts, and support during the lose of my son William Fleckenstein.**

**We have felt such an outpouring of love and support that it is hard to express our gratitude for your kindness.**

**May God bless you.**

**Sincerely, Crystal, Diane & Brent and family**

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, grandson David W. Smith, great-grandson Joshua Buck, and many brothers and sisters.

A Memorial Service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Corunna, MI 48817, at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, with Pastor Russ Merrill officiating.

Memorials may be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 111 S. Shiawassee St., Corunna, MI 48817. Online condolences can be sent to [www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com). The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.

## Loretta Elizabeth Willson

Loretta Elizabeth Willson, age 89 of Ovid, MI, went home to be with the Lord on January 23, 2022. She passed away at home surrounded by family.

Loretta was born on February 4, 1932, the daughter of William and Marie (Holden) Ewing. She graduated from Owosso High School and resided most of her life in Ovid.

Loretta loved spending time with family and friends. She enjoyed reading her bible. She also enjoyed bird watching. She liked listening to and watching Billy Graham. She enjoyed traveling. She loved Christmas time and getting to spoil her loved ones. Loretta really, really loved her ice cream.

Loretta is survived by her son Randy (Sarah) Willson of Atlanta, MI, and daughters Sandy Putnam and Linda Steele, both of Ovid, MI. Siblings Cathie Ettinger and Gary Ewing of Lansing. She is also survived by 17 grandchildren. Adam Woodhams, Aimee Brown, Bob Shinn Jr, Tommy Putnam, Luke Putnam, Kimmy English, Nathan Seelhoff, Zac Steele, Tabbi Rodriguez, Jessi Hudson, Jacob Willson, Elijah Willson, Malachi Willson, Elizabeth Willson, Clint Willson, Jason Willson, Keith Willson. She also had 26 great grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren.

Loretta was preceded in death by her mother Marie Ewing, father William Ewing, brother Dick Ewing, brother Roger Ewing, brother Ray Ewing, brother Billy Ewing, sister Verna Edwards, sister Sharron Thompson, son Bill Willson, daughter Dianne Shinn, daughter Debbie Seelhoff, and great granddaughter Victoria English.

A Funeral Service was held at the funeral home on Thursday, January 27, with Pastor Dan Cameron officiating. Burial will follow at Maple Grove Cemetery in Ovid.

Memorials may be made to Duplain Church of Christ. For further information, phone McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel at 989-224-4422 or visit [McGeehanFH.com](http://McGeehanFH.com)



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

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**Middlebury United Methodist Church**  
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 Minister: Rev. Terry Melton

**Worship Service**  
 10:30 a.m.

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH**  
 Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns  
 Pastor: John Jakus  
 Sunday School: 9:00am  
 Worship Service 10:00am  
 517-651-6210

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 163 W. Main St., Elsie  
 Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 10:45 a.m.  
 Watch Sunday Service on YouTube at [elsiebaptist](http://elsiebaptist)  
 Pastor Phillip Rogers

**Bannister United Methodist Church**  
 103 Hanvey Street  
 Pastor: Zella Daniel  
**Sunday Worship 11:15am**

**ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 160 W. Main St., Elsie e(989) 862-5239

**Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.**  
 Pastor: JD Paik

**United Church of Ovid**  
 Office Hours: 9-1 Mon - Tue - Wed  
 9-Noon Thur • Closed Fri  
 Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing  
 11:00 - Worship  
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 Ovid, MI 48866 • (989) 834-5958  
[www.unitedchurchofovid.org](http://www.unitedchurchofovid.org)  
 or on Facebook  
 Pastor Eugene Blair

**Duplain Church of Christ**  
 5565 E. Colony Rd.  
 (3 mi. W. of O-E H.S.)  
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 Worship Service 8:30am, & 11:00am  
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group  
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 Associate Minister: Matthew Barnum  
 Children's Minister: Jessica Prieto  
[www.duplainchurch.org](http://www.duplainchurch.org)

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**Confession: Sun 11:30am**

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# Obituaries

# Editorial... con't on page 10

## Robert Alan Krueger

Robert Alan Krueger, age 74 of Elsie passed away Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

Robert was born June 13, 1947, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of Blanche Krueger.

He graduated from Merrill High School in the class of 1966. Robert went on to serve his county in the United States Marine Corps.

Robert enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a member of the VFW in Ovid. Most of all Robert loved spending time with his family.

He married Kaela Rae (Sloat) Krueger at the Carland United Methodist Church on September 3, 1971.

Robert worked at General Motors in Production for 34 years.

Robert is survived by his children, Paula Krueger, Bryce Krueger, Alyssa (Nicholas) Passmore, Ashleigh (Mark) Chojnowski; grandchildren, Lyndon Krueger-Boyd, Amara Passmore, Carter Passmore, and Grant Chojnowski.

He was predeceased by his mother, Blanche Krueger; and wife, Kaela Rae (Sloat) Krueger.

Funeral services were Saturday, January 22, 2022, at Nelson-House Funeral Home. Burial will take place at a later date at Fairfield Cemetery.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Carland United Methodist Church or The Boy Scouts of America.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at Nelson-House.com.





### A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Wahoo, I slept in this morning until 6:45... it is unbelievable that the cats allowed me to sleep so late, I usually have them fed and watered by six at the latest. If I don't they usually are tearing through the house like a herd of banshees. And they sound like a herd of elephants, could it be that in their little feline minds they understand that it is below a negative one degree out there? Maybe the older ones have impressed upon the youngsters that since they have been cloistered in the house that their coats have not thickened as much as their outdoor buds have. Even Prudence didn't dawdle when she went outside for her solitary walk in the wilderness. It would appear that I have become the old cat lady that lives on the corner, usually there are only two or three indoor/outdoor cats here, currently there are eight indoor/outdoor critters. I think that the oldest pair are about eighteen months old and the youngest pair are now about ten weeks old. I believe that I have surpassed my feline saturation point, I have no intentions of taking on anymore that I find are in need. The tykes, Thunder and Lightening are the only ones who have not been neutered, it is time to contact Gratiot Animals in Need (G.A.I.N.) for future appointments.

Yesterday was a learning day and it was also a very enjoyable day. I had the pickup packed with several boxes of clothes and excess items to drop off at the Mills Street Thrift store in St Louis, the bed of the truck was covered with stuff, one of the volunteers had to get in to retrieve the last two boxes because they were at the unreachable stage. Since I had slipped on the stairs and bent back my right knee until my heel touched my backside I was not up to crawling to retrieve the boxes. My right knee is a bit touchy but fortunately is not swollen or in pain. I also stopped and apologized to my chiropractor for being less than civilized, I had had one of those grief spurts and had snarled at him. I had also talked to the bank about my son's account and had to leave a death certificate with them and finally have the white Ford transferred to me during my visit to the Secretary of State's office in St Johns.

My day started with an 8AM dental appointment in Carson City which lasted about an hour, then I went up to St Louis for the banking and the thrift store. Of course I had other reasons for heading up to that area. Tami and Ted had invited me for lunch and we had a marvelous time. Ted acted as our chef and made us some delicious egg omelets covered in cheddar and filled with sauteed onions and chopped peppers. Of course we also had toast and sliced ham followed with coffee. The table was set and the food was served with a flourish. We sat there and talked for a good hour as the food got cold but it didn't diminish our enthusiastic conversations.

We laughed and shared stories and learned much about each other. I was pleased to have photos of Ted shared with me. He makes benches from the dead trees on their property, he uses his chain saw to cut the outer slabs off and turns them into beautiful benches. Ted hand planes the slabs and shapes the legs carefully. I sat on one and was pleased at how comfortable it was and no worries about getting splinters. He torches the wood so that it is preserved without adding chemical elements. I was very touched and surprised when one was put into the back of my pickup to come home with me. Mine is made of ash and is beautiful. He will be making some this spring from black walnut, they will be spectacular.

Did I mention that Tami is also very talented and has a plethora of houseplants that decorate their charming home. She also is very good at starting garden plants and had such a large variety that last year she sold more than four hundred dollars worth at her spring yard sale. Actually the plants had been set out on the porch to toughen them up for transplanting and those that came to the yard sale were determined to have some. Me, I plan to be there this year to enjoy the variety that she has started. Already she has given me some Stripe tomato seeds to start because I had enjoyed them so much last year. Tami also helped me with gifts this past year, she is very good at crocheting snowflakes, all sizes and shapes. I had wanted some for my

neighbor and friend Karen who loves cobalt blue. Isn't it amazing how one can be blessed by such unexpected kindness.

I did manage to do a few other things, like visit my daughter, my son-in-law, and co-mother-in-law where I had another cup of coffee and had stopped to pick up Prudence first so that she didn't feel too neglected. I was also swarmed with cats a few times because I now seem to be the object of their affections. I belong to them...not them to me. I also just started watering my hold over pepper plants to see if that experiment will work. No, I didn't get the dishes done or the last load of laundry folded, but I did have a very good day. May your days be filled with kindness and the unexpected benefits of friendship. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2022

### Victor Township, Clinton County, MI 6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI Proposed Special Board Minutes from January 19, 2022 meeting

The special meeting of the Victor Township Board was called to order by Township Supervisor Jim Conklin at 5:30 PM.

**Attendance:** Conklin, Willoughby, Townsend, Fickes and Conklin  
**Public Comment** – None

**Agenda:** Moved by Fickes to approve the agenda. Supported by A. Conklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

**New Business**

• **Budget:** The Board discussed the draft 2022-2023 budget presented by J. Conklin. The board reviewed each fund separately. Members discussed budget line items and goals for upcoming year. J. Conklin to price picnic tables and basketball hoops for parks and recreation.

**Extended Comment** – Motion by Willoughby to replace fire hall 911 monitor. Supported by J. Conklin. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to replace the fire hall air compressor. Supported by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Moved by J. Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 pm, Supported by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

### RESOLUTION #2022-01 CITY OF OVID SCHEDULE MEETING DATES

**WHEREAS:** at a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Ovid, held on the 10th, day of January, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., with the following Council Members present:

**PRESENT:** Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Lasher, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Williams.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Starn

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Williams, to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS;** the City of Ovid's Council hereby adopts resolution #2022-01, to set the dates and location(s) for its regular meetings for the year 2022.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the regular meetings of the City Council will be held on every 2nd, Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the location of the meetings will be held at the City Hall located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid

All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are and the same are hereby rescinded.

**AYES:** Perrien, Hibbard, Ordiway, Williams, Brown and Lasher.

**NAYES:** None.

**ABSENT:** Starn.

Resolution declared adopted this 10th, day of January, 2022, by the City Council, governing body of the City of Ovid.

William Lasher, Mayor  
STATE OF MICHIGAN)

ss:

City of Ovid)  
COUNTY OF CLINTON

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Clerk of the City of Ovid, Clinton and Shiawassee Counties, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the proceedings taken by the City Council at a regular meeting held on the 10th, day of January, 2022.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereby affixed my official signature this 10th, day of January, 2022.

William Lasher, Mayor  
City of Ovid



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### Victor Township, Clinton County, MI 6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI Proposed Special Board Minutes from January 25, 2022 meeting

The special meeting of the Victor Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Jim Conklin at 5:32 PM.

**Attendance:** Conklin, Willoughby, Townsend, Fickes and Conklin  
**Public Comment** – None

**Agenda:** Moved by Willoughby to approve the agenda. Supported by A. Conklin, but respectfully request the motion amended to include bills. Motion amended. Bills added to agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

**New Business**

• **Budget:** The Board continued reviewing the draft budget. J. Conklin to price fire hall chairs and projector with 2021-2022 budgeted funds. Townsend to discuss road projects with the planning commission and to forward road plan from 2021 budget planning meetings to the board members.

• **Bills** – Motion by A. Conklin to pay the bill for the regularly monthly custodial contract in the amount of \$800.00. Supported by Willoughby. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Extended Comment** – J. Conklin provided brief updates on the broadband project. Broadband service providers were discussed. At this time only one service provider has approached the township with a plan. Board member salaries were also discussed, with an emphasis on accountability and alignment with other townships in Clinton County.

Moved by J. Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm, Supported by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

# Health

## State of Michigan Secures Additional Federal Team to Assist Sparrow Hospital in Lansing with Staffing

submitted by Lynn Sutfin

LANSING, Mich. – Today, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced that the federal government has granted Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s request for additional staffing assistance at a sixth Michigan hospital, Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. Under the agreement, the federal government will send up to a 25-person medical team to support Sparrow Hospital’s doctors and nurses as they treat

COVID-19 and other patients.

“As we continue facing down the Omicron variant, I am grateful to our federal partners for their continued support. They are providing critical relief to Michigan’s hospitals,” said Governor Whitmer. “Our health care professionals have been on the frontlines of the pandemic for nearly two years, and I urge Michiganders to do their part to keep themselves safe and help our hospitals. Get vaccinated and if you are eligible, get your booster, to keep yourself out of the hospital. Please stay home if you’re sick and make sure you sign up to get free tests from USPS and/or your insurance providers. Get free, high-quality N95, KN95 or KF94 masks from your local pharmacy. Take action to keep yourself and your loved ones safe. We will get through this together.”

“These federal medical teams are providing much needed relief and a morale boost for our dedicated health care workers who have given so much over the past two years of the pandemic,” said Elizabeth Hertel, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services director. “We are extremely grateful for the continued support from our federal partners during this latest surge of COVID-19. We are renewing the call for Michiganders to do their part to support our state’s health care workers by getting vaccinated and boosted if eligible, wearing a mask in public indoor settings regardless of vaccination status, social distancing and staying home and getting tested regularly.”

The team will begin treating patients Feb. 7 and provide support for the next 30 days. Five additional Department of Defense (DoD) teams have provided support at Beaumont Hospital – Dearborn, Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Covenant HealthCare in Saginaw, Mercy Health Muskegon and Henry Ford Hospital in Wyandotte. In addition, a civilian Disaster Medical Assistance Team was dispatched to Henry Ford Hospital in Wyandotte earlier this month before being backfilled by a DoD team.

“We are grateful for this assistance for our incredible Sparrow caregivers, who have been tirelessly protecting the community since this pandemic began,” said James F. Dover, Sparrow Health System president and CEO. “We want to thank Governor Whitmer and the state for its help and especially Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin, who has been steadfast in advocating for boots-on-the-ground support for Sparrow in combating the huge surge of COVID cases among both patients and our caregivers.”

Michiganders are being asked to carefully consider where they seek health care. A primary care office, virtual visit or urgent care may be the best choice as hospital and emergency departments are experiencing high demand. However, for emergency conditions such as stroke symptoms, chest pain, difficulty breathing, significant injury or uncontrolled bleeding, Michiganders should still seek emergency care.

As of Jan. 21, 4,286 Michiganders are hospitalized for COVID-19.

## Ginnie Sprague Named Memorial Healthcare January Employee of the Month

Owosso, Michigan – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to announce Ginnie Sprague, a Medical Assistant at Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neuroscience is our January Employee of the Month. Ginnie has been an employee at Memorial Healthcare since 2017.



According to her winning nomination, “Ginnie demonstrates a positive attitude every day and is willing to help out in any department she is needed in. She is a huge team player and compassionate with all patients. Ginnie is highly deserving of this award for being a team player, providing outstanding customer service to internal and external customers and continuously acting as a role model within the department.”

Ginnie lives in Durand with her husband and has four children. She enjoys spending time with her family, friends, and two grandchildren, along with working on outside activities. Her first job was working as a Certified Medical Assistant for Dr. Azmy Allam. Ginnie’s personal outlook is, “To make sure I leave a patient the way Maya Angelou quoted, “They may forget your name, but they will never forget how you made them feel.” On being selected as January’s Employee of the Month, “I am very honored to get this award. I enjoy my job, co-workers, and patients,” said Ginnie.

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# Health

We're beginning our new year with a much smaller family as many of us do after the holidays and winter months.

Going through the motions of thanksgiving, Christmas, and the new year, with the heaviness of a loss can be very hard. The emptiness that was once filled is now the void which will never go away.

They're gone, transcended beyond their life, and set free with the birds in flight. As we fall apart from devastation with a flood of emotions that our minds cannot process nor handle.

We should be happy for them. They've grown beyond, they've graduated, and they've retired. Yet we sit... we sit in a pool of our own self pity, loathing the fact they're not here with us. Letting sadness and grief wreak havoc throughout our mind, body, and spirit, but why?

Because the grieving process is not for them, it's for us. Our own selfish behavior that tells us "this isn't fair", "why is this happening to me", "they were taken away from me", and all the other egotistical lines we use during these moments.

In reality, we're making it about ourselves instead of them. "I'll never see their face again", "I miss hearing their voice", "I wish I could have one more day", why? Why can't we just be happy for them? They've moved on leaving a broken, rundown, brittle old shack of a body and moved into a beautiful dream home.

Is that our problem? Are we actually grieving for ourselves because they received something far better than anything we have? If so, then isn't that actually a form of jealousy?

It's different thinking about death in this manner but, it is something to think about. After all, it paints the true picture of our ego and how destructive it can be for us, how corruptive it truly is, and how easily, we ourselves, can become tangled up in it.

Grief has layers, as does our egos, but the turmoil of grief is a common and normal healing process we all go through and it's not an easy journey.

There are five stages of grief we each step through when healing, no matter what we have lost. The stages are:

- Denial
- Anger
- Bargaining
- Depression
- Acceptance

These steps each teach us something along the way (if we listen) and they help our mixed up minds process the overload that our emotional body can't handle.

The denial is the preparation for what will be coming. Tapping our ego on the shoulder to say, "psst... you're not in control here".

The anger is when our ego actually realizes it truly has no control in the situation.

Then the bargaining steps in. If our ego doesn't have control then let's work out a way to get control back. After all, something will work, right? It has to!

After that doesn't work (because it never does), it's time for depression to step up. Oh that feeling of the good old defeat. That's right, this is when our ego realizes it can't win and feels the defeat. Not a pleasant stage at all to be in.

Ah, then the wave of acceptance smacks us in the face. This is more of a release of our ego than anything else. We let go of the pettiness, the fear, the wanting, the jealousy, the need to be right, and the control. This is the only stage and moment we get where our ego steps aside. Acceptance is that of being knocked off the pedestal from the heights of our high horse. This stage is both the end and the beginning, it's quite humbling.

Once reaching this plateau, there'll be a stillness, a sense of calm. When everything finally comes together and we're able to manage on our own again. Standing in this spot, we now have a choice; step up to heal or slide back down.

We can finish the healing process from here but only if we choose. Why do I say that, well because many people never move from here. They stay stuck, afraid if they move forward they'll lose what they have already lost. So they continue life in a circle of sorrow which makes its own tracks through the same cycles over and over again. It's their ego laying down licking its defeated wounds. Holding on tight to the last piece of thread it can to keep control of the littlest piece of something.

This ride will continue on the same path until the rider decides it's time to get off and stop it. While the others have decided at this intersection to step forward and finish healing instead of becoming stuck in the grief circle.

You see, even though the end of last year till now was a very cold and dark one, life does continue on. It'll go on with or without us, life isn't biased like that. Just remember, the light at the end of the tunnel is there for you and you can make it through the loss.

Use this new year as a new beginning. Look at it as a chance to shine the light for yourself and others who need it. Move forward, heal, and grow, without your ego draining yourself. Be an example for others by stepping forward in that peaceful spot of calmness where you are humble and grow healthy as you heal so they know it can be done.

Grief is the process of healing in multiple forms with many layers and our bodies are remarkably resilient.

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## MSU Requires Proof of Vaccination or Negative Covid-19 Test for Wharton Center Events

submitted by Bob Hoffman

East Lansing — As of January 1, 2022, Wharton Center will require patrons, ages 12 and older, to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of the event. MSU students, faculty and staff may show their university id to show they are compliant. Patrons ages 11 and under are not required to be vaccinated or tested, however they must be accompanied by an adult who meets the above requirements. Patrons who cannot provide the required information will not be allowed to enter the venue.

All visitors entering Wharton Center must wear a mask for the duration of their visit regardless of vaccination status.

For more information visit whartoncenter.com/covid-19 or msu.edu/together-we-will.

If you have any questions, please contact the Ticket Office by email at wharton@msu.edu or call 1. 800.WHARTON.

## Cancer Care Close to Home in St. Johns



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# Sports

## Ashley Loses to St. Charles

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Lady Bears faced conference foe the Bulldogs from St. Charles. Ashley was short handed and struggled to score.

"We played our second game in a row short-handed and without much depth which is tough. St. Charles is an athletic, quick, good defensive team who pushed the ball up the floor well and we got tired at times. We battled the whole night though and played hard which was good to see" stated Coach Shaw.

Jenna Wirt led the team with 17 points while Alexyss McAllister scored a bucket and had 5 rebounds.

### Huskies Take it to the Bears

Ashley started the second half of conference play playing neighboring Breckenridge. The Bears played a competitive first half with the Huskies, playing solid defense and rebounding well. Once again though the Bears struggle to score and took the loss.

"We had a lot of good looks at the basket but just struggled to score enough points to stay in the game for the long haul in the second half" said Coach Shaw.

Jenna Wirt has 7 points and 7 rebounds, Ashleigh Jelinek scored 4 points and had 3 blocks and Savannah Beebe had 2 points and 5 rebounds.



Jenna Wirt



Alexyss McAllister



Savannah Beebe



Ashley Jelinek

## Marauder Grapplers Fare 1-1 in Final MMAC Dual Meet of 2021-22

COVID-ELSIE — The Marauder varsity wrestling team's last Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) dual meet action came on January 26th.

Coach Kyle Spiess' Marauders bested Byron, 30-21, and dropped a 48-28 decision to the Chesaning Indians.

"Solid wrestling for the team tonight," said coach Spiess. "There were lots of improvements we worked on in practice this week and our wrestlers performed."

Individual results for O-E included:

160 lbs. - Josh Everden 2-0

103 lbs. - Talan Parsons 2-0

Talan is ranked #1 at 103 in Division 3 and pinned the #3 ranked Everett from Chesaning.

112 lbs. - Sharla Juhas 1-0  
125 lbs. - Cole Workman 1-0  
130 lbs. - Clayton Juhas 1-0  
125 lbs. - Sam Grubaugh 1-1.

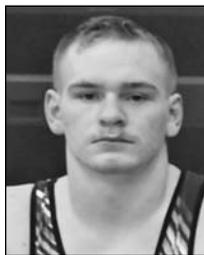
Grubaugh was matched up with two girls which helps with seeding at sectionals.

Gavyn Perry also finished the evening with a 1-1 record.

The MMAC action leaves O-E at 2-9 as a team for the season.

Next up coach Spiess' charges was the first ever Marauder Girls Tournament on January 28. Ovid-Elsie hosted 30 high schools, sending athletes from as far away as Escanaba in the UP, to Utica Eisenhower near Detroit.

January 29 was the boys' chance at a 14-team individual tournament at O-E high school.



Josh Everden



Talan Parsons



Sharla Juhas



Cole Workman



Clayton Juhas



Sam Grubaugh



Gavyn Perry



Zander Woodruff scored 22 points against the Fowler Eagles - shooting 49% for the night. Photos by Keith Kingsbury

## Laingsburg Cager Run to Third-Straight CMAC Win, 61-48 over Fowler Eagles

FOWLER — Coming off a disappointing 56-44 loss at Fowler, coach Dan Morrill's Laingsburg Wolfpack hit the road for their 4th-straight CMAC road game.

They won the last three. The Wolves climbed to 5-1 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), 5-2 overall with a convincing 61-48 victory at Fowler on January 21.

Sophomore Zander Woodruff led LHS with 22 points as the Wolves enjoyed another hot shooting night — 49% (21-for-43) from within the arc, and 46% (6-for-13) from three-point land.

They also connected on 13-of-18 free throws (72%). Fowler stayed as close as they did by out-rebounding the red-and-white, 26-21.

Joining Woodruff in the Wolf scoring parade was Jacob Essenberg with 14 points, Miguel Fajardo 6, Brayden Thomas 6, Jack Byrnes 5, Eli Woodruff 4, Luke Snyder 2 and Ethan West 2.

Byrnes and Essenberg each dealt a pair of assists. Zander Woodruff, Noah Hagerty and Byrnes topped LHS in rebounds, each with 3.

Cooper Wilson and Ty Randall also grabbed rebounds in the winning team effort.

### Wolfpack boys remain atop CMAC with big win over Fulton

LAINGSBURG — The host Wolfpack won a "... hard fought defensive-type battle," said coach Dan Morrill, downing Fulton-Middleton, 50-37, on January 26.

LHS sophomore Zander Woodruff led all scorers with 19 points. Eli Woodruff and Luke Snyder chipped in 9 for the Wolves, who maintained their lead atop the Central Michigan Athletic Conference at 6-2, 6-1 in the circuit. The 'Pack shares first place with Pewamo-Westphalia (7-3, 6-1 CMAC).

The visiting Pirates were led in scoring by Pung and Ramsey, each with 8 tallies. The Pirates fell to 4-5 overall, 3-3 in the CMAC.



Point guard Braydon Thomas pushes the ball up the floor for the Wolfpack.



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# Sports

## Ovid-Elsie Boys Remain Perfect with Second Win over Rams in Two Weeks

OVID-ELSIE — As recently as January 12, the Marauder boys basketball team had shown its dominance over the Montrose Rams in a 45-34 Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) road victory.

A little under two weeks later, coach Josh Latz's O-E cagers were at it again, running past MHS, 69-53, this time on the Marauders' home court.

Two Marauders topped the 20-point mark — Axel Newell with 22 and Clay Wittenberg 20. Dylan Carman pitched in with 17 points and 4 rebounds as Ovid-Elsie remained perfect in the MMAC at 7-0, 9-0 overall. Adam Barton pulled down three rebounds, and Jacob Tomasek dealt three assists to help lead the charge. Logan Thompson led O-E with 5 assists.

It's shaping up to be a very special season in Marauder Land.

Latz's troops rallied from an early 19-16 deficit to lead 34-30 at halftime, then broke things open with a 19-7 run in the third quarter.

The Marauder defense was again prominent, limiting the Rams to just 4-of-24 shooting behind the arc, and setting the tone with that 7-point stop in the third period.

OVID-ELSIE SCORING: Brandon Stenger 2, Newell 22, Gunner McCreery 2, Carman 17, Wittenberg 20, Thompson 6.

### Marauder boys have MMAC title in their sights after 8-point win over Chesaning Indians

OVID-ELSIE — Ovid-Elsie made 17 of 22 free throws on January 25, and scored a clutch 57-49 victory over visiting Chesaning.

Coach Josh Latz's Marauders kept sole possession of first place in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) win the win.

Though coach Latz wasn't on the bench (home with the flu), the Marauders improved to 10-0 overall and 8-0 in the MMAC. Junior Clay Wittenberg scored 14 points for the Marauders, including nine in the fourth quarter. He was 5 of 6 from the line in the fourth quarter and 8 of 10 for the game. Freshman Axel Newell and Logan Thompson each scored 13 points for the Marauders. Newell shot 6 of 11 from the floor with five rebounds and four steals. Thompson shot 4 of 5 from the floor. Dylan Carman scored nine points with six rebounds and four assists.

Ovid-Elsie assistant Mike Loynes took over in Latz's absence. There was a special "60 seconds of change" donation at halftime made by spectators to the family of Elsie firefighter Zachary Miller, who was struck and killed by a vehicle at the scene of an accident the previous week. Volunteers collected donations of \$1,700, according to an announcement made during the contest.

The Indians entered the fray with just one league loss but fell to 8-4 overall and 7-2 in league play. Chesaning's Mason Struck and Evan List each scored 14 points. List sank four 3-pointers, including two in the final quarter. He added two assists. Struck cleared four rebounds. Reese Greenfelder scored 11 points with five rebounds, two steals and one block for the Indians. Eli Escamilla added four rebounds, three steals and three assists.

The game was deadlocked at 26 at halftime but the Marauders took a 42-37 lead into the fourth quarter thanks to 3-pointers from Newell and Thompson.

Wittenberg's three-point play made it 45-37 Marauders with 7:06 to go in the game, then extended it to 10 points with 5:45 left after sinking two free throws.

CHESANING SCORING: Lucas Powell 0 2-2 2, Brady Coon 0 0-1 0, Eli Escamilla 2 1-2 6, Evan List 5 0-1 14, Jaylen Anderson 1 0-0 2, Mason Struck 7 0-3 14, Reese Greenfelder 4 3-6 11.

OVID-ELSIE SCORING: Axel Newell 6 0-0 13, Jacob Tomasek 1 0-0 2, Adam Barton 2 2-2 6, Dylan Carman 2 4-4 9, Clay Wittenberg 3 8-10 14, Logan Thompson 4 3-6 13.

## Laingsburg Girls Score 41-12 Victory at Fulton

FULTON-MIDDLETON — Ellie Baynes had 13 points and 13 rebounds and Julia Starr also scored a career-best 13 points to lead Laingsburg past Middleton Fulton 41-12 on January 25.

Baynes added four steals. Teammate Lorna Strieff had six points, eight rebounds and four steals.

Coach Doug Hurst's Lady Wolfpack (4-5 overall, 2-4 Central Michigan Athletic Conference) won for the second time in three games.

The host Pirates slipped to 1-9 and 0-8 in league play.

LAINGSBURG SCORING: Lorna Strieff 3 0-0 6, Grace Borgman 1 0-0 2, Brenna Highfield 0 1-2 1, Bella Strieff 2 0-0 4, Ella Merrell 1 0-1 2, Julia Starr 4 2-4 13, Ellie Baynes 3 7-9 13.



Ellie Baynes



Julia Starr



Lorna Strieff



Clay Wittenberg scores 14pts. for the Marauders against Chesaning.

Photo by Keith Kingsbury

## Ram Girls Have No Answers in 69-9 Loss to Red-Hot Lady Marauders

OVID-ELSIE — Through 18 games, Ovid-Elsie's varsity basketball teams are unbeaten.

Coach Ryan Cunningham's Marauder girls displayed stout defense, holding Montrose scoreless through the first half in a 69-9 Senior Night whalopping of the visiting on January 21.

Caitlyn Walter shot 8 of 13 from the floor for a team-high 17 points. Ava Bates added 14 for the Marauders (9-0, 6-0 MMAC). Braeden Tokar five steals and a team-high six assists for Ovid-Elsie. Kaylee Hall had four assists and four steals and Hailee Campbell had seven steals for the Marauders.

The Marauders had 38 total steals and led by as many as 62 points.

OVID-ELSIE SCORING: Caitlyn Walter 8 0-0 17, Ava Bates 5 4-4 14, Braylon Byrnes 1 4-4 7, Kaylee Hall 3 0-0 6, Braeden Tokar 3 0-1 6, Rylee Lewis 2 0-0 5, Kiah Longoria 2 0-0 4, Izzy Loynes 0 3-4 3, Hailee Campbell 0 3-4 3, Murphy Alexa 1 0-0 2, Katie Lorio 0 1-2 1, Evalyn Cole 0 1-2 1.

### Ovid-Elsie girls still unbeaten after 55-37 win over Chesaning

OVID-ELSIE — The Ovid-Elsie Lady Marauders got all they could handle from an aggressive Chesaning Indian team, but ended up prevailing, 55-37 on January 26.

Coach Ryan Cunningham's Lady Marauders improved to 10-0, 7-0 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC), while Chesaning fell to 8-4 (6-3 MMAC).

Ovid-Elsie opened the game with a 17-5 first quarter, but Chesaning battled back with a 14-12 second quarter surge. The Lady Marauders led 29-19 at half.

"We had some self-inflicted turnovers and didn't shoot very well in that first half," said coach Cunningham. "I give Chesaning a ton of credit because they sped us up and they shot really well in that first half."

After a tight 11-10 third quarter Ovid-Elsie out-paced Chesaning in the fourth quarter 15-8.

"We really didn't have a great day of preparation on Monday," noted Cunningham. "We just seemed sluggish at practice. Then, having a snow day today, we just seemed a little off. But I'm proud of our kids because it was a game of runs and we battled through some foul trouble and some tough defense to come away with this win."

Caitlyn Walter had a game high 21 points including 3 rebounds and 3 steals. Ava Bates filled the stat sheet with 11 points, 8 rebounds and 5 steals while Kiah Longoria added 8 points, 6 steals and shot a perfect 4 for 4 from the foul line. Evalyn Cole chipped in with 7 points and 4 steals, Braeden Tokar with 6 points and 4 rebounds, and Braylon Byrnes 2 points and 2 steals to round out the scoring for Ovid-Elsie.

Ovid-Elsie collected 26 steals off of 46 Chesaning turnovers while assisting 14 times on 21 made baskets. The Indians held a slight 26-21 rebounding advantage on the night and outshot OE 45.8% to 36.8% from the field.

The Lady Marauders have six road games coming up including a trip to Byron on January 28, Perry next Tuesday and then at Chesaning a week from Friday. Note: The ladies will play the second game at Byron on Friday night after the Varsity Boys contest.



Evalyn Cole chipped in with 7 pts and 4 steals for the Marauders against Chesaning on January 26th.

Photo by Keith Kingsbury



Ava Bates scored 11pts, had 8 rebounds and 5 steals during the January 26th game with Chesaning.

Photo by Chuck Prikasky

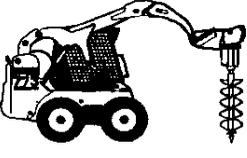


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**Editorial**

**Phil Who?**

In a few days over 40,000 people will descend on a little town in western Pennsylvania to watch Puxatawney Phil emerge from hibernation to forecast the weather based on the presence or absence of his shadow. While Phil has only been around since 1961 the actual celebration of Groundhog Day by German immigrants in Pennsylvania dates back to the 1800's



**The Weekly Sportsman**

by **Dan McMaster**  
 theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

To fully understand Groundhog Day and why the United States and Canada celebrate it on February 2nd it is important to understand the significance of the date. This specific day falls halfway between the winter solstice and the vernal equinox and for centuries has been celebrated by different cultures for religious and agrarian purposes. Catholic Germans started the tradition over 500 years ago of predicting the arrival of spring by bears emerging from hibernation and bathing in the winter sun. When bears became scarce in Germany they were replaced with badgers. Easy to ascertain why German immigrants here chose groundhogs to continue the practice of predicting the arrival of warmer weather.



The first written report of a Groundhog Day dates back to 1840 but the Puxatawney celebration started in 1886 by a newspaper editor and then a more formal event with pomp and circumstance was organized in 1887 by a club of local groundhog hunters. Other communities across North America have held events similar to the one at Gobblers Knob in Punxsutawney and many of which boast better forecasting results. Of course that all depends on what standard is used to say that spring weather has arrived. Research shows that flipping a coin may be more accurate than watching Phil....

-WS

Jesus died on the cross and rose bodily from the dead as the one, full payment for all of our sins. These are historical facts. Their validity doesn't depend on how many people are Christians or on how Christians have acted in the past or even the present. They stand alone.



**Religious Thoughts**

by **Chris Hearn**  
 www.letsmeetgod.com

I'd like to add a third item to the list. One that perhaps hits a bit closer to home. That the gospel is true even when we have suffered hurt or disappointment in life. When it comes to a person and God, this can be the hardest obstacle to belief in God.

Someone, maybe you, are wrestling with such questions as, "God, if you exist, why did you allow this to happen to me?" or "God, if you love me, then why did this happen to my parents?" or "Why did this happen to my child?"

These can be very difficult questions for people to wrestle with. And people need our help and patience as they work these questions out.

Remember the famous John 3:16 verse- "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

It doesn't say that for God so loved the world, He promised to keep you free from all pain, tragedies and disappointments in life. Life can and will be difficult and frustrating. We have questions that don't get answered and tragedies come with no explanation.

But the Bible does say that "...God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

The gospel is true despite what we are going through, despite the tragedies that come into our lives.

Jesus says, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Ovid Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. The hearing will be held during the regular Board Meeting of the Ovid Township Board on February, 10, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.  
 The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the Ovid Township Administrative Offices, 1015 Baese Court, Ovid, MI.  
 This notice complies with MCL 141.436 and MCL 211.24e.

*Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk*  
 (989) 834-4830

34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."- Matthew 6:33-34

Another comfort for weary hearts is that God promises to be with you in and through all of the storms of life. As Hebrews 13:5 says, God will never leave you nor forsake you.

Amen.

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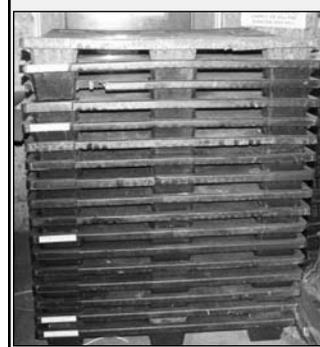
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## Rep. Frederick Helps Pave Way for Major New GM Investment

submitted by Christina Doerr

GM announces plan to invest \$7 billion in mid-Michigan, Oakland County regions

State Rep. Ben Frederick today joined General Motors Chair and CEO Mary Barra in Lansing to announce the company's plan to invest \$7 billion in two Michigan manufacturing facilities.

GM and LG Energy Solution, through their Ultium Cells LLC joint venture, will invest \$2.5 billion to build Ultium's third U.S. battery cell manufacturing facility in the Lansing area. GM will also spend \$4.5 billion to convert its Orion Township assembly plant to build full-size electric pickup trucks. The projects will create 4,000 jobs and retain a further 1,000 existing jobs in Michigan when the plants are fully operational.

Frederick, of Owosso, helped pave the way for the projects through his work to create a new economic development fund dedicated to bringing new jobs to the state.

"GM's decision to invest in Michigan in a time of fierce competition for jobs is a huge win for the future of our state and local economies," Frederick said. "Other states have been trying to attract investments from auto manufacturers as the industry shifts to electric vehicles. If these investments went to another state, not only would we have lost out on thousands of new stable and well-paying jobs, but auto plant jobs and the auto suppliers that our rural communities are built around would have become more and more at risk. Through this success and future successes Michigan will continue to show that we will not give an inch in the marketplace for job creation and investment."

GM has stated that its investment in the Delta Township battery plant demonstrates its commitment to supporting near-term products as the company transitions to an all-electric-vehicle future.



State Rep. Ben Frederick, of Owosso, stands alongside a Hummer EV after joining General Motors CEO Mary Barra and other state leaders in Lansing to announce the company's plan to invest billions of dollars in two Michigan manufacturing facilities.

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