



photo by Clint Hawks

Laingsburg's Award Winning Robotics Teams 'Dive Deep' for Competition Treasure at Capital League Tournament

submitted by Clint Hawks

Laingsburg – Up at the crack of dawn, the bright and eager minds of Laingsburg's four middle-school FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics teams headed to Mason High School for the Capital League qualifier! It was an early morning of setup, presenting team portfolios, and showcasing months of hard work to the judges. Then, the battling of the bots began!

This year's challenge, "Into the Deep," aligns with FIRST Robotics' water-based theme, encouraging students to innovate and problem-solve through robotics.

Each of Laingsburg's four teams had standout moments:

- Teams 21537, 23859, and 23391 all ranked in the top three after qualification matches.
- Team 23391, led by Melissa Kramer and Soph Hughes, earned the Inspire Award for exemplifying FIRST's core values, including teamwork, community outreach, and "Gracious Professionalism." Taking home the Inspire Award was an automatic invitation to advance to the State Competition NW in Muskegon, where they placed in the top 20 of their field.
- Team 23859, led by Mario Escamilla and Kyle Gallegos, earned the Innovate Award for demonstrating exceptional creativity and ingenuity in their robot design.
- Team 23600, led by April Wright and Adam Wykoff, received the Think Award for their creative problem-solving and detailed documentation.

Melissa Kramer, Head Mentor and District Robotics Program Coordinator, as well as the lead coach for Team 23391, shared her excitement: "I'm so proud of the achievements and growth of all our teams. Their dedication and passion are truly inspiring."

If you'd like to be part of a winning team that develops talent for the future and gives back to the community, visit www.wolfpack-robotics.com. Consider volunteering or donating to support this incredible program that's making a difference in young lives.

Laingsburg Lions Free Spaghetti Dinner

LAINGSBURG — The next spaghetti dinners, hosted by the Laingsburg Lions Club in conjunction with the American Legion Post 248, will be held on January 21st from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Meal includes spaghetti with or without meatballs, garlic bread, a beverage and desserts.

Carry-outs will be available; sorry no deliveries. Bring a friend, bring a neighbor and enjoy a great evening of community fellowship. All are welcome! The Legion hall is located at 1240 W. Grand River Ave., Laingsburg.



Back in Action Area teams are back in action on the hardwood and mat after the Holiday break



Above: #2 O-E McKenzie Keck scored 9 points against Morrice on January 9th match up.

Photo by Denise Burgess

Left: #30 Wolfpack Mitchell George jump ball with Saranac player.

Photo by Burg Sports



Laingsburg wrestlers facing off during the double dual on January 7th.

Photo by Burg Sports

Rep. BeGole Sworn Into Office for Second Term

submitted by Denny Schwarze

BeGole, who is beginning his second term, represents the 71st House District, which includes Corunna, Durand, Owosso, Perry, Bancroft, Byron, Morrice, New Lothrop, Vernon, portions of Lennon and Ovid, and the townships of Antrim, Bennington, Burns, Caledonia, Fairfield, Hazelton, Middlebury, New Haven, Owosso, Perry, Rush, Shiawassee, Venice and Vernon in Shiawassee County. It also includes Chesaning, Oakley, Brady Township, Chesaning Township and Maple Grove Township in Saginaw County and Argentine Township, Gaines Township, and a portion of Mundy Township in Genesee County.



State Rep. Brian BeGole (right), of Antrim Township, was recently sworn in to the Michigan House of Representatives by Michigan Supreme Court Justice David F. Viviano.

Rep. BeGole also was recently selected by his House Republican colleagues as Assistant Floor Leader for the 2025-26 term. He will help lead legislative efforts for Republicans during House session and ensure parliamentary procedure and House rules are followed.

The Republican caucus regained majority in 2025 after serving in minority during the 2023-24 legislative term. This will interrupt the trifecta that Michigan Democrats previously held while in control of both chambers of the Legislature and the governor's office.

The Michigan House of Representatives will hold its first session day of the new term on Wednesday.

Coming on January 19th

The Bride's
Guide

Winter
Car Care

ATTENTION ROAD CLOSURE FOR CITY OF OVID
West Front Street Closure
January 10th thru January 21st

Due to a large crane needed for repair work being done by Michigan Milk Producers Association; West Front St. will be closed from West St. to Hollister Rd. The City apologizes for any inconvenience this will be causing.

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Cardio Drumming Classes

submitted by Janell Kebler

Fun and free cardio drumming exercise classes with Janell and Jackie are held on Monday & Thursdays from 6-7pm. and Saturdays 8-9am. in the gym at United Church of Ovid, 131 W. Front St., Ovid.

Equipment available, all levels welcome! M

More information on Facebook at: United Church of Ovid-Cardio Drumming.

Library News

Ovid Public

Library Happenings

On Monday, January 13 we will be having our Adult Booktasting at 1:00. If you love to read and want to let people know what books you have been reading and enjoying, then come and join us. You might just find out about your next favorite book. There's always snacks and a good time had by all who attend.

Don't forget that our back room is open to crafters on Tuesdays from 1-4. We've got lots of room for you to spread out and work on your projects. If there is no programming scheduled for the evening hours we won't kick you out and crafting is always more fun done with others!

Materials Management Planning Committee Meeting

submitted by Kate Neese

The Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC) will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 5:45pm in the Clinton County Courthouse Board of Commissioners Room to review and discuss the Work Program document for the Materials Management Plan process. This document will be made available to all municipal offices, on the Clinton County website (www.clinton-county.org) and through email or regular mail by request.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 5:45pm at the same location. MMPC meeting agendas and minutes will be regularly posted on the Clinton County website: www.clinton-county.org/1075/Materials-Management-Planning-Committee.

For additional information, please contact the Clinton County Department of Waste Management by emailing recycle@clinton-county.org or calling the office (989) 224-5186.

Memorial Healthcare Auxiliary Cookie Dough Fundraiser

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso — The Memorial Healthcare Auxiliary is hosting a Cookie Dough Fundraiser event January 3 – February 15, 2025. Each dough box comes with 35 dough pucks for \$22. Flavors include: chunky chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin, sugar, rainbow, white chocolate macadamia, snickerdoodle, birthday cake, and salted caramel. Proceeds from this fundraising event will benefit Hospital Improvements.

To order, please visit bit.ly/3Pp7Ylg. Payroll deduction is available for qualified Memorial Healthcare employees by visiting the Four Seasons Gift Shop. Delivery will take place in early March.

Elsie Lions Club Wild Game Dinner

Make your calendar for the January 13th, 31st Annual Elsie Lions Club Wild Game Dinner. This will be held at the Elsie American Legion Hall starting at 6 pm. Bring a wild game dish to pass and your place setting, potatoes, rolls, milk and coffee will be provided. The club will be raffling a Mossberg Patriot 350 Legend. Tickets for the raffle are \$10 per ticket and can be purchased now by calling Lion Richard Easlick at 517-881-0024 or Lion Rick Jones at 989-666-2781, they will also be available at the event if not sold out. Make plans now to attend this fund raising event for the Elsie Lions Club.

Elsie Area Food Pantry Offers Home Delivery With Door Dash

submitted by Toni Ornelas

The Elsie Area Food Pantry in partnership with the Greater Lansing Food Bank has entered into a new program that can deliver food to qualifying applicants. Greater Lansing Food Bank is proud to provide safe, convenient delivery of food to Mid-Michigan communities. A participant can have a box of food delivered to their home once a month and do not need to be home to receive it. As the need grows, the food pantry can evaluate the need to expand the service.

To receive home delivery of a pantry pack of shelf-stable food items, neighbors must:

- Meet federally-set income guidelines for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), OR
- Qualify for one of the following programs: SNAP, WIC, FDIPIR, CSFP, free/reduced school lunches, OR

• Be in need of food

AND

• Live within 10 miles of one of the Elsie Area Food Pantry.

If you or anyone you know is interested in participating in this program go to: <https://greaterlansingfoodbank.org/get-help/home-delivery> to apply.

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A Look Back Through 2024

Ford Field Here We Come...

February 25, 2024



Cole Workman and Talan Parsons



Haley McClung, Maddie Miller and Kaia Spiess



(l to r): Asst. Coach Frank Goodrich and Head Coach Kyle Spiess. Photo by Marie Spiess

Coaches of the Year for Girls Wrestling



Talan Parsons got his 150th Win on his way to his fourth regional championship

Three-Peat for OE Girls Basketball



Ovid-Elsie Girls Varsity Basketball

Team Includes: Danica Bancroft, Isabella Phillips, Alyson Moore, Dannika Campbell, McKenzie Keck, Lilian Bates, Ashton Ehle, Manager Kendall Tokar, Francesca Giacobbe, Tava Kvalevog, Haillee Campbell, Ava Bates, Braeden Tokar, Evalyn Cole, Ellyanna Carman, Coach Ryan Cunningham, Coach Braylon Byrnes, Coach Chris Parker, Coach Jason Tokar, Manager Kaela Campbell. Photo by Ortman Production, Inc.

Laingsburg Boys Basketball CMAC Champions



Laingsburg Boys Varsity Basketball

Front row (l-r): Vance Klont, Jackson Audretsch, Lucas Matthews, Dom Garcia, Max Powers, Adam Essenberg, Logan Holm, Josiah Hawes. Back row (l-r): Head coach Tim Beebe, Cameron Ballard, Zander Woodruff, Mitchell George, Aiden Maddaloni, Greg Stewart, Ty Randall, Elliott Wilsey, Asst. coach: Rob Porritt. Missing Asst. coaches: Jordan McGee and Evan Rogers. Photo by Keith Kingsbury

SCIOTA TOWNSHIP Notice of Annual Budget Workshop PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sciota Township Board will hold a public budget workshop for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. This workshop will be held at 6:00 pm on Monday, January 13, 2025, at the Sciota Township Hall, 3990 Leland Road, Laingsburg, MI. The township board meeting will follow the budget workshop, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Anyone in need of assessible accommodations should contact the clerk 5 days prior to the meeting.

Jamie Parker-Wing
Sciota Township Clerk
Office 517.651.5286
clerk@sciotatownship.net

VICTOR TOWNSHIP CLINTON COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE Special Meeting of the Victor Township Board January 14, 2025 at 5:30 PM

The Victor Township Board invites the public to attend a special meeting/work session to discuss the 2025-2026 budget on January 14, 2025 at 5:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Victor Township Hall, 6843 E. Alward Rd., Laingsburg, MI 48848

The Victor Township board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 5-day notice to the Victor Township board. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Victor Township board by writing or calling the following: 517-651-2094.

* Meetings may be cancelled, rescheduled, and additional special meetings may be scheduled, as needed, with 24-hour notice as permitted by Section 5(4) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.265(4). Notice complies with MCL 141.436, MCL 211.24, MCL 414.412

Lianne Prange, Clerk
6843 E. Alward Road
Laingsburg, MI 48848
Posted 01/7/2025

VICTOR TOWNSHIP Clinton County, Michigan 6843 E. Alward Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848 Proposed Board Minutes from December 10, 2024

The regular board meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Wiswasser at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge to the flag was given. Attendance: Roll call: Present: Wiswasser, Prange, Willoughby, Sayles, Pesch. Absent: None
12 citizens in attendance.

Public Comment: none

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Sayles to approve the December 10, 2024 agenda with additions. Motion seconded by Prange. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Willoughby to approve the November 12, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Prange. All in favor. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Prange to accept the December 10, 2024 Treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Sayles. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills and Payroll: Motion by Willoughby to disburse the November 2024 bills (Paid December 10, 2024). Motion seconded by Prange. Roll Call: Willoughby: yes, Wiswasser: yes, Prange: yes, Pesch: yes, Sayles: yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Checks# 29235-29262 in the amount of \$27,415.93.

Motion by Willoughby to disburse November 2024 bills (Paid December 10, 2024). Motion seconded by Sayles. Roll Call: Sayles: yes, Willoughby: yes, Prange: yes, Wiswasser: yes, Pesch: yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Checks# 13160-13175 in the amount of \$9,362.38.

County Officials: Clinton County Deputy Sheriff Tanner Nelson was introduced as the new sheriff department's liaison for Victor Township.

Victor Township Planning Commission: Proposed Planning Commission's Minutes from November, 2024 placed on file.

The Planning Commission presented the revision of the PC By-Laws. Motion by Sayles to approve the presented Planning Commission By-Laws. Motion seconded by Willoughby. Roll call: Wiswasser: yes, Prange: yes, Willoughby: yes, Sayles: yes, Pesch: yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Willoughby moved to update the Township Policies and Procedures (Section 2.24 and 3.10) to agree with the Planning Commission By-laws concerning Conflict of Interest (Section 5). Motion seconded by Pesch. Roll call: Willoughby: yes, Wiswasser: yes, Prange: yes, Pesch: yes, Sayles: yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Upon recommendation of the Supervisor, Sayles moved to appoint Trustee Pesch to be the Board representative to the Planning Commission. Motion seconded by Willoughby. Roll call: Sayles: yes, Willoughby: yes, Prange: yes, Wiswasser: yes, Pesch: yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

There will be an organizational meeting of the Victor Township Historical Commission on Monday, January 6, 2025.

Land and Water Conservation Grant Application: The Land and Water Conservation Grant application was recommended for approval in the amount of \$278,700.00 Victor Township will be responsible for matching funds. The formal grant offer will follow. The board will move forward with the project. LSW (Fire): Supervisor Wiswasser attended the LSW Fire Authority meeting. Clarification: Victor Township Treasurer, Willoughby, is the LSW recording secretary and is not a voting member of the LSW board.

Maintenance & Facilities:

Maintenance Report: General maintenance is ongoing

Unfinished Business:

Emergency Services (Ambulance): The board continued discussion regarding emergency services in Victor Township.

Internet Provider: Victor Township is changing internet provider service from WOW to DayStarr

Communications and will be installing new phones in the offices in January.

Poverty Exemption: Willoughby moved to adopt the guidelines for 2025 poverty exemption as required by law. Motion seconded by Pesch. Roll call: Wiswasser: yes, Prange: yes, Willoughby: yes, Sayles: yes, Pesch: yes. All in favor. Resolution 2024-12-01 Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions declared adopted

Public Comment: none

Motion by Sayles to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Motion seconded by Prange. All in favor. Motion carried.

Complete copies of Policies & Procedures, By-laws and Resolutions can be obtained by contacting the township office.

Lianne Prange
Victor Township Clerk

There will be a special meeting to discuss the 2025-2026 township budget on: Tuesday, January 14, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Obituaries

Leonard William "Bill" Cartwright

Leonard William "Bill" Cartwright, age 77, of Ashley, MI, passed away Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at his home.

Bill was born in St. Johns, Michigan on September 3, 1947, the son of Francis LeRoy and Gladys (Kidder) Cartwright. He graduated from Fulton High School with the Class of 1966. On April 24, 1971, Bill married Linda Jean Boeskool at St. Cyril's Catholic Church in Bannister, MI. They were blessed with 54 years of marriage.

Bill retired from General Motors after 38 years and was an active union member. He coached boys and girls basketball and baseball in Fulton and Ashley. Bill played softball for many years at North Star and travel softball on the weekends. Bill & his family enjoyed following Marty playing baseball at Olivet and Jeremy playing football at Ferris State. He proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1966-1968 during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the E.J. Werner Post 3733 in Fowler.

He is survived by his wife Linda Cartwright, son Marty Cartwright, daughter-in-law Carolyn Cartwright, his sister Mary Jo (David) Redman, brother-in-law Dean Ball, and sister-in-law Connie Cartwright. He is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law David & Ann Boeskool of Shelby Twp., MI; his sister-in-law Marcia (Mel) Zimmerman of Lake City, MI; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, father and mother-in-law: Ken and Tillie Boeskool, son Jeremy, six siblings: Charles Cartwright, JoAnn (Norman) Johnson, JeanAnn Ball, Susan (Melvin) Poling, Margaret (John) Wise, and Thad Cartwright.

A Memorial Service was held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Ithaca, MI, on Saturday, January 11, 2025, with Kathy Leydorf-Keck officiating.

Burial will take place at North Star Cemetery, North Star, MI at a later date.

Memorials may be made to A Charity of the Donor's Choice. Online condolences may be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Ithaca, Michigan.



Thomas James Bradley

Thomas James Bradley, 82 years old, was born on December 23, 1942, and passed away at his home surrounded by his loving family on January 3, 2025.

Tom was born in Alma, Michigan and grew up in the Ashley and Bannister area. He graduated from Ashley Schools in 1961. Tom received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Divisional Social Science from Michigan State University in 1965. Upon graduation from MSU, Tom served 3 1/2 years in the Peace Corps in Ecuador from 1965-68. During his Peace Corps service, Tom worked on special projects, taught and counseled at the local school, and provided service throughout the Guayaquil area. Tom settled in the Bannister area and ran the family dairy farm.

The most important part of Tom's life was his family. On June 24, 1972, he married the love of his life, Diane Kay Kasik. Throughout their marriage, they enjoyed dancing, music, their shared Czech heritage, and participating and leading numerous community and volunteer activities together. Their loving marriage of 52 years brought four children: Anmarie and Tisha Bradley-Dodd of Ashley, MI; Thomas Jr. and Paula Bradley of Midway, Utah; Sarah Bradley of Grand Rapids, MI; and Mary Bradley and Charles Olsen of Frankfort, MI. The joys of his life brought further happiness with the addition of grandchildren: Bradly, Meggan (Mark), Gary, Isaac, Layla, Thomas, Edward (Erin), and Gregory. In addition, Tom greatly enjoyed his great-grandchildren: Amelia, Mathilde, Genevra, and Rhys.

In addition to his family, community was extremely important to him. Tom believed that if everyone lifted each other up, our communities and overall society would flourish. Tom was passionate about his Czech heritage and was an active member for 82 years of the BetterLife ZCBJ Lodge Bannister where he led many events and community service projects. He served as chair of the Czechoslovak Harvest Festival (1976-2024), co-founded the Bannister Czechoslovak Folk Dance Group along with his wife Diane in 1976, chair of the Blood Drive in Bannister for over 50 years, chair of Adopt-a-Highway for over 30 years, Bannister Recycling Center, and served as ZCBJ lodge secretary, trustee, and historian. He also served on the BetterLife (Western Fraternal Life Association) National Board of Directors from 1991-2011. Tom grew up with his Czech heritage being an integral part of his life. He spoke fluent Czech and brought Czech polka and waltz to the community through the Ovid-Elsie WOES Radio Station. The Jolly Bohemian Show, beginning in 1978, was the first polka programming of the station. The Jolly Bohemian show ran for over 45 years. He also captured and provided genealogy information to local Czech and Slovak families.

Tom served 55 years as Elba Township trustee, retiring in 2024. Through his work as trustee, he engaged in several impactful projects, including the creation of the Ashley District Library and the replacement of each Maple River bridge. He also served on the Gratiot County Zoning Board of Appeals since 1972, and served as chairperson of the zoning board for 16 years.

Tom was a man of great faith and a member of St. Cyril's Catholic Church in Bannister. He received 4th Degree Knight honors and served as treasurer with the Bannister Knights of Columbus and was a member of the Parish Council. He also served the church as a lector. Tom was a dedicated volunteer with the Elsie Food Pantry and served on its Board of Directors. Tom was a gifted speaker and brought comfort to over 300 families, presiding over their loved one's funeral services over the past 35 years.

Tom humbly received many honors for his service including: National Fraternalist of the Year for BetterLife (WFLA); 2004 South Gratiot Person of the Year from the Gratiot County Chamber of Commerce; Outstanding Citizen in Clinton County; recognition from the township, county, and state of Michigan for his 55 years of service to Elba Township and Gratiot County; 2018 Community Service Recognition from Gleaners; Fraternalist of the Year from Michigan Fraternal Alliance; and Heart of a Lion Award from the Ashley Lions Club. Tom and his wife, Diane, were inducted into the Michigan Polka Hall of Fame in 2011.

Tom will be joyfully welcomed into heaven by his parents, Thomas and Mildred (Skayrd) Bradley, and siblings: Gary and Romona, as well as in-laws Jerry and Anna Kasik.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Cyril's Catholic Church, Bannister, MI, on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 11:00 A.M., with Rev. Fr. Thai H. Nguyen presiding. Burial will take place at Ford Cemetery, Elba Twp, at a later date. Visitation will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI, on Friday, January 10, 2025, from 2-8 P.M. with a Rosary being prayed at 7:00 P.M. at the funeral home.

Tom will forever be remembered for the legacy he has left through his family, community involvement, and service to others. To further his passion for community, donations can be made in his memory to Bannister ZCBJ Building Fund, Elsie Area Food Pantry, St. Cyril's Memorial Fund, or Ovid-Elsie WOES Radio Station. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



Church Directory

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

163 W. Main St., Elsie
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Watch Sunday Service on
YouTube at [elsiebaptist](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs1ebaptist)
Pastor Phillip Rogers

Laingsburg United Methodist Church

210 Crum St., Laingsburg
517-651-5531

Worship Service: 10:30am
Pastor:

Kendra Holcomb - Densmore

Middlebury United Methodist Church

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573

Minister:
Pastor Kendra
Holcomb-Densmore
Worship Service
9:00 a.m.

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street

Pastor: Zella Daniel

Sunday Worship 11:15am

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns

Pastor: John Jakus

Sunday School: 9:00am

Worship Service 10:00am

517-651-6210

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
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Youth Group: Sundays 6:00-7:30pm
5th - 12th Grades

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St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

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Wed. 5:30pm

1st Saturday Mass 9am

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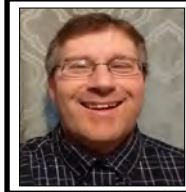
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Editorial



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
www.howdidchristianitybegin.com
tohearn@yahoo.com

“So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”

– Genesis 1:27

Some scoff at the teaching that God created people. They say that Genesis account of creation is a myth or fairy tale and that we evolved without any God in the picture.

Yet this idea has consequences. For example, how does it answer the question, “Do I have any value?” If you evolved and are just another animal, what value do you have? Is it in your job? Your bank account? Your ability to do certain things? Your relationships?

All of these things are important, but are any of them where we should put our self-worth?

In contrast, the teaching that God has created people is the one and only thing that gives us true, intrinsic worth and value. All of the examples above (and any others) can be changed. But when one is created in God's image, it's permanent. It can't increase or decrease; it will always be true.

Sadly, there are times in our lives when we are mistreated. When we aren't treated with respect. This can range from being called a name on a playground when we were kids, to being physically or mentally abused. Either as a kid, teen or adult.

Because of this, we may not think that we have worth or value. Or maybe we don't have a high paying job or don't have the perfect relationship with our spouse or kids and so we think that we aren't very valuable.

But this is isn't true.

Remember that just by being you, created in God's image, means that you have intrinsic worth and value that will never change. It can never fade and never be taken away.

Plus, God loves you and His love is not dependent on how well you behave or how much money you make or if you are Spouse of the Year or Grandparent of the Year. It doesn't matter. God still loves you the same no matter what.

God loves you so much that He sent Jesus, who is fully God and fully human, to die for your sins. He was rejected by the religious leaders of His day. He was whipped and tortured and then died a humiliating death on the cross and rise bodily from the dead to pay the price in full for all of your sins.

Jesus died for everyone.

Not just for the rich. Or the popular. Or the famous. Or the good looking (whatever society at that point in time decides good looking to mean). But for everyone.

The gospel is also good that the way to enter into a personal relationship with God is the same way for everyone, through faith.

Yes, all people are equal. We're equally sinful and equally saved when we come to faith in Christ.

Come to the Lord to find your true worth and value.

Come to the Lord to receive forgiveness of all of the sins you have committed.

God wants to forgive you.

God doesn't call you to Himself to yell at you. Or to shame you. But to forgive you and start healing you.



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Meet Stanley the Deer

About a week ago, the Weekly Sportsman received the first of many, many texts and emails about a young deer running around southern Michigan in an orange blaze vest. First reported on

Facebook, with pictures and video, Melissa Gow of Hillsdale county witnessed the deer chasing vehicles in Moscow Township which is about 16 miles southwest of Jackson.

Within a day both WLNS TV 6 and WILX TV 10 picked up the story and were asking viewers for any information about this strange occurrence. The Weekly Sportsman speculated that this deer was an escapee someone was keeping in their backyard and dressed it in blaze orange to prevent their pet from being shot. A few days later WILX TV 10 reported that the deer belonged to a rehabber, having been named Stanley the Deer, and was in the process of a soft release into the wild. Apparently Stanley was orphaned seven months earlier when his mother was killed in a car collision. The rehabbers explained that water, food, and shelter are available to Stanley and the orange vest serves two purposes; preventing him from being shot by local hunters and secondly so he can be clearly seen by motorists because he likes to chase cars.

The rehabbers mention that he may need to be released into a sanctuary.

The news anchors tried to make this story all warm and fuzzy by calling the deer bambi and described the car chasing as frolicking. They even went as far as to say that his curved ears, caused by severe dehydration, are cute and soon he will be a buck. While not illegal, the DNR does not recommend rehabbers dressing their deer in blaze orange. Where to begin?

First, he was born a buck. Secondly, chasing cars is a public nuisance not frolicking. Third, curved ears on a deer are not cute. Fourth, a soft release is not safe for Stanley or humans.

Lastly, what is going on? Isn't the DNR encouraging the reduction of the deer population?

Stanley belongs on a petting farm or in a zoo. Someone needs to step up for the benefit and safety of both wildlife and humans.

-WS



Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

You can also mail or drop questions off to: Meridian Weekly
P.O. Box 11, Ovid, MI 48866

Never too Late to Change...

Dear Andy,

Since the fast pace of the Holidays, my husband and I have gotten in the groove of watching Netflix and movies every evening. We watched several feel-good movies, over Christmas. After all the cookies and parties slowed down, we slowed to a halt. We stopped watching the news, it was too depressing. Stopped with the reruns; it was a complete waste of time. Now we are in a rut; not doing anything but watching Series after Series for hours, eating popcorn for dinner, even during some of the daylight hours. How can we get motivated to expand our interest and time. In a comfy chair wondering, if I can pull myself out. Unmotivated

Dear Comfy,

Sounds relaxing, but I have found that entertainment from the television is a great way to transition into the new year. However, it is too easy to get hooked. The complex and unpredictable storylines are exciting. Each episode leaves us with a cliff-hanger. I get it. Been there myself, along with millions of other “boob-tube” viewers addicted to adventurers. Since you're asking...I think you still have the ability to be self-motivated and change directions. Watching someone else's stories make for good entertainment and then our lives don't look so bad.

It is still early in the new year. First, I would recommend you track how many hours you spend watching and then gradually cut it down. Draw up an agreement to a 2 or 3 hour limit. The movies and next episodes will still be there.

Plan other activities, such as reading for a couple of hours every other day. Go for a walk or do a few stretches. Getting back in shape after all your cookies. Get into the sock drawer and sort and pitch. Plan a dinner out with friends on a Tuesday Taco night. Invite friends over to visit who may not have been at any of your parties or activities. Plan a game night with no TV and cook together. Although, I think I could eat popcorn every night, too.

The New Year is a great time to assess what resolutions worked last year AND then set new goals and changes. Don't be too hard on yourself. Always time or a good day to make changes for the better.

Thanks for writing....ask_andy@aol.com or askandyforadvice@gmail.com

MDARD Announces Grant Opportunities for County Fairs and Expositions

submitted by Jennifer Holton

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Tim Boring announced the start of the 2025 competitive grant cycle for both the County Fair Capital Improvement Grant and Livestock and Commodity Exposition Competitive Grant Programs. County fairs and other eligible organizations are encouraged to apply for these funding opportunities that facilitate operations and infrastructure improvements at these essential showcases of Michigan's agricultural heritage and community culture.

The County Fair Capital Improvement Grant Program provides \$1.5 million in funding for building renovations, infrastructure upgrades, or capital improvements that enhance the productivity, usefulness, or longevity of fairground facilities. Eligible applicants include fairs incorporated under Act 80 of 1855 or county owned and operated fairs operating under Act 11 of 1929. Fairs funded in the 2024 funding round will be eligible to apply again in 2026. Applications for up to \$100,000 will be considered. Program information, application details,

and submission criteria are available at

MDARD- County Fairs Capital Improvement Grants (michigan.gov).

The Livestock and Commodity Exposition Competitive Grant Program distributes \$25,000 to fairs, festivals, or expositions for activities including promotions, awards, and premiums. Applications may be submitted for up to \$5,000. Details on eligibility, funding qualifications, and eligible expenses are available at MDARD- Livestock and Commodity Exposition Competitive Grants (michigan.gov).

Applications for both grant programs will be subject to a competitive process with evaluation committee review. Grant proposals must be received via email by MDARD no later than 5 p.m. ET on Friday, March 14, 2025. Funding will be issued on a cost reimbursement basis with 50 percent cash match required. Additional details are available by contacting Zane Stanton at 517-285-8463 or

MDARD-Fairs@michigan.gov.

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Editorial

House Happy Handyman

Are you in need of help around the house? Laingsburg resident, Kirt Wilson, whose motto is to make your house a "Happy House". He is a skilled and experienced handyman with affordable pricing. He offers quick and reliable services and free estimates for general repairs, power washing, clean-ups (garage-basement and yard) and much more.



Kirt Wilson sealing around a door in a recent job

Kirt is more than just a handyman, what sets him apart is he likes to concentrate on the needs of the elderly and veterans. He attends area Senior Citizen luncheons and gives tips on how they can have a clutter free and safe home. He also offers reliable "House Setting" while homeowners are away for periods of time.

If you are in need of light duty maintenance in your home, give Kirt a call at 517-490-7099 for a consultation. "I have 25 plus years of experience and would like the opportunity to share my skills with you in your home."



Did You Know?

Homeowners with an eye on home improvement projects should know that kitchens and bathrooms tend to be the most costly rooms to renovate. An affiliate of the National Kitchen and Bath Association told Architectural Digest in 2023 that kitchens and bathrooms require the most labor-intensive renovations, which contributes significantly to the high costs of such projects.

Labor is indeed a significant cost when renovating a home, as the Construction Labor Market Analyzer indicates labor cost percentages in construction are between 20 and 40 percent of the total budget of a given project. The final cost of any renovation project will depend on a host of variables unique to each home, including the square footage of the room being remodeled and the materials homeowners choose.

However, homeowners looking for less costly renovations may want to consider revamping their dining rooms and closets, each of which are projects that can make a difference and tend to require a less significant financial commitment than projects like kitchen and bath remodels.

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Small Renovations That Make a Big Impact

Homeowners may think they have to tear down walls or build room extensions to transform their homes with renovation projects. But small projects can yield impressive results, and that's something homeowners working with limited budgets can keep in mind.

There's no shortage of small projects that can change the look and feel of a home. Many of these undertakings can be achieved with a modest investment.

• **Front door replacement:** A new front door instantly improves curb appeal and can make a home more secure and energy-efficient. Painting the existing front door is an even smaller project that still offers appeal.

• **Lighting addition:** Whether a homeowner enlarges a window or adds skylights, natural light can produce incredible results. Investing in new lighting can feel like expanding a space without pushing out walls.

• **Kitchen and bath fixture upgrades:** Faucets and door pulls are used every day. Swapping existing fixtures for something a little more modern can unify spaces and provide subtle changes that enhance these popular spaces.

• **Wood floor restoration:** Scuffing and scratches can adversely affect the pristine look of a natural wood floor. Homeowners can polish a floor to restore its shine. A professional service will sand down and refinish older floors at a fraction of the cost of a new floor installation.

• **Exterior lighting:** Lighting isn't just important inside. A welcoming glow in the yard is awe-inspiring. There are many energy-efficient lighting options, including ones that do not need to be hard-wired to the circuitry inside the home.

• **Staircase renovation:** Coordinate the staircase to the style in the home with a decorative carpet runner. A secure runner is attractive and can help reduce slipping down the stairs. Tighten shaky railings or replace them while upgrading the stair treads.

• **Interior paint:** Change the color of walls, doors, cabinets, or even furniture with paint. All homeowners need is a paint color that inspires them and a little bit of time.

• **Replace outlet covers:** Upgrade outlet covers with screwless options. Screwless plates for outlets and light switches can make walls look more sleek.

• **Entry organizer installation:** Banish clutter from the home by catching it at the door. An entry organizer with spaces for shoes, coats, backpacks, and shopping bags can be eye-catching and functional.

• **Carpets cleaning:** Soiled carpets can look drab and dingy. Homeowners can rent carpet-cleaning machines or hire services to revitalize carpets with a deep cleaning.

Small changes around a home can create a big impact without breaking the bank.

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Memorial Healthcare Welcomes Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner to Perry

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso – Please join us in welcoming Rachele Twichell, FNP-BC to our active medical staff and to the Perry community!

Rachele has joined Dr. Jan Liu, Dr. Michael Tuczynski, and Mary Mankey, PA-C, at Memorial Healthcare Family Medicine in Perry.

Rachele is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner who received her Bachelor of Science of Nursing from Michigan State University and her Master of Science in Nursing with a family nurse practitioner program focus from the University of Michigan. Rachele is a licensed Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) and a member of the Michigan Diabetes Partners in Action Coalition (DPAC).

Rachele has a wealth of clinical experiences working with patients of all ages and conditions as a nurse practitioner, and registered nurse. Rachele is currently accepting new patients with most insurances.

To learn more, visit www.MemorialHealthcare.org.



Rachele Twichell, FNP-BC

Application Period for Behavioral Health Internship Stipend Program Begins January 8

submitted by Lynn Sutfin

LANSING, Mich. - As part of its continuing effort to increase access to behavioral health services for Michigan residents, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is again offering a stipend program to student interns enrolled in accredited behavioral health bachelor's or master's degree programs.

"This program continues to demonstrate Michigan's dedication to improving the availability of mental health services for all families while investing in the growing need for a workforce to support those services," said Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director. "Last year, we were able to assist more than 225 students with their education costs as they gained hands-on behavioral health experience."

The Behavioral Health Internship Stipend Program provides up to \$15,000 to students who have obtained a qualifying internship to cover costs such as tuition, fees, books and living expenses. Students pursuing degrees resulting in any of the following behavioral health professions are eligible: marriage or family therapist, behavior analyst, social worker, professional counselor or psychologist. MDHHS has allocated \$1 million for the program, which could benefit about 100 interns depending on how much funding the student qualifies for during the program.

Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited program within the United States and have an approved internship in Michigan that meets the stipend program requirements. Students will take part in program surveys and engage in program evaluation activities. A commitment to seeking employment in Michigan's behavioral health sector after graduation is also encouraged.

Applicants must complete an online form by Wednesday, Jan. 22, and submit the necessary documentation. After the submission, applicants will receive an email notification of their acceptance status within three weeks of the application deadline.

For more information and to apply, visit the Behavioral Health Internship Stipend Program website.

Blood Drive at Duplain Church of Christ

The Duplain Church of Christ, 5565 E. Colony Rd., St. Johns will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on February 26th from 12noon - 6pm. Your blood donation could be the critical lifeline someone needs.

How to Sign Up To make the process as smooth as possible, please sign up in advance:

Online: Visit redcross.org/give-blood to schedule your appointment.

Contact: You can also reach out directly to Brenda Martinez at 517-896-2034 for assistance with registration or additional questions.

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CLINTON COUNTY 2025 EQUALIZATION

01/06/2025 2:36 PM

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SEC.211.34A OF THE GENERAL PROPERTY TAX LAW OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, FOLLOWING ARE THE TENTATIVE RATIO AND TENTATIVE MULTIPLIERS TO BE APPLIED TO THE ASSESSED VALUES OF EACH CLASS OF PROPERTY IN EACH UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CLINTON COUNTY TO ACHIEVE COUNTY EQUALIZED VALUES FOR 2025.

Township or City	Agricultural		Commercial		Industrial		Residential		Timber-Cutover		Developmental		Personal	
	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor
BATH CHARTER TOWNSHIP	44.82	1.11557	50.08	0.99840	47.36	1.05574	46.49	1.07550	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
BENGAL TOWNSHIP	46.70	1.07066	50.46	0.99088	51.19	0.97675	44.10	1.13379	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
BINGHAM TOWNSHIP	47.25	1.05820	45.99	1.08719	46.20	1.08225	45.80	1.09170	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
DALLAS TOWNSHIP	45.69	1.09433	43.57	1.14758	43.12	1.15955	46.84	1.06746	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
DEWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP	46.75	1.06952	43.34	1.15367	48.94	1.02166	45.58	1.09697	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
DUPLAIN	48.29	1.03541	43.66	1.14521	47.41	1.05463	46.13	1.08389	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
EAGLE TOWNSHIP	43.20	1.15741	45.85	1.09051	53.19	0.94003	47.70	1.04822	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
ESSEX TOWNSHIP	45.22	1.10571	47.00	1.06383	48.76	1.02543	45.16	1.10717	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
GREENBUSH TOWNSHIP	52.59	0.95075	50.05	0.99900	46.60	1.07296	44.83	1.11532	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
LEBANON TOWNSHIP	45.77	1.09242	48.07	1.02191	47.01	1.06360	42.62	1.17316	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
OLIVE TOWNSHIP	41.39	1.20802	54.43	0.91861	47.79	1.04624	46.32	1.07945	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
OVID TOWNSHIP	50.56	0.98892	52.24	0.95712	46.76	1.06929	46.41	1.07735	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
RILEY TOWNSHIP	42.08	1.18821	48.84	1.02375	N/C	N/A	42.17	1.18568	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
VICTOR TOWNSHIP	43.81	1.14129	47.90	1.04384	47.37	1.05552	46.74	1.06975	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
WATERTOWN TOWNSHIP	42.93	1.16469	46.63	1.07227	46.13	1.08389	46.37	1.07828	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
WESTPHALIA TOWNSHIP	43.10	1.16009	46.36	1.07852	45.52	1.09842	47.77	1.04668	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
CITY OF LANSING - CLINTON	46.75	1.06952	49.11	1.01812	49.37	1.01276	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
CITY OF EAST LANSING	N/C	N/A	49.27	1.01474	N/C	N/A	46.09	1.08483	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
CITY OF DEWITT	N/C	N/A	49.83	1.00341	45.83	1.09099	46.86	1.06701	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
CITY OF SAINT JOHNS	N/C	N/A	48.44	1.03220	48.57	1.02944	46.78	1.06883	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
CITY OF OVID	49.64	1.00725	46.63	1.07227	46.13	1.08389	44.04	1.13533	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	50.00	1.00000
CITY OF GRAND LEDGE	N/C	N/A	49.13	1.01771	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	N/C	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Sports



Laingsburg wrestler, Cooper Mund - currently ranked 11th in Division 3 at 113 pounds. with a take down during invite on January 7th. Photo by Burg Sports

Wolfpack Opens Defense of 2023-24 CMAC Title With Twin Mat Wins

by Tom Turek

LAINGSBURG -- The defending CMAC champion, wrestling Wolfpack opened defense of its crown at 2-0 in the league double-dual here January 7.

Coach Shawn Baynes' Wolves beat Saranac 42-30 and Perry 51-27 in convincing fashion.

Opposite the Perry Ramblers, LHS got big wins from Scarlet Ruhf at 106 lbs. (forfeit), Cooper Mund at 113, Marlon Graham at 120, Brendan Knoblauch by forfeit at 126, Tristian Scharman by forfeit at 157, Cameron Betts by forfeit at 165, Gauge Ream by forfeit at 190, and Owoe Horne by forfeit at 285.

Perhaps the most exciting match was the Wolves' Harvey Montgomery scoring a 13-8 decision over Perry's J.T. Lynch at 215.

Logan Robinson also wrestled well at 138, dropping a skin-tight 13-12 nod to Perry's Trentan Ross at 138.

The red-and-white's 12-point victory over Saranac featured wins by Knoblauch, Mund, Graham, Carson Helmer at 165, Betts, Charles Dehnert at 190, Ream and Montgomery.

Helmer, Betts and Ream all won by falls over their Redhawk opponents, Helmer in just :42 seconds.



#24 Tava Kvalevog going for a layup during the game with Birch Run. Photo by Denise Burgess

Lady Marauder Cagers Still in Runnerup Spot in MMAC, 58-21

by Tom Turek

OVID-ELSIE -- Ovid-Elsie's varsity girls basketball team won for the 6th time in 8 games, romping past Birch Run 58-21 on the Lady Marauders' home floor.

Coach Shaun McKinney's Lady Marauders stayed firmly in 2nd place in the MMAC at 3-1 with the blowout win. Overall, O-E moved to 6-2 while the visiting Panthers drooped to 0-1 in the conference, 2-5 overall.

O-E was led by Ellyanna Carman with 15 points, Lily Bates, and Kortlynn Loynes 8.

Marauder Limit Morrice to 11 Points, Romp to Girls Basketball Win

by Tom Turek

OVID-ELSIE -- Kendal Tokar tossed in 11 points and the Lady Marauder girls basketball team stifled Morrice, 60-11, for a non-league victory here Thursday evening.

Shawn McKinney's Marauders improved to 7-2 overall, while the Lady Orioles dipped to 3-3.

McKenzie Keck 9 points, Alyson Moore 8 and Ellyanna Carman 8 for the victorious Marauders.

Saranac Still Winless After LHS Girls Romp to 46-23 League Win

by Tom Turek

SARANAC -- The Laingsburg girls varsity basketball team traveled to Saranac Tuesday night and came home with a 46-23 victory that kept the host Redhawks winless on the 2024-25 season.

The 'Hawks slumped to 0-5 in the CMAC, 0-6 overall while coach Dan Morrill's Wolfpack stayed hot on the heels of the league leaders at 4-1. Overall, LHS stood 4-2 following the contest.

Brooklyn Holm led Laingsburg and all scorers with 23 and Lilli Morrill added 8.

Laingsburg played host to Dansville Thursday in another CMAC contest as the Wolves look to keep pace in the league.

Lady Wolves make it four in a row, 56-21 over Dansville Aggies

LAINGSBURG -- The Lady Wolfpack basketball team won their CMAC contest Thursday night over Dansville by a 56-21 nod.

Dansville had gone 8-2 against Laingsburg dating back 10 games, but coach Daniel Morrill's Wolves ripped off their 4th win a row to climb to 5-2 overall, 5-1 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC). The Aggies dropped to 1-5 in the conference, 1-7 overall.

In the winning streak, LHS has been running past opponents by an average margin of 14.3 points.

Mallory Woodbury led all scorers and dumped in 20 for the Wolfpack. Lilli Morrill chipped in 13 and Brooklyn Holm added 11.

For the Lady Aggies, Ryker Graf and Kaelee Foreman each had 9.



The Ovid-Elsie Girls Basketball team held their annual Mental Health Awareness Night on January 9th during the game against Morrice.

The team did a 60 seconds of change fundraiser during the varsity game to collect money from the fans in the stands.

Photo by Denise Burgess






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#2 Date/Time: Sunday, February 9, 2025 10am - Noon Location: OE Middle School, Cafeteria

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Sports

Marauders Keep Hot Streak Going With Win at Spring Arbor

by Tom Turek

SPRING ARBOR -- Ovid-Elsie's varsity boys basketball team had a great showing over the winter break at the Spring Arbor Shot Clock Classic. In a unique format, the Marauders came away with a 50-46 victory to move to 6-2 on the young campaign.

Playing with a shot clock " ... was a fun thing for our guys to experience," said Marauder coach Canyon Walker. "Offensively we did not get affected quite as much as we already play fairly fast."

Tucker Loynes and Tryce Tokar each contributed 17 points to the win, and Travis Milner had 11. "We had a great defensive game," explained Walker. "Two days after Christmas the coaching staff was fairly nervous if we were going to play like we know how, but we came out strong, this was one of our best games we played from my coaching staff eyes."

Marauder Overcome Slow Start, Dominate BR, 63-36

BIRCH RUN -- A slow start gave way to a dominant second half as Ovid-Elsie varsity boys basketball team scored a 63-36 MMAC win here January 6.

"We emerged victorious in a hard-fought matchup, overcoming early struggles to turn the game around with an explosive third-quarter," said Marauder coach Canyon Walker.

The game began with great Marauder defensive effort, limiting the Panthers to just 7 points in both the first and second quarters. Despite the slow offensive start, " ... the defense was something we talked about what we could control, coming off our break we did not have our shooting legs quite yet. We struggled to get the ball through the hoop early in the game," explained coach Walker.

The contest was fairly close in the first half but at halftime the Marauders talked about was how their shots were going to fall -- "Just stay confident and keep shooting the ball," said Walker. "We started the 3rd quarter with what we call a "kill", three stops followed by three scores."

The second half showed a more energized and confident O-E squad, with sharp ball movement, strong shooting and a relentless defensive effort that stifled Birch Run's attempts to make a comeback. "We secured the win, proving our resilience and ability to rise to the challenge when it mattered most," said Walker.

The Marauders were led by Tucker Loynes with 19 points, Travis Milner 16 and Jake Bowen 8.

Wolfpack's Cheadle One of Rare Michigan Few to Reach 900 Wins

April 28, 2024



Coach Cheadle and his grandsons, Henry Cheadle and Harrison Cheadle.

A Look Back Through 2024

Laingsburg Boys Basketball Back to Back District Champions

March 10, 2024



Repeat District Championship: The Laingsburg boys celebrated a Back-to-Back 2nd District Championship win by defeating the Stockbridge Panthers on March 1st 57-45. The Wolfpack lost in a regional game against Jackson Lumen Christi.

Ovid-Elsie Wrestlers Placed 1st, 3rd and 5th at Ford Field

March 10, 2024



OE sent five wrestlers to compete in the Individual State Finals at Ford Field in Detroit on March 1st and 2nd. Three made the podium on Saturday. Talon Parsons (center) finished first in his weight class, Cole Workman finished fifth and Maddie Miller finished third.

Laingsburg Eye Celebrates 25th Anniversary

March 24, 2024



Pictured here (L-R) Grace Mario, Bridgette Cook, Marsha Brandon, OD, Megan George and Office Manager, Andrea White.

LBCA Unsung Hero and Business Person of the Year

March 31, 2024



(l-r): Kaillyn Liskey, Roy Liskey, Rhonda Liskey, Lisa Jelenek, Tom Jelenek and John Liskey

OE Seniors to Compete at the Next Level

April 7, 2024

Fry Signs with Adrian to Play Softball



Kaitlyn is pictured here with her parents Bruce & Kristy Fry.

Spiess Signs with Hawaii University Halo to Run Cross Country



Kaia is pictured here with her parents & coaches, Kyle & Marie Spiess.

USDA Offers Funding to Protect Michigan Agricultural Lands

submitted by **Brian Buehler**

EAST LANSING – The U.S. Department of Agriculture encourages groups wanting to protect agricultural land to consider enrolling in its Agricultural Conservation Easement Program.

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, administered by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, provides matching funds for farmland preservation entities to purchase permanent easements. Land enrolled in an agricultural land easement is permanently protected from conversion to non-agricultural use. Applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program are taken on a continuous basis. Applications must be submitted by Feb. 7, 2025, to be eligible for the current round of funding.

"Protecting agricultural lands preserves Michigan's heritage, natural resources and open space," said Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist Garry Lee. "Easements are also important tools for people who are trying to improve the management of their land."

Entities eligible to receive matching funds through the program include American Indian tribes, land trusts, state and local units of government, and non-governmental organizations. Agricultural land easements purchased through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program focus on conserving productive agricultural lands and grasslands. The USDA can contribute up to 50 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement. Landowners are compensated for enrolling their land in easements.

Individuals interested in enrolling land in an agricultural land easement should contact their local farmland preservation organization. Land preservation organizations interested in agricultural easements funding should contact their local USDA Service Center.

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

Notice of sale of real property taken on execution. Notice is given under section 6052 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.6052. On November 13, 2023, the 29th Judicial Circuit Court of Clinton County, in case number 2023-12353-CK, issued a judgment lien in favor plaintiff, John O'Bryan, and against the defendants, Amanda J. Gerding, et al. A court officer levied on the premises described below, and recorded a notice of levy on August 23, 2024, at document number 5347190.

Description of the premises: Situated in Township of Dewitt, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 12, Town 5 North, Range 2 West, Dewitt Township, Clinton County, Michigan, the surveyed boundary of said parcel described as: commencing at the Northwest corner of said section 12; thence East along the North line of said Section 12, a distance of 464.88 feet to the point of beginning of the description; thence continuing East along said North line 150.00 feet; thence South perpendicular to said North line 323.40 feet; thence West parallel with North line 150.00 feet; thence North 323.40 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as: 3110 E. Howe Rd, Dewitt, MI 48820. The premises, or some part of them, will be sold at a public auction to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. on February 26, 2025. The amount claimed on the judgment as of the date of this notice is: Fifty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Eight and 87/100 (\$59,358.87) Dollars, excluding costs. Plaintiff may be entitled to additional interest and costs. The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of such sale in accordance with MCL 600.6062. Date of notice: January 12, 2025. Morris & Morris Attorneys, P.L.L.C. 3258 Broad Street, Suite 1, Dexter, MI 48130 (734) 221-0077.

(01-12)(02-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on January 29, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Joshua Lee Schneider, single man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Date of Mortgage: January 5, 2016
Date of Mortgage Recording: January 25, 2016

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$75,991.65
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Watertown, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing in the Section line at a point 881 feet East of the Northwest corner of Section 15, Town 5 North, Range 3 West, Watertown Township, Clinton County, Michigan; thence East 294.5 feet; thence South 03 degrees West 202 feet; thence South 88 degrees 56 minutes West 288.55 feet; thence North 00 degrees 57 minutes East 207 feet to the point of beginning.
Common street address (if any): 6801 W Herbison Rd, Dewitt, MI 48820-9212

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: December 29, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1548975
(12-29)(01-19)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on January 29, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Ronald Reaves and Sue Reaves, husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of The CWALT Inc.
Alternative Loan Trust 2006-OA12
Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-OA12
Date of Mortgage: July 6, 2006
Date of Mortgage Recording: July 14, 2006

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$158,591.51
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Watertown, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 64, Hawthorne Hill's No. 1, Watertown Township, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the recorded Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 4, Clinton County Records.

Common street address (if any): 9840 Looking Glass Brook Dr, Grand Ledge, MI 48837-9271
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: December 29, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1549011
(12-29)(01-19)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT.

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. on February 12, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

DEFAULT having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made on December 26 2020, by Mariah E. Silva, given by her to Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, of 3777 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823, as Mortgagee, and recorded on January 4, 2021, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Clinton County, in Instrument Number 5303106; on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due and unpaid, as of the date of this Notice, the sum of Thirty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Twelve and 13/100 Dollars (\$32,212.13); and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt or any part thereof secured by said Mortgage, and the power of sale in said Mortgage having become operative by reason of such default; NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, at the South entrance to the Clinton County Courthouse, 100 E. State Street (M21), St. Johns, Michigan, that being one of the places for holding the Circuit Court for Clinton County, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder or bidders at public auction or venue for purposes of satisfying the amounts due and unpaid on said Mortgage, together with all allowable costs of sale and includable attorney fees, the lands and premises in said Mortgage mentioned and described as follows:

SITUATED IN THE CITY OF DEWITT, COUNTY OF CLINTON, STATE OF MICHIGAN: Lot 68, Assessors Plat of the City of Dewitt North, City of Dewitt, Clinton County, according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Liber 8 of Plats, Pages 1-15, Clinton County Records Commonly known as: 303 N. Scott Street, Dewitt, Michigan 48820 Tax Parcel Number: 200-100-000-068-00

The period within which the above premises may be redeemed shall expire six (6) months from the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with M.C.L.A. Sec. 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days following the sale or 15 days from the statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the mortgagor(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. This notice is from a debt collector. Dated: December 30, 2024 MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION of East Lansing, Michigan, Mortgagee FOSTER, SWIFT, COLLINS & SMITH, P.C. Benjamin J. Price Attorneys for Mortgagee 313 S. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48933

(01-12)(02-02)

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UM Health-Sparrow Herbert-Herman Cancer Center Welcomes New Radiation Oncology Physicians

submitted by Corey Alexander

LANSING, MI – University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Herbert-Herman Cancer Center is pleased to announce the addition of two distinguished board-certified physicians to its radiation oncology team, James Fugazzi, M.D., M.P.H., M.H.A., and Daniel J. Chapman, M.D., M.P.H.

Fugazzi, a Lansing-area native who lives in Okemos, brings 19 years of experience to UM Health-Sparrow and has been named medical director of radiation oncology. He earned his medical degree from New York Medical College and completed his residency at Detroit Medical Center and the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Chapman earned his medical degree from Central Michigan University College of Medicine and completed his residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, where he served as chief resident. Chapman has strong ties to the Lansing community and is dedicated to enhancing the patient experience during cancer treatment.

“We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Fugazzi and Dr. Chapman to our team,” said Dan Phillips, administrative director for the UM Health-Sparrow Herbert-Herman Cancer Center. “Their deep ties to the Lansing community and commitment to excellence in patient care will help us continue to provide advanced radiation oncology services close to home.”

These appointments mark the transition of the radiation oncology program at UM Health-Sparrow to the UM Health Radiation Oncology Network, strengthening access to quality, compassionate cancer care for the region. Both physicians will work under the leadership of Gordan Srkalovic, M.D., Ph.D., medical director of the Herbert-Herman Cancer Center, while benefiting from the expertise and resources of Michigan Medicine.

To learn more about leading-edge cancer care close to home, visit UofMHealthSparrow.org/Cancer.



James Fugazzi
MD., M.P.H., M.H.A.



Daniel J. Chapman
MD., M.P.H.

Memorial Healthcare Welcomes Fellowship Trained Neurologist to Owosso and Okemos

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso, Michigan – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to welcome Stephanie Phillips, MD to the Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neuroscience.

Dr. Phillips received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. She completed a neurology residency and obtained a fellowship in Clinical Neurophysiology from Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Prior to joining Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neuroscience, Dr. Phillips was a lecturer in the Neuromuscular Department at Henry Ford Hospital teaching clinical Neurophysiology fellows, attending physicians, and Department of Neurology residents. Dr. Phillips is a published author and has presented at regional and national conferences.

Dr. Phillips is now accepting new patients with most insurances.

To learn more, visit www.MemorialHealthcare.org/service/neurology.



Stephanie Phillips MD

OE Sports Boosters 2025 Reverse Raffle

submitted by Amy Knickerbocker

The Sports Boosters are moving on with the 2025 Reverse Raffle on Saturday March 8th, at the Elsie American Legion. Doors open at 4:00 and the first ticket is being pulled at 5:00.

250 tickets will be drawn and the last one out wins \$2000

Tickets include beer, wine, dinner, and your chance to win the jackpot or other prizes along the way. Tickets are \$60 per person.

Side boards and silent auction items will be available as well.

Tickets are available from Sarah Stewart 989-666-4583, Amy Knickerbocker 989-992-7797, or at the High School Office.



Memorial Healthcare

RACHELLE TWICHELL, FNP-BC Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner

Please join us in welcoming Rachelle Twichell, FNP-BC to our active medical staff and to the Perry community!

Rachelle has joined Dr. Jan Liu, Dr. Michael Tuczynski, and Mary Mankey, PA-C, at Memorial Healthcare Family Medicine in Perry.

Rachelle is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner who received her Bachelor of Science of Nursing from Michigan State University and her Master of Science in Nursing with a family nurse practitioner program focus from the University of Michigan. Rachelle is a licensed Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) and a member of the Michigan Diabetes Partners in Action Coalition (DPAC).

Rachelle has a wealth of clinical experiences working with patients of all ages and conditions as a nurse practitioner, and registered nurse.

Memorial Healthcare Family Medicine - Perry is an outpatient department of Memorial Healthcare.



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