

## Mid-Michigan Land Conservancy Opens Kindel Natural Area to Public

submitted by Jan Jenkins

**OKEMOS** — A Meridian Township family has donated 98.5 acres of undeveloped land to Mid-Michigan Land Conservancy, Okemos. It is now open free to the public for recreation activities such as hiking, birdwatching, nature observation and cross-country skiing.

Kindel Natural Area is adjacent to the north border of Sleepy Hollow State Park in Clinton County. It is open year-round, sunrise to sunset. Paul and Judy Kindel and their family owned and enjoyed the property since 1971, and now want others to enjoy it.

"Kindel Natural Area is special to us as Paul is one of the Conservancy's founders," Jared Harmon, Mid-Michigan Land Conservancy executive director. "This donation is the capstone of the more than two decades that Paul has worked tirelessly to help amass the more than 3,000 acres of land the Conservancy now protects from development in perpetuity."

The preserve is two-thirds savanna-style terrain — a mixed woodland-grassland biome and ecosystem with trees widely spaced for an open canopy. The remaining property is forestland with some wetland. It is an ideal attraction for birds and mammals.

Visitors are asked to stay on the mowed walking trails to protect the delicate flora and fauna and to prevent erosion. Dogs on 6-foot leashes are allowed. Not allowed are activities such as those involving bicycles, motorized vehicles, horses and camping. The Conservancy asks visitors to be "trash heroes." Leave no trace. Pack up their trash and pick up litter left by others.

Under Conservancy ownership, Kindel Natural Area is protected from development in perpetuity, and its ecological function will continue to be improved. This includes removing inva-



*Celebrating the Kindel Natural Area dedication are, first row from left, Christiana Coakley, Appleton, Wisconsin; Kendra Voelz, Lansing; second row, Margit Kindel, Appleton, Wisconsin; Judy Kindel, Meridian Township; third row, Andy Mueller, East Lansing; Peter Kindel, Chicago; Paul Kindel, Meridian Township; Dale Dailey, DeWitt; Jack Roberts, East Lansing; Gary Boersen, Bath; and Ryan Dinehart, East Lansing.*

sive plant species to allow native species to flourish, which supports an increased number and a wider diversity of plants and animals.

"Kindel Natural Area is the Conservancy's eighth nature preserve in mid/southern-Michigan," said Harmon. "All are open to the public. Our goal is to encourage people to explore these undeveloped properties, expose visitors to the beauty of natural, scenic, farm and recreational lands, and gain their support of land preservation and environmental stewardship."

There are no admission fees; donations are encouraged.

A dedication ceremony in August recognized the Kindel family for their donation.

Paul said, "It has been a nature haven for us, our two sons and daughter, and it was just 20 minutes from our home. We want to share the wonderful experience of connecting with nature on land that has not been developed and is near population centers."

The donation also supports the Kindels' belief in the worldwide initiative of protecting 30% of the world's terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine areas by 2030, known as "30x30." This initiative is based on evidence that far-reaching protections for the planet's remaining forests, grasslands, wetlands, coastal marshes and other ecosystems are urgently needed to prevent further decline and extinction of plant and animal species and to stabilize the global climate for human habitation.

Paul is a retired biochemistry professor at Michigan State University; Judy is a retired librarian of the East Lansing Public Schools.

The Kindel preserve is located on Taft Road in Ovid Township, adjacent to the north border of Sleepy Hollow State Park in Clinton County, between St. Johns and Owosso.

More information about Kindel Natural Area and the Conservancy's other public nature preserves is at [www.MidMiLandCons.org/public-nature-preserves](http://www.MidMiLandCons.org/public-nature-preserves).



*Kindel Natural Area is two-thirds savanna-style terrain — a mixed woodland-grassland biome and ecosystem with trees widely spaced for an open canopy. The remaining property is forestland with some wetland.*

## Resilience and Hope: Pilot Program Addresses Food Insecurity

submitted by Lorraine Austin

How can we locally come together to address the most basic of needs in our community? The Cook Family Foundation seeks innovative local solutions to hunger needs and fresh produce access in Shiawassee County through collaboration, building the capacity of food providers, and direct assistance to the many nonprofit organizations that seek to address hunger.

In December of 2024, the Cook Family Foundation gave six local nonprofit organizations grants of \$1,000 to help their efforts to help address hunger in Shiawassee County in tandem with a County food workgroup committed to food access efforts. The recipients of those grants included:

- Durand Area Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry
- Elsie Area Food Pantry
- Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee
- Angel's Hands Community Outreach
- Perry Food Bank



*Couple receiving fresh vegetables provided by Cook Foundation Grant*

- Shiawassee Council on Aging

In 2025, the Foundation continued their efforts with a pilot program that included community organizations, volunteers, churches, and public agencies that strive to reduce poverty and food insecurity - pairing them with a local fresh food source to help meet the needs of residents in need. It was truly a win-win-win collaboration:

- Local food pantries were able to obtain fresh food from a local grower. The food was delivered directly to the pantries.
- Local food grower was paid for their services, helping to subsidize their very valuable contributions.
- Local residents had the opportunity to receive healthy food, along with classes on how to prepare it, to supplement canned/dried food sources available at the pantries.

The distribution of produce began in early summer with lots of leafy greens. Throughout the summer, pantries received tomatoes, summer squash, greens, beans, eggplant, cabbage, and more. On occasion, deliveries included fresh flowers, bringing a smile to everyone involved. Thus far, approximately 2,000 pounds of produce were made available over five months. It is projected that the program will continue to provide fresh food until the third week of October.

Owosso Organics owner, Pooh Stevenson, was the grower who participated in this pilot

*continue of page 6*



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## Social



### Sunday, September 28th was Baptism Sunday at First Baptist Church of Elsie

submitted by Richard Easlick

Those Baptized (l-r) were Tava Kvalevog, Dannika Campbell, Pastor Phillip Rogers doing the honors, Hannah Hurst and Steven Orweller. Joby Kvalevog join in on the celebration. Congratulations to Tava, Dannika, Hannah and Steven for their public courage to follow Jesus!



### Trucking for Troops Fundraiser

Raffle tickets for the 4th Annual "Trucking for Troops" fundraiser put on by Modern Woodmen are now available. Proceeds from this raffle go to support local veterans. The \$100 ticket price entitles the winner to a 2026 Chevrolet Silverado "Patriotic" truck. Tickets are available from Ed Arthur at Modern Woodmen, The Meridian Weekly office or from Shaheen Chevrolet. The drawing will be held on Monday, November 10th at the Modern Woodmen office in Lansing.

**Middlebury United Methodist Church**



## Harvest Dinner

**Curbside: Sunday, Oct. 12th**

Noon until 2:00pm or sold out.  
Menu consists of meatballs, ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, cole slaw, roll and cookie. By donation.

**8100 W. Hibbard Road, Ovid**

### Retired School Personnel to Meet

submitted by Peg Zink

The Clinton-Shiawassee MARSP Meeting will be held on Monday, October 13, 2025, 12:30 p.m. at St. Isidore Church, 310 Crum St. Laingsburg, Mi. Luncheon (\$12) is payable at the door. Our program is Clark Harder, Transportation for Seniors. For reservations: leave your name and number attending by email rzick5039@gmail.com or call 517-282-8350 and leave a message by October 10, 2025 by noon.

### Laingsburg American Legion Auxiliary Craft Show

The Laingsburg American Legion Auxiliary will be having a craft show on November 1, 2025. We are looking for vendors for the craft show. The cost is \$15.00 per table. Set up will be October 31st from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and the morning of.

Please contact Cindy Suggate at either 517-651-5669 or cgs6578@aol.com to reserve a table. You will need to have it paid for by October 25th. We are trying to keep it at one vendor per items being sold if possible.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Cindy Suggate.

### Breakfast at the Legion

Sunday breakfast has returned to the Laingsburg American Legion Post 248. Breakfast is served from 8am-11am every Sunday morning. Bring the family and enjoy a great breakfast, Post 248 is located at 1240 E. Grand River, Laingsburg.

### Laingsburg American Legion Reverse Raffle

submitted by Cindy Suggate

The Laingsburg American Legion, Clare Burt Post 248, is having an all money reverse raffle. The drawing will be November 11th at 12:00 pm. Tickets are available at the Post and you can get them from a member. The tickets are \$50.00 each and the proceeds will go towards the parking lot fund.

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### Leaf Pick-Up Has Begun

Fall leaf pickup has begun for residents in the City of Ovid. Raked leaves are to be left at the road where Ovid DPW workers will pick them up by backhoe. Leaf pickup will thru the first Monday in December.

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## Halloween Doesn't Scare Recycling

submitted by Ellen Link

First things first: the Greater Laingsburg Recyclers' facility will be open for recycling the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (October 7 and 21), 4-6 p.m., and 2nd and 4th Saturdays (October 11 and 25), 9 a.m.-1 p.m. We accept a wide variety of materials, everyone is welcome, and there's no charge, though we gladly accept donations.

To many folks, October is all about Halloween (and things that go bump in the night) and, of course, PUMPKINS! The problem is always, what do you do with them once the trick-or-treating is done? They aren't usually great pie pumpkins, are too bulky for compost bins, don't belong in a landfill, and they make a mess on the street when rascals get hold of them. But the GLR has the answer: bring them to us! Dumpsters, generously donated by DBD Dumpsters, will be parked at the GLR facility for each of the four recycling drives in November so you can "Pitch the Pumpkins"—gourds, too. They will then head to the City of Laingsburg's compost site where they will be mixed with yard waste and eventually become compost, so please remove all candles and lights before you pitch your pumpkin! Problem solved, eco-friendly. Next?

CANDY WRAPPERS, also an essential but annoying part of Halloween. Most of them are some amalgam of paper and plastic, so trash. Once again, the GLR will purchase recycling receptacles from Terracycle, a company that finds solutions for miscellaneous hard-to-recycle products, to collect the wrappers and send them there to be recycled into new plastic components for various products. Given that Americans produce more trash per capita than anywhere else in the world, this seems the least we can do (besides consuming less stuff).

Did you know? The Greater Laingsburg Recyclers' POP CAN PICK-UP PROGRAM is back for a third year! Over the last several years we realized that increasing numbers of deposit cans and bottles were being dropped off by folks who don't have the time or inclination to return them. So, we invite enthusiastic youth groups in our community to pick up cans at the recycling center and return them for the deposit money; each group is assigned their own month. It's a simple and fun way to support your group, and you get to keep 100% of the funds you collect!

Last year's program was a huge success. If your group is interested, now is the time to jump in! Pickups are available at any of our scheduled recycling drives, but we usually have more cans at the end of the month. If that doesn't work for you, we'll find a date that fits. The GLR will send you a friendly reminder when it's your turn. For more information or to sign up, contact the GLR via their website or one of the folks below. And of course, we'd love to have participating groups volunteer with us and learn the ropes of recycling.

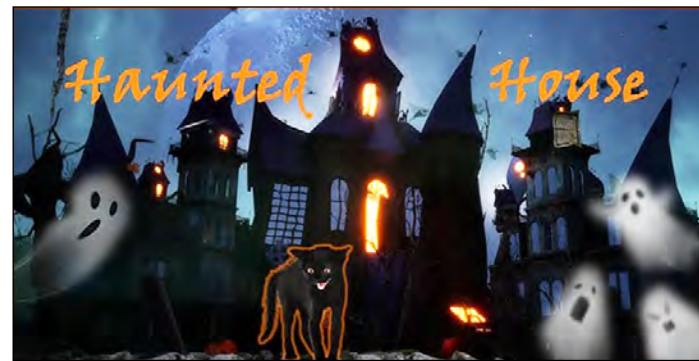
Questions or comments? Visit our Facebook page or website (<https://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite>). You can also call Terry or Ellen Link at (517) 651-2005 or Beth Lange at 651-6437. A sustainable future in our own backyard is within our reach.



## Haunted Satoshi Brings Spooky Fun and Future-Focus to Laingsburg

submitted by Amber Harris

Lainsburg — This Halloween season, prepare yourself for a night like no other. The Michigan Bitcoin Trade Council (MiBTC) invites the community to Haunted Satoshi, an immersive haunted house and fall festival experience taking place at Lake Satoshi, a private property owned by Mike Smith of Woodhull Construction.



For a fee guests will enjoy a haunted house adventure, delicious food, and a night packed with memories you won't forget. Families and thrill-seekers alike can also take advantage of camping opportunities on the scenic Lake Satoshi property, making it a full weekend getaway.

Beyond the scares and fun, Haunted Satoshi shines a spotlight on MiBTC's mission: helping Michiganders understand and embrace the future of money. By promoting Bitcoin education and financial literacy, MiBTC works to build long-term prosperity for communities and the country.

"We're bringing people together to celebrate Halloween in a fun, family-friendly way while also introducing them to the importance of innovation and sound money," said Amber Harris, Executive Director of the Michigan Bitcoin Trade Council.

All proceeds from Haunted Satoshi will go toward supporting the haunted house, food, and community programming.

Tickets are available now at: <https://tinyurl.com/hntedsats>



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# Obituaries

## MMPC Public Meeting

Kate Neese – Clinton County Waste Management Coordinator

The Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC) will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 5:45pm in the Clinton County Courthouse First Floor Conference Room to continue the Materials Management Plan process.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 5:45pm in the Board of Commissioners Room of the Clinton County Courthouse. MMPC meeting agendas and minutes will be regularly posted on the Clinton County website: [www.clinton-county.org/1075/Materials-Management-Planning-Committee](http://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](mailto:recycle@clinton-county.org) or calling the office (989) 224-5186.



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## Sharlyn Jayne Howard

Sharlyn Jayne Howard, a resident of Ovid, passed peacefully at home in the care of her family on September 27, 2025, at the age of 87.

Born on June 21, 1938, in St. Johns, Michigan, the daughter of Elmer and Wava (Potter) Thornton, Sharlyn grew up in Rochester Colony and graduated as Salutatorian of her class at Elsie High School. On April 6, 1957, she married the love of her life, Henry Howard, at the Duplain Church of Christ, and together they built a life centered on faith, family, and service.

Sharlyn loved the Lord deeply and was a devoted member of Grove Bible Church. Her faith guided every aspect of her life, from hosting Bible studies in her home to helping others in countless quiet ways. She was known for her servant's heart—always ready to offer a ride, lend a hand, or provide encouragement to anyone in need.

Family was her greatest joy. She treasured her role as a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and she poured herself into being present for every milestone, game, performance, and celebration. Her home was a gathering place where all felt welcome, and she cherished spending time with her sisters, creating lifelong memories together. Sharlyn's warmth, kindness, and gift for hospitality touched the lives of many.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Henry in 2017; her parents; her father and mother-in-law, James and Orpha (Landis) Howard; and her brothers, Gary and Dennis Thornton.

She is survived by her daughter, Debbie Howard; her son, Craig (Leslie) Howard; grandchildren, Joshua (Kacey) Howard and Danielle (Cheyenne) Smith; great-grandchildren, Makija Howard and Mila Smith; sisters, Bonnie (the late Brad) Grenlund, Karen (the late Dennis Flegel) Schaefer, and Janice (the late Lonnie) McCullough; sister-in-law, Willann (the late Bud) Casler; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

A Funeral Service will take place at Grove Bible Church, 6990 E. Price Rd., St. Johns, on Thursday, October 2, 2025.

Burial followed at Duplain Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in her name to Grove Bible Church or Compassus Hospice, whose staff the family deeply thanks for the compassionate care given to Sharlyn.

The family was served by the McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel.



## Randy Vern LaFountain

Randy Vern LaFountain, age 66, of Laingsburg, Michigan, passed away suddenly on Sunday, September 28, 2025, after a long and courageous battle with heart disease.

Randy was born on September 11, 1959, in Charlotte, Michigan, the son of Ronald and Shirley (Ketchum) LaFountain. He grew up with a strong work ethic and an even stronger sense of character. On August 29, 1982, he married the love of his life, Jeanne Wagner, at the Laingsburg United Methodist Church. Over the course of their 43-year marriage, Randy built a life centered on devotion to family and appreciation for the simple joys of living. He could make any stranger a friend.

A truck driver by trade, Randy spent many days and weeks on the road, but he never let distance come between him and those he loved. Despite his demanding schedule, he made it a priority to be there for his children—never missing an event, holiday, or a moment that mattered. He may not have been much of a sports fan himself, but he showed up and cheered for his kids. His presence was a steady comfort and a true expression of his love.

Randy had a unique and unforgettable personality—sometimes stubborn and rough around the edges, but always honest, genuine, and loving to his core. He could make you laugh without even trying, with his unintentional one-liners that left those around him in stitches. He was the first to lend a hand when someone needed help, and his loyalty ran deep. He found happiness in the little things: a free meal on his birthday (or two, or three, or four), a successful loner in Euchre, a boat ride on a sunny day, or just swapping stories about the great deals he found. That simple joy and wonder he found in everyday moments was part of what made him so endearing.

Randy cherished time spent with his family—whether fishing, playing cards, going on train rides, or traveling up north. He had a soft spot for animals, and no one on this Earth has ever loved a dog more than Randy loved his chihuahua Peanut. His gentle heart and playful spirit will be missed dearly by all who knew him.

He is survived by his beloved wife Jeanne; children Jessica Nicholson, Kristina (Shaun) Simmons, and Joshua (Maureen Herrell) LaFountain; cherished grandsons Milo and Abner Simmons; honorary children Juliana and Katharina Dunkel, and Adam Ignacio; his father-in-law Don Wagner; and many beloved nieces, nephews, extended family, and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Ronnie, Rodney, Ricky, and sister Judy LaFountain, and mother-in-law Carol Wagner. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who were blessed to know him.

Cremation has taken place. A visitation will be held on Monday, October 6th, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. Celebration of Life begins at 5:00 PM, with dinner to follow, all at the Laingsburg United Methodist Church, officiated by Pastor Kendi Holcomb-Densmore.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Shiawassee County Humane Society or the American Heart Association.



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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 Harvey 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

### First Congregational Church Laingsburg

401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg  
(517) 651-6741

Sunday Worship 10:00am

Pastor: Dr. Tom Rundel

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# Editorial



## Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:  
ask\_andy@aol.com  
You can also mail or drop questions off to: Meridian Weekly  
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## The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster  
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

### Early Doe Season a Complete Bust

It almost doesn't seem right to venture into the woods to hunt deer with a centerfire rifle when temps are in the low eighties. Although it was comfortable to sit in a box blind on wheels wearing only a t-shirt with not a pestering mosquito in sight. Morning was slow with only squirrels and falling leaves of varying color to keep the Weekly Sportsman entertained. There may have been a few minutes of nodding off and here and there but snoring has been known to draw in curious deer.



The evening hunt brought a gentle eastward wind so a spot and stalk method was chosen in a clockwise direction around the farm. Halfway through, the Weekly Sportsman stopped and viewed the small attractant plot just east and along the creek along with the larger two acre foodplot to the south east. Deer started moving across the cow pasture and heading westward to the attractant plots. About fifteen does and fawns were very noisy jumping the fence and you could hear their back legs rubbing the strands of wire as they entered the largest plot which was still upwind. A very large adult doe and a few of her followers started moving out of the food plot and into the hayfield. The Weekly Sportsman lifted the rifle but needed to wait for a clear background to be void of barns, houses, cars, etc. Needing only about five to ten seconds more for the deer to take another few steps, mental thoughts of getting this lead doe field dressed and delivered quickly to a processor began to distract from the task at hand. Focus. Focus.

Breathing control and light pull on the trigger... but then the wind shifted from the east to the north and blew scent southward and the lead doe jumped and started prancing. The whole herd left the area immediately Game over for the Weekly Sportsman. Maybe the spot and stalk method should have started in a counter clockwise direction but who knows how that may have turned out as the timing probably would have been off. That is why it is called hunting and not going to the grocery store. One thing is for sure, the local herd has found their two new grocery stores for this fall and winter.

-WS

### OID TOWNSHIP PROPOSED SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES - Thursday, September 29, 2025

Supervisor J. West called the Special meeting to order at 1 p.m., with the Pledge to the Flag.  
**Roll Call:** Supervisor Jennings West, Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Treasurer Nancy Hughson Trustee Kurt Wolf  
**ABSENT:** Trustee Bobby Byles  
**Guests:** Robert Meredith, Joellen Wonsley  
**Approval of Agenda:**  
Motion by N. Hughson to approve the agenda, Seconded by K. Wolf. Carried.  
**Special Meeting Business:**  
Ovid Township L-4029:  
Moved by C. Pluger that we approve Ovid Township's L-4029, Seconded by K. Wolf. Carried.  
**Roll Call Vote:** K. Wolf-Yes, N. Hughson-Yes, J. West-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried.  
**Public Comments:** None.  
**Board Comments:** None.  
**Adjournment:** Motion by K. Wolf to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by N. Hughson. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk

### OID TOWNSHIP PROPOSED MINUTES - Thursday, September 18, 2025

Supervisor J. West called the regular meeting to order at 6 p.m., with the Pledge to the Flag.  
**Roll Call:** Supervisor Jennings West, Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Trustee Bobby Byles, Trustee Kurt Wolf  
**Absent:** Treasurer Nancy Hughson  
**Guests:** Clinton County Road Commission - Doug Steffen & Mike Frederick, Connie & Gary Kioski, Dixie & Chris Nethaway  
**Approval of Agenda:**  
Motion by B. Byles to approve the agenda, Seconded by K. Wolf. Carried.  
**Approval of Minutes of August 28, 2025:** Moved by B. Byles to approve the minutes, as submitted, for August 28, Seconded by K. Wolf. Carried.  
**Treasurer's Financial Report:** Moved by B. Byles to approve the Treasurer's report, as submitted by the Clerk, Seconded by K. Wolf. Carried.  
**Clerk's Report & Check Register-August 28, 2025-September 18, 2025,** \$21,752.18: Moved by B. Byles to accept the Clerk's report and check register, as submitted, Seconded by K. Wolf. Carried.  
**Public Comments:** None.  
**New Business:**  
Doug Steffen, Clinton County Road Commission: Doug updated us on road-work in Clinton County and what has been done in Ovid Township this year. The Hollister Road bridge has allocated funding for 2027, requesting construction in 2026. Doug provided us with a culvert assessment plan for Ovid Township.  
**Public Comments:** Dixie Nethaway (arrived 6:18 p.m.)  
**Supervisor Survey:** "OID TOWNSHIP BOARD SATISFACTION SURVEY" - Supervisor commented he wanted to find out what people thought we ought to do and not do, and grade us on what's been done. This survey was not typed by the supervisor or any of the Board members, nor were they aware of it. The survey was not approved by the Board. Board discussion.  
**Comment - Connie Kioski.**  
**Ovid Township L-4029:** No action taken at this time.  
**Audit ending March 31, 2025:** Moved by C. Pluger that we approve the Audit ending March 31, 2025, Seconded by B. Byles. Carried.  
**Flooring:** Moved by B. Byles that we replace the flooring in the Township Hall, Seconded by K. Wolf. Board discussion.  
**Roll Call Vote:** J. West-Yes, K. Wolf-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried.  
**Flooring - Meeting Room - Carpet/Tile:** Moved by C. Pluger that we replace the meeting room with carpet, Seconded by B. Byles. Board discussion.  
**Roll Call Vote:** J. West-Yes, K. Wolf-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried.  
**Comment - Connie Kioski.**  
**Flooring - Entry, Hall, Kitchen, Bathrooms - Carpet/Tile:** Moved by B. Byles to pursue flooring in the entry, hall, kitchen and bathrooms of a tile-like material, Seconded by K. Wolf. Board discussion.  
**Comment - Connie Kioski.**  
The Clerk will call the floor companies for bids and ask them to come to the October meeting.  
**Roll Call Vote:** J. West-Yes, K. Wolf-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried.  
**Audio System - \$11,475.84:** No action taken. Board discussion.  
**Comment - Connie Kioski.**  
**Rescue Me LawnCare - soil & grass seed - \$750:** Board discussion.  
Moved by J. West to go ahead with Rescue Me LawnCare, and have him bring in the soil and seed it, \$750, Seconded by B. Byles. Board discussion.  
**Roll Call Vote:** K. Wolf-Yes, J. West-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried.  
**Reports By:**  
Library - Trustee Bobby Byles CAASA - Supervisor Jennings West  
**Board Comments:** Comments by J. West, C. Pluger  
There will be a Memorial Day service at the South Ovid Cemetery on May 25, 2026, at 2 p.m. There will be a Special Meeting on September 29, 2025, at 1 p.m. to discuss the L-4029.  
**Comment - Connie Kioski.**  
**Adjournment:** Motion by K. Wolf to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by B. Byles. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk

Dear Andy,  
Why have all of the Box Elder Bugs and Stink Bugs suddenly invaded our home? They're in the windows and drapes, crawling in the carpet and all over the house. I asked my husband to cut down the Box Elder trees in our yard last summer. He did not. These bugs are bugging me and driving me crazy.. What can I do?

Invaded, in my own home!

Dear Invaded,

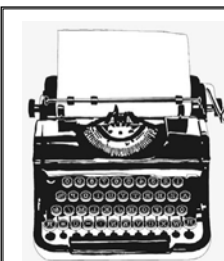
You're not alone...there are billions of box elder bugs and Stink Bugs who spend the winters in the walls of our homes in nearly every state and country. They may be annoying little critters but a great source of food for birds, bats and many other critters.. You can sweep them up with your vacuum without smell or guilt, as they are plentiful and will never be on the endangered list. If you cannot bear to be a part of their demise, collect them in a jar and scatter near your bird feeder. Box elders bugs do not bite or carry diseases. A fact to help you sleep better at night, they gather in large clumps primarily for reproduction and survival; Bad news...there may be thousands more in your walls, especially on the sunny side of your house.

The Box Elder population gather in swarms in the late fall to find a safe place for winter hibernation within the warm walls of homes. When the weather warms up mid-winter, they are hoping springtime has arrived early, so they leave the warm slumber and end up in windows sun bathing. However, it can be labor intensive to rid them completely because our homes have gaps and cracks for the small bugs' easy access. An insecticide can be sprayed on the exterior areas of the house; usually sprayed in the early spring and again in the fall. Consult your local Hardware Store or pest Control Company for specific instructions and to select the appropriate pesticide for your area; never use a pesticide indoors. A more inexpensive method is ammonia. Warning: Do NOT use indoors. Only small amounts in an vented outside area along the edge of your foundation. Do not use around pets or children. Do not mix with any other chemicals.

I am happy to hear that your husband did not listen to you this time. Do NOT cut down the Box Elder trees. According to the University of Minnesota Extension, the Box Elder bug lays her eggs mid-July primarily on, the seed-baring female box elder trees. However, the bug also especially likes the taste of the Maple and Ash tree branches and leaves, too. You will find them laying eggs and clustering in other trees, as well as any structures, in the fall. They eventually dissipate into our woods and become food for critters and birds.

As for the stink bugs...some people squash them because they like the smell....really? Really! And, Autumn bugs mean Autumn Colors are just around the corner. Enjoy the Color-Tours this year.

Bugs and trees are a necessary part of our Eco-system, even if they occasionally drive us buggy. Andy @ ask\_andy@aol.com



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## Resilience... cont' from front

project, offering local organic produce to the pantries.

"Providing food for our local food pantries has been a deeply rewarding experience for all of us at Owosso Organics," said Stevenson. "We feel we are making a positive impact in our community and the pantry organizers are very grateful for each delivery."

Local pantries were thrilled to be able to offer locally-grown, fresh produce to their patrons.

"Fresh produce is one thing our clients have always wanted, but we were never able to obtain enough to serve our 100+ families due to its perishable nature and cost," said Diane Pelky of the St. Mary's Outreach Food Pantry in Durand. "Our clients have been thrilled when we were able to add the beautiful fresh produce to their food choices. Their faces just lit up when we told them we had fresh produce."

Although very encouraged by this initial collaboration, The Cook Family Foundation continues to be concerned about current and future food insecurity among so many area residents.

"This is not a faceless crisis," said Rachel Osmer, Associate Director of the Cook Family Foundation. "These are our friends and neighbors. The Foundation is committed to addressing this county-wide need and to help facilitate efforts among our many partners so that our entire community is stronger - together."

For more information, and to learn about opportunities for local growers to provide food for distribution locally, contact Rachel Osmer at rachel@cookfamilyfoundation.org.



Fresh produce clients were able to pick from provided from local growers

**LAFCU**

### FRAUD PREVENTION 101: WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

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**OCTOBER 9 | 7 P.M.**

Register at [lafcu.com/security](http://lafcu.com/security)

## LAFCU to Host Free Fraud Prevention Webinar Oct. 9

submitted by Ines Tomic

LANSING — As a community advocate, LAFCU will host a free one-hour webinar, Fraud Prevention 101: What Everyone Should Know, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, as part of its commitment to member security and community education.

The session will be led by a loss prevention specialist from LAFCU and is open to anyone who wants to learn how to better safeguard their personal and financial information. Participants will hear practical tips, proven strategies, and critical insights about how to recognize, prevent, and respond to fraud in today's digital environment.

"Protecting our members goes beyond providing secure systems and financial services — it's about making sure people have the knowledge and tools to protect themselves in everyday life," said Patrick Spyke, LAFCU CEO. "Fraudsters are constantly finding new ways to target consumers, which is why education is so important. This webinar will help participants, whether they are LAFCU members or not, understand what to look out for and how to stay safe."

LAFCU emphasizes that fraud prevention is more than keeping ATM, credit, and debit cards secure. From phishing attempts to identity theft, being informed is one of the most powerful defenses against fraud.

Registration is open to the public at [LAFCU.com/security](http://LAFCU.com/security).



## HARVEST DINNER

### Harvest Dinner at Middlebury UMC

Mark your calendars now for the Middlebury United Methodist Church Harvest Dinner on Sunday, October 12th. The curbside event will run from Noon-2:00pm or until sold out. The menu will include Ham & scalloped potatoes, meatballs, baked beans, coleslaw, roll & butter and a cookie. The cost is by donation. The church is located at 8100 W. Hibbard Road, Ovid.



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## Fall Fun Returns at Fenner Nature Center's 51st Apple Butter Festival

submitted by Tina Nguyen

LANSING, Mich.

– The Apple Butter Festival returns to Fenner Nature Center on October 18 and 19, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., for its 51st year of fall festivities! This free, family-friendly event invites the community to celebrate the season with live music, cider and donuts, pumpkin painting, and activities for all ages. Admission is free, with a \$5 parking donation suggested, and apple butter will be available for purchase to support Fenner Conservancy's mission of connecting people to nature through conservation, education, and stewardship.

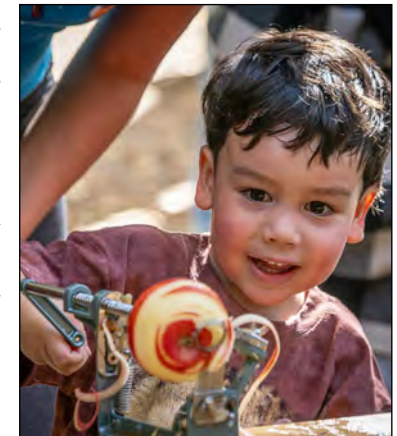


Photo by David Marvin

Guests can roll up their sleeves and join in the apple butter tradition by peeling apples, tossing them into the kettle, and watching as they slowly simmer into the rich, butter-like spread that gives the festival its name. Apple butter can be enjoyed on toast, in baked goods, or as a glaze for savory dishes.

Visitors can also explore Fenner's 134 acres of natural space, including more than four miles of scenic trails, or step inside the Visitor Center to check out the educational displays, meet animal ambassadors, support local vendors, and watch live programs and demonstrations throughout the day. Look forward to a fun blend of nature, food, and learning for the whole family.

"Michigan ranks among the top apple-producing states in the country, but making apple butter is a labor of love. The apples simmer for hours to reach that thick texture, and being part of that process at the festival is a really unique way to celebrate the season," says Marketing & Membership Manager Tina Nguyen.

Each year, the festival raises awareness for Fenner Conservancy's year-round educational programs, including the nature preschool and field trips that connect thousands of children and families to the outdoors. Made possible through community support, the Apple Butter Festival continues to be one of Lansing's most beloved fall traditions.

For more information, visit Fenner Nature Center on the web at [www.MyNatureCenter.org](http://www.MyNatureCenter.org) or call us at 517-483-4245.

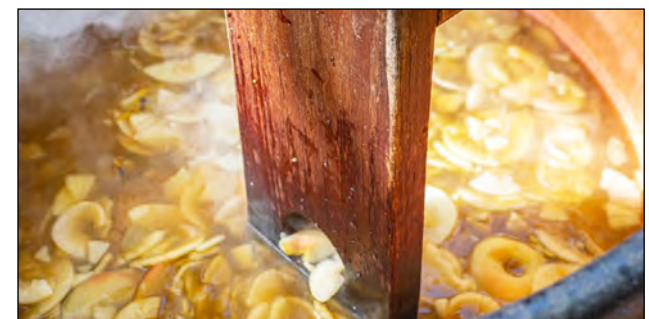


Photo by David Marvin



## Saving for the American dreams

### Roth IRA can help you save for retirement and your children's education

Chris and Heather want to help their young son go to college someday. They also want to retire when they're 65 – but they don't know how they can save for both dreams.

A Roth IRA could provide flexibility. You can withdraw contributions tax-free from your Roth IRA at any time. Pay only income taxes on earnings withdrawn before you're age 59 ½ if the money is used for college expenses. If your child doesn't go to college or receives a full scholarship, the money remains in your Roth IRA for retirement.

Save for the future while maintaining some flexibility for college expenses. A Modern Woodmen of America financial representative can help you determine if a Roth IRA could help you achieve your dreams.

**Let's start the conversation.**



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# Sports



#8 Chase Fabus rushed 26 times for 11 yards and a touchdown during the matchup with Montrose. #24 Brock Spitzley blocks the Montrose defensive line Photo by Michelle Ladiski

## Montrose Storms Back on Final Drive, Nips O-E Gridders, 14-10 for MMAC Football Supremacy

OID-ELSIE -- The Montrose Rams, sometimes dysfunctional, penalty-prone yet always-dangerous, found some late game magic and took control of the MMAC football race at Mark O'Donnell Field here September 26.

The Rams overcame a precarious 10-7 lead on their final drive of the contest, scoring a 14-10 victory over the host Marauders to stay unbeaten in the MMAC. Travis Long's Marauders dipped to 2-1 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC), 3-2 overall.

Dennis Reinhart's Rams moved to 4-0, 5-0 overall.

"I thought our team played tough," said coach Long. "We had them on the ropes and didn't deliver that knock out punch."

"I'm proud of the way we played."

For a contest that will go a long way toward determining the 2025 MMAC title, it was pretty sloppy. The Rams were guilty of numerous penalties and miscues, helping set up O-E's first scoring opportunity. At 5:48 of the opening quarter, Dannika Campbell's 38-yard field goal try came up a hair short for O-E, the score remaining deadlocked at 0-0.

Another critical Montrose penalty, this time pass interference, helped set up Campbell's next field goal try. This time she nailed it from 31 yards away, and the hosts led 3-0.

The next sequence of plays rather defined the first half. Multiple O-E mistakes gave the Rams a short field to work with, but QB Eli Moore fumbled a snap and Marauder LB Brock Spitzley recovered the fumble. On the very next play, the visitors returned the favor by intercepting a pass.

The Rams seized the momentum to score the game's first touchdown, a strike from Moore to lanky WR MJ Daly. Connor Gross tacked on the PAT kick and Montrose led, 7-3, at 9:54 of the second stanza.

Reinhart's charges came close to scoring again before halftime, when Julian Medina's interception near the goalline kept the ledger 7-3 at the break.

O-E came out rolling after halftime. Running the ball with authority, they smashed in the go-ahead score on Chase Fabus' 2-yard run at 3:05 of the third quarter. Campbell's PAT kick staked the Marauders to a precarious 10-7 lead.

Faced with a do-or-die drive late in the 4th quarter, the Rams made it pay off. Relying on Moore's arm to get the job done, he fired a short pass to Jayden Huckleberry -- who did the rest. Weaving through the Marauder defense, the Montrose RB sprinted untouched to paydirt with the winning touchdown. Gross added the PAT boot for a 14-10 final.

Chase Fabus and Joie Fabus sparked the O-E ground and air attacks, respectively. Chase rushed 26 times for 11 yards and a touchdown, while Joie caught two of Owen Long's passes for 12 yards. Spitzley caught one pass, and ran the ball 13 touts for 68 yards. Long added 32 yards on the ground and Joie Fabus 14 yards.

Long clicked on 3-of-13 passes for just 14 yards. Conversely, Montrose's Moore burned the Marauders with 18-of-32 accuracy for 174 yards and the two TD strikes that spelled the difference.

The Marauder defense got boosts from Spitzley (7 tackles, 1 sack, 1 TFL and a fumble recovery), Medina (5 tackles and an interception), Chandler Hart-Butcher (4 tackles and a sack), Long (4 tackles), Daniel Topping (3 tackles, 1 TFL), Wyatt Lover (3 tackles, fumble recovery) and Braxton O'Bryant (2 tackles and a sack).



Wolfpack defensive line holds the Wolverines to only 3 points during a LBG win 35-3. Photo by Burg Sports

## Wolfpack Football Team Keeps Vestaburg Winless with 35-3 Romp Over Wolverines

VESTABURG -- Sophomore QB Julian Smith threw for 131 yards and Waylon Rowley accumulated 135 touting the football, proving a solid 1-2 punch that sparked Laingsburg's varsity football team to a 35-3 non-league win here September 26.

Brian Borgman's Wolfpack climbed to 2-3 overall while keeping the Wolverines winless at 0-5.

"It was good to get a win," said Borgman. "Our team played well. We needed some momentum going into Homecoming."

The Wolves entered back into CMAC play Friday evening, hosting Saranac for annual Homecoming festivities.

It didn't take the Wolves long to take control, getting a quick TD from Landon Freeman on a 10-yard strike from Smith. Payge Woodworth's PAT kick made it 7-0, LHS.

Liam Esch, starting at WR with Leandro Dolega-Caceres injured, quickly made his presence felt, hauling in a 27-yard aerial from Smith in the second quarter. Woodworth's kick upped the ante to 14-0.

Freeman was at it again, still in the second quarter, latching on to a 50-yard catch-and-run from Smith. Woodworth again tacked on the PAT for a 21-0 halftime advantage.

After a scoreless third quarter, Rowley ripped off a 43-yard to paydirt. Woodworth was again true for a 28-0 bulge.

Junior kicker Kaeleb Keyes got the Wolverines on the board with a 29-yard field goal, before freshman RB Titan Sindel closed out the scoring with a 47-yard run to glory. Woodworth's final PAT completed the 35-3 romp.

Smith was accurate on 11-of-17 passes to lead LHS. Rowley's 135 yards came on just 9 rushing attempts. Sindel carried 5 times for 58 yards and Smith 8 for 33 yards.

Both of Freeman's two catches went for TDs, 60 yards in total. Other receptions came from Esch, Rowley (3-for-16), Collin Logghe (4-for-14) and Harrison Dorman (1-for-14).

Dylan Koenig bolstered the Wolfpack defense with 13 tackles, four of them solo. Esch, Josiah Hawes, Rowley, Logghe, Nate Malone, Ethan Platte, Adam Kazor, Carson Stier, Dorman and Bryce Curry all added tackles. Freeman intercepted a pass off Wolverine freshman QB Carter Allbee.

Coaches please remember to send in your weekly sports results! tomturek20032003@yahoo.com or news@meridianweekly.com



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TEAMMATE

# Sports



## Ashley Homecoming Court

Standing (left to right): Ryder Yelsik (10), William Long (12), Ryley Hanley (12), Layne Studt (12), Emma Felton (12), Gibson Jason (12), Jazmyne Good (12), Brady Nierescher (11)  
 Kneeling (left to right): Emma Conklin (10), Riley Wilson (9), Jordyn Long (9), Madison Weigold (11)  
 Seated (left to right): Prince Alonzo Gomez McCreery (4), Princess Brianna Dennison (3)

## Ovid-Elsie Earns Huge MMAC Soccer Victory Over Montrose Rams

OVID-ELSIE -- The soccer Marauders won for the 6th time in 7 conference outings, holding serve with the front-runners for the MMAC 2025 championship.

Chris Parker's O-E club improved to 6-1 in MMAC action, 13-2-1 overall with a 5-0 shutout of the Montrose Rams.

The visiting Rams remained winless at 0-3, 0-8-1 for the 2025 season.

"We started off great with a couple quick goals in the first 5 minutes but after that we struggled to finish our chances," said coach Parker.

"We possessed and passed well and our defense held firm all night."

The Rams got off a single shot on O-E goalkeeper Dalton Jordan, who pitched the shutout.

Ovid-Elsie scoring in order came from: Leyton Belill assisted by Dominic Martin; Eddie Rademacher assisted by Leyton Belill; Marshall Leavitt assisted by Aidan Doyle; Dominic Martin assisted by Kody Ash; and Leavitt again, assisted by Jaxon Chrenka.

## Lady Marauders Win in Three-Set Volleyball Match Over G. Christian

OVID-ELSIE -- The host Marauders snapped Genesee Christian's three-game winning streak and moved to 12-4-2 themselves with a non-league girls volleyball victory here.

O-E's 25-23, 19-25, 25-14 triumph dropped the Lady Soldiers to 10-9-1 overall.

Statistical leaders for Angela Ehle's Marauders were Bentlie Kelley (19 assists, 5 aces, 2 kills, 6 digs), Kendal Tokar (7 aces, 1 kill, 5 blocks, 10 digs), Allie Veith (2 aces, 8 kills, 2 blocks, 6 digs), Kortlynn Loynes (6 kills, 1 block), Lily Bates (2 aces, 3 kills, 12 digs, Sarah Newman (3 aces, 3 digs), Isabelle Ryal (1 assist, 12 digs) and Isabella Phillips (2 kills, 2 digs).

Marauder senior standout Ashton Ehle should return to play later in October, as she is currently in physical therapy to strengthen her right shoulder.

-- Marauders even MMAC record opposite New Lothrop: Kelley notched 23 assists, 2 kills and 8 digs to lead Ovid-Elsie past New Lothrop by a 17-25, 25-17, 25-17 count. The win evened O-E's conference record at 1-1.

Joining Kelley as Marauder leaders was Allie Veith (2 aces, 7 kills, 2 digs), Kortlynn Loynes (11 kills, 1 block, 1 dig), Kendal Tokar (1 ace, 4 kills, 1 assist, 3 digs), Lily Bates (3 aces, 4 kills, 1 assist, 3 digs), Isabella Phillips (3 kills, 1 block 1 dig), Isabelle Ryal (4 aces, 6 digs) and Sarah Newman (4 aces, 4 digs).



# GRIDIRON GURUS

## WEEK EIGHT

Form must be at The Weekly office no later than Thursday, October 9TH at 4pm

### The Wolfman's Picks

Put a check next to the team you think will win! HOME TEAM LAST

### Amon-Ra St. Gibbs

Michigan	MICHIGAN ___ USC ___	USC
Michigan St.	UCLA ___ MICHIGAN STATE ___	Michigan St
Alabama	ALABAMA ___ MISSOURI ___	Alabama
Oklahoma	OKLAHOMA ___ TEXAS ___	Texas
Oregon	INDIANA ___ OREGON ___	Oregon
Georgia	GEORGIA ___ AUBURN ___	Auburn
Patriots	PATRIOTS ___ SAINTS ___	Patriots
Lions	LIONS ___ CHIEFS ___	Lions
Raiders	TITANS ___ RAIDERS ___	Raiders
Jaguars	SEAHAWKS ___ JAGUARS ___	Jaguars
Cowboys	COWBOYS ___ PANTHERS ___	Cowboys
Rams	RAMS ___ RAVENS ___	Rams

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 200 S. Main St., Ovid, MI 48866

E-mail to: news@meridianweekly.com or tomturek20032003@yahoo.com  
 Or Drop Off Between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Tues., 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wed, or Thur at The Meridian Weekly office

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 GA. TECH  
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## Gridiron Gurus Week of September 28

- PIZZA -- Gary Purvis 10-2
- SUB SANDWICH -- Vivian Hrncharik 9-3 (tie-breaker)
- BREADSTICKS -- Ryan Ackels 9-3 (tie-breaker)



**GRIDIRON GURUS**  
 by Tom Turek

tomturek20032003@yahoo.com

There are times when The Wolfman -- Ol' Wolfie himself -- feels the urge to apologize for his mass mayhem.

It ain't easy being a lycanthrope, folks. Especially the closer we get to Halloween.

Mass mayhem it was in Week 6 of our gloriously-goofy Gridiron Guru gala, especially on the college slate.

Oregon nipping Penn State? Stumble. Alabama stunning Georgia? Stumble, stumble. Illinois over USC. Stumble, stumble, stumble. Mississippi over LSU? Stumble? At this point, most of our prognosticators are CRAWLING to the finish line.

Staying upright with a best-record-over-everybody was Gary Purvis, at 10-2. Two other wind-ex-wonders finished 9-3, with Vivian Hrncharik nipping Ryan Ackels in the tie-breaker (Utah and W. Virginia combined for 62 points).

In The Weekly's staff race, our Lions Lunatic -- Amon-Ra St. Gibbs -- is seeking medical attention after obviously bumping his head. He went 50-50 with an appalling 6-6 mark, allowing Wolfie to grab bragging rights -- okay, okay, by one game -- literally by default.

We will be running the contest every week until the end of the regular college football season (no bowls). The picks will include six NFL games and six collegiate games each week.

It's simple, fast, easy to play and FREE. For those who play every week, there will be a winner's prize fund to be disbursed at the end of the season for whoever ends up picking the highest total of winners.

First place - \$100; second place - \$60 and third place - \$40. Just pick your winners and make a check mark to the right of their name on the entry blank below. No worry about Las Vegas point spreads, just pick who you think will win the game outright.

MOST IMPORTANT: make sure your entry gets to The Weekly before each Thursday at 4 pm.

Don't forget to fill in the tiebreaker as this will decide any and all ties. Entries are accepted in person at The Weekly's offices at 200 S. Main in Ovid, by e-mail at "news@meridianweekly.com" or "tomturek20032003@yahoo.com," or via USPS delivery.

For those of you that get your Weekly fix on line at the paper's website -- remember to email your picks to news@meridianweekly.com.

Each week the top three winners will receive a coupon for redemption at the sponsor of their choice; 1st place (pizza), 2nd place (sandwich) and 3rd place (breadsticks) will be awarded.

Again, please patronize our sponsors, Main Street Pizza in Ovid and Twilliger's Tavern in Laingsburg. All winners can pick-up their winning coupons at The Weekly.

# Sports

## Wolfpack Harriers Finish Up Middle Portion of CMAC Schedule; P-W is Front-Runner

PORTLAND -- Pewamo-Westphalia's boys and girls cross-country teams took huge strides in wrapping up 2025 Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) championships with stellar showings at the second league jamboree, this time at Portland Country Club here October 1.

The Lady Pirates scored 31 points to outdistance Bath 65, Lansing Christian 65, Perry 140, Saranac 143, Laingsburg 152, Fowler 158 and Dansville 162.

P-W standout Alyssa Kramer won the girls race in 20:51.7. Laingsburg's top finishers ran 22-23-24 consecutively: Kiki Ruz in 22:41.7, Hazel Burley in 22:46.7 and Samantha Gutzman in 22:51.6. Also finishing for the Lady Wolves was Madison Phillips 44th in 26:04.2, Hannah Rathka 52nd in 28:00.3, Meriel Burley 59th in 29:21.4, Sarah Kibzey 61st in 31:22.0 and Ruby Burley 66th in 38:65.5.

P-W nipped Portland St. Patrick, 47-64, to win the boys race, followed by Fowler 70, Saranac 82, Bath 131, Lansing Christian 147 and Laingsburg 149.

Owen Poppema of Bath topped the male 5,000 meter run in 17:15.8. For Laingsburg, Noah Devereaux clocked 15th in 19:05.7, Calum Knull 25th in 19:55.9, Joel Rathkla 44th in 21:00.02, James Foltz 46th in 21:10.7 and Logan Robinson 49th in 21:23.7.

Wolfpack harriers Cameron Betts, Andrew Stevens and Drake Pratt finished 61-62-63, respectively, in 22:56.8, 23:05.15 and 23:10.9.



## O-E Durand Battle to the Wire for MMAC Title After Marauders Win at Chesaning

CHESANING -- Ovid-Elsie and Durand battled to the wire for the 2025 MMAC soccer championship, after O-E marched into Chesaning and came out a 4-1 winner here September 29. Ovid-Elsie's 4-1 victory dropped the Indians to 7-6-1 overall, 1-2-1 in the MMAC.

Conversely, all eyes were on the Marauders (13-3-1 overall, 6-2 in the conference) and the Durand Railroaders (14-5-2, 6-0-2 in the MMAC), with the Railroaders pulling out a 2-1 victory at O-E.

Setting up that thriller was the Marauders' convincing 4-1 win at Chesaning.

"We came out today looking to get our groove back and I think we did it," explained Marauder coach Chris Parker. "We possessed well and our passes looked crisp and clean. Dom had a great offensive day with 4 points (3 goals, 1 assist). Chaycen Thornton and Josh Brown were tremendous on defense in limiting the opportunities of Chesaning's best offensive players."

Dominic Martin scored three times -- assisted by Chaycen Thornton, Ryker Parsons and Aidan Doyle -- and Leyton Belill added the Marauders' other bell-ringer, in support of goaltender Dalton Jordan.

Jordan stopped 6 Indian shots on 7 attempts. Martin assisted on the goal by Belill.

### Durand's 2-1 victory at O-E puts stranglehold on MMAC soccer title

OVID-ELSIE -- Durand's defense held off Ovid-Elsie until the 76th minute in a thrilling MMAC soccer showdown at Mark O'Donnell Field here October 2, holding on for a 2-1 victory.

With it, the Railroaders wrapped up the 2025 conference championship in undefeated fashion. All that marred Durand's MMAC record were two ties; Ovid-Elsie, in need of a win, instead fell to 6-2 in conference play -- both losses to the Railroaders.

Veteran Marauder coach Chris Parker said it best: ""This was a great high school soccer game and had the absolute best crowd I've ever seen. The crowd was crazy for both sides and both teams played extremely hard.

"Unfortunately we weren't able to get the ball to bounce our way. I am so proud of how hard our team played and fought all game."

The Marauders finally broke through for a score with Marshall Leavitt doing the honors. The goal was assisted by Ryker Parsons.

Ovid-Elsie keeper Dalton Jordan faced 10 shots, notching 8 saves.



## Lady Marauders Lose in Three Sets to Powerful Byron Volleyballers

BYRON -- Ovid-Elsie's varsity volleyball team dropped a three-set match to an outstanding Eagle squad here in a battle between Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) powerhouses.

Angela Ehle's Marauders fell to Byron 24-26, 23-25, 23-25, with the Eagles moving to 15-2-1 overall, 4-1 in the MMAC as the league season winds down.

Ovid-Elsie stood 12-5-2, 1-2 in the MMAC with the loss.

Bentlie Kelley sparked O-E with 3 kills, 27 assists, 1 block and 5 digs. Allison Veith (2 aces, 12 kills, 2 blocks, 1 assist, 2 digs), Kendal Tokar (6 aces, 4 kills, 2 blocks, 1 assist, 9 digs), Lily Bates (2 aces, 4 kills, 6 digs), Kortlynn Loynes (5 kills, 1 block, 1 dig), Isabelle Ryal (1 ace, 2 assists, 8 digs), Sarah Newman (1 ace, 4 digs) and Isabella Phillips (6 kills) were other big contributors for Ovid-Elsie.

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## CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

### FORECLOSURE NOTICE

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 judiciary 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, November 5, 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 has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Miguel Mata, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for American Financial Network Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated June 10, 2022, and recorded on June 14, 2022, as Document Number: 5326107, Clinton County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 11, 2025 and recorded August 12, 2025 by Document Number: 5356597, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Two and 59/100 (\$130,492.59) including interest at the rate of 5.87500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the City of OVID, Clinton County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 17, Block D, Village (now City) of Ovid, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 21 of Plats, Page 367, Clinton County Records Commonly known as: 228 W PEARL ST, OVID, MI 48866 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) 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. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: October 5, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00674-1

(10-05)(10-26)

**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 judiciary 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 OCTOBER 15, 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 has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Miguel Mata, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for E Mortgage Management, LLC D/B/A EMM Financial, its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated September 19, 2019 and recorded September 25, 2019 in Instrument Number 5284038 Clinton County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, an officer of the United States, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Sixty-One Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Seven and 26/100 Dollars (\$161,477.26). Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Clinton County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 15, 2025. Said premises are located in the City of Dewitt, Clinton County Michigan, and are described as: Lot No. 17, Assessors Plat South, City of DeWitt, Clinton County, Michigan. FKA Lot 27 Viewcrest River Addition to the Village, now City of DeWitt, on the south fraction of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 8, T5N, R2W, City of DeWitt, Clinton County, Michigan according to the Plat thereof recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 33, Clinton County Records. 814 Elmwood Street, Dewitt, Michigan 48820

(09-14)(10-05)

**SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - CLINTON COUNTY** Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary 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 October 22, 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. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Paul J. Blankenship, a married man and Diane Blankenship, his wife Original Mortgage: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: March 28, 2005 Recorded on April 13, 2005, in Document No. 5077700, and re-recorded via Affidavit of Correction on May 30, 2012, in Document No. 5185102, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Harborview Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-3, Mortgage Loan Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-3 Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Eighty-Nine Thousand Ten and 97/100 Dollars (\$89,010.97) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Clinton County, and described as: Lot 153, Assessor's Plat of the City of DeWitt-North, a part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 4, the Northeast 1/4, the Northwest 1/4, the Southeast 1/4 and the Southwest 1/4 of Section 5, the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, the Northwest 1/4 of Section 8 and the Northwest 1/4 of Section 9, all in Town 5 North, Range 2 West, City of DeWitt, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 8, Page 1-15, of plats, Formerly Known as: The South 43.75 feet of Lots 85, 86, 87, and 88 and the North 41.25 of Lots 129, 130, 131, and 132, all in Block 15 of the Village (not City) of

DeWitt, Clinton County Records. Also that part of the vacated West 33 feet of Market Street, except commencing at the Southwest corner of Block 15, Village of DeWitt (now City), being a Subdivision of part of Section 5 and 8, Town 5 North, Range 2 West, Clinton County, Michigan, thence South 89 degrees 51 minutes 21 seconds East 132.00 feet along the North line of Madison Street to the point of beginning of this description, thence North 00 degrees 37 minutes 00 seconds East 95.30 feet, thence North 88 degrees 47 minutes 25 seconds East (not West) West 166.00 (looks like 165) feet; thence South 00 degrees 37 minutes 00 seconds West 99.20 feet; thence North 89 degrees 51 minutes 21 seconds West 166.00 (looks like 165) feet along said North line of Madison Street to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 308 N Franklin St, Dewitt, MI 48820 The redemption period will be 12 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under 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. U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Harborview Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-3, Mortgage Loan Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-3 Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1572081  
(09-14)(10-05)

### Ovid-Elsie Area Schools - School Buses For Sale

Ovid-Elsie Area Schools is accepting **sealed bids** for the following vehicles. Please submit a separate bid for each bus. Buses have been stripped of some parts. The engine and transmission ran and drove prior to being stripped.

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**Bid Instructions:** Submit sealed bids to: **Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Administration Office: 8989 E Colony Rd, Elsie MI 48831** clearly mark envelope: **Bus Bid-[Bus Number]** Deadline: **12:00 pm Wednesday, October 15, 2025.** Purchased buses must be removed by Friday, October 24, 2025. Vehicles sold **as is, where is, no warranties**, The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Questions? Call Bill or Loren at **(989) 834-2271, ext. 1563.**

### STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of RICK M. EVANS  
Date of Birth: January, 6, 1948  
NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent RICK M. EVANS Died on June 20, 2025  
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jaymi D. Nesbit, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 100 East State Street, Suite 4300, St. Johns, MI 48879 and the personal representative within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

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(10-05)

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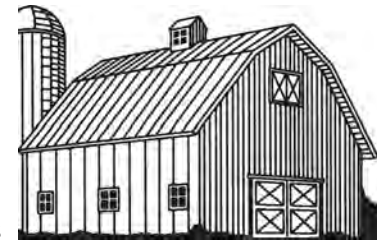
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## Clarkson Barn Dances

The last barn dance hosted by Jack & Tess Clarkson on the second Saturday of the month, during the summer, will be October 11th. All are welcome to the 10901 Hollister Road address in Laingsburg. The event runs from 6:30pm-9:30pm.

The downtown Summer patio party at Twilligers on Wednesday evening has come to an end for the season. "The support over the summer was appreciated very much," expressed Jack Clarkson.



## MI Ag CORE Leadership Program Opens Registration for 2026

submitted by Jody E. Pollok-Newsom

Lansing – Michiganians in agriculture wanting to learn more and hone their personal skills in Communication, Organization, Relationships and Engagement should register now for the 2026 leadership series.

The MI Ag CORE leadership program is aimed at helping Michigan farmers and agricultural professionals grow their leadership experience and skills through a year-long professional development series. The program consists of seven total sessions, four in-person and three online. The application is open until November 1, 2025 and can be found at miagcore.com. Applicants will be notified by December 1, 2025 if they have been accepted into the program.

The MI Ag CORE leadership program was developed by the leaders of three Michigan commodity organizations: The Michigan Potato Industry Commission; the Michigan Wheat Program; and the Michigan Soybean Committee. The idea for MI Ag CORE came from the lessons learned by the three leaders working in agricultural "trenches" on a day-to-day basis and seeing their growers and other professionals struggle from not having certain experiences that are key to success.

"I saw that agriculture was missing a well-rounded program for those looking to move directly into management or those who were heading in that direction," said Kelly Turner, executive director, Michigan Potato Industry Commission. "MI Ag CORE came together as a collection of skills that the three of us thought would have been beneficial to us, as we grew into our positions."

MI Ag CORE participants begin in January 2026 with a two-part "DISC" talent/skill assessment course. They apply that knowledge throughout the year as they also work in the areas of communications, human resources, and governance. The seven-session program concludes in November 2026 with in-person presentations.

MI Ag CORE tuition is made more affordable thanks to generous industry sponsorships. This year's sponsors include TriEst Ag Group, Walther Farms, Greenstone FCS, Midwest Water Stewards, Morgan Composting, and Star of the West Milling. If you would like to be included in our list of supporters, please check out the website: [MIAGCORE.com/sponsors/](http://MIAGCORE.com/sponsors/).

The MI Ag CORE program was developed with financial and staff resources support from the Michigan Potato Industry Commission, the Michigan Soybean Committee, and the Michigan Wheat Program. Each of these organizations are nonprofit grower-funded commodity check-off organizations with a strong interest in an even better future for Michigan agriculture.

## New Exhibit at Shiawassee Arts Center

submitted by Jennifer Ross

The Shiawassee Arts Center opens a new exhibit featuring artwork by Great Lakes Plein Air Painters Association and Art/5 Groups. The exhibit, which runs through October 25, is sponsored by Cheryl Henry-Downing, Great Lakes Plein Air Painters Association "Shiawassee Revealed" Art Exhibit

The Great Lakes Plein Air Painters Association (GLPAPA) is a Michigan nonprofit comprised of artist members from all areas of Michigan. Plein air artists paint outdoors on location, allowing the artist to capture a scene quickly and while braving the myriad elements we experience in the great lakes state. GLPAPA offers our membership opportunities to paint through organized paint meets, display of plein air art at various art exhibits, and furtherance of artistic expression through educational classes.

A GLPAPA representative stated, "We are honored and excited to be able to capture the beauty of Shiawassee County with our 2025 art exhibit entitled "Shiawassee Revealed". Artists painted the beauty of the area, focusing on the picturesque town of Owosso, the Shiawassee River, Curwood Castle, and areas of conservation displaying lush greenery and vibrant outdoor color."



Artist Juanita Baldwin - Broken Tree



Artist Andrea Jeris - Henderson Launch

ART/5: Harmonies and Hues

ART/5 is a group of five accomplished, local artists and friends who paint in their studios and together on location. They include Lansing-area artists Juanita Baldwin, Andrea Jeris, Rob Kulas, Young-Shill Roberts, and Patricia Singer.

An ART/5 artist wrote, "We paint together as artists and give form to this group, which provides us valuable opportunities in our lives—not only artistic—but also the often elusive strength of friendship." ART/5 was founded in 2019 as a response to a law firm in Old Town, Lansing, that was looking for art for their office. Exhibiting exclusively there for two years, another opportunity gave them a two-month exhibition at the Okemos

Library in 2023. In 2024, ART/5 exhibited at the Williamston Theatre in Williamston, and at Framers' Edge Gallery in Okemos. In 2005 ART/5 exhibited at Bestsellers Extra in Mason.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, celebrating its 53rd anniversary in 2025, is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso and is open to the public, free of charge, Monday through Friday 10-5pm, weekends 12-3pm. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieseke Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. SAC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage participation and appreciation of the arts. For more information 989.723.8354 or visit [www.shiawasseearts.org](http://www.shiawasseearts.org).



Artist Sandra Difazio - Owosso Overpass

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