



Photo by Tammy Stroud's Photography

Ashley Country Christmas In Full Swing

ASHLEY – The Village of Ashley Country Christmas is excited to welcome back the Pere Marquette 1225 steam engine pulling the North Pole Express weekends now thru December 21st. The 1225 engine became a part of the Christmas tradition when it was used as the model for “The Polar Express” movie in 2004. The Steam Railroad Institute in Owosso has been having the engine haul the North Pole Express into Ashley since 2013. Trains will arrive at approximately 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and at 6 p.m. on Fridays.

Santa's reindeer will also be making a return appearance this year for young and old alike, and morning wagon rides have been added.

Of course it wouldn't be the Christmas season without vendors, and Ashley Country Christmas has a wide variety of items, including embroidered items, decorative items, jewelry, raw honey, cotton candy, maple syrup, Czech bakery items, gourmet licorice, candy canes and much, much more. To satisfy the hungry, or a sweet tooth, there will be food vendors offering everything from snacks to full meals. Vendors stay open for most of the day, so visitors not riding the train can come in early or stay late.

Guests are reminded that activities primarily take place outdoors and they should dress appropriately for the weather. Guests should also consider bringing cash, as many vendors do not take credit cards.

For more information, visit Village of Ashley Country Christmas on Facebook, or the website ashleycountrychristmas.com.



Photos by Ashley Country Christmas



A Community Caring for Others: On Thanksgiving Day, November 27th, a number of community volunteers, family and friends, joined Suzanne and Chara from Country Kitchen to provide a delicious Thanksgiving meal at the Ovid Lions/VFW Hall in downtown Ovid. “Biggest year ever,” said Chara Potter. Her grandmother, Mary Gallagher along with her daughter Suzanne, started the holiday meal years ago in an effort to make sure community members and those unable to get to the hall had a place to go and enjoy a meal surrounded by friends. Over the past few years, monetary donations have been provided by those in attendance to help support the Christmas Basket program in the community. “The \$2,000 collected this year will surely help those in our community who need just a little help making ends meet this holiday season,” explained Holly Hibbard, Christmas Basket Project Coordinator.



500 Pounds of Food Collected

Makenna Vincent and MaKenzie Barnhill are pictured here with the food they collected at Muse Hair Lounge in Ovid during the month of November. Clients of the salon as well as community members dropped off non-perishable food items during November.

“To all who contributed to this food drive, I thank you very much, I have such awesome clients and am thankful for the community that always steps up to help others,” said Muse owner, Makenna Vincent.

Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price
Owner/Publisher
meridianweekly.com

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Social

Festival of Trees Winners

submitted by Karen Anderson, Correspondent

OVID - The First Annual Festival of Trees raffle tickets were pulled on November 28, 2025. Winners were Randy Elwood, Leann Martin, Jan Mooney, Dale Trierweiler, Kathryn Thorton, and Tracy Thomas. The winners picked up their trees at the VFW hall on Saturday morning.

The beautifully decorated Christmas trees were donated and decorated by Gayla Ehlert of Ovid. The fundraiser proceeds were divided between the Ovid Historical Society and towards the expense of the Community Christmas Baskets.

A special thank you to the Ovid area businesses, who sold raffle tickets, and to the committee who transported the trees from the windows next to the Post Office, where they were on display during the month of November, then taken to the VFW hall for the Community Thanksgiving dinner and drawing.

This first-time event was a successful learning experience. The committee ensures the community that the Festival of Trees will be an annual event. Individuals or businesses can still donate towards the Community Christmas Baskets; non-perishable donations can be dropped off at the Ovid Public Library and monetary gifts sent to Ovid Service Agency at 104 N. Main Ovid, MI 48866.



Ovid Historical Christmas Open House

submitted by Karen Anderson

The Annual Holiday Open House at the Ovid Historical Society will be held on Saturday, December 20, 2025, at the Mary Myers Historic Home, 131 East Williams St. in Ovid, Michigan. Experience a 1890's Christmas. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The Museum will be Open for Tours from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Refreshments will be served.

Library News

More Elsie Library Adventures

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

The snow is still so beautiful! What better time to curl up with a good book and a cup of cocoa? We have a sizeable stack of unread Christmas books on display. Please come and rescue these lonely books.

There will be one more Saturday Story time and craft on December 20 at 11:30 am. Mondays are always a fun time at noon. The girls rotate Music and Motion with Storytime and Craft. It is always a fun time and a joy to see the children playing and making friends. Whatever you can do to get children to learn to enjoy reading, do it! A child's ability to read and learn is a lifelong gift. We have quite a few grown up children that still love to read!

Thursday, December 11 at 6pm will be our last Book Club meeting this year. I really hope all the club members can be here. We have read so many great books this year. I will not lie, I enjoy the members even more than the books. The book to pick up for January Book Club is "And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer," by Frederic Bachman

Then on Thursday, December 18 at 5:30 pm, come in and enjoy the Adult and Teen craft time. It will definitely be a Christmas theme craft this time. In November we threw together live arrangements. They turned out charming! I hope you can come and join the creative time.

Remember that Potter Park has their lights lit. Is that a redundancy? Sounds merry and bright to me. As a fan of the Madagascar Christmas movie, I think a zoo is a good way to celebrate our beautiful snowy days. Come in and get a free zoo pass to check it out.

Remember...Christmas books, holiday movies and snowman cake pans, oh my!!! The yellow brick road should lead right to the door of the Elsie Public Library.

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Middlebury Township Resolution 2025-05
2026 Township Board Meeting Dates

WHEREAS, by law, townships are required to set by resolution of the board and post the regular meeting dates for the upcoming year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following regular meeting dates for the Middlebury Township Board have been set for the year 2026 and have been approved for publishing.

JANUARY	13th	JULY	14th
FEBRUARY	10th	AUGUST-	NO MEETING
MARCH	10th	SEPTEMBER	8th
APRIL	14th	OCTOBER	13th
MAY	12th	NOVEMBER	10th
JUNE	9th	DECEMBER	8th

All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The foregoing resolution offered by,
Supported by Board Member.
Upon roll call vote, the following voted
Ayes:
Nays: 0

Jamie Aldrich Clerk
Middlebury Township Clerk

Clerk,
I, Jamie Aldrich, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Middlebury Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Township Board of said Township at the monthly meeting of said Board held on November 18, 2025 at which meeting a quorum was present, by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take effect immediately.

Grove Bible Church Welcomes Daryl Mosely

We welcome all to Grove Bible Church on December 13th at 6:00pm for a time of sharing stories of life and faith through Daryl Mosely's music! There is no charge to attend, we will pass an offering around during the performance.



Daryl Mosely

Mosley's musical poetry has led to him being twice honored as Songwriter of the Year, eight #1 songs, and three Song of the Year awards. One of his best-known songs, "(Ask the Blind Man) He Saw It All," was named one of the top Southern Gospel songs of all time! Daryl has shared his music in venues ranging from the Grand Ole Opry to the legendary Bluebird Cafe and even at West Point Military Academy, but he especially loves sharing his faith at churches.

We hope your able to make it! Please contact the office at (517) 651-5729 if you have any questions.

Retired School Personnel to Meet

submitted by Peg Zink

The Clinton-Shiawassee MARSP Meeting will be held on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 12:30 PM at Baker College Welcome Center, 1309 S M-52, Owosso, MI. Luncheon (\$12) is payable at the door. Our program is Owosso High School Madrigals. For reservations, leave your name and number attending by email to rzick5039@gmail.com or call Peg at 517-282-8350 and leave a message by Friday, December 5, 2025 by noon.

Laingsburg Community Singers - Harmony for the Holidays: A Concert in Memory of Director, Steven Easterling

submitted by Allison Cummings

A concert in Memory of our director, Steven Easterling who passed away just before our season started will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 4:00 PM at the Laingsburg United Methodist Church, 210 North Crum St., Laingsburg, MI 48848

This year's concert is especially meaningful as we honor the life and legacy of our longtime director, Steven Easterling. He was a music educator at Laingsburg Elementary school for over a decade and led 4 choirs. The program will feature a selection of holiday music and a celebration of the joy he brought to our choir and community. He selected the music before he passed away and we are honored to sing it.

VICTOR TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING/BUDGET WORKSHOP NOTICE VICTOR TOWNSHIP, CLINTON COUNTY MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that the Victor Township Board will hold a SPECIAL MEETING / BUDGET WORKSHOP on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 from 5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. at the Victor Township Hall located at 6843 E. Alward Rd. Laingsburg, MI 48848.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the 2025-2026 budget for Victor Township.

The Victor Township board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 48 hours' notice to the Victor Township board. Individuals requiring assistance should contact the Victor Township Board by writing or calling the Clerk at the address or telephone number noted below.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (the Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Lianne Prange, Clerk

A copy of this notice is on file in the Office of the Clerk

City of Ovid Draft Public Hearing December 3, 2025

Open Public Hearing:

Mayor M. Perrien called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid, Michigan.

Roll Call:

Present: M. Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Starn.

Absent: E. Brown and M. Jones

Guests:

There were 11 people in attendance: some that were in attendance were Susan Tomasek Swan- Clerk; Shelia Burkhardt-MMPA (Michigan Milk Producers Association) Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, Kurt Brauer-MMPA representative from MEDC (Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Brad Parks-MMPA Chief Operating Officer, Chase McCluer-MMPA Director of Engineering, Devon Pingel-LEAP(Lansing Economic Area Partnership) Development Manager, Holly Hibbard, Patrick Lombardi, Kelly Freed, Nicole Fickies-County Commissioner-District 1.

Purpose of the Public Hearing:

Mayor Perrien stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comments on the proposed establishment of an Industrial Development District located at 430 W. Williams St., Ovid, MI, property ID #580-000-043-050-00 (formerly 580-120-001-001-00, 580-000-043-015-00, 580-000-043-010-00, 580-000-043-005-00).

Presentation: 7:02 pm to 7:19 pm

Public Comments: Open 7:19 pm Closed 7:37pm

Council Discussion: 7:37pm to 7:59 pm

Adjournment-

Motioned by Council Member L. Perrien and seconded by Council Member M. Soliz to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm. Carried on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted by
Susan Tomasek Swan
Clerk

Full minutes available at ovidmi.org or at 114 E. Front St., Ovid, MI during lobby hours.



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- * CATFISH FILLETS

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- * ICELANDIC COD
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Scott & Dawn Seelhoff & Family
Darla Ladiski & Family



Obituaries

Shirley Ann Marriage

Shirley Ann Marriage, age 93, of Ovid, Michigan passed away peacefully Saturday, November 29, 2025, at University of Michigan Health-Sparrow, Lansing, Michigan.

Shirley was born in Swartz Creek, Michigan on April 15, 1932 the daughter John Harold and Annabelle (Woodthorp) Allen. She was the Valedictorian of the Class of 1951 of Corunna High School. On May 22, 1954, Shirley married Lawrence Paul Marriage at the Owosso Assembly of God, Owosso, Michigan. They were married fifty-two years prior to his passing on October 14, 2006.

Shirley was a tax preparer for H & R Block in Owosso for several years. She was a teacher and principal for First Assembly of God Christian School in St. Johns. She and Lawrence traveled for many years serving as campground hosts in Michigan, Texas, and Florida. She enjoyed hosting "Cowboy Coffee" in Del Rio, Texas. She was a founding member of First Assembly of God in St. Johns and has been there for over sixty years.

Shirley loved her family. She enjoyed time with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and her only great-grandson. One of her joys was passing on her love of playing Trash Train Dominos. She loved to garden and had many plants. Shirley spent many hours doing jigsaw puzzles. Her last months were spent at Hazel Findlay where she made many new friends.

She is survived by her children: Devona (Michael) Ritter of St. Johns, MI; Myron (Phyllis) Marriage of Ft. Worth, TX; Dinah Stallings of Haslet, TX; and Kyle Marriage of Ovid, MI; grandchildren: Kasondra (Jeff) Davis, Lisa (Calvin) Cook, Tara (Glen) Baese, John (Kylee) Stallings, Devona Marriage, Lawrence Marriage, Sean (John) Stallings, Lori Blue, Pete Carpenter; great-grandchildren: Katie (Nic) Whitman, Lauren (Treyton) Davis, Amy Davis, Gus Cook, Amelia Baese, Norah Baese, Sadie Stallings, Dixie Blue, Savannah Blue, Clapton Blue, Jackson Blue, Bennett Blue, Isabella Blue, Joseph Blue, Jameson Blue, Benjamin Blue, and Maura Blue; and great-great grandson Waylon Jeffrey Whitman, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Lawrence, son-in-law Don Stallings, and brothers: Sherwood "Bud" (Joan) Allen, LeRoy John (Donna) Allen, Alvin (Betty) Allen, and Gordon Allen.

Funeral Services will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan, at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, December 12, 2025, with Pastor Brian Wilbur officiating. Private Family Burial will take place at Wilkinson Cemetery, Venice, Michigan at a later date. Visitation will be held 2-5 P.M. on Thursday, December 11, 2025, and again on Friday beginning at 10 A.M. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to First Assembly of God - 602 E. Baldwin St., St. Johns, MI 48879. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.



Barbara Louise Sipka

Barbara Louise Sipka, age 82, of Bannister, MI, passed away on Friday, October 24, 2025, in Beaufort, SC.

Barbara was born in Hamilton Twp., MI, on July 7, 1943, the daughter of Edward and Vianna(Wymer) Morbitzer. She married Edward Sipka on November 12, 1960, in Ithaca, MI. They were blessed with fifty-seven years of marriage; prior to his passing on June 27, 2018.

She was blessed with skills from her mother to crochet beautiful keepsakes, and also taught herself quilting. She enjoyed playing cards and bingo, which was followed up with random trips to the casino. She grew a large garden and stocked our cupboards with canned vegetables, stewed tomatoes, and juice. She loved cats and when she welcomed, Buddy, into her home, he became her life and brought her much happiness.

She is survived by her children: Edward (Diane) Sipka, Jr., Brenda (Michael) Allen and Rodney (Andrea) Sipka; her grandchildren: Justin (Melissa) Hubbard, Chad (Nicole) Sipka, Trish (Brian) Henry, Shawn (Kelly) Sipka, and Brandon (Emily) Sipka; great-grandchildren: Lily Sipka, and Benjamin Henry. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Ed, and her siblings: Edward Morbitzer, Cloah Nostrant, Judy Heckard, Sandra Coe, and Karen West.

A Memorial Service will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI, on Saturday, December 13, 2025, 1:30 P.M. Visitation will be held from 12:30 P.M. until the time of the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Brenda Allen, who will disburse funds to local animal shelters out of respect for her love of cats. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



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

Watch Sunday Service on YouTube at [elsiebaptist](http://elsiebaptist.com)
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 (989) 862-5239

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

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Sunday Worship 10:00am
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Editorial



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Piedmont Chestnut Soup

Are you looking for a special soup to serve during upcoming holiday dinners? Maybe something different and unique but able to pair well with a wine along with being the topic of conversation at the dinner table... then consider Piedmont Chestnut Soup. The Weekly Sportsman made a crockpot full of this soup for Corunna District Library's cookbook club gathering in November.

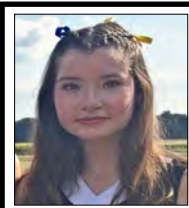
The recipe was by Sophie Grigson and came from The Soup Book, 200 Recipes, Season by Season. The recipe serves six people with a prep time of only five minutes but a cooking time of just under two hours. Normally, there are about twelve people attending cookbook club night so the Weekly Sportsman just doubled all the ingredients and experienced no issues.

Although quite a simple list of ingredients you will probably still need to pick up a few items at the store. First, chestnuts are the star of the show but they may require some driving to obtain fresh or preserved. If you want a true chestnut grove to table experience consider visiting Bill Nash of Nash Nurseries located on Grand River Road just east of Laingsburg. He is Michigan's go to farmer for everything chestnut from tree root stock to nuts. Another option is to purchase some roasted chestnuts from the Maple Grille on M-46 just east of Hemlock. The Weekly Sportsman went to World Market in Frandor to source a half pound of pre-cooked chestnuts vacuum sealed in jars. Also on the list; thyme, a few bay leaves, 1 ¼ quarts chicken stock, salt, pepper, 2 oz risotto rice, 2 tbsps butter, 1 ¼ cups milk, and a little truffle oil to serve.

If using fresh chestnuts, score a deep cross in the skin of each one with a small sharp knife, then put half a dozen at a time into a microwave-safe bowl. Cover tightly with plastic wrap and cook on High for 20-30 seconds or until the skins have split, then peel off the outer and inner skins with your fingers. Place the peeled chestnuts in a pan with the herbs, stock, and a little salt and pepper, bring to a boil, then simmer for 1 ½ hours.

Next, add the rice and simmer for 10 minutes and stir in the butter and milk for a final 10 minutes. Remove the bay leaves and thyme, taste, and adjust seasonings, if necessary. Serve with a few drops of truffle oil in each bowl to turn this peasant soup into a major treat. Also, consider adding some dried cranberries or freshly prepared cranberries as a garnish. For a local wine pairing the Weekly Sportsman suggests Michigan Cranberry Wine from Burgdorf's Winery in Haslett.

-WS



Planet Perspectives

by Alison Kozlowski

International Mountain Day

Thursday, December 11 is International Mountain Day. This day focuses on raising awareness of mountains and what they contribute to our planet. It originated in 2002 when the United Nations General Assembly designated that year as The International Year of Mountains. Coordinated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the purpose was to raise action on issues faced by mountains. In December 2002, the UN designated December 11 as International Mountain Day for future recognition. Since then, each year has had its own theme. 2025 is "Glaciers matter for water, food and livelihoods in mountains and beyond." Glaciers are mountainous ice masses that are formed from compacted snow. Their existence majorly contributes to climate regulation. However, climate change and global warming have resulted in a large percentage of them melting. Fortunately 2025 is the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation.

Along with the international day is the Mountain Future Award, also organized by the FAO. It recognizes projects that contribute to a sustainable future for mountains. There are 3 categories of awards: youth, innovation, and adaptation and/or mitigation. Their theme goes along with the corresponding year. The 2025 award is over "glacier-related challenges, sustainable water management, agrifood systems, glacier preservation or the resilience and livelihoods of mountain communities." The winners are announced on International Mountain Day. For more information, you can go to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations website.

Community Deserves Better

Letter to the Editor:

County Commissioner Matthew Shepard, the self-proclaimed "crusader against corruption", turns out to be the perpetrator of corruption himself. Commissioner Shepherd has shown a consistent pattern of misconduct that is unacceptable for anyone in public office. Shiawassee County residents deserve to know when their elected officials are burning taxpayer dollars, abusing power, and shredding public trust.

Multiple County employees have reported feeling threatened or pressured by Commissioner Shepherd when they would not comply with his unreasonable demands.

Probably the worst of his abuses occurred recently. Shepherd requested \$5,000 from the the Veterans Relief Fund to repair his personal vehicle but was not honest on his application. Commissioner Shepherd failed to include his commissioner salary in his income. He in no way qualified for the assistance. Upon being turned down, he became abusive with county employees demanding an exception be made because he was a County Commissioner. The application before the board was anonymous, until he let the deciding committee know that the application was for him. Mr. Shepard was trying to enrich himself at the expense of the county by using his position. No official—at any level of government—has the right to intimidate public servants simply trying to do their jobs. This behavior is not "leadership"; it is coercion, and it has no place in our government.

Commissioner Shepherd has also made sweeping public accusations against members of the 911 Board, calling individuals "corrupt" without presenting a shred of evidence to support such claims. Reckless accusations do not make government more transparent—they weaken institutions, damage reputations, and disrupt the critical work of people who are trying to serve this community.

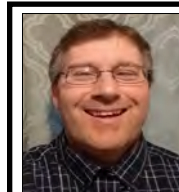
Even more troubling is the commissioner's misuse of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) process. He submitted requests so excessively broad that county staff were forced to spend more than a week responding—time that could have been spent serving the public. Then he demanded his fees be waived, as though he should be exempt from the very rules that apply to every citizen. This is yet another example of entitlement and misuse of power: asking the system to bend for him simply because he holds a title.

Commissioner Shepherd often speaks about faith and integrity, but his actions tell a different story. A person of integrity does not pressure employees, undermine public boards with baseless accusations, or burden county staff with unreasonable demands while expecting special treatment. These are not the actions of someone acting in the community's best interest—they are the actions of someone seeking power without accountability.

Shiawassee County deserves leadership that reflects honesty, humility, and respect. Residents must recognize the serious concerns surrounding Commissioner Shepherd's behavior and demand higher standards from those who claim to serve us. Public trust is difficult to rebuild once it has been broken; it must be protected by removing those who abuse it.

Our community deserves better—much better—than what we are getting from Commissioner Shepherd.

Signed,
Chairman Greg Brodeur
County Commissioner Josh Haley
County Commissioner Brad Howard
County Commissioner Bill Johnson
County Commissioner Cindy Garber



Religious Thoughts

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

In announcing the birth of Jesus the Messiah, there were two groups of people who get big signs.

They were each outsiders, and yet at the same time representing a different economic group of people.

The Magi, who were wealthy and foreigners.

The shepherds, more of the poorer class and local.

One reason that they're in the Bible is to show us that God's gift of salvation is for both groups of people and for everyone in between. Rich or poor. Insider or outsider, it doesn't matter. This includes you.

You, who has your dreams, goals, and plans.

You search for meaning to life. Both to your individual life and to humanity as a whole.

Why is that? Why don't you just do the basics? Live, procreate, and die. Why are dreams, plans, and meaning to life so important to you? If you don't continue to exist after you die, then why do these things matter?

These are not simply whims or fleeting desires- like wanting to have a piece of chocolate cake after dinner. These are core, "who I am" parts of who we are as human beings. These are part of what it means to be made in God's image and part of what it means to exist after we die.

The Christian narrative in answering these questions rises far and above all others. Not only because it is true, which is most important, but also because it is the most compelling.

God creates a perfect universe with a perfect planet in which He creates perfect people to live in perfect relationships with Him forever.

Angels and people are created with free will, and soon into the story some angels sin and their leader tempts the people to sin, which they do, and this seriously mars all of God's wonderful creation, including people.

What will happen? How will God get things right? Will He care to do something at all?

Yes.

He does this by sending His Son Jesus, fully human and fully God, to live a sinless life, die on the cross and raise bodily for our sins. This is the one, full and final payment for all of our sins.

It's through faith in this, in the Gospel, that people are made right with God, are forgiven of all the bad things we've ever done and enter into a personal relationship with the Lord. This is the message of Christmas. This is the message that answers the question, "Why am I here?" This is God's message to you.

"The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life."

- Revelation 22:17



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37th Annual Holiday Along the River & Holiday Mini Art Exhibit

submitted by Piper Brewer

The 37th annual SAC Holiday Along the River opened to the public Sunday, November 2nd with over 90 Michigan artists displaying and selling their original artwork, unique gift items and holiday decorations.

The Holiday Show is generously sponsored by Memorial Healthcare with outdoor decorating by Sunburst Gardens and runs through December 31st.

Shoppers are sure to find gifts at affordable prices for everyone on their gift lists. Or, SAC gift cards make great gifts. The Arts Center, which is decorated for the holidays, is available for rent for special events, meetings and holiday parties.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso, is open Monday through Friday 10am-5pm and weekends 12-3pm. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieske Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. The public is welcome and there is no admission charge. SAC, which is celebrating its 53rd anniversary in 2025, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate, entertain and enrich the quality of life in our community. For more information call the Arts Center at 989.723.8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.



Deb Knipe

Ovid Library	Music & Snacks	1
Main Bar	Hot Chocolate & Coloring	2
Lori Alley Studios	Photo Booth	3
Ovid Inn	Crafts & Board Games	4
Heartland Church	Warming Tent & Refreshments	5
Soup Court	Food Vendor \$\$	6
Tienda	Food Vendor \$\$	7
Wagon Rides	7am - 9am	8

Join the Ovid Parade Friday, December 12th

Entries are now being accepted for the Ovid Carriage Days "Home for the Holidays" light parade on Friday, December 12th. The parade will step off at 6:45pm. For more information or to sign up contact Chelsey Goodrich by emailing her at chelseylouhoo@gmail.com

WINTER MARKET and Holiday Fair
5th Annual

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Ovid Carriage Days Presents

Home for the Holidays

DECEMBER 12 5:45 pm - 9:00 pm

FREE Wagon Rides

All events/vendors downtown begin at 5:45 pm.

The Light Parade starts at 6:45 pm at the top of the hill on Main Street.

Following the Light Parade inside the Ovid Lions Hall, gifts for children 12 and under, as well as milk and cookies for all.

After the Tree Lighting, put an ornament on the city Christmas tree, then walk with Santa to the hall!

Take a picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus inside the hall. Don't forget your letters to Santa!

Main Bar along with Bearded Barber Hot Chocolate & Coloring

A Celebration of Joy and Unity This Holiday Season

submitted by Michael Sundermann

EAST LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan State University College of Music invites the community to celebrate the holidays with *Alegría Navideña* (Christmas Joy), a colorful concert highlighting culture, language, and the spirit of the season. Taking place Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall, this festive event brings together more than 200 singers from MSU's Choral Union, State Singers, and University Chorale with the MSU Symphony Orchestra. Part of the MSU Federal Credit Union Showcase Series, the concert offers a joyful reflection on unity and shared celebration.

At a time when art has the power to bring people together, *Alegría Navideña* celebrates the beauty of cultural unity expressed through music and language. The program centers on George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*, Part I, performed in Spanish using a libretto translated by Mario Montenegro, originally commissioned as "a gift to those for whom Spanish is a first language." The concert also includes Ariel Ramírez's *Navidad Nuestra*, a culturally rich work infused with Latin-American rhythms and color.

"Our goal is to celebrate the universal language of music and the shared joy it brings," said Sandra Snow, conductor and MSU Director of Choral Programs. "Singing these works in Spanish adds warmth and vibrancy that reflect the richness of our community and the many cultures that celebrate this season."

Prior to the concert's conclusion, the program features the world premiere of Lee R. Kesselman's *Festival of Lights*, a work that weaves an authentic Jewish voice into the tapestry of the season and celebrates themes of light and unity through a blend of English and Hebrew texts. The evening then concludes with a joyful audience sing-along of familiar seasonal carols—a hallmark of MSU's holiday tradition that fills Cobb Great Hall with shared voices and festive spirit.

"This concert represents the very best of collaboration," added Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor and MSU Director of Orchestras. "It's a thrill to see our Symphony Orchestra and choirs unite for a performance that transcends language and invites our audience to join in the celebration. When everyone lifts their voices together in song, it truly captures the spirit of the season."

Alegría Navideña is the second concert of the MSU Federal Credit Union Showcase Series, highlighting guest ensembles and exceptional performances from across the College of

Music. The concert is generously sponsored by Barbara and Bill Given, Kevin and Amy Guskiewicz, and Ann, John and Abby Lindley.

Reserved-seat tickets for *Alegría Navideña* are available exclusively through Wharton Center. Adult tickets are \$31.50, senior tickets (age 60+) are \$29.50, and student tickets are \$20.50. Visit whartoncenter.com to purchase tickets online or

call 517-432-2000, (800) WHARTON.

For more holiday music, the Showcase Series also brings *A Jazzy Little Christmas* on Dec. 13 at the MSU Auditorium's Fairchild Theatre, a lively performance of holiday classics with a jazz twist. Visit music.msu.edu for more information about this and other MSU College of Music concerts.

Planning pays in retirement



Personal savings are key to living comfortably

Michael doesn't see himself living on the beach when he retires, but he'd like to vacation there with his wife. He worries he isn't saving enough in the 401(k) account he has at work, but he isn't sure what more he can manage with two kids, a mortgage and credit cards.

Michael faces two dilemmas: Saving enough money for a comfortable retirement, and making those savings last his lifetime. Like most Americans, having money in retirement may depend on part-time jobs, personal savings and tax-advantaged retirement savings accounts.

A financial representative can help people like Michael understand their options, such as 401(k) and 403(b) plans, annuities, and individual retirement accounts (IRAs).

The key is to set goals and get started. The longer you wait to start saving, the more you will have to save to reach those goals.

Let's start the conversation.



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Sports

Gridiron Gurus Weekend of December 13

PIZZA -- Brandon Grieder 10-2 (tie-breaker)

SUB SANDWICH --

Rod Weisenberger 10-2 (tie-breaker)

BREADSTICKS -- Ben Hudson 10-2 (tie-breaker)



GRIDIRON GURUS

by Tom Turek

tomturek20032003@yahoo.com

Our gonzo gridiron wraps up over the weekend, and the picks are in.

Now ... we just await the results. The final pick-em grid was published last week.

In the next-to-last week of the runoff, our fantastic forecasters fumbled mostly on Michigan State's clutch win over Maryland (tho Jonathan Smith still lost his job) and the Lions' sub-par Thanksgiving showing vs. the hated Packers. Another toughie seemed to be Vandy's big win over statewide neighbor Tennessee.

Navigating through all that were contest vets Brandon Grieder, Rodney Weisenberger and Ben Hudson, all at 10-2. The tie-breaker was a total of 46 points; Brandon came the closest in an ultra-tight tie-break. Only three total points separated the trio. Grieder takes home a pizza, Weisenberger a sub sandwich and Hudson some breadsticks. Congratulations to all!

The Wolfman has all but wrapped up bragging rights in our staff run-off. Wolfie has run his record to 103-45 (.696) and owns a four-game lead over neophyte Amon-Ra St. Nuthin' (99-49, .669). And ol' Wolfie likes to brag. Rack it!

The contest ran every week until the end of the regular college football season (no bowls).

Besides the food prizes, season-long contestants are vying for cash prizes: first place - \$100; second place - \$60 and third place - \$40. Those prizes -- and our Grand Champion Guru -- will be announced next week ... just in time for Christmas.

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

Marcia Pangborn Bags 8 Point

Marcia Pangborn of Ashley, harvested a beautiful and mature 8 point on the last evening of the regular firearms deer season. Making a perfect shot with her Ruger .270 rifle, she shot him at 5:05 after he followed two does into view.

She was hunting with her husband "guide" Ken in Gratiot County. The Buck name a "Bent Brow" had a history with Marcia, especially showing proof he narrowly escaped her shot at him two weeks prior. This is her first buck with her gun since she passed up many smaller bucks throughout the archery and rifle season. Ironically her last harvest with a gun, was on November 30, 2018. Also with snow on the ground.

Great job Marcia! Patience certainly paid off this season in a big way!



**WATCH FOR THE
ASHLEY BEARS,
LAINGSBURG WOLFPACK
AND
OVID-ELSIE MARAUDER
WINTER SPORTS PREVIEWS
COMING SOON!!!**



Kendall Michels



Mallory Woodbury



Lia Soeltner



Harper Strouse

Lady Wolfpack's 4th Place CMAC Finish Ends with Multiple League Honors

LAINGSBURG -- Laingsburg's 13-15-2 finish on the girls volleyball court has garnered a series of Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) honors.

With a 6-4 league record, coach Mickey Fox's Wolves finished 4th in the circuit.

Junior Kendall Michels, the Wolfpack's set leader, was honored on the All-Area Team after recording 368 assists, 239 digs, 18 blocks, 125 kills and 45 aces. The All-Shiawassee Area team is selected annually by the Owosso Argus-Press. Kendall also brought home CMAC Honorable Mention plaudits.

Mallory Woodbury, a senior outside hitter / defensive specialist, boasted 329 digs, 105 kills, and 23 aces on the season. She was named both All-Area and All-CMAC Honorable Mention.

Lia Soeltner, a junior playing at libero, contributed 474 digs, 20 aces, 10 kills and 72 assists as a All-CMAC Honorable Mention choice.

Harper Strouse, a senior middle hitter, finished the 2025 season with 165 kills and 57 blocks. Harper was also a All-CMAC Honorable Mention pick.

Post-Season Plunder Rolls in for Record-Setting O-E Volleyball Team

OVID-ELSIE -- When you record the kind of record-breaking season the Lady Marauders did on the girls volleyball court, you earn the kind of post-season plunder that rolled in for veteran coach Angela Ehle's club.

O-E set a school record for volleyball wins with 19, and boasted multiple players receiving All-League, All-Area and All-State honors.

Ashton Ehle, the Marauders' senior outside hitter, was named to the All-MMAC 1st Team and was MIVCA (Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association) All-Region. Though her senior campaign was slowed by injury and illness, but she still had a tremendous season. Despite missing more than one-third of the year, the Northwood University signee managed 275 kills, 169 digs and 51 aces. Ashton is also O-E's all-time kills leader with 1,227 for her career.

Freshman middle hitter Allison Veith showed the kind of talent that bodes well for O-E's volleyball future. She earned 1st Team All-MMAC and All-Region MIVCA plaudits. She finished with 191 kills, 53 digs and 38 blocks.

Named to the All-MMAC 2nd Team for Ovid-Elsie were two more underclassmen that show the Lady Marauders indeed have a bright future: freshman setter Bentlie Kelley, and sophomore right side hitter Kendal Tokar.



Ashton Ehle



Allison Veith



Bentlie Kelley



Kendal Tokar

Wolfpack Opens 2025-26 Cage Campaign with 57-31 Loss at Olivet

OLIVET -- The host Eagles pounded the glass and sprinted to a quick double-digit lead here December 2, ruining the opening night of the Laingsburg boys basketball season.

Coach Tim Beebe's Wolfpack contingent fought back from a 43-9 halftime deficit to close the gap, 57-31, by game's end.

Colton Heaton and Kollin Bentley-Barr led the Wolfpack scoring attack, each with 7 points. Landon Hart scored 4, Jake Rivet 3, Cash Heaton 3, Kade McLean 3, Leandro Dolega-Caceres 2 and Landon Freeman 2 in the non-league loss. Waylon Rowley led LHS with 6 rebounds, and Rivet dealt four assists.

The Eagles' Ethan Miars led all scorers with 16 points.

Beebe's Wolfpack opened their CMAC schedule at Bath (1-0) on Friday night.

Consumers Energy

Count on Us®

Consumers Energy Reinvest Customer Dollars into Natural Gas System Updates

submitted by Megan D. Kirk

JACKSON – As cold winter weather blankets Michigan, Consumers Energy is saving customer dollars while continuing to make upgrades and programs that will improve Michigan's natural gas reliability and infrastructure.

“Consumers Energy remains steadfast in our goal of placing customers at the center of everything we do,” said Holly Bowers, Consumers Energy’s vice president of gas engineering, planning and supply. “By allocating and reinvesting funds to upgrade our infrastructure, improve efficiency, and implement programs that work to support our customers, we can continue to supply energy safely and responsibly for years to come.”

Consumers Energy purchases gas in the summer months, while it is at its cheapest, to deliver cost-effective, safe, and reliable gas to its customers throughout the winter. Gas is stored in storage facilities to avoid higher winter prices and market volatility. The Company maintains approximately 30,000 miles of natural gas pipeline, with over 27,000 miles of distribution pipeline, delivering gas directly to customers, and 2,500 miles of transmission, carrying large high-pressure quantities of natural gas to supply all customers across Michigan.

The company is committed to showing customers how their dollars are being used to benefit families and businesses in the state through various projects, system upgrades, and cost-saving initiatives. These investments highlight the energy provider’s mission to provide safer and more reliable energy to residential and business customers.

Consumers Energy’s Natural Gas Delivery Plan serves as the blueprint for a 10-year, \$12 billion roadmap to serve customers by replacing thousands of the service lines that connect the main arteries of the system to homes and businesses, replacing hundreds of miles of the pipeline “expressway” that powers the natural gas system.

Through system investments, the Company works to reduce costs and provide greater savings during winter. The Four Cities Pipeline, a project that will replace and upgrade eight miles of new 24-inch pipeline in Clawson, Royal Oak, Madison Heights, and Warren, will allow for the delivery of natural gas to households and businesses across Oakland and Macomb counties. With construction slated to begin in March, this project will create approximately 100 jobs annually through its completion in 2029.

Additionally, Consumers Energy is dedicated to replacing vintage pipelines made from cast iron, bare steel, and other materials dating back to the 1940s. As part of their Vintage Service Replacement project, the Company will replace pipelines with plastic and flexible steel, resulting in extended lifespans.

MDARD Awards More than \$1.3 Million Toward Forestry Assistance

submitted by Lynsey Mukomel

Lansing. — The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) today announced over \$1.3 million in funding for 18 conservation districts as part of the Forestry Assistance Program.

“Michigan’s world-class forests are an economic driver for rural communities, serving as the setting for unforgettable adventures and the source of high-quality timber,” said MDARD Director Tim Boring. “These Forestry Assistance Program grants will support active and sustainable management of our forests so that they can be enjoyed by future generations of Michiganders.”

Today’s Forestry Assistance Program grants support sustainable forestry projects in the following 18 conservation districts across Michigan:

- Mid-Michigan
- Barry Conservation District – \$81,000
- Clare Conservation District – \$72,000
- Mecosta Conservation District – \$75,000
- Northern Michigan
- Alcona Conservation District – \$81,000
- Alpena-Montmorency Conservation District – \$81,000
- Kalkaska Conservation District – \$72,000
- Leelanau Conservation District – \$72,000
- Manistee Conservation District – \$81,000
- Oscoda Conservation District – \$72,000
- Presque Isle Conservation District – \$78,000
- Upper Peninsula
- Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Conservation District – \$72,000
- Delta Conservation District – \$72,000
- Dickinson Conservation District – \$75,000
- Gogebic Conservation District – \$72,000
- Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District – \$72,000
- Iron-Baraga Conservation District – \$72,000
- Marquette Conservation District – \$81,000
- West Michigan
- Oceana Conservation District – \$81,000

The Forestry Assistance Program provides outreach and technical assistance by working with conservation district foresters to help private landowners make decisions about how to care for their land. Conservation district foresters help educate private forest owners about active forest management and connect landowners with private sector professionals for management plan development, timber valuation and sustainable harvests.

In addition to helping private landowners reach their goals, conservation districts help Michigan landowners enroll in MDARD’s Qualified Forest Program (QFP). QFP helps protect the health of Michigan’s forests by offering a property tax exemption from certain school operating mills for landowners who follow a professionally prepared forest management plan and who conduct sustainable timber harvests.

The Forestry Assistance Program grant is funded through State General Funds and the Private Forestland Enhancement Fund – revenue that is derived from landowner participation in QFP.

For more information, visit the MDARD Forestry Assistance Program webpage or email our Private Lands Forestry Program at MDARD-QFP@michigan.gov.

LCC Performing Arts Free Performances

submitted by Laura Paige Tufford-Dunckel

LANSING - The LCC Performing Arts Department is offering six free performances to celebrate student achievement during the fall semester. Students enrolled in music and theatre classes are given the opportunity to showcase what they’ve learned during the semester by hosting public performances. Over the first two weeks of December, the community is invited to attend performances by The LCC Jazz Band, Multi-Instrumental Music Ensemble, LCC Concert Choir, LCC Rock Band, Improv and a 10-minute play festival by the student directing class.

LCC Blues Weekend @ Dart Auditorium. Dec. 6 @ 3 p.m.

Multi-Instrumental Music Ensemble AND. Dec. 7 @ 3p.m.

LCC Jazz Band

LCC Rock Band. Dec. 7 @ 6 p.m. The Avenue Café

Improv Showcase. Dec. 9 @ 7 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre

LCC Concert Choir. Dec. 13 @ 3 p.m. Dart Auditorium

Student Directing Showcase – 10-Minute Plays

Dec. 14 @ 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre

For more information, visit: www.lcc.edu/showinfo or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LCCPerformingArts>

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

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 7, 2026. 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. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Thomas Weise, Single Man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Date of Mortgage: November 8, 2021 Date of Mortgage Recording: November 18, 2021 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: \$271,084.48 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Watertown, Clinton County, Michigan, and are described as: Beginning at the Northeast corner of Section 13, Town 5 North, Range 3 West, Watertown Township, Clinton County, Michigan, thence West along the North line of said Section 13, 414 feet, thence South 200 feet, thence West 132 feet, thence North 200 feet, thence East 132 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly Known as: 4083 W. Herbison Rd., Dewitt, MI 48820 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act 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 Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. 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 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: 12/07/2025 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 315911

(12-07)(12-28)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE CHARLES J. HIEMSTRA IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 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. Default has occurred in the conditions of a Mortgage ("Mortgage") made by Lloyd Williams, of 15095 Wood Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906, Mortgagor, to Astera Credit Union, a state chartered credit union, having its principal office at 111 S. Waverly Road, Lansing, Michigan 48917 ("Mortgage"), which Mortgage was dated July 8, 2019, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Clinton County, Michigan on July 15, 2019 at Instrument Number 5281200. This Mortgage is now held by Adventure Credit Union, successor by merger of Astera Credit Union. By reason of this default, the Mortgagee hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of said Mortgage due and payable immediately. As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due on this Mortgage the sum of Thirty-nine Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-two and 27/100 Dollars (\$39,832.27). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by this Mortgage or any part thereof. 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 above Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, Clinton County Courthouse, 100 E. State Street, St. Johns, Michigan 48879, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, the 7th day of January 2026. 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. The premises covered by this Mortgage are located in the Township of Dewitt, County of Clinton, State of Michigan and described as follows: Beginning 559 feet South of the Northwest corner of Section 26, Town 5 North, Range 2 West, Dewitt Township, Clinton County, Michigan; thence East 396 feet; thence South 176 feet; thence West 396 feet; thence North 176 feet to the point of beginning. Parcel ID No. 19-050-026-200-035-00 Property address: 15095 Wood Road, Lansing, Michigan 48906 Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale unless determined to be abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be as provided by MCL 600.3241a. If this property is sold at a foreclosure sale by advertisement, during the period of redemption, borrower/mortgagor will be responsible to the purchaser or to the mortgage holder for physical injury to the property beyond wear and tear resulting from the normal use of the property if the physical injury is caused by or at the direction of the borrower/mortgagor. Dated: November 18, 2025 Adventure Credit Union, successor by merger of Astera Credit Union MORTGAGEE THIS INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY: Charles J. Hiemstra (P-24332) Attorney for Mortgagee 125 Ottawa Ave., NW, Suite 310 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616) 235-3100

(11-23)(12-14)

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 7, 2026. 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 INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Abigail Brewer, a single person, whose address is 4148 North Williams Road, Saint Johns, Michigan 48879, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, being a mortgage dated September 23, 2024, and recorded on September 27, 2024 with Document Number 5348026, Clinton County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated November 10, 2025 and recorded on November 12, 2025 and given document number 5359273 in Clinton County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWELVE AND 67/100 DOLLARS (\$153,212.67). Said premises are situated in the Township of Greenbush, County of Clinton, State of Michigan, and are described as: PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 26, T8N, R2W, GREENBUSH TOWNSHIP, CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 26, 670.00 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 26; THENCE PROCEEDING NORTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 26, 200.00 FEET; THENCE EAST 330.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 200.00 FEET; THENCE WEST 330.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 4148 North Williams Road, Saint Johns, Michigan 48879 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a 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. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 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. Dated: November 23, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602. Telephone: (312) 541-9710 File No.: MI 25 6831

(11-23)(12-14)

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1538 EOW

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

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

CASE NO: 25-32720-DE Estate of **MARY J. HENGESBACH** Date of Birth: *1945 **TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:** The decedent **MARY J. HENGESBACH** Died on April 26, 2025 Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased will be forever barred unless presented to Daniel R. Hengesbach, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 100 E. State St., Ste. 4300, St. Johns, MI 48879 within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Daniel R. Hengesbach 7470 S. Jones Rd. Westphalia, MI 48894 (517) 294-8698 Leo F. Madarang P-77360 230 Kent St. Portland, MI 48875 (517) 647-7873

(12-07)

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Ovid Christmas Basket Donations

submitted by Holly Hibbard
The Ovid Christmas Basket Committee is filled with gratitude for the incredible generosity that shines so brightly in our community each year. Because of your kindness, we were able to help more than 75 local families last Christmas with food, personal goods and the joy of a "Christmas Shop" filled with clothing, toys and household items like blankets and sheets.



Michigan State Police Encourage Residents to Prepare for Winter

submitted by Clayton Cummins
LANSING - As winter approaches The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) urges Michiganders to take steps now to prepare for winter emergencies to stay safe in the months ahead.

"The winter season is unpredictable," said Capt. Kevin Sweeney, deputy state director of Emergency Management and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "We encourage everyone to prepare your home, vehicle, and family safety plan. Taking steps now gives you the best chance to stay safe when extreme cold, ice, and snow arrive. It's not a matter of if, but when."

Severe winter weather poses health and safety risks, from extreme cold and freezing pipes to potential propane shortages and power outages. To be ready for winter, MSP/EMHSD recommends these key steps:

Preparing Your Home for Winter:

Weatherproof your home by installing weather-stripping, caulking, and insulation to walls, doors, and windows.

Insulate water lines along exterior walls to reduce the risk of frozen pipes.

Lock in a propane rate now and have a backup heating plan, such as a generator, wood stove, or fireplace.

Have a professional inspect your gas or oil furnaces and replace the air filter.

Schedule a fireplace and chimney inspection; contact your local fire department for a referral or look for a local inspector online.

Install battery-operated carbon monoxide (CO) detectors near all sleeping areas. CO poisoning risks increase when furnaces are in use and during power outages, when people often use portable generators.

Clean gutters to prevent ice dams that can lead to interior damage, and clear storm drains to avoid basement flooding.

Keep an emergency kit in your home with water, non-perishable food, a first aid kit, extra batteries, a hand-crank or battery-powered radio, emergency lighting, flashlights, blankets, and warm clothing.

Preparing Your Vehicle for Winter:

Service your radiator system, replace windshield wipers, and use winter-grade wiper fluid.

Replace worn tires and check tire pressure regularly.

Have your brakes, brake fluid, oil, battery, heater, and exhaust inspected.

Store an emergency kit in your vehicle with items like batteries, a hand-crank or battery-powered radio, flashlight, scraper, jumper cables, mobile charger, shovel, blankets, first aid kit, non-perishable food, and bottled water in case you get stranded.

For more information on preparing for winter hazards, visit www.michigan.gov/miready or follow MSP/EMHSD on Facebook and X.

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Monetary donations can be dropped off to the Ovid Service Agency or mailed to the Ovid Lions Club, PO Box 493, Ovid MI 48866 (checks should be made out to the Ovid Lions Club with a note that the donation is for Ovid Christmas).

We also gratefully welcome donations of non-perishable food (vegetables, soups, breakfast items, pasta and sauce, etc.), personal care or household products. Items can be dropped off at:

Ovid Public Library, Ovid City Hall, Meridian Weekly.

All donations will be gathered on Saturday, December 13th for distribution on the 15th. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a pick-up, contact Holly Hibbard at 989-666-2215 or email allsmileshkh@aol.com.

Elsie United Methodist Church to Host Advent Bible Study

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE - Elsie United Methodist Church, 160 W. Main Street, will host an Advent Bible study series, Advent Lunch Table with Music and Scripture, on Thursdays, December 11, and 18, at 12:00 noon in the Elsie Fellowship Hall. Join Pastor JD Paik as we joyfully await the coming of Christ through scripture, hymns, and fellowship. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Join us for lunch, as well.



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