

MMPA Celebrates Ultrafiltered Milk Expansion in Ovid

submitted by Emily Kittendorf-King

OVID — The Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA) on January 22nd, hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony at its Ovid, Mich., processing facility, celebrating a major expansion to increase ultrafiltered milk processing capacity. The investment reflects MMPA's strategic focus on high-protein dairy ingredients and further solidifies the cooperative's commitment to innovation, sustainability, and long-term member value.

The project complements MMPA's existing ultrafiltered milk production in Constantine, Mich. Full operations at the expanded site are set to begin later next month.

"This investment reflects our member-owners' commitment to growing this cooperative and driving innovation in dairy," said Joe Diglio, President and CEO of MMPA. "With this expansion, we're reinforcing our dedication to producing high-quality dairy ingredients while meeting consumers' growing demand for high-protein dairy products."

Ultrafiltered milk is a value-added product created using membrane filtration technology that separates milk's components, resulting in a product that's naturally higher in protein and lower in sugar. This expansion allows MMPA to deliver more of what today's consumers are looking for: better nutrition, less sugar and more protein. Commonly used in high-protein yogurts and ready-to-drink protein shakes, ultrafiltered milk supports the needs of health-conscious, active lifestyles.

"These investments are more than infrastructure, they represent our cooperative's dedication to progress and build long-

term value for our member-owners," said Doug Chapin, MMPA Board Chairman. "As consumer demand for high-protein dairy continues to grow, this expansion ensures we're well positioned to meet that demand. It's a powerful example of what member investment in their cooperative and strategic planning can accomplish."

The grand opening follows MMPA's recent announcement of the acquisition of the Remus, Mich., facility from Leprino Foods, which will introduce cottage cheese production to the cooperative's product offerings. Both the Ovid and Remus projects were made possible in part by support from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). The Ovid facility's expansion also strengthens MMPA's long-standing presence in Clinton County and supports Michigan's robust dairy economy.

"We're proud to have MMPA as part of our Ovid community," said Mary Perrien, Mayor of Ovid. "Their investment here brings jobs, opportunity and renewed energy to our local economy. This achievement showcases the strength of our farming community and signals that the City of Ovid is open for agri-business. Thanks to the work of our Planning Commission, and MMPA's investment in our community, we envision a future rooted in agriculture and innovation."

By focusing on value-added product lines like ultrafiltered milk, MMPA is expanding its manufacturing footprint while continuing to deliver on its nearly 110-year legacy of member-focused leadership.



Attendees of the celebration cut the ribbon on MMPA's ultrafiltered milk expansion. Pictured (L-R) Front Row: Kristin Schleman, Michigan Economic Development Corporation; Devon Pingel, Lansing Economic Area Partnership; Brad Parks, MMPA Chief Operating Officer; Joe Diglio, MMPA President & CEO; Doug Chapin, MMPA Board Chairman; Mary Perrien, Ovid Mayor; Amy Martin, MMPA Board Member; and Emma Bostwick, Lansing Economic Area Partnership. Back Row: Kevin Kuhl, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; Eric Starn, City of Ovid; Corby Werth, MMPA Board Member; Bruce Benthem, MMPA Board Member; Kris Wardin, MMPA Board Member; Brian DeMann, MMPA Board Member; and Tim Fair, Clinton County Catalyst.

Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE - The regular meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, January 19, 2026 immediately following the annual organizational meeting.

January is designated as the statewide recognition of school board members. Brian Wertz, president of the Ovid Elsie Education Association, recognized and thanked Ovid-Elsie Board members for their continued support and commitment to the District. Wertz presented gifts to each board member. In addition, Mr. Mark Horak, superintendent, recognized and thanked each board member for their commitment to Ovid-Elsie Area Schools.

Mr. Horak gave his monthly report which included the following. First, after reviewing committees he will meet with Brook Wooley regarding the establishment of a policy committee, details will be available at a later date. He further reported that the OE Area Schools continue to have an A+ S & P rating. The staff holiday parties were well attended and gave staff members a time to get to know each other. The administrator mid-year reviews are in progress, as is the revised budget that will be presented in February. Finally, two upcoming board related events: Strategic Planning Retreat, March 21, 2026 the eight our event begins at 8 a and will be held in the Ovid-Elsie High School Student Lounge and there is a learning opportunity hosted by Michigan Association of School Board - Winter Institute, the virtual event is slated for February 6 & 7.

Old business officials addressed the NEOLA policies as recommended after the second reading. Officials took action to rescind 2210, 2266, 2412, 4162, 5120, 5460, 5517.01, 7540.02 and 7542 and adopting 8300 and 8305.

Additional NEOLA policies addressed non-discrimination. It was recommended that non-discrimination policies be combined, replacing separate policies for certified staff, support staff and students. Noting that NEOLA is combining the policies. Officials approved the following: rescinding policies 1422.02, 1662, 3122.02, 3362, 4122.02, and 4362, replacement policies 1422, 3122, 4122.

In other actions officials approved the overnight student trip requested by Logan Kellogg, Art Teacher and Snow Sculpting advisor. The overnight trip is to participate in the annual Zehnder's Snowfest Snow Sculpting Contest scheduled for January 30 and 31, 2026.

Dan Davenport, Director of Technology and Information Services, presented information and contracts for numerous technology based services. First, three E-Rate bids for approval. The total contract value for all projects is \$76,579.59. After applying the E-Rate discounts the total cost to Ovid-Elsie Area Schools will be \$15,315.92. Davenport noted that there are no performance bonds or extra fees associated with these recommendations. The approved contracts: Vector Tech Group \$57,724.03 for internal structured cabling; MOSS Telecom \$5,306.61 for net-

continue on page 3



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Soup & Sandwich Lunch February & March at Bannister

Please join us for our Soup & Sandwich lunches February 17th & March 17th from noon to 1:30PM at Bannister UMC, 103 E. Hanvey St, Bannister.

Mark your calendars! We will save you a seat! Free will offering.

If schools are closed due to the weather, lunch is also cancelled.

SCIOTA TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

SCIOTA TOWNSHIP NEEDS YOU! We are looking for a few good women or men who would be interested in serving their Township. The Sciota Planning Commission and/or the Board of Review need interested residents to serve the Township in assisting citizens with their needs.

- The Planning Commission meets every 1st Monday of the month, only if there is action needed on land/property division and enhancement issues.
- The Board of Review attends a one-day training in February and meets three(3) times in March of each year. They again meet once in July and December, if action is needed as it concerns to the assessment and taxation of property.

Positions are available and we would like to have "alternates" designated as well. These are three (3) year terms and are separate groups from the Board. This is a great way to learn how local government works and get involved with your township.

Please come to the monthly Township board meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month (7 p.m.) - all Township residents are welcomed! If you are interested or if you have further questions, please contact: Traci Buxton (517.881.0279) or Diane Baclawski (517.651.2665)

Elsie Library Adventures

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

"Hello" from the Elsie Public Library. I wonder that we can hold the paper and read it with all the shivering. Winter seems determined to make an impression! Winter is my favorite reading weather. I hope it is the books more than the hot cocoa.

If the school is open on Monday, January 26, we will have Music and Motion with the children at 12 pm. If the school has closed, then the Elsie Public Library will be closed as well. Make sure you take enough books and movies in case there is a closing. And cocoa, make sure you have enough cocoa.

Mondays at noon, the children's activity alternates Story time and Craft with Music and Motion. You can check our Elsie Public Library Facebook page.

We have decided to make a change in our Adult craft time on the third Thursday of each month. We will begin at 1 pm instead of 5 pm. This will give you extra time to finish, and still get home for supper. We still want you to show us the project you are currently making.

January 31st at 12:30pm there will be a Reflexology Class offered for free by our very own patron, Claire DeVries. This will be a lot of information and worth every minute. Come learn how flexing different nerve points on the feet can help balance other parts of the body. Reflexology can help the homeostasis (balance) of the body, relieve tension, improve circulation, increase the flow of oxygen and more. AFTER the class you may sign up for a free 30 minute reflexology session...(limited spots available).

Date-With-A-Book will be here shortly. A fun way to read! The books are hidden under their Valentine covers...Surprise! You just never know what you are going to get...we do give clues! Come check it out.

Remember to check our Facebook page for any closures or updates to our programs. STAY WARM!!

Elsie United Methodist Church Warming Center

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE — With wind chill temperatures dropping and additional snowfall expected, concerns are growing for the safety and well-being of local residents. The Elsie United Methodist Church, located at 160 W. Main Street, Elsie, Michigan, has been designated as the community's official warming center.

The church's Fellowship Hall is open to anyone needing a place to warm up. Community members who enjoy walking are invited to come indoors and use the space for light exercise, while the sanctuary is available for those seeking a few quiet, reflective moments. Guests are encouraged to use the Church Street entrance for convenience and safety.

"All are welcome," church representatives emphasized.

Regular Sunday worship services are held at 9:30 a.m., led by Pastor JD Paik, followed by a time of fellowship.

St. Cyril Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

submitted by Terry Ornelas

The St. Cyril Knights of Columbus, Bannister will be hosting a pancake breakfast. The proceeds from this event will benefit the Elsie Area Pantry. The freewill offering breakfast will consist of pancakes, sausages, hashbrowns, fruit, rolls, and beverages.

The event will be held at the St. Cyril Parish Hall on Sunday, January 25th, from 11am until 1pm. All are invited to enjoy a delicious breakfast and help those in need.

Mark Your Calendar for Fundraiser Valentines Dance

On February 14th the American Legion Post 502 will be beholding a Valentine's Day Dance to raise money for a new roof on their building.

Silent auction from 6:30-9pm. Timeless band will be playing from 8-11pm.

Dessert bar and water provided. BYOB

Tickets are \$15 each or 2/\$25.

Door prize winner will be drawn at the end of the night, no need to be present. 50/50 raffle.

If you are interested in donating, sponsoring, or ticket information contact: Mark & Jen Thorton (989) 307-2010/(989) 292-2726. Steve & Barb Sutliff (989) 492-6553/(989) 492-6552.

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Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

COMMUNITY

Input Session

Help Shape the Future of Our Schools

Friday, January 30
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
High School
Student Lounge

- District Strengths
- Opportunities for Improvement
- Challenges and barriers
- Share Input

Open to all Residents!

Thank you for supporting Ovid-Elsie Area Schools and helping us plan for a strong future!

Unable to attend?
Take the Community Survey
Scan the QR Code to Participate
Survey Link: <https://masb.jotform.com/team/ides/ovidelsiesp26>
Closes: January 31, 2026



Pictured (l-r): Lions members from District 11-C2: Lion Rick Jones, Lion Douglas Sturgis, Lion Glenn Tucker, Lion Greg Snider, Lion Richard Easlick, PDG Lion Ted Hamilton, Lion Terry Broom, Lions Mr & Mrs from Maple Valley, Lion Paul Pung, Lion Ted Densmore, Lion Dr. Robert Peterson, PDG Lion Brent Beracy, Lion Les Loynes, guest speaker Everett Smith, Lion Don Gilbert, PDG Lion Lloyd Kilbreath, Lion Blaine Lafler, PDG Lion Becky Hamilton, Lion John Shipley and Lion Arden Densmore.

32nd Wild Game Dinner a Success

submitted by Richard Easlick

On January 12th the Elsie Lions Club held its 32nd Wild Game Dinner, we had 55 people in attendance. We had a great evening, great Wild Game Dishes and a great speaker, Everett Smith. The prize winners were Mitchell Dumond for the Mossberg Patriot 350 gun and Kyle Densmore winning the Vexilar FL-SE Gene Pack 19 Fish Finder.

The Elsie Lion Club would like to thank all the people who bought Tickets and supported our Club.

Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education Holds Organizations Meeting

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE - The Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education held the annual organizational meeting Monday, January 19, 2026 with little change.

Board officers are: Brooke Wooley, president; Susan Kadelk, vice-president; Becky Williams, secretary; and Mary Thompson, treasurer. At this point there is one committee, finance committee the members approved - Josh Miller, Mary Thompson, and David Huff. It was noted that additional committees will be considered by Mr. Mark Horak, superintendent.

Action was taken to approve the school fund depositories - Huntington Bank, Fifth Third Bank, and Michigan Investment Liquid Asset Fund. On a related topic the board treasurer or president are authorized to sign checks; the superintendent is authorized to sign contracts and/or agreements; and the superintendent or business manager are authorized to approve purchase orders.

Action was taken to set the day, place and time for regular meetings - the schedule is for the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm, in the high school student lounge located at 8989 Colony Road, Elsie Michigan. It was noted that due to school open houses at the beginning of the school year, the board meeting will be Wednesday, August 19, 2026.

Next, officials approved the board designee to assume the responsibilities of treasurer. The superintendent or his designee is authorized to advertise for bids as required under Section 1267 of the Revised School Code. In addition, the superintendent and business manager are authorized on the signature cards for the officially designed banks for the purpose of making deposits, withdrawals, wire transfers and/or internal transfers of school funds held in school district accounts.

The responsibilities of the secretary will be authorized by the board approved designee. Actions include: the administrative assistant to the superintendent will post all meeting notices, will act as the recording secretary for the Board of Education and will also serve as the liaison to the Clinton county Clerk in carrying out election duties.

Other actions included: authorizing the business manager to serve as the electronic Officer in accordance with Policy 6144; approval of the districts credit/debit card authorization, policy 6423; Thrun Law Firm will continue to handle legal matters for the 2026 calendar year; and Yeo & Yeo will continue to be the district's financial auditors.

OE Schools...cont' from front

work electronics; and AmComm Incorporated \$43,170.10 for self-provisional fiber.

Horak outlined and officials approved the superintendent's two goals. Goal number one staff relations and second facilities management and capital planning, another area that the district needs to consider long term planning. Mrs. Becky Williams would like to see a goal that addresses security breaches that have been seen over the last few years. Discussion followed regarding the metrics. The third goal was added which addresses security breaches and training for staff.

Horak, presented a recommendation for the student performance formula as a portion of the superintendent evaluation.

Public comment included a request by Mr. Charlie Green to re-establish the Go Positive Group, once a month for one hour. Green would need a staff member to sponsor and assist with the group. In addition, he hopes to have a public Dale Carnegie in the Fall of 2026 and possibly bring the class back to the middle school.

Brook Wooley, board president, read a public statement regarding the concerns that Doug Long presented at the December meeting. It was a follow up to Long's questions. First, Doug Long was thanked for his four-decades of service to the district. The district did receive four applicants and all were interviewed. The new structure includes one head coach who oversees both the boys and girls track team, and is paid at a slightly higher rate due to the increased scope of the position. Wooley state, "We do recognize that a transition of this nature can be difficult. The board's focus remains on ensuring that established processes are followed and that decisions are made thoughtfully and consistently across district programs."

Mrs. Williams, thanked Brook Wooley for her leadership and professional development focus. She reminded board members that a request for a fob audit was requested last year and the results had not been presented to the board. Also, in the future perhaps officials could review policies during meetings to educate members. Wooly thought it was a good idea and suggested that once the policy committee is established that they address the request.

City of Ovid Draft- Synopsis Regular Meeting January 12, 2026

Open Regular Meeting:

Mayor M. Perrien called the Regular Meeting 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. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn.

Absent: None

Guests:

There were 7 people in attendance.

Agenda:

Motioned by Council Member E. Starn and supported by Council Member M. Soliz to approve the agenda with the addition of item F. Chocolate Walk. Carried on a voice vote.

Minutes:

Motioned by Council Member L. Perrien and supported by Council Member M. Olger to approve the minutes from December 8, 2025 Public and Regular Meeting and closed session minutes with spell corrections to the Public and Regular minutes. Carried on a voice vote.

Invoice/Check Register:

Motioned by Council Member E. Starn and supported by Council Member M. Jones to approve the invoice/check register from December 10th, 2025 through January 13th, 2026 for a total of \$137,209.85. Carried on a voice vote.

Open Public Comment: Opened 7:06 pm Closed: 7:06 pm - none

Report Motion:

Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by Council Member M. Jones to accept receipt of the reports from Treasurer, Attorney, Police and DPW. Carried on a voice vote.

New Business:

a. Rules and Procedures: Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by Council Member M. Olger to approve the changes to the Rules and Procedures policy as presented. Carried on voice vote.

b. Assessor Contract: Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by Council Member L. Perrien to accept the contract with Jason Kohagen for the city's assessing from January 5th, 2026 to May 31st, 2026 and authorize Mayor Perrien and Clerk Tomasek Swan to sign the contract. Carried on voice vote.

c. Bulk water sales, Resolution 2026-01: Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by Council Member M. Olger to adopt Resolution 2026-01 Set Bulk Water Rates.

Roll Call Vote:

Upon roll call vote the following voted YES: M. Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn

Upon roll call vote the following voted NO: none

Absent: none

d. Emergency Lift Station Repair: Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by Council Member M. Soliz to authorize the payment for the emergency repair on the lift station at the high school. Carried on voice vote.

e. Backflow preventer with relief valve: Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by Council Member L. Perrien to authorize the purchase of backflow preventer from Hose Rack at the cost of \$1319.00. Carried on voice vote.

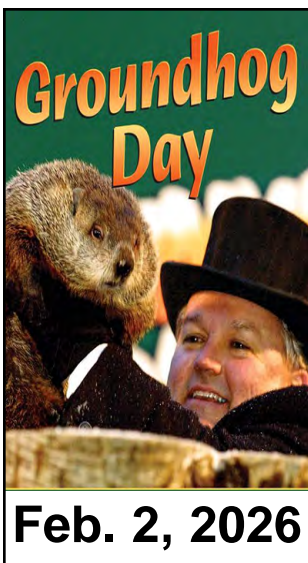
f. Chocolate Walk: Motioned by Council Member E. Brown and supported by M. Soliz to approve the Chocolate Walk event on February 13th from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Carried on voice vote.

Adjournment-

Motioned by Council Member L. Perrien and supported by Council Member M. Soliz to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm. Carried on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by
Susan Tomasek Swan
Clerk

This document is a summary of the meeting. The full version of the minutes may be viewed at City Hall, 114 E. Front Street, or on the City's website at www.ovidmi.org



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STARTS AT 11AM AT ABOVE ADDRESS ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2026.
BIDS WILL BE READ AT 1 PM AND WINNERS WILL BE CONTACTED
PAYMENTS ACCEPTED: CASH, OFFICIAL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
WINNERS HAVE 24HR TO REMOVE VEHICLES. VEHICLES MUST BE TOWED OUT.
WINNERS WILL NEED TO PICK UP PAPERWORK FROM CORRESPONDING POLICE DEPARTMENTS: CLINTON COUNTY OR GRATIOT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT.

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2008 HONDA ACCORD LX	1HGCP26419A193735
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 Sunday, February 15, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

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From Grandma & All Her Family

Obituaries

Joan Gertrude Halteman (Jelinek)



On January 13, 2026, Joan Gertrude Halteman (Jelinek) passed away peacefully with her family by her side in the city that became her home away from home, Bradenton, Florida.

Joan grew up in Bannister, Michigan, where she also spent the majority of her 80 years. She married the love of her life, John Halteman, on February 22, 1964, after meeting the year prior. They remained faithfully by each other's side for 62 years, building a life rooted in love, banter and family.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, Sylvia and John Jelinek; her brother, Jim Jelinek; and her beloved son-in-law, Todd Rogers.

She is survived by her siblings, Judy Minarik and John (Joy) Jelinek; her daughters, Deborah Rogers, Karen Skaryd, and Cindy Smith; her grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Trevor (Kelly) and Hudson Rogers; Shaylyn (Sawyer), Wesley, and Hadley Coleman; Marissa (Justin) Watkins; and Breanna (Dakota) and Denver Olvin.

Joan was a woman of many hobbies. If she wasn't helping her husband John on the farm, she could be found spending time with her "cronies" in the Sunshine Club, visiting with her sister Judy, relaxing at the family cabin, playing cards or bingo, or—most importantly—spending time with and spoiling her children, grandchildren, and especially her great-grandchildren.

She was well known for her incredible Czech kolaches. Though she tried to teach some of the grandchildren how to make them, none could ever quite master them. Joan also lovingly created countless hand-crocheted gifts—baby outfits, booties, blankets, and hats—each one made with care and packed full of love.

Joan was the kindest woman. Anyone who met her called her a friend or knew her as Grandma Joan, whether related or not. She wore her many titles—Mom, Momma, Grams, and Gigi—with great pride. She had a rare gift for making others feel seen, valued, and deeply loved. Her kindness, strength, and unwavering compassion touched everyone she met, and her presence left an imprint that will live on in the hearts of those who were blessed to know her.

The family will hold a Celebration of Life with an open invitation on June 20, 2026, at the ZCBJ Hall, located at 401 E. Main Street, Bannister, MI 48807. Additional details will be shared soon.

Editorial

"God Exists"

"Surely your God is a god of Gods...a revealer of mysteries (Daniel 2:47)."

Ernest Hemingway won a \$10 bet that he couldn't write a story with six words... so he wrote two words, three times: "For sale. Baby shoes. Never worn." Sad, but powerful. Ten bucks won't change your life, but the right two words just might. Consider "Look out!" or "You won!" or "I do." But could "God Exists" be the most powerful two of all?

"God Exists" can not only change your life, but your whole destiny. Around 603 BC, Babylon's King Nebuchadnezzar had a scary dream that he needed interpreted. He doubted his wise men were true diviners, so he decided that in order for them to live they had to not only interpret it, but tell him his nightmare! They knew they were dead men.

This impossible task also meant death for Daniel, a captive Israelite WIT (Wise-man In Training). Despite seeing the destruction of Israel and Jerusalem's Temple, this nobody hostage saved the magicians' lives when he chose to seek God (Daniel 2:14-49). The king found out God exists, and the magicians never forgot it. Daniel became their hero.

"Daniel answered before the king and said, 'As for this mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians, nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries....'" Daniel gave God the credit. Two words, three times. "God Exists. Reveals Mysteries. Magicians Saved."

As a Babylonian rock star, the magicians revered Daniel and his God. Flash forward 600 years and Daniel's disciples, our "three Magi" (Magi is short for magicians), followed the Christmas Star to Daniel's land (Matthew 2:1-2) to find the God-Man that Daniel said would arrive – the Anointed One of Israel (Daniel 9:25, Numbers 24:17, Psalm 2:2).

In chapter 9, Daniel said that God would be born, die, end sin, and live again to make an eternal kingdom. This Anointed One (Messiah or Christ) would be called the Son of Man, merging the impossible dream...God and flesh, Immanuel or "God with us" (Isaiah 7:14, 9:6). As expert astronomers, the Star told the Magi that Daniel's God had arrived!

This is why the Magi came to Jerusalem, but Herod was clueless when they asked him where He was. Herod's advisors knew the Scriptures said the Anointed One would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Daniel's invisible God, the Revealer of Mysteries, was now visible Himself, the mystery of all mysteries was in Israel...God was a baby king!

"And without faith, it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God, must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6)." If "He is," truly alive and real, and "a rewarder," why not seek Him if He's promised to be found (Jeremiah 29:11-13)? "God Exists. In Flesh. Jesus Christ!" Wow!

I'll take Hemingway's challenge and sum up the Bible in six words. "God Exists. Merry Christmas! He's Risen!" Your life change starts with those two words – God Exists. The Bible says He wants you to come home, and to know your Father (Isaiah 55, Luke 15:11-32). Why? Because God not only exists...He's dying to love you (Romans 5:8).

Jesus told Philip "He who has seen Me, has seen the Father (John 14:9)." After the Incarnation (John 1:1-4), perhaps the biggest mystery is why most don't seek Him (Jeremiah 29:13). The Magi believed Daniel and came 1,000 miles in four months to see the newborn God-King. So why not seek Him now? Wise men did once, and still do.



Faith Focus

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Watch Sunday Service on YouTube at elsiebaptist
 Pastor Phillip Rogers

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

United Church of Ovid
 Office Hours: 9-1 Mon - Tue - Wed
 9-Noon Thur • Closed Fri

Sundays am: 11:00 - Worship
 Youth Group Sundays 6:00-7:30pm
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Worship Service: 10:30am
 Pastor:
 Kendra Holcomb - Densmore

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 Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns
 Pastor: John Jakus
 Sunday School: 9:00am
 Worship Service 10:00am
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 Wed. 4:00pm
 1st Saturday Mass 9am
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 Bannister
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 Father Andrzej

Middlebury United Methodist Church
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 Minister:
 Pastor Kendra Holcomb-Densmore
 Worship Service 9:00 a.m.



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

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



Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

It has been two rather cold and hectic weeks... I haven't accomplished much or at least I don't feel as if I have. That being said, I am happy with Deb who has cleaned my house once and is scheduled to be here again on Saturday. I have failed at keeping it decluttered but since I have today off I plan on doing some more sorting and pitching. This reorganizing my home is rather interesting. In doing so I have found a couple more good books to read and curling up in the recliner with Prudence on my lap with a quilt over us has become a rather standard procedure. And it is a great way to spend time and stay out of this nasty weather. So far I have been able to handle going to and from the shop in this bitterness though the wind does have a way of coloring my view. I am glad that I have finally found a good scarf to wind around my neck to keep out the chill. And I'm back to wearing a colorful stocking cap that mashes my hair down to my skull so that I end up with my hair floating all over with static electricity when I remove it.

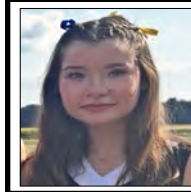
I did get over to Laingsburg this past week and had a refreshing visit with Therese and Jerry. While there I picked up the last two afghans that Therese had made for me and I'm tickled pink with them, even though there is no pink involved in their design. I now have as 'coat of many color' afghan trimmed in black, the stripes of color are very bright and appealing to me. My Christmas afghan is a combo of red, green and white stripes and will keep me cozy during the yuletide season and adds that splash of comforting colors. I knew that I would be getting them but I still managed to come home with a full trunk of stuff. Therese is also downsizing and figures that I have a way of distributing contents of the extra stuff. Some will be used for crafting with my great granddaughter Isabella, though I'm a bit mystified with the bread slicer... First I will try it out at the shop because we do slice our bread before it goes into the freezer, it just might keep every slice uniform.

During these last couple of weeks I have managed to put a hard strain on my right pectoral muscle... I believe that my doctor was pleased that it should be a minor inconvenience to me. It is that plus a rather uncomfortable situation. He assured me that it shouldn't last more than four or five weeks... Providing that I didn't keep lifting and twisting while in the process. I really thought that I could manage that, but I didn't. In the first place I tried not to twist my upper body while sorting out the totes and taking them up and down the stairs. I was fairly successful until it came to picking up a forty-four pound bag of cat food from the bottom shelf at Walmart yesterday. It was a bit of a wrestling match getting the bag up onto the cart and through the check out. I got it into the trunk of my car and there it spent the night because of the slushy mess in the parking lot I slipped and twisted and aggravated the muscle again. Such is life.

This week folks have been very kind to us at the shop. Non village employees have scrapped the snow from the parking spots in front of MG's Perx and Pastries. One told me to stop sweeping the sidewalk yesterday morning and quickly shoveled it for us. And Margie was out and about, and she picked up eggs and butter for us and delivered them to our front door. Dang it, one other individual also blessed us and I can't remember how... We truly appreciate all the help that we have been given. The kindness and support given us is amazing. I just remembered that Alex also cleaned off our sidewalk twice on Wednesday when others in the across the state were experiencing the white outs.

As you can see it has been a busy time but also a time to count our blessings. I have to remind myself how fortunate I am. I can still do much and I enjoy talking with others and I am happy to have found Deb who makes my life simpler and my house spiffier. May God bless you daily.

Crystal Mitchell©2026



Planet Perspectives

by Alison Kozlowski

International Day of Clean Energy

The International Day of Clean Energy is January 26, 2026. This day was designated by the United Nations with the purpose of advocating for sustainable energy and reducing emissions. It also partners with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), as the date coincides with its founding anniversary. IRENA is an intergovernmental organization that promotes the global shift to renewable energy. It serves as a platform for international collaboration on the development of a sustainably-fueled future.

Clean energy is important because it provides sustainable alternatives to nonrenewable energy. Forms of clean energy are solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal energy. They are renewable and produce minimal to no greenhouse gases. On the other hand, non-renewable energy mainly consists of fossil fuels, like coal and oil. Burning these fossil fuels releases massive amounts of greenhouse gases, like carbon dioxide, into the atmosphere. These emissions trap heat in the atmosphere which raises Earth's temperature and sea level. This makes them a major contributor to pollution, climate change, and global warming. The fossil fuels themselves also harm the environment. Mining and drilling coal degrades land and destroys habitats. Oil spills poison wildlife through ingestion and smother animal's coats, extremely risking their safety.

The International Day of Clean Energy follows the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It specifically focuses on the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7, which aims to "ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030." To commemorate this internationally-recognized day, you can spread awareness on social media by using the hashtags "#InternationalDayofCleanEnergy" and "#CleanEnergyDay". You can also expand your knowledge on how to limit your use of non-renewable energy. You can educate others about the importance of clean energy. The use of clean energy over non-renewable energy is what will bring a sustainably-powered planet!

VICTOR TOWNSHIP Clinton County, Michigan

Proposed Minutes from January 13, 2026, Budget Workshop

The special meeting of the Victor Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Wiswasser at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge to the flag was given.

Roll call: Sayles, Wiswasser, Willoughby, Pesch, Prange.

No citizens present

Agenda: Motion by Wiswasser and seconded by Pesch to approve the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

Discussion regarding staff and personnel and adding evening hours one day a week and raising the hourly wage of the Office Administrator. Willoughby moved, seconded by Sayles, to add 2 hours per week to the Office Administrator's hours and to grant a 3% cost-of-living increase to the position. Members discussed the distinction between a cost-of-living adjustment and a general pay increase. Roll call vote: Members voting "yes": Pesch, Wiswasser, Willoughby, Sayles. Members voting "no": Prange. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby, seconded by Sayles, to review the Office Administrator's duties as submitted by the Clerk and to provide a constructive, written, rubric-based performance review focused on clarity of expectations, professional development, and ongoing feedback, with the review to be completed within six months. Roll call vote: Members voting "yes": Sayles, Willoughby, Pesch. Members voting "no": Prange, Wiswasser. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the stipend paid to the Clerk for individual elections. The Michigan Township Association (MTA) encourages townships to consider increasing the base salary of the office of Clerk to account for the expanded responsibilities related to increased voter registration activity, State mandates, and early voting requirements, rather than compensating by stipend. Motion by Wiswasser, seconded by Pesch, to set the Clerk's salary at \$29,500.00 and eliminate the election stipend. Roll call vote: Members voting "yes": Willoughby, Wiswasser, Pesch, Sayles, Prange. Motion carried.

The board continued to review the proposed Supervisor's budget figures and made changes and additions to what was presented. Motion by Pesch, seconded by Wiswasser to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lianne Prange
Victor Township Clerk

Rep. BeGole Hears Testimony on Growing Raw Milk Demand, Potential Distribution in Michigan

submitted by Denny Schwarze

House Government Operations Committee Chair Brian BeGole this week led discussion on an issue affecting Michigan consumers and its vital agriculture industry.

Nearly 30 states permit the sale of raw milk in some capacity. In some countries, it can even be bought out of a vending machine. But regulation in Michigan requires all milk that's sold to be pasteurized. This can ultimately impact those who operate small family farms and curtail consumers.

With demand increasing – evident by weekly sales of raw milk increasing by over 20 percent in 2024 compared to the previous year according to some estimates – a series of bills before BeGole's committee would allow for the sale of raw milk by dairy farmers directly to consumers. The plans include various safeguards that any sold milk comply to standards for packaging, temperature, and more.

"Legally, a parent could take their kids to get fast food with foods that are highly processed and have dyes three times per day, but a farmer who wants to sell natural product in the form of milk from a cow to a willing consumer can't do that under our laws," BeGole said. Ashley Armstrong, who owns a farm in southwest Michigan, noted to the committee that people can currently consume raw fish or cookie dough without layers of bureaucracy, and that consumers should have similar freedom when it comes to choosing milk products.

"In those cases, the government doesn't ban access. It provides information and allows adults to decide for themselves," Armstrong said. "Raw milk has somehow become political. At its core this issue is bipartisan, because it supports small farmers rather than large industrial food corporations while also respecting consumer freedom of choice. Why shouldn't adults be allowed to purchase farm-fresh foods they believe are healthier for them, while fully understanding and accepting the risks?" Armstrong noted that farm-fresh foods, including raw milk, provide benefits for many people with digestion and food intolerance issues.

Victor Township Clinton County, Michigan Proposed Minutes from January 19, 2026, Budget Workshop

The special meeting of the Victor Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Wiswasser at 6:01p.m.

Pledge to the flag was given.

Roll call: Wiswasser, Prange, Pesch, Willoughby, Sayles.

No citizens present

Agenda: Motion by Pesch and seconded by Sayles, to approve the January 19, 2026, agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Stilson Cemetery Tree Maintenance Bids. Motion by Willoughby and seconded by Prange, to approve the bid of J J Tree Service in the amount of \$9,450.00 for the removal of 8 trees in Stilson Cemetery. Roll call: Members voting yes: Sayles, Willoughby, Prange, Pesch, Wiswasser. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

2026-2027 Budget: Discussion regarding figures for the 2026-2027 budget. Motion by Prange and seconded by Sayles, to increase the contribution to Tri-County Office Agency on Aging (Meals on Wheels) from \$500.00 to \$750.00. Roll call: Members voting yes: Prange, Pesch, Sayles. Members voting no: Wiswasser, Willoughby. Motion carried.

Motion by Willoughby and seconded by Pesch to increase the Planning Commission meetings compensation from \$45.00 per meeting to \$65.00 per meeting. Roll call: Members voting yes: Prange, Sayles, Willoughby, Wiswasser, Pesch. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Sayles and seconded by Pesch, to set aside \$10,000.00 for the 2026-2030 Township Master Plan review and implementation. Roll call: Members voting yes: Sayles, Prange, Pesch, Wiswasser, Willoughby. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

Willoughby moved seconded by Pesch to increase the contribution to the Laingsburg Public Library from \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00. Roll call: Members voting yes: Pesch, Sayles, Willoughby, Wiswasser. Members voting no: Prange. Motion carried.

The board continued to review the proposed Supervisor's budget figures and made changes and additions to what was presented. Motion by Wiswasser seconded by Willoughby to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lianne Prange
Victor Township Clerk

Laingsburg Lions, Legion, Community Youth Team up for Another Record Dinner

LAINGSBURG -- On yet another cold January night, the Laingsburg Lions Club, American Legion and community youth groups teamed up to host another record-breaking free Spaghetti Dinner.

With the help of the Laingsburg Robotics Club and Laingsburg Youth Baseball, records were broken at the annual community event with 209 meals served -- all at no charge.

The next dinner, hosted by the Laingsburg Lions in conjunction with the American Legion Post 248, will be held on Tuesday, February 17 from 5 p. m. to 7 p.m.

The menu includes spaghetti with or without meatballs, garlic bread, a beverage and dessert. There is no cost, but donations are gratefully accepted.

These are zero-waste events, with the assistance of the Greater Laingsburg Recyclers.

To-go orders will be available; sorry no deliveries. Bring a friend, bring a neighbor and enjoy a great evening of community fellowship; the community truly coming together for the betterment of all. Everyone is welcome!

The Legion Hall is located at 1240 W. Grand River Ave., Laingsburg.




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New Exhibit Opens at the Shiawassee Arts Center in Owosso

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Center welcomes 2026 with an exciting new exhibit featuring artwork by Shelley Stevens of Mt Pleasant, Martine MacDonald of Allen Park, Melinda Pope of Lansing, Bobbie Margolis of Okemos, Anita Brett of East Lansing and members of the Shiawassee Artists' Guild. The exhibit, which runs January 23 through February 28, is sponsored by Harlow & Cherie Murray. The public is welcome to the reception to meet the artists, and enjoy refreshments with live music by Pooh Stevenson on Sunday, January 25, 1-3pm.

RIVER GALLERY:

Shelley Stevens & Martine MacDonald "The Winged Spirit"

Stevens is a dedicated and award-winning studio artist most known for her large-scale figurative paintings and small encaustic pieces. She states that, "Viewers will see a merging of both the human figure and indications of winged spirits suggesting our flight through life and the perches rested upon."

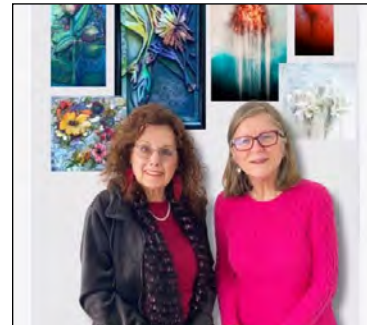
Stevens has a BFA and MFA from Kendall College of Art & Design and taught advanced painting and drawing at Central Michigan University while maintaining a primary studio in Michigan.

She is also Director/Co-founder of Golden Apple Art Residency in Maine, a summer residency program that accommodates multiple artists/writers/musicians.

MacDonald is inspired by the stories found in old photos and vintage garments. She is drawn to the symbolism of birds, phrasing of ancient languages, memories of childhood, and the complexities of maternal connections, as well as the mysteries and hidden truths in myths. MacDonald works in a variety of media including oil painting, drawing, and mixed media. Her paintings and sculptures have received recognition including the Scarab Club Gold Medal Award and being selected in the prestigious Bennett Collection. A graduate of Wayne State University, MacDonald serves as adjunct faculty in arts and humanities at Wayne County Community College and currently maintains a studio practice in Dearborn.

MOORE GALLERY

The Shiawassee Artists' Guild, consisting of nearly two dozen mid-Michigan artists, meet on a regular basis to support each other's work and artistic endeavors. Exhibiting members include Chuck Bidelman, Bonnie Brown, Dan Chrenka, Walter Cronk, Lori Anne Dickerman, Tonya Henderson, Jann Johnson Lardie, Regina Moskal, Julie Penfold, Jennifer Ross, Linda Ruehle, Maureen Ryan, Linda Van Cise, Barbara Walworth and Renee Webster. Their work includes painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, pottery and collage.



Bobbie Margolis & Melinda Pope

HEBERT GALLERY

After practicing photography for 30 years, Melinda Pope became interested in finding new ways to photograph common subjects. This is especially the case with flowers, which have for many years been a favorite subject of hers. Also, submerged botanical photography is appealing for the ethereal and painterly images that are created and the surprises that occur during the process. The combination of organic and inorganic materials produces a photographic print that can sometimes look abstract but also look organic and can challenge both the viewer and the photographer.

As an art teacher, Bobbie Margolis wanted to keep her students interested in creative endeavors as they learned the elements of design and composition. Often, they would tell her that they couldn't draw or paint. Wanting them to be successful she set out to make her teaching much broader than drawing and painting and included many donated mixed media supplies. So mixed media became natural for Margolis and she continues to make art from, what she calls, "junk". The structure in her current 3-D mixed media work is created from cardboard.

DOCENT GALLERY

Anita Brett works in oil, watercolor and mixed media and says she is always willing to learn and try new subject matter and mediums. The making of her current body of work comes from observing and admiring light and shadows and its interplay on people in the world. She is drawn to scenes in which people interact with nature and each other. Brett continues to participate in a number of selected art fairs as well as being represented by a number of galleries across Michigan and Indiana.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, celebrating its 54th anniversary in 2026, is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso and is open to the public, free of charge, Mon-Wed, Fri 10-5, Thurs 10-6 and Sat noon-3pm. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieske Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. SAC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to present quality arts and cultural activities that educate, entertain and enrich the quality of life in our community. For more information 989.723.8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.



Shelley Stevens & Martine MacDonald



Anita Brett

Sports



Lady Marauders, Male Marauders Produce Another Great Week for Ovid-Elsie Wrestling

OVID-ELSIE --Another great week for Ovid-Elsie Wrestling was completed last weekend, with outstanding performances from three champions across the boys and girls programs.

O-E placers at the Ithaca Boys Wrestling Invitational were Will Baese, 1st place at 120 lbs.; Conor McClung, 4th place at 190; Jeremiah Stewart, 4th place at 175; and Levi Stewart, 6th place at 138.

At the Owosso Girls Wrestling Invitational, Ava Juhas (115 lbs.) and Haley McClung (135) each brought home individual championships.

"Overall, it was a great week of wrestling," explained the Marauder coaching staff. "We're looking forward to Senior Night this Wednesday at home, followed by the girls' home tournament on Friday and the boys' home tournament on Saturday."

See next week's Weekly for Senior Night and tournament results.



OEMS Cheer Team for 2025-26: (front left to right) Vanessa Howard, Kynleigh Brasseur, Isabelle Ignash, Lucy Stewart, Arwen Faziani, Kayleigh Polash; (back row left to right) Lilly Scherer, Baylie Powell, Ryan Fields, Lauren Fabus, Macy Jones, Maddi Irland, Leighton Latz, Bella Stewart and coach Michelle Fabus. Missing from the photo is Leighton Masarik.

Championship Honors at Birch Run for O-E Middle School Cheer Team

BIRCH RUN -- Ovid Elsie's Middle School Competitive Cheer team took first place at the Birch Run Cheer competition on Wednesday, January 14th.

There were four other teams competing. The Marauders grabbed championship honors followed (in order) by the host Panthers, Chesaning, Montrose and Perry.

OE Keglers

submitted by Matt Fabus

The Varsity teams from OE would go head to head against Durand.

The girls came out on top 22-8. High scores: Abby Orweller 166,126; Tori Dennis 153,



Brooke Pugsley



Byron Odenbaugh

129; Haylee Arnett 128, 131; Brooke Pugsley 230, 185. The boys fell short 8-22. High scores: Byron Odenbaugh 163, 149; Collin Jullie 165, 144; Devyn Pugsley 167, 142.

Next up at Richfield Saturday, January 24th, 2pm against Montrose. Sunday, January 25th at Grand Blanc Lanes for a singles tournament.



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Sports

Marauder Girls Make it Two in a Row, Move to 5-1 in MMAC with 18-point Win

OVID-ELSIE -- The Marauder girls varsity basketball team won for the second-straight time in convincing fashion, rolling to an 18-point victory over Otisville-LakeVille on O-E's home floor.

The 49-31 Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) triumph lifted Shaun McKinney's Marauders to 5-1 in conference play, coming on the heels of a 70-38 blowout win over Birch Run. LakeVille fell to 3-3 in league play, 5-4 overall.

Alyson Moore led O-E with 13 points. Kendal Tokar pitched in with 8 points and 8 assists, while Danica Levey contributed 8 points to the Ovid-Elsie victory.



Alyson Moore #15 scored 13 points for OE against Otisville-LakeVille
Photo by Burg Sports

Ovid-Elsie mauls Byron, 60-13, to stay hot on the heels of MMAC-leading Hornets

BYRON -- Byron's fair-to-middling girls basketball season took a hit with a brutal back-to-back stretch vs. MMAC frontrunners New Lothrop and Ovid-Elsie last week.

New Lothrop stayed unbeaten at 6-0 in the conference, 8-0 overall with a 63-9 mauling of Byron on January 16. O-E followed that up a game later with a 60-13 blowout of the Eagles, who fell to 2-5 in league play with their third-straight MMAC loss. Overall, they stumbled to 4-7.

Shaun McKinney's Marauders stayed hot on the heels of New Lothrop at 6-1 in the conference, 8-2 overall.

Alyson Moore poured in four three-point shots and led the Lady Marauders with 16 points in their latest triumph. Kendal Tokar contributed 12 points and 7 assists, with Dannika Campbell adding 10 points and 7 rebounds.



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Marauders Get Back to Basics, Run Past Otisville-LakeVille, 69-50

OVID-ELSIE -- Travis Milner enjoyed an almost-perfect shooting night, leading the way with 18 points, in a big Marauder home win here January 15.

Ovid-Elsie's varsity boys basketball team pushed its league record to near-.500, winning for the third time as the season reached its halfway points, with a 69-50 run past Otisville-LakeVille on the Marauders' home court.

The Falcons crashed to 1-7 in MMAC action, 2-10 overall, while Canyon Walker's O-E contingent improved to 3-4 in league play, 3-8 overall.

Milner drilled 6-of-8 two-point field goals and was a flawless 3-for-3 from the free throw stripe. He added excellent 3-of-5 accuracy from behind the arc.

The game started as a back-and-forth battle with multiple lead changes in the opening minutes, but Ovid-Elsie began to pull away midway through the first quarter. Milner sparked the initial run with clutch free throws and a two-pointer, while Chase Fabus drained a momentum-shifting three-pointer to give the team their first lead at 11-10. Joie Fabus then took over with an outstanding sequence, scoring seven straight points including a perfect three-point play to extend the lead to 18-12. Milner capped off the quarter with a three-pointer, giving O-E a commanding 23-13 advantage.

The second and third quarters belonged entirely to the Marauders as they turned the game into a showcase of offensive firepower. Milner continued his exceptional shooting display, connecting on another three-pointer.

Julian Medina provided consistent scoring throughout the middle quarters, finishing with an efficient 15 points on 54% shooting, while Joie Fabus dominated inside with 60% field goal accuracy and 14 total points.

The team's depth and balanced attack were on full display as multiple players contributed meaningful minutes and scoring. Chase Fabus was deadly from three-point range, hitting 2-of-3 attempts, while Braylen Ehle added energy off the bench with seven points.

Ovid-Elsie Shooting Touch Stays Hot, 55-32 Over Byron Eagles

BYRON -- Ovid-Elsie secured an impressive 55-32 boys basketball road victory over Byron, improving their record to 4-8 overall, 3-4 in MMAC league play.

The victory showcased excellent balanced scoring and strong defensive play that held the Eagles to a season low of just 32 points for the entire game.

After the Birds (3-4, 5-5) briefly took an 8-7 lead late in the first quarter with a 6-point scoring run, O-E responded with authority in the second quarter. Travis Milner sparked the comeback with back-to-back three-pointers, before Julian Medina extended the run with another triple of his own. Milner capped off a stellar second quarter by converting three consecutive free throws, giving the visitors a commanding 21-10 halftime advantage.

Milner finished as the game's leading scorer with 14 points, shooting 89% from the free-throw line (8-9) while adding two. The third quarter belonged to Carpenter Darling, who dominated the paint with efficient shooting that helped extend the lead to 42-20 by quarter's end. Darling finished with 12 points on 5-7 field goal shooting (71%), controlling the inside game for.

Canyon Walker's Marauders got solid contributions across the roster, with Joie Fabus adding 8 points, while Chase Fabus and Julian Medina each chipped in 6 points.



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Wolfpack Girls Continue Run Toward Upper Echelon of CMAC, 58-25 over Dansville

LAINGSBURG -- Sophomore Brooklyn Holm led Laingsburg's girls varsity basketball team to a 58-25 league win over Dansville here January 16.

Holm poured in 24 points, while freshman Leah Mills scored 11, as Dan Morrill's Wolfpack rolled to a 6-1 record in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), 8-1 overall. The visiting Aggies drooped to 2-3 in the conference, 4-3 for all games.

For LHS, Lilli Morrill added 9 points and 8 rebounds, and Payge Woodworth had 8 points, 4 assists and 5 steals.

For Dansville, Cassa Minnis had 12 points and Kaelee Foreman added 7.

Lady Bees nip Wolfpack in battle for CMAC basketball supremacy

BATH -- Round one goes to the Bath Bees.

The Bees and Laingsburg's girls basketball Wolfpack have jostled for league supremacy all season; however, last Wednesday was their first face-to-face meeting.

Bath improved to 7-1 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), 9-1 overall, to take a one-game lead over Dan Morrill's Wolfpack (6-2, 8-2), with a narrow 35-33 triumph.

Bath was led by Spanish exchange student Africa Beltran with 15, and Anna Poppema with 14. For Laingsburg, Brooklyn Holm led the way with 14 points and 7 rebounds.

The neighboring rivals will square off again February 24 at LHS.

Bath Gets the Better of Wolfpack Cagers Second Time Around

BATH -- The host Bees slapped a stifling defense on Laingsburg's boys basketball team to earn revenge from an earlier CMAC loss.

The Wolves prevailed on their home floor, 46-40, early in the season. This time, it was the Fighting Bees who romped, 46-29, improving their record to 5-5 in conference play, 8-6 overall.

Tim Beebe's Wolves -- who have been fighting to stay above the .500 mark all season -- fell to 6-4 in league play, but 6-7 overall.

Laingsburg's balanced roster featured seven different scorers, but all in single digits. Leandro Dolega-Caceres scored 6 points, Kollin Bentley-Barr 6, Jake Rivet 5, Collin Logghe 4, Cooper Mund 4, Josiah Hawes 2 and Cash Heaton 2 in the loss.



MEET THE TEAMS OVID-ELSIE MARAUDERS



Ovid-Elsie Varsity Swimming

Front row (l-r): Audrey Bensinger, Jolene Hebler, Maria Gifre Troya, Lilliana Kennedy. Second row (l-r): Sarah Harden, Adalynn Roberts, Marshall Leavitt, Metta Newell, Dakota Lott. Row 3 (l-r): Addilynn Vincent, Emberlyn Kvalevog, Robert Kebler. Coaches: Eugene Howe, Gabrielle Wildes, Jowa Wildes, Karl Dahlke.
Photo by Ortman Productions, Inc.



Ovid-Elsie Varsity Bowling

Back row (l-r): Girls Varsity Coach Darin Underhill, Teagan Ignash, Devyn Pugsley, Micah Ladisky, Byron Odenbaugh and Collin Jullie. Not pictured Brady Latz and Drake Bush. Front row (l-r): Brooke Pugsley, Victoria Dennis, Haylee Arnett, Abbigale Orweller and Varsity Boys Coach Matt Fabus.
Photo by Ortman Productions, Inc.



Ovid-Elsie JV Bowling

Back row (l-r): John Wilcox, Nathan Brown, Kody Ash, Logan Mason, Josh Brown, Edward Rademacher, Easton Clark, Dylan Henning and Maxwell Perkins. Front row (l-r): Coach Gacie Schultz, Henry Remenar, Chaycen Thorton, Ryker Parsons, Evan Nethaway, Jack Hebler and Coach Liz Underhill.
Photo by Ortman Productions, Inc.

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Died on December 26, 2025
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased will be forever barred unless presented to Michele Pease, 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.

Matthew Schlegel
PO Box 515
St. John, MI 48879
(517) 214-0923
(01-25)

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

Estate of
KAREN LOUISE WRIGHT
Date of birth: April 14, 1966
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:
The decedent
KAREN LOUISE WRIGHT
Died on August 14, 2025
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased will be forever barred unless presented to Monica Wright, 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.

Monica Wright
1125 N. Shiawassee
Owosso, MI 48867
(517) 703-4106

(01-25)

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Saturday, March 21, 2026

5:00 p.m. (doors open at 4)

Elsie's American Legion Hall

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Raffle tickets are \$50

Each ticket includes one entrance into the raffle and one all you can eat pork dinner.

**A total of \$6,250 in payouts and a
GRAND PRIZE PAYOUT OF \$1,500**

50/50
Drawings

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Amy Knickerbocker (989) 992-7797
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*Non-Profit 501 (c)(3) documentation available upon request

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VICTOR TOWNSHIP
Clinton County, Michigan
6843 E. Alward Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848
Proposed Board Minutes of January 13, 2026

The regular board meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Wiswasser at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a roll call of Board members in attendance. Present: Wiswasser, Prange, Willoughby, Pesch, Sayles. 10 citizens were in attendance.

Public Comment: Fred Boling, Bath township resident, spoke urging the township to adopt a barking dog ordinance.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Pesch, seconded by Prange, to approve January 13, 2026, agenda with the addition of a budget amendment and a planning/zoning item received from the Supervisor today. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Willoughby and seconded by Sayles, to approve December 9, 2025, special budget meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby and seconded by Prange to approve December 9, 2025, regular meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Prange and seconded by Sayles, to accept January 2026 Treasurer's report. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills and Payroll: Motion by Wiswasser and seconded by Willoughby to disburse December 2025 bills excluding check 12779. (Paid January 13, 2026) Roll call: Members voting yes: Prange, Willoughby, Wiswasser, Pesch, Sayles. Members voting no: None. Motion carried. Checks# 12762-12777 (12761 & 12779-void), in the amount of \$19,919.87.

Motion by Willoughby and seconded by Sayles to disburse December 2025 payroll and payroll related expenses (Paid January 13, 2026). Roll call: Members voting yes: Wiswasser, Pesch, Sayles, Prange, Willoughby. Members voting no: None. Motion carried. Checks# 13329-13337 in the amount of \$14,221.05.

Clinton County Commissioner - District 1

Commissioner Nicole Fickes reported the following:

- Addressed the bill received from Clinton County regarding Victor Township's participation in the appeal of the Michigan Public Service Commission's recent order.
- The Clinton County Commissioners held their organizational meeting on January 2, 2026, and committee assignments were made. Ms. Fickes was appointed to the Human Resources Committee and the Parks and Greenspace Committee.
- The Water Resources Committee, in partnership with MSU Extension, will host a watershed workshop addressing invasive species and related topics on March 14, 2026, at the Victor Township Hall. Time to be announced at a later date.
- The County is exploring the formation of a Looking Glass River Trail.
- Broadband-related questions and complaints will be handled by Frontier.
- A Clinton County Commissioners meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., during which planning and zoning issues affecting townships and the County will be discussed.

Unfinished Business

C2ae Park Project bids/awards: c2ae reviewed all bids received, on December 16, 2025, for the Victor Township Park project. They recommended awarding the bid to Leavitt & Stark Excavating, Inc., the lowest bidder. Willoughby moved seconded by Prange to accept the bid recommendation of c2ae. Roll call: Members voting yes: Pesch, Sayles, Prange, Willoughby, Wiswasser. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

C2ae Amendment for Victor Township Hall Renovation The township board reviewed an amendment to the architectural and engineering services contract with C2AE, updating the scope to include final design, bidding, and construction administration services following completion of the conceptual design phase. Motion by Pesch, seconded by Prange to approve the amended total amount of \$83,500.00 for C2AE's architectural and engineering services related to the Victor Township Hall renovation project. Roll call: Members voting yes: Prange, Wiswasser, Sayles, Pesch, Willoughby. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

Hall Rentals: Motion by Wiswasser and seconded by Sayles to reopen hall/kitchen/interior restrooms rentals January 13, 2026, through April 9, 2026. All in favor. Motion carried.

Barking Dog/Kennel Ordinance: The Victor Township Planning Commission recommends not adopting a barking dog or noise ordinance. Motion by Wiswasser seconded by Pesch to discuss the kennel definitions of private and commercial kennels and ordinance adopted by Clinton County. All in favor. Motion carried. Discussion followed.

Board recessed at 8:41 p.m. Board resumed at 8:45 p.m.

New Business:

Clinton County Request for Compensation on Legal Appeal: As Victor Township had no representative present at the meeting and did not agree to participate at that time, Willoughby moved, seconded by Wiswasser to void check 12779 (for Clinton County's Appeal of MPSC's Recent Order RE: Interpretation of PA 233 of 2023) and not pay the bill submitted by Clinton County. Roll call: Members voting yes: Willoughby, Wiswasser, Pesch. Members voting no: Sayles, Prange. Motion carried.

Office Administrative Hours: Willoughby moved, seconded by Pesch to extend office hours on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk Printer: The Clerk is requesting to purchase 2 laptops to be used for Electronic Poll Books (EPB) and printer to accommodate Voter Registration cards and Master cards. Motion by Sayles and seconded by Pesch to have the Supervisor take the quote provided by the clerk to MIDeal and see if he can match the specifications and get a price comparison through the State minimum bid process and approve the lowest bid. Roll call: Members voting yes: Pesch, Sayles, Prange, Willoughby, Wiswasser. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

Budget Amendment: Prange moved seconded by Sayles to approve submitted budget amendment (Insurance) provided by the Clerk. Roll call: Members voting yes: Sayles, Prange, Willoughby, Pesch, Wiswasser. Members voting no: None. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

- Commissioner Fickes noted the Girl Scouts tea for 2 scheduled at Victor Township Hall on January 25, 2026. She encouraged residents interested in seeing the acoustic issues in the hall to attend and take a look. Barking dog problems in the township were highlighted as a continuing issue. Commissioner Fickes stated she is in favor of the County addressing these concerns.
- Fred Boling, Bath Township resident, also addressed the barking dog issue.
- Val Vail-Shirey, a Victor Township resident, spoke regarding the appeal related to PA 233 of 2023 and ongoing concerns about barking dogs/kennel complaints in Victor Township.

There will be a special meeting of the board to work on the 2026-2027 budget on Monday, January 19, 2026, at 6:00 p. m.

Sayles moved, seconded by Willoughby, to adjourn at: 9:30 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried

Copies of Resolutions, Agreements, Budget Amendments, and Minutes are on the Victor Township Website (www.victortwp.org) and at the Clerk's office in the Township Hall

Lianne Prange
 Victor Township Clerk

CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on FEBRUARY 25, 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.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joseph E. Clark and Elizabeth Ann Clark, a husband and wife, to The Huntington National Bank, Mortgagee, dated October 31, 2019 and recorded November 8, 2019 in Instrument Number 5285841 and Loan Modification Agreement recorded on August 29, 2022, in Instrument Number 5328533, Clinton County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-One Thousand One Hundred Fifty and 65/100 Dollars (\$91,150.65).

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 FEBRUARY 25, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Olive, Clinton County Michigan, and are described as: That part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 17, Olive Township, Clinton County, Michigan, beginning on the Section line at a point 790 feet East of the North 1/4 post, running thence east 132.0 feet on the section line; thence Southerly 165.0 feet parallel with North-South 1/4 line; thence West 132 feet; thence Northerly 165 feet to the point of beginning subject to highway right of way.

2343 W Jason Rd, Dewitt, Michigan 48820
 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, 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 damage to the property during the redemption period. Dated: January 25, 2026

File No. 26-000531
 Firm Name: Orland Law Group PLLC
 Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(01-25)(02-15)

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 March 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Brian Beck and Wendy Beck, husband and wife
 Original Mortgagee: Washington Mutual Bank
 Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Citibank, N.A., as Trustee, in trust for registered Holders of WaMu Asset-Backed Certificates WaMu Series 2007-HE3 Trust

Date of Mortgage: March 27, 2007
 Date of Mortgage Recording: April 6, 2007

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$161,300.39

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Watertown, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the South 7 1/2 acres of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 27, Town 5 North, Range 3 West, Watertown Township, Clinton County, Michigan, described as: Beginning on the East line of Section 27, at a point 668.00 feet North of the East 1/4 corner of Section 27, Town 5 North, Range 3 West, thence North 87 degrees 33 minutes 30 seconds West 330.3 feet; thence North 185.93 feet; thence East 330.00 feet; thence South 200.00 feet on the East line of Section 27 to the point of beginning

Common street address (if any): 15320 S Lowell Rd, Lansing, MI 48906-9344
 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

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

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. NOTTINGHAM FIELDS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Dated: January 14, 2026 By: McKenna S. Rivers (P86383) Attorney for Lien Claimant 1700 E. Beltline, NE, Suite 200 Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 726-2209

1583042
 (01-25)(02-15)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Connor Tracy and Kelly Tracy, (the "Owners") having failed to pay assessments required under the terms and conditions of the Bylaws of Nottingham Fields Condominium (the "Lien Claimant"), a condominium project as established by the Master Deed, recorded October 2, 2006 in Document Number 5106948, both inclusive, as amended, Clinton County Records, as evidenced by a Statement of Lien dated May 30, 2025, and recorded May 30, 2025 in Document No. 5354524, Clinton County

Records. As of the date hereof, there is outstanding and unpaid on account of said assessment the sum of Three Thousand Seventy-Four and 59/100 Dollars (\$3,074.59), which sum is exclusive of interest, costs, attorney fees, expenses of collection, and future assessments. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. EST, on Wednesday, February 25, 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 are located in the Township of Watertown, Clinton County, Michigan and are described as: Unit No. 44, Phase 2, 15217 Loxley Lane, Lansing, MI 48906, a unit in Nottingham Fields Condominium as established by Master Deed, recorded October 2, 2006, in Document Number 5106948, both inclusive, as amended, Clinton County Records, subject to, in accordance with, and together with all rights, privileges, duties and restrictions imposed, reserved or granted in said Master Deed, and also subject to easements and restrictions of record. The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA '600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. NOTTINGHAM FIELDS CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Dated: January 14, 2026 By: McKenna S. Rivers (P86383) Attorney for Lien Claimant 1700 E. Beltline, NE, Suite 200 Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 726-2209

(01-18)(02-15)



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WINTER CAR CARE WINTER CAR CARE WINTER CAR CARE

Winter Car Tips

Help prepare your car for the winter season with these winter car care tips.

Getting your vehicle ready for winter's icy road conditions can be essential for the safety and performance of your vehicle during the colder months. Properly winterizing a car can help prevent breakdowns and accidents, possibly saving you from the inconvenience and danger of being stranded in the cold.

Winter car maintenance tips

Plan to winterize your car before the first storm of the season. Consider checking or talking to your mechanic about the following:

Service your vehicle and do a maintenance inspection

This can include checking your car's fluids such as engine oil, antifreeze and windshield washer fluid to help ensure they're at the right levels and appropriate for low temperatures. Check that your brakes are in good working order, as stopping distances can increase on icy roads. See that your hoses and belts are working properly, as cold temperatures can make them brittle and more prone to breaking. The hoses and belts help keep your engine running, so confirm there are no cracks or signs of wear and tear.

Look at your vehicle's battery strength

Cold weather can take a toll on your car's battery. Battery capacity decreases significantly in low temperatures, so it's important that your battery is in good condition. Have it tested by a professional to check its charge and replace your battery, if needed. The connections should be clean, tight and without rust.

Test the vehicle's heater and defrosters

Seeing clearly through your windshield is important for safer winter driving, which means your heater and defroster should be working properly. Testing these two can help ensure you'll stay warm inside your car and maintain good visibility.

Examine your car tires and consider winter tires

Good traction on snow and ice can be vital for safe driving in severe weather. Consider switching to winter tires if you live in a region with severe winter conditions and check your tire tread depth. Winter tires are designed to grip snow and ice and can help improve your driving safety.

Check your tire pressure

Cold weather can cause your tire pressure to decrease by one pound per square inch (PSI) every 10 degrees Fahrenheit, so check the air pressure on your tires once a month to help ensure safe travels. Typically, the recommended PSI is 30-35 but check your owner's manual for the exact number.

Inspect your wiper blades

Visibility is important especially when rain, snow and winter grime can make it hard for you to see. Wiper blades should be in excellent condition to help clear your windows. If any streaks or skips occur while using them, it might be time to consider a new set of blades.

Change your oil and filter

Oil tends to thicken as it gets colder, so your car may require a different type of oil for the winter months. Check your vehicle's owner manual for the manufacturer's recommendations on oil types for temperature changes or contact a licensed mechanic. Changing the oil filter is also recommended to help ensure proper operation of your engine. If your vehicle runs on diesel, be

wary of the fact that diesel fuel can gel in very cold temperatures. Winter fuel additives can be a good preventative. Also be aware that your fuel filter could potentially become blocked with gelled fuel, which would cause the vehicle to stall.

Wash the car after snowstorms

Road salt and grime from snowstorms can lead to rust on your vehicle. Washing your car can help prevent long-term damage.

Carry an emergency winter driving kit

Winter weather could leave you trapped in the snow, but including the following items in your winter driving emergency kit might help you get back on the road and on your way. Your car kit could include the following items:

- Ice scraper
- Shovel
- Tow and tire chains
- Jack
- Jumper Cables
- Car tool kit
- Flares
- Battery-powered flashlights
- Extra batteries
- Warm clothing
- Blankets
- Cell phone and charger
- First aid kit
- Non-perishable food and water
- Extra windshield wiper fluid
- Antifreeze
- Sand or cat litter for traction



With these winter car care tips, you can drive into the snowiest days with more confidence knowing your vehicle is as prepared as it can be. Stay safe and warm this winter with a well-maintained car. Learn more about winter driving tips and how to help prepare for and recover from winter storms. To learn more about our Emergency Roadside Service, contact your agent.



Car Care Checklist



Oil Change Many motorists believe their cars' oil should be changed every 3,000 miles, however most late-model vehicles now can go 5,000 to 7,000 miles between oil changes. Check your owner's manual and get on a routine to good car care.



Tires Check tire pressures and tread depth. Check the pressure on all the tires—including the spare—with a quality gauge when the tires are cold. Be sure to look for recommended pressure on the driver's door jamb and NOT the tire wall!



Battery Ensure the battery cable connections are tight, and the terminals are free from corrosion. If the battery is more than three years old, it's a good idea to have it tested to determine how much life it has left.



Wiper Blades Wiper blades should completely clear the glass with each swipe. Make sure the windshield washer reservoir is filled.

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