

Fox Family Fundraiser March 28th

by Deb Price

On January 7th of this year, Todd Fox, Jr., a healthy 15 year old, woke up after a basketball game with a lot of pain in his back. He was checked out for flu and strep throat, he tested positive for Influenza B. Four days later, he broke out in a rash which turned out to be strep and three days after that he could not feel his leg or arm. He was taken to Sparrow in St Johns and then transferred to Sparrow in Lansing where he was tested for Compartment Syndrome (a painful and dangerous condition, caused by increased pressure within muscle compartments, usually in the limbs, due to swelling or bleeding), the test was positive, he was a really sick kid. The doctors had not seen this in the US, especially in a healthy 15 year old.

He had three surgeries in a week at Sparrow, the first to cut the calf muscle in his leg due to too much swelling in his muscles. He was then transferred to Helen DeVos in Grand Rapids



Todd Fox, Jr.

where he had one more surgery on his leg and arm to remove dead muscle and replace it with new. He still has the possibility of additional surgery down the road. It's been a whirl wind for the Fox family, emotionally, physically and financially.

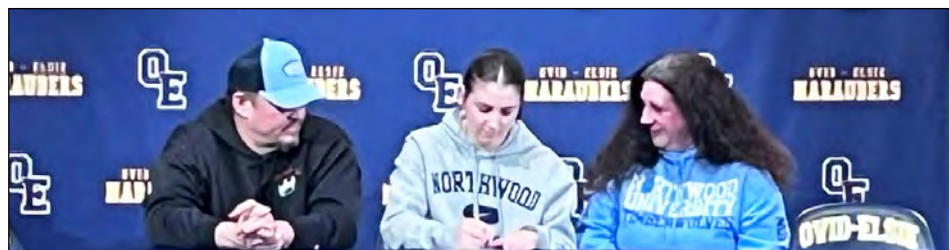
That's where the community comes in. After reading about this journey on Facebook, Steve Hunt (AKA "Elvis") an Ovid-Elsie high school buddy of Todd, SR., reached and asked how he could help. He offered to do a Benefit Tribute Show, donating his time and talent to help a friend and his family.

The event will take place this coming Saturday, March 28th at the Ovid Lions-VFW Hall, 214 S. Main Street, Ovid, MI 48866. Doors will open at 5:30pm with a two hour show to begin at 7pm. Admission is \$20 per person, 2 for \$30. Soda and popcorn will be available for purchase, BYOB is welcome. For those in the Ovid-Elsie and surrounding areas who will be unable to attend due to Spring break travel, The Meridian Weekly is accepting donations at their office. They are open on Tuesday from 8:30-Noon and on Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30-4:00. For more information call Deb at the Weekly, 989-834-2264.



Steve Hunt (AKA "Elvis")
1988 OE Graduate

Six Ovid-Elsie Students Sign Letters of Intent



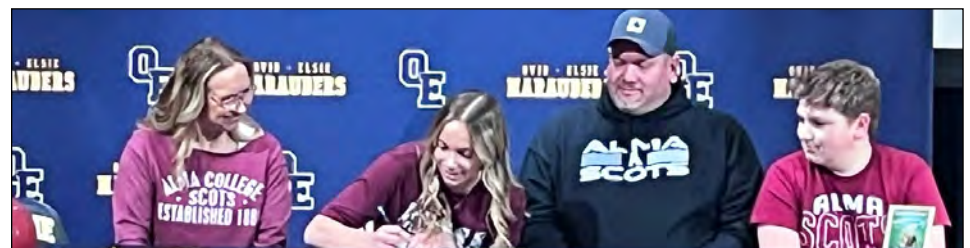
Clarissa Baese & Family as she signs with Alma to play soccer



Ashton Ehle & Family as she signs with Northwood to play volleyball



Lance Wiktorowski & Family as he signs with Alpena to play baseball



McKenzie Keck & Family as she signs with Alma to play soccer



Robert Keebler & Family as he signs with Trine to play football



Braxton O'Bryant & Family as he signs with Northern MI to play football



- Air Conditioning
- Service and Installation
- Rebates & Tax Credits Available



HEATING & COOLING

Licensed & Insured

Laingsburg, MI • 517-282-4347
517-651-2233 Fax • tylerheating.com



Social

Public Notice

Elba Township will hold a meeting on March 24th to go over the budget for the fiscal year of April 1, 2026-March 31, 2027.
The meeting will be held at the Township Hall at 109 W. Oak Street, Ashley, MI 48806 at 7:00pm.

Madalin C. Morris
Elba Township Clerk

Public Notice

Chapin Township Board meetings will now start at 7:00 p.m., starting April 13th, 2026

Thank you Chapin Township Board

Fairfield Township Cemetery Clean-Up

We are reminding those who have loved ones buried at Fairfield Cemetery to please remove all refuse of any kind or nature by April 15th, per the Fairfield Cemetery Ordinance.
This is including but not limited to: annuals, dried or plastic flowers, wreaths, blankets, papers, decorations, etc. Items must be removed from the cemetery grounds or deposited within approved containers within the cemetery. Any materials not removed by burial space owners or heirs shall be removed and appropriate disposition shall be made by the Sexton.

Thank you!

MILLER'S

SOFT WATER SERVICE

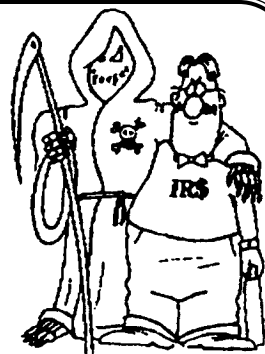
9450 E. M21 Ovid, Michigan

ICE MELT SALT 50#

now only
\$20.00!

Office: 989-834-5012 Mobile: 989-640-5268

B and B TAX



AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Income Tax Service • Electronic Filing
Offering Investments, Insurance
& Complete Range of Retirement Plans

Drop off hours will be 8 am to 5 pm
Other hours by appointment
Mailing address is P.O. Box 376, Ovid, MI 48866

DANIEL BUKOVCIK
101 N. MAIN ST., OVID
Phone (989)834-2270
Fax (989)834-2279



On Monday, March 16th, the Clinton County Sheriff's Department held their annual awards ceremony at RESA in St Johns. Ovid police officer Robert "Bobby" Watson was one of the officers recognized that evening. The Departmental Citation was given to Watson for demonstrating exceptional courage, coordination and professionalism while responding to a domestic assault involving an armed suspect who fled with an infant child. Through decisive pursuit efforts and skilled negotiation, they safely apprehended the suspect and ensured the child was recovered without injury, reflecting the highest standards of law enforcement service.

He is pictured here with Clinton County Sheriff, Sean Dush.

United Church of Ovid Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Lunch

submitted by Sue Casler

The United Church of Ovid, 131 W. Front St., Ovid will be holding their Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Lunch on Saturday, April 4, 11:30 am.

Parking lot located behind church on Clinton Street one block west of Main Street.

The United Church of Ovid is excited to be having our annual Easter celebration for kids of all ages. Come and participate in Story Time, Egg Hunt, and Lunch.

Bring your own container for eggs and of course your camera.

For more information, contact The United Church of Ovid at 989-834-5958, Monday - Thursday from 9am - 12noon.



ST. JOHNS K of C #3281

1108 N. BUSINESS-27 • ST. JOHNS

2026 Fish Fry Schedule

Last one - Friday: March 27th

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm Public Welcome

Dine In - All You Can Eat

Take-Out Dinners Available - Call 989-224-1225

Baked Fish, Fried Fish, Baked Potato, Steak Fries,
Macroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Dinner Roll
Coffee, Juice & Water Provided



\$15 Adults; \$8 Children 6-12;
Under 6 Free
Cash or Check Only
PUBLIC WELCOME

Library News

Hello from the Elsie Public Library

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

March is Reading Month, and the children's reading program has been busy. The books by Laura Numeroff are making me hungry. The first week the moose was eating muffins, then the pig was eating pancakes... Each story time includes a book, craft, game and themed snack... plus there are drawings for day of program prizes, weekly prizes and a single monthly drawing. Bring in your littles to join in the fun games and drawings. There will be face painting on March 23rd during the children's program that begins at noon.

Remember to mark Thursdays on your calendar. We have Book Club on the second Thursday of each month at 6 pm, Adult and Teen craft time on each third Thursday at 1 pm and Homeschool Mom's at 5:30 pm on the fourth Thursday.

Come check out our books about gardening and outdoor projects. Sometimes it helps to get ideas to make projects and gardens easier to manage.

There is a blood pressure cuff by the front desk for public use, and other cuffs that can be checked out just like a book.

Please remember to check our Facebook page for closures (like our unexpected flooring installation closure) and program updates.

Ashley Country Christmas Plans Casino Bus Trip

submitted by Keith Salisbury

Ashley Country Christmas is again hosting an April casino bus trip fundraiser to FireKeepers Casino in Battle Creek. The trip will take place on Saturday, April 25.

The bus will leave at noon from the Ashley High School parking lot. A second pick-up will be at the St. Johns park-and-ride location next to the southbound US 127 exit ramp on M-21 at approximately 12:15. On the return trip, the bus will stop in St. Johns before ending up at Ashley, around 7:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip is \$55, with participants receiving \$20 for free play plus a \$5 promotion. There will also be raffles on the bus for a homemade quilt, 50/50 and more.

There are only 56 seats available, so call Jane at (517) 281-6456 to reserve a seat. Payment must be received by Friday, April 10. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used for Ashley Country Christmas activities.



JOIN US ON

SATURDAY, MARCH 28th
at 11:00 AM

Ovid Healthcare Center

Preschool & Under
Kindergarten
Grades 1-6

9480 E. M-21 • OVID
Bring Your Own Basket
CANDY, PRIZES,
EASTER BUNNY

For more info call
OHC 989-834-2228



Ovid-Elsie School Board

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – The regular meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Board of Education was held Monday, March 16, 2026. The school nurse gave officials an in-depth report. Officials also received additional resignations.

The annual health report was presented by Melissa Jones, school district nurse. Jones explained the importance of childhood vaccinations for the overall health of students. High risk health conditions were identified diabetes, asthma, allergies requiring an epi-pen, seizure disorders. Ovid-Elsie has a few unique conditions - cystic fibrosis illness protocols and safety plans have been put into place. Something new is the increase of headache related illnesses with as needed medications from parents and guardians. Follow-up information gathering is taking place because this adds additional services on to the secretaries. There are so many reasons that cause headaches. Building visits and data collection is being gathered regarding the number of children receiving medications at school, is there a trend regarding times of the day, day of the week. The goal is to keep kiddos in school and to reduce absences, currently 223 chronically absent situations. In addition, the nurse oversees medical and safety training for staff. Secretaries have a lot of responsibility regarding dispensing medications especially at the elementary level. There was an opportunity for board members to ask questions. Clear health plans improve students academic and social performance in the school setting. Emotional and mental health is a concern and is being addressed, it was noted that nationally 21% of students are affected by anxiety. Noting it is seen more at the middle and high school levels. Well, being is the mind, body and soul. Reporting of mental health conditions is under reported because of the stigma attached. School nurses set goals to ensure that students feel that they are safe, supported and ready to learn. Strategic planning suggestions were offered to assist the school nurse, for example a sub for the school nurse.

The district department of guidance updated board members, Autum Windsor, director of guidance addressed officials. There are exciting things happening. Elementary, Morgan Alexander, three goals for the year – strengthening relationships, conflict resolution, and building resilience, helping them develop community involvement. Small group of kids who struggle with developing friendships and classroom lesson during specials. Good People Program is used by both elementary and middle school levels. Upper elementary career day is slated for April 24. Jennifer Garcia, middle school, is focusing on individual counseling for those students who need one-on-one time and small groups. Ellie's group assists students with navigating grief. Also, a Lunch Bunch group has been established for those needing work on social skills. Crisis responses are conducted at both the high school and middle school. High school, does not work in individual high school classrooms, but works in small and large groups. Questions like, "what is the number one issue being a high school student, and a high school teacher" has been asked of students. Teachers were asked the same, the responses were very different. Now, in the middle of working on the master schedules. In addition, preparations for post high school with the Class of 2026. Looking for volunteers for senior interviews, April 16.

Mark Horak, school superintendent, provided an overview of the March 21, strategic plan retreat that will be held at Ovid-Elsie High School, 8am - 4pm. It was noted that the retreat will include board members, staff members, students and community members, approximately fifty individuals will participate.

Horak also reported on the March Reading Month Detroit Piston trip. This was made possible by a foundation grant. The activity prompted a lot of excitement. Noting that the Pistons won.

Ovid-Elsie Board members, prior to the board meeting, were given a copy of the recommended business office procedures and federal awards administration manual. The manual was developed in response to an audit recommendation. Officials opted to table a decision until the April meeting. The manual addresses day-to-day operations of the business department of the district.

Next, officials took action to accept, with regrets, the resignations of two paraprofessionals. Chris Parker, paraprofessional at the high school, effective March 6, 2026 and Rebecca Keusch, part-time paraprofessional at the high school, effective March 13, 2026.

5th Annual Laingsburg Alumni Legacy Award Golf Outing Tees off 2026 Season

LAINGSBURG — You're a Laingsburg High School alumnus. You love the place. LHS was a springboard to your success in life. Wolfpack red runs in your blood.

What better way to leave your legacy than to get involved with the Laingsburg Alumni Legacy Award (LALA)? This Laingsburg success story in the making has already awarded more than \$15,000 in scholarships to LHS graduating seniors.

And if you're an avid golfer, this year's event helps tee-off the 2026 golf outing season.

The 5th annual LALA Golf Outing is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 at Pine Hills Golf Course, as a major fundraiser for the scholarship fund. The format is a four-person scramble, at \$60 per player or \$240 per team. Lunch will be served on the turn; there are notable prizes for 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place teams; also hole prizes and a 50/50 raffle.

To sign up for golf or for more information, contact Tom Turek at 517-282-1528. Sign-up forms are also available at the Pine Hills clubhouse, on the Laingsburg Community Page on Facebook, and on the Laingsburg Sports Boosters page on Facebook



Ashley Sportsman's Club Supports H.O.P.E. for Alex

by Dawn D. Levey

BANNISTER – The Ashley Sportsman's Club, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting conservation, hunter safety, and the safe use of firearms, continues its strong tradition of community support.

Once again, the club selected H.O.P.E. for Alex (Help Other People Eat) as the recipient of its annual charitable contribution. The organization was founded by Leslie and Wade Williams in honor of their son, Alex Smith, who passed away on October 1, 2023.

Alex, who worked at Specialized Deer Processing, was passionate about programs such as Hunters for Hunger and others, H.O.P.E. initiatives that provide food to those in need. Through H.O.P.E. for Alex, his legacy lives on by helping feed local families.

The organization covers processing fees for donated, hunter-harvested protein and distributes the meat throughout the community, including the Elsie Area Food Pantry, Redeemer Church, St. Jude Catholic Church, the Basic Needs Center, and others.

In support of these efforts, Ashley Sportsman's Club officers James Skaryd Jr. and Mary Levey recently presented a \$4,000 donation to Leslie Williams.

Additional contributions to H.O.P.E. for Alex can be made by contacting Leslie Williams at 989-292-0307 or by email at lesliewilliams0322@gmail.com.

Ashley Sportsman's Club will also host a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Hunter Safety Field Day on Saturday, April 25, 2026. For more information, call 517-204-4075.



(l-r) Mary Levey, Leslie Williams, James Skaryd Jr.

OFFICE HOURS

The Meridian Weekly

Publisher: deb.price@meridianweekly.com
News/General: news@meridianweekly.com
Display Advertising: ads@meridianweekly.com

200 S. Main St., Ovid
Phone: 989-834-2264 • Fax: 989-834-2066



Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 8:30am - 12 Noon
Wednesday: Thursday:
8:30am-4:00pm
Friday: Closed

The Sale You've
Been Asking For!
Hurry In For The Best Selection!

1/2 PRICE
SALE

Buy 1 Pair of Regular Priced Shoes,
Boots, Slippers or a Purse, Get a 2nd
Regular Priced Item for 1/2 PRICE!

Sale Ends Oct. 31st.

Norm Henry SHOES



Mon.-Fri. 9:30-6
Sat. 9:30-5
Sun. Noon-4

119 N. Washington St.
Owosso • 725-8450
www.normhenryshoes.com



Spring Farm Section

George Zmitko Embraces Diversity to Build 7,000-acre Farming Operation

By Jennifer Kiel, reprinted from Farm Progress. jennifer.kiel@farmprogress.com



AWARD WINNER: George Zmitko of Owosso is a 2026 Michigan Master Farmer. (Photos by Jennifer Kiel unless noted)

George Zmitko's journey into farming began on an 80-acre family farm, where he developed a deep love for the land alongside his father, Viet.

Mornings started early, milking cows by hand before school, and days were spent working the fields. Some of those days were certainly trying, but today, "Being on the farm, in the tractor, with no one bothering me — it's relaxing. I love my job," said Zmitko, a 2026 Michigan Master Farmer.

This passion, combined with hard work and a commitment to excellence, laid the foundation for what would become a thriving farming operation spanning more than 7,000 acres in Owosso, Mich.

Today, Zmitko farms alongside his son, George II, producing corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, clover and straw, as well as raising beef cows. Their farm success is anchored in the ability to adapt, think strategically and adopt management practices for the long-term health of the farm and its soils.

"George Zmitko is a farmer who leads by example, innovates with purpose and elevates everyone around him," said Ben Steyer, CEO of the Michigan Soybean Committee, who

successfully nominated Zmitko as a Master Farmer. "He represents the very best of Michigan agriculture."

After high school, Zmitko balanced farming with a factory job at General Motors until he was drafted by the Army and spent two years in Vietnam in the infantry division. He returned to the farm in 1971.

"My dad couldn't wait to retire from a battery plant in Owosso, but once he retired, he died just three years later," Zmitko said.

In 1972, he married Kathy Tomasek, who became his steadfast partner in life and farming. Two years later, with her support, Zmitko left General Motors to pursue farming full time. He thought, "Either I'm going to make it farming, or I'm not," he recalled. That leap of faith marked the beginning of a remarkable journey.

Looking to expand, Zmitko bought his first farm from a neighbor he was renting from. He sold him 30 acres on a land contract. "I didn't have enough money to go to the bank or the equity to do that," he said. "But I did a good job, and eventually, I ended up with all his 300 acres."

Zmitko credits his mentors, including his father and neighbor Mike Miser Majzel, for shaping his approach to farming.

"Dad always told me to look for someone in the neighborhood who was doing really well and watch what they're doing," he said. That advice, combined with Zmitko's determination, helped him grow from renting 30 acres to owning 4,000 acres, in combination with his son.

The operation endured the farm crisis of the 1980s, and he bought more ground as farms came up for sale.

"When I came to the farm full time, I figured I had to do

something, either milk cows or do something else, because I wasn't going to make it cash cropping at that time," Zmitko said.

He went to a crop improvement meeting in Frankenmuth and made a decision, "I guess we're going to start growing seed versus milking cows," he recalled saying.

The farm produces Michigan Certified Seed, which is grown, harvested, processed and sold directly from the farm to ensure high-quality seed for growers across the state.

Zmitko's decision to grow certified seeds — soybeans, wheat, oats and clover — was a pivotal moment.

"It's a more intensive way of farming," he explained. "The fields have to be weed-free and inspected in-field and at harvest. We didn't have much spray back then, so we had a bunch of high school kids who would bale hay and then pull weeds."

Thriving on diversity

Zmitko Farms thrives on its diversity. In addition to traditional crops, the farm has a successful straw business, delivering year-round with a semi on the road five days a week. The operation includes selling barley straw, which is particularly suited for algae control in ponds.



MAIN BEVERAGE COMPANY SALUTES THE LOCAL FARMING COMMUNITY

Spring Farm Section

Zmitko cont'd from page 4



BEEF OPERATION: A beef operation that started with seven beef cows has now grown to more than 300.

"I've got a straw customer up by Charlevoix that I've had for 42 years," Zmitko said, highlighting the long-term relationships that underpin his business.

Livestock returned to the farm in an unconventional way when a seed customer offered seven beef cows as payment for a seed bill. Today, the herd has grown to more than 300. The farm also grows non-GMO soybeans, earning premiums from Zeeland Farm Services.

A partnership with Herbruck's Poultry Ranch exemplifies Zmitko's resourcefulness, as the farm delivers 400,000 bushels of corn annually and returns with 6,000 tons of chicken litter, which provides half the nitrogen needed for their corn crop.

"When you work with somebody big enough to keep the supply going and it works both ways, it's a win for both of us," Zmitko said. "Trucks are going full and coming back full."

Zmitko's innovative approach to soil health and sustainability is evident in his collaboration with the Shiawassee County Conservation District. Through crop rotation, grassed waterways, tiling and cover crops, he maintains soil health, prevents erosion and replenishes nutrients. The farm's livestock operation further supports sustainability by generating



3 GENERATIONS: Zmitko (left) farms with his son, George II. They are pictured with the next generation, George III.

natural fertilizer.

The farm has achieved MAEAP verification in farmstead, cropping and livestock production, a testament to its commitment to environmental stewardship.

Zmitko plants 1,800 acres of clover annually, harvesting 300 acres for seed and using the rest as a cover crop. He also incorporates radishes and wheat screenings to prevent soil erosion on muck ground.

Always on the cutting edge, Zmitko Farms employs precision planting, GPS-guided variable-rate technology and advanced sensors to optimize efficiency.

Zmitko was one of the first in Michigan to purchase a Case IH Quad Trac to help with soil compaction. Zmitko also collaborates with Michigan State University on research projects, including studies on chicken manure and Chinese black soybeans for cyst nematode control.

Serving on industry boards, such as the Shiawassee County Farmland Preservation Board, has provided him with valuable insights and opportunities. He also served on the Michigan Crop Improvement Association and maxed out his terms serving on the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee and the Shiawassee County Farm Service Agency.

A family affair

Farming is a family tradition for the Zmitkos. George II, 43, has been involved since childhood. "When he was 8, I gave him a 10-acre field and told him I'd pay for everything the first year, but he had to save his earnings to plant the next crop," Zmitko said. That early responsibility laid the foundation for his son's role as a key partner in the operation.

Zmitko's daughter, Jamie, also contributed to the farm in

her youth, feeding and bedding calves. Today, she works for the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development as director of the Agriculture Development Bureau.

Kathy, Zmitko's wife, has been a steadfast partner throughout the years. In addition to working at a law firm in Lansing for 40 years, she handled the farm's bookkeeping, wrote paychecks and prepared meals for the crew. "She even drove tractors when we first started out," Zmitko said. "She's been my partner through it all."

Overcoming challenges

The path to success hasn't been without setbacks. In 2000, a devastating shop fire caused a \$2 million loss, with insurance covering only half the damage.

The Zmitkos have also endured the tragic loss of their

daughter Kris (Zmitko) Kulhanek, 27, in a car accident in 2006 and nephew Kevin Zmitko, 33, in a farming accident in 2014. To honor their memory, the family established scholarships through the Shiawassee Community Foundation.

For young farmers, Zmitko offers advice: "Start small, but do a real good job. Somebody will notice, and you'll get more ground eventually. It's a lot of work, but if you really want to do it, you can. Just don't expect it to be handed to you on a silver platter."

Reflecting on his journey, Zmitko remains humble and grateful. "I never dreamed I'd be this big," he said. "Seeing the crops grow, being in the tractor or combine, and knowing our management worked—it's the most rewarding feeling."

With a succession plan in place, Zmitko is confident in the future of the farm and the legacy he has built with his family.

YOUNG ST. JOHNS CHEVROLET

<p>\$72,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY 3500HD W/T 6.6L gas V8, 4x4 w/Reading steel 9' CSV 72" inside height. Stk. #3631</p>	<p>\$65,999</p> <p>2025 CHEVY LCF 5500 6.6L gas V8, w/Wil-Ro dovetail landscape body. Stk. #2866</p>	<p>\$149,198</p> <p>2024 CHEVY 5500HD W/T 6.6L diesel, 4x4 w/Reading RM35 crane body. Stk. #3657</p>	<p>\$199,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY 6500HD W/T 6.6L Duramax diesel, 4x4, w/Reading RM45 crane body. Stk. #3877</p>
<p>\$71,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY EXPRESS 3500 6.6L gas V8, w/11' Knapheide alum. KUV, keyless entry. Stk. #3675</p>	<p>\$68,249</p> <p>2026 CHEVY 3500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L gas V8, w/9' Reading service body. Stk. #3806</p>	<p>\$62,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY EXPRESS 3500 6.6L V8 w/Knapheide steel KUV w/remote locks. Stk. #3661</p>	<p>\$52,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY EXPRESS 2500 6.6L V8, upfitted cargo. Stk. #3649</p>
<p>\$62,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500HD CREW CAB W/T 4x4, 6.6L gas w/Monroe 8' service body. Stk. #3458</p>	<p>\$63,249</p> <p>2025 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500HD DBL. CAB W/T 4x4, 6.6L gas V8, w/Reading 8' service body. Stk. #3931</p>	<p>\$88,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY SILVERADO 3500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L diesel, w/11' Reading enclosed service body w/remote locks. Stk. #3791</p>	<p>\$70,249</p> <p>2026 CHEVY 3500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L gas V8, w/Monroe 9' steel dropside dump. Stk. #3834</p>
<p>\$83,249</p> <p>2026 CHEVY SILVERADO 3500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L Duramax diesel, w/Reading 9' alum. service body w/remote locks. Stk. #3874</p>	<p>\$73,249</p> <p>2026 CHEVY SILVERADO 3500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L Duramax diesel w/Knapheide 9' alum. gooseneck platform. Stk. #3880</p>	<p>\$53,699</p> <p>2024 CHEVY 2500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L gas V8 w/Knapheide 8' alum. platform. Stk. #3212</p>	<p>\$67,499</p> <p>2025 CHEVY SILVERADO 3500HD W/T 4x4, 6.6L gas V8, w/9' Monroe service body. Stk. #3740</p>

READY TO WORK TRUCKS IN STOCK • SHIPPING AVAILABLE

Please stop in, call or email Mike Humble with all of your Medium Duty Truck & Commercial Truck needs!
Call or Text:
Cell 517-490-7776
nhumble@youngchevystjohns.com

WE HAVE MORE INVENTORY AVAILABLE, PLEASE CALL TO SEE IF WE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED.

NOW Servicing All Sizes of Trucks! DOT Inspections Completed On Site Also...

2100 Old U.S. 27, St Johns, MI 48879
517-948-0304
WWW.YOUNGCHEVYSTJOHNS.COM

Consumers Energy Supporting Seniors in Need

submitted by Megan D. Kirk

JACKSON – Michigan's especially cold winter led to higher heating use, resulting in increased heating bills. To help ease that burden, Consumers Energy is focusing on supporting seniors who may be struggling with the increased cost of staying warm.

The company will call customers 65 years or older whose accounts are \$200 or more to review their accounts and enroll them in a payment assistance program. As an additional outreach, customer emails and postcards are also being sent. In 2025, the company made more than 20,000 phone calls to seniors. This year, the program is expected to reach more seniors.

Shut-off protections are in place for customers 65 years and older now through April 1, but assistance is available for all customers in need of additional help with their heating bills. Communication outreach for seniors will continue through March 31. Customers' bills will continue to accrue monthly charges. To be eligible, customers must be 65 years of age or older with an account balance behind \$200 or more. Eligible customers cannot already be actively enrolled in an installment or CARE plan.

Eligible customers can also call 1-800-477-5050 to discuss their options.

This initiative is part of a larger push to connect with customers around higher bills caused by February's cold snap. In January, Consumers Energy announced a \$5 million statewide investment to assist customers with lowering their bills. The company is also highlighting the Home Heating Credit and several customizable solutions where customers can find a plan that fits their needs.

Learn more at ConsumersEnergy.com.



WATKINS BROTHERS
FUNERAL HOMES

OWOSSO • CORUNNA • DURAND
PERRY • LAINGSBURG • BANCROFT

WatkinsFuneralHomes.com



Church Directory

Advertise In Our Church Directory!
Call (989) 834-2264

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Watch Sunday Service on
YouTube at elsiebaptist
Pastor Phillip Rogers

Laingsburg United Methodist Church

210 Crum St., Laingsburg
517-651-5531

Worship Service: 10:30am
Pastor:

Kendra Holcomb - Densmore

Middlebury United Methodist Church

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

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

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:15am

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

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

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

160 W. Main St., Elsie e(989) 862-5239

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

United Church of Ovid

Office Hours: 9-1 Mon - Tue - Wed
9-Noon Thur • Closed Fri

Sundays am: 11:00 - Worship
Youth Group Sundays 6:00-7:30pm
5th - 12th Grades

131 West Front Street
Ovid, MI 48866 • (989) 834-5958
Like us on Facebook
Intrim Amy Morrison

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

Mass: Sun. 10:30am,
Wed. 5:30pm
1st Saturday Mass 9am
517 E. Main St.
Bannister
We Welcome You to Come...
Father Andrzej

Obituaries

Kandy Kay Stein



Kandy (Grove) Stein, loving wife, mother, daughter and sister, was born in Lansing, Michigan on June 28, 1959, to proud parents Arnold Grove, Sr. and Phyllis (Worthy) Grove.

Kandy grew up in Laingsburg, Michigan, where she spent her days playing card games with family, horsing around with her siblings on the family farm, and participating in 4-H; both in the sewing club and showing animals. She graduated from Laingsburg High School in 1985 alongside her sister, Melody.

As a young woman, Kandy married Christopher Yelinek and their journeys moved them to Texas which became her forever home. During their many years together, they shared a love for NASCAR racing, weekend drag races and cheering on the Dallas Cowboys. She also enjoyed crocheting, crafting and a good cookout with friends and family.

Later, Kandy met Ron Stein, whom she would marry and spend the rest of her life with. He was the love of her life, and together they shared a relationship filled with kindness, laughter, casino trips, and deep love.

Kandy especially loved finding a good bargain—particularly if it was “only a dollar.” And she'd drive quite the distance to discover new thrift or antique stores, always on the lookout for M&M and Coca-Cola collectibles.

A lifelong cat lover, Kandy's fur babies became her world. She delighted in watching them play with their many toys while she relaxed with episodes of The Golden Girls.

Kandy is survived by her husband Ron Stein, her four children Stacy (Mike) Downer, Andrea (Sean) Magers, CJ Yelinek, Michael Yelinek; her six grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, father Arnold Grove, Sr., sister Melody (Tim) Arnst, and sister-in-law Cindy Grove.

She was preceded in death by her mom Phyllis (Worthy) Grove, stepmom Kay (Wing) Grove, brothers Rex Grove and Arnold Grove Jr, sister Tina (Grove) Austin and brother-in-law Kenny Austin.

Kandy leaves behind a lifetime of cherished memories with those who loved her most. Her laughter, bright smile, generous heart and the joy she found in the simple things in life, will continue to live on in their hearts.

Her life will be celebrated with friends and family in both Michigan and Texas this summer with dates to be determined.

UM Health-Sparrow Lansing Opens Doors to Local Students Interested in Health Care Careers

submitted by John Foren

LANSING - Seeking to plant the seeds for its next generation of team members, University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Lansing this week welcomed more than 100 high school students from across Mid-Michigan.

Students received an immersive, behind-the-scenes look at the hospital as part of the newly launched UM Health-Sparrow Health Sciences Partnership Program. The initiative is designed to create a direct pipeline from local career and technical education programs to careers at UM Health-Sparrow.

On Wednesday and Thursday, students from Clinton RESA, Eaton RESA, Ingham ISD and the Lansing School District toured the facility, stepping beyond the patient room to see the complex workings of a major hospital.

“The one thing I want you to think about today,” Kathy Marble, Chief Nursing Officer, UM Health-Sparrow Lansing, told the students, “is to discover two job positions that you had no idea, when you walked in here today, even existed.”

The tours, which hosted 60 students Wednesday and another 45 on Thursday, aimed to do just that. Students rotated through interactive sessions with six clinical departments, including Pharmacy, Sterile Processing, Radiology, and toured Mary Free Bed at Sparrow. The goal was to provide hands-on exposure to the various careers available in a modern health care system.

“Think about it from the moment you walked in the door. Did you meet anybody in patient access? Those are the people that register our patients,” Marble said, urging students to look beyond doctors and nurses. “Who runs the blood work? Who takes the blood? When you start to think about all the positions, all the people that keep this little city of ours here at UM Health-Sparrow going.”

For Marble, who began her own career at UM Health-Sparrow as a new graduate, the connection to students is personal. She shared her journey with the students, from bedside nursing to her current role leading UM Health-Sparrow Lansing's nursing staff.

“This is an opportunity to continue to show the students what is possible in the world of health care,” she said.

The Health Sciences Partnership Program aims to bridge education with career pathways through future mentorships and internships, giving students a competitive advantage as they enter the workforce and giving UM Health-Sparrow an early look at the next generation of caregivers.

To learn more about partnerships at UM Health-Sparrow, visit UofMHealthSparrow.org/um-health-sparrow-community-health/about-um-health-sparrow/um-health-sparrow-partnerships

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Another week has flown by, and I am actually struggling with a bout of elusive memories, as in what have I done or accomplished this past week... I do realize that I'm failing with my war against house hold clutter. I now have sitting on the dining room floor a brown paper grocery bag two thirds filled with pine cones that Margie gathered for me. Once the pine cones finish drying out the bag will become full. Plus Al was a kind soul and brought me a good sized box of scrap wood so that my great grandchildren can reshape them into something to practice their wood-burning skills. I do have two boxes of downsized material to drop off at the thrift store. And tomorrow I have some jackets to distribute for Therese. Phil dropped off a bunch of coffee mugs for us at the shop today and several casual shirts and a sweater. The mugs have found their home and I've already passed the shirts onto a local gent. It sounds as if I do a lot of sort and shuffle...

And I do, Lisa stopped by Sunday after church and gave me fourteen dozen eggs and I have passed them on to others. I think that I dropped off four dozen for Bill and Londa, a dozen for Rick, Peppy took a dozen as did Therese and Jerry. Tomorrow Ashley will get four dozen, and I'm using up three for me. Already have boiled a dozen and have made egg salad sandwiches and just peeled half a dozen and put them into the fridge to grab and go... On Monday I had a 'cook and prod' session. The dry sauna was very relaxing, the deep muscle massage was painful at times but did a good job of releasing progressive knots in my legs. After I was finished, I picked up some supplies for the shop and delivered them. I also took the time to have a cup or two of coffee with Margie and Sally. The ladies and I had a good visit filled with laughter.

Wednesday morning in the fog and rain, Margie and I went down to Farmington Hills for a medical appointment. I got to ride in the shot gun seat and saw more than I wanted. I have seldom seen folks driving down the highway at seventy-five to eighty miles per hour, in the rain and heavy fog... And I was shocked to see some of these drivers texting as they drove. I know that it is done, but I had never seen anyone traveling at high speed on a crowded highway doing it. Thank the Good Lord that the trip was a safe and uneventful... I would call it a miracle. When we got back to Lansing, we stopped at Costco and Sam's, depleted my wallet. I had a twelve dozen eggs, cream, chocolate chips, bulk yeast, and peanut butter to carry into the shop. Somehow I was a bit clumsy and almost dropped a box that contained the chips and a couple of gallons of milk as I entered the shop... thank goodness that the main tables stopped my fall and nothing was damaged when I did the drop. Then I had to go get the box filled with the twelve dozen eggs. I just set them on the floor and shoved them across the rug, then stepped up and into the shop. Closed the door. Picked up the box and carried it to the fridge in the back room. Fortunately no dropping or falling into the eggs. I got home at four-ish and provided Pru with her lap bonus. I fell asleep at seven forty and slept until eleven, woke up and watched Deep Space Nine for an hour or two. Went back to sleep until Pru woke me up at 4:45 AM. A new day dawned...

FYI, I was functional on Tuesday. I made a couple of loaves of sauerkraut rye bread. Also banana nut bread and cupcakes. On Thursday Peppy made some more of her wonderful bagel knots and we did the hustle shuffle to keep up with our customers. I got the pie crust made for the lemon meringue pie which is one of the items that is in the Fire Department's auction on Saturday. I also am making a German Chocolate cake delivered in a crystal pedestal domed cake plate for the auction. Donny will be picking them up at eleven Friday morning, I recommended that someone come with him to balance the cake plate. That is all that has kept me functional. May your days be filled with purpose and laughter. God bless you for sharing.

Crystal Mitchell©2026



Faith Focus

by Phil Hoppersberger
www.TotallyWriteousCopy.com
"The best writing service bard none."

"The Dandelion Dash"

"Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. The wind blows, and we are gone – as though we had never been here (Psalm 103:15-16)."

Twenty Questions was a favorite game in our family. We played it all the time. I remember winning as a boy with my clever secret that no one guessed – Godzilla's big toe (on his left foot). Why do we like to guess? To be surprised? Show off our smarts? I'm not sure, but guessing can be cheap entertainment these days and yet worth millions.

"What's My Line?" was America's favorite guessing game on TV for 17 lucrative seasons. A four-person panel of celebrities had to figure out each guest's unique occupation with questions. For the finale, the panelists were blindfolded and had to guess the identity of a famous personality – the Mystery Guest – who toyed with their asks.

One Mystery Guest was the daughter of "one of the most famous people in the whole world." The New York Times quoted his honorary Oscar as the person who had "the incalculable effect...in making motion pictures the art form of this century!" His was perhaps the greatest rags-to-riches story ever told – a modern rival to Charles Dickens.

If I said his last name, you may shrug – but if you did recognize him, I doubt you've ever watched one of his 82 films (two are in the AFI Top 100 Films). Sadly, this fulfils King David's line above "as though we had never been here." In old age, he once said, "My only enemy is time." And it would seem so. Can you guess this global legend?

Time magazine listed him in the "100 Most Important People of the 20th Century." He was born into poverty in London with an absent father and an insane mother, but went on to transform Hollywood, got exiled for moral turpitude and communism, and was worth 100 million when he died at 88 on Christmas day in Switzerland. His body was dug up and ransomed for \$600,000 – he even acted with Uncle Fester of "The Addams Family."

If you've not guessed him yet, maybe try the most important riddle of all – why am I here? That's the Godzilla left toe problem we all struggle to answer. If one of the most famous people of all time is forgotten, a literal icon of the century, what's the point of life? Is there a grand purpose? Here's a third riddle that may help point us to that big answer.

"I'm on a tombstone, but I'm not a letter or a number, and I sum up your whole life in an inch. What am I?" The answer is not only on a gravestone, but it's also in this title and in each paragraph. Between your birth-date and your death-date, there's a mark...a tiny dash that represents your whole life. Like a child's puff on a dying dandelion, even the greatest life is brief, tiny, and soon forgotten to the winds of time...a dandelion dash.

But the good news is that this inch, our "life dash," can run right through our death date – crossing it out forever. Look at 1 John 5:11-13. "And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. Whoever has the Son has life: whoever does not have God's Son does not have life. I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life."

There's no more guessing now. We can know for sure that the purpose of life is to be reconciled with our God and to be with Him forever (Romans 5:8-11). Jesus is the ultimate Mystery Guest that can make your tiny "dash" go on forever, if you remove your blindfold. So, time's up. Did you guess Geraldine's Father – the great Charlie Chaplin?



Planet Perspectives

by Alison Kozlowski

Earth Hour

March 28, 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. is Earth Hour 2026. Earth Hour is an initiative organized by the World Wildlife Fund to combat climate change and spread sustainability awareness. Since 2007, it has been held annually on the last Saturday of March to align with the spring and autumn equinoxes in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. The concept is for individuals and businesses to switch off

non-essential electric lights for one hour. 190 countries participate in the symbolic gesture, along with hundreds of landmarks. Some of the most iconic are the Eiffel Tower, Sydney Opera House, Colosseum, Big Ben, and the Empire State Building. However in 2023, due to increased threats to the planet, the initiative's direction shifted to beyond just turning off the lights. Now it encourages people to give an hour for Earth. This means spending the 60 minutes doing anything positive for the planet. You can reconnect with nature, expand your knowledge on sustainability, or inspire others to take action. You can find ways to spend the hour from categories like fitness, creativity, and entertainment, on the Earth Hour website. Join the united commitment and give an hour to help our planet!



Religious Thoughts

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

"If anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation. The old has gone, the new is here!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17

When you believe in Christ, you become a new person. You are still you, but now God will begin to make you into the person whom God created you to be.

In Christ, we have new minds. New ways of thinking about things. New ways of seeing the world. New ways of acting.

For example, loving our enemies becomes a real possibility. Being able to forgive someone doesn't just sound nice for someone else, but now it becomes something that we can do too.

Getting rid of that pesky sin or bad habit becomes doable. With God's help, we can get rid of temptation instead of giving in time and time again. Now we have a shot at real victory!

As Paul encourages us when he writes, "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

1 Corinthians 10:13

Peter writes, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good."

"Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

1 Peter 2:2-3, 1:13-16

This isn't a call to earn salvation by good works, or attempt for God to love us more because of our good behavior. Rather, as people who already know the Lord and so have received salvation, we should walk in obedience to Him and His Word. Obedience to God frees us from sin, gives us peace, and draws us ever closer to Jesus our Savior.

Our personal relationship with God is the key here. With the help of the Holy Spirit living inside of us, we delight to be in God's presence. As we live with God, He changes us and we desire to be changed. God does His part and we do ours; working together so we can live godly lives with God, for God and for the benefit of others.



Editorial

Editorials are welcome.
250 words or less.
Email to:
news@meridianweekly.com
Must include name.

Spring Farm Section

Ovid-Elsie FFA Chapter Members Receive Multiple State Recognitions

submitted by Ovid-Elsie FFA Chapter Vice President, Danica Bancroft

On March 4th, 5th, and 6th, the Ovid-Elsie FFA traveled to the campus of Michigan State University for the 98th Michigan FFA State Convention. The FFA Chapter and its members brought home numerous awards. Ovid-Elsie FFA is proud of the hard work by its members and that was rewarded at the 98th Michigan FFA State Convention.

Individual members were recognized during the Convention week. Clarissa Baese, Danica Bancroft, Joshua Miller (Gold), Jillian Williams, and Alexis Lucier received the highest honor given by the Michigan FFA Association, the State FFA Degree. Several Ovid-Elsie FFA members received the Michigan FFA Outstanding Junior Award for meeting the requirements set by the Michigan FFA Association. Those members include: Meadow Evans, Ashlyn Fabus, Mitchell Gonzalez, Abigail Lehman, Laila Hoch, Jeremiah Stewart, Jacob Miller. Ovid-Elsie FFA members received recognition for their high academic achievement. Juniors receive silver and seniors receive gold level status. Abigail Lehman was awarded Silver (junior grade level), and Clarissa Baese, Danica Bancroft, and Joshua Miller were honored with the Gold (senior grade level) award for academic excellence.

Ashlyn Fabus, Lila Goodrich, and Jillian Williams were chosen to represent the Ovid-Elsie



State Winning Jr High Conduct of Meetings Team: (L to R): Kayden Harnick, Colton Stornant, Eduardo Rodriguez-Oliva, Haley Stewart, Isabella Willams, Ashlynn Rasmussen, Maggie Moore



Michigan FFA Outstanding Junior recipients: (L to R): Jacob Miller, Abigail Lehman, Meadow Evans, Laila Hoch, Ashlyn Fabus, Jeremiah Stewart



FFA Chapter as a delegate to the State FFA Association. These members traveled to the Michigan Capitol in Lansing with other FFA members from across the State, to meet with Michigan legislators. They also had the opportunity to vote on the 2026-2027 Michigan FFA Association State Officer Team. The chapter delivered pop taps to the State FFA Association's community service project which takes that money and donates it to the Ronald McDonald House. Congratulations to Ovid-Elsie FFA member Danica Bancroft for being elected to serve as the 2026-2027 Michigan FFA State Officer Team as Vice-President at Large.

Multiple members recognized for the state proficiency awards in each of their respective SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) areas, Meadow Evans received a bronze award for her proficiency in Sheep Production. Abigail Lehman received a silver award for Diversified Livestock Production. Clarissa Baese received a gold award for Dairy Production Placement. Danica Bancroft received a gold award for Beef Entrepreneurship. JD Miller received a gold award for Diversified Agricultural Production.

Lilian Miller received a gold award and was the State Winner for Jr. High Public Speaking and our Jr. High Conduct of Meeting Team received a gold award and State Alternate Winner. Members of that team were: Kayden Harnick, Colton Stornant, Eduardo Rodriguez-Oliva, Haley Stewart, Isabella Willams, Ashlynn Rasmussen, Maggie Moore.

The chapter is very proud of all of the accomplishments of its members.

FERRALL'S TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL

Spring Deep Root Fertilization and Injection



WE HAVE 3 ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST ON STAFF FOR COMPLETE TREE HEALTH CARE

Old Fashioned Service with Modern Technology

FERRALL'S TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL

"Tree Health MI Dept. of Agriculture Licensed"

Experienced • Equipped • Insured

(989) 666-0561 or (989) 862-4453

www.ferrallstree.com

To be a farmer is to be a student forever. For each day brings something new. - John Connell

your farm is special. your coverage should be too.
simple human sense.

Ovid Service Agency Inc.

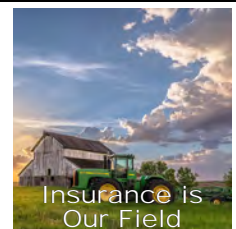
104 N Main St
Ovid, MI 48866
989-834-2288

Auto-Owners
INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

FARM OWNERS



Sovis Insurance Agency
615 W. Broad St. • Chesaning, MI 48616
(989) 845-3400 • www.sovisins.com



"Providing Protection Since 1945" Contact Us Today!

For Your Best Deal
On a New or Used Vehicle!



Dave Sanders

GARBER
Chevrolet - Buick

Located at the Corner of M-52 and M-57 • CHESANING, MI
989-845-3057 • 800-882-4563
989-725-7096



BUICK

CHEVROLET

Spring Farm Section

Ovid-Elsie FFA cont'd from pg 8



Academic Excellence Gold Awards (L to R): Danica Bancroft, Joshua Miller, Clarissa Baese



Junior High Public Speaking, State Alternate Winner, Lillian Miller.



Newly elected, 2026-2027 Michigan FFA State Officer, Danica Bancroft, Vice President at Large



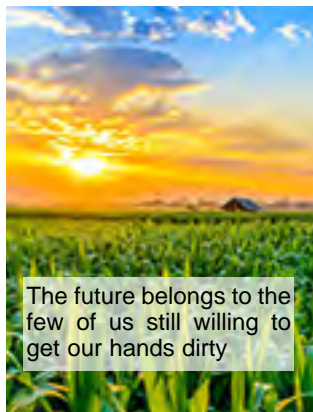
Michigan FFA State Degree recipients: (L to R) Alexis Lucier, Danica Bancroft, Joshua Miller, Jillian Williams

- Septic Cleaning
- Drainfield & System Repair
- Excavating Service

Family Owned & Operated in St. Johns Since 1952
989-224-3766
517-749-5532

This farm has been your life. We know. Farming's in our blood, too.
 We'll help you get the most money possible for your land or equipment.
For the return of a lifetime's work, make no mistake!

SHERIDAN
 REALTY & AUCTION CO.
(517) 676-9800
SheridanAuctionService.com



The future belongs to the few of us still willing to get our hands dirty

Boost Your Hay Harvest!

See Us For All Seed Options
 Alfalfa, Grass, Sorghum, Corn

MICHIGAN LIVESTOCK SERVICE INC.
 110 N. MAIN, OVID • 989-834-2661

Applebee
 Oil & Propane

Proudly serving customers throughout Mid-Michigan for 50 years!

- Commercial • Residential • Farm

24-Hour Self-Service Card System

- Fuel Oil • Gasoline • Diesel Fuel
- Propane • Recreational Gas

Visit Us Online
www.applebeeoil.com

108 N. Mill St. Ovid 989-834-2828

603 E. Steel St. St. Johns 989-224-3875

Spring Farm Section

Technology Innovation and Climate Intelligence Headline Michigan's AgroExpo 2026

By Jennifer Kiel, reposted from Farm Progress, jennifer.kiel@farmprogress.com

Farmers, mark your calendars. AgroExpo 2026 is set to return Aug. 11-12 to St. Johns, Mich., bringing nationally recognized experts, cutting-edge technology and practical solutions tailored to the agricultural community.

This year's event promises to inspire and empower farmers with keynote presentations from global futurist Jack Uldrich and climatologist Austin Pearson, alongside hands-on activities, seed plot evaluations and much more.

The show kicks off each day at 8:30 a.m. at the AgroExpo grounds with a lineup designed to help farmers stay ahead in an ever-changing industry.



Jack Uldrich



Austin Pearson

Game-changing keynotes

Jack Uldrich, a globally renowned futurist and author of "A Smarter Farm: How AI is Revolutionizing the Future of Agriculture," will take the stage at 10 a.m. Aug. 11.

Uldrich will explore how artificial intelligence, automation and rapid technological advancements are transforming modern farming. His keynote will challenge farmers to embrace change, adopt innovative strategies and position their operations for long-term success in a competitive market.

At 10 a.m. Aug. 12, climatologist Austin Pearson will deliver a presentation that hits close to home for Midwest producers.

As assistant state climatologist with the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, Pearson specializes in making complex climate data actionable for farmers. His talk will focus on shifting Midwest climate patterns, drought monitoring and tools to help farmers manage risks and build resilience in the face of unpredictable weather.

Designed for farmers, by farmers

"Producers today are navigating both technological acceleration and increased weather variability," said Marnie Swartzendruber, event manager. "By pairing innovation strategy with climate intelligence, AgroExpo is delivering information that directly supports farm profitability and sustainability."

Beyond the keynotes, AgroExpo 2026 offers a wealth of opportunities for farmers to learn, connect and experience the latest in agriculture. Here are a few examples:

Seed plot showcases. Compare hybrids and varieties from major seed companies in real-world field conditions, giving you the insights you need to make informed decisions for your operation.

Tractor ride-and-drive.

Get behind the wheel of the latest equipment and experience cutting-edge technology firsthand.

Educational programming. Dive into sessions on farm safety, profitability strategies and sustainability practices tailored to today's challenges.

Each morning will begin with a patriotic tribute, featuring the national anthem, followed by a breathtaking World War II Warbird flyover. This special moment honors American service members and sets the tone for two unforgettable days.

For more information and updates, visit the AgroExpo website.



AgroExpo 2026 is set for Aug. 11-12 in St. Johns, Mich.

Photo by Jennifer Kiel

SEE US FIRST!



1003 S. Washington, Owosso



Engine Overhauls

Tractor & Backhoe Repair

NEW • USED • REBUILT

- Carburetor Rebuilding
- Magneto Rebuilding
- Hydraulic Pump Rebuilding
- John Deere 2 Cylinder Power Steering Rebuilding & Repair

Local (989) 729-6567

Mackinac Bridge
Antique Tractor Crossing
Saturday
September 6, 2025

jeremy@owossotractorparts.com



www.owossotractorparts.com

Holes - N - More - LLC

6 in. 12 in. 18 in. 24 in. 30 in. Holes

Bobcat Service of All Types



Concrete Tear-Out and Replace
New Concrete Flat Work
Preparation for Concrete

Ron Keck

Cell 517-896-5261

"Your Hole is Our Goal"
Insured

MID-MICHIGAN LIME & GYPSUM



FOR LAND SAKES - LIME IT

We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them!

Products Available

- Gypsum • Beet Lime • Dolomite Lime • Poultry Fertilizer
- Municipal Waste Spreading • Total Custom Spreading
- Pen Packed Manure Spreading
- All Spreaders GPS Bar Equipped For Accuracy

Greg DeMott

583 W. Roosevelt Road, Ashley, MI 48806

Bus. 989-838-4103 Fx 989-838-2260 Cell 517-204-3013

Sports



Marrisona Kremer



Robert Kral

Ashley All Conference

by Ashleigh Shaw

Two athletes from Ashley were selected for all MSAC teams this season. Senior Robert Kral received honorable mention all-conference, while Junior Marissa Kremer, who was a part of the co-op team at Merrill, received first team all-conference.

Congratulations to those athletes.



Brooklyn Holm



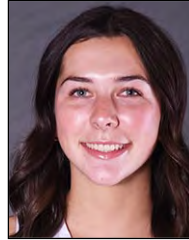
Lilli Morrill



Mallory Woodbury



Harper Strouse



Paige Woodbury



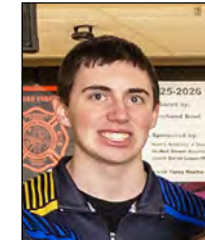
Brooke Pugsley



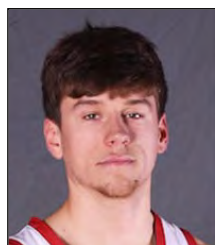
Devyn Pugsley



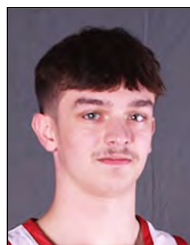
Victoria Dennis



Teagen Ignash



Leandro Dolega-Caceres



Kollin Bentley-Barr



Josiah Hawes

Trio of Wolfpack Standouts Named to All-CMAC Basketball Team

LAINGSBURG -- In a solid, up-and-down, never-say-die season, the Wolfpack boys basketball team managed to carve out a winning record.

Coach Tim Beebe's Wolves just would have liked more games to prove themselves.

LHS started slow and picked up steam, winning 7 of their last 9 contests, finishing middle-of-the-pack in Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) competition -- then putting the finishing touches on a memorable campaign with a MHSAA District championship.

Beebe talks often about a legacy at Laingsburg ... and he's right. The District crown, what seemed improbable if not impossible at season's outset, was the program's 6th since 2010.

The season officially ended with the naming of the All-CMAC honor team for 2025-26, last week in coaches' voting.

Senior leader Leandro Dolega-Caceres, made the 1st Team with a 9.5 points scoring average and 6.1 rebounds per contest.

Senior sniper Kollin Bentley-Barr averaged 6 points per outing, and led the Wolfpack with thirty made 3-point field goals.

Senior forward Josiah Hawes was good 8.6 points per game, 6.3 rebounds, and also showed a keen shooting eye with nineteen made 3-point field goals.

"This was an inspiring team, an inspiring group of seniors," said coach Beebe. "They motivated me at practice every day. They accomplished things some people thought they couldn't accomplish. Laingsburg has built a great program over the years, and these guys did it proud. We're going to miss this group of seniors -- who were in the gym each and every day showing our younger guys how to get it done."

Five Lady Wolfpack Cagers Haul in Post-Season Honors After Run in Regionals

LAINGSBURG -- After an impressive run to the MHSAA Regional tournament, five Lady Wolfpack standouts have begun amassing postseason honors.

Seniors Harper Strouse and Mallory Woodbury, juniors Payge Woodworth and Lilli Morrill, and sophomore Brooklyn Holm were all selected to the 2025-26 All-CMAC Girls Basketball Team in voting by the league's coaches.

Holm was feted as 1st Team All-Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC). The soph guard averaged 13.7 points and 4.5 rebounds per contest while also dealing out more than two assists in each outing. It was her second-straight season as an All-CMAC 1st Teamer.

Morrill and Woodworth, both juniors, also repeated on the All-CMAC Team. Lilli was the Wolfpack's leading rebounder at 6.9 caroms per game. She also averaged double figures at 10.2 per contest. Woodworth, the Wolfpack quarterback from her point guard spot, dealt 3.1 assists per outing and average 5.8 points. She also joined Morrill at leading LHS in steals with a 2.2 average.

Woodbury, the Wolves' senior sharpshooter, earned a nod on the All-CMAC 2nd Team after averaging 10.2 points, 3.9 rebounds and 1.2 assists each game.

Strouse makes her first appearance on the All-CMAC squad, matching Morrill as the team's leading rebounder at nearly 7 per game. Harper also averaged 3.9 rebounds and 1.7 steals.

"I'm very proud of our girls and it was a true pleasure to coach them this team," said veteran coach Daniel Morrill. "Our 5 seniors (Woodbury, Strouse, Savvy Stirm, Peyton Stahr and Bella Latuszek) were among the most coachable group of seniors I have ever worked with."

"All of them were exceptional teammates, only wanting to work hard and get better. Our program will miss them, our community will miss watching them, and I will personally miss them."

Ovid-Elsie MMAC Bowling All Conference

The MMAC has announced the All Conference Bowling Teams.

BOYS:

1st Team: Devyn Pugsley with a 187 average
Honorable Mention: Teagen Ignash

GIRLS:

1st Team: Brooke Pugsley with a 177 average
Honorable Mention: Victoria Dennis

O-E Bowling Banquet

submitted by Matt Fabus

Both teams, Varsity and JV gathered on March 12th for a potluck dinner and awards in the high school cafeteria.

Awards for the girls varsity were Brooke Pugsley MVP; Victoria Dennis most improved; Abby Orweller most inspirational.

The varsity boys Devyn Pugsley MVP; Teagen Ignash most improved; Collin Jullie most inspirational.

On the JV side John Wilcox MVP; Chaycen Thornton most improved; Henry Remenar best sportsmanship.

The coaches would like to thank all the supporting parents and the community over the season.

Also big thanks to the coaches Darin and Liz Underhill and Asst. Grace Schultz.





Family Owned & Operated Since 1965

Septic Tank Service

- Portable Restrooms • Commercial/Residential
- Septic Tank Cleaning • Drain Cleaning

Licensed & Insured

Call (989) 845-6280 • Chesaning



Memorial Healthcare Welcomes Internal Medicine Provider to Perry

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso, Michigan – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to welcome Dr. Wendy King to our active medical staff and to the Perry community.

Dr. King earned her medical degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine and graduated in the top 10% of her class. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Michigan State University Associated



Dr. Wendy King

Hospitals and was awarded “Outstanding Senior Resident.”

Prior to joining Memorial Healthcare, Dr. King worked at Wyoming VA Clinic in Wyoming, Michigan providing outpatient care to a large veteran population with a focus on women’s health. Dr. King also practiced at the former Owosso Medical Group, and as a Hospitalist at Memorial Healthcare.

Dr. King has over 20 years of dedicated experience providing comprehensive care to adult patients. Throughout her career, she has specialized in preventive care, chronic disease management, and feels it is important to work closely with patients to develop personalized treatment plans that support long-term health and wellness. Her decades of experience enable her to approach each case with insight and precision, while maintaining a strong focus on patient education and collaborative decision-making.

Dr. King is currently accepting new patients with most insurances.

For more information, please visit, www.MemorialHealthcare.org.

Hometown Health Heroes Honored by Michigan Public Health Week Partnership

submitted by Laina Stebbins

LANSING – As part of Public Health Week in Michigan, 10 individuals and organizations were presented with the 2026 Hometown Health Hero Award for their contributions to protecting and improving the health of Michigan residents. The Michigan Public Health Week Partnership, a collaboration of state and local health agencies, universities and organizations dedicated to advancing public health, presents the awards each spring. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is a founding member of this partnership.

“Michigan Public Health Week is an opportunity to recognize the individuals and organizations that go above and beyond to protect and improve the health of their communities,” said Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director. “The Hometown Health Heroes we honor today demonstrate the dedication, innovation and collaboration that strengthen public health across our state. Their work helps ensure that all Michigan residents have the opportunity to live healthier, safer lives.”

2026 Hometown Health Heroes Local Award Winner

The awardees were honored at a ceremony in the State House Office Building Wednesday, March 18. More information about the awards can be found on the

Joe Hammontree

Joe Hammontree’s work as director of food access and support with the Shiawassee YMCA has expanded access to resources for residents across Shiawassee County, where more than 10,000 people seek food assistance annually. Since 2024, Hammontree’s work with the county’s Food Access Workgroup has improved coordination of food pantries, expanded fresh food distribution, launched home delivery to hard-to-reach rural areas and created new emergency food options. Hammontree also played a central role in establishing and operating a community Warming Center, providing warmth, nutritious meals and wraparound services during winter months. Through extensive volunteer hours beyond his paid role, Hammontree’s leadership has strengthened community resilience, improved health outcomes and ensured dignity for Shiawassee County’s most vulnerable residents.

Friends of Laingsburg Public Library

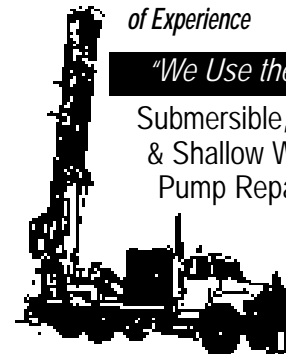
A fundraiser for the Friends of Laingsburg Public Library will be held March 22-28 in combination with Schuler Books Book Days.

Designate your Schuler Book Days purchase at the check-out and 20% of the proceeds will benefit the Laingsburg Public Library. Use the assigned web promo code for online purchases. Promo Code: LAINGSBURGLIB

Hall Well Drilling

Three Generations of Experience

• Rock Wells • Gravel Wells
• Plastic Well Screens



“We Use the Finest Quality Materials”

Submersible, Jet & Shallow Well Pump Repair

Jake Hall (989) 723-1104
Rod Hall (989) 627-4719

2517 W. Dewey Rd., Owosso

FREE ESTIMATES

Laingsburg Lions Springtime Festival Raffle

The Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Festival Raffle tickets are available for purchase from any Lions Club Member or at The Meridian Weekly office in Ovid. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20, drawing date will be Monday, May 25, 2026 at 3pm at McClintock Park Amphitheater.



Prizes are as follows: 1st-Custom Golf Cart, 2nd-\$1,000 Weekend Get-a-Way, 3rd-\$600 MysteryPrize, 4th- \$500 Cash, 5th-\$400 In Local Business Gift Cards, 6th-\$300 Cash, 7th-\$200 Cash and 8th-\$100 Cash. Need not be present to win, get your tickets today...

Ovid Historical History Room Hours Change

The Ovid Historical Society History Room, located inside the Ovid Public Library, has changed their hours open to the public to every Monday from 1pm-3pm. For more information or to set up an appointment, call Ken Miller at 989-666-6826 or by email at ovidite@yahoo.com

Venetian Blind Co. of Mid-Michigan

Everything for your windows except the view!

Eric Brown

Certified Professional Installer

208 W. High St.

Ovid, MI 48866

989-666-0445

VenetianBlindLLC@yahoo.com

10% OFF ANY ORDER with this coupon

COUPON Spring Tractor & Zero Turn Tune-Up Special!



Right Now

20 Point Tune-Up

Regular \$179.99 Only \$149 plus parts

Similar Savings on Push Mower Tune-Ups

Ovid Outdoor Power

9055 M-21, Ovid Pickup & Delivery Available
Phone: 834-5511 ovidoutdoorpower@gmail.com

COUPON

WE WORK HERE



WE LIVE HERE

• Foundation Issues • Sagging Floors • Bowing Walls • Sump Pumps • Crawl Spaces • Crack Injection
ELSIE • PHONE: (517) 327-3446 • Ask About Our Senior Citizen and Veteran Discounts!

CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - CLINTON COUNTY

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 April 15, 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: Mortgagor(s): Evelyn D'Haene, an unmarried woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: March 7, 2023 Recorded on March 15, 2023, in Document No. 5333539, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Huntington National Bank Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Seven and 05/100 Dollars (\$143,527.05) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Clinton County, and described as: Parcel 1 Lot 91 and the East 5 feet in width of Lot 92, of SUPERVISOR'S PLAT OF VALLEY FARMS NO. 2, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats on Page 42. Parcel 2 The West 80 feet of Lot 92, of SUPERVISOR'S PLAT OF VALLEY FARMS NO. 2, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats on Page 42. Commonly known as 1401 and 1403 Bennett, Lansing, MI 48906 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale will be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. 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 been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The Huntington National Bank Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1586998
(03-08)(03-29)



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

The DONALD WIEBER LIVING TRUST dated April 8, 1996 TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent DONALD WIEBER who lived at 1507 Glastonbury Drive, St. Johns, Michigan 48879 Died on January 13, 2026 Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustees of the DONALD WIEBER LIVING TRUST dated April 8, 1996 within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

John E. Wieber
3213 Banner Road
St. Johns, Michigan 48879
(989) 640-0742
Prall Law, PC
Alexa B. Prall, P83426
201 E. State Street
St. Johns, MI 48879

(03-22)

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

CASE NO: 26-32817-DE Estate of KENNETH COON Date of birth: January 27, 1946 TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent KENNETH COON Died on January 18, 2026 Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Mary Flanner, 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.

Mary Flanner
707 E. Baldwin St.
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989) 627-7397
Alexa B. Prall, P83426
201 E. State St.
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989) 224-9449

(03-22)

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE STATE OF MICHIGAN 29TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION COUNTY OF CLINTON

CASE NO: 26-32884-NC In the matter of JESSICA DOMINGUEZ TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable) whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: JESSICA DOMINGUEZ has filed a petition for name change. A name change hearing will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026 at 8:16 a.m. at 100 E. State Street, 4th Floor Courtroom St. Johns, Michigan 48879, before Judge Lisa Sullivan to change the name of JESSICA DOMINGUEZ to JESSICA PERLA

(03-22)

The Meridian Weekly



News/General:
news@meridianweekly.com

Publisher:
deb.price@meridianweekly.com

Display Advertising:
ads@meridianweekly.com

(989) 834-2264

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Tri-County Office on Aging will hold public hearings to solicit input on its Fiscal Year 2027-2029 Multi-Year Plan (MYP): May 6 at 1:00PM at the Briggs St. Johns Library, May 11 at 11:00AM at the Charlotte Library, and May 14 at 1:00PM at Tri-County Office on Aging (with light refreshments) and on Microsoft Teams.

The MYP Summary and more information will be on Tri-County Office on Aging's website (tcoa.org/about) by April 15. Comments will be accepted through May 14.

Contact Kate Long to request special accommodation (by May 1), submit written comment (by May 14), or to request a copy: call (517) 887-1348 or write Kate Long at Tri-County Office on Aging, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Building 1, Lansing, MI 48911 or by email to longk@tcoa.org.

Rep. BeGole's "Right to Race" Proposal Motors Through Michigan House

submitted by Denny Schwarze

A bill from state Rep. Brian BeGole that works to protect a critical local economic driver for many communities throughout the state passed through the Michigan House today.

BeGole's "Right to Race" legislation, House Bill 5652, provides immunity for established racetracks from noise lawsuits filed by people who have moved near an existing track. There are nearly 50 racetracks in Michigan spread across 30 counties, and some have been sued for noise nuisance arguments despite approved activity occurring at the track and operators complying with various local permits and safety regulations.

In 2025, a Michigan court ordered a drag racing track in Onondaga to cease operations immediately due to a lawsuit based on noise.

"These types of frivolous lawsuits are increasingly common, and they threaten livelihoods throughout Michigan," BeGole said. "People can choose if they want to live near a racetrack or not, and with that comes the understanding that there will occasionally be noise associated. Many of these tracks have been staples within their towns and communities for decades. Every year they provide seasonal jobs and a constant influx of funds into local economies. They support local vendors throughout the area. We shouldn't be shutting down tracks and taking away jobs and economic viability because someone knowingly moved nearby and has a problem with it. This is a commonsense approach that works to curb issues going forward."

BeGole compared the legislation to Michigan's Right to Farm law signed in 1981, which protects commercial farms from nuisance lawsuits involving noise, odor or dust.

Earlier this month, BeGole welcomed Owosso Speedway Operations Lead Dennis Wheeler and owner Rex Wheeler when HB 5652 received testimony before the House Government Operations Committee. Dennis Wheeler thanked the committee, chaired by BeGole, for bringing up the bill for a hearing and spoke on the need for the proposal as well as the ramifications of noise-related lawsuits. BeGole represents Owosso in the Michigan House.

"Owosso Speedway has been part of our community for 87 years," Dennis Wheeler said, noting that motorsports in Shiawassee County produced almost \$33 million in economic impact last year. "We are many things, not just a racetrack. We are a small business. We're an employer, a tourism driver, and a gathering place for families across mid-Michigan. ... House Bill 5652 reinforces a simple but fair principle: if a racetrack was established lawfully and continues to operate in compliance with the law (and local ordinances), it should not be forced out by newcomers. This bill does not remove oversight. It does not eliminate environmental protections. It does not excuse bad actors. It simply provides stability and predictability for facilities that are already following the rules."

The plan now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Consumers Energy Promotes Home Heating Credit to Help Customers Pay Energy Bills

submitted by Brian Wheeler

JACKSON – Now that tax season is here, Consumers Energy is preparing and supporting customers by helping them to apply for the Michigan Home Heating Credit. The annual credit helps thousands of households manage their expenses each year, providing an average benefit of nearly \$200.

"We know many people are concerned about rising costs across the board, so it's our priority to provide connections to dollars and resources that make a difference every day," said Lauren Snyder, Consumers Energy's senior vice president and chief customer and growth officer. "We are here to connect you with help now and all through the year."

The Home Heating Credit (MI-1040CR-7) is provided by the State of Michigan to help families recover heating costs from last year, offering dollars today. People are eligible if their income is at or below 110% of the federal poverty level, or \$35,365 for a family of four. Customers do not need to file taxes to receive this credit.

To make the process easier, many families can get an inside track to the credit by calling 2-1-1. The free 2-1-1 service connects people with free tax preparation services through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites.

Consumers Energy is actively helping customers on the heels of last month's record cold snap that is leading to higher bills. Helping customers stay warm and supported is Consumers Energy's #1 priority today and the rest of this season.

Consumers Energy is identifying customers whose bills may be the most affected by the cold, and planning more direct outreach that helps them make payments and reduce energy use to lower future bills. The company also provided \$5 million to 11 nonprofit organizations that are actively helping people with energy bills.

People can learn more about how Consumers Energy helps customers at ConsumersEnergy.com/assistance.

"Whether it's the Home Heating Credit or other programs, no one has to go it alone when facing hardship," Snyder said. "We want people to know Consumers Energy and so many others are standing with our friends and neighbors, supporting them no matter the situation."

CITY OF LAINGSBURG NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

The Laingsburg City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Laingsburg City Hall to receive public comment on the proposed Rental Registration Ordinance. The proposed ordinance would establish a rental registration program, including requirements for registration, inspection, and compliance for rental properties within the City.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review at Laingsburg City Hall during regular business hours and on the City's website at www.laingsburg.us. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk at clerk@laingsburg.us prior to the hearing.

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.

The City of Laingsburg will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities upon reasonable notice to the City Clerk.

Kim Hamilton, City Clerk, City of Laingsburg.

CLASSIFIEDS DIRECTORY

AUCTION

Schmitz Moving Online Auction: Features 1963 Ford F100, custom motorcycles, trike, trailers, shop equipment, lifts, welders, Stihl tools, much more. This, other fun auctions at

Bid.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com. Need an auction? Call 1-800-835-0495. CPM

Discover premium antiques, vintage treasures, books, sports cards, signed memorabilia, art, firearms and much, much more! High-demand items across multiple auctions! Bid now at BidItMi.com. Estate Auction Experts of Michigan, 313-600-5451. CPM

April Online Consignment Auction! Featuring 2014 Ford F350, '08 Jeep Compass, '04 Dakota, '08 Outlook, '11 Cruze. Firearms, coins, collectibles, tools. Something for everyone! Visit NarhiAuctions.com for listings. Call 810-266-6474 today. CPM

APARTMENT FOR RENT

ELSIE 2 Bedroom 2nd floor. All utilities included. No smoking. No pets. \$1,000 deposit. \$1,000/mth. Call Ed Thornton 989-862-4889. 1829tf

BUILDING

AMISH-built storage sheds starting at \$2,500. We deliver anywhere in Michigan! Call 989-832-1866. DanDanTheMattressMan.com CPM

BUSINESS SERVICES

METAL ROOFING regular and shingle style, HALF OFF SPECIAL COLORS! Lifetime hail asphalt shingles. Vinyl siding. Licensed and insured builders for 40 years. AMISH CREW. 517-575-3695. CPM

ELECTRICAL

LENON ELECTRIC & SON: 989-640-5169. Residential, Commercial. Emergency Calls. 24 Hour Service. Licensed & Insured. EOW

FURNITURE

ADJUSTABLE BED Brand New with mattress. Made in U.S.A, in plastic, with warranty. Retail Cost \$3,995.00 sacrifice for \$875.00 Call for showing or delivery: DanDanTheMattressMan.com. 989-923-1278 CPM

Call or Email The Weekly to get your ad here!
989-834-2264
Ads@MeridianWeekly.com

HALL RENTALS

NEWLY REFURNISHED HALL: \$800 and \$400 for 1/2 hall rental. St. Johns K of C. Call rental agent Diane Smith (989) 227-2233 or (989) 620-1693. EOW

ELSIE: Elsie American Legion Hall Rental. 220 S. Ovid, St., Elsie. Call for more information 989-494-6987. 1538 EOW

SERVICES

J & M WELL DRILLING & Service, Inc. Emergency Service. Perry 517-675-5956 Owosso 989-743-5626 Point of Sale Work, 5" PVC Well Drilling, Well Repairs, Pumps and Tanks, Chlorinating and Testing. www.waterhelpnow.com. TF

HANDYMAN: Leaf removal, eavestrough cleaning, power washing (houses & decks), or other odd jobs, painting (exterior & interior). Call Miller & Sons today 517-881-9977 or Linda 517-449-3261. 1687tf

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Good Dry Firewood For Sale: \$60 per face cord. Plus Delivery
FERRALL'S FIREWOOD: Family owned & operated for over 45 years. (989) 862-4453; (989) 666-0561 (call or text cell). 1765tf

BUY YOUR FIREWOOD NOW Mixed hardwood. Big truckload \$300. Get it split & stacked before next winter. Also buying logs, timber and property. 989-289-2329. 1829tf

OUTDOOR FURNACE

WOOD HEAT: Easy to operate and maintain. Central Boiler Certified, Classic Edge, Titanium HDX, Outdoor Wood Furnace: Call Today, Valentine Enterprise. (989) 862-5972. Elsie, MI 9/30/26

MISCELLANEOUS

Choose EarthLink Fiber Internet for speeds up to 5 Gigs, no data caps, no throttling. Prices starting at \$54.95. Plus, a \$100 gift card when you make the switch. Call 1-855-216-2202 CPM

MISCELLANEOUS

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-888-718-1856 CPM

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1 - 8 7 7 - 6 7 6 - 8 9 8 9 www.dental50plus.com/MLpapers #6258 CPM

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Weekly Service Directory...Where People Find What They're Looking For! 1

Miller/Bartz Septic
2 Locations
Ovid
834-2733
Owosso
743-5055
200 ft. of hose



Thornton & Sons Construction & Design Inc.
Licensed Builder
Lead Certified Renovator
Veterans Affairs Approved

- Remodeling Specialists • Kitchens • Bathrooms
- Wood Basements • New Homes • Architectural Design

Phone: 989-862-4889

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Weekly Service Directory... Where People Find What They're Looking For! 2

PERU Landscaping & Handyman
Now Scheduling Small Indoor Projects
Bathrooms • Flooring • Kitchens

Ray Peru Competitive Rates
(989) 251- 8531 Quality Work

Applebee Oil & Propane
108 N. Mill St., Ovid
989-834-2828 or
800-882-0876



FERRALL'S TREE
Tree Trimming & Removal, Inc. In Business
"Old Fashioned Service with Modern Technology"
3 ISA CERTIFIED ARBORISTS ON STAFF
Experienced • Equipped • Insured
Stump Removal
989-862-4453 ~ 989-666-0561




Maple River AUTO

- Full Service Auto Repair

9779 M-21, Ovid
(989) 834-5031

MICHIGAN LIVESTOCK SERVICE
Serving the Farm Community



989-834-2661
110 N. Main St., Ovid
M-F 9:30-3:30pm; Sat. 9:30-12:30pm

BURSLEY PLUMBING
Josh Bursley, Owner
(517) 899-6918
Ovid
www.bursleyplumbing.com
Established 2024
Residential and Light Commercial Plumbing
Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates



Advertise Your Business Here
only \$25 per week!
For More Info:
989-834-2264

Advertise Your Business Here
only \$25 per week!
For More Info:
989-834-2264

STEEL ROOFS & SIDEWALLS
Save your old barn and give it a new look!
Free estimates
JOHN REURINK - 616-481-0703 or 616-527-3635



Advertise weekly at the low, low rate of \$25 for a single directory or \$35 for a double directory, will buy your space in The Weekly Service Directory with a circulation of 11,000 papers! Run your ad weekly, and change it as needed!

Advertise weekly at the low, low rate of \$25 for a single directory or \$35 for a double directory, will buy your space in The Weekly Service Directory with a circulation of 11,000 papers! Run your ad weekly, and change it as needed!

OE MarauderBots Celebrated Historic Milestone

submitted by Belle Cooper

The MarauderBots, the robotics team from Ovid-Elsie High School, celebrated a historic milestone by helping secure first place at a district robotics competition held at Mount Pleasant High School.

The small but determined team was selected during alliance playoffs by the top two ranked teams: Lainsburg High School's Red Thunder Robotics and Grand Blanc High School's Engineerds. Together the alliance went on to win the event with little competition.

In previous seasons, Ovid-Elsie had struggled to make it far in playoffs, often being selected by higher-ranked teams but falling short of getting a first place trophy. In the previous two years, the Marauderbots secured two 2nd place trophies, but never secured a district win. Despite limited funding and a smaller roster, the team has steadily improved under Coach Jake Stewart, who began leading the program three years ago. The MarauderBots finally broke through this season to earn their first district victory. With the help of the Strong alliance leadership of Laingsburg and innovation of Grand Blanc, the team faced little struggle in finals.



The MarauderBots finally broke through this season to earn their first district victory. With the help of the Strong alliance leadership of Laingsburg and innovation of Grand Blanc, the team faced little struggle in finals.

Marauderbots team members contributing to the achievement include Jeremiah Stewart, Levi Stewart, Belle Cooper, Reid Roberts, Joshua Miller, and William Baese, whose dedication and teamwork helped make the historic win possible.



Marauderbots team includes Jeremiah Stewart, Levi Stewart, Belle Cooper, Reid Roberts, Joshua Miller, William Baese and coach Jake Stewart.

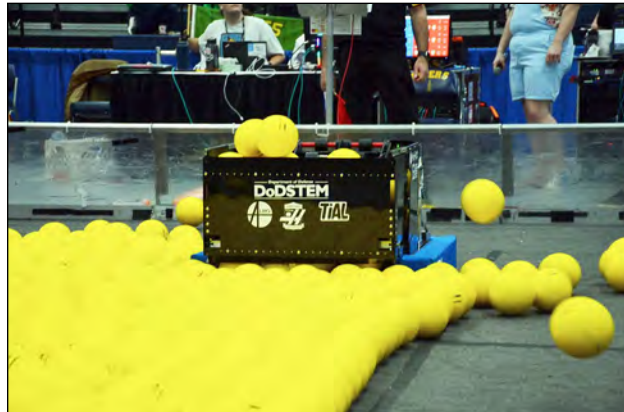
“This Is Our Year” Red Thunder Robotics Team ‘Unearths’ Major Win in Season Opener

submitted by Leigh Seger

Mt. Pleasant, MI – Shock, awe, and plenty of “Did they really just score that many points?!” echoed throughout Mt. Pleasant High School as competitors and spectators witnessed a dominating performance by Red Thunder Robotics, Laingsburg High School’s award winning robotics team.

Red Thunder Robotics competes in FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), the world’s leading youth robotics program. Each season features a unique themed challenge, and this year’s UNEARTHED theme inspired the team to explore archaeological elements. As such, Laingsburg’s robot, affectionately named Short Round, is a nod to Indiana Jones’ trusted sidekick in Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom.

The weekend event brought together 40 teams from across Michigan, competing in 80 qualification matches, playoff rounds, and even navigating a surprise five-hour power outage. Despite the setback, teams embodied the spirit and values of FIRST through resourcefulness, collaboration, and resilience.



Through it all, Red Thunder Robotics held the number one ranking from start to finish, leading them to win the entire event and take home the coveted FIRST blue award banner. Their outstanding performance has unquestionably put Laingsburg on the map.

Hot on the heels of their winning event, Red Thunder earned another major honor at the competition: the FIRST Impact Award. This is the most prestigious award presented at FIRST events, recognizing a



Members of Laingsburg Red Thunder Robotics start season with Major Win.

team that serves as a model for others and best represents the mission of FIRST.

Competing for the Impact Award requires months of preparation—submitting essays, writing executive summaries, producing a team video, delivering a formal presentation, and participating in multiple judge interviews.

This achievement automatically qualifies Red Thunder Robotics for the FIRST Robotics State Championship, held in April at the Ryder Center at Saginaw Valley State University.

None of this success would be possible without the dedication of the team’s mentors, who volunteer countless hours to teach, guide, and inspire.

Another group deserving special recognition is the team’s graduating seniors. These students have been the backbone of Laingsburg’s robotics program, showing commitment year after year—even when seasons didn’t come with easy wins. They have led, learned, grown, and mentored younger members, leaving an impact that will be carried forward for future Red Thunder members.

To Savannah Leitch, Sophia Brown, Oliver Stanfield, Evan Porubsky, Josh Marble, and Hunter Stahl, thank you for your leadership and the mark you leave behind as you begin your next chapter.

Red Thunder Robotics has shown that this truly might be their year, and the season is only just beginning.

Come join the fun, cheer on the team, and see what we’re all about! Red Thunder’s next competition is March 28-29 at Mason High School.

WE BUY CARS!

WE PAY MORE AND PAY YOU ON THE SPOT TODAY FOR ALL MAKES, ALL MODELS, ANY CONDITION!
PROMPT, PROFESSIONAL, POLITE AND WE PAY THE MOST FOR YOUR CAR

FAST	CONVENIENT	SAFE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 MINUTES OR LESS NO HASSLE WE HANDLE LOAN PAYOFF GET PAID NOW! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO WASTING TIME WITH TIRE KICKERS WE TAKE CARE OF THE TITLE TRANSFER NO PURCHASE NECESSARY LOCAL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PROFESSIONAL NO PRESSURE ENVIRONMENT NO STRANGERS AT YOUR HOME NO BUYERS REMORSE REPUTABLE

YOUNG
OWOSSO

PAID ON THE SPOT!

WALK-INS WELCOME • OR CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

1108 EAST MAIN STREET • OWOSSO, MI 48867

989-725-2184

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY'S

#1 AUTOMOTIVE BUYER

“We want to buy your vehicle today!”

Tony Young

SPRING IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!