

# Meridian Weekly

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12 PAGES



We welcome all to join us at **Grove Bible Church**, 6990 E. Price Rd., St. Johns for our Good Friday and Easter Services.

Good Friday Service: April 3 at 7:00p.m.  
Easter Service: April 5 at 10:45a.m

Good Friday Services will be held on Friday, April 3 at 7p.m. at the **Ashley United Methodist Church**, 112 N. New St., Ashley.

All are welcome.

Easter Breakfast will be held at the Ashley Church on April 5 at 9:15a.m. followed by Easter Worship Services.

Please come and join us. Pastor Zella Daniel always has an inspiring message.

**United Church of Ovid**, 131 W. Front St., Ovid, Easter Sunday, April 5.

8:30 am – Sunrise Service

9:00 am – Easter Breakfast

11:00 am – Worship Service

All Services will be in-person and live streamed on Facebook.

Join us at **Duplain Church of Christ**, 5565 E. Colony Rd., St. Johns as we gather to remember and celebrate the hope we have in Jesus.

Good Friday Service

April 3 | 7:00–8:00 PM

Come and reflect with us on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ through Scripture, worship, and prayer. This meaningful hour will focus on the depth of His love and the significance of the cross as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

Easter Sunday Services

April 5 | 9:15 AM & 11:15 AM

Celebrate the joy of the resurrection! Together we will rejoice in the victory of Jesus over sin and death through uplifting worship and an encouraging message of hope.

Join us at Duplain Church of Christ for a special Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 5th from 10:00–11:00 AM!

Between our Easter services, we invite you and your family to enjoy a delicious breakfast and warm fellowship with our church community. We'll be serving pancakes, sausage, muffins, and fresh fruit—something for everyone to enjoy.

## New Post Masters in Ovid and Elsie

by Deb Price

There are two new faces at the Ovid and Elsie Post Offices. In Ovid, Alexander James Farmer, also known as AJ and in Elsie, Jessie Salters. AJ came to Ovid from the Post Office in East Lansing. He started as a mail carrier in 2019, advanced to Supervision for 70 employees, then became Officer In Charge



Alexander James Farmer (AJ)



Jessie Salters

before starting his new position as Post Master in Ovid in June of 2025. “The Ovid community has been very welcoming. I enjoy the change of pace here and very much enjoy the friendly people here in Ovid,” he explained. He and his wife, Lindsey are newlyweds and reside in Grand Blanc. In his spare time, AJ enjoys spending time on the golf course and from what I’ve been told, he’s pretty good at it.

Jessi came to Elsie from the St Johns Post Office where she was the Officer in Charge. In 2014 she was hired as the custodian at the Post Office. She advanced to Supervisor in 2023 and in 2024 became Officer in Charge. She became Post Master in Elsie in November of 2025. “The Elsie position allowed me the opportunity to move up in rank. I absolutely love the small town atmosphere here in Elsie, the people are so friendly and polite,” she explained. Jessie and her two teen age children, ages 16 and 17, reside in St Johns. Her spare time includes chasing after teenagers with all of their activities. She also enjoys riding her motorcycle, something she enjoyed doing as she was growing up with her Dad.

If you haven’t already stop in to the Post Office to welcome these two new Post Masters, please do so, you will find them to be very friendly and happy to be a part of our small communities.

## Motion to Dismiss Lawsuit Granted

On Thursday, March 26th during a court proceeding in Livingston County, City of Howell, Circuit Court Judge, Matthew J. McGivney, heard oral arguments from lawyers on behalf of the Defendants (City of Ovid & Chief Lisa Rousseau) and Plaintiff (Jaclyn Allen, former officer for the City of Ovid) on a motion put forward by the defendants asking the court to dismiss a lawsuit filed by Allen back in November last year.

The Judge reviewed the filings, briefs and exhibits from the Defendant’s and the Plaintiff’s response. As a result, the motion for dismissal, put forward by the Defendant’s was granted and the Plaintiff’s claim was dismissed. The final order resolves all pending claims in the case and closes the case.



Chief Lisa Rousseau

# Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price

Owner/Publisher

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# Social

## Library News

### Elsie Library Adventures

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

2026 will be marking the 5th Annual Elsie Public Library "Bookmark Design Contest". The theme for the contest will always be the Summer Reading Program theme. The 2026 theme is "UnEarth a Story." There are 4 age divisions, 3-7, 8-11, 12-17, and adults.

Voting will be done at the library. Bookmarks designed by the four winners will be printed and distributed during the Summer Reading Program. Contest rules and bookmarks may be picked up at the Elsie Public Library or by using the library's website, <https://www.elsiepubliclibrary.org/>. The contest will run from March 30th until April 20th.

And please mark your calendars for the SRP kick off on Wednesday, June 3rd at 2:00 pm at the Elsie Public Library!

#### Middlebury Township Election Commission Meeting

April 14, 2026 at 6:45pm at the  
Township Hall  
7627 W. M-21, Ovid, MI 48866

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## GCARA Meeting for March

by Luke Cole

This past Tuesday, March 17th, the Gratiot County Amateur Radio Association met at the Gratiot County Emergency Operations Center for their monthly meeting. Prior to the meeting, Vice President Allen Burk held an Introduction to POTA (Parks on the Air) and demonstrated hunting for contacts where he successfully made contact with a POTA operator in Florida and Arizona. A decent number of people showed up for the presentation with attendees as young as 8.

During the meeting that followed, Jason Whitaker presented all the information for a proposed new repeater site for the club to vote on which was approved along with the funds to purchase another repeater for the new site. Treasurer Mark Bunce also donated an extra antenna he owns for the site.

The GCARA meets formally the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Gratiot Emergency Operations Center and for breakfast the last Saturday of every month at 11am at JJRubys in Ithaca. For complete schedule details visit [www.gratiotradio.club](http://www.gratiotradio.club)

## Purse Party Bingo to Benefit Respite Volunteers

submitted by Helen Howard

The Respite Volunteer Purse Party Bingo will be held Thurs. May 14th at the Owosso Knights of Columbus Hall located at 1259 E. M-21. Doors open at 5:30 pm and games begin at 6 pm. For each bingo game, the prize is a purse with a retail value of at least \$45. Advance Tickets are \$20, or \$25 the day of the event, if tickets are still available. With the tickets purchased, 20 bingo cards to play 20 games are included. Guests are encouraged to bring their own snacks. Tie-breaker prizes and door prizes provided. This is an Adults-Only event. License #V11600.

Tickets are on sale weekdays 9am- 3pm at the Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee office, the historic brick home east of Memorial Healthcare hospital at 710 W. King St., Owosso. The main entrance is on the parking lot (north) side.

Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee provides case management, education and support to adults with health challenges in Shiawassee County, and help to the family members caring for the person. The program then matches a volunteer with each person to provide friendly visiting, usually weekly. The program also provides education about all the other in-home services, senior services, support groups, and financial help that is available for both frail elderly persons and multi-generational families caring for the person.

For more information about Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee services, volunteer opportunities and this event, please call 989-725-1127

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## 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.

## Chili Cook-off and Silent Auction at United Church of Ovid

submitted by Sue Casler

A Chili Cook-off is planned for Saturday, April 18, at 4 pm. The night will sponsor good food, a silent auction, and a fun time with purpose of helping support Summer Church Camp Scholarships (a wonderful and life-changing experience for young and old).

Along with our chili contestants, we will have hot dogs for our non-chili eaters. A large silent auction will add to the fun! If you would like to donate items for the silent auction, contact the church office Mon-Thurs 9am -12noon 989-834-5958.

To sign up your chili recipe call the church office (834-5958). Due to Health Food regulations, we are offering the use of our licensed kitchen for you to come and prepare your chili in. Kitchen will be open during office hours Wed. (9am – 12noon). We'll save an electric plug just for you!

Invite a friend and join us for a bunch of fun!

## Native Plant Sale at DeVries Nature Conservancy

submitted by Jessica Hickey

A Native Plant Sale will be held at DeVries Nature Conservancy on Saturday, May 9 from 11am to 2pm. Pre-orders are being taken until April 30, for pickup at DeVries on the day of the sale. The plant sale includes Michigan native wildflowers and grasses, all locally grown to pint (3") size by East Michigan Native Plants. Shoppers are also welcome to stop by and purchase plants the day of the sale without pre-ordering. In addition, there will be a Native Gardening Workshop before the sale, at 10am on Saturday May 9; tickets to the workshop are \$10 per person.

Call DeVries at (989) 723-3365 or visit [www.devriesnature.org](http://www.devriesnature.org) for more information. DeVries Nature Conservancy is located at 2635 N. M-52 in Owosso.

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 8:30am - 12 Noon

Wednesday: Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm

Friday: Closed

The **Meridian Weekly**

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## Memorial Healthcare Welcomes Physician Assistant to Corunna

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso – Please join us in welcoming Kadee Fortino, PA-C to our active medical staff and to Memorial Healthcare Family Medicine - Corunna.

Kadee earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Biology from Michigan State University. She went on to receive her Master of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies from Concordia University in Ann Arbor.

Kadee completed several of her clinical rotations at Memorial Healthcare, where she consistently provided exceptional, patient-centered care. With extensive training and hands-on experience across a range of clinical settings, she is skilled in diagnosing and managing both acute and chronic conditions. She demonstrates a strong commitment to evidence-based care, with particular interests in women’s health, cardiology, and family medicine.

Kadee is a dedicated and compassionate Physician Assistant committed to delivering high-quality, patient-centered care. With a strong clinical foundation and a genuine passion for helping others, she brings both expertise and empathy to every patient interaction. A collaborative provider, Kadee works closely with physicians and care teams to ensure seamless coordination and continuity of care. Her commitment to excellence, combined with her passion for family medicine, makes her a trusted and valued partner in her patients’ health journeys.

Kadee is currently accepting new patients with most insurances.

For more information, please visit, [www.MemorialHealthcare.org](http://www.MemorialHealthcare.org).



Kadee Fortino, PA-C

## Join the Friends of the Laingsburg Public Library

submitted by Lori Johnson

Love books, community events, and supporting your local library? Join us at our upcoming meeting on Thursday, April 2, at 3:30 p.m. at the library! Everyone is welcome and it is a great way to meet fellow book lovers, support library programs, and make a positive impact in our community.

## 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.

## Large Item Pick-Up

The City of Ovid will have their first large item pick-up for this year on Friday, April 3rd. One large item per address is allowed. Granger will make one pass thru the City on that day. Other dates reFriday, June 5th, August 7th and October 2nd.

## FREE Virtual Community Health Talk: Learn How to Regain Bladder Control

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso – Memorial Healthcare and Axonics will be hosting a FREE virtual Community Health Talk titled, “Regaining Bladder Control” on Tuesday, May 5 at 6:00 pm.

The event will focus on helping individuals manage bladder and bowel control issues, such as frequent bathroom trips and urinary leaks—conditions that often go untreated but can greatly affect quality of life.

Dr. Colton Prudnick, a urologist at Memorial Healthcare Urology, will lead the presentation and discuss Axonics Therapy, a safe and effective treatment option for overactive bladder and incontinence.

“Life after Axonics Therapy has been wonderful,” said Jaime, an Axonics patient. “I wake up with a smile on my face because I have complete control again.”

To register for this informative presentation, please visit <https://bit.ly/drprudnick>.



Dr. Colton Prudnick



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## 2026 Elsie Dairy Festival T-Shirt Design Contest

Open contest to all students attending  
E.E. Knight and Leonard Elementary

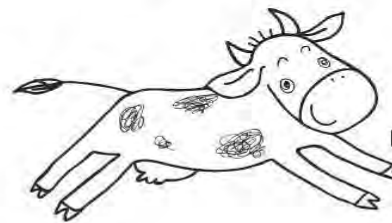


Image can use 1-2 colors.  
Image can be submitted in pdf.  
Image can be submitted by mail.  
Include: Name and age in submission.

All submissions will be voted on by  
The Elsie Dairy Festival Committee

Entries due by  
**APRIL 17, 2026**

Winner will be announced:  
**MAY 1, 2026**

Winner will receive a carnival bracelet (good for 1 day of rides), free t-shirt and 1 free ice cream voucher.



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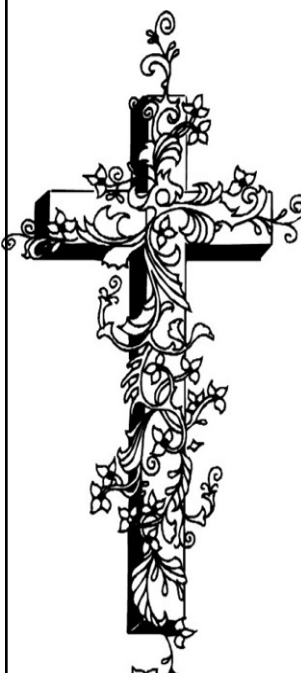




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## Obituaries

### Robert Arbogast


Robert Arbogast, age 52, formerly of Elsie, passed into the presence of Jesus Christ, his Lord and Savior, on March 20 surrounded by loved ones.

We will miss his smile and his sense of humor as well as his many artistic ventures...he truly was a skillful artist.

Robert was predeceased by his father, Larry Arbogast and his grandparents.

He is survived by his mother LuAnn Arbogast, Scott and Christina Arbogast, Lorilee and Mike Gute and Ben Arbogast and nieces and nephews. He will be greatly missed by aunts and uncles, many cousins and family members, as well as friends.

We love you Robert and we miss you already. We will see you on the other side!



### MDARD Encourages High School Seniors and Recent Grads to Apply for 2026 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship

submitted by Lynsey Mukomel

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), in partnership with the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund (MYLSF), announced today that applications for the 2026 MYLSF scholarships will be open until May 3.

Qualified high school seniors and recent graduates may apply for the 2026 MYLSF awards by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, May 3, 2026. Applications and qualification requirements are located on the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund web page.

Prospective applicants may apply for either a MYLSF scholarship of up to \$5,000 or for a state-wide scholarship of up to \$1,000. To be eligible for these scholarships, the applicant must be: A resident of Michigan. A graduating high school senior or a high school graduate continuing their education at an accredited institution in the year in which they are applying.

An applicant for the MYLSF scholarship must also have been a youth exhibitor at the Michigan Livestock Expo or the Michigan Dairy Expo for a minimum of three calendar years prior to the year of application. For the state-wide scholarship, an applicant must be a youth exhibitor at a local, county or state-wide exhibition for a minimum of three years prior to the year of application.

The MYLSF board will review all applications and will interview the top applicants for the MYLSF and state-wide scholarships prior to the Michigan Livestock Expo "Sale-Abraction" event in East Lansing on July 14, 2026.

For more information, please email MDARD Commodity Section Manager Jeff Haarer or email Sheila Burkhardt, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer at the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

## Church Directory

### Advertise In Our Church Directory!

### Call (989) 834-2264

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
163 W. Main St., Elsie  
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Pastor Phillip Rogers

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

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

Sundays am: 11:00 - Worship  
Youth Group Sundays 6:00-7:30pm  
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**Laingsburg United Methodist Church**  
210 Crum St., Laingsburg  
517-651-5531

Worship Service: 10:30am  
Pastor:  
Kendra Holcomb - Densmore

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH**  
Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns  
Pastor: John Jakus  
Sunday School: 9:00am  
Worship Service 10:00am  
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**Middlebury United Methodist Church**  
8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid

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

**ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

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Pastor: JD Paik



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there are no rules for surviving holiday grief. Do what you need to do to survive. Honor your loved one how you need to, and do what feels best for your fragile, aching heart. You are missing a huge piece of you, so do whatever you need to do to find a sliver of peace.

Angela Miller

Healing Hugs

# Editorial



## Planet Perspectives

by Alison Kozlowski

### Environmental Effects of Gen AI:

The development of artificial intelligence has brought transformative technologies that can be utilized by mankind. The use of chatbots, generative AI systems, is prominently integrated into today's life. Gen AI is artificial intelligence that uses large language models to create new content as a response to prompts. Forms of this generated content mainly consist of text, image, and video. While it serves as a great tool, it has huge impacts on the environment. AI is maintained through data centers, which use an enormous amount of energy. The energy consumption of these centers immensely contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, furthering climate change. The servers in the data centers generate a lot of heat, so they require evaporative cooling systems to prevent overheating. A conversation of just 5 to 50 prompts can result in the evaporation of 16 ounces of water. Additionally, it produces a large amount of electronic waste that contain chemicals which harm human and environmental health.

The use of generative AI has been incredibly conventionalized in today's world. While its utilization provides immense productivity in assistance, its accessibility is being taken advantage of for insubstantial circumstances. It is increasingly being used as a search engine. This is extremely wasteful because it can use ten times more power than traditional searches. It also has been rapidly applied in social media, with people creating engageable, low quality digital content, known as "AI slop."

This over-reliance on the technology is unreasonably contributing to the waste it produces. You can optimize your use of generative AI by prioritizing productive assistance from it and suppressing insignificant or unnecessary use. It is important to be aware of the consequences that using AI has on the environment. It's our job to make sure we use it responsibly and prioritize the health of the planet.

## Rep. BeGole Leads Hearing on Sextortion Awareness Plan to Protect Michigan Students

submitted by Christina Doerr

State Rep. Brian BeGole, chair of the House Government Operations Committee, led a hearing on a plan to ensure Michigan students and families are educated about the dangers of sextortion and the serious criminal penalties tied to the crime.

BeGole, R-Antrim Township, said House Bill 4848 would help raise awareness about a growing threat targeting young people online.

"Sextortion is a devastating crime that is destroying lives and targeting young people through social media," BeGole said. "Having spent years in law enforcement as a sheriff, I take crimes against kids very seriously. Making sure students and families understand the risks, and the serious legal consequences for those who commit this crime, can help prevent tragedies and encourage victims to speak up."

Sextortion involves threatening to release private or explicit images of a victim in order to demand money, additional images, or other things of value. Offenders may be peers, but many cases involve criminals contacting victims online and coercing them into sending explicit images before making threats.

Michigan law was updated in 2024 to establish felony penalties for sextortion, with prison sentences of up to 25 years or more if the victim is under 19 or suffers serious harm.

House Bill 4848 would require the Michigan Department of Education to notify school districts about sextortion laws and require districts to share that information with school employees, students, and parents. School boards would also hold at least one meeting each year to share educational materials from organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the FBI.

During the hearing, the committee heard heartbreaking testimony from two families who lost children to suicide after they were targeted in sextortion schemes, along with testimony from law enforcement officers supporting the bill.



## A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Do you ever wonder about what would be of interest to others? I do on occasion, currently I've been surprised at the number of Tundra swans that have infiltrated my common space. For years I would see about twenty or thirty every spring swimming out on the temporary ponds caused by the winter melt. I would see them for about two weeks near the intersection of M57 and Barry Road about five miles north of Bannister. This year I have seen hundreds of them a mile north of Bannister on East Taft Road and two miles further northeast of Bannister between Woodbridge and Mason roads on East Roosevelt. My thought was that they were gleaned from the fields of corn that the deer herds had missed. Last night the flock had formed a fairly straight line that continued from Cook's property all the way east to Mason Road, they stopped when they had lined up behind the old willow tree in my backyard. By seven thirty last night they disappeared, don't know whether they headed back west or took off for the north country. Did I mention that the Taft Road Flock also had twenty or thirty Canadian geese and numerous ducks incorporated with them? A rather interesting social or survival gathering...

Monday was a busy day for me. I left the house at seven thirty to take Prudence up to Alma for her grooming session. I told my groomer that I could be late in picking her up because I had a quick run up to Mt Pleasant. I was told that it would be no problem. I then went on up to Clare to pick up a few items for the shop and back to Mt Pleasant to Gordon's for more product. I was forty-five minutes late at picking up Pru who acted as if I had betrayed her by being late. Then we went to St Louis to visit with Robin and her adorable Yorkie's. Prudence wasn't impressed with their excited attention. She regally watched their antics from her seat on my lap or from her seat upon her own chair. Finally Pru napped and they disappointingly took back their toy shares. After all they were mere two year old and she is a sedate fourteen year old.

I had barely gotten home, put up my groceries and relieved my body of excess coffee when someone knocked at my door. I was surprised when I opened it, because it was my cousin Cathy. She stopped on her way home to see if I was going to come and gather pine cones at her home. I grabbed her a couple dozen eggs from Lisa and headed over to her home. We raked and filled up at good sized box of miniature pine cones and put them into my car, walked her yard which is well raked and pristine. Then we had coffee and a nice chit chat. I left there and headed back up to the shop to leave the groceries that I had picked up on the way home from Clare. Dang it, I had to make one more quick run into St Johns for cream, decaffeinated coffee and milk before I could settle down for the rest of the day. I never realized how exhausting getting in and out of your vehicle can be, after doing it fourteen times in one day I found out...

Per usual I've been a bit busy and a lot tired but not sleepy... Maybe I have adjusted to the Daylight Savings Time switch or maybe my battery is being well charged by the sunlight that is finally becoming more normal for us. Too bad that I'm not energized enough to get my yard in pristine shape. Isabella (my eleven year old great granddaughter) will be visiting during spring brake to help me get the twigs and branches removed from the yard. Then we get to play doing crafts which is why I've been gathering pine cones.

That's about all for now, I have to get my planning done for our Easter dinner which will be comparatively small this year. I think that only eighteen will be attending but there will be enough of the children for the Easter egg hunt. Vanessa and Suzy will be very competitive, only as three year olds can be... It will be a fun romp in the yard, I do hope that the weather is dry and mild. May God bless you with good and fun expectations. Enjoy the laughter and the antics of the tykes and remember when... Happy Easter.

Crystal Mitchell©2026



## Religious Thoughts

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

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" - Romans 10:15

Have you ever had a time when there was a good possibility that news could come back bad and the stakes were high? Then, much to your surprise, the news turned out to be good?

The health test comes back negative

You get the job

He or she says "Yes!"

It's even good when the matter may not be so life-changing-Your presentation goes surprisingly well

You get an "A" on the exam

You get the promotion or pay raise

When you get that one parking space

Isn't it wonderful? What a relief!

While all of these blessings are great, there is one that will always top them all- forgiveness of our sins and freedom from our guilt found only in Jesus Christ.

To show this, I'd like to paraphrase an illustration used by Chuck Smith-

When there's a serious car accident there are two types of emergency vehicles that arrive on the scene. One is the police and the other is an ambulance. The police are there to find out who violated the law. The paramedics don't really care who is to blame. Their job is to help those who are hurting.

At this point I'm going to change the illustration a little bit and ask, when God looks at non-christians, that is, when He sees those who do not believe in Him, what is His attitude?

Is it like the policeman who is ready to read them the law and declare guilt? Or is God more like the paramedics, who aren't so concerned with who broke the law, but how they can heal?

In reality, God comes as both.

He comes as a policeman, or we would say a judge ultimately, and declares all people guilty of sin before Him. But He also comes as the paramedic, giving us the one antidote to our sin, which is the death and bodily resurrection of His one and only Son, Jesus Christ.

As 1 Corinthians 1:30 says, "...Christ Jesus...has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption."

This is the great exchange. Where Christ takes upon Himself the penalty for our sins and we receive His holiness and righteousness.

That is, we know that we will never be condemned by God. In fact, if we are in Christ, if we believe in Him, then God will never condemn us for our sin.

Romans 8:1-2 says, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death."

Isn't that great? Isn't that wonderful? Christ sets us free from being rightly condemned. We who are guilty before God are declared not guilty by this same God.

This should bring joy into our hearts and lives.

As Jesus says, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

- John 10:10

And in John 5:24 Jesus says, "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life."

We have left the area of sin and death and have entered into a new place.

We have crossed that gap between us and a holy God that our sins have created and have entered into life.

That's something to rejoice about and be thankful for.



Editorials are welcome. 250 words or less.

Email to: news@meridianweekly.com.

Must include name.

## Mary's Country Kitchen

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### Easter Sunday Dinner

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Fried Chicken • Ham • Turkey • Roast Beef • Swiss Steak

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## Free Easter Egg Hunt

submitted by Cheryl Hickey

The Easter Bunny is coming to town! Join the St. Johns Lions Club for an Easter Egg Hunt at the SJ City Park on Saturday, April 4. Activities begin near the pavilion at 12:30 p.m., and include face painting, visits with the Easter Bunny, cornhole, and balloon animals. The Egg Hunt will begin at 1:00 p.m. SHARP. Age groups for the Easter Egg Hunt are: under 3, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-10. No parents are allowed in the Egg Patch except for the under 3 age group. Children under 3 who do not wish to hunt for eggs in the patch may pick up an egg in the pavilion. This free annual event is sponsored by St. Johns Lions Club with the support of the City of St. Johns and local businesses and groups.

There will also be a Project KIDSight mobile testing facility onsite from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the day of the Easter Egg Hunt. KIDSight is sponsored by the St. Johns Lions Club in cooperation with Lions of Michigan Foundation and Lions of District 11-C2.

## West Circle Series Finale Presents "USA at 250 Years"

submitted by Michael Sundermann

EAST LANSING — The Michigan State University College of Music concludes the Joanne and Bill Church West Circle Series with USA at 250 Years on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. in Fairchild Theatre of the MSU Auditorium.

Marking the 250th anniversary of American independence, the concert celebrates U.S. composers who have helped shape the country's cultural identity through creativity, innovation, and a bold spirit of expression. The program brings together a range of familiar American music, presented through distinctive instrumental settings for solo piano, duo piano, violin and piano, and jazz ensemble.

Performances include music by George Gershwin, Amy Beach, Florence Price, and Leonard Bernstein, alongside iconic American songs reimagined through jazz ensemble arrangements and improvisation by the MSU Professors of Jazz. Together, the program highlights both the familiarity of these works and the variety of ways they can be experienced through different instrumental combinations.

"This program brings together a wide range of American music in a way that reflects both its history and its continued evolution," said Deborah Moriarty, professor of piano and director of the West Circle Series "It's especially meaningful to collaborate in these different settings, and it creates a special experience for our audiences as we share in a celebration of the composers and traditions that have shaped American music."

The performance features musicians from the MSU College of Music, including pianists Deborah Moriarty, Zihua Tang, and Ralph Votapek; violinist Yvonne Lam; and the MSU Professors of Jazz: Randy Napoleon, guitar; Xavier Davis, piano; Carmen Bradford, voice; Rodney Whitaker, bass; Randy Gelispie, drums; Erena Terakubo, tenor saxophone; Michael Dease, trombone; and Anthony Stanco, trumpet.

Generously sponsored by April Clobes and Glen Brough. The entire West Circle Series is underwritten by Joanne and Bill Church.

Tickets: Reserved seating tickets purchased at the door are \$19 for adults, \$17 for seniors (age 60+), and \$9 for students and those under 18 with valid ID. Tickets may also be purchased online at music.msu.edu/events or by calling (517) 353-5340; tickets purchased online or by phone include a \$1.50 processing fee.



(Top): The concert presented by the MSU College of Music will celebrate American music and composers, marking 250 years of creativity, innovation, and expression.

(Bottom): Music by Leonard Bernstein, Amy Beach, Florence Price, and George Gershwin highlights the program.

# Mary's Country Kitchen

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# Sports



Unidentified players from Ovid-Elsie and Laingsburg started the season with a close game!  
Photo by Michelle Ladiski

## Wolfpack Sackers Outlast Ovid-Elsie in Season-Opening Classic, 13-12

OVID-ELSIE -- Neighboring Laingsburg jumped out to an early 5-0 lead, watched O-E bounce back to knot the game at 9-9, plated three runs in the top of the 7th, then held off another Marauder charge in a wild-and-wooly start to the 2026 prep baseball season here March 24.

"Being the first game of the season, and the weather, barely into the 40's ... you never know what we're going to get," said veteran Wolfpack coach Todd Randall after his team held on for a gritty 13-12, body-numbing victory.

The non-league rivals actually braved the cold to open a second game, which was suspended by darkness after two innings with veteran coach Mike Loynes' home club leading 1-0.

In the opener, LHS ripped 13 hits in 36 at-bats (.361 team average) and took advantage of seven Marauder errors ... but barely hung on to win.

O-E tore through four pitchers, with Lance Wiktorowski saddled with the tough-luck loss. Combining with starter Brody Howard and relievers John Kelly and Trey Palatka, the Marauders struck out six and walked six while forcing 10 Wolfpack runners left on base.

The Wolf pitching staff struggled with control, walking 16, striking out 9 and allowing 7 hits. Reliever Jake Rivet earned the win -- but not before O-E struck for two runs in the home half of the 7th.

Quintin Rodriguez, Everett Rodriguez, Paxton Rodriguez, Rivet and Herold all saw mound duty for the red-and-white.

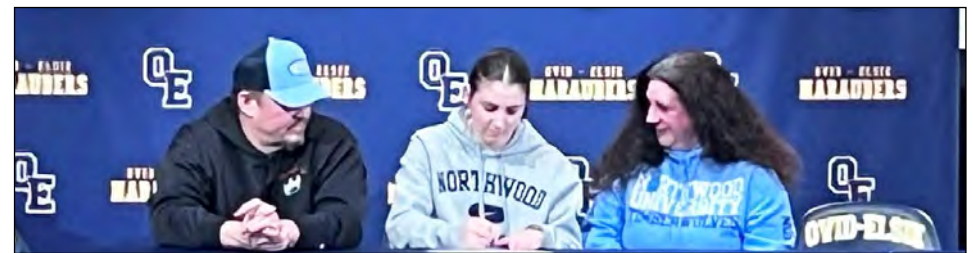
P. Rodriguez led the victors with 3 hits in 5 at-bats, three runs scored and a RBI. Garcia (2-for-5), E. Rodriguez (1-for-3), Liam Esch (2-for-3, two RBI), Rivet two RBI, Colton Heaton (1-for-5), Eli Morr (3-for-4) and Calvin Stier (1-for-2, two RBI, two runs scored) all helped heat up the LHS offense.

Wiktorowski was the top hitter on the day for O-E, going 4-for-6 with three RBI and a run scored. Eyan Fabus, Howard, and Blake Fabus added Marauder hits; Logan Brown walked four times while Chase Fabus, Blake Fabus, Kelly, Max Fabus, Dan Topping, Howard and Eyan Fabus all drove in runs.

"We liked our ability to compete but we've got a lot to learn from tonight, as we head into league play next," said the O-E coaching staff following the opener. "We've got a double header at Lakeville waiting for us after spring break."

Added LHS coach Randall, "A lot of good things happened, but also we came out with some things we need to work out as we push forward in conference play. Offensively and defensively we were pretty solid. We got a few things to clean up on the mound and once we do that, I think we will be in a pretty good position."

The Wolfpack plays host to the Webberville Spartans on April 7 in a nonconference doubleheader.



Clarissa Baese & Family as she signs with Northwood to run Cross Country



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

**Getting it Right:** In the March 22nd edition of the Meridian Weekly, we made a couple mistakes on the front page involving the six Ovid-Elsie Seniors who have signed Letters of Intent to compete in sports after high school. Pictured here are two of the signees that needed to be corrected. We apologize for the mistakes and wish only the best to all.

## Marauder Thinclads Open 2026 Track Season at SVSU Indoor Invitational

SAGINAW -- Ovid-Elsie's Victoria Kozlowski was fifth in the long jump (15'1") on the girls side, and the male Marauders blazed to first places in the sprint events opening action of the 2026 prep track season here March 19.

The event was the Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) Indoor Track Invitational.

The O-E boys boasted Wyatt Lover winning the 60-meter dash (7.20 seconds) and Travis Milner taking first in the 200 (22.87).

The quartet of Owen Long, Lover, Milner and Marshall Leavitt placed second in the 4 x 300 relay (2:29.50).

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# Sports Schedules

Laingsburg Baseball		
April 13: Portland St. Pats	H	4:00pm
April 16: Potterville	H	4:00pm
April 20: Saranac DH	H	4:00pm
April 23: Dansville DH	A	4:00pm
April 30: Fowler DH	A	4:00pm
May 4: Bath	A	4:00pm
May 7: Lansing Christian DH	H	4:00pm
May 9: Calvin Christian	A	TBA
May 12: P-W DH	A	4:00pm
May 14: Perry DH	A	4:00pm
May 16: Cental Montcalm	A	TBA
Laingsburg Boys Golf		
April 11: Wolfpack Invite	H	9:00am
April 14: Lansing Christian	H	3:00pm
April 17: Judson Invite	A	8:30am
April 21: Potterville	A	3:00pm
April 23: Perry	H	3:00pm
April 25: Wolfpack Invite	H	9:00am
April 28: Portland St. Pats	A	3:00pm
April 30: P-W	H	3:30pm
May 5: Dansville	A	3:00pm
May 7: Bath	A	3:00pm
May 11: Tullymore Invite	A	8:30am
May 12: Fowler	H	3:00am
May 21: CMAC Forest Acres East	A	9:00am
May 26: MHSAA Regionals		
Washtenaw Golf Club	A	9:00am
June 5: MHSAA Finals State Tournament		
Bedford Valley GC	A	9:00am

Laingsburg Girls Soccer		
April 9: Potterville	A	5:30pm
April 10: Flushing	H	5:30pm
April 14: Perry	H	5:30pm
April 16: Dansville	A	5:30pm
April 18: Swartz Creek	A	10:15am
April 21: Lansing Christian	H	5:30pm
April 23: Bath	A	5:30pm
April 25: Olivet	H	5:30pm
April 30: Perry	A	5:30pm
May 2: CMAC/TVA Invite	H	10:00am
May 5: Dansville	H	5:30pm
May 7: Lansing Christian	A	6:00pm
May 12: Lenawee Christian	A	6:30pm
May 15: Parma Western	A	5:30pm
May 18: Eaton Rapids	H	5:30pm

Ovid-Elsie Girls Tennis		
April 14: Durand	A	4:00pm
April 16: Chesaning	A	4:00pm
April 21: Bay City All Saints	H	4:00pm
April 23: Leslie	A	4:00pm
April 29: Chesaning	H	4:00pm
April 30: Durand	H	4:00pm
May 7: Lansing Christian	A	4:00pm

Laingsburg Track (Boys & Girls)		
April 8: CMAC Pre Season	A	4:30pm
April 10: Davison Invite	A	TBA
April 15: CMAC Dual	H	4:30pm
April 17: Chesaning Invite	A	TBA
April 22: CMAC Dual Saranac	A	4:30pm
April 29: CMAC Dual Dansville	A	4:30pm
May 1: Davison Twilight	A	TBA
May 6: CMAC Dual	H	4:30pm
May 8: Wolfpack Invite	H	2:30pm
May 11: P-W Last Chance	A	TBA
May 15: MHSAA LP Region		
Chesaning	A	TBA
May 20: CMAC Championship	Perry	A 3:00pm

Ovid-Elsie Baseball		
April 9: Corunna	H	4pm
April 13: Durand DH	H	4&6pm
April 17: Owosso	H	4pm
April 20: Birch Run	A	4pm
April 23: Byron	H	4pm
April 24: Swartz Creek	A	7pm
April 27: Montrose	H	4pm
April 29: Dansville	H	4pm
May 4: Mt. Morris	A	4pm
May 7: Alma DH	H	4&6pm
May 11: New Lothrop	H	4pm
May 14: Chesaning DH	A	4&6pm
May 18: Fowler	A	4pm
May 21: Eaton Rapids	H	4pm

Ovid-Elsie Soccer		
April 9: Durand	H	4:30pm
April 14: Birch Run	A	5:00pm
April 16: Otisville Lakeville	A	5:00pm
April 18: OE Invite	H	10:00am
April 21: Chesaning	A	6:00pm
April 23: Montrose	A	5:00pm
April 27: Byron	H	5:00pm
April 29: Lapeer	H	6:00pm
May 1: DeWitt	A	7:00pm
May 5: Durand	A	7:00pm
May 7: Birch Run	A	4:30pm
May 8: Bay City Western	A	6:30pm
May 12: Otisville Lakeville	A	6:00pm
May 14: Chesaning	A	6:00pm
May 18: Montrose	H	6:00pm

Ovid-Elsie Track (Boys & Girls)		
April 10: Fowler	A	3:30pm
April 15: Durand MMAC Quad	A	4:00pm
April 18: Breckenridge	A	10:00am
April 22: Ovid-Elsie Tri	H	4:00pm
April 24: Central Montcalm	A	1:00pm
April 29: Chesaning Tri	A	4:00pm
May 1: Marauder Invite	H	4:00pm
May 6: New Lothrop Quad	A	4:00pm
May 8: Bath Nugent Invite	A	TBA
May 9: Midland Invite	A	TBA
May 11: Last Chance P-W	A	4:00pm
May 16: Regionals Chesaning	A	TBA
May 19: MMCA Championship	Durand	A TBA
May 26: Lansing Honor Roll	Waverly	A 4:00pm

**OVID-ELLSIE**  
BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL  
SPORTS BOOSTERS  
**GOLF OUTING**

**NEW DATE!**

**JUNE 27TH ★ 9:00AM**  
**AT NORTH STAR**

**JOIN US FOR**  
**OEYBS**  
**FIELD CLEAN UP**

Let's come together to keep our ballfields—and our community—clean, safe, and ready for play! As we prepare for the upcoming baseball and softball season, we're teaming up to pick up litter, groom the grounds, and bring our fields back to life.

DATE	TIME	PLACE
11 April	9:00 AM	Ovid and Elsie Fields

## 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



## MDARD Announces New PFAS Research Grant Opportunity

submitted by Lynsey Mukomel

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) today announced an innovative new research grant program to combat per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) contamination on Michigan agricultural lands.

To pursue this funding opportunity, qualified researchers must submit a letter of intent to MDARD by 11:59 p.m. ET on Monday, April 20, 2026.

“With this announcement, MDARD is one of the first state agriculture agencies in the nation to create a research grant program dedicated to understanding how PFAS influences agriculture systems,” said MDARD Director Tim Boring. “These new grants will help protect Michigan’s soil, water and food supply by enhancing our understanding of PFAS sources and PFAS uptake in crops and livestock and, most importantly, help identify how we can mitigate or manage the effects of these chemicals.”

“This new grant program exemplifies MDARD’s commitment to using the best available science and innovative research to further strengthen Michigan’s food and agriculture sector,” said Dr. Laura Johnson, MDARD’s Chief Science Officer. “Today’s grants will help build a framework for understanding the movement of PFAS and other emerging contaminants within agriculture systems and mitigating such contamination if it occurs.”

MDARD’s new PFAS research grant program offers individual awards of up to \$400,000 for projects focused on the study of:

- PFAS sources and soil dynamics
- PFAS uptake, storage and availability in crops
- PFAS uptake, storage and availability in livestock
- Mitigating and remediating PFAS contamination on agricultural lands

This grant opportunity is open to qualified researchers at any university or college, including community and tribal colleges. At least one of each project’s principal investigators must be a researcher at an institution of higher learning based in Michigan. The PFAS research grants do not require matching funds.

MDARD will promptly assess letters of intent received by the deadline for relevance to the research priorities and project feasibility. Upon review, qualified applicants will be invited to submit a full research proposal, which must be submitted by 11:59 PM ET on June 1, 2026. MDARD will organize an expert-led Joint Evaluation Committee to assess full proposals in June 2026 following the criteria outlined in the request for proposals.

Additional criteria for letters of intent and supplemental materials for the full research proposal can be found on MDARD’s PFAS research grants web page. Prospective PFAS research grant applicants may email questions regarding proposal development, submission or topic areas to MDARD-Research@michigan.gov by May 18.

PFAS are a large group of long-lasting, human-made chemicals that are classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as an emerging contaminant. These chemicals have been used throughout the United States in a wide variety of industrial and consumer products, including waterproof clothing, upholstery, personal care products and fire-fighting foams. Scientific studies have shown that exposure to certain types of PFAS may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals.

The new PFAS research grants join a suite of other research and education grants that MDARD offers in fields ranging from horticulture to farm innovation. Since the start of Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s administration in 2019, MDARD has delivered more than \$250 million of grants to strengthen Michigan’s food and agriculture industry, advance agriculture research and education, protect Michigan’s natural resources and build rural infrastructure.

For information about other funding opportunities, visit MDARD’s grant web page.

Background on MDARD’s Office of Agricultural Science and Research

Dr. Johnson joined MDARD in October 2024 to lead the Office of Agricultural Science and Research. In this role, Johnson is the country’s first Chief Science Officer to be embedded within a state agriculture agency, which is a testament to MDARD’s commitment to fostering improved environmental outcomes and sustaining agricultural resiliency through the implementation of adaptive, science-backed strategies.

## DRAFT MINUTES SCIOTA TOWNSHIP MARCH 9, 2026

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Matthews, @ 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthews, Parker-Wing, Palmer, Reed, Vondrasek.

GUESTS PRESENT: 13

AGENDA APPROVAL: On a motion by Reed, seconded by Palmer—Motion approved by all. A last-minute agenda item concerning lawyer fees were submitted by the Supervisor. The Clerk commented that the submission was too late for an approval and the Supervisor said he would discuss it during his board report.

MEETING MINUTE APPROVAL: On a motion by Palmer, seconded by Parker-Wing. The Board approved the February 2026 meeting minutes as written.

TREASURER REPORT APPROVAL: On a motion by Parker-Wing, seconded by Reed—Motion approved by all. The Board approved the Treasurer report and placed it on file. General Fund Balance \$173,945.34; Tax Fund Balance \$726,224.34; CD Fund Balance \$34,743.47.

PUBLIC COMMENT—1st: Ben Schram spoke about the Laingsburg Public Library and how it has benefited his family for 10+ years since their move to Laingsburg. Traci Buxton talked about how the Laingsburg Public Library has played an important role in her grandchildren’s life.

COUNTY & PUBLIC OFFICIAL REPORTS:

- Shiawassee County Sheriff: Deputy Wells gave February 2026 statistics for the County E-911 emergency department.
- Laingsburg Public Library: Sarah Mattson spoke about library happenings and distributed the March calendar of events.

• LSW Emergency Services Report & Friends of the Laingsburg Public Library: Diane Baclawski reviewed February library exhibits.

TAX ASSESSOR: None

BOARD REPORTS:

- Supervisor Matthews says the trees on Doyle road have been trimmed and the tree on Larry Lee’s property was cut down. The Shiawassee County Road Commission road bids are complete and were handed out to Board members. The Supervisor stated the Clerk changed the lock on the election room door without the Board’s permission. Clerk Parker-Wing acknowledged the change of door locks while affirming that the State of Michigan, Bureau of Elections’ auditors stipulated that no one other than the Clerk and Deputy Clerk be allowed keyed access to the election equipment and records without the Clerk’s presence (dictated conversation at [Http://SciotaTownship.net](http://SciotaTownship.net)). Matthews stated the Clerk cost the taxpayers unnecessary expenses by addressing Township Board issues with legal representation. Clerk Parker-Wing replied that she was not the one causing unnecessary expenses and asked Matthews why the bill was not presented to the insurance company for payment. (dictated conversation at [Http://SciotaTownship.net](http://SciotaTownship.net)).
- Clerk Parker-Wing displayed a 2014 agenda portraying the words “Three minutes, per person, per topic”. This evidenced Parker-Wing did not add additional words to the agenda as claimed by Supervisor Matthews at the February 2026 Board meeting. She also spoke about the office equipment list that was discussed at the February meeting but was not handed out to attendees. There will not be a May election for Sciota Township.
- Treasurer Palmer says technically tax season is over. Winter taxes were balanced. She has an upcoming meeting with the County to resolve the non-balancing summer taxes. The error was created by an entry at the County level, and they will need to assess and make changes to repair and balance the report.
- Trustees Reed & Vondrasek had no news to share.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Camera/Surveillance Equipment: The Board agreed to get quotes for a hall camera system. The Clerk received 2 quotes by email from Lenon Electric of Perry MI for camera system setup and installation with NVR and TV. Thad Rose spoke about a quote from Vivint company with cloud storage. Matthews discussed a rodent issue in the hall that needs to be addressed as well as a need for a surge protector—Electrician to be present at the April Board Meeting.
- On a motion by Palmer, seconded by Vondrasek—Motion approved by all. The Board approved resolution RES 2026-06 for submission to the MTPP Risk Reduction Grant for spring 2026, Cycle 30. The resolution gives the Clerk authority to submit a proposal on behalf of Sciota Township up to \$5,000 to reimburse costs associated with camera/surveillance system for the hall. A roll call vote was taken. YES: Reed, Vondrasek, Palmer, Parker-Wing, Matthews NO: None, ABSENT: None.
- Clerk Duty Reassignments: As of December 8, 2025, the Office of the Clerk returned non-statutory duties of cemetery plot sales and management to the Board for reassignment.
- Carolyn Johnston, of Garrison Road, offered to oversee a historical project from the Clerk’s office regarding Putnam Cemetery to compile printed information into electronic records. The Clerk will work with Carolyn.
- Newspaper Meeting Minutes: DRAFT meeting minutes will be submitted to the Meridian Weekly monthly—To be revisited monthly during 2026. Kay Nickols said there were large advertisements in 2 newspapers for 2 weeks and why would we place ads in both newspapers? Discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

- On a motion by Palmer, seconded by Parker—Motion approved by all. The Board approved up to \$70 food expenses for 2 days of food (lunch and dinner) reimbursement for the Board of Review hearings March 10th and 11th. A roll call vote was taken. YES: Palmer, Parker-Wing, Vondrasek, Reed, Matthews. NO: None. ABSENT: None
- On a motion by Palmer, seconded by Matthews—Motion approved by all. The Board approved legal notices and publications be advertised using The Meridian Weekly exclusively. Parker-Wing indicated The Weekly comes at a much higher rate per inch than The Argus press, however, all members agreed the newspaper’s outreach to Sciota Township residents was most valuable.
- Starlink Internet was discussed while deliberating the Camera/Surveillance system.
- On a motion by Matthews, seconded by Reed—Motion approved by all. The Supervisor announced Morgan Arnold has been approved as an alternate member of the Board of Review and of the Planning Commission beginning March 9, 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENT—2nd: Traci Buxton thanked Clyde Casler and Carla Dilday for their many years of service to the Board of Review. She thanked Diane Baclawski and Floyd Koerner III for stepping up from alternate members and filling two vacant positions.

BILL PAYMENT APPROVAL: Vondrasek moved to pay the bills, seconded by Palmer—Motion approved by all. Payroll Checks used #11612 - #11619, \$5,412.58 and Accounts Payable Checks used #11620 - #11626, \$5,846.78.

ADJOURNMENT: Parker-Wing moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Reed—Motion approved by all. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Submitted by: Jamie Parker-Wing  
Sciota Township Clerk

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES CAN BE SEEN <https://sciotatownship.net/meeting-minutes/>

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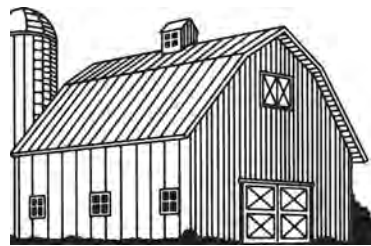
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# CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

## STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S TRUST

The PAMELA TIEDT LIVING TRUST Dated March 30, 2006  
**NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:**  
The Decedent PAMELA TIEDT, who lived at 8860 W. Walker Road, St. Johns, Michigan 48879  
Died: September 2, 2025  
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustee of the PAMELA TIEDT LIVING TRUST within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Deanne S. Montgomery (co-trustee)  
2080 N. Wacousta Road  
St. Johns, Michigan 48879  
(989) 307-6268  
Russell. P. Tiedt (co-trustee)  
2080 N. Wacousta Road  
St. Johns, Michigan 48879  
Pratl Law, PC  
Alexa B. Pratl, P83426  
201 E. State Street  
St. Johns MI 48879  
(989) 224-9449

(03-29)

## STATE OF MICHIGAN 29TH JUDICIAL COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS ORDER REGARDING ALTERNATE SERVICE

Case No: 25-12622-CH  
Hon. Cori E. Barkman  
Plaintiff's Name:  
Fifth Third Bank, National Association as successor by merger to Fifth Third Mortgage Company  
c/o Plaintiff's attorney  
Plaintiff's Attorney:  
Sogol I. Plagany (P69690)  
Orlans Lawn Group PLLC  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007  
248-502-1359  
Defendants Name:  
Matthew L. Sedore, et al.  
THE COURT FINDS:

1. Service of process upon the defendant, Tracy Sedore, cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.105 and service of process may be made in a manner that is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.  
IT IS ORDERED:  
2. Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order shall be made by the following method(s).  
a. First-class mail to 12815 S. Hinman Road, Eagle, MI 48822  
b. Tacking or firmly affixing to the door at 12815 S. Hinman Road, Eagle, MI 48822  
d. Other: Publishing for three consecutive weeks in the Meridian Weekly pursuant to MCR 2.106 (D) and via certified mail return receipt requested to the last known address of: 12815 S. Hinman Road, Eagle, MI 48822

(03-29/04-12)

## STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE

Estate of  
**MICHAEL ANDREW JOHNSON**  
Date of birth: January 5, 1961  
**NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:**  
The Decedent  
**MICHAEL ANDREW JOHNSON**  
Died: April 28, 2023  
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Billie Lee Johnson, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 100 East State Street, Suite 4300, St. Johns, MI 48879 within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Billie Johnson  
503 E. State St.  
St. Johns, MI 48879  
(517) 402-5399

(03-29)

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

CASE NO: 26-32859-NC  
In the matter of  
**SAMANTHA DALE SCHAFFER**  
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:**  
**SAMANTHA DALE SCHAFFER** has filed a petition for name change.  
A name change hearing will be held on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at 100 E. State Street, 4th Floor Courtroom St. Johns, Michigan 48879, change the name of **SAMANTHA DALE SCHAFFER** to **SAMANTHA JEAN CANNON**

(03-29)



## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on April 29, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:  
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Justin Keibler, an unmarried man  
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns  
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC  
Date of Mortgage: March 5, 2021  
Date of Mortgage Recording: March 9, 2021  
Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$160,504.59  
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Saint Johns, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 31, Briggs-Stoller Subdivision, City of St. Johns, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the recorded Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 6, Clinton County Records.

Common street address (if any): 505 S Traver St, Saint Johns, MI 48879-2041  
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).  
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judiciary Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.  
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: March 29, 2026  
Trott Law, P.C.  
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
(248) 642-2515

1588972  
(03-29)(04-19)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 8:30am - 12 Noon

Wednesday: Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm

Friday: Closed

The **Meridian Weekly**

200 S. Main St., Ovid

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# Sports

## Quintet of Lady Marauders Selected to All-MMAC Basketball Team

OVID-ELSIE -- Five standouts from the Lady Marauder basketball team have been voted to the All-Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) honor squad for the 2025-26 season.

The voting was announced by the league's eight coaches last week. Coach Shaun McKinney's Marauders (16-7, 12-3) finished second in the MMAC to league champion New Lothrop (18-2, 16-0), after the two rivals had shared the title in 2024-25.

Senior Alyson Moore was a unanimous 1st Team selection, leading O-E with a 12.9 scoring average. She set a new Ovid-Elsie school record with 54 made 3's for the season. Her stellar all-around game included 1.4 assists, 3.3 rebounds and 2.2 steals per contest.

Marauder sophomore Kendal Tokar was also a unanimous 1st Team All-Conference pick after averaging 12 points per game, 4.5 assists, 3.9 rebounds and 3.6 steals. An excellent shooter, Tokar hit 43.7% of her two-point shots and 35% behind the 3-point arc. She connected on 37 tri-sets over the season.

O-E senior Dannika Campbell averaged 6.1 points, 1.9 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 2.7 steals while earning plaudits on the All-MMAC 2nd Team.

Kortlynn Loynes and McKenzie Keck were both selected as Honorable Mention All-Conference. Loynes cashed in on 45.8% of her field goals while averaging 6.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 2.1 blocked shots.

Keck helped the Marauders advance to the District Final while scoring at a 3.8 clip, adding 2.8 rebounds and 2.2 steals per outing.



## Wolfgals Sweep Past Lakeville in Softball Opening Twinbill

LAINGSBURG -- Laingsburg' varsity softball team scored 11 runs in the third inning, sparking the Wolves to a 15-0 win over Otisville-Lakeville in the 2026 season opener.

This is how that third inning fell in place: Addison Westfall doubled, scoring one run, an error scored one run, Alayna Merrell grounded out, scoring one run, Bella Latuszek singled, scoring one run, Skylar Stiff singled, scoring one run, Kali Spade singled, scoring one run, Asher doubled, scoring one run, Westfall doubled, scoring two runs, and Jaylynn Smith singled, scoring one run.

All that offense was in support of Stiff, who earned the win in the circle, giving up two hits and zero runs over three innings, striking out two and walking one.

LHS got on the board in the bottom of the second inning after Savvy Stirm doubled down the left field line, and Latuszek singled to right field, each scoring two runs.

Zoe Swank took the loss for the Falcons, going two and two-thirds innings, allowing 15 runs (eight earned) on 14 hits, striking out two and walking three.

Laingsburg collected 14 hits in the game. Westfall, Stiff, Asher, Latuszek, and Spade each collected two hits. Westfall and Latuszek each drove in three runs.

Anabell Newbery and Katie Schigler each collected one hit for Lakeville.

-- Powerful pitching performance from Peyton Stahr carries Laingsburg: In the nightcap, Peyton Stahr struck out 10 batters leading the Wolfpack past Lakeville, 12-4. Stahr gave up eight hits and four runs over seven innings while walking one.

Latuszek collected three hits in five at bats in the win. Latuszek hit a solo home run to left field in the third inning, doubled in the first inning, and doubled in the sixth inning.

The Wolves got on the board in the top of the first inning after Lakeville committed an error, Latuszek doubled to left field, and Harper Strouse singled to center field, each scoring one run.

The Wolfgals added one run in the second after Alayna Merrell grounded out.

Three more LHS runs crossed the plate in the third inning to extend the lead to 7-1. Latuszek hit a solo home run to left field, and Skylar Stiff doubled, scoring two runs.

Anabell Newbery took the loss for the Lady Falcons, going seven innings, giving up 12 runs (eight earned) on 15 hits, striking out 14 and walking two.

Kelsi Clark drove the middle of the lineup for Lakeville with two runs batted in. The center fielder went 3-for-4 on the day. Mia Newbery collected two hits for the Falcons in three at bats.

## Bulldogs Come to O-E and Shutout Lady Marauders on Girls Soccer Pitch

OVID-ELSIE -- The Mason Bulldogs rolled into Ovid-Elsie HS and kicked off the 2026 girls soccer season in defensive fashion.

Mason shutout the Lady Marauders 1-0, to move to 1-0.

O-E (0-1) will take on its second consecutive Capital Area Activities Conference (CAAC) opponent when it hosts the Okemos Wolves on Tuesday.

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### Laingsburg Softball Schedule

April 9: Plymouth Christian	H	4:00pm
April 13: Portland St. Pat	DH	H 4:00pm
April 16: Potterville	DH	H 4:00pm
April 18: Ithaca	Invite	A TBA
April 20: Saranac	DH	H 4:00pm
April 23: Dansville	DH	A 4:00pm
April 30: Fowler	DH	A 4:00pm
May 2: Portland Tournament		A TBA
May 4: Bath		A 4:00pm
May 8: Durand	DH	H 4:00pm
May 12: P-W	DH	A 4:00pm
May 14: Perry	DH	A 4:00pm

### Ovid-Elsie Softball Schedule

April 9: Perry	H	4pm
April 13: Durand	H	4pm
April 14: Okemos	H	4pm
April 15: Vestaburg	A	4pm
April 17: Corunna	H	4pm
April 20: Birch Run	A	4pm
April 23: Byron	H	4pm
April 27: Montrose	H	4pm
April 29: Dansville	H	4pm
May 4: Mt. Morris	A	4pm
May 7: Alma	H	4pm
May 11: New Lothrop	H	4pm
May 14: Chesaning	A	6pm
May 18: Fowler	A	4pm
May 20: Ithaca	DH	A 4&6pm