



All About the Kids...The 2021 Dairy Festival promises to be "Kid Friendly". Bring the family and enjoy some old fashioned fun.

Elsie Dairy Festival Returns

The 2021 Elsie Dairy Festival returns to downtown Elsie on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 8th, 9th and 10th. This year the committee elected to HONOR all past Parade Marshals from 1986, Merle Green, the first chosen through 2019, Tom and Mary Hughey and everyone in between.

"The festival will be very "Kid Friendly," explained committee spokesperson, Carolyn Long. "We have lots for kids to do especially on Friday which includes a kiddie tractor pull and petting zoo located in the tent behind the big cow," she said. Saturday will also see the return of the 3on3 basketball, a corn hole tournament for all ages and of course the midway, provided by Anderson Amusements.

The main stage will feature a local talent show on Thursday evening. Friday evening you will be entertained by Jim Pontack, a "Homegrown" one man band and on Saturday evening, Mixed Nutz, a country/variety band.

There's still time to take part in the following events: Talent Show, Parade, 3on3 and corn hole tournament. Applications can be found online at ElsieDairyFestival.com. See pages 8-12 for schedule of events and lots more 2021 Dairy Festival information.



'Welcome Home' Reunion Committee is Planning Special Weekend for LHS Grads

LAINGSBURG -- For over six years now the "Welcome Home" volunteer staff of twenty-five have been excited about preparing for another All-Class Laingsburg High School reunion. Are "YOU" planning to attend this gala event? If so, it is time to get your registration form mailed in (deadline is August 9th).

Lots of events are being planned – activities will run from noon to 10 p.m. All the fun is FREE except for the evening dinner program (\$25/person).

So, saddle up and join the excitement! Time to reunite, shake off the virus concerns and join your classmates.

Our "Welcome Home" contacts include: Tom Turek (810) 241-1007, tomturek@20032003@yahoo.com; Ken Walters (517) 402-7146, kgwalters45@gmail.com; or Frank Mallon (248) 348-5189, foxtrot@mi.rr.com

Gifts From TOK, Alaska

by Karen Anderson, Correspondent

LAINGSBURG: On a recent trip to Alaska, this writer had the pleasure to meet a new-born generation of Alaskan sled dogs during an auction in Sagway, Alaska. Children and bidders were picking their favorite pups. A sleek-looking dog sled was displayed in a nearby store window with a sign stating, "Sled was built in Laingsburg, Michigan." This notation on the card, in the middle of Alaska, nearly 4,000 miles away from home prompted an investigation. After setting up a meeting with Mrs. Risdon at the local library, a story began to unfold. She shared some of her Alaskan experiences and the history of dog sledding.



Display in Sagway, Alaska of dog sled made in Laingsburg, MI

If you have had the good fortune to know or meet the Clyde and Pat Risdon family during the last thirty years as residents of Laingsburg, Michigan, you may have had the opportunity to appreciate the genuine love the people from the Native Alaskan Athabascan Community in Tok, Alaska has for this family. Risdon Rigs, Inc. carries a complete line of Dog Sled Equipment which has helped put the amazing Alaskan Iditarod and Sprint Races in the spotlight since it began in 1973.



Clyde and Pat Risdon

Clyde and Pat Risdon were first introduced to Sled dog racing in the early 1970's on a family vacation to Florence, Wisconsin, as spectators. The family fell in love with the sled dogs and developed a life-long relationship with many "friendly" mushers over the years. Within 2 years the family owned seven sled dogs, a beagle and a three-wheel cart for racing.

The Risdon family moved from Perry, MI to Hermansville in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan before moving to Iron River to compete in local and national dogsled racing. Their passion grew into an unexpected family adventure, a career and business building dog sleds for mushers. The family moved to Laingsburg in 1983 when their son Wally, and daughter Ann, were in high school. During this time Risdon learned the craft with modifications and feedback from mushers which was crucial to creating a better sled. Eventually, his son-in-law, Bob Whitaker joined the family business.

In 1979 Clyde Risdon designed and built a winner. In 1980 the sled was sent to Alaska and used by Harris Dunlap, professional mushers of dogsled racing in the 1960's with Siberian Huskies. Dunlap later switched to Alaskan Huskies and for many years would breed the best for open-class speed racing teams. When Dunlap placed his next order from Risdon, it was for six more dogsleds. (Risdonrigs.com)

Over time, the sleds have evolved at the skilled hands of Clyde Risdon, who has built thousands of sleds. Risdon, Inc. have shipped dog sleds and supplies 'North to Alaska' for years, also to Poland, Iceland, Scotland, Russia, China, and Northern Canada. Risdon's wife, Pat said, "When my husband retired from dog sled racing, he put his competitive spirit into building better and safer sleds." In 1993 Risdon donated a sled to Tok, Alaska for their Dog Mushers Association Annual Fundraiser, which he continues to do each year.

Since 1999 the Tok, Alaska Dog Mushers Association and friends from the region have sent many beautiful gifts of gratitude to the Risdon family. This year the Risdon's were invited to display their decades of collectible and Native Alaskan Athabascan treasures at the Dennon Museum Center of Fine Arts and Cultural Center located in Traverse City, Michigan.

The Risdon collection of Native Alaskan gifts are on display and currently set up for public viewing through Sept. 5th, 2021. The family is excited for this opportunity to share over 50 items designed by the Athabascan Natives of Tok, AK featuring authentic handwo-

continued on page 4

Social

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Mark Your
Calendar for
Elsie Dairy
Festival
July 8, 9, 10

Ovid Historical Society

submitted by Roger Matthies

Please join us for the July meeting of the Ovid Historical Society. It will be on July 6th at 7:00 p.m. at the Mary Myers Museum.

The museum is at 131 East Williams Street in Ovid. We hope to see you there.

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Recycling in July

submitted by Ellen Link

The Greater Laingsburg Recyclers are back to stay, so don't miss our next recycling drive on Saturday, July 10, from 9 am to 1 pm in the usual location on Roosevelt Row downtown. Recycling is changing all the time, a challenge we hope to overcome with our plans for a permanent facility (coming soon!), so please note the altered list of acceptable items below.

Because we can only accept what waste haulers can find markets for, and because plastics were not being recycled as widely as we were all once led to believe, we will no longer be able to accept plastics #3-7, glass, or electronics. We will continue to accept CLEAN #1 & #2 plastics; note, however, that "clamshell" #1's—used for packaging fruit, salad greens, pastry, and more—are no longer considered regular #1 PETE (so why are they numbered as such? Who knows?) Cardboard and boxboard (but not refrigerated/freezer or juice boxes); metals; mixed office paper, junk mail, & magazines; newspaper and phone books; and household batteries (separated into alkaline, lithium and rechargeable) are also still accepted. And we've added empty inkjets from Canon, Brother and HP to the list, which you can pick up at the drive. Someday we hope to recycle so much more.

That future we're planning is already in the works, with the deposit made on construction of the building. The GLR still needs to raise more funds to cover the equipment that will be needed for expanded operation. Flyers describing the Waste Reduction Center will be available at the drive, and you can contribute to our GoFundMe campaign through the link on our website (<https://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite>) and Facebook page. We're shooting for a grand opening in late fall.

The building will be sited on Laingsburg Schools' property on Woodbury Rd., with expanded hours and services available to all residents, businesses, schools and offices in the surrounding area. Heads-up: we'll need more volunteers for a variety of tasks to make this project a success and an asset to the entire area. So help us spread the word: This community cares about the environment!

Carriage Days Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 29th for the Ovid Carriage Days Wine & Hard Cider Fundraiser Night. The event will be held at Uncle Johns Cider Mill at 6:30pm. Persons 21 & older are invited with ID. The event will include tasting, snacks and 50/50. Make plans now to Join the committee in July.

Bud's Turning 90

On July 16, 2021, Ovid resident, Bud Casler will be celebrating his 90th birthday. Many of you have sat in his chair at the corner of Main and Front Street while getting a hair cut at Bud's Barber Shop.

To shower Bud with Birthday wishes, cards may be sent to him at 403 S. Main Street, Ovid, MI 48866.

He and his wife, Willann have also been chosen as the 2021 Ovid Carriage Days Parade Marshals for the September 10th, 11th and 12th festival.



5th Annual Tractor Show

submitted by Nancy Koerner

The Heart of Michigan Antique Tractor Club (HMATC) will host its 5th annual tractor show on the second weekend in July. Tractors will be on display from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, July 9th and Saturday, July 10th at the Bennington Township Hall, 5849 S. M-52 in Owosso. There is no admission charge and everyone is invited to attend.

The event will feature tractors of all sizes, shapes and colors. Anyone may bring a tractor to exhibit. You do not have to be a member of a club to exhibit a tractor but do have to be a member to participate in parades, tractor games and other activities. Membership forms will be available for anyone desiring one. Free vendor and flea market space is available. Enjoy reminiscing about old tractors and farm equipment and make friends.

For more information call Lee Ash (517)202-5921, or Floyd Koerner, Jr. (517)896-7134 or (517)651-5540.

Visit Heart of Michigan Antique Tractor Club Facebook page for additional information and updates.



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FOMR Bi-Monthly Meeting

submitted by Seth Gibson

The Friends of the Maple River (FOMR) will hold their July Bi-Monthly meeting on the Maple River near Elsie at 6:00 PM, on Wednesday, July 21st. Please gather at the Elsie dam parking area on the north side of Island Road just on the west side of Elsie. The primary activity will be to float a section of the river upstream or downstream of the dam (to be determined). Please make arrangements or bring your own canoe, kayak, etc. and appropriate equipment to participate in the float. There will be a short informal gathering for introductions and to catch up before we disembark on the paddle. Feel free to bring a lawn chair to sit in as you prefer.

There is no charge to attend. There is no specific requirement to wear a mask, but feel free to bring and wear one at your preference. We plan to get back on track with our more traditional meeting format in September and have a speaker already lined up with a tentative meeting date of Wednesday, September 15th, location to be determined.

The FOMR would like to share and encourage participation in the cleanup event on the Looking Glass River on Sunday, July 18th in the DeWitt area. More details are available from the Clinton Conservation District.



3D Shoot at Thorny Acres

The Thorny Acres Sportsman Club is hosting the Tom Nelson 3D Shoot on Saturday, July 17th and Sunday, July 18th at 9550 French Road, Elsie. The event will run from 9am-4pm on Saturday and 9am-3pm on Sunday.

Tom Nelson will be on site both days to meet and greet the attending public. Tom is the host of the American Archer for 25 years on the Outdoor Channel, one of the most popular shows on the channel and is a favorite of bow hunting enthusiasts.

The kitchen will be open both days with good food. Entry to the event is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 16 and under.

Release for Open Painting at The Shiawassee Arts Center

submitted by Linda Ruehle

The Shiawassee Arts Center is offering the next Open Oil/Acrylic Painting Session. This Six week series at the Arts Center will begin on Wednesdays, July 7 - August 11, 1-4pm.

Receive one-on-one instruction while exploring the painting genre of your choice (still life, landscape, portraiture, non-objective abstract, etc). This is a great opportunity to experiment with something new or to improve upon something with which you currently find challenging. Students need to bring their own supplies. Mineral spirits will be provided. New session will follow.

The Artist/Instructor is Philip Ruehle. This is an adult class, but appropriate for students age 16 and above.

Please call Pre Registration & payment required: Call 989-723-8354. A new session will follow. The Arts Center is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. The classrooms and galleries are handicap accessible.

Concerts in the Park Kick Off 18th Season

submitted by Bill Tennant

The popular summer "Concert in the Park" series, sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns, will open its season on Wednesday, July 7 this year with a husband-and-wife duo from Denver. The series will include 9 concerts ending the season on September 1 with a concert featuring the King himself, Elvis! In between is a nice variety of performances featuring excellent musicians from throughout Michigan.

"We receive a lot of requests from performers each year wanting to come to St. Johns to perform," says Bill Tennant, concert coordinator. "This year the committee decided to invite some new performers, giving our community a chance to hear a nice variety of different groups. There are only 2 groups performing this summer who were with us last year."

The series will be held at the William E. Tennant Performance Shell in the beautiful St. Johns City Park. All concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. rain or shine. The Lions Club food trailer will be available this year – social distancing and safety precautions are encouraged. The CCAC receives funding from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

July 7 - Alright Alright- Indy Folk and Americana from Denver

July 14 - Surf Zup - Iconic Surf Guitar Hits from the 60's

July 21 - Monday's Supper - The Tastiest Irish Music Around

July 28 - David Gerald Band- The Best of Detroit Blues

Aug 4 - Kari Holmes - Pop/Country Nashville Recording Artist

Aug 11 - Rachel Curtis - American Idol Folk/Pop Artist

Aug 18 - FRENZ- Classic Pop Hits from AM Gold

Aug 25 - David Bennett Quartet - From Swing to Rock

Sept 1 - Matt King- An Award-Winning Tribute to Elvis



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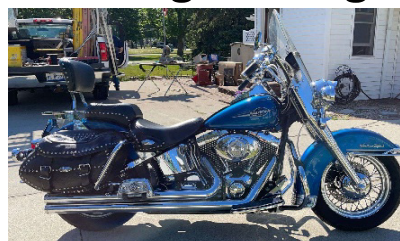


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Gifts...continued from front

ven and historic anthology. For many centuries there have been Athabaskan Indian settlements in the region of what is now Tok, AK who have passed on their artisan skills.

According to the Craig Hadley, Museum Director, the exhibits on site are one of the largest in the United States. The displays are one of the most historically completed collections of stone sculpture, prints, and drawings by the Inuit artists and indigenous people of northern Canadian Arctic, Greenland, and Alaska.

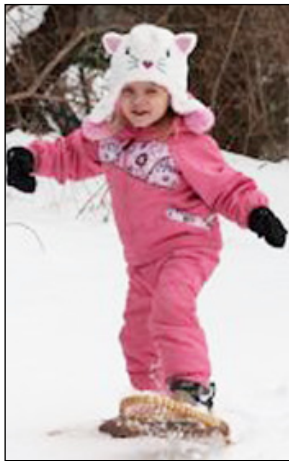
The Traverse City Dennon Museum Center is located on the campus of Northwestern Michigan College at 1410 College Dr, Traverse City, MI 49686. Open to the public Monday – Thursday and Sunday from 11:00am – 4:00pm. Closed on Friday -Saturday.

The TC Museum offers an ongoing diverse variety by changing exhibits in the arts and sciences each year. They also have a notable hands-on Discovery Gallery with interactive activities, an outstanding experience for the entire family. The Risdon display at the DENNO Museum in Traverse City, Michigan might just start you on your journey to Alaska.

A little closer to home, during the Winter months, Michigan's Sleepy Hollow State Park has demo dog sledding and snowshoe making. Check out <https://www.facebook.com/GLSDA> (Great Lakes Sled Dog Association). If you want to experience riding a sled with dogs go to Shemhadar Dog Sled Adventures in Cadillac, Michigan.

Reservations fill up fast. (231) 779-9976 or Nature's Kennel at McMillan, MI. 906 748 0513.

The Alaskan experience is a once-in-a-lifetime milestone on a bucket list. If you are driving the Alaskan Highway into Alaska through Canada, the village of Tok is the first major town you will encounter, about 90 miles from the Canadian border. If you are traveling from Laingsburg, Michigan to Tok, Alaska. Stop and visit Tok. You will find friendly helpful residents. Tip from Pat Risdon, "Eat lunch at Fast Eddies. The food is great. It's where the locals eat. Many of the local art is also on display." TOK, Alaska is 4,380 miles roughly 60 hours of driving with light traffic and no snow. Many visitors have stayed, and many others take return trips year after year. To see Alaska, fly by air plane, Cruise by Ship to see the melting ice bergs and the magnificent Inner passage villages, or take a passenger train with giant viewing windows to experience the magnificent scenery, and of course by motorhome, with a couple of spare tires. Every day will give you a new awakening of an epiphany and a feeling of awe.



United Church of Ovid Invites Children to Knights of North Castle VBS

submitted by Sue Casler

United Church of Ovid Invites Children to Knights of North Castle VBS. will be held July 19 – 23 from 9am – 12noon (registration 8:45 am) at 131 West Front St., Ovid

North Castle is hidden in a frozen land. The King's valiant Knights are on a quest in search of the King's Armor. But the armor isn't what they think it is.

Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor, invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids will take on the role of brave Knights and begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book. They'll explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor—the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the Shoes of Peace, the Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation—at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters, and explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

Knights of North Castle is for kids from age 3 (toilet trained) – entering 6th grade and will run from 9 am (registration 8:45 am) to 12noon each day. Pre- registration forms are available at United Church of Ovid during office hours: Mon – Wed 9am – 1pm, Thurs 9am – 12noon. For more information, call United Church of Ovid 939-834-5958.

Notice of Pesticide Application

This is to notify residents that Owen Tree Service H.D., Inc. will be applying herbicides to designated areas of Consumers Energy Transmission Power Line Right-of-Way located throughout Clinton County. The applications are scheduled to begin on, July 6, 2021 weather permitting and run through January 6, 2022 – depending on the weather. The applications will use a low volume spray of Vastlan (triclopyr) made by Dow AgroSciences, Garlon 4Ultra (triclopyr) made by Dow AgroSciences, Milestone (aminopyralid) made by Dow AgroSciences and Freelexx (2,4-D) made by Dow AgroSciences. Methods of spray are; backpack, ORV mounted spray unit, or truck mounted spray unit, Re-entry after dry. The specific herbicide used will be determined by the site conditions. Anyone wishing more information can contact Ray Owen or Ms. Logan Douglas, at the offices of Owen Tree Service HD, Inc., located at 225 N Lake George Rd, Attica MI 48412 or call 810-724-6651.

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Let's start the conversation.



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Music in the Park

by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

On Friday, July 11, 2001 the ROOT DOCTOR will be performing at 7:00 pm in the McClintock Park Amphitheater. This local musical talent was one of the first to offer music in parks in the Greater Lansing area. Laingsburg is honored to be one of their last performances. Sadly announced, The Root Doctor will be retiring after this musical season.

This deeply rooted talented group since the 1980's include founding members Freddie Cunningham (lead vocalist and James Williams (bass guitar & Vocals) and over the years many other talented Blues, Classical Soul, R&B and a tradition of inspired original music. Current line up features Bill Malone, Chris Corey, and Austin Howard. This concert is a wonderful opportunity to pay a tribute to these outstanding musicians whom Laingsburg is proud to have "Friday Nite Music in the Park" entertainers performing in the new McClintock Amphitheater.

A special "Thank you" from the Laingsburg Business and Community Association to have the "Root Doctor" sponsored by Laingsburg's "Local Roots" Cannabis, family owned by Ronda and John Liskey.

LARK has arranged for food Vendors. Bring your own lawn chair. Set up and enjoy an outstanding evening of musical talent and fun.



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Saturday, July 3rd
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Golf Outing Fundraiser

submitted by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

LAINGSBURG - The Laingsburg Connection is hosting a 4 – person – 18 hole scramble to raise monies needed for the new Tutor and Community Center located in downtown Laingsburg. This is an important fundraiser for a much-needed service in Laingsburg. The Center will be tuition-free and will be staffed by retired educators and volunteers to help with students who are struggling or want to get a jump on their education. Parents and teachers are doing their best, but it takes a village. Be a part of our children's future.

The golf outing will take place on Sunday, July 11, 2021, at 11:30 am with a shotgun start at Pine Hills Golf Course, 6603 Woodbury Rd. Laingsburg. All are welcome to participate. The cost is \$60 per person. The event includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch, door prizes, skill prizes and post tournament pizza.

All proceeds will be donated to The Connections – Tutoring and Community Center. Hole Sponsors are still available at \$125 each. Private Donations are Welcome.

To register for the golf outing – www.thelaingsburgconnection.weebly.com

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Thank You to our family, friends and neighbors for all of your kindness, words of comfort, cards, flowers, and donations to the Colony Schoolhouse following the loss of our mom.


~ The Family of Teresa L. VanDeusen


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Obituaries

Teresa Sisson

Teresa Sisson passed away on Saturday morning, June 26, 2021 at the age of 90.

She was born on January 8, 1931, the first of eight children to Italian parents, Vincent and Angela (Scagliarini) Piccinini who were then living on the Greek Isles of Rhodes. As World War II came into their midst, Teresa and her family were forcibly relocated by the occupying German forces from Rhodes to Italy. When Italy fell to the Americans, Teresa met Ronald Sisson while he was serving there in the US Army. They married and she came with him to St. Johns, leaving behind everything to start a new life in Michigan. She and Ronald had two sons, Dennis and Robert Sisson.

Once she became proficient in English, she attended Lansing Business College, where she developed the skills to become employed in public health through the Women, Infant and Children's program. She eventually took a position as Assistant to a Michigan State Senator for twenty years. Upon her retirement from state employment, Teresa stayed active by becoming the house director of the Kappa Delta Sorority at Michigan State University up until 2016 when she retired.

Teresa was a longtime member of the First Congregational Church in St Johns and an active member in the community where she often assisted in various fundraising activities. Always warm and light hearted, befitting her heritage, Teresa was known for her Italian recipes, marvelous cooking and even her skill as an accomplished seamstress, making clothes for her family and friends.

Surviving are her son, Dennis Sisson; daughter-in-law, Cindy Sisson; four grandchildren, Angela Sisson, Brian (Kathy) Sisson, Annamarie Sisson and Aleece (Chris) Hodges together with six great grandchildren. She also has four sisters in Italy surviving whose names are Jeanette, Jolanda, Ninetta and Maetta Piccinini. She was preceded in death by her husband Ronald Sisson; her son, Robert Sisson; her two brothers, Carlo and Nico Piccinini; and her sister, Natalina Piccinini.

A Funeral Service for Teresa was held at McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel, 1500 Waterford Pkwy, St. Johns on Thursday, July 1st, 2021 at 2 PM.

Memorials may be made to the Hazel Findlay Manor or the Clinton County Senior Center.
For further information, phone McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel at 989-224-4422.



Marilyn Jean Schultz

Marilyn Jean Schultz, age 81, of Elsie, MI, passed away Saturday, June 26, 2021, at Memorial Healthcare, Owosso, MI.

Marilyn was born in Ionia, MI on April 2, 1940, the daughter of Harold M. and Charlotte (Deavers) Mulligan. On April 27, 1956 Marilyn married William Schultz. William was in the Navy during the Korean Conflict and early Vietnam. In 1970, they finally settled in Elsie where they raised their family. William passed away on January 7, 2000.

She loved crocheting, country music and spending time in nature. Marilyn enjoyed cooking and trying to new recipes. She was very independent and liked visits from her family. Marilyn was a very loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great- great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend, she will be missed by many.

She is survived by her children: Lena Alchin of Haslett, MI, Faith and Donald Laviolette of Merrill, MI, Sandra and Nathan Richman of Marion Springs, MI, William Frank and Jerri Schultz of Perry, MI, Charlyn Schultz of Elsie, MI, Kevin and Margaret Schultz of Ashley, MI, daughter-in-law Carleen Boatwright of Mancelona, MI. She was also a grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great grandmother to many. She is also survived by brother Pat Mulligan, sister Sally Mullin, brother in law Frank and Nancy Dukes and many cousins, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents and husband, sons: Cody Schultz and Raymond Schultz and many other relatives.

Cremation will take place and a private family service will be held. Burial will take place at Fairfield Township Cemetery at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneral-homes.com . The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.





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 Pastor: John Jakus
 Sunday School: 9:00am
 Worship Service 10:00am
 517-651-6210

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163 W. Main St., Elsie
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
 Watch Sunday Service on
 YouTube at [elsiebaptist](#)
Pastor Phillip Rogers

United Church of Ovid

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

Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing
 11:00 - Worship

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www.unitedchurchfovid.org
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 Pastor Eugene Blair

Bannister United Methodist Church

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

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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



Duplain Church of Christ

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Worship Service
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St. Cyril Parish of Bannister


Mass: Sun 10:30am,
Wed. 9:00am

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...

The family of Sandra Jo (Peck) Ritz would like to thank everyone who prayed for Sandra and thank you to family and friends who brought food, flowers and other tidbits. Thanks also to all who attended her Memorial Service.

Special thanks to Pastor John Jakus.



Obituaries

Editorial

Continued on page 13

Timothy Lee “Tim” Zwick

Timothy Lee "Tim" Zwick, age 62, of Ovid, MI, passed away Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at Sparrow Health Systems, Lansing, MI.

Timothy was born in Tecumseh, MI on November 18, 1958, the son of Willard and Violet (Mills) Zwick. He graduated from Ovid-Elsie High School with the class of 1976.

Tim was a lifelong Michigan State Fan and an avid sports collector. In his younger years Tim enjoyed golf, bowling, playing pool and he was always there to support his kids in their sporting events. He started off working in downtown Ovid at his dad's hardware store Gambles. He went on to operate Taylor Made Dairy Delight and Rushers Market within the Ovid area. Tim was the treasurer for OMESA and served on the Ovid city/village council for 15 years, a sports writer for the Weekly. He also owned and operated a sports memorabilia store, Capital City Cards. Tim was a lifelong resident of Ovid and loved his friends and community.

He is survived by daughter Taylor Zwick and Dave Larsh of Chicago, IL; son Zane and Claire Zwick of Bath, MI; and his cat Penelope. He was preceded in death by his parents and his best friend Mark Hudecek.

A Private Family Viewing will be held. A celebration of life will be held in Ovid this November. There will be more details to follow.

Memorials may be made to Ovid-Elsie Sports Boosters. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.



Nancy Darlene (Thayer) VanAsdoll

On June 20th, 2021, Nancy Darlene (Thayer) VanAsdoll said her final goodbyes at Providence Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska. She was surrounded by her loving family and friends. She was 81.

Nancy was born December 24th, 1939, in Lansing, Michigan. She was the daughter of Leslie and Geraldine Thayer. In 1976, Nancy moved to Alaska where she finally settled in Palmer. She was a well-known bartender at several local establishments with many lifelong patrons. Nancy had the biggest heart and often took in strays that became part of the family.

Nancy is survived by her three children, Cindy Jo, Donald Leslie (Buddy), and Kelley Lynn and former spouse, Donna Jean; her seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; her two sisters and brother, Toni Skaryd, Patricia and Jerry Palek; along with many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

Nancy is preceded in death by her parents, Leslie and Geraldine; her brother, Richard; her niece, Tracy; and brother-in-law, Doug Skaryd.

A celebration of life will be held at the American Legion Post 35 on July 25th at 3 pm. The family will be holding a potluck following the celebration and welcomes any dishes to be brought.



The sky is glorious tonight, the pinks are elegantly perfect and the blues gradually fade from light navy to a misty pale blue. I have been out pulling weeds again and trying to see if my yard is dry enough for me to do a bit of mowing. My yard smells pretty earthy, especially where the night crawlers had been habituating. Once all of the water seeps back into the earth and the grass is cut my yard will be back to looking like an untamed hayfield. I did get the weeds removed from the garlic patch and headed the seed pods so that I should have a good bunch of bulbs this fall. I can see through the weedy garden that the cucumbers are holding their own and I might even have a few tomatoes this year. I'm not sure of the beans, maybe if the water drains quickly they will continue to blossom and form some nice string beans. Live in hope...

If my plans coalesce I will be spending the day up at the office. I owe Deb a great deal for stepping in for me last week.....I ran out of time and my "technophobia" was in high gear. Deb came to the rescue and has everything up and running. So I have big plans for the morrow and hope to accomplish much. Hopefully I will be able to set the "Parable" into motion and the needed information will flow in quickly. Wahoo, I have the church bulletins printed and folded, so all that is left is for me to finish up the Prayers and Concerns, print them and get them into the bulletins.....and yes I need to deliver them.

We sold out again last night at Ashley.....that is a wahoo and then some!!! It was a tad bit warm and more so in the food trailer. Lucky me has a place between the open back door and the open order window. Unfortunately, Diane is in the thick of things and gets all the heat from the grill. We now have some regular customers and it is good to see them and know that they keep coming back. So we hope that they are pleased with the food. Everyone also seems to be reconciled with altering the menu; our first Wednesday in July will be burgers and fries. We are still in the middle when it comes to getting all the paperwork finished.....timing seems to be the main issue.

It is now 8:00 AM Thursday morning and I'm in the thick of it.... I just removed the pans from the chocolate zucchini bread so that it could finish cooling. The plain white bread is rising and there is a baker's dozen loaf pans filled with the pineapple zucchini bread in the oven. I grated about twenty zucchini this morning and need to get them bagged and into the freezer. The dishes are finished and I keep eyeballing the burnables but have not made it out to the burn pile yet. Fortunately last night after getting home from working the food trailer, Prudence and I went up to the office and finished the bulletin inserts and delivered everything before getting back home at 9:30 PM when I received a surprise call from my nephew Jake.

Did I mention how pleased I am because I found a love seat that doesn't let my derriere sink below my knees? I hate having to struggle when getting out of a chair or coach and was practically doing a happy dance when I sat on it and it was easy to revert to a standing situation. It is nice and I do appreciate Louis giving it to me and can hardly wait until I get it home.

It is hard to believe that this Sunday is our "Independence Day", God blessed us well and I fear that many have forgotten the necessity and the cost of "freedom ringing". Because of our ancestors we can own our own homes, vehicles, and property.....we can worship God openly. And like many I have a mixed heritage and know that life is not always fair but the opportunities are there for all who are willing to work for them. The past grievances belong in the past and in my opinion do not need to be paid a repatriation tribute. I am thankful for our military families and for our military, I am glad that my sister and brother served, and that my daughter and my nephew served. I also have uncles and aunts who served in different branches, my sister, my brother, my daughter and my nephew all served in the Navy, my aunt was Army, my uncles served in the Navy, Army, and Marines and hopefully God blessed them daily. I also have cousins who have served. May God continue blessing the USA....that is the United States of America.

Crystal Mitchell©2021



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Superhero 5K Registration is Open

submitted by Kelly Schafer

The Voice for Clinton County's Children is looking forward to our 8th Annual Superhero 5K Run, Walk, or Fly! on Saturday, September 25th at the St. Johns City Park! Proceeds from our 5K supports our essential services for Clinton County children and youth who have experienced human trafficking, neglect, physical abuse, and/or sexual assault. We remain optimistic we will host our event in person with a virtual option--safety guidelines will be followed. Registration, sponsorship, and event information is available on our website VoiceForClintonCountyChildren.org. Will YOUR cape be ready?!



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ELSIE DAIRY FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021

9am
Village-Wide Yard Sales

Noon-7pm
Arts & Crafts Booths
Main Street

Noon - Close
Anderson Amusements
Main Street

Noon - 10pm
Elsie Lions Food Tent
NE Corner Main & N. Ovid

Noon - Close
Ice Cream Booth
West of the Bank

Noon -Dark
Golf on the Go
By Town Tub

7pm - 7:15pm
Opening Ceremonies
Main Stage

7:15pm - Close
Talent Show
Main Stage



FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2021

9am - Finish (FREE!)
Kiddie Tractor Pull
Main Stage Area. Registration 8:30am

9am - Noon (FREE!)
Kiddie Dairy Fun
Under Big Tent Behind the Cow.
By Clinton County Farm Bureau. Corn Box, "Milk Cow," Baby Animals, Free Ice Cream Scoop 12 & Under

10am - Close
Ice Cream Booth
West of the Bank

Noon - 7pm
Arts & Crafts Booth
Main Street

Noon - 8pm
Dunk Tank O-E Volleyball
By Village Office - Main Street

Noon - Close
Anderson Amusements
Main Street

Noon - 10pm
Elsie Lions Food Tent
NE Corner Main & N Ovid

Noon - Dark
Golf on the Go
Across from Post Office

7pm - 9:30pm
Jim Pontack
Main Stage

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021

7:30am - 10am
Lions Pancake Breakfast
NE Corner Main & N Ovid

8:30am
3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
West Main Street

11am
Super Parade

Noon - 10pm
Elsie Lions Food Tent
NE Corner Main & N. Ovid

1pm - 8pm
Dunk Tank O-E Volleyball
Main Street

Noon - Close
Anderson Amusements
Main Street

Noon - 7pm
Arts & Crafts
Main Street

Noon - Dark
Golf on the Go
Across from Post Office

Noon - Close
Ice Cream Booth
West of the Bank

Noon - 4pm
Silent Auction
Bank

2pm
Cornhole Tournament
Grass Lot East of Reliable Tire

7pm - 9:30pm
Mixed Nuts
Main Stage

9:30pm
Light Parade - Elsie Fire & Rescue
Main Stage





2021 Elsie Dairy Festival

July 8, 9, 10



Anderson Amusements Provide Carnival Fun

A Standish, Michigan-based, family-owned and operated carnival company, Anderson Amusements offers a wide array of contemporary as well as traditional attractions.

Anderson Amusements operates three complete carnival units, each offering a variety of rides, games, and food concessions - all geared for clean, affordable, family fun!

Pre-sale bracelet tickets are available at County Styles Salon and Piggy Tails in Elsie and The Weekly in Ovid for \$17 until Friday, July 8 at 11 a.m. They will be \$20 during the festival.

Rides open at NOON all three days.



Mixed Nutz on the Main Stage

Mixed Nuts is a country/variety band that will perform at 7:00pm and 8:30pm on the Main Stage Saturday July 10th.

Band members include: Bob Clark, lead vocals and rhythm guitar. Bob has played in bands since he was 16, starting at the Red Fox in Chesaning currently known as the Back Forty. He started out playing drums until he picked up the guitar 5 years ago. He has played with performers such as Tex Ritter, Cal Smith, Barbara Fairchild and Tommy Cash. Bob calls Brant home.

Gary Fobear, lead vocals and keyboard. Gary started playing guitar at the age of 13, two years later he formed his own "Basement" band. He is a versatile musician, playing bass guitar, drums and keyboard. Gary calls Saginaw home.

Lonny Wiederhold, lead vocals and bass. Lonny became entertaining at the age of 16 and put down the bass when Uncle Sam called on him at 18. Thirty years later he picked up the bass again and never looked back. Lonny calls Saginaw home.



2021 Elsie Dairy Festival July 8, 9, 10



Support The Elsie Lions Club Food Booth

The Elsie Lions club is 77 years old and their main fundraiser is the Food Booth during the Dairy Festival. Money raised from the booth goes to local charities such as: Elsie Food Bank, Youth Recreation League, DARE, Meals on Wheels, and of course they buy glasses for the needy. Make plans now to attend the Pancake Breakfast on Saturday from 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

They hope to see you at the festival on July 8, 9, and 10.

Petting Zoo During Dairy Festival

New to the Elsie Dairy Festival will be a petting zoo on Friday morning, July 9th immediately following the Kiddie Parade. The event will take place under the big tent behind the cow. There will be all kinds of small animals to kids to see including a station where kids can actually milk a cow. A sawdust pit will also be available. This event is sponsored by Farm Bureau.



Information Booth

The information booth will be held at the former Huntington Bank. Festival T-Shirts will be available for sale for Kids, \$10 and Adults \$12 and \$14. Shirts are also available for purchase at Country Styles Hair Salon and Piggy Tails Salon in Elsie.

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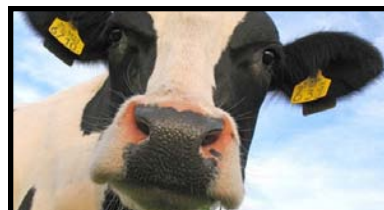
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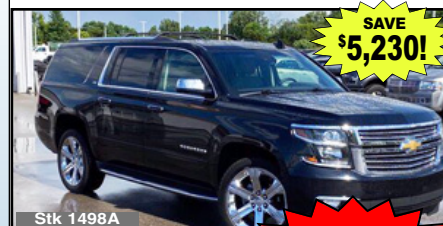
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2021 Elsie Dairy Festival

July 8, 9, 10



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

"Corn Hole Event"

On Saturday, July 10th, a Cornhole Tournament will be held. Plans call for 6 levels of competition beginning at 2pm with the Lil Throwers, ages 3-6 and 7-11 (\$5.00 per team), followed by Mid Throwers, ages 12-17 (\$15.00 per team), Adult Social Team, ages 18-64 (\$20.00 per team), Senior Social Team, ages 65 plus (\$15.00 per team) and Adult Competitive, ages 18 and up (\$30.00 per team).

Regulation Cornhole Boards (2'x4'x1inch off ground) and BAGS only. Smaller boards for Littles may be used. You may bring your own equipment. Pizes include Gift cards and gift certificates for Social Categories, Cash for Competitive (\$75 for top team).

Deadline to enter is Thursday, July 8th. For more infomation or to enter, call Leah 989-640-5895 or Eric 989-640-5893.

SILENT AUCTION

Silent Auction

There will be a Silent Auction on Saturday from Noon-4 pm, held at the former Huntington Bank Location. If anyone has a item they would like to donate you can call Karen Wooley at 989-862-5079.



Garage Sales Planned

The annual village-wide garage sales will open on Thursday July 8th at 9 a.m. Many garage sales will run all weekend long and there are sure to be bargains for everyone.

GARAGE SALES

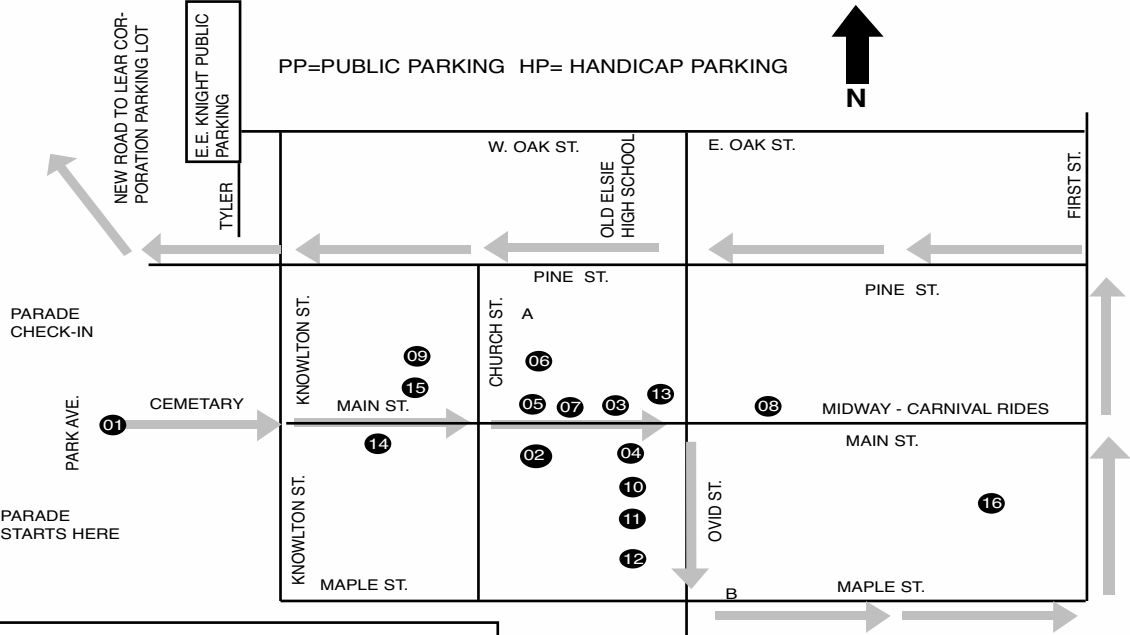
THE SECOND KADOLPH MOVING SALE: 3124 N. Carland Rd., Elsie. 2.5 miles North of W. M21. July 8-10, 9:00AM. Thurs. 7:30 sign up. House, garage & polebarn. Robbins table made in Owosso, Estey Furniture bedroom set (Owosso), Woodard teacart. Plus tools, mower, rototiller, lots of dishes, glass, sterling, antiques, collectibles. estatesales.net or HeritageEstateSales facebook. 1584

HUGE YARD/ESTATE SALE: July 8-10 from 8-5. Antiques, many tools, classic car parts, fishing & hunting, books house-hold items, misc. 5988 East Wilson Rd., Bannister. 1584

HUGE YARD SALE: JULY 8, 9, 10. 9AM - 5PM. 20854 West Ridge Rd., Elsie. Applicances, Furniture, Electronics, Toys, Kid Clothes/Shoes, LuLaRoe. 1584

WHAT'S HAPPENING... AND WHERE!

PP=PUBLIC PARKING HP= HANDICAP PARKING



01 SUPER PARADE

02 MAIN STAGE

03 DUNK TANK

04 INFORMATION STATION

05 ARTS & CRAFTS

06 KIDDIE TRACTOR PULL

07 ICE CREAM TENT

08 MIDWAY

09 PUBLIC PARKING (NOT ON SAT.)

10 SILENT AUCTION

11 HANDICAP PARKING

12 PUBLIC PARKING

13 LIONS FOOD COURT

14 3ON3



15 CORN HOLE

16 GOLF-ON-THE-GO

SUPER PARADE INFORMATION

SATURDAY, JULY 10th, 11:00 A.M.

Parade line up at the ball park west of town - 9:00 - 10:45 a.m. Must be in line by 9:45 a.m. to be included in judging. Bleacher seating is available downtown across from the main stage on parade day (Sat. morning). Absolutely NO parking on Main St. from downtown to the west side city limits - this will be enforced by police! Also, no vehicles allowed inside the ballpark, except for parade officials and entrants and Elsie Meadows apartment residents. Need parade info, call Brooke 517-819-8459.



DON'T MISS IT!

www.elsiedairyfest.com



2021 Elsie Dairy Festival

July 8, 9, 10



Still Time to Sign Up for Arts and Crafts

Arts and crafts vendors are still being accepted for the Elsie Dairy Festival. The event times during the festival are Thursday, July 8th, Friday, July 9th and Saturday, July 10th from Noon - 7p.m. each day.

If you would like to sign up please call Quinn Passmore 989-388-7649.



Talent Show

The popular Talent Show will take to the Main Stage on Thursday evening, July 8th at 7:15pm immediately following the Opening Ceremonies. There is still time to enter but you need to do so by Tuesday, July 6th by calling Amber at 775-230-4060.



Once Removed

Homegrown musician Jim Pontack, AKA Once Removed, will perform on the Main Stage during the Elsie Dairy Festival on Friday evening, July 9th from 7:00pm-9:30pm. Don't miss this one man band performance as he will entertain you with Classic Rock-N-Roll favorites and more.



Elsie Fire Department Light Parade

Will be held on Saturday, July 10th at approximately 9:30 p.m.



3on3 Basketball Tournament

The 3on3 basketball tournament will begin at 8:30am on Saturday morning, July 10th. Teams will be compete in six categories from elementary to adult experience. Teams are still being accepted by contacting Zack at 989-666-8229.

First Aid Station

A First Aid Station will be held in front of Elsie Village Hall. Free Blood Pressure checks will be offered to the public by Fire and Rescue staff.

Welcome to Elsie! The Dairy Capital of Michigan!

We would like you to come and visit us during the Elsie Dairy Festival.

Visit the upstairs viewing parlor and watch the milking process at our 9697 Riley Road location in Elsie



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Get Your Tickets During the Festival
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- 2nd Prize - 1/4 Beef**
- 3rd Prize - 1/4 Beef**
- 4th Prize - \$100 Gift Card**

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Drawing Date: October 2nd In Front of Former Elsie Bank.

Tickets Also Available at the Weekly Office.

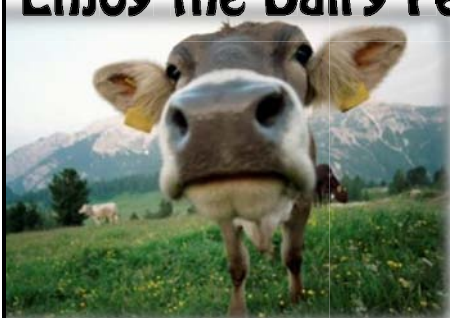
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2021 Elsie Dairy Festival

July 8, 9, 10



The 2021 Elsie Dairy Festival Super Parade will step off at 11am sharp on Saturday, July 10th. If you have not yet entered there is still time. Call Brooke at 517-819-8459. Parade applications are also on the website, elsiedairyfestival.com.




Cool off at the Ice Cream tent during the Dairy Festival. The tent will be open all three days. Thursday, July 8th from noon to close, Friday, July 9th 10am-close and Saturday, July 10th from noon-close.

We're Back!

Along with everyone else in Michigan, we were shut down with the Covid 19 Pandemic in 2020. The Elsie Dairy Festival, in compliance with the Michigan Health Department, was cancelled. There were no queen or princess pageants including 2021.

Our community masked, social distanced, home schooled, worked from home, lost jobs, lost businesses, cancelled sports, and vaccinated when it was right for us. This past year we cried because we couldn't hug people we loved, especially those who lived in nursing homes or were shut-ins. We lost loved ones and mourned alone.




There will be no grand marshal this year in honor of those that were lost during the pandemic and look forward to a brighter 2021. (See the back of this brochure for a list of past parade marshals.)

Let's Celebrate!
**at the 2021
Elsie Dairy Festival!**

Elsie Dairy Festival Past Grand Marshals

- 1986 Merle Green
- 1987 Joe Houska
- 1988 Orpha Clements
- 1989 Earl & Madilyn Seybert
- 1990 Joe & Anna Bartek
- 1991 Jim Dorman & Jean Cobb
- 1992 Glenn & Marjorie Webster
- 1993 AnaBel Peck
- 1994 Russ & Mary Libey
- 1995 Fred & Juanita Fischer
- 1996 Gene & Mary Jane Schoendorf
- 1997 Ellsworth Cook & Norval Thornton
- 1998 Duane & Grace Green
- 1999 Carol Slagh & Spencer (Blackie) Blackford
- 2000 Jim & Marie Hurst
- 2001 Bob & Doris Moore
- 2002 Oliver & Barb Darling
- 2003 Roy Thornton & Geraldine Hawes
- 2004 Lester Woodard and Fran Nethaway
- 2005 Lewis & Dorothy Baese
- 2006 Gerald & Juanita Carroll
- 2007 Velmer & Margaret Green
- 2008 Joe & Diane Courter
- 2009 Jack & Kathy Tyler
- 2010 Leota Kajdas & Verna Daley
- 2011 Gale & Sue Bensinger
- 2012 Joe & RoseMarie Thering
- 2013 Rex & Dorothy Ballantine
- 2014 Sam & Connie Sopocy
- 2015 Bill & Sandy Jones (BNM Trailer Sales)
- 2016 Walt & Marilyn Miller
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- 2018 Ken & Janet Swanson
- 2019 Tom & Mary Hughey



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ELSIE DAIRY FESTIVAL

JULY 8, 9, 10, 2021

Thank You Sponsors

Editorial

Continue on page 14

Torpedo Float Rig

Have you ever wanted to use hand tied fishing flies with your casting or spinning rod and reel?

Maybe you should consider a torpedo float rig the next time you are on a river or when lake and pond fish seem to be near the surface during hot summer evenings. Float or bubble fly rigs are nothing new but require a little bit of practice and finesse but can pay big dividends.

There are several common bubble fly rigs but the Weekly Sportsman favors the torpedo float rig because it is simple to tie and operate along with being very sensitive to light strikes. The plastic torpedo floats come in a variety of colors including clear and fluorescent green. Tie your line to the wide end of the plastic float and then tie a 24 to 30 inch leader with a fly on the narrow end. Some reverse the direction of the torpedo float but the Weekly Sportsman prefers the large end tied to the line from the pole. Make sure you grease the leader and the fly with floatant so it won't sink and spook fish. Once it hits the water try different techniques to see what makes the fish strike as sometimes a fly just floating with the current will do the trick or even a jerking twitching like movement.

For those looking to catch some carp consider the same torpedo float set except use a leader with a hook and bread dough or other floatable bait. Start chumming the surface of the water by sling shooting some of the aforementioned floatable bait and then cast your line once the fish seem to be interested.

-WS

Some Things We Can All Agree On

by Congressman John Moolenaar

This month our nation celebrates Independence Day, marking the day that 13 colonies declared independence from Great Britain, and across the country, we celebrate with fireworks, parades, barbecues with friends and family, and many other traditions.

As you celebrate, I hope you remember the courage of the Founders who were the first to declare, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

These ideals have changed the world and it is because of them that we as Americans enjoy incredible freedoms and opportunities that are not available in other countries.

In the spirit of unity as our nation celebrates Independence Day, I wanted to share with you some of the bipartisan legislation that I have supported recently to make our community and our country a better place.

On June 22, I voted for the Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act, which makes it a federal crime to defraud veterans of their VA benefits. Anyone who defrauds our veterans of their benefits should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Veterans served our country, and this is a small way we can help protect them.

If you are a veteran, or if you know one who needs assistance with the VA, please call my office at 989-631-2552 so my team and I can help.

Another major concern in mid and northern Michigan is the lack of broadband Internet connections.

I recently signed on as a supporter of the Gigabit Opportunity Act, which would create opportunity zones in low-income rural and urban areas that currently lack the federal minimum broadband service. States would designate the opportunity zones in their state and tax incentives would be provided for the companies that build broadband Internet service in those areas.

This legislation complements the BOOST Act, which I introduced earlier this year. The BOOST Act would allow rural homeowners and primary lessees to claim a \$300 tax credit after purchasing a mobile hotspot they can use to connect to the Internet or a signal booster they can use to increase the speed of a slow connection. Both the BOOST Act and the Gigabit Opportunity Act apply only to areas where Internet connection speeds are below the federal minimum standard of service, which is 25 megabits per second for downloads and three megabits per second for uploads.

Finally, we can all agree that the United States must maintain its role as the global leader in research and innovation. To do that, we must support opportunities in STEM education and that's why in May the House passed the Rural STEM Education Research Act which authorizes the National Science Foundation to award grants for research to improve rural students' access to and participation in the STEM fields. I voted for this bill because STEM education is critical to preparing students for future opportunities that include good-paying jobs and roles in scientific research.

These are just a few examples of the many bipartisan bills I have supported in the past few months. While strong disagreements continue in Congress over many of the issues facing our country, I am still working with Republicans and Democrats to support good policies that will help the residents of mid and northern Michigan.

Congressman John Moolenaar represents Michigan's Fourth Congressional District, which is all of Clare, Clinton, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon, Shiawassee, and Wexford counties, and parts of Montcalm and Saginaw counties.



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster

theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Time marches on.
Time waits for no man.
I'm not sure when I first heard those words, but I was little.
Little did I care. Little enough that I did not understand.

Isn't that the way this life works out? You're five or six or seven or eight years old; you have no concept of time, except that it's getting close to school getting out for the summer, or that you just visited Grandma's for Thanksgiving and Christmas is just around the corner.

You're in your 20's and you have a better concept of time. You feel invincible.

You're in your 30's, you're married and you have children of your own. Those kids are adorable. Time is precious; you know each fleeting moment you'll never get back. Still ...

Time marches on.

You reach your 40s, your 50s, then your 60s, time moves faster and faster. Sometimes you can't keep up. Sometimes, out of the clear blue sky, a good friend passes away, and time hits you like a punch to the gut.

Time waited no more for Tim Zwick last Tuesday. Time marched on to eternity. Tim's passing was a punch to the stomach, in an extremely busy day, that stopped you in your tracks.

Tim Zwick was a real character; one of those unforgettable people that draws you to them. Here at The Weekly, Tim was a customer, a business adviser, and a writer. His "Gridiron Guru" feature on the sports pages was an annual football season highlight. I'll reveal a little secret: over the past few years, I was the infamous "Wolfman" that Tim made fun of from time to time for my stumbling, bumbling football picks.

Little did I know. Little of college and pro football did I understand.

I always thought Tim Zwick and I were kindred spirits. Two athlete wannabes that got passed by when they passed out the sports-hero DNA. Tim pursued his passion for sports and opened a burgeoning collectibles' business. I pursued mine; went to college to become a sports-writer and eventual newspaper-owner.

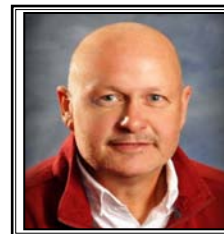
His parents, Bill and Vi Zwick, cast the mold for Tim -- and they are just as unforgettable. They owned the Gambles store in downtown Ovid, a convenient hardware, appliance and hard-goods enterprise ... the kind of store that is all-too-quickly disappearing from small towns everywhere. They were their own very, very special people ...

And now, Tim joins them for a very, very special family reunion.

Time marches on. Time waits for no man.

We lost Tim Zwick last Tuesday. I ask why? Why do the most unforgettable people leave us ... so wanting a little more time?

Little do I know. Little do I understand.



My Turn At Bat

by Tom Turek

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Editorial

THE 4TH OF JULY
IS MORE THAN
FIREWORKS

Dear Andy,
The year I graduated from high school, I remember my grandmother reading an Ann Landers poem about the Nation. I was born on the 4th of July and I was wondering if you knew what poem she read to us. If so, can you reprint it or email it to me? June, born on 4th of July

Dear June, Yes! I am happy to reprint it and email it to you. Happy Birthday June. Did you know you share a birthday with Ann Landers and her twin sister Abby van Buren both born on July 4, 1918. The Poem I think you may be remembering is one of my favorite columns she had reprinted. I keep a copy in a frame in my office. Printed in one of her last July 4th columns; following her death on June 22, 2002. It is entitled "I Am the Nation" by Otto Whittaker.

I was born on the July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate. The blood-lines of the world run in my veins, because I offered freedom to the oppressed. I am many things and many people. I am the Nation.

I am 281 million living souls – and the ghosts of millions who have lived and died for me. I am Nathan Hale and Paul Revere. I stood at Lexington and fired the shot heard around the world. I am Washington, Jefferson and Patrick Henry. I am John Paul James, the Green Mountain Boys and Davy Crocket. I am Lee, Grant, Abe Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt, Pershing, Eisenhower, MacArthur, Patton and Collin Powell.

I remember the Alamo, the Maine and Pearl Harbor and September 11, 2001. When freedom called, I answered and I stayed until it was over, over there. I left my heroic dead in Flanders Field, on the rock of Corregidor, on the bleak slopes of Korea and in the steaming jungles of Viet Nam and desert sands of Kuwait (and Afghanistan.)

I am the Statue of Liberty, the wheat lands of Kansas and the granite hills of Vermont. I am the coal mines of the Virginias and Pennsylvania, the fertile land of the West, the Golden Gate Bridge and the Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall, the Monitor and the Merrimac and the Challenger. I am the Liberty Bell that first rang for freedom.

I am BIG. I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans – my arms reach out to embrace Alaska and Hawaii. I am more than two million farms. I am forest, fields, mountains and deserts. I am quiet villages – and cities that never sleep.

You can look at me and see Ben Franklin walking down the streets of Philadelphia with a bread loaf under his arm. You can see the flag Betsy Ross first stitched. You can see the lights of Christmas and hear the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" as the calendar turns to a new year.

I am Babe Ruth and the World Series. I am more than 170,000 schools and colleges and over 300,000 churches where my people worship God as they choose. I am a ballot dropped into a box, the roar of a crowd in the stadiums and the voice of a choir in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a newspaper and a letter to a congress. I am John Glenn and Neil Armstrong and astronauts who whirls above my head. I am Eli Whitney and Stephen Foster. I am Tom Edison, Albert Einstein and Billy Graham. I am Horace Greely, Will Rogers and the Wright Brothers. I am George Washington Carver, Jonas Salk and Martin Luther King, Jr. I am Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Walt Whitman and Thomas Paine.

YES. I am the Nation and these are the things that I am. I was conceived in FREEDOM and God- willing in freedom I will spend the rest of my days. May I possess always the integrity, the courage and the strength to keep myself unshackled, to remain a citadel of freedom and a beacon of hope to the world. # (Some portions were revised by M.T Foresthill and D. Jones to remember our hero's of our Nation that made us a Nation.)

This 4th of July weekend let's remember the meaning of our country and remember the freedom that we continue to fight for, especially while we are enjoying our fireworks displays. Thank you for the request to reprint this essay. I am sure your grandmother had a special reason for you to remember. Ask_Andy@aol.com

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