

Meridian Weekly

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February 6, 2022

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12 PAGES



A Few Pricey Words

by Deb Price

30 and Out? Nope!!

In February 1992, the Meridian Weekly opened its doors. Together, Tom Turek, myself and Yvonne Squires started our adventure of producing a community newspaper in the old Darling Hardware building in downtown Elsie.

The three of us got our start in the business working for Bill Sloat at the Maple River News in Ovid. Bill was my mentor and friend. I took journalism from Mrs. Boone as a senior at Ovid-Elsie but had no experience in sales. Bill gave me a crash course in selling advertising. He took me out on the road armed with a newspaper and a rate card. Our first stop was at Town & Country Carpet in Owosso owned by Vern Smith. We walked in together, three men were seated at a table enjoying a conversation. One of the men said Hi Bill, I figured that may be Vern. He returned the greeting with a Hey Bill. I then asked Vern if he would like to buy an ad in the paper. He then replied, who are you, do you have a name? I suddenly felt embarrassment as all eyes were on me. He added, so you think you can just walk in here and say ya wanna buy an ad? I learned ALOT that day. Vern did not buy an ad from me on that day but he did become one of my favorite clients and a very good friend.

My career in the business continued as I transitioned from the Maple River News to the Argus Press in Owosso. I was hired by Publisher George T. Campbell, a man I grew to admire very much. The experience I gained at the daily paper was invaluable. My shoes got scuffed up often at the MRN but my years of experience at the daily paper in Owosso yielded polish for those scuffed up shoes. A part of me still has a connection with the Argus as I print this publication there. The friendships I have made over the years working for the Argus remain today.

Fast forward...A lot has changed in the newspaper business with the advancement in technology, the internet, facebook and other social media. So what keeps newspapers like this one going? The answer to that question is SUPPORT. We have worked hard to provide a LOCAL newspaper that covers three communities and school districts in Ashley, Ovid-Elsie and Laingsburg. I clearly remember these words from Sloat, "Get as many local names and faces in the paper every week." That is our goal each week.

Our advertising support, which I am extremely grateful for, has been constant from the beginning, not only locally but from surrounding businesses in Owosso and St Johns. We have demonstrated that strong readership creates a positive result from dollars spent on advertising. Besides monetarily and readership support, I have been blessed with family who always have my back and the best employees, both current and those who have previously contributed to the task of providing this publication each week. We work as a team, this newspaper would not be possible without the concept of each person not only doing their own job but jumping in and helping out others when needed.

Many have asked me, when are you going to retire? The answer is simple, I enjoy what I do and will continue until I am needed for something else. So 30 and out? NOPE!!

The Beauty of a Winter Storm and the Clean-Up That Follows



Photographers, Marie Spiess and Keith Kingsbury used their snow day to capture the beauty during a winter snow storm that dumped several inches of snow in the area on Wednesday, February 3rd. Above, Marie took this serene photo of the beautiful Maple River. Keith focused on the colorful birds enjoying a visit to the bird feeder while another sits perfectly perched.

Local DPW crews worked overtime on Wednesday and Thursday, February 2nd and 3rd cleaning up the streets after Mid-Michigan was hit with heavy snow fall, the first real accumulation this winter. Most schools in the area were closed for the two days due to road conditions from the storm. Pictured here is Rich Simpson, Ovid DPW Superintendent and crew members as they clear Main Street in downtown Ovid.

Meridian Weekly
Deborah Price Owner/Publisher meridianweekly.com

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E-mail - Publisher deb.price@meridianweekly.com
E-mail - Display Advertising ads@meridianweekly.com

Social

Blood Drive

The Duplain Church of Christ, 5565 E. Colony Rd., St. Johns will be holding a Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

For information or to make an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org (sponsor code DUPLAINCOC) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



Owosso Parkinson Support Group Meeting

The Owosso Parkinson Support Group to meet on Wed, February 9, 2022 at 5:00pm at the Shiawassee Council on Aging, Owosso Senior Center, 300 N. Shiawassee St, Owosso.

Special guest speaker will be Becky Zemla of Capital Area Community Services Weatherization Program. Also they distribute food to those who qualify. They help those in need to allow their homes to be more comfortable in the cold of winter and when very warm in the summer.

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, please join us. We provide information, encouragement, fellowship, and support.

If you have any questions about Owosso Parkinson's support Group please call Karen Prussner at 989-723-6901.

New Exhibit Opens at the Shiawassee Arts Center

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Center opens its first exhibit of 2022 featuring the work of artists Rich Tesner of Flushing, Lisabeth Curnow of Holt, Nanette Mathe of Lansing and Andrea Czarnik of Saginaw. The exhibit, which runs February 1 through March 13, is generously sponsored by David & Lisa Hood. The public is welcome to schedule an appointment to attend the 'Meet the Artist' reception, Sunday, February 6, 1-3pm.

As an artist and instructor, Rich Tesner looks for inspiration through the exploration of the world around him. Tesner is an avid traveler, photographer, and painter. He enjoys spending hours behind the lens in hopes of capturing one or two images that might reveal themselves as opportunities for a new painting. His painting style ranges between impressionism and photorealism and is greatly influenced by the subject matter. Each painting has a story and each one is a reflection of who Rich is as a person and an artist.

Lisabeth Curnow and Nanette Mathe collaborated together to create a group exhibit themed "Nature Interpretations". In watercolor, drawings, photography and mixed media, these artists will be interpreting the same subject in their own style and medium.

Andrea Czarnik is an 'interpretive painter' of landscape, nature, and still life, based out of Saginaw, Michigan. She studied at The American Academy of Art and at the Art Institute of Chicago which provided her foundation and practical expertise. Early on she pursued her own desktop publishing business in the '90s while raising a family. She holds a Masters Degree in Education and enjoys teaching basic painting and drawing concepts. Her activities in plein air painting with other artists she admires keeps her open to discovery in the interpretation of her surroundings leading to unique compositions and color harmonies.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso, is open to the public Monday through Friday 10-5pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-4pm. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieske Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. The public is welcome to schedule an appointment and there is no admission charge. SAC, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2022, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage participation and appreciation of the arts. For more information 989.723.8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.

32nd Annual Walk for Warmth

submitted by Rebecca Zemla

Capital Area Community Services, Inc. announces its 32nd annual Walk for Warmth will take place on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at the Owosso Community Center (Shiawassee Council on Aging), 300 N. Washington Street, Owosso. Registration opens at 9:00 a.m., the Walk begins at 9:30 a.m.

Walk for Warmth is a statewide effort to raise public awareness of people experiencing heat-related emergencies. Funds are raised through contributions from individuals, businesses, civic organizations, clubs and church groups and are used to assist area residents with heat-related emergencies. With the rising costs of basic needs, which creates an economic hardship currently being experienced by many local residents and the changes in State and Federal funding, the need for heat-related assistance has become far greater than service agencies and churches can resolve without additional resources, such as Walk for Warmth. 100% of the funds raised through the Shiawassee County Walk are used to assist low-income households within Shiawassee County.

With the high number of local families needing heat-related assistance, the support of area businesses, individuals and civic groups is critical. Please consider assisting by having a group or individual represent your business/organization in the Walk or make a onetime contribution.

Donations can be mailed to: CACS, Shiawassee County Access Center, 1845 Corunna Avenue, Owosso, MI 48867.

For further information please contact our office at 989-723-3115. Pledge sheets are now available.

Thank you for your consideration in helping to keep families warm this winter and prevent homelessness due to home heating related emergencies.



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February Recycling on Full Throttle

submitted by Ellen Link

Laingsburg's new waste reduction facility at 7500 Woodbury Rd. has become a real game-changer, enabling increased recycling collections of an expanded list of materials. And now that the world is finally becoming aware that our volumes of waste are destroying the environment, it is difficult to understand why everyone isn't doing his or her share to clean up the mess by reducing, re-using and recycling. That includes businesses, schools, and institutions.

The GLR is intent on helping to make that happen. First, recycling drives will no longer be just once a month! Your next opportunities to recycle will be Saturday, Feb. 12; Tuesday, Feb. 15; and Saturday, Feb. 24. Until further notice, Saturday hours will remain 9 am to 1 pm, while Tuesday hours will be 4 to 7 pm. With enough volunteers, the plan is to be open a minimum of four (and eventually up to 8) times a month; all we need is you.

Second, we will do whatever we can to help. At the drives, we empty your car; if your materials haven't been sorted correctly, we'll gladly take the time to help you learn the ropes (see below for some instruction). If you have a business, we can provide you with a free waste audit to help you determine what could be recycled or how you might reduce your waste (and costs!). If you represent an area school, we're eager to discuss the possibilities for engaging students and reducing waste.

Finally, an updated list of the clean and dry materials accepted every month includes: newspaper and phone books; tin and scrap metal; aluminum (separate); corrugated cardboard (include brown paper bags here); boxboard; mixed office paper (no adhesives) and junk mail; magazines; books; #1 plastics, clear & green only (bottles and jars—no clamshells, e.g., take-out, berries and salad containers); #2 plastics (milk jugs/cloudy separated from solid color containers); household batteries (please separate into regular, rechargeable, lithium and button); and empty inkjets from Canon, Brother and HP. We recently added glass bottles and jars (all colors), electronics (no TVs or monitor screens), and #5 "tub" plastics (e.g., yogurt, sour cream, etc.—check out our display) and will now also accept dental care products like toothbrushes, spent toothpaste tubes, and floss containers; as with everything else, please make sure they're dry. The GLR cannot accept plastic bags or polystyrene/Styrofoam. However, the latter is accepted at the St. Johns Lions', Meridian Township and East Lansing sites; and stores like Meijer, Kroger and Walmart take the bags.

You can visit our website--<https://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite> or Facebook page for this and more information—like how to sign up to volunteer for this worthy effort. GLR's recycling drives are run completely by volunteers—a great opportunity for Scouts, honor students, and others looking to do public service. As always, recyclers from any community are welcome. We rely on donations to cover our costs but they are not mandatory. For questions re: what we take or more information about anything mentioned, contact Terry or Ellen Link at (517) 651-2005 or Beth Lange at 651-6437.

Free Meal Program Seeking Supporters

submitted by Carrie A. Rathbun Hawks

Laingsburg, Mich. — Money 4 Meals, a free meal program for individuals and families who are food insecure in the Laingsburg area, is picking up steam among those in need. As a result, more financial support is needed to keep it going.

The idea started with a Laingsburg resident who'd read about a pass-it-forward meal program in another state. Patrons of a restaurant would leave extra money to be used toward meals for those in need. Those seeking a free meal or takeout enjoyed a restaurant meal, something they didn't get to do very often. The restaurants — some of whom were hit hard by the pandemic — saw extra traffic from donating customers.

With Laingsburg's Money 4 Meals program, owners are reimbursed through funds raised for the free food they provide.

Seed money came from an anonymous donor and a grant, along with donations from community members and restaurant patrons. The popularity has resulted in the funds being depleted more quickly than expected, however, according to Pastor Tiffany Newsom of Laingsburg United Methodist Church, which is serving as the fiduciary for the program. Organizers are hoping for continued generosity from those who want to continue to help their neighbors.

"We're so excited and proud to have this up and running, and for the businesses who have stepped forward to help those in our community who would like to enjoy a restaurant meal, an ice cream cone or fresh eggs once in awhile," shared Newsom. "Unfortunately, we are running very low on funds. The last thing we want is to have to end or pause the program just as it's being used more by our food-insecure neighbors. We are asking the community to join us to help keep this going long term."

Participating businesses are Laingsburg Dairy Den, Ayven Grace Coffee, Tammy's Bakery and Café, PDP's Pizzeria and Firefly Ridge Farms, which will provide fresh eggs, baked goods and produce as available. People can stop by one of these businesses or Laingsburg United Methodist Church to donate, or by visiting the church's website.

Money 4 Meals runs on the honor system and only requires a first name and last initial, explained Newsom.

For more information, people can reach the church Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 517-651-5531, or at laingsburgumc@gmail.com.



Family Fun Nights

Starting this February Vineyard Creative Arts Theatre will be offering Family Fun Nights.

The events will be Sat. February 12 & Sat. February 26 from 4-8pm.

There is no Cost for this event.

Snacks & Drinks will be sold

There will be a movie available (TBD), many board games available to play.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The building is now handicap accessible with a lift



SCIOTA TOWNSHIP

Notice of Annual Budget Workshop PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sciota Township Board will hold a public budget workshop for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This workshop will be held at 6:00 pm on Monday, February 14, 2022, at the Sciota Township Hall, 3990 Leland Road, Laingsburg, MI. The township board meeting will follow the budget workshop, beginning 7:00 p.m. Please contact the clerk for a reasonable accommodation 5 days prior to the meeting.

Jamie Parker-Wing
Sciota Township Clerk
Office 517.651.5286
clerk@sciotatownship.net

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Ricky William Rademacher

Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



Memorials may be made to ZCJB Lodge #225. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



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- Sarah Dessen

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Sunday Worship 11:15am

www.duplainchurch.org

517-651-6210

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

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

or on Facebook
Pastor Eugene Blair

We Welcome You to Come...



Obituary

Editorial...cont' on page 10

Norman Richard Ketchum

Norman Richard Ketchum, age 79, of Bannister, MI, passed away Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at his home.

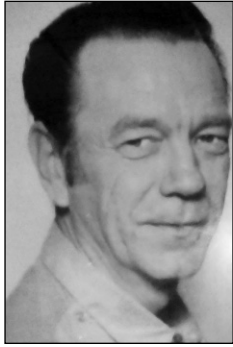
Norman was born in Stanton, Michigan on April 9, 1942, the son of Isaac Norman and Malena Mae (Mabie) Ketchum.

Dick was a carpenter and enjoyed woodworking, building and remodeling. Dick loved fishing and hunting. He loved having his family all together and spending time with them. To Dick it was always "God, Family, Country". He proudly served his country in the United States Airforce.

He is survived by his children: Lynda and Tim Ketchum, Scott and Laurie Ketchum, Richard Ketchum, and Rodney and Sherry Ketchum; siblings: Nancy Kingery, Madia Brown, Daniel and Michelle Ketchum, and Debra Carpenter; grandchildren: Rodney Ketchum, Brandon and Summer Ketchum, Roger Johnson; and great-grandchildren: Hannah and Journie; and many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, son Rick Ketchum, and wife Barbara.

Funeral Services will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI, at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, February 7, 2022, with Pastor Andy Goodrich officiating. Burial will take place at Ford Cemetery, Elba Township, MI. Visitation will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022 from 2-8 P.M. with family present from 2-4 & 6-8 P.M. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneral-homes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



with me and it now resides with Noah.

I was gone two and a half hours and everything downstairs seemed to be normal. The crew gathered around me as if to welcome me home. There is Tiny Terror, Paws, Tigger, Rambo, Shadow, Hebrow, Thunder, Lightening and Prudence...and I could feel a bit of apprehension as I viewed them. I opened the front door to let out whoever thought that they needed the wide open spaces. Of course Lightening and Thunder tried to make their escape but were thwarted again. They must dwell in the house until they have been neutered then they may become the indoor/outdoor variety. Prudence hustled out the door and chose her spot, then returned to the house. Saturday morning I found two ripe bananas that had been annihilated under the red chair in the living room....thankfully not a huge or costly mess.

I have pies to bake and cakes to make for a special Birthday order. So of course, I need to get some apples peeled and into the fridge for use tomorrow. Yesterday I cleaned the whole deck of twice and the front steps and path to the front door four times, I also waded through the snow to the mail box twice and cleaned off the dish once to improve reception. Today my shoulders are a bit weary and my right knee is pathetic and yet the deck is covered in about eight inches of snow. I also need to carry in fifty pounds of sugar from the pickup. Yup, I still need to wade through that snow and there is no pathway left on the deck.

I have been blessed with caring family, friends and acquaintances. There is a great deal of sharing and trying to understand what has happened, why, and how it affects life. There are unexpected bouts of laughter followed by water-works. I prefer the laughter but know that I also need the tears. Grief is very frustrating and it is part of the healing. May our numbered days be filled with love, kindness and generosity of self. God bless. Crystal Mitchell©2022

Ask Andy - Another Snow Day?

Dear Andy,

Another Snow Day? Are they kidding? I just do not know what to do with my kids. I feel guilty leaving them on all these snow days. Seems like they could be in school. Safe and learning. My job and most jobs, parents are gone from 7:15 am when the bus picks them up until 5:30 in the afternoon. It's bad enough to have them home 2 hours after school, before I get there. I leave my work and come home to my other job. Last year, we had 7 snow days. I already take days off when they are sick. I use up my vacation time and personal days, so we only end up with long weekends in the summer. Why are there so many snow days and what can I do with them. I do not want the television to be their babysitter. To top it all off we have finally made a family vacation to leave after the last day of scheduled school. What if the school adds extra days at the end of the school year? Give up a planned vacation that has taken 2 years to coordinate?

Frustrated Mom

Dear Mom,

Might I suggest, first find or create a support group within your school of other moms in the same situation. Take turns on the days off. You take her kids along with your own on your day, and then rotate the days. You didn't say how old your children are, but I am assuming old enough to be left alone or they would be in a daycare or childcare after school program on snow days.

You need a solid plan of action by planning ahead for the "snow" days. If your kids are old enough to left at home, do something special for them. For example, order their favorite pizza to be delivered. Let the oldest be responsible to pay and tip. Give them ground rules for safety: No strangers or neighborhood kids in the house. Give them a list of jobs: Load the dishwasher, fold clothes, vacuum the living room, brush the dog, sweep their floors in their rooms. It's good to leave them with responsibilities. Take time to make them a "to do" list. Leave your phone or a gizmo to contact you for emergencies. Have an emergency plan. Know who is home in your neighborhood. Tell them only 1 movie and/or 2 hours of television. A day can be wasted fast by watching TV all day. High School students are also out of school and love part-time jobs. Find someone you know and trust and have them just be there with your kids on snow days or even the 2 hours after school.

Back in my day, we loved snow days. Even at 9 years old I can remember jumping for joy and running for my ice skates. I am sure we all remember how much fun it was to spend the day at the local ice rink. The fire department would flood the

baseball fields or tennis courts. There would be a fire glowing to dry our wet mittens and warm our bottoms. (Thank you to the person(s), back in the 50's and 60's, who always provided wood for the fires and scraped off the snow!). Sometimes we would run home for lunch and come back for the afternoon. We were outside playing on snow days. Let's get our kids to play out of doors, again. Send them outside to use their imagination. Make a plan to include sleds and hot cocoa with marshmallows, of course.

You would think we would want to be at school to learn but Snow Days and Saturdays were like holidays. Make it fun for your kids: Buy a board game, a puzzle or a color by number workbook – save just for snow days. Leave special notes and treats for each child for them to wake up to read, if you cannot be there. It's part of our lifestyle to raise self-sufficient, independent children.

Don't feel guilty. You're doing the best you can. Snow days are a fact of life. It may look ok outside for playing or driving to work but safety on the busses is #1 priority. Even with a heavy bus the ice can be slippery. It is what it is... If your school add make up days to their final schedule, the school will work with you to get assignments finished in advance. Vacations create memories that are needed for happy families. Readers: Send me your snow day ideas @ ask_andy@aol.com

CITY OF OVID SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING January 10, 2022

The Full set of the Minutes for the Public Hearing & Regular meeting may be viewed or acquired at the Municipal Building located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid.

Mayor Lasher opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordway, Mr. Lasher, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Williams.

ABSENT: Mr. Starn,

EX OFFICIOS: Absent were, Rich Simpson – DPW Superintendent, Al Goodrich – Chief of Police, Liza Kusnier- Treasurer and Josy Medina – Clerk

VISITORS: None.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Ms. Perrien, second by Mr. Williams to approve the agenda as corrected.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: A motion was made by Perrien, second by Brown to approve the minutes of Regular & Public Hearing meeting held on December 13, 2021 as corrected.

MOTION CARRIED

CHECK REGISTRY: A motion was made by Brown, second by Perrien to approve the invoice registry for checks in the period of December 15, 2021 thru January 11, 2022 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A motion was made by Brown, second by Williams to adopt resolution 2022-01 as read into the record. Roll call was taken by Mayor Lasher as follows: YEAS: Perrien, Hibbard, Ordway, Williams, Brown and Lasher.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: Starn.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The Resolution will be published in its entirety in the Weekly.

2. A motion was made by Brown, second by Perrien to agree on the contracting price of \$60 per service location and to authorize the mayor to sign said agreement.

MOTION CARRIED

3. A motion was made by Brown, second by Hibbard to accept the recommendation of the Treasurer to go with the option 2 of the proposal.

MOTION CARRIED

4. A motion was made by Brown, second by Perrien to pay \$7 per capita as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED

5. A motion was made by Brown, second by Williams to accept the budget presented to council for CAASA'S operational budget.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Information on the State grant for Water Improvement.

7. A motion was made by Williams, second by Brown to enter into the agreement with Ovid & Middlebury Townships as discussed and to authorize the Mayor & Clerk to sign.

MOTION CARRIED

No action was taken on the Boards of Commission's or Committee's. Meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

Josefina Medina, Clerk
City of Ovid



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

This past week has been full of foibles, the cats and Prudence seem to be starring in the movie, "Drive the Woman Crazy". It is ill advisable for me to try and do anything that blocks their access to me. Last Thursday morning I had a 7:30 morning appointment with Dr. Anderson in Ithaca. I was up at 6:00 and drawing my bath water after letting Pru and half the herd of cats out the front door. I call them a herd because they sound very plentiful as they race up and down the stairway and upstairs hallway....they sound so plentiful that it is easier to believe that there might be a whole troop of them! I was in the kitchen when I hear a splash and some thrashing and splattering going on in the bathroom. Of course I go to the bathroom where I find Lightening climbing out of the tub, he is one of the kittens, so I scoop him up with a towel and get him dried off. Yes, I did dump and refill and clean the tub, it had a yellowish hue so the escapade did scare the little varmint.

When I got home from my appointment the cats had managed to knock my splash poinsettia off its perch and onto the dining room floor. The leaves and blossoms had then been ripped apart and appeared to have been used as a scratching post. The pot was under the dining room table, the green foil covering was in the middle of the living room and the dirt was carefully scattered throughout the house. Envision a dried out mud bog...yup they are little hellions. Do not worry, they apparently and thankfully did not ingest any of it.

Friday was a slow day, I didn't do much of anything until mid afternoon when Karen, Betty and I went over to the Middleton Diner. The small non denominational church was having a sale and of course we stopped there first. What an amazing collection of dishes, books, clothes, toys, games and decorating items were on sale. I headed for the books and then waltzed through the beautiful dishes without selecting a single one. I know, this is unusual behavior for me, but I really am trying to downsize which means that I already have a considerable collection of dishes that doesn't need any additions. However there was a couple of Oriental blue and white ginger jars that caught my eye. Not for me, but for my grand daughter Noah who adores them. Yes, I bought one and took it home

Valentine's Day Gifts Couples Enjoy Together

Valentine's Day is a time to bring smiles to the faces of loved ones — particularly the special someone in a person's life.

Gifts that appeal directly to spouses or significant others may be the standard, but gifts couple can use together can bring them closer together. The following are some great Valentine's Day gifts couples can enjoy together.

- Quirky mugs: Mug sets come in all shapes and sizes and express various sentiments. Some even feature interlocking designs designed to symbolize that couples are two pieces of one puzzle. Kissing mugs, which look like lips touching when they are brought together, are perfect for couples who enjoy their morning coffee together. Look for them at www.uncommongoods.com.

- Matching robes: Plush terry cloth robes need not be reserved for luxurious stays at premiere hotels. Coordinating robes can be monogrammed and worn on lazy days when gathering in front of a cozy fire.

- Charcuterie set: A romantic meal is the start of any Valentine's Day celebration. Invest in a compact charcuterie board with two matching wine glasses and enjoy the set on date nights at home.

- MasterClass lesson: Purchase a MasterClass instructional (www.masterclass.com) and learn photography tricks or insider tips from established professionals together.

- Travel excursion: Jet set to an exotic locale with a planned adventure. Parents can arrange for a sitter, friend or relative to look after the children so the trip provides some one-on-one time. This trip can serve as the second honeymoon couples dream about.

- Custom cornhole set: Couples who love tailgating or opening up their homes (and yards) to guests can purchase monogrammed or custom-carved bean bag toss boards.

- Fancy coffee maker: Couples who spend more time in take-out coffee shops than they probably should can brush up on their barista skills at home. There are plenty of coffee makers on the market that can help couples whip up lattes, cappuccinos or espressos with ease.

- Wine club membership: Couples who enjoy sampling the latest vintages and flavors may enjoy a wine subscription. Winc.com is just one of the delivery services available. Or couples who prefer to be a little more hands-on can experiment with winemaking kits.

- Hot tub: What can be more relaxing than soaking in a warm bath of bubbling water? A backyard hot tub turns up the heat on relaxation and time spent together.

- Tokens of love: Matching or coordinating bracelets, necklaces or even tattoos can serve as enduring symbols of a couple's love.

Valentine's Day gifting may be even more enjoyable when gift-giving focuses on presents couples can enjoy together.



John & Paulette Anderson to Celebrate Golden Anniversary

Fifty years ago on February 12, 1972, John Anderson and Paulette Hrncharik were married at St Cyril's Catholic Church in Bannister, Michigan.

The couple from Elsie have two sons, Scott (Dawn) Anderson, of Ovid and Steven (Kaitlyn) Anderson, of Gorman, Texas. They have been blessed with seven grandchildren: Grand-daughters Brianna Murray & Amber Anderson of Ovid, Step-Grandsons Michael (Cindy) Mosley of Walled Lake, Kyle Mosley, of Ionia, Grand-Sons: Parker and Walker Anderson and Grand-daughter, Emillie Anderson of Midland.

Due to COVID, the couple will celebrate privately with family on Saturday, February 12, 2022.



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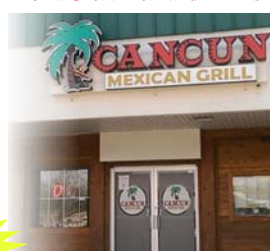
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Sports



The OE varsity boys remain undefeated beating Perry on February 1st at home. Point guard Logan Thompson #25 led all scorers with 23 points. Freshman center, Axell Newell provided excitement for the home crowd with his one handed dunk, scoring two of his ten points in the contest.

Photos by Kristi Taylor



Mauauder Boys Cruise to Perfect 12-0 Record,

BYRON — Ovid-Elsie's boys basketball team moved to a still-perfect 11-0, 9-0 atop the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) with a 53-41 win here January 28.

Coach Josh Latz's Marauders again exhibited stifling defense, and had held eight opponents below 50 points this season — not allowing more than 53 in any contest.

Freshman forward Axel Newell scored 14 points with eight rebounds for the Marauders — who outscored Byron 16-6 in the second quarter and 17-7 in the third. Newell shot 7 of 11 from the field. Dylan Carman scored 12 points with five rebounds, three steals and three assists, while Logan Thompson had 11 points and four rebounds.

Justin Frye and James Miller both had 16 points and three steals each for Byron (4-6, 4-4).

BYRON SCORING: Frye 16 points, Miller 16, Caden Aldrich 3, Nathan Erdman 2, Trevor Ritter 4. OVID-ELSIE SCORING: Newell 7 0-0 14, Bruce Thornton 1 0-0 3, Adam Barton 2 0-0 4, Colin Fluharty 1 0-0 2, Carman 4 0-0 12, Clay Wittenberg 3 1-1 7, Thompson 5 1-2 11.

Perry Ramblers no match for male Marauders, 72-51

OVID-ELSIE — The Ovid-Elsie boys basketball team improved to 12-0 by conquering visiting Perry, 72-51, on February 1.

Logan Thompson scored a team-high 23 points, connecting on 9 of 14 shots for coach Josh Latz's Marauders, who led 19-9 after one quarter.

Dylan Carman added 14 points, making three 3-pointers for O-E. Adam Barton added 11 points with eight rebounds, while Axel Newell scored 10 points with seven rebounds, three steals, three assists and two blocked shots. Clay Wittenberg chipped in eight points and six assists.

OVID-ELSIE SCORING: Braxton Stenger 1 0-1 2, Axel Newell 4 1-2 10, Jacob Tomasek 0 1-2 1, Adam Barton 5 1-2 11, Dylan Carman 5 1-2 14, Alex Eichenberg 1 0-0 3, Clay Wittenberg 3 1-1 8, Logan Thompson 9 4-5 23.

Dansville Scores 49-37 Over Laingsburg Wolfpack

DANSVILLE — The host Aggies outscored Laingsburg in each quarter enroute to a 49-37 Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) girls basketball win here January 28.

"We are playing better than we were 6 weeks ago and even 2 weeks ago," said veteran Wolfpack coach Doug Hurst. "So improvement is being made. We played hard against a good team, so credit goes to them, but we also contributed to our own defeat by still making mistakes that get us in trouble and puts us in a come from behind situation way too much.

"When it could easily be a basket one way or the other. We will continue to work hard and improve. We won't stop pushing until we get to our potential and we stay there."

The loss dropped the Lady Wolves to 2-5 in the CMAC, 4-6 overall.

Lorna Strieff led LHS with 14 points and 4 rebounds, while Ellie Baynes added 13 pts, 10 rebs, 3 steals; Ella Merrell 5 pts., Julia Starr 3 pts. and Brooke Putnam 2 points.

The Aggies improved to 8-5 overall, 5-4 in the CMAC.



Lorna Strieff

Ovid-Elsie Girls Blast Byron; Boost Record to 11-10 Overall

BYRON — Caitlyn Walter and Evalyn Cole each scored 10 points as Ovid-Elsie's unbeaten girls basketball team blasted Byron, 45-21, on January 28.

Kiah Longoria added nine points for coach Ryan Cunningham's Marauders, who improved to 11-0 overall, 8-0 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Association (MMAC). Braeden Tokar had seven rebounds, while Cole and Hailee Campbell had six each. Ava Bates racked up eight steals.

The Eagles, underway with a rebuild as a three-time defending league champion, has lost eight straight, falling to 2-10 overall, 1-8 in the MMAC, following the graduation of All-Stater Sarah Marvin.

MARAUDER SCORING: Rylee Lewis 0 2-2 2, Kaylee Hall 1 0-0 3, Kiah Longoria 2 3-4 9, Caitlyn Walter 4 2-3 10, Braylon Byrnes 1 2-4 4, Braeden Tokar 1 1-2 3, Evalyn Cole 4 1-3 10, Alexa Murphy 0 0-4 0.

BYRON SCORING: Joey Seigle 1 0-0 2, Hailee Lang 0 0-0 0, Kierra Conlen 1 0-0 2, Ashley Nixon 0 0-0 0, Mya Foster 0 0-0 0, Reese Forgie 3 2-2 8, Haylee Schott 3 2-2 8, Jordan Huhn 1 2-2 4.

Lady Marauders throttle Perry Ramblers, 66-15

PERRY — Kiah Longoria paced the Lady Marauders with 17 points and 6 steals as Ovid-Elsie ran past the Perry Ramblers, 66-15, to improve to 12-0 on the 2021-22 girls basketball season.

O-E opened up with a 25-8 first quarter — and followed it up with a 19-3 second quarter to lead 44-11 at halftime.

"I thought we got back to business tonight and played hard full court and in our half court defense," said Marauder coach Ryan Cunningham. "On top of that, I really thought our offensive execution was pretty good tonight."

The Lady Marauders shot nearly 51% from the field and used a 22-4 second half to keep the Ramblers at bay, including holding Perry scoreless in the fourth quarter.

"It doesn't matter what the scoreboard reads, we still have things we want to accomplish and things to work on to get better each night. I'm proud of our kids for keeping up their intensity the whole game because we have been lacking in that area a bit lately," noted Cunningham.

Caitlyn Walter (3 assists and 4 steals) and Braeden Tokar (4 assists and 3 steals) both added 12 points for OE, while Ava Bates added 6 points, 3 assists and 3 steals. Braylon Byrnes chipped in with 5 points, while Evalyn Cole (5 assists and 7 steals), Kaylee Hall (5 rebounds, 3 steals and 3 assists) and Hailee Campbell (3 assists) each added 4 points and Katie Lorio knocked down a pair of free throws to round out the Marauder scoring.

Ovid-Elsie handed out 22 assists on 29 made baskets and collected 28 steals on 45 Perry turnovers. The Ramblers held a 25-18 rebound advantage.

Ovid-Elsie was back in Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) play on Friday night as the Lady Marauders traveled to Chesaning for a conference showdown at 5:30 p.m.

Wolfpack Wrestlers Continue Outstanding Season with 2nd Place Team Showing at Grass Lake Individual Tournament

GRASS LAKE — Laingsburg finished 2nd out of 20 teams at the Grass Lake Warrior Individual Wrestling Tournament on January 29.

Coach Shawn Baynes' Wolfpack got Top Five finishes from Sean Divine, Mikey Brooks, Aden Baynes, Dustin Winans, Noah Gentner, Bryce Smith and Kyle Boettcher in another impressive showing on the 2021-22 mat season.



Caitlyn Walter



Evalyn Cole



Kiah Longoria



Braeden Tokar

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Sports

O-E Bowling

The Ovid-Elsie Varsity Bowling team traveled to Colonial Lanes in Flushing to go against Durand on January 22nd.

The girls would tie with Durand 15-15, the teams settled the tie by bowling two baker games - total pins for the win. OE came out on top 256-211. High games included Kloe Bigelow 138; Olivia Burt 160; Ashland Particka 138, 138; Morgan Douglass 137; Gracie Schultz 177, 169.

The boys took a loss 1-29. High games included Brandon Grieder 150; Tobin Clark 150, 157;

On January 29th the teams went to Richfield Bowl to take on Lakeville.

The girls won 28-2 with high games of Olivia Burt 190; Ashland Particka 136; Morgan Douglass 144, Gracie Schultz 134.

The boys lost 8-22. High games included Austin Smith 120; Brandon Grieder 139; Caleb Hall 134; Hunter Maxa 155, 160.



Gracie Schultz



Olivia Burt



Morgan Douglass



Ashland Particka



Hunter Maxa



Tobin Clark



Brandon Grieder



Austin Hall

Coaches please remember to send in your results so we can included them in the Meridian Weekly!
news@meridianweekly.com

Wolfpack Boys Earn Air Time as TV-6 'Team of the Week'

LANSING — The TV piece is titled, "Laingsburg can dunk, but know how to shoot the lights out."

Coach Dan Morrill's Wolfpack boys earned some rate air time, as the WLNS (TV-6) "Team of The Week" recently, after their hot league start earned them a share of the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) lead.

WLNS reported:

After a 4-5 record last season and COVID-19 shutting down its season in the postseason, the Laingsburg boys basketball team has put all of that in the past.

The Wolfpack have started the season 6-2 and are currently on a four-game winning streak, as of Jan. 27, thanks to a 50-36 win over Fulton, on Jan. 26.

This is a team that's more than capable of throwing down a dunk, but it's because of the three-point shot that has them in first place in the CMAC.

"Oh yeah, that's us. We're shooters. All of us," Laingsburg senior forward Jack Byrnes said. "If you look around, all of us can shoot. A couple of us can dunk. I wish I was one of them but unfortunately not."

Laingsburg sophomore guard Zander Woodruff said, "Once we start hitting that three, everything comes together, defense, driving, passing, chemistry, it all starts from the three."

A good balance of six seniors, five juniors, and two sophomores has also been a key for the Wolfpack. Woodruff leads the team in scoring this year as a sophomore, and a lot of that has to do with the leadership of the upperclassmen.

"That's everything. It would make or break our team this year and we spent a lot of time talking about that kind of leadership," Laingsburg coach Daniel Morrill said. "If that were not the case, this could be a violate year."

"We have a lot of chemistry this year, we have a lot of senior leaders, which has been a big difference. We've been building it with our coaches and our whole program. That has been a big change from last year," Byrnes said.

"Everyone knows their role, what they have to do and we just go out there and do it," Woodruff said.

The taped segment is available on Facebook by going to the Wolfpack Basketball Alumni page.

Ovid-Elsie Community Bands Together Behind Wrestling Teams

OVID-ELSIE -- A flurry of wrestling activity was showcased at Ovid-Elsie High School the weekend of January 28 and 29.

O-E held its first Girls Only Tournament and hosted 87 girls on January 28. "This sports is growing so fast for girls," said Marauder head coach Kyle Spiess. "We had lots of great wrestling. These all-girl meets are key right now as the girls sectionals / regionals are coming up in February. Our girls will be wrestling again in Midland on Saturday, February 25 and at sectionals on Sunday, February 20."

Marauder results from the female tourney included:

- 110 lbs. Sharla Juhas, 2-2 record, 3rd place
- 115 lbs. Alexis Hart, 3-1 record, 2nd place
- 125 lbs. Sam Grubaugh, 1-2 record, 4th place

The Marauder boys then hosted their Individual Tournament on January 29. Talon Parsons continued his outstanding 2021-22 season at 103 lbs. with an unbeaten record and 1st place honors. Cole Workman also was undefeated, at 119 lbs. and brought home 1st place -- despite being seeded 4th.

Individual Marauder results included:

- 103 lbs. Talon Parsons, 2-0 record, 1st place
- 119 lbs. Cole Workman, 3-0 record, 1st place
- 125 lbs. Hunter Hufnagel, 2-2 record.
- 130 lbs. Clayton Juhas, 0-2 record.
- 140 lbs. Gavyn Perry, seeded 4th, 2-1 record, 2nd place
- 160 lbs. Josh Everden, seeded 3rd, 2nd place
- 171 lbs. Dillon Coven, 2-1 record, 4th place
- 285 lbs. Dylan Taylor, 2-1 record, 3rd place
- 285 lbs. Richard Rushton, 2-1 record, 5th place
- 285 lbs. Trey Milner, 1-2 record.

Coach Spiess' Marauders finished in 4th place as a team, behind Imlay City, Swartz Creek and St. Johns, out of a 12-team field -- most of which had full line ups with all weight classes filled.

Said coach Spiess, "Thank you to all the volunteers that helped put this tournament together. Meets like this take a community to run successfully. Alumni, parents, wrestlers and volunteers, thank you again."



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Editorial

Olympic Biathlon

If you ask people what they remember about the 1980 Winter Olympic Games held in Lake Placid, NY they will unequivocally say hockey. Team USA defeated the Soviet Union- the Russians! The memory still brings chills and sentimental tears to any red blooded American who lived through the Cold War. Ask the Weekly Sportsman, however, and you will hear about falling in love with an obscure cross country skiing/shooting sport at the tender young age of seven. It didn't matter at the time, and still doesn't today, that this sport wasn't dominated by the United States because it was just plain fun to lay on the green carpeted living room floor and watch skiing and shooting on the black and white television.

The sport's heritage can be traced back over 4,000 years ago to rock carvings in Norway depicting hunters on skis with archery equipment tracking wild animals. In the 1700's biathlon skills switched from personal survival to national defense along the Swedish/Norway border and competitive events were held years before the United States even became a country.

Finland successfully defended their border and routed Russian forces in the 1930's with soldiers on skis despite being outnumbered ten to one. It is no surprise that these Scandinavian countries continue to excel in this sport during the Olympics. The Soviet Union dominated the sport during the Cold War for two reasons; they used Spetsnaz soldiers and they had developed a special gun powder for cold weather conditions. To date, this is the only winter sport during the winter olympics that medaling for the United States has been unattainable.

There are eleven different events which include five for men and five for women and one combined. The concept is relatively simple but very complex for participants. All out gut check cross country ski racing with breaks in the action to shoot five targets at fifty meters using off-hand (4.53 inch diameter target) or prone (1.77 inch diameter target) positions with missed shots adding time or requiring a penalty lap. Imagine skiing all out with a 7.7 pound .22 caliber rifle strapped to your back and your heart pumping and then having to concentrate and calmly deliver excellent marksmanship skills. The Weekly Sportsman would be remiss if a little bit of detail wasn't shared about the rifles used. Think of a heavy barreled Ruger 10/22 with a lightweight skeletal stock that is set up as a single shot with a straight pull action. The index finger and thumb work a toggle switch like bolt handle to load and eject cartridges. Unmagnified sights offer only adjustment left and right for wind conditions.

The Weekly Sportsman encourages everyone to tune in this week to watch the United States compete as history could be made because the following biathletes are poised to bring home medals; Paul Schommer, Susan Dunklee, and Clare Egan. Check www.nbcolympics.com for delayed viewing times as most biathlon events start in the evening around 5:00 p.m. which is 4:00 a.m. EST.

-WS



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

OVID TOWNSHIP, CLINTON COUNTY
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REFERENDUM
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Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the Township of Ovid, Clinton County, Michigan, has a population of 2000 or more according to the most recent United States census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of Section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 (MCL 42.3a). The Township Board has the right to exercise one of the three options concerning status as a charter township, as follows;

1. Adopt, by majority vote, a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township;
2. Adopt, by majority vote, a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township;
3. Adopt, by majority vote, a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

In the event option 2 is adopted by the Ovid Township Board, the citizens of Ovid Township have the right to file a "Right to Referendum Petition". This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between passage of the resolution of the *intent to incorporate* and final passage of the resolution to *incorporate* as a charter township. The petition shall follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law, and in the heading will indicate "*Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township*". The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of Ovid Township based on the vote cast for all candidates for supervisor at the last election at which a supervisor was elected. If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

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Memorial Healthcare Welcomes Family Nurse Practitioner to Owosso Urgent Care

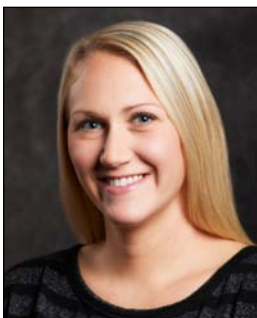
submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to welcome Family Nurse Practitioner Meredith Lovasz to our active medical staff.

Meredith is a board certified Family Nurse Practitioner with several years of nursing experience and a strong background in family practice, primary and urgent care medicine. She received her Bachelor of Science in Health Professions/Biology from Grand Valley State University, an accelerated second Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Oakland University and a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Michigan-Flint with a family nurse practitioner program focus.

She joins Memorial Healthcare with experience in providing comprehensive care to a diverse population spanning all cultures, socioeconomic statuses, genders, and ages from pediatrics to geriatric.

For more information, please visit www.MemorialHealthcare.org



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On Tuesday, February 1st, the Elsie Area Food pantry held their first Free Produce Day in their newly constructed out building. There are three free produce days each month, the first Tuesday & Thursday at 8:30am and on the middle Wednesday in the evening at 7:00pm. The newly constructed building also provides extra storage for the food pantry.

St. Louis Auctioneer Joe Sherwood Awarded Certified Michigan Auctioneer Certification

submitted by Jack Guza

In Mt. Pleasant, Michigan on January 27, 2022 – Joe Sherwood, CMA, of St. Louis, Michigan, was awarded the professional designation of Certified Michigan Auctioneer by the Michigan Auctioneers Association (MAA).

Sherwood specializes in personal property auctions Live & Online and Business liquidations through the auction method of marketing. Sherwood is also a personal property appraiser and has worked with many local families and attorneys. He works with numerous financial institutions, family estates and private collectors of coins, antiques and other personal collections.

“Becoming a Certified Michigan Auctioneer demonstrates my commitment to pursuing the highest level of skill with which to best serve my clients,” Sherwood said.

Sherwood graduated in 1989 from the Reppert School of Auctioneering in Decatur, Indiana. That same year he launched Sherwood Auction Service in St. Louis, Michigan and has conducted over 1,000 auctions throughout his community and surrounding area.

To obtain the Michigan Certified Auctioneer designation, candidates must submit evidence of meeting or exceeding the rigorous certification requirements, which includes: Having conducted at least 100 auctions in their professional career, received at least 10 Letters of Recommendation from satisfied customers, Completed at least 50 hours of demonstrating specialized knowledge and advanced auction education –or- evidence of being an auction industry instructor, Have served on a committee or held an elected office within the past 10 years with the Michigan Auctioneers Association, Competed in at least 3 state and/or national competitions and passed a written test and oral interview by the MAA Certification Committee.

MAA has developed a maintenance model that focuses on continuing competence of the Certified Michigan Auctioneer. This new "Maintenance of Certified Michigan Auctioneer" model includes the following elements: professional standing in the Michigan auction industry, commitment to lifelong learning through professional development, practice performance through examples of expertise through a test of knowledge in the profession.

CMA was established by the Michigan Auctioneers Association as the governing body that awards certification to professional auctioneers who meet approved requirements. The

Michigan Auctioneers Association oversees the Certified Michigan Auctioneer certification and maintenance of certification programs and awards certificates to MAA auctioneers who meet approved requirements.



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