



State Champion

Parsons dominated the competition at Ford Field

Ovid Elsie sent 4 athletes to Ford Field for the individual wrestling state finals this year on March 4th and 5th.

103lbs Talan Parsons (So), 119lbs Cole Workman (So), 105lbs Sharla Juhas (Sr), and 125lbs Sam Grubaugh (Sr).

Parson and Workman both returned to the state meet this year following a stellar Freshman campaign.

Parsons, Juhas and Grubaugh also met the standard for academic all-state as individuals by their high grade point average and being state qualifiers. This is pretty cool for these student athletes to be recognized for this accomplishment in the classroom.

Talan Parson finished his season as the Division 3 103 lbs state champion. He is 37-1 on the season. He placed 1st at Districts and Regionals also.

Round 1 Parsons pinned Maverick Rivard of Pinconning in 1:15.

Quarterfinals Parsons tech fell Tanner Land of Imlay City in 2:26.

Semifinals Parsons pinned Chris Campbell of Algonac in 1:30.

Finals Parson major decisioned Landon Sopha (53-1) of Yale 9-0.

Parson was overjoyed with his win and celebrated immediately after his match by hugging his mom and then jumped up in the stands to hug his dad. "It was pretty cool coaching a state finals match especially when Talan was so dominant throughout the tournament. He was in command of all his matches at all times and never put himself at risk of getting caught, that is why he is so good."

Parsons is the first state champion for OE since Tommy Zuniga won at 112lbs in 2004.

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Talan Parsons, sophomore, brought home the State Championship for 103# weight division.



Asst. Coach Justin Potter, Talan Parsons, Head Coach Kyle Spiess and Asst. Coach Frank Goodrich at Ford Field during State Finals.

Photos by Marie Spiess

District Champs



O-E Lady Marauder District Champs: (Back row l-r) Chris Parker, Coach Cunningham, Lilly Bates, Ava Bates, Braeden Tovar, Evelyn Cole, Katie Lori, Danika Campbell, Erin Witt and Jason Tovar. (Middle Row l-r) Alexa Murphy, Izzy Lorne's, Hailee Campbell, Rylee Lewis, Kia Longoria, Kadley Bukantis. (Front row l-r) Braylon Byrnes, Caitlyn Walter and Kaylee Hall. Congratulations Ladies!! See story page 13 and pages 10, 11 and 12 for more sports coverage.

Photo by Denise Burgess

DuPlain Township Proceedings

by Dawn D Levey

DUPLAIN – The regular meeting of DuPlain Township was held Wednesday, March 9, 2022. Officials had an opportunity to review the proposed 2022-23 budget.

Bruce Levey, supervisor, reported that a letter was received from the Clinton County Board of Commissioners regarding the marijuana use or sales and land use. As recommended by the Commission's legal counsel, marijuana related activities will be designated as an activity and the individual townships will have to pass and enforce their own ordinances regarding this activity. DuPlain has no plans to change the current policy.

The annual meeting with the Clinton County Road Commission is slated for March 16th at 8 am. On a related topic the representative from the Road Commission Tim Swain and Supervisor Levey went on a road trip around the township to evaluate and designate the roads that would be repaired in 2022. DuPlain Township is planning to spend \$100,000 township plus the \$49,000 county matching funds.

Levey also noted that the American Rescue Plan proposed plan is due April 30th. At this point \$20,000 has been designated to CAAS for an ambulance purchase. Officials discussed providing funds to Elsie Area Fire Department, and holding funds for high speed internet, to be part of the proposed plan. Officials will further discuss the plan at the April meeting.

Amy Bowen, treasurer, reported that the per capita for fire/rescue service will be \$36.32 based upon the updated census of 2303, down 60 people.

The proposed 22-23 budget was presented for review, with final approval at the annual meeting that is slated for Saturday, March 19, 10 am. Supervisor Levey explained the budget line item by line item. Discussion followed.

Ms. Stephanie Levey, Ovid-Elsie Youth Baseball/Softball Rec League, made the annual appeal for township support, initially equipment was requested. However, officials felt to be fair it would be better to focus on facility improvements. Levey, outlined the proposal made to the Elsie Village Council regarding the installation of bull pens. Officials requested a cost estimate.

On a related topic officials discussed possible maintenance and improvements to Friendship Park located in Rochester Colony, issues will be addressed in the annual budget.

Kam Washburn, Clinton County Commissioner presented monthly county updates and activities. First, Washburn announced the following retirements: Diane Zuker, county clerk, appointment to fill the vacancy will be made by the Honorable Judge Cori Barkman and Honorable Shannon Schlegal; Sheriff Lawrence Jerue the appointment will be determined by Diane Zuker, county clerk; Tony Spagnuolo, prosecutor, and the Honorable Judge Lisa Sullivan, and Kam Washburn announced his retirement from the County Commission after 43 years of public service he will not be seeking re-election.

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Social

Library News

Ovid Public Library

We are midway through March and it looks like things are slowly warming up. Don't forget that we are having a reading challenge this month at the Ovid Public Library. So far we have over 50 people signed up. If you haven't done so already, come on down and get signed up. You could win a large pizza from Main Street Pizza.

If you are looking for something new to read here are some new books that are on the shelf at the library:

Shadows Reel by CJ Box; The Maid by Nita Prose; High Stakes by Danielle Steel; Run, Rose, Run by Dolly Parton and James Patterson; The Love of my Life by Rosie Walsh; Abandoned in Death by JD Robb; Striking Range by Margaret Mizushima; Notes on an Execution by Danya Kukafka; I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys (Michigan Author); My Little Brave Girl by Hillary Duff

The library board meeting will be held on Wednesday March 16 at 7:00. This meeting is open to the public.

March 23 will be the Classic Movie Time. We will be showing A Chorus Line starring Michael Douglas. Movie time will be 1:00. There's plenty of room for you to bring a friend and enjoy a good movie.



Grubaughs Celebrating 50 Years of Marriage

A. J. and Diana Grubaugh will be celebrating 50 years of marriage on March 18, 2022.

The couple were married at Duplain Church of Christ on March 18, 1972.

They have two children Amy (Joe) Cooper and James (Heather) Grubaugh. Six grandchildren Joseph, Abigail, Rebekah and Samuel Cooper and Timothy and Samantha Grubaugh.

Wishes may be sent to 6700 Maple River Rd., Elsie, MI 48831.

Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser

The Ovid-Elsie girls tennis program will be hosting a Soup & Sandwich fundraiser on Sunday, March 20th from 1pm-4pm. The event will be held in the high school cafeteria. The cost is \$5.00 per ticket. Make plans now to attend and help support the girls tennis program while enjoying some good soup and sandwiches.

2022 Roof Sit for Kids

submitted by Kelly Schafer

On April 28, 2022 join The Voice for Clinton County's Children for fellowship and a fundraiser supporting our essential work on behalf of Clinton County children and youth! Join us as we honor Child Abuse Previsoin Month all day at Big Boy of St. Johns located at 1408 S US Hwy 27 in St. Johns, Advocacy Hours with special activities from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

For more information please visit our website VoiceForClintonCountyChildren.org

Recycling Center Hours

The Greater Laingsburg Community Recycling Center hours in March:

Tuesday, March 15, 4 pm to 7 pm

Saturday, March 26, 9 am to 1 pm

Materials accepted: Newspaper and phone books; tin and scrap metal; aluminum (separate); corrugated cardboard (include brown paper bags here); boxboard; mixed office paper and junk mail; magazines; books; #1 plastics, clear & transparent green or blue only (bottles and jars—no clamshells, e.g., takeout, berries and salad containers); #2 plastics (milk jugs/cloudy separated from solid color containers); #5 "tub" plastics (e.g., yogurt, sour cream, etc.; household batteries (please separate into regular, rechargeable, lithium and button); glass bottles and jars (all colors); electronics (there is a \$5 fee for flat screens); and empty inkjets from Canon, Brother and HP; and dental care products (toothbrushes, spent toothpaste tubes, floss containers).

The GLR cannot accept plastic bags or polystyrene/Styrofoam; the latter is accepted at the St. Johns Lions', Meridian Township and East Lansing sites; stores like Meijer, Kroger and Walmart take the bags. For more information, call 517-651-2005 or 517-651-6437.

ST. JOHNS K of C #3281

1108 N. US-27

2022 Fish Fry Schedule

**No Advance Orders...Drive Thru Only
One Line from North Drive**

4:00 pm to 6:30 pm Fridays

March 4th - April 8th TAKE OUT ONLY

Limited Take Out Items: \$12 each

1. Fried Fish w/Steak Fries or

2. Baked Fish w/Baked Potato

(Sides include: Green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, dinner roll)

0 Trans Fat Oil Used



Pompeii United Methodist Fundraiser

The Pompeii United Methodist Church will host a Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser on Thursday, March 17th from 5pm-7pm. You are invited to enjoy fresh baked potatoes & toppings, salad, dessert and a beverage. All for just a donation. The church is located at 135 Burton Street in Pompeii. Carry outs available and delivery within 10 miles of the church. For more information call 989-838-4159.

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Drop off hours will be 8 am to 5 pm

Other hours by appointment

Mailing address is P.O. Box 376, Ovid, MI 48866

DANIEL BUKOVCIK

101 N. MAIN ST., OVID

Phone (989)834-2270

Fax (989)834-2279

It's That Time of Year Again...

Ashley Schools Kindergarten Registration

Children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2022 or Dec. 1, 2022 with waiver are eligible for Kindergarten!



Questions:
Please call the
School at
(989) 847-4000
Ext. 103

**Documentation Needed: Child's Original Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residency - Shot Record/Health Appraisal**

**Thursday, March 17, 2022 at Ashley School Media Center
6:00pm**

**Public Welcome...
BREAKFAST
Every Sunday
8am-11am
Laingsburg
American Legion
Post 248
1240 E. Grand River
(517) 651-6050**

Laingsburg School Board Meeting

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2022. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm at the middle school in the media center. Please visit our website at <http://www.laingsburg.k12.mi.us/> for up to date meeting information.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: 2021/22 Budget Update, 2022/23 Preliminary Budget Update, District Staffing Update, Legislative Update, Bylaws and Policy updates, Staff Building Reports, Personnel, and any other business that may properly come before the board.

Board meetings are open to the public. Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.

Laingsburg High School is Bringing Back Dinner Theatre

submitted by Jennifer Strickland

This year the production is one hundred percent student produced.

The full length play is written by Leilani Johnson, senior at LHS. She is directing, and overseeing all parts of the production. The Technical Theatre class is in charge of sets, light and sound, props and costumes.

The show happens March 17, 18, and 19. Tickets for dinner and show starting at 6:00 are \$20. Tickets for the show only starting at 7:00 are \$10. These may be purchased online at <https://www.ticketor.com/laingsburgdrama/tickets> or at the door the night of the event.

Laingsburg Public Library Announcements

by Karen Anderson, Correspondent

LAINGSBURG: The City of Laingsburg Library is a much-loved and used resource for entertainment, videos, magazines, use of computers, and any book you may want to read. During the recent time periods of social distancing, the library provided many books for children and adults. The books pass the time with a purpose and in many homes, people were reading a book in a couple of days. Now that we are moving more about the community, many activities at the library have resumed.

Laingsburg Librarian, Sandra Chavez and her staff are excited to announce the hours and your easy access for books for reading, research, DIY and suspense and humor. The access to Michigan writers or borrowing any book is available via the MEL program. Libraries share books for each other's communities. Call to see if your favorite book is available today or they can order it for you.

ANNOUNCEMENT: On Monday March 21st at 6:30pm, Chávez invites you and your children to "join Delta Dental Employee volunteer, Cait Hall, as she reads to the children and talk to them about the importance of reading and brushing their teeth every day." This will be a perfect opportunity to share some good dental hygiene for your kiddos and to check out some books.

Laingsburg City Library regular hours are Mon: 3 – 8pm, Tues – Thurs 9 – 6pm, and Fri 9 -5pm. The Library Board meets the 3rd Thurs each month at the city hall. Library phone number: 517-651-6282.

If you want to become involved in projects or fundraisers join the "Friends of the Library." Annual dues are only \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Get your library card for FREE and be a reader. The more you read the better reader you become and it is a good example for your children.

Get Your Raffle Tickets

The Laingsburg Lions Club Annual Raffle Tickets are now available for purchase. The popular fundraising raffle is going on now thru the drawing date of Monday, May 30th during the Laingsburg Springtime Festival. The first place prize is a \$5,000 custom golf cart. Other prizes include: \$500 in cash, \$400 grill, \$400 meat bundle, a mystery prize and three \$100 cash prizes. Tickets sell for \$10 each or 3 for \$20 and you need not be present to win on drawing day. Tickets are available from any Lions Club member, Sage Market, Leonard Hardware and the Meridian Weekly office in Ovid.



Greater Laingsburg Recyclers Hold Earth Day Poster Contest

submitted by Ellen Link

The Greater Laingsburg Recyclers are holding a poster contest this spring to bring awareness to Earth Day. The competition is open to any student in the area who wants to participate by designing a poster that depicts some aspect of environmental conservation. All submissions will be displayed publicly and may be reproduced.

Submissions are due by April 7 and should be sent to recyclelaingsburg@gmail.com or dropped off at the Laingsburg Library or Laingsburg City Hall. A panel of community members will select a first, second and third place winner from the elementary, middle school and high school. Winners will receive a \$25, \$15 or \$10 Dairy Den gift card, respectively.

Earth Day is celebrated annually on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events held globally. GLR is excited to host its first poster design contest to celebrate Earth Day with the community and hopes to make it a tradition.

The Greater Laingsburg Recyclers is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization. In 2021 they erected the Greater Laingsburg Community Recycling Center at 7500 Woodbury Rd. to make recycling easier than ever for the Laingsburg community and surrounding areas. The next two recycling drives will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 4-7 pm, and Sat., March 26, 9 am-1 pm.

For more information about the Greater Laingsburg Recyclers and the Earth Day poster contest, contact recyclelaingsburg@gmail.com or visit www.recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com.

ELBA TOWNSHIP GRATIOT COUNTY

Elba Township will hold its budget meeting on March 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall, 109 S. Oak St., in Ashley.

Madalin C. Morris
Township Clerk
989-847-2097

TOWNSHIP OF SCIOTA Notice of Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing

The Sciota Township board will hold an annual meeting for the fiscal year 2022-2023 at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 14, 2022, at the Sciota Township Hall, 3990 Leland Road, Laingsburg, MI. A public hearing will be held on the proposed township budget following the annual meeting at about 6:30 pm. A copy of the budget can be seen by contacting the clerk.

The Sciota Township board will provide reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities upon a 4-day notice to the clerk by telephoning 517-651-5286 or emailing clerk@sciotatownship.net. For the most current meeting information, visit <http://www.sciotatownship.net> up to 18 hours prior to the meeting.

*Jamie Parker-Wing
Sciota Township Clerk
8430 E Parker Rd
Laingsburg MI 48848*

City of Ovid March Board of Review Meeting Dates

Will meet on the following dates:
Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
(Informational only no appeals may be presented)

Appeals will be heard:
Tuesday, March 15, 2022
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Friday, March 18, 2022
3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Appeals may be submitted in writing or email before March 1 at: mholley4444@gmail.com

Ovid City Hall, 114 E Front Street
Ovid, MI 48866
Any questions Ph. 989-834-5611 (Assessor)
Protests will be heard for the 2021 assessments

Duplain Township March Board of Review Meeting Dates

Will meet on the following dates:
Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Appeals will be heard:
Monday, March 14, 2022
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Thursday, March 17, 2022
3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Appeals may be submitted in writing or email before March 1 at: mholley4444@gmail.com

Duplain Township Hall,
145 E. Main Street, Elsie, MI 48831
Any questions Ph. 989-834-5611 (Assessor).

Ovid Township March Board of Review Meeting Dates

Will meet on the following dates:
Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday March 8, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

Appeals will be heard:
Wednesday, March 16, 2022
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Monday, March 21, 2022
3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Appeals may be submitted in writing or email before March 1 at: mholley4444@gmail.com

Ovid Township Hall,
1015 Baese Court, Ovid, MI 48866
Any questions Ph. 989-834-5611 (Assessor).

Thank You All

*I would like to thank
all who sent cards
for my
90th Birthday.
Also thank-you to all
who attended my
wifes funeral.
I was blessed to have
been married to her
for 68 years.*

With Love, Joe Wing



Volunteers Needed for Habitat's 'Rock the Block'

submitted by Dawn Parker

MAPLE RAPIDS –The first Rock the Block Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative of 2022 will continue the re-establishment of a successful service project for Clinton-Gratiot Habitat for Humanity.

With your help, it will be a success!

Volunteers will be needed in Maple Rapids for morning and afternoon shifts Friday and Saturday, April 29-30 and Sunday, May 1. Volunteer shifts will begin and end at the Maple Rapids Community Center, 209 W. Union Street.

Exterior projects include painting, landscaping, yard work and repairs to porches, decks, handrails, windows and doors.

Rock the Block is Habitat for Humanity working alongside community volunteers who come from all walks of life to create a lasting investment – one of pride in their hometown. Neighborhood Revitalization allows Habitat for Humanity to serve more homeowners, whether it's raking leaves, caulking a

drafty window or replacing a rotted-out porch.

We're looking for volunteers who can work from either 9 to noon or 1 to 4 – or both! If you can only stay an hour or two, that's OK, but we'd love to have you for the day!

Lunch will be provided. Please bring tools – especially rakes, work gloves, buckets and (if you're at least 18) power tools.

Ready to help? Send an e-mail to volunteer@cghabitat.org or call 989-227-1771, option 4.

• We are also actively seeking Maple Rapids homeowners who need help with their homes. If you need help or know someone who does, please use the same email or phone.



LaKeeya
Tucker, D.O.



Michael
Racine, M.D.



Mark
Weismiller, M.D.

Sparrow Health System Welcomes New Medical Chiefs of Staff

submitted by John Foren

LANSING, MI – Noted local OB/GYN LaKeeya Tucker, D.O., has begun a two-year term as Chief of Medical Staff at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing.

Dr. Tucker is Sparrow's first African-American Chief of Staff and will represent and communicate the views of medical staff members while working with Sparrow leadership to ensure quality, compassionate care for all patients. Dr. Tucker is an outstanding OB/GYN who has practiced at Alliance Obstetrics & Gynecology in East Lansing for 19 years and served as Sparrow Hospital's Chief of Staff-Elect for two years.

Sparrow's Community Hospitals have also chosen new Chiefs of Staff.

Sparrow Carson Hospital welcomes Michael Racine, M.D., as the new Chief of Staff. Dr. Racine earned his medical degree from Michigan State University (MSU) in 2002 and completed his residency at MSU from 2002 to 2005. Dr. Racine is board certified in Emergency Medicine and has been a member of the Sparrow Carson Medical Staff since June 2013.

Sparrow Clinton's new Chief of Staff is Mark Weismiller, M.D. Dr. Weismiller is a general surgeon at Sparrow Clinton, seeing patients through his practice at Sparrow Medical Group (SMG) St. Johns. Dr. Weismiller is a member of the SMG St. Johns surgical team and is director of the new Sparrow Clinton Wound Clinic. He received his bachelor's degree from Albion College and his doctorate from Wayne State University College of Medicine. He completed his residency with Providence Hospital in Southfield.

Sparrow Medical Group St. Johns Primary Care



Kay McLaughlin, D.O.
Internal Medicine



Gregory Holzhei, D.O.
Family Medicine



Katie Ryan, M.D.
Family Medicine

Now offering same-day care with your physician.

From stuffy noses to specialty services, look to SMG St. Johns. We are here for you!

Monday-Friday | 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
New patients welcome.

Call SMG St. Johns to schedule an appointment today, **989.224.2338**.



Sparrow Clinton Professional Building
901 S. Oakland St., St. Johns, MI

Sparrow.org/Clinton

CAMPGROUNDS-R-US
989-721-9120
Open for your pleasure May through October
1255 S. Ruess Rd. Owosso MI 48867

- 45 Acre Lake & Huge Clean Beach
- Large Lots • Picnic Tables & Fire Pits

FULL HOOK-UPS WITH 11 • 30 • 50 AMP

SPRING FORWARD

Don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour from 2 a.m. to 3 a.m. Sunday.

It's also a good time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.

Ashley Pre-School Registration

For 2022-2023 School Year

Tuesday, March 22, 2022
6 p.m.

Ashley School Media Center

Questions?

Call the School at (989) 847-4000 Ext. 103



Documentation Needed: Child's Original Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residency - Shot Record/Health Appraisal

DuPlain cont' from front....

Washburn also reported that the Commission officially approved the 18-million-dollar bond for the Clinton County Road Commission building project. Due to the financial security of the county, Clinton County received a AA bond rating.

Commissioners also voted to open up Smith Hall for public events, 4-H is a go as well.

Clinton County conducted a broadband survey, hoping for 250 residents to respond, when the survey period ended officials received 2000 plus. Broad band is a need however for the country to tackle it on their own it is too costly. The project will be put on hold until additional funding from the infrastructure is received. A broadband meeting will be held at the Clinton County Court House for local officials Wednesday, March 16, 6pm.

Today, March 9, at 3:15pm the State 911 system went live in Clinton County, 675 portable radios experienced their first pager check.

Ms. Val Vail-Shirey, from Victor Township, candidate for Clinton County Board of Commissioners District I was introduced by Kam Washburn who noted that he will be endorsing her.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, minutes of February 2022 meeting and financial reports. Officials were presented the expenditures totaling \$7,117.95.

Elsie Village Council

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – The regular meeting of the Elsie Village Council was held Tuesday, March 8, 2022. The evening opened at 6:30 pm for a public hearing on the proposed 2022-2023 budget a second public hearing will be held prior to the April 12, 2022. A full house of interested residents and community members were in attendance at the meeting.

Officials received three bids for cemetery lawn bids, and no applicants for the village position to mow the cemetery. Rescue Me Lawn Care, last year's contractor, services six area cemeteries including Fairfield Township, a representative was present to address questions and comments. Officials did voice concerns about the 2021 service, understanding that it was an unusually wet year. Shane Grinnell noted that the name of the lawn care provider and contact information will be attached to the Riverside Cemetery sign, thus complaints and compliments can be referred to the proper people. Discussion followed. The contract was awarded to Rescue Me Lawn Care for the 2022 season in the amount of \$13,780.

Gene Nethaway, Elsie American Legion Commander, was present to request August 20, 2022 for the WARS Rally. Hopefully with the change in date more people will attend and there will be additional participation by more military units and displays.

Next, Ms. Stephanie Levey representing the Ovid-Elsie Youth Baseball/Softball Rec League, reported that registration for the summer program ended with 200 plus youth participants. She presented a field usage request update and presented a proposal for the installation of bull pens for safety reasons and to improve the facilities. She presented a verbal estimate of \$1,200 per field. This will be a three to four-year project. Officials requested a firm estimate prior to a commitment but were not opposed to funding for one or two fields this year.

Tim Frink, village president, set the Riverside Cemetery annual clean-up for the first Saturday in April 2, 2022, 10am, weather permitting with an alternate date of the second Saturday in April, 9, 2022.

The new police officer, Destiny Bryce was introduced to the community. A public contact log will be kept as requested by Officer Bryce. Officials took action to approve the monthly Elsie Police Department report.

Shane Grinnell, village manager, noted that it has been a busy month reporting that the DPW staff has been inputting a large amount of data into the Silversmith program, a thank-

you to Justin Watkins for inputting data. It was noted that the program is being used daily. Chris Ormes has been inputting and updating Riverside Cemetery information.

Grinnell attended the monthly Middle of the Mitten manager's meeting in Lansing with the topic of discussion being police millage and ballot language.

In addition, it was reported that the S. Ovid lift station pumps are installed, the shed is in place and the control panel is installed. The alarms work well, texts and calls are received by DPW personnel and the village manager.

On a related topic, the Island Road lift station is also back in place and is up and running. The department is waiting to send the second one out for repair however, there is a supply shortage and long wait for parts.

As Code Enforcement officer, Grinnell has been busy, there were 23 snow/sidewalk warnings delivered, plus six other complaints addressed since the February meeting. It was further noted that two zoning plan reviews are in progress.

Grinnell, in collaboration with Williams Asphalt, is putting together a street repair priority list. Main Street between Second and the Village limit needs attention and a solution is being developed to slow down the deterioration of the Main Street area to retain a quality roadway.

Finally, he is working on the insurance claim for the hail damage on the Emergency Services Building roof and the Village office roof.

Brooke Wooley, Elsie Dairy Festival representative, was present to make a number of requests. The re-organized committee of seventeen is requesting the dates of July 7, 8, 9 and 10 for the annual Dairy Festival, these are dates are available for the carnival. The committee is also requesting that the road closure for setup be Tuesday, July 6, 8 pm. Both requests were approved.

The annual village wide village clean-up is slated for Saturday, July 16. The annual event is included in the agreement with Granger.

Officials reviewed Ordinance 32-21 with the correction of 32-21 to 23, Snow and Ice – Removal from Sidewalk. The committee was concerned that the ordinance was too vague and not enforceable. The proposed amended ordinance was introduced for review and a public hearing will be held prior to the April 12, 2022 meeting, a copy is available on the Village of Elsie website and business office. Note: the fee schedule was also amended: initial offense \$50, second offense \$75, and the third \$100 or determined by the courts.

A resident was present to complain about the bill for the sidewalk repair, the individual was present to explain the problem was not fixed and does not feel they should be responsible for the 50% share of the cost. It was noted that it was improved. Discussion followed with the decision made to secure a second contractor evaluation of the problem.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of Stephanie Levey for special reports, setting of cemetery clean-up date, the minutes of the February 8, 2022 regular meeting, financial reports and the monthly police report. Officials took action to approve expenditures totaling \$83,543.71.

Let the Shenanigans begin

Thursday, March 17th

\$3⁰⁰ Bud Light

22 oz. Drafts Green Beer!

Corned Beef & Cabbage
Serving Noon til Gone

\$12⁹⁹

Ruebens... \$9⁹⁹

with ALL the fixings

MAIN BAR & GRILL

OPEN: Noon to Close

Downtown Ovid • (989) 834-5389

Happy St Patrick's Day!

Jumbo Frozen Marquita Special Includes All Flavors

32 oz. **\$7⁹⁹**

All Domestic Bottle Beer **\$2⁹⁹**

Marquita Tower 88 oz. **\$5⁸**

OPEN 7 Days
Mon-Sat: 11-10pm
Sun: 11-9pm

Cancun Mexican Grill

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Us



1071 S. US27

Southpoint Mall, St. Johns
989-227-5800
~ Under New Management ~

EVERY SUNDAY DINNER SPECIALS

Roast Beef, Turkey or Chicken Dinner with Dressing and Dessert

2/\$25

Includes: Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable and Roll

Friday Night Fish Fry Is Back Starting March 4th!

Mary's Country Kitchen

M-21 • Ovid • (989) 834-9640
Dine-In or Take-Out

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Us!

Thursday, March 17th

Join us for the best Corned Beef & Cabbage

\$13 Noon 'till Gone

• Green Beer
• Bring Your Friends

TWILLIGERS TAVERN

Downtown Laingsburg

517-651-9911

Obituaries

Legand Lee Scherer

Legand Lee Scherer, age 20 weeks of gestation, was born sleeping on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at Memorial Healthcare in Owosso, MI.

Legand's family was anxiously awaiting his arrival in July. Although he was not able to spend time with us here on this earth, he was still so deeply loved and will be sadly missed by his family.

He is survived by his parents Veronica (Bower) and Adrian Scherer; his brothers and sisters: Logan, Lilly, Liberty, Leo, and Leroy Scherer. He is also survived by grandparents Jeff and Cheri Evans, and aunts and uncles: Mike and Miranda Nethaway, their children: Brantley, Mason, Kolton, Raelynn; Jeffery Evans and McKinzie Kopicko, their son Braxton, Summer Evans; Tara and Chad Carman and their children: Azurae, Lacy, Sawyere, Asher, Serenah, and JaydahRose; Michaela Sweeney and her children: Everly and Wilder. "I'll hold you in my heart until I hold you in Heaven".

Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



Millard Gene "Corky" McCreery

Millard Gene "Corky" McCreery, a long time resident of Ovid, died peacefully at home in the care of his family on March 5, 2022 after struggling with pulmonary fibrosis for many years.

Born in Owosso, Michigan on June 1, 1943 the son of Millard and Letha (Albaugh) McCreery, Corky grew up on the McCreery family farms in Laingsburg and Ovid. He was a 1961 graduate of Ovid High School and married his high school sweetheart, Janet Patrick on January 18, 1964 in the United Church of Ovid. They made their home in Ovid and in 1973 moved onto Janet's family farm.

From a young age, Corky was interested in cars and was meticulous in their care, especially his prized '56 Chevy. He enjoyed the search for 'beauties', cars he considered 'diamonds in the rough' and enjoyed restoring and fixing them up for his kids and grandkids.

He established McCreery Auto Body in his home shop and it was his pride and joy. He worked tirelessly at providing high quality work and was sought out for his impeccable craftsmanship.

In 2005 he retired from Lear in Elsie, and enjoyed working in his garden, feeding the birds, and putzing around the shop and his home. He will always be remembered as a jokester, and for his great sense of humor

In addition to Janet, his beloved wife of over fifty-eight years, he is survived by his daughter, Wendy (Craig) Coleman; his sons, Mark McCreery and Troy (Laura) McCreery; grandchildren, Dustin (Ashley) Coleman, Dylan (Ash) Coleman, Tyler Coleman, Devin, Collin, Colton, Cameron, Trevor, Mercy, and Grace McCreery; great grandchildren, Gage, Adalyn, Drace, Rhiley, Ridge, and Trenton Coleman; his brother, Rodney (Linda) McCreery, his niece, Susie Cole, and many other nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Wendall, and sister, Bonnie Kelly.

A Funeral Service was held at McGeehan Funeral Homes (Keck-Coleman Chapel), 1500 Waterford Parkway, St. Johns, on Thursday, March 10 with Pastor Scott Seelhoff officiating.

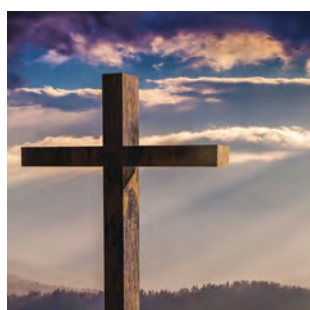
Memorials may be made in his name to Memorial Health Care-Hospice.



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Sunday Worship 11:15am

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Shirley Ann (Richter) Albring

Shirley Ann Albring, age 84, of Ashley, MI, passed away Thursday, March 3, 2022, at her home.

Cremation will take place and there will be no services.

Shirley was born in Saginaw County, MI on August 11, 1937, the daughter of Lyman and Bertha (Moffit) Richter. Shirley married Bernard LeRoy "Stub" Albring on November 5, 1955 in Burton, MI. They celebrated 64 years of marriage prior to Stub's passing on November 18, 2019. She enjoyed playing games and playing on her tablet. She also enjoyed being at home surrounded by her family.

She is survived her children: Tammy Milliman of Ashley MI; Judy (Ken) Taylor of Chesaning, MI; Bernard (Wendy) Albring of Owosso, MI; LeRoy Albring of Ashley, MI; grandchildren: Lori (Chuck) Milliman, Stacey Milliman, Michelle Albring, Kimberly (Todd) Tessman, Charles (Mandy) Albring, Carrie Chism, Justin Andrews, and Danielle Albring; and seven great-grandchildren: Shannon Lester, Britney Albring, Hanah Tessman, Chad Albring, Natalie Albring, Nevaeh Reist, and Cody Swanchara Jr.; and sister Francis (Steve) Niko of Oscoda, MI. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Stub, daughter Delsie Ann, three sisters, four brothers and grandson Bradley Allen Albring.

Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



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Obituaries

Nanette Ruth Witchell

Nanette Ruth Witchell, age 60 of Laingsburg passed away Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at her home surrounded by her family.

Nan was born June 30, 1961, in Lansing, Michigan to Joseph and Rose (Michalek) Gubry. She graduated from Perry High School and attended Lansing Community College. Nan married Daniel Martin Witchell on June 11, 1988, at the First Congregational Church of Laingsburg. Together they made Laingsburg their home to raise their family. Nan was a compassionate person who shared her skills with others, whether it be a gift she created or quilting for those in need she was always willing to help. She quilted for the Homeless Angels for many years, she was a member of the First Congregational Church of Laingsburg and very active with the Boy Scouts of America.

Nan is survived by her loving husband of 33 years; Dan, her sons; Daniel Witchell and Alexander Witchell, her siblings; Mike (Gail) Gubry, Joe (Marge) Gubry, Kathy Gubry, Karen Bryde, and Steven Gubry, her best friend; Nanette Lillie, numerous extended family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; Joseph and Rose and her siblings; Ann Alsulaiman and Jim Gubry.

A funeral service to honor and celebrate her life will be held at 12:00 PM on Monday, March 14, 2022, at the First Congregational Church of Laingsburg, 401 East Grand River Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848. Dr. Tom Rundel and Msgr. George Michalek will co-officiate. The family will receive friends beginning at 10:00 AM until the time of service at the church. Interment will take place immediately following at Laingsburg Cemetery.

Memorials in her name are suggested to Homeless Angels, 3216 West Main St., Lansing, MI 48917.

The family is being served by Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes, Laingsburg Chapel where online condolences may be shared at www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com.



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

This may become a very interesting day, I had a few plans and an appointment and now Miss Isabella has been added to the mix. Last Saturday was her seventh birthday and of course we all came together, there were four generations represented, both Dad and Mom's sides of her family were there, and her best friends from school were there. Yes, it did get a bit loud at times more so when a game of musical chairs was played and then again when the poor pinata was decimated and the youngsters were busy stuffing their pockets or Dad's with the candy. It did quiet down a bit as the kids grabbed their gifts and stood in line to give them to Isabella with lots of supportive noises for the toy gifts and more subdued sounds for the clothes. Of course the food and the rainbow cupcakes were well received, there was chocolate and white cupcakes frosted with all the colors of the rainbow and displayed in an arc shape. Yup, Izzy made out like a bandit.

Isabella shared a "My Little Pony" movie with me before we left for the chiropractor. Of course I had fixed her scrambled eggs for breakfast and she told me that the were delicious. I had to promise that I would tell the chickens what a good job that they were doing the next time that I stopped at the home-stead. Izzy talked all the way up to St Louis and only quit when I was laying on the chiropractic bed getting treatment. Once we left the office she started up again, who were these people that she and Blueberry (her teddy bear) would be meeting and do they have pets, etc. She charmed Ted who fixed her a grilled ham and cheese sandwich and she had a grand time because he let her hit him with her snowballs and his were gentle not like the ones her brother Enrique throws. She also thinks that Tammy is nice too, as is Clover their dog. Her Mom came early to pick her up and Izzy lamented that no baking had been done.

Sunday morning at 12:01 AM, we have to reset our clocks again, time to spring ahead. Through the years I have never thought about it as being more than an aggravation especially if I was working the night of the switch. Janis gave me a different point of view that threw me for a loop. I've come to the conclusion that my thought process must be very linear and hers is more multi-dimensional. At any rate it is time to get more seeds sown and to add some peat to the garlic patch which seems to be thriving. Since most of the snow is gone now, I should again walk the yard and pick up the broken branches and get them onto the burn pile. I hate to admit that I have been outside at least five times today and yet I have not picked up a single stick. My thoughts were definitely on the linear side and I was making a beeline to and from the mailbox or to and from the truck. Did I accomplish anything today? Yes, I did and hopefully I will regain another hundred and eleven dollars that should still be in my checking account. And no I still don't have the funds that was double dipped from my accounts...maybe next week I can finish that tale.

Prudence and I stopped to visit with Karen when we got back from dropping off an ad at the Meridian Weekly and having a short chat with Deb. Onward to Karen's for a coffee break and then time to come home to finish this week's column. I have come to the conclusion that I need to make some cookies to take to the ladies at the Huntington Banks in St Johns, they have proven to be very helpful to me so a show of gratitude will make me feel better and maybe add another smile to their faces. I also need to check with Linda to see if I'm headed in the right direction when it comes to computer parts that I have on hand, I need to get them distributed.

May your days be filled with delightful experiences and interesting people. May God bless you daily and may your smiles always be sincere. God bless, be thankful.

Crystal Mitchell©2022

What Can We Do for the Ukrainian Refugees?

Dear Andy,

I am just saddened to tears to watch the news. I cannot believe the leader of Russia is so brazenly displacing villages and destroying the country and people with his warfare. My heart aches for the families and children. I am extremely afraid for our country, too. Should we be preparing for war? Should we be stocking up our food or making escape plans? Or buying gas masks? Worried mom

Dear Worried mom,

You are not the only one worried about the invasion of a Democratic Country that had previously won their independence. We are all concerned. News and horrific pictures are posted online and, on the television, daily since the invasion first began. We have information so readily and uncensored, it is scary to watch. All wars have horrific stories. We must learn from them, so we do not repeat the same horrors for our children.

As Americans we have trust in our leaders to prepare us with a plan of action for our safety, when necessary. The first thing we must do is pray. Pray for the victims of war and pray for the leaders of all countries.

In the Bible, 1st Timothy Chapter 2 verses 1-4 the scripture commands us to "pray for our leaders to make wise decisions." Even in Old Testament times Psalm 22:28 tells us to "Pray for our Kings and Leaders to Seek God's Will for countries in despair." Pray that the war will be over quickly and peacefully so people can return home to their country to rebuild. What else can we do besides prayer?

I received a letter from Mary Morrissey (mary.m@mary-morrissey.com): who writes for an organization called The Brave Thinking Family. She suggests we pray and take action. Some of the suggestions to help with aid and help for the Iranian people are listed below:

CARE - is an international humanitarian group that is providing food, water and other items to families fleeing violence in Ukraine. If you'd like to contribute, go to <https://my.care.org/>

CORE. is an emergency response nonprofit that's on the ground in Poland, distributing hygiene kits, thermal blankets, as well as emergency cash assistance to help families find places to live. If you'd like to contribute, go to <https://donate.corereponse.org/give>

Doctors Without Borders. Staffers with this medical relief organization remain in Ukraine and are "seeking ways to respond to the medical and humanitarian needs as the conflict evolves." You can offer support <https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/>

International Committee of the Red Cross. The Swiss-based organization is supporting the work of the Ukrainian Red Cross in helping those impacted by the war. <https://www.icrc.org/en/donate/ukraine> If you are able and willing to travel to hard hit locations due to war or weather, join the American or International Red Cross.

Airbnb.org. Airbnb's nonprofit is asking people — especially those residing in European nations near Ukraine <https://www.airbnb.org/help-ukraine> to provide temporary housing for Ukrainian refugees or donate towards the cost of their stay. The San Francisco-based company is also pledging to shelter up to 100,000 fleeing Ukraine refugees.

There are powerful evil people who need the spiritual guidance but will do as they wish to enforce their power. God tells us to pray for our enemies and government leaders. If we cannot serve or afford to be directly involved in resolutions of conflict. We all can PRAY for God's will be done.

My opinion or belief may not be in compliance of some readers or necessarily the views of this paper, but they are mine. You asked. Send your remarks or inquires to ask_andy@aol.com



Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

You can also mail or drop questions off to: Meridian Weekly
P.O. Box 11, Ovid, MI 48866

Thank You for All the Support

The staff at Capital Area Community Services in Shiawassee County would like to express our thanks and appreciation to those who have been involved in Walk for Warmth this year. The numbers of people who took the time to collect pledges and then walked; Shattuck's Specialty Advertising; the credit unions that donated their time and support: Team One Credit Union, Frankenmuth Credit Union, Horizon Credit Union; the churches : Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church who have supported the walk over the years; clubs and organizations who demonstrated unstinting support through members walking and collecting pledges; the Shiawassee County Sheriffs Department represented by Sheriff Brian Begole and Doug Chapman; the Meridian Weekly and other media who provided wonderful coverage; and the great team of volunteers who willingly gave of their time.

Over \$4850 in pledges and donations have already been generated within this community.

The success of Walk for Warmth, and ultimately, those assisted by Capital Area Community Services in Shiawassee County is contingent on the support of this Community. Thank you for showing your support this year.

We look forward to seeing you next year!

Rebecca Zemla

Shiawassee Center Coordinator,

Capital Area Community Services

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The Basics of Container Gardening

Gardening is a rewarding hobby that has been linked to health benefits like reduced stress and improved mental well-being. Gardening also can lead to an inviting home landscape full of attractive blooms and/or delicious foods.

Backyard gardens have long been planted after clearing a plot of land, tilling and amending the soil, and planting rows of favorite crops. However, gardening can be less labor-intensive and even more successful when people consider the many benefits of container gardening.

What is container gardening?

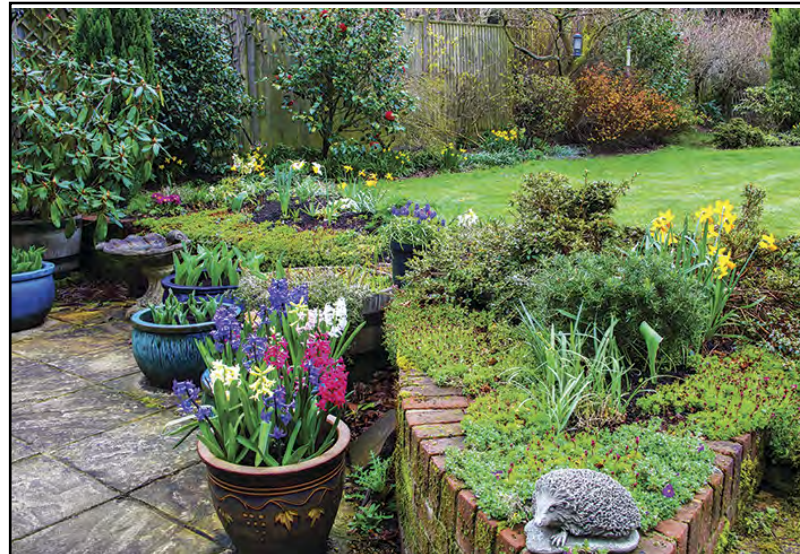
As its name implies, container gardening is growing plants inside of containers. These containers can be flower pots, rectangular deck boxes or even large raised garden beds.

Pros to container gardening

One of the advantages of container gardening is that plants can be moved in and out of sunlight to ensure the right growing conditions. This isn't as easily achieved when gardens are stationary. Also, beginner gardeners may be more able to control soil conditions inside of a small container rather than a vast ground-based garden, which will require a good deal of manual labor. Pots and boxes also can be grouped together to create eye-popping displays, usually at lower costs than the sheer volume of plants that would be needed to fill out an expansive landscape.

Cons to container gardening

Container garden plants will not have direct access to the ground, so they need gardeners to create the ideal growing conditions. Developing the right care formula can be challenging. The home and garden resource The Spruce says that drainage is an important factor in container gardening, and most containers do not offer enough drainage holes. If water cannot escape the soil, the roots of the plants can rot and die. It's not enough to



add stones or gravel to the bottom of containers. Drill additional holes in the bottom (1/2-inch in diameter for small or medium-sized pots; one inch in diameter for larger pots). Also, be sure to check on soil moisture so that watering can be adjusted. During hot stretches, plants may need to be watered more frequently.

Plan for plants that play well

Grouping plants together can create visually stunning combinations.

However, it is important to choose plants that require the same amount of light and moisture. Look at plant tags when visiting the garden center and select complementary plants, or ask a store employee. Mixing different plant shapes, colors and leaf textures, as well as plants of various heights, can help containers look filled out.

Feed plants accordingly

Plants need nutrition to thrive in containers. Quality potting mixes will contain fertilizers, but nutrition will wane over time. Every couple of weeks, container plants will need either fresh potting mix or granular fertilizer added to feed them. Oregon State University Extension Services suggests using a slow-release fertilizer or worm castings several times throughout the season.

Container gardening is a great way to add plants to smaller patios, reduce the workload involved in maintaining expansive gardens, and customize conditions for optimal growth.

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Home Improvement

7 Things to Know Before Replacing Windows

The decision to replace windows often comes down to aesthetics and necessity. Drafty windows can reduce energy efficiency in a home, requiring HVAC systems to work harder to keep interiors comfortable. The harder the HVAC must work, the more homeowners will pay in energy costs.

Old windows also may be points of entry for water and insects. Despite the importance of windows, Money magazine advises that new windows make up only a fraction of the home's total exterior "envelope," resulting in only about 5 to 15 percent of total energy savings.

But there are still plenty of reasons to invest in new windows.

1. Vinyl or aluminum may be best. Lumber is farmed rather quickly today and solid wood products may not stand up to elements as well as wood used a half-century ago. To avoid rot, vinyl windows often are an affordable and durable choice. Homeowners also have the option of wood windows with aluminum cladding, which are long-lasting.

2. Moisture problems indicate windows need to be replaced. Condensation that shows up as fogging between double-pane windows or on the inside of windows indicates that the windows are starting to fail. If installing a vapor barrier in the basement or crawl space, ventilating properly when showering or cooking, or using a dehumidifier indoors does not remedy the situation, it might be time to replace windows.

3. Windows add curb appeal. Beyond functionality, replacement windows immediately update the look of the home and can improve curb appeal since they are one of the most prominent features on the exterior of a home. If a house needs an update, replacing windows and can be a quick and affordable update.



4. Consider other energy-efficient upgrades. Sometimes older windows can be salvaged, especially if they are not damaged and only moderately drafty. Replacing panes, sash cords, weather stripping, and even glazing may be less expensive than replacing a window. Plus, older homes with attractive windows complement one another. To keep energy bills down, think about adding insulation to the attic and basement — which is a good idea

even if you are replacing windows.

5. The wrong windows can adversely affect home value. The National Association of Realtors says homeowners get about 73 percent of their replacement window investment back when they resell a home. But choosing the wrong windows might lower the value of the home. It's important to match the look of the original windows, including window material and the divided light pattern (the number of panes in each window) with the original windows.

6. Think about soundproofing, too. When upgrading windows, also think about how certain windows can cancel out noises and make homes more soundproof. Some windows can help reduce outdoor distractions like leaf blowers or lawn mowers.

7. Proper installation is key to longevity. Replacement windows are only as good as their installation in many cases. Poor installation and orders of standard rather than custom sized windows could result in poor fitting and seals. Homeowners should carefully vet and review window replacement contractors to find the best professionals for the job.



Did You Know?

Homeowners should give due consideration to whether or not plants are considered invasive species before introducing new plants on their properties. According to the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration, invasive species of plants can lead to the extinction of native plants and animals. Invasive plant species also can reduce biodiversity and cause significant fundamental disruptions to local ecosystems. Though non-native plants are often cherished for their unique looks, homeowners planting new gardens or supplementing existing gardens with new plants are urged to plant only native species. Such an approach benefits plants and also local wildlife that depends on native plant species for food and cover.



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Memorial Healthcare Diabetes Self-Management Learning Program Earns Recognition

submitted by Tina Coffman

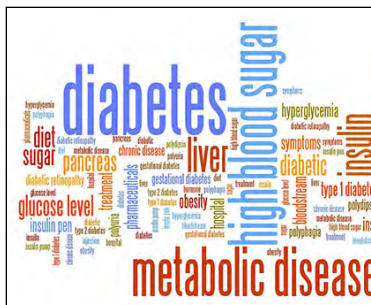
Owosso – The American Diabetes Association (ADA), the nation's leading organization committed to fighting diabetes by driving discovery through research and innovation, intensifying the urgency around the diabetes epidemic and supporting people living with and affected by diabetes, today announced the recognition of Memorial Healthcare Diabetes Self-Management Learning Program through the Education Recognition Program (ERP). The DSMES service was originally recognized in March of 2001.

The ADA's Education Recognition Certificate assures that educational services meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES). The DSMES Standards were developed and tested under the auspices of the National Diabetes Advisory Board in 1983 and were revised by the diabetes community in 1994, 2000, 2007, 2012 and 2017. The ERP promotes quality Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES) for people with diabetes by certifying that services adhere to the National Standards for DSMES. Services certified by the ADA's ERP program offer a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who can provide participants with comprehensive information

about diabetes management. Services apply for recognition voluntarily, and ADA-ERP recognition lasts for four years.

“Daily self-management skills are absolutely essential for people to effectively navigate the 24/7 challenges of living with diabetes, helping to keep them healthy and prevent or delay the serious complications of diabetes,” said Linda Cann, MSEd, the ADA’s senior vice president of professional services. “We applaud Memorial Healthcare Diabetes Self-Management Learning Program for its commitment to providing high-quality, evidence-based education and support for people with diabetes by meeting the National Standards for DSME/S and earning the ADA’s ERP recognition.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) 2017 National Diabetes Statistic Report there are 30.3 million people or 9.4% of the population in the United States who have diabetes. While an estimated 23.1 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 7.2 million people are not aware that they have this disease. Each day, more than 4,110 Americans are diagnosed with diabetes. Many will first learn that they have diabetes when they are treated for one of its life-threatening complications – heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, nerve disease, and amputation. Diabetes continues to be the seventh leading cause of death in the US—in 2015, it contributed to 252,806 deaths. The ADA's Economic Costs of Diabetes in the U.S. in 2017 confirms diabetes as the nation's most expensive chronic health care condition at \$327 billion.



Shiawassee RESD Classroom

Math + Hands On Learning = Friday

submitted by Renee Dotson

The Shiawassee RESD offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) Electrical programming to high school juniors and seniors in Shiawassee County that have at least a 2.0 G.P.A. On Friday, March 4, students were connecting math with hands on learning as seen in the corresponding photos. CTE courses provide students with opportunities for career exploration, to earn college credit, to gain specialized business and industry knowl-



*Kneeling is Ryan Cords,
Morrice and Keaton Lantis,
Perry*

edge while still in high school.

The students shown in the hands on lessons were led by Master Electrician, Chris Chamberlin, the Electrical II class instructor, in a lesson called hand bending. In the electrical industry hand bending is used to get around obstacles such as an air conditioner, during installations. Mr. Chamberlin is going through the math and connecting that with hands on learning. It was a great day in Electrical!

If you would like more information about CTE Courses, such as Auto, Automation Technology, Culinary, Criminal Justice, Electrical, Health Science Academy, and Teacher Cadet, contact your high school Counselor or call Leyna Miller at 989-743-3471 or millerl@sresd.org.



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Arlo is turning 1 and she is fighting a rare illness that has not been able to be diagnosed. Her specialists have exhausted their abilities and testing. She is now under 24 hour sedation while they continue to search for hope and answers. Arlo and her moms need our help. Your support will be immensely appreciated as we continue our journey out of state to try to find a diagnosis.

100% of profits will be given to the Stollsteimer family to help pay for Arlo's medical needs.

Sports



(l- r) Coach Shawn Baynes, Mikey Brooks, Gabby Motz and Aden Baynes were all honored as All-State grapplers at the MHSAA State Finals at Ford Field in Detroit.

Wolfpack Ends Stellar Wrestling Campaign with Trio of All-State Honorees

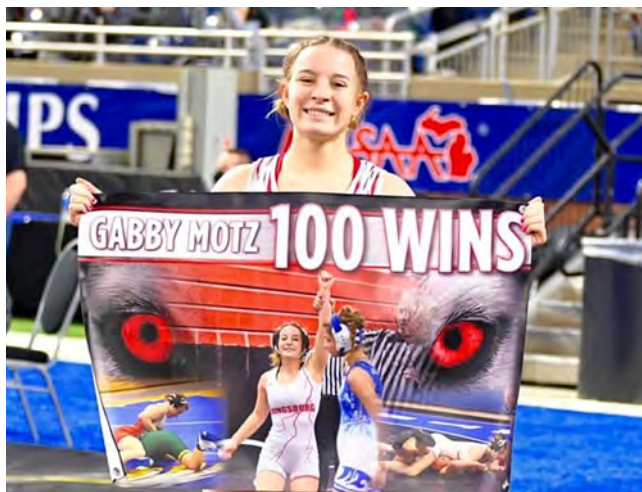
DETROIT — The Laingsburg varsity wrestling team finished the 2021-22 season with a stellar 21-5 record.

"We were District Champs and Regional finalists, where we lost a close dual match to Manchester, 35-31," said veteran coach Shawn Baynes.

Individually, the Wolfpack boasted eight regional qualifiers. Gabby Motz, Aden Baynes, Kyle Boettcher, Jack Borgman, Bryce Smith, Sean Divine, Seth Sivak, and Mikey Brooks all advanced to Regional action.

From the Division 3 Regionals, the Wolves advanced five state qualifiers: Gabby Motz, Aden Baynes, Sean Divine, Seth Sivak and Mikey Brooks.

Finishing All State — in the top three in their respective weight classes — were Motz - 2nd place in the girls division at 110 lbs.; Brooks - 3rd at 189; and Aden Baynes, 5th place at 130 lbs.



Gabby Motz achieved a milestone during State Finals at Ford Field with her 100th career win. Photos by Marie Spiess

O-E Bowling at States

submitted by Matt Fabus

Gracie Schultz, a junior, qualified for states in Essexville at Alert Lanes. Jax 60 in Jackson was the setting for the state tournament. Friday was team event and Saturday was the singles event.

Gracie was the only bowler from Ovid-Elsie to bowl in singles. 60 girls would bowl six peterson games. The top 16 would bowl two games of match play.

Gracie would end up 34th for the day. Her scores were 190, 176, 162, 119, 198, 152 for a 997.

The banquet will be held March 14th at 6:30pm in the OE High School cafeteria. Potluck and bring your own table service, punch will be provided.

The Annual Golf Outing will be held July 16th more information to come.

Once-Hopeful O-E Boys Season Ends in First Game of District Play

CORUNNA — Ovid-Elsie's once-hopeful boys basketball season ended in the first round of District play here March 9.

A 51-50 loss to Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) rival Chesaning abruptly ended a fine 16-4 campaign for coach Josh Latz's Marauders — including back-to-back set-backs to complete the 2021-22 season. Once rolling along at 16-2, a 15-point loss at Linden in the last game of the regular season turned out to be an ominous red flag for the blue-and-yellow clad Marauders.

"It was just a great basketball game," coach Latz explained. "It was a great high school basketball game between two evenly-matched teams that know each other well. They just made a few more plays than we did."

In the final minutes, however, it seemed O-E was making all the right plays to win it ... after battling back from an 9-point deficit with under 5:00 to play. The Tribe's Eli Escamilla nailed the front end of a one-and-one free throw opportunity with :17.2 seconds left, putting the Indians up 51-48 and making Clay Wittenberg's offensive rebound and put-back with :01.8 seconds remaining agonizingly close — but not quite enough.

The Indians' one-point victory was retribution for an 0-2 mark against Ovid-Elsie's MMAC champion team during the regular season.

As any coach will tell you, beating any opponent three times in a single season is one tough act.

In front of a raucous crowd, Ovid-Elsie was again led by Axel Newell with 11 points and Dylan Carmen with 11 — including back-to-back clutch three-pointers in the final moments to get the Marauders close. Wittenberg scored 10, Logan Thompson 7, Adam Barton 6 and Jake Tomasek 5 to close out the O-E ledger.

The Indians, who improved to 17-5, were led by Evan List with 14 points and Lucas Powell, 11. They advanced to take on Flint Hamady in the District final at Corunna.

Boys Basketball Wolfpack Stymies Dansville for a 3rd Time; Advances in Disticts

DANSVILLE — The Laingsburg boys basketball team enjoyed scoring from 11 different players and pasted Dansville for a third time this season.

A 63-30 blowout victory gave coach Dan Morrill's Wolves a 3-0 record vs. their CMAC foes from Aggie Land, and advanced LHS into last Friday night's District final against a tough, tough Bath contingent (14-6). The Bees advanced to the District title game with a 59-35 conquest of Perry.

"Dansville has a squad that can be very dangerous," said coach Morrill following the convincing win. "They're fast. Defense carried the day for us. We focus on it all the time, and we work hard at it."

The red-and-white built an early 22-4 lead and rode their most balanced scoring of the attack of the 2021-22 campaign to victory. No LHS player scored in double figures as playing time — and the basketball — were moved around freely.

Miguel Fajardo led the Pack with 9 tallies. Luke Snyder scored eight points, as did Zander Woodruff. Ty Randall, Jacob Essenberg and Jack Byrnes each pointed seven. Noah Hagerty added 6, Eli Woodruff 4, Brayden Thomas 3, Alex Brown 2 and Cam Ballard two to round out the Laingsburg attack.

Jared Bristle led the Aggies with 14 markers.

LHS improved to 12-8 on the season while ending Dansville's ledger at 7-15.

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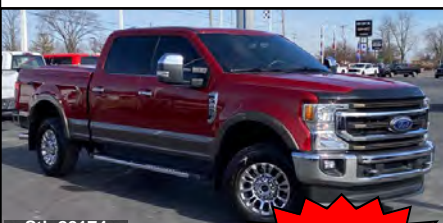


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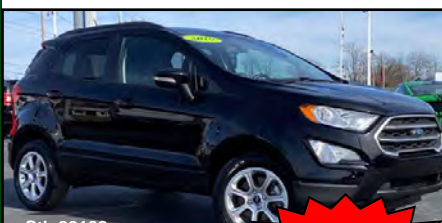


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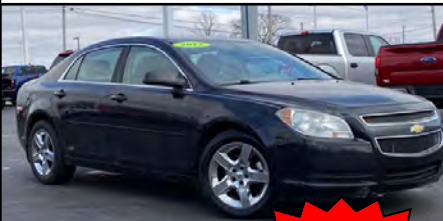


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Sports

State cont' from front page...

Cole Workman finished his sophomore season 34-7 record. He placed 3rd at Districts and 3rd at Regionals.

Workman lost 5-6 to Dominic D'Ambrosio of Imlay City. Workman lost 2-3 to Colton Kennedy of Hopkins.

"We gave up a couple points in each match that decided the outcome. At this level we can't give up the easy points and it cost Workman both matches. Both matches were decided in the last 5-10 seconds of the match. It was that close."

Girls Wrestling is now a separate division in wrestling for the first time. We have had girls state placers in the past but this is the first time we have a girl placing in the new girls division.

There were 100 more girls wrestling this year compared to last season. It is the fastest growing sport for girls in the United States.

Sharla Juhas 105lbs placed 8th in the Girls division. She placed 4th at Regionals. She is 17-13 on the season.

Juhas defeated Beyonkah Rincones of Grandville 16-5.

Quarterfinals Juhas lost to Sky Langewicz Algonac by pin in 5:50, who was the eventual state champion.

Juhas defeated Julia Snyder Chippewa Valley Decision 8-3.

Juhas then lost to Lynsey Light Grand Haven 12-4.

Juhas was pinned by Beyonkah Rincones of Grandville in 1:12 in the 7th/8th place match.

"Juhas placed 8th and is our first Girls division State placer at Ovid Elsie/Ashley. Juhas attends Ashley High school. Ovid Elsie and Ashley have a co-op for wrestling since Ashley does not offer it. So Sharla is the first ever state placer in wrestling for Ashley high school.

Sam Grubugh 125lbs went 1-2 at the state meet. She placed 6th at girls regionals to qualify for the state meet. Girls division does not have districts as there are not as many girls in wrestling as boys, yet. So the top 8 from girls regionals qualify.

Grubugh won by pin over Abby Thommen of Montague 1:57.

Quarterfinals Grubugh lost to Casey Boni of Chippewa Hills by pin in 3:36 to send her to the consolation bracket.

Blood round Grubugh lost a close 0-6 match to Alexandria Sparks of Utica.

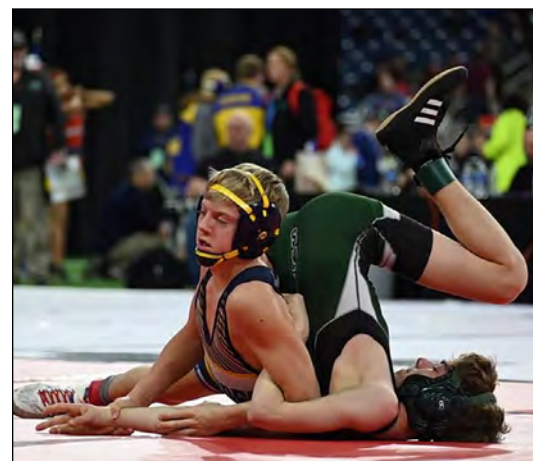
"This put Sam one win short of placing. She peaked at the right time and wrestled the best she ever has at regionals and the state meet."

It was a long weekend of wrestling at Ford Field but it is an awesome experience for the kids!

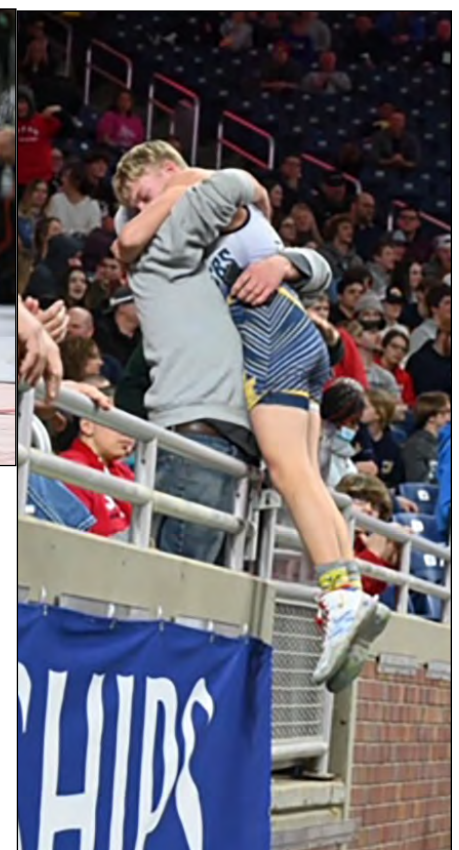
Congratulations on a great season.



Cole Workman, Talan Parsons, Sharla Juhas and Samantha Grubagh ready for state final competition at Ford Field on March 4th. Photos by Marie Spiess



(Above) Talan Parsons dominating his way into a state championship.



(Right) Talan getting hug from his father Jason Parsons after winning state title.

Sports

Lady Marauders March to First District Title Since 1984 Season, 53-29 over Chesaning Indians

OVID-ELSIE — The Ovid-Elsie Lady Marauders defeated the Chesaning Indians on March 4, to capture their first District Title since 1984.

And on the Marauders' home court, no less.

Coach Ryan Cunningham's charges (21-1) downed the Indians (16-6), 53-29, to advance to Regional play against the Frankenmuth Eagles (22-2) at Frankenmuth High School.

The Marauders used full court pressure to stymie the Chesaning offense and caused 25 turnovers which led to 18 Marauder steals. By the end of the 1st quarter, Ovid-Elsie held a commanding 14-2 advantage and followed it up with an 11-8 second quarter to lead 25-10 at half.

"We were happy with the way we got out of the gates even though we had a little bit of foul trouble to deal with," said coach Cunningham. "But we also knew that Chesaning is a tough team and we needed to refocus because we didn't want to see them mount a comeback."

Chesaning held serve a little better in the second half but Ovid-Elsie still held a 16-9 third quarter advantage and a 12-10 fourth quarter advantage. The Marauders led by as many as 26 points and never trailed during the game.

Evalyn Cole paced the Marauders with 14 points, 4 assists, and 5 steals while Caitlyn Walter scored 12 points and 4 rebounds. The senior sharp shooter connected on two 3-pointers, tying her own single season record of 43 makes. Kiah Longoria (6 rebounds, 5 steals, 5 assists) and Hailee Campbell (4 rebounds, 2 steals) each added 8 points while Ava Bates chipped in with 7 points, 9 rebounds and 4 assists. Braylon Byrnes rounded out the OE scoring with 4 points.

Ovid-Elsie handed out 16 assists on 23 made baskets and out-rebounded Chesaning 29-21. The Marauders shot 46% from the field while holding the Indians to just under 31%.

21-2 Lady Marauder Season Abruptly Ends in District Play at Frankenmuth

FRANKENMUTH — A couple of weeks ago, Ovid-Elsie's girls basketball team was rolling along with an undefeated record. The sky seemed the limit.

That all abruptly ended here March 8.

First, coach Ryan Cunningham's Lady Marauders were saddled with one of the toughest draws in the state, selecting No. 5 ranked Frankenmuth (21-2) in the opening Regional game of the MHSAA tournament — and on the Eagles' home floor, no less.

Then, after running out to an early 8-2 lead, the Marauders watched as the Lady Eagles calmly hit 65% of their field goals in a 55-37, Division 2 Regional tournament victory.

Once Frankenmuth figured out O-E's signature press defense, the Eagles rode the scoring of Mia McLaughlin (18 points) and Emma Kerkau (14) to the win. Claire Conzelmann tossed in consecutive three-point bombs as FHS went on a 14-1 run to close out the first stanza, and a 20-7 romp in the second quarter, to take control.

O-E's season ended with a No. 9 state ranking at 21-2 overall. It also included the Marauders' first District championship since 1984, and an unbeaten, MMAC championship record of 14-0.

"When you get to the tournament time like this, you don't have a lot of time to change things up," coach Cunningham said. "We're a press team and we want to run and we want to



Ava Bates goes up for two for the Marauders.

turn them over. Sometimes you just tip your hat to a better team. They're just a better team. We're pretty young and I think we'll aspire to get to that kind of level. They had us scouted pretty well and just made more plays down the stretch."

The Regional also included a stellar 19-4 Saginaw Swan Valley contingent, whom Frankenmuth advanced to play against in the Regional final.

Ava Bates led O-E with 10 points. Catilyn Walter scored 8 points, finishing her stellar career as second all-time on the O-E scoring list with 965 points. She is also O-E's top career three-point shooter with 45 in a season, breaking her own previous record of 43.

Evalyn Cole contributed 9 tallies, Kaylee Hall, Braylon Byrnes 2, Hailee Campbell one and Kiah Longoria one to the Marauder cause.



(Above) Caitlyn Walter is stopped by a Eagle defender. Kiah Longoria, #4, goes up for two amongst two Eagle defenders. Congrats Lady Marauders on a GREAT season.

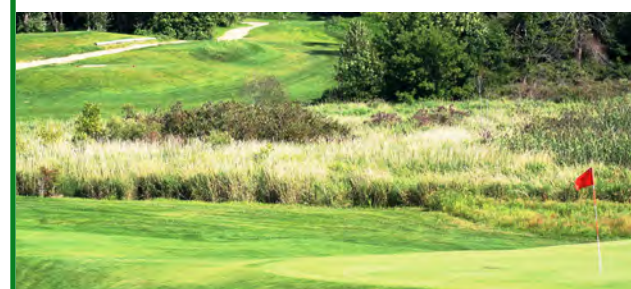
Photos by Denise Burgess

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- Monday Morning 2 person scramble team
- Monday Morning 4 person scramble blind draw each week
- Monday Guys and Dolls (play own ball)
- Monday Nights Couples Scramble league (man and women team scramble)
- Tuesday Morning Ladies League
- Tuesday night men's League
- Wednesday night scramble league (full)
- Thursday Morning Junior league new golfers (8:30-10:30)
- Thursday Morning Junior League Competitive (11-1)
- Thursday night Ladies league
- Friday night every other week league
- Friday night disc golf league

Weekly play league (they have a week to the match, no set time to play)



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CITY OF LAINGSBURG CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Laingsburg City Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday April 4, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall, 114 N. Woodhull St, Laingsburg, Michigan to receive comment on adoption of Consumers Energy Company Gas Franchise Ordinance.

The Ordinance, is to grant Consumers Energy Company, its successors and assigns, the right and authority to lay, mains, pipes, services and on, under, along, and across public places including but not limited to highways, streets, alley, bridges and waterways, and to conduct a local gas business in the City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County, Michigan, for a period of thirty years

The language for Ordinance is available for public inspection at City Hall, 114 N. Woodhull St, Laingsburg, Michigan and on the City of Laingsburg website at www.laingsburg.us. Written comments may be mailed to the City of Laingsburg, City Clerk, at PO Box 178, Laingsburg, Michigan 48848. All mailed written comments must be received by the City of Laingsburg by Friday, April 1, 2022. Comments can also be voiced at the public hearing. All aspects of the Ordinance will be open for discussion at the public hearing; and other information that the governing body considers appropriate. The City of Laingsburg is a barrier-free facility. Notice of availability of special services is hereby given. A 24-hour advance notice is required. Please contact the City of Laingsburg at (517) 651-6101, to ensure the availability of such special services.

This notice is provided pursuant to the requirements of Act 57 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2018.

Paula Willoughby
City Clerk,

The Easter Bunny is Coming Soon

The annual City of St. Johns Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2022 – rain or shine – at the St. Johns City Park.

The Easter Bunny will be at the event for photo opportunities. These activities will take place in the pavilion beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The City Police siren will sound at 1:00 p.m. to start the “organized mayhem.” of the egg hunt. Only kids are allowed in the Egg Patch. NO ADULTS PLEASE.

There is one egg in each age group that has a special ticket in it to win an Easter Basket filled with goodies, so open your eggs while you are there to claim your prize.

Preparedness or Paranoia?

For the first time in probably at least thirty years the President of the United States of America is being asked questions about the likelihood of a nuclear war.

Unlike most Americans, the Weekly Sportsman often ponders nuclear warfare on a daily basis but that is only because of much undergraduate and graduate coursework focusing on national defense and strategic studies. Regardless, there is a situation on the other side of the world that is making people very nervous and the topic of nuclear war is once again emerging as a commonplace topic of discussion among media sources.

First, let's discuss the matter at hand in Ukraine and how things can get a little wonky and out of control really fast. Unfortunately, the threat or likelihood of nuclear weapons being used in the current conflict is real. Very unlikely, however, a real threat nonetheless. The two contributing factors that could cause an escalation leading to a limited or all out exchange are; a leader of country who is clearly an “irrational actor”, and an invading military force, under the control of an “irrational actor”, that has the use of tactical nuclear weapons as part of field operations doctrine. What could possibly go wrong??? It is almost crazy and unbelievable how many war gaming scenarios the Weekly Sportsman has participated in with the aforementioned contributing factors. The outcome was never good in those academic classroom exercises. In reality, if there is ever an all out exchange, the proximity to the state capitol and centers of industry means survival in this area following the initial blast and shock waves are marginal at best.

Now, without a doubt there is a greater chance that this conflict could cause other issues affecting everyday life in this area. More likely scenarios to be prepared for include; power and energy outages, cyber warfare attacks, economic and financial meltdowns, along with shortages of who knows what at grocery and retail store items. The Weekly Sportsman keeps waiting to hear what rare and scarce resource or item is manufactured in the Ukraine or Russia and what the trickle down effect will be. Regardless, common sense would be to prepare in case something goes wrong. Preparedness doesn't always mean burying a fully stocked shipping container in the backyard and going off grid. Consider some simple and easy measures that will get you by for a few days or maybe even a few weeks.

Mobility: Keep your gas tank full and have a bag ready in case you need to leave your home for some unforeseen reason. Home is probably the safest but be prepared to leave if necessary.

Water: Keep one gallon per person per day on hand along with a purifier.

Food: Figure 2500 calories per person per day. Keep your freezer and cupboards full. **Cooking Fuel:** Keep an extra tank of propane in the garage for your grill or have some wood stacked up to cook over a small fire.

Heating Fuel: Whatever you heat with stock up if you can.

Cash: Keep some emergency cash around in small denominations in case ATM's and debit card machines are shut down along with banks being closed.

Prescription Meds: Two week supply.

Plastic Tote: Filled with batteries, flashlight, fire starting kit, first-aid kit, blankets, tarps, rope, duct tape, small bow saw or hatchet, radio, two-way walkies, bleach and sanitizers.

There is no need to go out and spend a ton of money or hoard stuff to be prepared. Most of what has been mentioned and listed is just common sense and probably already in your possession. If there is a single lesson learned from the recent pandemic is that going to the store every day is unrealistic. Don't be paranoid and plan now to be prepared.

-WS

Memorial Healthcare Seeks Volunteers

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

OWOSSO – Memorial HEvery day at Memorial Healthcare, volunteers play an important role in the lives of patients, residents, families, and staff. Their contributions enhance the programs and services provided at Memorial Healthcare. In 2018, 170 volunteers donated 42,000 hours of their time to make our hospital a better place to receive medical care.

As COVID-19 numbers continue to decrease, Memorial Healthcare is actively recruiting volunteers to join our team. We are recruiting for physical therapy escort, gift shop, courtesy car, concierge services at our new NOW building and more. For just (4) hours a week, you can become a volunteer.

“Volunteering is a rewarding experience that helps you feel a sense of accomplishment, contributes to the community, helps you meet new people and so much more,” said Lyn Freeman, Volunteer Coordinator at Memorial Healthcare. “Many of our volunteers tell us volunteering keeps them young and spry. By giving of themselves, they maintain an active and healthy lifestyle.”

If you have a particular interest, Memorial Healthcare's volunteer services department will attempt to place you in a welcoming and supportive environment where you will feel most comfortable, working directly or indirectly with patients and staff. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit www.MemorialHealthcare.org to fill out an application form located under the GIVE tab or contact Lyn Freeman, Volunteer Coordinator at (989) 729-4818. Volunteers are always needed, and applications are accepted all year.



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by Dan McMaster

theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

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MISCELLANEOUS

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