

Meridian Weekly

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(l-r): Cayleb Carman, Doug Sturgis, Mark and Becky Miller



Recycling Center Grand Opening and More!

submitted by Ellen Link

First, the GLR is happy to announce the Grand Opening Celebration of the Greater Laingsburg Community Recycling Center (GLCRC) on Sunday, April 24 (the day after the recycling drive) from 2 to 4 pm. There will be refreshments and a great big thank-you to all the folks who made the new facility possible, with a ribbon-cutting at 3 pm. All are welcome to attend.

The GLCRC (at 7500 Woodbury Rd.) will be open for recycling this month on Tuesday, April 5; Sat., April 9; Tuesday, April 19; and Sat., April 23. Saturday hours are 9 am to 1 pm, Tuesday hours 4 pm to 6 pm. See below for what we accept.

If you are a resident of Clinton County, you may already know that the spring Clean Community Event, which provides for the safe disposal of items like hazardous household waste and bulky waste items and trash, will take place on April 30; an appointment is required to attend. Call 989-224-5186 by April 22 for more info or to sign up. Volunteers are needed!

Below is a list of what we currently take. Please understand that we can only accept materials for which there are markets. Where once we could take all #1 plastics, we must now exclude clamshells and solid colors. When we began taking #5's again just recently, we were given very narrow guidelines, only to be told we can now take all but those little orange and green pill containers. Some vendors will take boxboard from refrigerated products, others won't. It's a constant guessing game as to what's in and what's out, so all we can do is take as many materials as we're allowed and make sure our "product" is as clean and well sorted as possible, since contaminating a load with the wrong materials will send it all to the landfill.

Presently being 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 colors); #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 (no televisions; there is a \$5 fee for flat screen monitors); and empty inkjets from Canon, Brother and HP. We now also accept dental care products like toothbrushes, spent toothpaste tubes, and floss containers.

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; stores like Meijer, Kroger and Walmart take the bags.

You can visit our website--<https://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite> or Facebook page for 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. You can also contact Terry or Ellen Link at (517) 651-2005 or Beth Lange at 651-6437. Hope to see you soon!

New Owner at Miller Soft Water Service

By Deb Price

Ovid-Elsie graduates, Mark and Becky Miller have come full circle with their business endeavor, Miller Soft Water Service. On April 1st they officially sold the business to Douglas Sturgis. It was on that same day they purchased the business several years ago.

Many do not know that brothers, Oliver and Harvey Darling started the business of selling water softeners and salt back in the 40's out of their hardware store. The business has continued throughout the years with various owners. Miller Soft Water Service offers for sale or rent, Tru-Soft Water Softeners and water softener salt sales with home delivery.

"My wife and I would like to thank all our loyal customers who have supported us over the years. Thanks also goes out to all previous employees who helped make our business successful," Mark explained. Miller will continue working with the new owner as needed during transition. Office Manager, Cayleb Carman will continue in his current position.

Douglas Sturgis, also an Ovid-Elsie graduate, looks forward to serving the customers that the Miller's have established and is excited to look into opportunities for growing the business further. Sturgis is also known as D2 The Storage Guy, with storage units in Elsie and Ovid.

Miller Soft Water Service is located at 9450 E. M-21, Ovid, their hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 8am-3pm and can be reached by phone at 989-8734-5012.



Wind-Driven Fire Claims Family Home Near Lake Victoria

LAINGSBURG — An outpouring of community support followed a devastating house fire at 6739 Hollister Rd. in Victor Township in the morning hours of Thursday, March 31.

The blaze, driven by strong southwesterly winds gusting up to 45 mph, claimed the lives of a dog and a cat, residents of the home reported.

Emergency units from Victor Twp., Laingsburg and several surrounding departments responded to the blaze. Fortunately, no serious injuries were reported to the residents or to emergency personnel.

The home was a total loss. The fire remains under investigation. Persons wishing to help support the family can find information on the Laingsburg Community Page at www.facebook.com.



Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price Owner/Publisher meridianweekly.com

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Library News

Upcoming Events at the Ovid Public Library

We have just wrapped up March is Reading Month and we want to thank everyone for participating. We had over 50 people sign up. Our winner for the large pizza from Main Street Pizza is Levi Hofferbert. We also drew names for two individual pizzas. Those winners were Joey Harden and Reagan Christie. Congratulations to all!

On Wednesday April 6 we will be doing our Classic movie. We will be showing The Valley of Decision starring Greer Garson and Gregory Peck. Movie Time will be 1:00

Friday April 8 will be the Children's Story Time. Ms. Shelly has picked out some good books that the kids are sure to enjoy. We will be making an Easter Craft to take home.

Monday, April 11 at 1:00 will be the Adult Booktasting. This is a good place to hear about interesting books and authors that you may not have read before. Come join us!

Easter is right around the corner. The Ovid Public Library will be closed on Good Friday, April 15 and Saturday April 16 in observance of The Easter Holiday.

Tax day is fast approaching and we still have some Michigan Tax forms available at the library. We can also help you print any federal forms you might need to complete your taxes.

Taking Pre-Orders for Chicken Dinner

The Laingsburg Lions Club is now taking pre-orders for their Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner scheduled for Saturday, May 7th from 11am-6pm. Pre-Orders will be taken until April 30th to assure chicken for everyone. The cost for a 1/2 chicken dinner is \$10. To order please call 517-525-4598.



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101 N. MAIN ST., OVID
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Fax (989)834-2279

Ovid Historical Society

submitted by Roger Matthies

Welcome Spring! Our first meeting for 2022 will be on Tuesday, April 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Mary Myers Museum. All members and friends are welcome.

The museum is at 131 East Williams Street in Ovid.

Mint Country Garden Club

The monthly meeting of Mint Country Garden Club will be held Thursday, April 7th, at 7:15 pm. David Zimmerman will be speaking on moss gardens. During the next meeting, Thursday, May 5th, we will be doing rock paintings. Anyone wanting to participate needs to bring a smooth rock the size you desire. Paint and ideas will be provided. Meetings are held at Clinton Commons Community Center, 1105 S. Scott Rd, St. Johns. Visitors are welcome to attend.

Laingsburg Community Singers Spring Concerts Perform in New Laingsburg High School Auditorium

Laingsburg Community Singers, under the direction of Steven J. Easterling, proudly present "Broadway Melodies" on Saturday, April 9, 7:30pm and Sunday, April 10, 4pm. Both concerts will be performed in the new auditorium at Laingsburg High School, 8008 Woodbury Rd., Laingsburg MI 48848. Admission is free and donations are greatly appreciated. We will be performing West Side Story and many other Broadway tunes. Hope to see you there.



Easter Egg Hunt at Heartland Church

Heartland Church will host an Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday, April 16th. Registration will begin at 1pm for the following age groups: 0-2 year olds, 3-6 year olds and 7-10 year olds. The hunt will begin at 1:15. There will be a golden egg for each group with a special prize. The event will also include an assortment of games, activities and refreshments for the whole family. Heartland Church is located at 8440nE. M-21 in Ovid. For more information call 989-787-2007.

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

A WALK IN THEIR SHOES

A Domestic Violence Awareness Event



“Walk in their Shoes” Event

submitted by Hannah Gottschalk

SafeCenter Domestic and Sexual Violence Services of Clinton and Shiawassee Counties will be hosting their first ever “Walk In Their Shoes” event in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month 2022! The event will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Riverwalk Loop Trail in Downtown Owosso. Participants can check-in at the parking lot located behind Capital Sports Fieldhouse and are welcome to attend anytime within the three-hour timeframe.

This year’s event provides a unique opportunity for our community to come together and raise awareness about the statistics, causes, effects, and remediations to sexual assault. There is an old saying: “You can’t understand another person’s experience until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes.” Along the Riverwalk Loop Trail will be information about sexual assault, as well as affirmations for both survivors and our community as a whole. There will be a separate Foot Race in HEELS at 11:00 am for anyone interested. By providing a space that is both educational and playful, we can more openly confront stereotypes and the root causes of sexual violence with less defensiveness and denial.

To get registered for the event, please contact Stephanie Molnar, Program Director/Clinical Supervisor, by email (stephanie@thesafecenter.org) or by phone (989-723-9716). The cost is \$25/individual or \$150/team (businesses or organizations). There will be an additional \$5/person fee for the foot race. Individuals and Teams are encouraged to raise funds for SafeCenter prior to the event. Winners of the Foot Race, Top Individual Fundraiser, and Top Team Fundraiser will receive recognition and a prize!

By attending this event and giving to SafeCenter, you partner in the mission to Empower, Advocate, Educate, and Prevent and provide essential services to adults and children who are in dangerous and potentially lethal situations. Your contribution also provides SafeCenter with the ability to partner with other community organizations across the area and hold those who seek to do harm to others accountable for their actions. We can’t do this work alone. Take a stand against Domestic and Sexual Violence this April, support SafeCenter, and help make our community a safer place to live, work, and play for all.



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Looking for Classmates

The OE Class of 1972 will be celebrating their 50th class reunion on September 24th and are looking to locate the following classmates: Starlet Mitchell, Lola Hobbs and Rita Justice.

Anyone with information as to their whereabouts please email Dave Wyrick at dwyrick@msu.edu.



COMBINED NOTICE

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date Published April 3, 2022

City of Laingsburg (Name of Applicant)
114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg MI 48848 (Street, City, Zip Code)

517-651-6101

(Telephone Number)

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about April 20, 2022 the above named City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County Michigan will request the Michigan Strategic Fund to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for the following project:

205 E. Grand River Rental Rehab Project (Project Title or Name)

Rehabilitate 2nd floor of 205 E. Grand River, Laingsburg to create 2 new apartments, of which 51% will be rented to Low-Moderate income persons.

(Purpose or Nature of the Project)

205 E. Grand River, Laingsburg MI Shiawassee County (Location - City, County, State - of Project)

\$232,965.00

(Estimated Cost of Project)

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the above-named City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County Michigan has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190).

The reasons for such decision not to prepare an EIS are as follows: 1.) No significant impact to the human environment

2.) SHPO has determined "no historic properties affected"

3.) No adverse impact to surrounding properties

An Environmental Review Record respecting the proposed project has been made by the above-named City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County Michigan which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why an EIS is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon request at The Laingsburg City Hall between the hours of 8 am- 5 pm.

(If Applicable) No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of federal funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FINDING

All interested agencies, groups, and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County Michigan to the Laingsburg City Hall on or before April 20, 2022. All such comments so received will be considered and the City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County Michigan will not request the release of federal funds or take any administrative action on the proposed project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

City of Laingsburg, Shiawassee County Michigan will undertake the project described above with Community Development Block Grant funds from the Michigan Strategic Fund under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Laingsburg is certifying to the Michigan Strategic Fund that City of Laingsburg and Paula Willoughby in her/his official capacity as Clerk/Treasurer consent to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval City of Laingsburg may use the Block Grant funds and the Michigan Strategic Fund will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

OBJECTIONS TO MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Michigan Strategic Fund will accept an objection to its approval only if it is on one of the following bases:

- a) The certification was not in fact executed by the responsible entity's Certifying Officer.
- b) The responsible entity has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to 58.40 or to make the written determination required by 58.35, 58.47 or 58.53 for the project, as applicable.
- c) The responsible entity has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at subpart E of this part for the preparation, publication and completion of an EA.
- d) The responsible entity has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at subparts F and G of this part for the conduct, preparation, publication and completion of an EIS.
- e) The recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by this part before release of funds and approval of the environmental certification by HUD (or the state).
- f) Another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted to the Michigan Strategic Fund, c/o Michigan Economic Development Corporation, 300 North Washington Square, 4th Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48913.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the Michigan Strategic Fund. No objection received after May 5, 2022 will be considered by the Michigan Strategic Fund.

Paula Willoughby Clerk/Treasurer City of Laingsburg
114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg MI 48848

NALC Disaster Warehouse to be Stocked and Dedicated on April 10th

submitted by Roger Weyersberg

Construction has been completed at 2510 North M-52, Owosso, Michigan, for the Michigan District Regional North American Lutheran Church Disaster Relief Warehouse. This new structure will house emergency supplies that will be used to enable local NALC congregations to effectively and efficiently bring the love of Jesus to their communities when disaster strikes. As NALC Disaster Response, we turn chaos into compassion, assisting families to find their "new normal" in times of disaster. Redeemer Lutheran Church, NALC, will serve as host and home to the new 30 foot by 30-foot warehouse that has been erected on church property. This will just be the newest site of what is hoped to be many sites across the United States and Canada. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, the North American Lutheran Church Disaster Relief Teams have responded to disasters all over the United States; Newman, GA tornado disaster; Texas Polar Vortex disaster; California wildfires; Iowa derecho; hurricanes in North Carolina, Florida, and Texas; as well as the bursting of the dams in the Midland/Sanford areas last year. These are just a few examples of those families and communities that have been served; the need is real; and the closer supplies can be in regions across the country, the faster NALC Disaster Response teams will be able to work with First Responders, community leaders, and community members and volunteers in addressing any emergency that arises.

We are asking that your organization, group be part of this community event. We are looking for groups to volunteer when a disaster is Michigan hits, to help load/unload trucks bringing or shipping supplies to folks that need these items. Also volunteers to assist folks that just went through a disaster event. This project is designed to be a community driven event. Please consider joining us Saturday April 9th for training at Redeemer from 1-3pm snacks and beverages provided, and on Sunday April 10th for the dedication/ribbon cutting at 11am after our worship service at 9:30am.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Church Directory!

Middlebury United Methodist Church

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573
Minister: Rev. Terry Melton



Worship Service
10:30 a.m.



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

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

United Church of Ovid

Office Hours: 9-1 Mon - Tue - Wed
9-Noon Thur - Closed Fri
Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing
11:00 - Worship
131 West Front Street
Ovid, MI 48866 • (989) 834-5958
www.unitedchurchofovid.org
or on Facebook
Pastor Eugene Blair

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

Mass: Sun 10:30am,

Wed. 9:00am

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...

April 3, 2022 - THE MERIDIAN WEEKLY - FAX (989) 834-2066 - PHONE (989) 834-2264 - e-mail news@meridianweekly.com

Obituaries

Stanley Ray Wassa

Stanley Ray Wassa, of St. Johns, died peacefully at home, surrounded by family, on Saturday, March 26, 2022 after a long, valiant battle with COPD. He was 88 years old.

Stan was born on May 1, 1933 in Elba, Michigan, one of five children born to Joseph and Pauline (Dunay) Wassa. He was a 1951 graduate of Elsie High School and served in the United States Army as a Corporal during the Korean War. Upon returning home, he enjoyed a long career as a Tool & Die Maker at Federal Mogul until his retirement in 1995. Stanley married Mildred "Millie" Kollar on September 8, 1956 at St. Cyril Catholic Church in Bannister, Michigan and together raised three children in St. Johns. He was a longtime active member of the American Legion Post 153 and was a proud member of the St. Johns Honor Guard.

Stan was a quiet man of many talents. He was a natural athlete who excelled at golf, football, and baseball, and especially enjoyed playing in bowling leagues. Stan was also a gifted woodworker and made many tables, chairs and cabinets for family and friends in his home shop. He was the lead singer of a quartet during his time in Germany and played the button accordion and guitar during family gatherings. He loved to listen to music and go out dancing with Millie. Stan loved the out-of-doors and was an avid hunter and fisherman.

He will be missed by many, especially his beloved wife of over sixty-five years, Millie Wassa; sons, Tom (Tina) Wassa, Steven Wassa; daughter, Kelly (Ralph) Berghorst; grandchildren, Ryan and Nathaniel Wassa, Dianne (Andrew) and Mike Wassa, Ronnie Berghorst and Tami (Jay) Fradette; great-grandchildren, Bailey, Lydia, Naomi, Levi, Carson, Lynken, Teagan, Taylor and Danielle; 2 great-great grandchildren, as well as nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, James, Frank and Albert Wassa and sister, Mary Jane McNutt.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 109 Linden St, St. Johns on Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 11 AM. The Rev. Fr. Michael Williams presiding. Burial and Military Honors followed at Mt. Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in his name to: St. Joseph Catholic Church, the St. Johns Honor Guard or to ZCBJ Lodge #225, Bannister.

The family was served by McGeehan Funeral Home, St. Johns.



Joelle McGuire Named Memorial Healthcare March EOM

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso - Memorial Healthcare is pleased to announce Joelle McGuire, LMSW, a Social Worker in our Hospice Department, has been selected as our March Employee of the Month. Joelle has been an employee of Memorial Healthcare since October 1994.

According to her winning nomination, "Joelle is and has been an outstanding asset to our team for the past 27 years. On top of her normal everyday work duties, she takes time to counsel staff in times of crisis, sets up Christmas families each year for the community and always supports local community events. Joelle is an amazing listener, someone who will bend over backwards to find solutions in a tough situation and is the true backbone of our department."

Joelle lives in Byron with her husband, Patrick, is the proud mother of daughter, Reilly, son, Aidan and loving grandmother to Dakota. She enjoys camping, reading, traveling and going with friends for "Girl's Night Out". An interesting fact about Joelle is, she was crowned Owosso Ice Queen in 2017 and raised funds for Memorial Healthcare's Hospice program. A special achievement of Joelle's is she received the Joan Mack Award and was Memorial Healthcare's Employee of the Month twice. Her goals and dreams are to one day travel with her husband to Hawaii and Alaska because they are the only states he hasn't been to. Joelle's personal outlook is, "Work hard. Make time for fun. Laugh loud and often and to be kind."

Joelle is quoted on being honored as Employee of the Month, "I am proud of my work at Memorial Healthcare. I am part of an excellent team of nurses, social workers, aides, therapists, office staff and leaders. We all work hard everyday to serve our community and I am honored to have my efforts recognized as Employee of the Month. Thank you!"



Pictured (l-r): Abbie Majzel, Vice President, Talent Management; Joelle McGuire, LMSW, Hospice; Janee Sego, RN, Hospice Manager

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

It appears that today will be one of those "shoulda, coulda, woulda days" for some weird reason I have awoken at a quarter after three. Yes, I did go to bed at a decent hour which was ten last night and yet here I am in a quandary as to why I'm up. Pru zipped out onto the deck and wasn't very pleased with the couple of inches of freshly fallen snow that covered it. She came right back in, as did the two felines that scampered in after refusing my hospitality last night.

Now I do wish that I had taken the time to fish the kitty litter cover out of the ditch when I had the opportunity yesterday. I have trimmed back one of the house plants that has survived the attack of the felines and it will be ready to be re-potted in a couple of weeks. The Bunn just delivered my first cup of coffee and now I may be ready to face a new day. I woke up knowing that I should whip together a double batch of chocolate chip walnut cookies so that I could do the baking later in the day, I just don't understand why my day is starting three hours earlier than usual. It is a mystery.

Oh well, onward and upwards! I have been going through storage boxes and sorting... I wonder if I will ever get finished or must admit that I belong to the generation of "will use it again" and" have no need to dispose of it yet". Just gave away about five boxes of books and another three of mixed stuff like dishes and decorations. I just sorted through three boxes of DVDs and am keeping one full box and the rest will either be listed online or sold at a yard sale or perhaps given to St Vincent's, who knows what I will decide.

There was a typo error on the listing for the 2003 F-150 Ford Triton pickup, so if anyone out there is interested the phone or text number is (989) 307-8726. I believe that it has 183,000 miles, I just had the cooling system flushed and the thermostat replaced and I also put in a new battery. It runs well and even drives smoother than my Silverado, but I love my Silverado. I'm asking \$3,300 for the F-150 and if you call please leave a message and I will return your call ASAP. If you text I can text you a photo of the vehicle. Enough said.

I have been wanting to get me a car so that I can go further afield without breaking the bank, my Silverado gets about seventeen miles per gallon and was fine when gas was under \$3.50 a gallon or less, but gas has become much more expensive. So I'm adding a newer more fuel efficient vehicle, a roomy little hatchback for daily and long distance runs. I use the pickup for straw, rock, and feed runs and also for going over to get organic peat and potting soil. Or to pick up trees, etcetera. Finances will be a bit tight for the next couple of months and I won't get the credit card paid off in March as I had anticipated, such is life. But I will be using less gasoline and doing more traveling before I need to settle down and be serious about my farmer's markets. I thoroughly enjoy my farmer's markets.

My dining room table is filled with dishes, DVDs, and children's books. I also have an estimate for the removal of the cottonwood tree. I need to call back and let Ferrall's know what I want to do. I hate to say it but I have changed my mind on what exactly I want done. The children's books will go to Isabella, Japanese dishes to Noah, and a few of the DVDs will go to Noah and some to Bob. Gradually the overabundance of stuff is making my domicile roomier and ready for some new drywall. I even have a volunteer to help me with my drywall projects. Wahoo!!! I am blessed.

I finally found a for sale sign to put on the pickup and got it home. I was surprised that Dollar General does not carry the signs. Of course I couldn't find my Sharpie and was ready to go and purchase some. I got lucky this morning and found one in the top drawer of my computer desk. Yes, I had looked in the same place, twice and couldn't find it...must be my karma is working better this morning. Hopefully my replacement debit card will be here this morning and maybe the insurance checks for the rebates...that would be another set of blessings.

May your days be filled with good opportunities and many blessings. God bless. Look to the future and learn from your past.

Crystal Mitchell©2022



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster

theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Founding Father, Farmer, and Conservationist

Recently the Weekly Sportsman traveled to Washington, D.C. and was able to spend a morning walking the gardens and fields at Mt. Vernon. Most Americans probably think of George Washington as a military general or as the first president or maybe even surveyor. Very few would say farmer, but that is what he wanted to be most remembered as, and after visiting Mt. Vernon it quickly became obvious he was a conservationist and over 150 years ahead of his time.

Initially the primary crop Washington grew on his five farms, including Mt. Vernon, was tobacco but he quickly learned it was not a sustainable crop to grow because it was hard on the soil and the market was very fickle. Believing in protecting the soil and water he switched to wheat and other grains along with vegetables. Using a seven year crop rotation, accompanied by applications of compost, Washington was able to have higher yields and not deplete the soil while at the same time providing crops for Mt. Vernon's residents, laborers, and livestock.

Pastures, with split rail fencing, were rotated around the estate whereas some animals, like the 450 hogs, were allowed to be free range and roam woodlots along with fallow fields.

Washington did not believe in clearing woodlots for additional cropland and preferred to improve the existing soil if higher yields were desired. Understanding the value provided in wildlife, fuel, and building supplies he insisted that only dead or fallen trees be cut.

It didn't take long walking around to observe Washington's sustainable agrarian practices used at Mt. Vernon in the 1700's. Yes, he may have been a Founding Father of our country but upon closer examination he was also a father to modern day sustainable agriculture and conservation. He believed in permanently taking care of the land, along with other natural resources, with the long term goal of making small tracts of land profitable. It behooves any small scale farmers or homesteaders to take a trip to Mt. Vernon or stay at home and read some writings of Washington or books on Mt. Vernon. While Washington's work certainly isn't a one stop shop conservation solution it certainly is a piece of the puzzle to working with the soil and nature instead of fighting it.

-WS

Frederick Says Thank You

Letter to the Editor:

Thank you to the many kind people who have inquired about my plans as my final term in the House concludes at the end of this year.

While I do not have a definite answer as yet about what is next (and am perfectly at peace and comfortable with that), I can say with certainty that I will not be pursuing elected office this year. This means that for the first time since 2005 I will not be on the ballot in Shiawassee County. A strange concept to me and one which carries both anticipation and mystery given its departure from the longtime "normal" for my family.

I will spare readers the myriad rundown as to why and say simply that this decision is the best one for my family - particularly at this time in my children's development. It's time.

I am anticipating a productive remaining nine months as your representative. Thank you, as always, for entrusting me with the honor of serving this region - first as the "new kid" and now as the "much-less-new kid." Thanks for giving me that chance so long ago and supporting me and my family in the years that followed.

There is one thing I can say with certainty: Whatever the future brings, our very own "this old house" a couple blocks north of downtown Owosso will remain our home. We're not going anywhere.

Blessings to you and yours,
Ben Frederick
State Representative



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

Radon Check is Necessary

Dear Andy,

Getting over the COVID financial hit and now the economic changes due to world circumstances, my sister and her children needed to move into my finished basement. I felt for safety's sake I should get the lead levels in our water and a Radon test ordered. I am glad that I did. Our water was fine. The Radon level was 4 x's above normal. Should I let my neighbors know that we have high levels of Radon in our soil and suggest they test their property.

LeeAnn B.

Dear LeeAnn B.,

In response to both issues your mentioned: 1) Very kind of you to let family in to live with you. It can be difficult or a blessing depending on if it is temporary or long term. Set guidelines and make compromises. Don't let frustration of the little things build up. Some things are just "what it is!" "Let it go." "Don't sweat the small stuff." Children are resilient and flexible but can be affected emotionally by just making the move. They need to nest in their own new space so they can get a feeling of belonging. You are the lucky one to be able to offer the option of their family staying and living together.

Sharing homes and expenses are happening all over the country. It is a necessary transition for many families. Extended families to care about and shared chores are some of the positive rewards. Merge the family with few meals together each week and plan a family night for a movie or games.

2) As for the RADON testing in the neighborhood...I agree that it would be a responsible action to take by letting others know of the likelihood that they also may have high levels of Radon. If you live in a neighborhood that has a Facebook or Web site, post the information immediately. You could make a flyer explaining the process of testing and help educate your neighbors on the dangers of Radon gases.

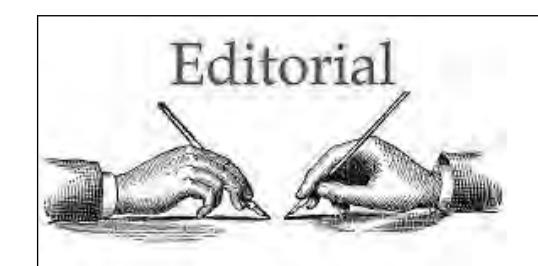
Radon is a natural build up of radioactive gas from the decay of uranium found in most all soils. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Surgeon General, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. The gas is odorless, colorless, and tasteless. Radon typically invade homes over 25 years old or home with cracks, drains or foundation deterioration in their basement walls.

Seventy-five percent of states in the U.S. such as Pennsylvania have a building requirement to have a Radon removal system installed to qualify for an occupancy permit. If you find you have high levels of radon and cannot immediately afford a Mitigation Reduction Unit, make sure you do not smoke in your home and have fans circulate the air you breath. Another precaution can be taken by sealing all cracks in the floors, walls. If you are buying a new house: ask about radon-resistant precautions or installations. It can be expensive to mitigate the gas later.

To pick up a Radon kit go to a hardware store and for about \$25.00 you can purchase one. Or go to your county Health Department - no Charge. Then mail it to State Health Department. Directions are on the box. In most counties there are no charges for testing. More information can be found on www.nrsb.org and www.radongas.org.

If you need a recommendation for a Radon reduction unit to be installed after your testing, email Andy. My team has done some research for our area and we can make some affordable referrals.

Ask_andy@aol.com



Senior Spotlight



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2022 Older Michiganians Day & Senior Action Week

May 9-13

Older Michiganians Day is the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan annual Advocacy Day at the Capitol. It is traditionally an exciting day to join with other advocates at the capitol, contributing our voices in support of older adults. In 2022, there will be a small in person presence from our Michigan Senior Advocates Council members on Wednesday, May 11. There will be many opportunities for additional advocacy throughout that week and beyond as the aging network focuses on these policy priorities:

- Protect and Promote the Aging Network
- Rebalancing Long-term Care Funding
- Support Direct Care Workers
- Partner with Healthcare

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Long Term Care Rehabilitation Center Hospice/Respite Care

Senior Center Seeks 300 Piece Puzzles

submitted by Brenda Terpening

One of the most popular winter activities of senior citizens is putting together puzzles, and most seniors that come to the Clinton County Senior Center like the 300 piece ones. Two weeks ago the center received a large donation of them, but they are now all gone. If you would like to donate any puzzles to the center, you can drop them off at 201 E Walker Street in St. Johns on Monday, Tuesday or Friday between the hours of 9 am - 3 pm. If you need them picked up, please call 989-224-4257 and someone will get back with you.



Senior Citizens Welcome at Senior Center

submitted by Brenda Terpening

The Clinton County Senior Center invites senior citizens in the area to come to the center for programs and nutritional meals. The Center, located at 201 E Walker Street in St. Johns is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays between 9 am - 3 pm. On Mondays they have a public fundraising lunch from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm for \$6. Volunteers come in each Monday and make the full meal, with 2 homemade pies donated by volunteer bakers. After lunch there is a Euchre Tournament from 1-3 pm (cost is \$2 per person). On Tuesdays and Fridays a nutritional meal is served at noon for a \$3.50 donation. Bingo (\$1.50 per person) follows at 12:30 pm.

Individuals are also welcome to use the exercise bikes and treadmill in the Exercise Room, work on a puzzle that is always ongoing or just come in and socialize with other seniors. The Center also has 2 Gift Shops where individuals can shop for homemade items, glassware, greeting cards, puzzles, books and much more. If you have any questions about the Senior Center their phone number is 989-224-4257.

A Matter of Balance



A MATTER OF BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERN ABOUT FALLS

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns about Falls in an interactive workshop which aims to reduce fall risk, increase physical activity, and reduce the fear of falling in older adults. The workshop includes exercises to improve balance, strength, coordination, and stability but the workshop is not solely an exercise class.

Where: United Church of Ovid
131 W. Front St.

Meet in the Family Center

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 5 – April 28, 2022 from 9:30 – 11:30 am

COVID Consideration: Limited to 12 participants. Masks required. Additional spacing between participants. Do not attend if you aren't feeling well, have COVID, or have been exposed to COVID.

Free of charge but donations accepted

To register: Call Tri-County Office on Aging at 517-887-1465. Pre-registration is required.

Workshop offered in partnership with MSU Extension

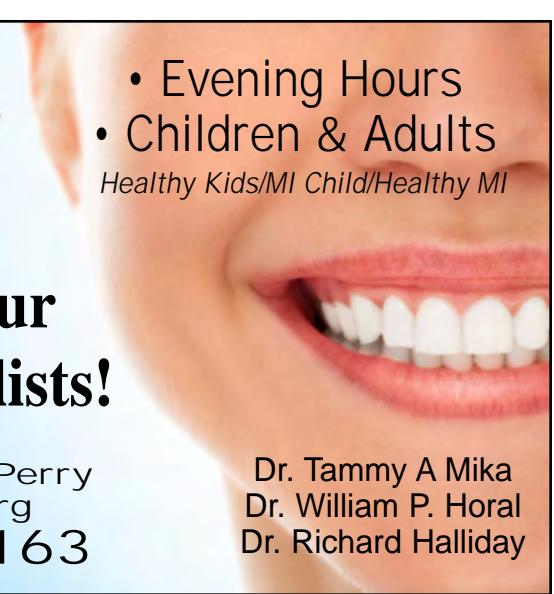


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New Exhibit at Shiawassee Arts Center

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Center opened its second exhibit of 2022 featuring the work of artists from "It's All About Cats" Group, Shiawassee Artists' Guild, Gary Mulnix of Owosso and SAC Instructor's Exhibit. The exhibit, runs through April 24, is sponsored by Randy and Molly Woodworth.

It's All about Cats! Tabbies, Calicos, Tortoise Shells, Siamese, Manx, Maine Coon, Selkirk Rex! Honored over the centuries. Written about by poets. Sung about in opera. Featured across the internet. And the purrfect subject matter for artful expression. This show brings together the work of three visual artists (Scott Yukio Fergus, painter, Laura B DeLind, printmaker, and Doug DeLind, ceramic sculptor) and three performance artists (poet Anita Skeen and singers Connie Page and Kelly Boyle) all in a celebration of cats. During the show's opening reception, Skeen will hold a poetry reading of her cat-themed work, and Page and Boyle will sing a few of their favorite cat songs. If you are interested in art, love the spoken word, and have a fondness for cats, this show is for you. Come as you are or add a few whiskers and a tail.

The Shiawassee Artists' Guild is a group of sixteen artists and art lovers, Debbie Auble, Bonnie Brown, Dan Chrenka, Jeanne Curtis, Chris Frank, Marie Gougeon, Linda Justice, Jann Lardie, Susan McGuire, Regina Moskal, Sue Newcom, Nancy Parrish, Linda Ruehle, Jennifer Ross, Linda Van Cise and Barbara Walworth, who share a passion for creativity and a multitude of talents. Their theme for the exhibit is called "Patterns."

Blood Drive

Duplain Church of Christ will be hosting a Blood Drive through the American Red Cross on April 26, 2022. All church members as well as those in the community are invited to give blood on this day. It will start at 12:00 pm and end at 6:00 pm. There is a National Blood shortage right now, so we encourage all who are eligible to please donate. You can sign up for a time slot online, by visiting redcrossblood.org.



Gary Mulnix

Gary Mulnix grew up on a small farm in Michigan growing flowers most of his life. After leaving art school, he focused on sculpture, using a drab green oil-based clay to create figurative and botanical sculptures. One dark and snowy February, Mulnix decided that he needed color in his life and dug out a box of unopened chalk pastels. His pastel exhibit "Flower Garden: Close up!" is all about flowers and color!

Showcasing SAC's Instructor-Artists this year in the Docent Gallery will be ten artists, Andrea Czarnik, Lisabeth Curnow, Arthur Johns, Natalie Park, Julie Penfold, Jim Reinert, Jennifer Ross, Linda Ruehle, Philip Ruehle and Linda Van Cise, displaying their work in a variety of different mediums.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2022, is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso and open to the public free of charge, Monday through Friday 10-5pm, weekends 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. SAC 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.



Susan McGuire



Saving for the American dreams

Roth IRA can help you save for retirement and your children's education

Chris and Heather want to help their young son go to college someday. They also want to retire when they're 65 – but they don't know how they can save for both dreams.

A Roth IRA could provide flexibility. You can withdraw contributions tax-free from your Roth IRA at any time. Pay only income taxes on earnings withdrawn before you're age 59 if the money is used for college expenses. If your child doesn't go to college or receives a full scholarship, the money remains in your Roth IRA for retirement.

Save for the future while maintaining some flexibility for college expenses. A Modern Woodmen of America financial representative can help you determine if a Roth IRA could help you achieve your dreams.

Let's start the conversation.

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C 517-896-5338
edward.j.arthur@mwarep.org

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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 Prevention 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

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Sports

Expanded Schedules for Prep Sports Approved by MHSAA

EAST LANSING — The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) has announced they will expand regular season schedules for boys and girls basketball. And they'll allow baseball and softball teams to play tournament games before Memorial Day.

The announcement comes just days after the MHSAA Representative Council's Winter Meetings in East Lansing.

In a ruling that takes effect next season, boys and girls basketball will now be allowed to play a maximum of 22 regular season games (and increase from the current 20 games), and shorten the amount of preseason practice time from 21 days to 14 days. Many coaches were in favor of this change because it will help allow them to play in more tournaments / jamborees around Christmas / New Year's Day. This rule change covers all levels of high school play (varsity, junior varsity, and freshmen).

Another part of the ruling that takes effect this spring is the change that will allow district games in baseball and softball before Memorial Day. Historically, the state tournament has always started the Tuesday after Memorial Day with pre-district games. This change addresses concerns from baseball coaches regarding the pitch count rule for pitchers and will allow athletes from smaller schools a better chance to play multiple sports in the same spring season (baseball and track, softball and track, etc.).

For the first time, there will be specific events for wheelchair athletes in track and cross country. That ruling takes effect this spring as well.

Beginning this coming fall, high school football teams will be allowed to "opt up" a division and be allowed to play a division above where their enrollment has them currently. Boys and girls basketball teams have been opting up a class / division for years to try to play better competition in the postseason tournaments. Now football teams will be allowed to do the same thing.



Marauder Boys Basketball Team Earns Final Ranking of 6th in Mid-Michigan

After 16-4 Finish

OVID-ELSIE — Congratulations to Williamston's Hornets for winning their first state title since 1940 with a thrilling 68-65 victory over defending Division 2 state champion Grand Rapids Catholic Central on March 26 at the Breslin Center.

It capped off an exciting season in the Mid-Michigan area which saw Ovid-Elsie, East Lansing, Williamston, Ionia, Olivet, Pewamo-Westphalia and Webberville win league titles. It also saw East Lansing, Okemos, Williamston, Lansing Catholic, Pewamo-Westphalia, Bath, and Fulton win district titles. While Williamston, Pewamo-Westphalia, Bath, and Fulton won regional titles. Congratulations to all of them.

Coach Josh Latz's O-E Marauders finished a sterling 16-4 season in District action, and earned a 6th-place rating for all of mid-Michigan, as determined by Lansing-area media. The final poll looked like this, from #10 to #1:

10. Lansing Catholic (14-11): The Cougars upset Sexton, Ionia, and Eastern to win the district title. And then knocked off Marshall before losing to eventual state champion Williamston.

9. Webberville (16-6): The Spartans were surprisingly upset in the Division 4 district finals by Fulton, 75-49. A tough way to end the season when they were red-hot coming into the state tournament.

8. Bath (17-7): The Fighting Bees made it all the way to the Division 3 quarterfinals before losing to Ecorse, 80-49.

7. Ionia (16-5): The Bulldogs were upset by Lansing Catholic, 57-55, in their opening district game. A sour end to an excellent season as they won the CAAC White for the second year in a row.

6. Ovid-Elsie (16-4): The Marauders lost to Chesaning in the district semifinals, 51-50. A tough way to end a terrific season for O-E.

5. Olivet (19-2): The Eagles got knocked out in their first district game, 59-53, by Battle Creek Harper Creek in an upset.

4. East Lansing (18-5): East Lansing rallied to beat Grand Ledge to win the district. But they lost to Okemos in the regional semifinals, a disappointing end to a really good season.

3. Pewamo-Westphalia (20-5) The Pirates won the Division 3 regional and had the lead on eventual state champ Schoolcraft in the quarterfinals, but eventually lost. Head coach Dominic Schneider has kept going what Luke Pohl started years ago. They'll be a factor again next year with a younger squad.

2. Okemos (19-5): The Chiefs beat East Lansing in the regional semifinals but fell to Kalamazoo Central in the regional final in overtime.

1. Williamston (27-0): The Hornets battled foul trouble, missed free throws, fatigue, and a tremendous 16-point comeback from defending state champ Grand Rapids Catholic Central to win the Division 2 state title, 68-65, in overtime at the Breslin Center.

It's the Hornets' first state title since 1940.

Lady Wolfpack's Strieff Named to Division 3 All-State Cage Team

LAINGSBURG — LHS standout rebounder Lorna Strieff has been named to the Michigan Division 3 All-State girls basketball team.

Strieff joined New Lothrop's Alexis Miller and Durand's Jordyn Lawrence as local players who were selected as All-State honorable mentions in Division 3, by the Associated Press.

Strieff, a senior for coach Doug Hurst's Wolfpack, was the only Shiawassee-area player to average a double-double per contest (10.0 points, 11.2 rebounds). She set the LHS record for most rebounds in a season with 247.

Miller had an excellent sophomore year for New Lothrop, scoring 14.9 points with 4.2 rebounds. Lawrence, a junior from Durand, averaged 14.8 points, 3.8 rebounds and 2.0 assists for the Railroaders.



Gulick Nursing Scholarship Applications Available

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso, Michigan — Memorial Healthcare Foundation is currently accepting applications for the annual Margaret Gulick Nursing scholarship. This scholarship was established in honor of Margaret (Peggy) Gulick, former President & CEO of Memorial Healthcare, for her many years of dedication and commitment to the nursing profession and Memorial Healthcare.

"The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage deserving applicants to pursue studies in the field of nursing, to enter the registered nursing profession, and to encourage these individuals to seek employment at Memorial Healthcare upon graduation," said Brigitte Gurdan, Executive Director of the Foundation.

This \$2,500 scholarship is awarded to assist the recipient with tuition and book expenses and is paid directly to the educational institution. In addition to other eligibility criteria, applicants must already be accepted into a nursing program before being considered for a scholarship.

Applications and policy information are located at www.MemorialHealthcare.org under "Foundation News". Applications will be accepted April 1 – May 27, 2022. Recipients will be announced on July 6, 2022.

Watch for the upcoming Spring Sports Preview in the Meridian Weekly!
This section includes teams from Ashley, Laingsburg and Ovid-Elsie!
If you would like to advertise your business in this section call 989-834-2264 or email ads@meridianweekly.com

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Shown, from left, are Perry Township Supervisor Mark Fulks, Rep. Frederick, Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership President and CEO Justin Horvath, and SEDP Vice President Brent Jones.

Rep. Ben Frederick First Two-Time Recipient of Award

submitted by Christina Doerr

Lansing, Michigan – State Representative Ben Frederick (R-Owosso) is recognized as a 2022 Legislative Economic Development Champion (LEDC) by the Michigan Economic Developers Association (MEDA). The award was presented to him on March 3rd during the Association's Capitol Day event at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. This is his second LEDC Award as he was also recognized in 2020.

MEDA is a professional society with members throughout the state that attract and grow business, create, and retain jobs, and make our communities a better place to live. The Awards were developed in 2020 by the Association to recognize legislators that show a passion for championing economic development work by assisting economic development efforts that affect the entire state, assisting with local economic development projects, championing support for funding related to economic development programs and services, participating with their local economic development organization, or sponsoring economic development legislation. Seven other legislators from Michigan's House of Representatives and Senate were awarded in 2022.

Representative Frederick's nomination from MEDA's Advocacy Committee came from his sponsorship of House Bill 5602, 5603, and 5604, all of which provided new tools that economic developers can use to attract and grow business and jobs in Michigan. These were a part of a package of bills that helped to create the Critical Industry Program (CIP) and the Strategic Site Readiness (SSRP) program as well as the fund that supports them, the Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve (SOAR) Fund, in the amount of \$1 billion. These bills were welcomed by the economic development community in Michigan to help in the State's continued recovery following the pandemic.

We look forward to Representative Frederick's continued leadership in championing economic development policy for Michigan.

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Sparrow Receives Largest Donation in its History to Expand Precision Medicine Program

submitted by John Foren

LANSING, MI – James and Judith Herbert of Lansing have made a \$5-million donation, the largest in Sparrow's history, to establish an endowment for the advancement of genomics and precision medicine at the Sparrow Herbert-Herman Cancer Center.

The donation to the Sparrow Foundation is earmarked to create The Genomics Endowment for Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer and provides for a new Director of Cancer Genomics at Sparrow to oversee and grow the program. Growth of the genomics program at the Sparrow Herbert-Herman Cancer Center will profoundly impact people from across Mid-Michigan for decades to come.

The Herbarts are both cancer survivors themselves and were among the lead donors to Sparrow's campaign to build a new cancer center in 2014. The Herbert-Herman Cancer Center opened in 2017.

The Herbarts made the first of 101 individual gifts to Sparrow in 1995; their commitment to cancer care began in 2008-2009 with the creation of an outdoor terrace for cancer patients and their families.

James Herbert is the founder of Neogen Corp., and has been a national leader in food and animal safety research. He and his wife have long promoted the value of genomics and precision medicine, which involves the use of a patient's genomic information to personalize care. In cancer patients, it means analyzing the specific makeup of a tumor to guide care, rather than applying a one-size-fits-all approach.

Sparrow is Mid-Michigan's leader in precision medicine and was recently selected to participate in a landmark clinical trial using precision medicine techniques on breast cancer patients. The clinical trial also includes such institutions as the Mayo Clinic and Cleveland Clinic.

The Herbarts want others to share in their dedication and lend their support to exceptional local cancer care through the endowment. They say they are indebted to Sparrow for the care they've received over the years and for keeping leading-edge medicine and highly skilled physicians close to home so Mid-Michigan residents don't have to travel out of town for exceptional treatment.

Learn more at BuildingSparrow.org or Sparrow.org/Cancer.

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Sunday, August 28th starting at 12:00 - 12:30, and eat at 1:00 - 1:30 pm, at the St. Johns City Park/ Main Pavilion.

"Bring a Dish to Pass and Your Own Beverage...

All Paper Products will be provided, Plates, Napkins, Bowls, & Silverware. Table cloths, Name tags, and **Rubber Gloves will be provided for the Buffet Table.

Any Questions: You May contact Rick Knight @ 989-224-8944 and or Jan Chick @ 989-630-9021

Looking forward to seeing EVERYONE!

Volunteers Needed!

The Art and Soul Gallery is looking for some friendly volunteers!

We are looking for some bright and cheerful faces to help out with customers and events throughout the year! This will allow us to stay open for longer hours and create more fundraising events in the community to keep the gallery going. We are looking for people who can donate their time and energy for a couple of hours a week or even a couple of hours a month. We will work with your schedule!

If you or someone you know would enjoy helping our non-profit organization and see a greater art presence in the community, please contact Theressa Levett at 989-224-2429 or email her at Clintoncountyarts1@gmail.com.

You can also stop in at the gallery at 215 N Clinton Ave. here in Saint Johns. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Moolenaar Announces 2022 Congressional Art Competition

Congressman John Moolenaar invites all high school students from Michigan's Fourth Congressional District to enter their art in the 2022 Congressional Art Competition.

The winning student from the Fourth District will have their art displayed at the U.S. Capitol for a year. It is also possible that the Congressional Institute, which runs the competition, will hold an event in Washington D.C. later this year to honor winning students from across the country. If the event is held, the winning student from the Fourth District will receive two round-trip airline tickets to travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the event.

All entries will be displayed at the Midland Center for the Arts after the competition ends. Regional winners from the Fourth District will have the opportunity for their art to be displayed in Congressman Moolenaar's Midland and Cadillac offices.

The entry deadline for this year's Fourth District contest is Friday, April 8, 2022. Entries should be mailed or delivered to Congressman Moolenaar's Midland office at 200 East Main Street, Suite 230, Midland, MI 48640.

More information on the rules and how to enter the art competition is online at <https://moolenaar.house.gov/artcompetition>. Interested students who need assistance transporting their art to Midland or who have additional questions on the competition should contact Congressman Moolenaar's Midland office at 989-631-2552.

Michigan's Fourth Congressional District is made up of Clare, Clinton, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon, Shiawassee, and Wexford counties, and parts of Montcalm and Saginaw counties.

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Stephanie Levey, OE Youth Baseball/Softball Leader accepting \$300 check from Elsie Lions president Rick Jones.

Photos by Richard Easlick



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LAINGSBURG SCHOOLS
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We are excited to announce that it's that time of year again! Laingsburg Community Schools is compiling a list of students for our annual KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, **APRIL 20 & 21**. If you have a child, who will be five years of age by September 1, 2022, please contact the Early Childhood Education Center at **517-651-3100** or Laingsburg Elementary at **517-651-5067** to register. Students currently in Laingsburg's Wolf Pup's Preschool will need to attend Round-up. We have your names for registration already. **If you do not plan on your child attending Laingsburg Community Schools in the fall, please let us know as soon as possible so we can remove their name from the list.** A waiver is also available for those who miss the September 1 deadline but will be 5 by December 1. Once again we will also have Developmental Kindergarten.



Families of registered students will be mailed a packet informing them of the date and time their child is scheduled to attend Round-up as well as what paperwork they will need to bring. Should you have any questions, please contact Sue Bates at the elementary school.

Contact 517-651-3100 or 517-651-5067 for more information