

Meridian Weekly

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12 PAGES

New Events During Ovid Carriage Days

by Deb Price

Plans are being finalized for the Ovid Carriage Days Festival which will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 9th, 10th and 11th in downtown Ovid.

Two new events, a corn-hole and arm wrestling tournament will take place on Saturday. The corn-hole event will take place on West Front Street, the organizer of the event is Zac Loynes. The Arm wrestling event organizer is Lloyd McMaster and will take place in the Ovid Lions/VFW Hall. Watch for more details on both of these in the next couple weeks.

Participants for the BBQ Rib & Chili Cook-Off, Parade and Pretty Porch are still being accepted. Applications for these events can be found online at www.ovidcarriagedays.com/registration. Pre-sale amusement ride tickets are now available for \$20 (\$25 during festival) at the Meridian Weekly office, Eatery 21 and Ovid City Hall. Raffle tickets are also available for \$20 each. The cash raffle will offer a \$1,500 first prize, \$750 for second and \$350 for third. The drawing will be held on Sunday, September 11th in the Entertainment Tent at 4pm. Tickets are available at the Meridian Weekly office, from any Committee Member and will be sold during the festival.

The festival will offer "free" entertainment all weekend. On Friday, Darin Larner Jr. will open for a "Forever Elvis Tribute" featuring three Elvis impersonators from the 60's, 70's and 80's. Beginning at noon on Saturday, music will begin with the Kathy Ford Band, followed by Kurt Dahlberg and rounding out the night with Global Village. The music continues on Sunday at noon with country music by Double Wide Ride and taking the stage to conclude the weekend will be the Father/Daughter Duo, Ray and Rachael Rodriguez.

Ovid will be the place to be during Carriage Days. The festival will offer something for everyone. Family Fun Tyme will provide the midway and promises to offer rides for the little ones to the thrilling ones for teens and adults. Other popular returning events will include Citywide garage sales, Treasure Sale at United Church, arts and crafts, kiddie tractor pull and cement tractor pull, light parade, Lions Chicken Dinner, Historical Museum Open House and more.

For more information visit ovidcarriagedays.com or stop into the Meridian Weekly.



Positive Activities Taking Place in Elsie

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – The Elsie Village Council held their monthly meeting Tuesday, August 9, at the Duplain Township Hall. There are a number of very positive activities taking place in the Village.

Shane Grinnell, village manager reported that Twin Lakes Nursery from Grand Rapids was contracted by Ovid-Elsie Area Schools to work on the athletic complex. The school is in need of water for hydro seeding and entered into an agreement with the Village. Grinnell requested that they develop a quote for Hero Park which is in progress. After evaluating the needs Twin Lakes Nursery donated their services to landscape the Hero park.

Grinnell reported that at the monthly manager's meeting the discussion of digital signs came up and it was discovered that there is a company where a sign could be purchased for approximately \$7,000. Officials discussed making this a community based project and providing access to local governmental units, fire department, community and service groups. If everybody works together the cost to the Village could be minimal. This item will be placed on the agenda as an action item.

Bonnie Goupil, Fall Festival chairperson, updated officials on the status of annual Fall Festival slated for October 1, 2022, 10 am – 4 pm. Vendors and entertainment are being secured as well as a golf cart show. It was noted that the proceeds and donations will go to the Elsie Food Pantry.

Val Vail-Shirey, Republican candidate for the Clinton County Commission, was present to introduce herself and to meet the members of the council.

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Randy Barton Named Interim Superintendent

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – A special meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held Tuesday, August 9, 2022 for the purpose of accepting retirements and resignations and addressing the interim superintendents contract. All members of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education addressed approximately 90 staff members, Administrators and members of the public.

Steve Sopocy opened public comment by recommending that an interim superintendent who is not associated with the district be hired. In addition, that all administrators speak to law enforcement regarding district gas usage. Indicating that taking this action this will help reestablish public trust.

Next, Mrs Kelly Nethaway thanked the board for having microphones available for board members. In addition, she asked that the board consider public comment at the beginning and at the end of each meeting like St. Johns.

Officials addressed recent personnel changes. Action was taken to accept the letter of retirement submitted by Dr. Ryan Cunningham, superintendent of Ovid-Elsie Area Schools. The letter was accepted with regrets. Effective August 31, 2022.

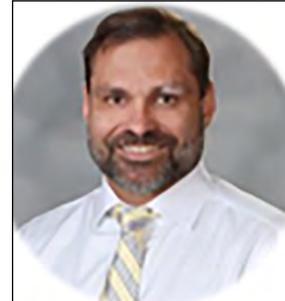
Next, officials accepted a number of resignations: Jesse Johnson athletic director, effective August 12, 2022; Craig Colemen, Director of Operations effective August 18, 2022; Justin Flohardy – middle school science teacher and Kimberly Hewitt, middle school language arts teacher.

Finally, the recommendation was made to name Randy Barton as the interim superintendent of Ovid-Elsie Area Schools effective September 1, 2022. A roll vote rendered a unanimous vote.

Officials took action to enter into closed session for the purpose of attorney/client privilege discussion, approximately 6:39 pm

Upon returning in open session at 7:54 officials took action to retain the services of Recon Management Group LLC to further review and investigate the use of untaxed school fuel. A letter of engagement will be entered into.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.



Randy Barton



"DOZINKY" Czechoslovak Harvest Festival

by Dawn D Levey

BANNISTER – Sunday, August 7, 2022 marked the 46th anniversary of the Bannister ZCBJ Czechoslovakian Harvest Festival. Though it had been two years since a festival had been held the people came to enjoy the cultural experience, food, dance, music and fellowship. It was noted that in that 46-year period it has never rained during the program, it had rained before and after. However, 2022, the program was to happen rain or shine – rain won. The MC and host of the festivities – Thomas Bradley and Robert Ladiski.

The Bannister Lodge supports the local Ovid-Elsie High School radio station WOES. The station broadcasts Czechoslovak music, and German and Polish music, 91.3 FM. A \$2,000 check was awarded to the station.

See page 8 for more photos (Photos by Dawn D. Levey)



SUMMER MARKET: Thursday, August 18th 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm

A special, one-of-a-kind outdoor Summer Market event!

Join us for an evening of shopping & support sellers of locally grown produce, handmade crafts & artisan goods.

Need Info? Call 989-292-4711 or facebook.com/iqhub



Location: The IQhub and AgroLiquid Headquarters,
3055 W. M-21, St Johns, MI

VENDOR REGISTRATION:

Vendor application
and additional info
can be found at
www.iqhubag.org

PUBLIC NOTICE
STORAGE WILL BE REMOVED
Storage facility location: 300 W. Main Street Elsie, Michigan 48831
Unit #A17-9
Timeline and actions taken
Communication to Tenant:
USPS
Notice of non-compliance mail out:
2022-07-18
Notice of non-compliance received:
Not delivered - Return to Sender
Settlement date to resolve non-compliance
dispute: 2022-08-02
Public notice of sale or other disposition:
FIRST NOTICE: 2022-08-07
Public notice of sale or other disposition:
SECOND NOTICE: 2022-08-14
Newspaper contracted to publish notice to
the public: The Weekly
Contents of the unit will be removed:
2022-08-25
Description of unit contents:
Miscellaneous items with or without
personal or familial value. Some items
may or may not be in individual containers.
Owner/manager actions: All items will be
sold and/or discarded. Upon removal of
all items the unit will be restored to a
functional, safe condition, making this
unit available to other prospective tenants.
This action is pursuant to self-storage facility
act 570.521 1986-March-31,
State of Michigan.

Trail Life Troop MI - 2717 Open House

submitted by Courtney
Miller

Trail Life is a Church-Based, Christ-Centered, Boy-Focused mentoring and discipleship group that focuses on leadership training and outdoor adventure for boys Kindergarten through 12th grade. Trail Life Troop MI-2717 meets at Grove Bible Church, 6900 E. Price Road, St. Johns, on Mondays at 6:30 pm starting September 12. Come to our open house at 6:30 pm on Monday, August 29 to see what Trail Life is all about.

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Owner/Stylist Meri Smith
Manicurist/Stylist Erica Nichols
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NEW HOURS: Starting June 1st
By appointment only
Wed-Thur-Fri
Handicap Accessible

Corner Carousel

133 S. Main St. Ovid

Stylists: Patty Coleson, Colleen Pennell,
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Matrix, Paul Mitchell, Malibu, Redken, Biolage

Whirlpool Pedicure Spa
Tanning Facilities • Tanning Lotions • Gift Certificates Available
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Social

Memorial Healthcare's Popular Walk-In Sports Injury Clinic Returns

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso, Michigan - With the start of the fall sports season, Dr. Ashraf Elbanna, Orthopedic Surgeon at Memorial Healthcare Center for Orthopedics, will once again host a Monday walk-in clinic to access orthopedic sports injuries for adolescent and high school athletes. This year, Certified Athletic Trainer Allan Goetzinger will join Dr. Elbanna in the evaluation and treatment of athletes.

This clinic will be held every Monday, starting August 15, and concluding October 17. Athletes will be seen on a walk-in basis from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at Memorial Healthcare Center for Orthopedics, located in the NOW building at 819 N. Shiawassee Street in Owosso. In the event an injury arises Tuesday through Thursday, please call the office for advanced scheduling.

This clinic provides services to evaluate injuries, to help keep athletes healthy while getting them back on track. We are able to guarantee x-rays for immediate review and upon insurance authorization, patients can be scheduled for an MRI, CT scan or any other further imaging needs. This clinic allows for treatment at a more cost-effective rate rather than an emergency department visit.

Dr. Elbanna is a graduate of Wayne State University School of Medicine. He is Board Certified in orthopedic surgery and completed a Fellowship in Sports Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Elbanna has worked with national sports teams including the Cleveland Cavaliers, Cleveland Indians, University of Notre Dame, and Marygrove College. Allan Goetzinger is a licensed certified athletic trainer with 15 years of experience evaluating and treating athletes at Memorial Healthcare's Outpatient Rehabilitation Department and Owosso High School. Educated at Central Michigan University, Allan has gained valuable experience with CMU wrestling, volleyball, and field hockey. He has also worked with the Northwood University football team and the Tampa Bay Storm, a professional arena football team.

Parental consent is required before treatment and fees are applied with insurance being billed. For more information, please call Memorial Healthcare Center for Orthopedics at (989) 541-BONE.

Community Fish Fry

submitted by Courtney Miller

Grove Bible Church, 6990 E. Price Road, St. Johns (next to Sleepy Hollow State Park) is hosting a Fish Fry on Saturday, September 24th. All are invited and there is no cost to attend. Besides a meal and dessert, there will be door prizes and the opportunity to hear former Detroit Tiger pitcher Frank Tanana speak about baseball and faith. To help us get a count for the dinner, please RSVP at (517) 651-5729.

Ovid-Elsie Dance and Tumbling

ENROLL NOW!! Classes Start August 29th

Classes will be held at
Leonard Elementary &
E.E. Knight Elementary
We offer Tap, Tumbling,
Hip Hop/Jazz and Ballet

Registration information can be found on
Ovid-Elsie Dance and Tumbling's Facebook page, by
emailing ovidelsiedanceandtumbling@gmail.com
or calling (517) 281-1881.

Gary and Rose Purvis Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Gary and Rose (Baker) Purvis celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 11, 2022.

They are parents of Joe and Nicole Purvis. Grandparents of Jory, Magi, Michael, Gavin and Alli.

Cards of congratulations may be sent to P.O. Box 72, Pompeii, MI 48874.

Library News

Ovid Library Summer Reading Program Wrap-Up

Summer is nearly over and that means our summer reading program is a wrap! This years program (Oceans of Possibilities) was "sea"ccessful! We had 307 people sign up for the program with 238 finishers. It was a summer full of crafts, activities, storytelling and lots of reading! Over 1000 books were read by our readers! Our top readers for the summer are:

Audrey A.; Daniel H.; Janell K.; Granger N.; Olivia P.; Kyla P.; Rick S.; Samantha S.

Thank you to everyone who donated their time and also to the following businesses who donated prizes:

Applebee Oil and Propane Company; Blue Moon; Bob Sauer; Buks Party Store; Main Bar and Grill; Main Street Pizza; Mary's Country Kitchen; Ovid Elevator; Ovid Subway; Simpsons Greenhouse; Toms Western Store

Thank you also to Dan Lupu and Wyatt Dahlke from the Ovid Middlebury Fire Department who came for our end of year celebration!

Our program would not be the same without the help of our community!

Elsie Masonic Lodge #238 to Hold Monthly Pancake Breakfast

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE - The Elsie Masonic Lodge will hold a Pancake Breakfast Saturday, August 27 to benefit the Elsie Baby Pantry. The event will be held at the Masonic Community Center, 100 E Main, Elsie, 9am - Noon. The menu will include: eggs, pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice. Breakfast is free, donations will be accepted and given to the Elsie Baby Pantry.

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Obituaries

Joyce Louise Curtis

Joyce Louise Curtis, born February 9th, 1929 to Harvey R. Plont and Gladys L. Daniels (Plont) passed away on August 4th, 2022 in her home surrounded by her family. Joyce was a sister to four brothers, predeceased by Harvey and Oliver, and survived by Lloyd and Bruce.

Joyce was happily married for 40 years to Lloyd L. Curtis from March 5th, 1950 until his death on March 31st, 1990. She loved gardening, baking, sewing, crocheting, and best of all being a mom, grandma, and great grandma.

They are both survived by their six children; Elonda (Lonnie) Sharp and her husband Paul, Leona (Sis) Williams and her husband John, Vickie Britten and her husband Clark, Cynthia (Cindy) Schoendorf and her husband Scott, Lloyd (Bo) Curtis II and his wife Laurie, Sandra (Sandy) Bates and her husband Don.



John Miller "Keith"

John Miller "Keith", age 87, of Elsie, MI, passed away Friday, August 5, 2022, at Sparrow Health System, Lansing, MI.

John was born in Elsie, Michigan on November 8, 1934, the son of J.C. and Mary (Debar) Miller. Keith married Marlene Kay Hubbard on November 30, 1957 in Greenbush Township. They were blessed with 64 years of marriage.

Keith retired from General Motors in December 1990. He was a lifelong farmer. He enjoyed camping and attending tractor pulls. Keith and Marlene spent 25 winters together in Zephyrhills, Florida where they made many lifelong friendships. Keith proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a member of Eureka Christian Church and the Elsie American Legion.

He is survived by his wife Marlene Miller of Elsie, MI; daughter Ellen Watson and Craig Simpson of Elsie, MI; son Darrell Miller of Ashley, MI; daughter Kathryn and Robert Beck of DeWitt, MI; seven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Arlis Strachota of St. Johns, MI; sister-in-law Mary Lou Spiece of St. Johns, MI; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents and brothers-in-law: John Strachota and Roy Spiece.

A private graveside service will be held and burial will take place at Eureka Cemetery, Eureka, MI.

Memorials may be made to Eureka Christian Church, Eureka, MI. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



Nancy Lee Betz

Nancy Lee Betz, age 83, of St. Johns, MI, passed away Thursday, August 4, 2022, at Hospice of Lansing Residence, Lansing, MI.

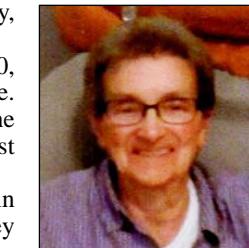
Nancy was born in Hamilton Township, Michigan, on January 30, 1939, the daughter of John Ray and Marie Ruth (Dunbar) Foote. Nancy graduated from Ashley High School with the class of 1957. She married Gale Clare Betz on September 6, 1958, at Ashley Methodist Church.

Nancy collected dolls for many years. Nancy and Gale resided in Bannister, MI for 40 years until moving to St. Johns in 2005. They enjoyed winters in Crystal River, FL for 10 years. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband Gale Betz of St. Johns, MI; children: Richard and Nancy Betz of Montrose, MI; Alan and Jamie Betz of Owosso, MI; Jill and Sam Griffet of St. Johns, MI; grandchildren: Andy and Teilia Jordyn and Micah Florida, Devin and Lindsey Betz, and Chad and Jessica Betz; and 9 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by brothers: Doug Foote of Ithaca, MI; David and Susan Foote of Ashley, MI; sisters-in law: Aletha Foote of Alma, MI; and Sharon Follett of Howard City, MI. She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother Kenneth Foote.

Cremation will take place and a private celebration of her life will be held. Burial will take place at North Star Cemetery, North Star, MI.

Memorials may be made to Clinton County Senior Center, 201 E. Walker St., St. Johns, MI 48879. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, Michigan.



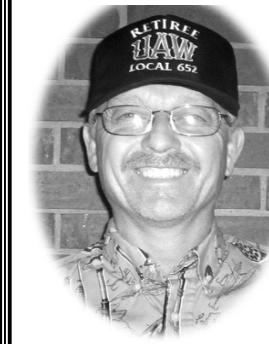
Joyce was blessed with and survived by 16 grandchildren, including: Tracy Hilliard (Steve), Jill Danek (Scott), Jenny Guernsey (Mike), Kim Esch (Terry), Tina Miller, Danielle Holland (Kent), Mike Britten (Alissa), Michelle Perry (Jim), Ryan Schoendorf (Amber), Riley Hicks (Jacob), Lyndsey Bennett, Lloyd 'Bub' Curtis III (Megan), Lauren St. Clair (Brion), Kacie Woodworth (Brandon), Dustin Bates (Taylor), Dillon Bates (Mary).

AND, 35 great grandchildren!!

Joyce enjoyed the past 26 years with her partner Darwin Rose; traveling, car showing and cruising. Dar took loving care of Joyce during her many years battling Parkinson's.

Joyce is survived by her extended family, including: Kevin (Lisa) Rose and Brandon, Katherine (Daniel) Lenneman, Kelly (Bill) Schmitt and Tyler and Emily.

A celebration of Joyce's life was held Thursday August 11th, 2022 at the American Legion in Laingsburg. In lieu of flowers a donation can be made in Joyce's name to the American Legion Post 248 Women's Auxiliary. A private burial for the family will follow.



Lynn R. Bolton 12-8-1951 to 8-14-2009

Our lives have gone through many changes in the last thirteen years, the one constant is that we still love & miss you so.

*Love always,
Barb & family*

Please join us for a Celebration of Life

in memory of
**JoAnn Kathleen
Fogarty**



August 20, 2022
At 11:00 a.m.
ZCBJ Hall, Bannister, MI
Lunch to follow

*Bring your tears but let them quickly dry.
Then share your precious memories
with a twinkle in your eye.*



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Middlebury United Methodist Church

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989-834-2573

Minister:

Rev. Joyce Wallace
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10:30 a.m.



Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street

Pastor: Zella Daniel

Sunday Worship 11:15am

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns

Pastor: John Jakus

Sunday School: 9:00am

Worship Service 10:00am

517-651-6210

Duplain Church of Christ

5565 E. Colony Rd.

(3 mi. W. of O-E H.S.)

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

11:00am

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

Senior Minister: Andrew Goodrich

Associate Minister: Matthew Barnum

Children's Minister: Jessica Prieto

www.duplainchurch.org

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: JD Paik



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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
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or on Facebook
Pastor Eugene Blair

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

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

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

I have two more stories for you. I'm sure that they could happen to anyone out there at anytime. I do believe that it is a bit irregular that these things happen to me(constantly). First, wasn't the rain last Wednesday wonderful, the power of the lightening and the great gusts of wind were amazing. I was sitting at Linda's kitchen table having a good confab during the heavy rains that didn't leave puddles...it just soaked into the water starved earth. On my way home I was pleased to see a few puddles but because it was twilight I was watching out for those critters that zip across the road in front of you or run directly into you as you drive along. I was driving my little red Focus and I heard an ominous crack and saw something toppling from the corner of my left eye. The earth did shake a bit as a pair of twin trees thundered to the road bed in front of me. I hit the brakes and covered my head because branches thudded and bounce around and behind me. I was again blessed, the trees didn't hit my car or me. I was able to get out and survey the mess. Did I mention that I was barefoot at the time? The trees were all the way across the road, I probably could have backed up and turned around in the road even though the south side was a very deep ditch. Not me, I started picking up the smaller branches and heaving them into the ditch. I then pulled the bigger chunks off to the side and drove the car through the mess on the north side. I managed to get the car past the jumble of trees without a scrape. Wahoo!!!

The next tale of my life started at a clinic in Carson City. I sat in a recliner with an acupuncture needle inserted above my left ankle and had to sit there for thirty minutes as electrical impulses were sent to my nerve center in my lower back. I kept hearing this clicking sound and then the lights would go out, at first I thought that someone was standing at the hallway door and trying to save electricity by turning off the lights. Close, but no cigar. It was a motion detector and if I wanted to continue reading I needed to move about. However I was supposed to stay still so that the needle stayed in place. When I mentioned the lights when the technician returned to remove the needle she promised to hit the other switch so that I could continue reading without interruption. Move to the next afternoon when I was at the St Louis Farmer's Market and went into the municipal building to use the restroom. You guessed it, I walked into the bathroom and picked a stall. Did what was needed and the lights went out before I could flush the commode. I don't think that it could have gotten much darker, I walked into the wall as I was searching for the door. Got it unlocked and made my way clear to the entry door before the light came on again. Washed my hands and managed to get out the door before the lights went off again. I can envision some handicapped individual being trapped in the dark and it is not a pretty sight. Especially if that person also had problems with claustrophobia.

Now back to the Mitchell Family Reunion. I believe that only about fifty folks attended ages from toddler to almost the diamond age. Plus one that was en route but not to enter until October 6th this fall.

The help with getting things set up was wondrous to behold. The conversations were plentiful and the laughter was music to my ears. Of course the food was plentiful and delectable, no one went away hungry and a few chose to have desserts first. Believe me there was a plethora of choices. Have I mentioned that I'm definitely of the carnivorous variety, I really enjoyed the choices of meat and was pleased to see that someone had also made ground bologna sandwiches to be devoured. Yup, I'm also a bit of an omnivore and enjoyed the veggies and salads. It was very nice not to have to do all the cooking.

We had a white elephant auction with half the proceeds going into the kitty for next years expenses. The other half was drawn from the names of those who were successful bidders. Of course I got to play the part of the auctioneer, I couldn't talk fast enough to sound authentic but I was very good at getting folks attention and getting them to bid. Or at least getting them to believe that they may have accidentally done so. Of course I didn't hold them to that just because they were waving their hands around as they spoke with each other. I had a wonderful time and appreciate all who worked hard at making the reunion happen. I'm also glad that we had pavilion three to use, it was shaded the whole time and we were blessed with a breeze that kept us fairly comfortable. May your days be filled with enjoyable occasions and family. May God bless you as much as He has me.

Crystal Mitchell©2022

Editorial



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
www.letsmeetgod.com

Why is sin, sin? Why are some actions and desires called sinful in the Bible? Does God simply pull certain actions out of a hat and by His sovereignty call them sinful? It just on a whim? Or is there something else going on?

God does not call anything sin arbitrarily. Nothing is a sin "just because." So let's take a look at three reasons why sin is sin.

1. The essence of sin is that it is anything against God. While we commit sinful acts against others and against ourselves, ultimately sin violates God's laws and goes against God.

2. With every type of sin, there is always some kind of harm involved. There is always harm- often physically or relationally in our relationships with others. There could be financial harm as well. There is always spiritual harm against ourselves and perhaps others and we distance ourselves from God to some degree when we sin. There is always harm involved with sin, but this harm is not always seen at first.

This is why the teaching, "do whatever you want, just don't harm others" is wrong. Because with some acts, if this is all that you have to go by, it is impossible to know in the long run if you are harming someone or doing them good. This is especially true when the affects of sin sometimes take longer to manifest themselves.

3. Sin is something other than what God has intended for us.

For example, God has created people to love God. When people do not love God by not believing in Him, that is sin.

When we act in pride or are self-centered, that is not acting in love towards others and that is why these two actions are sin.

Similarly, when we sin we also act contrary to what God has created us for. We're misusing our bodies and lives which are God's creation. We are changing what God has created and using it for a different purpose. Therefore this is sin.

And these are all reasons why God takes sin so seriously.

So seriously in fact, that He knew that a price had to be paid as a payment for our sins. And that payment would be the highest one could think of- death. The death of one human being for all others. And not just a human being but God Himself. Jesus-fully human and fully God.

As John writes, "But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin." - 1 John 3:5

When we come to faith in Christ, the old has gone and the new has come. God makes us into new creations; into the people He wants for us to be. He gives us His Holy Spirit and through Him, the power to say "Yes!" to God and to say "No!" to sin.

Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose bodily from the dead as a full payment to God for all of our sins. When we believe this we enter into a personal relationship with God and God Himself forgives us of all of our sins. Big and small. Past, present and future. Praise God, the slate's wiped clean!

Bluewater Highway (M-21) Middlebury Township Rhubarb Stand Thank You

Letter to the Editor:

We want to express our appreciation to the many who stopped by to check out our rhubarb stand and support the Elsie Food Bank.

The free will offering donations totaled \$568.49. We made new friends, shared recipes, and heard great rhubarb stories and memories.

We appreciate the work of the staff and volunteers of the Elsie Food Bank and their many partners working to reduce food insecurity.

Happy and safe travels.
Greg and Margaret White



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

The folks at Federal Ammunition have done it once again by bringing to market another load for rimfire shooters. A new member to their Punch Personal Defense Lineup, Federal 22 WMR Punch offers another option for those choosing rimfires for primary or backup self defense.

Designed with a high velocity for short barrels this load pushes a 45 grain JHP bullet at over 1,000 fps along with 100 ft /lbs. of energy from a two inch barrel. In a full length rifle barrel expect around 1800 fps. Similar to its little .22 LR brother the cases are nickel coated for corrosion resistance and ease of extraction. Bullets are also nickel plated with a lead core bullet which helps create deep penetration and energy transfer. While this load could easily be shot out of a rifle or a larger .22 WMR pistol like a Kel-Tec PMR30, it actually excels in small revolvers like the Ruger LCR and those offered by North American Arms.

The Weekly Sportsman doesn't believe accuracy testing is really necessary for this load as it is designed to deliver powerful results at close range whether for self defense or maybe even dispatching game or varmints. If you can find it on retailer shelves expect to pay upwards of almost thirty dollars for fifty rounds in a plastic case.

-WS

LAFCU's Back-to-School Extravaganza

submitted by Jan Jenkins

LANSING, Mich. — Thanks to a collaboration between LAFCU, TWO MEN AND A TRUCK and The Village Lansing, local parents and teachers can now alleviate the financial burden of back-to-school shopping, and students can begin the new school year with the supplies and tools they need for success.

Donations can be dropped off through Wednesday, Aug. 17, at any of LAFCU's 10 branch locations during business hours and The Village Lansing, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, noon to 5 p.m. The Village is located at 3525 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Suite G, in Lansing. A list of LAFCU branches can be found at www.lafcu.com/contact-us/locations/branches.

"The Back-to-School Extravaganza is a fantastic initiative that helps the community start the school year on the right foot," said Kelli Ellsworth Etchison, LAFCU chief marketing officer and chief diversity officer.

A backpack pick-up event for grades K-12 will take place Saturday, Aug. 20, at The Village Lansing, 9 a.m. to noon, or while supplies last.

"Back-to-school time can be stressful for students, teachers and parents," Ellsworth Etchison said. "We want to make things easier for our community and ensure students and teachers have the supplies needed to excel during the school year."

School supplies needed for donation include backpacks, notebook paper, notebooks, three-ring binders, pencils, pencil bags, pens, rulers, pocket folders, one-subject notebook tablets, index cards, crayons, colored pencils, erasers, kids' scissors, glue sticks, composition notebooks, highlighters, dry-erase markers, geometry sets and hole punchers.

Personalized hygiene supplies needed include toothpaste, deodorant, lotion, shampoo and conditioner, all in travel size. Toothbrushes, sanitary pads, disinfecting wipes, tissues and youth face masks are also needed.

For more information, visit www.lafcu.com/backtoschool.

Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price Owner/Publisher meridianweekly.com

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Left to right: Connor Brown, Walker Levey, Rodney Ridgeway, Megan Ladiski and Faith Brown.
Photo by Dawn D. Levey

Elsie Masonic Lodge Recognizes Scholarship Winners

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE - The members of Elsie Masonic Lodge #238 honored five scholarship awardees at a dinner prior to the regular meeting Tuesday, August 9, 2022. Mr. Rodney Ridgeway, worshipful master, presented \$1,000 scholarships to: Walker Levey, Kayla Levey, Faith Brown, Connor Brown, and Megan Ladiski. Walker was a new awardee and the other reoccurring awardees. It was noted that scholarships are awarded annually. Missing from the photo Kayla Levey.

Laingsburg Community Singers Looking for Members

submitted by Cathy Chubb

Do you like to sing and have fun? Laingsburg Community Singers would like to invite you to join us for Fall 2022. Auditions are not required. The group is a community choir (not church) and performs a variety of music. Rehearsals for our Christmas concerts will begin on Tuesday, September 6th from 7-9pm at the Laingsburg United Methodist Church, located at 210 N Crum St under the direction of Steven Easterling. (The driveway to the parking lot is on the South side of the church. Please park in back and enter through the back door.) Concerts will take place on Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th. If you have any questions, please contact Janice Hurst at 517-651-5937 or Jessica Adams at 517-651-7573. Hope to see you there!

Elsie Big Reds Reunion

submitted by Sue Hardaker

The Elsie Big Reds met July 10 in downtown Elsie at the Legion Hall for food, conversation and laughing. Our oldest student is Emelie Jones Davis, only 102 years old, graduated from the class of 1938.

Bob Foreback was our Master of Ceremonies, and entertained us with memories of his early teaching years. 114 Students from California, Oregon, Florida, Arizona, New York and all-over Michigan enjoyed a great meal from Country Spice. Memorabilia was displayed and enjoyed. Students from Elsie classes as well as Ovid-Elsie classes, from 1938 to 1977 gathered and sang the Elsie Fight Song one more time.

We plan on gathering again in two years....stay tuned.



Ovid-Elsie Area Schools School of Choice

8989 East Colony Road, Elsie, MI 48831
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Ovid-Elsie Area Schools is accepting applications for School of Choice students for the 2022-23 school year. Applications are due through September 9, 2022. For more information or an application please contact Crystal Loynes in the Administration Office at (989) 834-2271 Ext. 1000 or crystal.loynes@ovidelsie.org

Laingsburg School Board Meeting

submitted by Krissy Pratt

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct its board meeting on Wednesday, August 17, 2022. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Media Center. Please visit our website at www.laingsburg.k12.mi.us for up to date meeting information.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: Legislative update, District Staffing Update, 2022/23 Budget, Personnel, Board Bylaws and Policy Updates 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.

CC Historical Museum

submitted by Judy Hubler

The Museum will be open for the Mint Festival on Saturday, August 13, 10:00 to 4:00 and Sunday, August 14, 1:00 to 4:00.

Check it out at 106 Maple St., St. Johns, MI 48879 (West of the Courthouse Square) and pgsmuseum.com. Email is pgsmuseum@gmail.com and phone is 989.224.2894 or 989.292.9096.

If you have not visited in the last couple of years, you will find upgrades in most display rooms.

The Museum is run totally with volunteers and public donations. All artifacts have been donated and new donations should have local Clinton County provenance.



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A Beginner's Guide to Fall Planting and Maintenance

Spring and summer are perhaps the busiest times of year for gardeners. However, fall also is a prime time to tend to gardens.

The tree and bare root retailer Bower & Branch advises that soil temperatures in many regions of the country may still be warm enough to encourage root growth well into the start of winter. Furthermore, fall is often the ideal time to plant, fertilize and keep a garden going or to get a head start on next year's bounty.

Here are some tips to make the most of the fall gardening season.

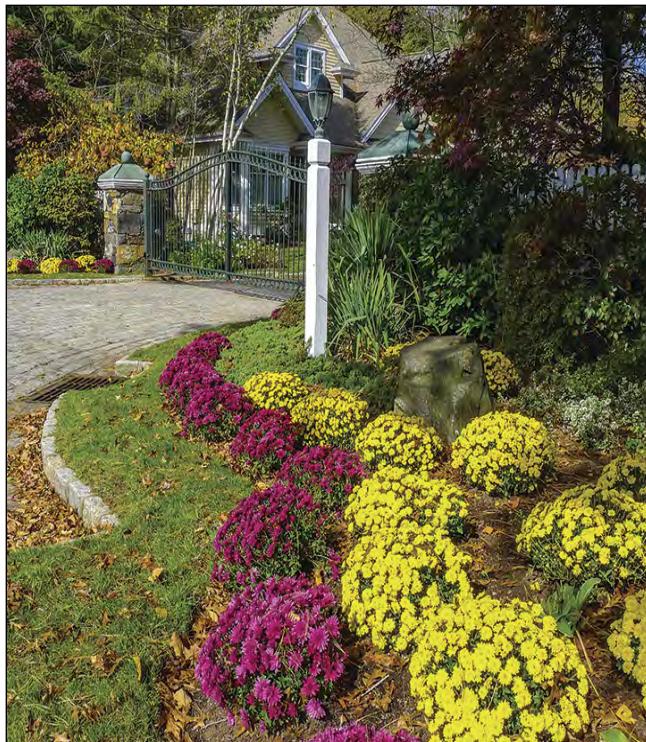
- Think about fall annuals and bulb planting. Near the end of September, start planting cool-weather-loving pansies and violas for pops of color as summer flowers fade. Also, it's a good idea to stock up on bulbs that will bloom in the months to come before they sell out in stores. Wait until the temperatures really cool down before planting them in desired spots for spring sprouts.

- Sow salad seeds. Lettuce, spinach, radishes, and arugula tolerate cooler temperatures. Try new and interesting lettuce varieties and enjoy salads well into the fall season.

- Take inventory of the sun. Positioning a garden carefully means maximizing hours of sunlight, which begin to dwindle in the fall. Experts say gardens grow best in sunny locations that receive six hours of direct sunlight each day. This is where container gardens can be helpful, as they allow gardeners to move plants into spots that will get ample sunlight.

- Fill in landscaping gaps. Some fall plants can add color around the landscape and brighten up homes to add curb appeal. In addition to pansies and violas, asters, kale and chrysanthemums are fall blooms. Keep in mind that mums can come back year after year. So take them out of those flower pots and get them into the ground. They can be enjoyed next year as well, sprouting in early spring and developing leaves and buds through late summer.

- Clean up unwanted growth. Fall is an ideal time to cut back spent vegetable plants and get rid of errant weeds. Rather than bagging leaves, mow them with a grass catcher and then add the mix to a vegetable garden as an excellent soil insulator. The nitrogen and carbon will fertilize the soil, enhancing growing possibilities and limiting weed growth.



- Propagate plants in the fall. As temperatures gradually begin to cool, start taking cuttings from perennials, gathering seed pods from azaleas and rhododendrons and dividing hardwood cuttings, says the resource Gardening Know How. Consult with a garden center or horticulturist on the proper ways to propagate stems using rooting hormone and other techniques.

- Continue to water plants. Water is essential in the fall and winter as roots can still be growing. Gradually reduce watering duration as plants go dormant.

Fall planting and maintenance can extend gardening season and improve the chances of growing a healthy spring garden.

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Home Improvement

Wood Floor Installation Dos and Don'ts

Jaw-dropping features can sell a home in a heartbeat. A penthouse apartment with floor-to-ceiling windows and a panoramic view of a city skyline likely won't prove a hard sell, nor will a home with an infinity pool overlooking a landscape of rolling hills. As awe-inspiring as such features can be, some more subtle components, such as authentic hardwood floors, also can do much to make a home more appealing to prospective buyers.

Hardwood flooring is a sought-after commodity. Data from the National Association of Realtors indicates that 54 percent of home buyers are willing to pay more for hardwood floors. In fact, NAR figures indicate that 28 percent of buyers between the ages of 35 and 54 consider hardwood floors "very important" when looking for a home. Homeowners who are considering selling their homes, or those who simply want to upgrade their existing flooring, may want to consider installing hardwood flooring. Though it's a project best left to professionals, hardwood flooring can be installed by skilled DIYers. In such instances, homeowners may want to keep these dos and don'ts in mind.

DO hire a professional if you have limited or no DIY flooring experience. Hardwood flooring installation is not generally a project for novice DIYers. Hardwood flooring projects may present some common challenges, but no two homes are the same. So unless they have prior experience installing floors in multiple rooms or homes, homeowners may save themselves time, trouble and a significant amount of money hiring a professional to do the job.

DON'T ignore the subfloor. New hardwoods won't erase the problem of subfloors in poor condition. According to the home renovation experts at BobVila.com, squeaky floors could be an indication that the subfloor has begun to warp or twist. Sinking floors are another indicator of deteriorating subfloors. Subfloors should be somewhat level before new hardwoods are installed, so DIYers should inspect and address subfloor issues before installing new flooring.

DO expose wood flooring to the elements in your home prior to installation. The home improvement resource BuildDirect recommends acclimating hardwoods to the space where they will be installed. Skipping this important step could result in gaps during the winter and cupping over the summer.

To acclimate hardwoods, open the boxes and spread them out for about a week while running the air conditioner or heater at normal levels. When storing hardwoods prior to installation, avoid keeping them in potentially moist areas like a basement.

DON'T skimp on tools. A DIY hardwood flooring installation might be less expensive than hiring a professional, but homeowners should resist any temptation to increase those savings further by purchasing less costly tools or fewer tools than is necessary to complete the job. BuildDirect notes that DIYers will need at least a miter saw, table saw, cleat-nailer or stapler, finish nailer, compressor, jamb saw, chalk line, nail set, and tape measurer when installing hardwood floors. Purchase all necessary tools and read product reviews to ensure each tool is up to the task.

Wood floors can be awe-inspiring. Some homeowners can install such flooring on their own, and the project can be much easier if they learn as much about installation as possible prior to beginning the project.



Did You Know?

Gardening enthusiasts recognize that fall is not a time to rest on their laurels. In fact, fall is a great season to spend time in the yard.



The Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment at the University of Massachusetts Amherst indicates fall is the ideal time to improve the soil for next season. Amending the soil in the fall allows it to react accordingly over time and reap the benefits in spring. UMass suggests getting an accurate soil test to see what is needed in the garden. Samples should be taken from various areas. Avoid doing so when the soil is very wet. At-home kits can test for nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous and determine the soil's pH. Gardeners should till the soil and add compost or manure, which will counteract many nutritional deficiencies.

Worm castings also are good to add, particularly for summer vegetable gardens. The gardening company Park Seed says that worm castings are high in minerals and effective at holding water — so much so that they even can be used alone in place of potting soil. Crushed egg shells, coffee grounds and banana peels also can be added in the fall, even if they are not part of a compost pile. The nutrients will break down throughout the fall and winter, and be available just in time for summer plantings.

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Photos by Dawn D. Levey

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Duplain Township Proceedings

by Dawn D Levey

DUPLAINE - The regular meeting of Duplain Township was held Wednesday, August 10, 2022. A number of guest addressed the township board.

Clinton County Sheriff Department report was presented by Deputy Naert. Currently the Clinton County Sheriff Department is transition with new Sheriff Shawn Dush, and Under Sheriff Mike Gute. Staffing is down a little however the department will be recruiting additional staff. There have been a number of policy changes on which allows staff to have beards. Overall the department is doing well.

Adam Smiddy, presented a Clinton County broadband update. In June Clinton County committed three million towards the project and will be seeking matching funds toward the project. In addition, they appointed a task force to keep the project moving forward. Officials will be looking to the private sector for support as well. The end goal is to have broadband access for every home. The Request for Proposals timeline is tentatively, October 2022 to review the status of the project noting that this is a twenty-five-million-dollar problem that will take local, state, federal and private sector funding. Currently Clinton County needs a letter of support from Duplain Township. Overall Clinton started the process ahead of many

other counties. The project is moving forward and Clinton County is in a very competitive position. Brief question and answer. Possible breaking ground could be as early as next summer or the spring of 2024.

Val Vail-Shirey, Republican candidate for Clinton County Commission District 1, was present to address officials. Val outlined her qualifications and requested support from officials.

The final speaker was Bonnie Wood, candidate for Ovid-Elsie Board of Education. She outlined her reasons for running for office and noted that she is long-time resident of the Ovid-Elsie area, she coached tennis for OE, and taught in New Lothrop. Wood's focus is clarity and transparency.

A brief primary election report was given. Four-hundred and twenty-five ballots were cast and 80% of the absentee ballots were returned. Overall it was an uneventful and successful election. On a related topic a request for additional elections supplies and updated election-lap top totaling \$1,040.00. The funding for the request will come from a grant. The request was approved.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, the minutes of the July 13, and financial reports. In addition, officials approved expenditures totaling \$96.582.90.

Positive cont' from Front Page

Shane Grinnell updated officials on additional activities in the Village. Grinnell reported that the first rental inspection had been completed. The inspection went very smoothly.

Elsie Police Department related activities and updates were brought to officials. Action was taken to approve the purchase of new radar equipment for the patrol car. In addition, there will be more police presence at EE Knight in the morning on school days.

Grinnell updated officials on the status of the Police Millage ballot verbiage. There were a few changes reviewed and approved for the ballot slated for the General Election, November 8, 2022.

Officials approved expenditures totaling \$53,004.69.

Mid-Michigan Old Gas Tractor Show

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Mid-Michigan Old Gas Tractor Show

Thursday, August 18th

3:00.....Transfer Sled Pull - Track 2
5:00.....Webberville Garden Tractor Pull - Track 1

Friday, August 19th

7:00.....Gate Opens
.....Club Kitchen Opens
8:00.....Flea Market Opens
Steam & Engine Barns In Operation
9:00.....Arts & Crafts Opens
10:00.....American Legion Flag Raising & Parade
.....Garden Tractor Pull - Track 2
.....Saw Mill Demo Kids Crafts - 4-H Log Cabin
11:00.....Cider Mill Demo
Noon.....Members Only Junior Pull - Track 1
.....Bingo Tent Opens
1:00.....Saw Mill Demo
1:30.....Threshing & Baling Demos
2:00.....The Silverado Express - Founders Bldg
.....Shingle Mill & Veneer Mill Demos
.....Gang Saw & Drag Saw Demos
.....Crop Demos
3:00.....Cider Mill Demo
5:00...Kathy & Friends Ctry Music - Founders Bldg
Members Only Powder Puff Pull - Track 1
Shingle Mill & Veneer Mill Demos Gang Saw & Drag Saw Demos
7:00.....Jubilee and Fire Band - Handle Mill
9:00.....DJ Dave - Pavilion
10:00.....Display Area Closed

Saturday, August 20th

7:00.....Gate Opens
.....Club Kitchen Opens
8:00.....Flea Market Opens
Steam & Engine Barns In Operation
9:00.....Pedal Pull - Track 1
.....Arts & Crafts Opens
10:00.....Saw Mill Demo
.....Kids Crafts - 4-H Log Cabin
10:30.....American Legion Flag Raising & Parade
.....Dead Weight Pull - Track 2 Cement Pull - Track 1
.....(Following Parade)
11:00.....Cider Mill Demo
Noon.....Bingo Tent Opens
.....FFA Pig Roast
1:00.....Shingle Mill & Veneer Mill Demos
.....Gang Saw & Drag Saw Demos Threshing & Baling Demos
.....Cider Mill Demo Saw Mill Demo Crop Demos

Hole in One at Pine Hills

A hole in one at Pine Hills Golf Course by Jalen Weekley aced #6 at 89 yards with a 54 degree. Witnessed by Jake Flagg.

Curtis Hole in One

Bubba Curtis of Laingsburg shot a hole in one on #6 with his 52 degree. Witnessed by Doug Adams jr, Jordan McGee, and Ryan Powell.



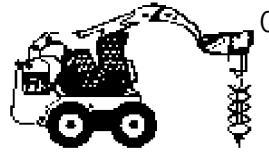
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Berkemeire's Playlist of a Lifetime

submitted by John Sirrine

On Friday August 19 at noon the Brown Bag Concert series continues by presenting singer/guitarist/songwriter Steve Berkemeier. Sponsored by St. Johns Area Community Fund with gifts in memory of Forest and Doris Swatman, the series takes place at The Rotary Pavilion near the depot on Railroad Street in St. Johns.

Berkemeier has over 20 years of experience engaging crowds all over Michigan. He performs with both the 6 and 12 string acoustic guitars plus the occasional harmonica. Steve has lived a life immersed in music beginning with his early childhood thru the ever-changing play lists of his eight siblings floating thru his family home. The expansive progression of great music makes up the soundtrack of his life and he shares his soundtrack with us.

His show includes popular and classic songs from the folk, classic rock and country genres, covering such artists as James Taylor, John Denver, Simon & Garfunkel, Garth Brooks, Randy Travis, CCR, Jim Croce, Gordon Lightfoot, etc. A gifted storyteller, Berkemeier relates personal stories to set up several of his original songs while providing the audience with fascinating insights into many popular cover songs he performs and the artists who made them famous.

Grab take-out lunch from any participating downtown food/drink purveyor and sit back for an hour listening to the music of our life from a real entertainer.

Check Steve out at <https://www.facebook.com/steveberkemeiermusic>

St Johns Area Community Fund is a nonprofit working with donors dedicated to make the St. Johns Area a better place to live and work for all.



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Victor Township is seeking proposals from individuals, contractors or companies to provide building and grounds maintenance. Proposals are to be received no later than September 12, 2022 at 12:00 pm. The anticipated term of the agreement is September 2022-March 31, 2025. Please call 517-651-2094 x0 or email info@victortwp.org for proposal details and requirements.

A copy of the request can also be found at www.victortwp.org.

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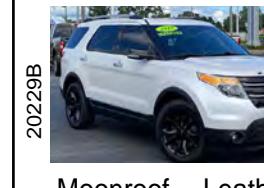
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Big Band, Fifties, and Motown Greats are Featured on Upcoming Concert

submitted by Bill Tennant

The musical group Frendz will be returning to St Johns with a new two-hour program on Wednesday, August 17, beginning at 7 pm, at the Performance Shell in the St. Johns City Park. They will present a fast-paced review of music through the decades including big band swing, fifties rock, and Motown greats.

From Glenn Miller's In The Mood, to Elvis hits, to Motown's Dancing in the Streets, this group will move your soul and get dancers out of their seats with many moving tunes from the decades of youth. In this performance by Frendz you will hear many of the great tunes you grew up with over the years.

"Frendz is made up of some of mid-Michigan's best professional musicians," said Bill Tennant, chair of the Concert in the Park committee. "These performers have performed with symphony orchestras, on national tours, performed with the likes of Chuck Berry, Debbie Reynolds, The Temptations, Lee Greenwood and Stevie Nicks, have worked in Nashville, on cruise ships, in national Broadway shows... you name it. This evening promises to be a lot of fun!"

Performing on the concert will be guitarist/vocalist Don Sovey, bassist/vocalist Don Sare, vocalist Alexis Stark, sax/ clarinetist Bronnie Brown, and drummer Tim Thelen. New to the group this year is jazz vocalist Kat Jones on vocals and hand percussion.

The concert is sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns. It is open to the public free of charge – donations are graciously accepted.

All concerts are presented rain or shine. The Lion's Club food trailer will be available this year – social distancing and safety precautions are strongly encouraged. Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy! The CCAC receives funding from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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