

Misuse of Recycling Center in Ovid

The Recycling Center for City of Ovid residents is being misused. The dumpsters are clearly and appropriately labeled as to what is and isn't accepted. The pictures here show the misuse of the center. Bags of trash, clothing and paint cans are NOT items meant for recycling.

Generally, people who frequent the recycling center follow the protocols, it only takes a few who do not to create a problem. If these unfortunately events continue, Granger recycling services are at risk of being suspended. Contamination in these containers MUST stop. City of Ovid officials are asking everyone to do their part by recycling appropriate items at the site.



O-E's Kirinovic Continues Career as Ferris State AD

BIG RAPIDS — Ovid-Elsie High School continues its pride in one of its own. Tom Kirinovic continues as the long-time Director of Athletics at Ferris State University.

Kirinovic, who has gained recognition for his skills in areas of athletics management, public relations, marketing, and fund raising, was appointed athletics director at Ferris State University on November 29, 1999. A unanimous choice of the search committee, Kirinovic is responsible for overseeing the Bulldogs' 15-sport intercollegiate athletics program, serving as associate athletics director since August 1994, had been appointed interim athletics director in mid-July 1999.

He logged five years of coaching experience at Ovid-Elsie High School, as a varsity assistant for both football and basketball while also serving as head coach of the school's freshmen and junior varsity baseball program.

Kirinovic coached the 1989 Ferris State softball team to a 17-15 overall record and its first winning season in six years.

Kirinovic, 54, received a bachelor's degree in business education from Ferris in 1977 and a master's in education administration from Central Michigan University in 1982.

A member of Ferris' athletics staff for 27 years, Kirinovic was originally appointed interim athletics director on April 8, 1993, following the retirement of then athletics director Dean Davenport.

He served a two-year (1992-93) stint as assistant athletics director at FSU after holding the dual position of assistant athletics director and ice arena manager from 1987-91. In 1991, he was appointed as fund raising manager in the Bulldog athletics department. Kirinovic initially began his FSU career in August 1982, returning to his alma mater as athletic business manager.

A member of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), Kirinovic also holds membership in the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administration (NACMA). A member of the Big Rapids (Mich.) Lions Club, Kirinovic is a past chair of the Mecosta-Osceola United Way Drive and a past president of the Big Rapids Public Schools' Board of Education.

Kirinovic has also served as a member of the NCAA Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee and on the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Basketball Ranking Committee. He also was the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) President for the 2005-06 athletics season.

Kirinovic and his wife, Marge, are the parents of two sons, Blake (28) and Matt (24). Marge is a teacher at Riverview Elementary in Big Rapids.



Ovid-Elsie School Board August Meeting

by Karen Anderson, Correspondent

ELSIE – The August meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Aras School Board of Education was held on Monday, August 15, 2022. All Board members were in attendance along with several teachers, administrative committee chairs, and over 30 community-minded residents, Channel 6 reporter and camera crew were also in attendance.

First on the agenda were the approval of the current agenda, approval of minutes from the July 20, 2022, regular Board of Education and a special meeting held on August 9, 2022. Current monthly invoices were approved for payment and the O- E Tax Levy for 2022 and the Lacrosse Memorandum of Understanding for 2022-23 were all majority voted in a single motion and approved. No discussion on these items at this meeting.

Next on the agenda, Building and Dept. reported updates: Principals Parsons, Ormsby, Powell, Tokar, reported that staff and teachers were in their classroom setting up to welcome student return for the upcoming school year. The individual schools are excited to get excited to get the school open houses and excited for the new staff and teachers. Mr. Tokar reported that the students class schedules would be available on Wednesday, August 17th. The Open House for the High School will be held on Monday August 22, 2022 for freshmen from 6:30 – 7pm. and the upper classmen from 7 -8pm. Students and parents are asked to attend.

Mr. Davenport reported on schools' technology progress and Technology Protection Plan which will protect the students from needing to pay costly fees for accidentally damage of their school issued laptops and chrome books. He also reported the school's relationship with Google offered 2022 educational bonus of training valued at \$3000 and \$4,500 worth of licensing. Additional audio technology will be added to the student lounge, gym, AG lab, and other needed area this year. The Tech handbook has been updated to include policies and procedures.

Ms. Jones reported on the Safety Programs and updated goals for health education, basic first aid and emergencies and preparedness programs for all staff and departments. The Safety programs will continue with updated training to make the school safe place to learn.

Correspondence from Heidi Loynes regarding of the "Opt Out" approach on the Sex Education to reach the maximum number of students rather than the "Opt In" approach was read. The recommendation for adequate notification to parents and the necessity for students to be allowed to learn health and sex education in the classroom with trained instructors. It is recommended that the "Opt out" options communicate several times email, letter w/ student and a text msg sent to the parents to review the curriculum. A motion was made to accept the Proposal and voted unanimously to use the "Opt out" and additional notification practices.

Sun Funded Update, reported recommendation location changes for the solar sites. The change will be more cost effective to receive the solar rays by reducing the line distances by half. The location will be closer to the individual schools and includes protective fencing for security purposes. A motion was made to approve the change in location for the Solar units.

The board of Ed reviewed the bids to sell busses for #005 & 006 for separate purchases for \$1027 each sold separately. Motion approved to sell. Lastly on new business was the discussion of estimates for a new Boiler purchase. The Board proposed a motion to accept the bid of \$30,000 from Hopkins, which the school has an ongoing relationship for parts replacements and local service with a no contact clause.

Introduction of candidates: The following personnel was approved for contract employment with a Board of Education unanimous vote to fill the available open positions: Mike Watson, High School Athletic Director; Mary Schmidt, ELA MS 8th grade; Claire Holley, Student Success Coach; Trina Pontack, Administrative Asst.; Nichole Stawara, Media Center Specialist, and Daniel Cook, Special Education

Next on the agenda was Communication from the Public: Kellie Nethaway, parent and community advocate, requested "... complete transparency for all activities concerning the school, students, teachers, policies and issues." She presented a copy of the St. Johns Board agenda which appears to offer more transparency. She suggested a "meet and greet" with new teachers and a Towne Meeting be scheduled when issues occur, so the community can openly discuss and be informed.

Bonnie Wood announced her running for the O-E Board of Education on the November ballot. Ms. Wood stated she is in favor of more transparency similar to other school districts. Wood stated she reviewed the Owosso board website and agenda requesting a review of their agenda for suggestions for additional transparency. Wood is in favor of detailed transparency of the finances and issues which are discussed at meetings be added to the agenda unless it is required by law not to discuss details. It is Wood's objective to "strengthen the unity of school and the community in expanding education and life-skill opportunities for student success as our priority."

Final item on the agenda: Hearing from the board members – President E. Jones read a statement reminding the community of the Board of Education responsibilities under the O-E 9130 guidelines with instructions to address complaints, suggestions, and issues to be

continued on page 7

Social

Special Needs Harvest Festival

On Sunday, September 18th from 3:00-6:00p.m., Graham Church, 7320 W. Beard Rd., Perry.

Children, adults and families affected by disabilities are invited to this FREE event with activities, food and fun!

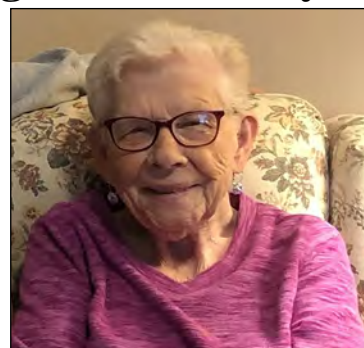
There will be fun for everyone! Hayrides, Petting Zoo, Horse Rides, Carnival Games, Face Painting, Photo Booth, Video Games, Balloon Animals, Gift Baskets, Music, Food and More!

For more information call 517-675-5401.
grahamchurch.org/SNHF



Celebrating 90th Birthday

Doris Valentine Edgar will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Saturday, August 27th from 2:00pm-4:00pm. No gifts please, donations can be made to Habitat for Humanity. For those who are unable to attend we are having a card shower. Send your birthday wishes to Doris Edgar, 107 N. Prospect St., St Johns, MI 48879.



Ralling Local Nonprofits and the Local Community for Good

submitted by Yvette Collard

The Raise Up Shiawassee team is currently planning their 6th annual #GivingTuesday campaign. Giving Tuesday is a national collaborative effort to inspire community members to give back to the causes and issues that matter to them. The national #GivingTuesday celebration is being held this year on November 29, (the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving). Our Shiawassee Giving Tuesday campaign, #raiseUPshiawassee, allows nonprofits another opportunity to collaborate with residents, and businesses who want to give back to their community by volunteering their time, talents, or treasures (\$) on this national day of generosity.

"We are in the initial planning stages of the nonprofit #raiseUPshiawassee campaign and are very excited to witness, once again, the generosity of Shiawassee County!" stated Kim Renwick, Executive Director of the Shiawassee Community Foundation. The Shiawassee Community Foundation, Cook Family Foundation, and United Way of Genesee County serving Genesee and Shiawassee Counties are the leading partners for the #raiseUPshiawassee campaign again this year. Look for our local #raiseUPshiawassee signs, social media posts, and fliers around town this fall and join the global collaboration of those who give back!

Local nonprofits who are interested in joining or learning more about the Raise Up Shiawassee collaboration may contact the Shiawassee Community Foundation office at 989-725-1093. The deadline for nonprofits to join is August 31, 2022. Together, WE can #raiseUPshiawassee!

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

submitted by Roger & Shirley Hughes and Vivian Durling

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) - Many times people have asked what IS the RCIA program and its meaning. This is a process where people who are interested in the Catholic faith and want to become a member of the parish; any person who needs to complete their Sacraments of Initiation; or people who really want to renew their own faith come together. We invite you to take a challenge and see what being a Catholic is all about. Contact the parish offices and leave a message and one of our team members will contact you.

St. Isidore, Laingsburg, 517-651-6722.
office@stisidorechurch.org
Holy Family, Ovid, 989-834-5855.
holyfamilyovid@gmail.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MAINTENANCE & GROUND SERVICES TO VICTOR TOWNSHIP

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.

Victor Township Clinton County, MI

6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI

Proposed Board Minutes from August 08, 2022 meeting

The regular meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor J. Conklin at 7:01 pm.

Attendance: Present: Fickes, Townsend, J. Conklin and A. Conklin and Willoughby

Public Comment: A Bath Township resident expressed concerns over a dog kennel in Victor Township and the lack of a noise ordinance. County Commissioner District 7 candidates Andrew Wiswasser and Val Vail-Shirey introduced themselves.

Agenda: Motion by Townsend to approve the agenda. Supported by Willoughby. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Fickes to approve the July 11, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Supported by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Townsend to accept the treasurer's report. Supported by A. Conklin. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of bills: Motion by Willoughby to disburse payroll and related payroll expenses in the amount of \$10,824.96 using checks #12359-12369 and EFT 164 & 165. Supported by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to pay the bills in the amount of \$374,499.89 using checks #28571-28597. Supported by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried. Clinton County Sheriff: Deputy Chrenka introduced Sheriff Dush. He was appointed in May 2022.

Victor Township Planning Commission: Dr. Chuck Nelson reported the Master Plan goals have been assigned. Mr. Sell reported updates on broadband progress. The PC would like to see a fence put around the propane tank.

LSW: Townsend attended meeting.

Maintenance & Facilities: Position is vacant. Add playground entrance work to list.

Unfinished Business:

- Marihuana – Survey deadline is August 15, 2022
- Broadband – Clinton County has pledged \$3 million in ARPA funds to the effort.
- Hazard Mitigation – Pending final plan.
- Picnic Table Assembly – Clerk Conklin plans to assemble tables on August 9, 2022 at 10 am.
- Maintenance Position – Motion by A. Conklin to extended the RFP deadline to September 12, 2022 at 12:00 pm. Supported by J. Conklin. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Cemetery Roads – Estimates reviewed. Discussion to continue at Special Meeting scheduled for August 30, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

New Business:

- Malkin School House Records – Motion by Fickes to release records to the Clinton County Historical Society. Supported by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - Cemetery Requests – Motion by Willoughby to approve Ashley cemetery request. Supported by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried. Smith request tabled to September 12, 2022 meeting.
 - Basketball Hoops – Motion by Willoughby to approve purchase of 2 basketball hoops and poles. J. Conklin to store until maintenance position has been filled. Roll call vote. Motion carried.
 - Applebee Oil & Propane Pre-Buy – Motion by Willoughby to approve pre-buy. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Extended Comment – Brush spray of cemeteries has been completed. Motion by J. Conklin to adjourn at 8:26 pm. Supported by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

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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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SHIAWASSEE ARTS CENTER

Fall Adult Art Classes at the Shiawassee Arts Center

The Shiawassee Arts Center has a lineup of new classes for adults and most information, including some photos can be found on the web site at shiawasseearts.org. If you are looking to learn something new this fall, please give us a call! Registration and payment can be in person, mailed in or paid online. Call (989) 723-8354 with any questions or for registration. The Arts Center is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. The classrooms are handicapped accessible.

Landscape and Plein Air Workshop with Lisabeth Curnow
Thursday, August 25, 9-4pm

Fundamentals of Landscape & Plein Air Painting using Watercolor Mastering the art of landscape is challenging – many artists get overwhelmed by the amount of detail and “clutter” that we are faced with when painting outdoors or when using a photograph as inspiration. Learning to simplify shapes and subject matter, to create depth using color and tone, and by utilizing basic elements – you can create a more successful landscape. This is an all day workshop that will begin with demonstrations, helpful advice, and exercises to improve technique and skill. In the afternoon, we will put those earlier lessons into practice while painting outside on location. Beginner to intermediate watercolor artists are encouraged and welcome – some watercolor experience is recommended. Bring your watercolor supplies and sack lunch. Instructor, Lisabeth Curnow is an award winning watercolor and plein air artist. Fee: Member-\$55/ Guest \$65

Make-and-Take Bracelet Workshop with Artist/Instructor Susan Kieffer
Saturday, August 27, 10-1pm Age Level: 16+

Join Jewelry Artist Susan Kieffer for a make-and-take workshop. All supplies and tools will be provided to create a multi-strand bracelet incorporating semi-precious stones, charms, and Susan's signature element, a Michigan beach stone. Each participant will create a unique piece of jewelry to wear or gift! Ages 16 and up – no experience necessary. Early registration is encouraged so that adequate materials will be ordered. Fee: Member \$55.00/ Guest \$60.00

Open Oil/Acrylic Painting with Philip Ruehle, MFA, Artist/Instructor
Six week session. Wednesdays, Sept 7- October 12, 1 pm – 4 pm

Receive one-on-one instruction while exploring the painting genre of your choice (still life, landscape, portraiture, non-objective abstract, etc). This is a great opportunity to experiment with something new or to improve upon something with which you currently find challenging. Students need to bring their own supplies. Mineral spirits will be provided. Fee: Member \$125 Member/\$135 Guest. New session will follow.

Keeping the Tradition Alive! – Basket Weaving Workshop
with Instructor, Sue Collins

Friday, September 9, 10am – 2pm

Old Salem Mini Muffin Basket will be the project. SAC is excited to offer another Basket Weaving workshop with Sue! This project is appropriate for all levels of weavers from beginning to more experienced. Make a functional mini muffin basket for your home or for a gift. Invite a friend! Bring a snack or sack lunch – coffee and tea provided. Cost is \$40 SAC member/\$45 Guest

Mud in the Morning – Pottery on the Wheel & Handbuilding

Instructor: Linda Ruehle, SAC staff Instructor

Tuesday's, Sept 13 -Oct 25, 10am- 1pm (No class Oct 18th)

Age Level: Beginning – Intermediate

Come experiment with clay! Six weeks of beginning to intermediate level pottery. Various techniques of wheel throwing, handbuilding and glazing will be taught. Bring your tools, vinyl gloves & sandpaper. Individual development is of primary importance. Come experiment with clay! Includes 25 lbs. Of clay, glazes and firing. Dress for mess! Evening class will follow. SAC Member \$155/ Guest \$165

Intro to Drawing (Beginning/Intermediate) with Artist/Instructor, Philip Ruehle, MFA, Artist/Instructor

Fridays, September 16- October 28. (7 weeks) 10am-1pm

This seven-week course will explore many of the principles and techniques of representational drawing while working with different genres (still life, figure, landscape, and architecture). Each week will consist of a demo at the beginning of class followed by one-on-one instruction. Fee: Member \$175.00/Guest \$185.00

Required Materials:

Graphite Pencils: 4H, 2H, HB, 2B, 3B

Kneaded Eraser

Pink pearl or plastic eraser

Drawing Paper (11"x14" or 16"x20") –Strathmore 400

Series Drawing Paper is recommended

Colored Pencil Studio with Artist/Instructor, Barbara Holmer

Friday, September 16, 12-4pm

Age Level: Adult/ Teen Skill Level: Beginner/ Intermediate

Colored Pencil is a very accessible medium that can be meditative as you build layers of color. Whether you are creating original art, working in a color book, or illustrating a journal, this class will provide you with basic and special techniques to enhance your drawing. We will make samples of each technique and see how they can be applied then start a small drawing with colored pencils. Paper, colored pencils, and sharpeners will be available to use in class, however, students are welcome to bring their own pencils and sharpeners. Fee: Member \$40.00/ Guest \$45.00

O'Rourke & Zeitler Close St. Johns Brown Bag Series

submitted by John Sirrine

On Friday August 26 at noon the Brown Bag Concert series concludes by presenting Siusan O'Rourke and Zig Zeitler featuring Irish and American Folk and a touch of the Blues. 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.

Siusan O'Rourke, the daughter of first-generation Irish Americans was reared in a family that taught appreciation for the music of their culture. Siusan possesses an astounding voice, a rare deep rich alto that is enveloping beyond the emotion of the song. She morphs seamlessly from treasured timeless songs to contemporary from Irish Tradition to American Roots from sorrowful ballads to whimsical songs.

Zig Zeitler is a seasoned and versatile musician and brings long experience with American Roots music to the duo's repertoire, particularly his dexterous skills on Guitar, Banjo, Fiddle, Harmonica and especially the Irish Bouzouki. Although his history is strongly steeped in Blues and the music of the Cajuns in Louisiana he is touted as a World musician being able to pull from many genres to flavor any arrangement.

Grab take-out lunch from any participating downtown food/drink purveyor and sit back for an hour listening to the music of the three-time Irish music award top duo's nominees, Siusan & Zig.

Check them out: <https://suisanandzig.com/home> or www.facebook.com/suisanandzig

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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Auction will start to end

Monday 8/29/2022 7:00:00 PM Gift Shop

Tuesday 8/30/2022 7:00:00 PM Hardware #1

Wednesday 8/31/2022 7:00:00 PM Hardware #2

Having Closed the Hardware after 65 years in Business, Peters Hardware will be selling the remaining inventory at an Online Auction! We have broken this into 3 Auctions Giftshop and 2 Hardware auctions with this large of an auction we did not want everyone to have to sit for 5 hours at one time on the computer. For your convenience you can also use the watch this item feature. This Auction will have everything from Tools, Paints, Nuts, Bolts Hardware, Lawn & Garden, Automotive, Chains, Plumbing, Electrical, Hand & Power Tools, Pocket Knives, Bolt Bins, Glass Repair Items, Glass Gutter, Screen Repair, Shelving Units & Much More! This is a very large Auction, and you will want to look through all the lots. Due to the size of this auction, we will start closing it at 7:00 Pm Here is a link to the online Auction!

bid.sherwoodauctionservice.com



Please direct any
questions to
Joe Sherwood
Auctioneer
1-800-835-0495

John Kenneth Nieman

John Kenneth Nieman, age 75, of Bannister, MI, passed away Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at his home surrounded by his family.

John was born in Saginaw, Michigan on January 19, 1947, the son of Russell and Mildred Cecelia (Warner) Nieman. He married Penny Harnick on January 29, 1972 at the Bannister United Methodist Church.

John loved racing cars at Mid-Michigan Motorplex from 1965 until now. He made many lifelong friends while racing and was well known in the racing community. He also enjoyed racing snowmobiles where he was known as the "Bannister Badass". He could be found tinkering in his garage and building motors. John was passing the racing torch to his son and grandsons and loved working alongside them in his garage. He liked taking trips to the casino with his sister and brother-in-law and garage sales with his good friend Larry Stoneman. He looked forward to weekly trips with daughter Kristy and daughter-in-law Lurie to Nixon's in Brant. Most of all he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Penny Nieman, daughter Kristy and Josh Brooks, and son Travis and Lurie Nieman, grandchildren: McKayla Muscott, Dylan Brooks, John Nieman, Caven Brooks, Robert Nieman, Devon Brooks, great-granddaughter Oktober, and one sister Mary and Ron Grubaugh of Bannister, MI. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, son Wade Michael Nieman, granddaughter Jazmine, and three brothers: Paul Nieman, Carl Nieman, and Gerald "Jerry" Nieman.

Funeral Services was held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI, on Friday, August 19, 2022, with Mr. Thomas Bradley officiating. Burial has taken place at Ford Cemetery, Elba Township, MI.



Memorials may be made to the funeral home to help cover final expenses. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.

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Obituaries

Debra Louise "Deb" Vaclavik

Debra Louise "Deb" Vaclavik, age 70, of Ovid, MI, passed away Monday, August 15, 2022, at Sparrow Health Systems, Lansing, MI with her family beside her.

Debra was born in Owosso, Michigan on February 28, 1952, the daughter of Charles E. and Georgiana L. (Critikos) Weiderer. Deb graduated from Ovid-Elsie High School with the class of 1970. She went on to receive her bachelor's degree in business administration from Baker College in Owosso. On July 2, 1977 Deb married Edwin Vaclavik in Ovid, MI.

Deb was employed with FBR for many years, working in St. Johns, Lansing, and Flint. Later on she went to work with Miller's Water Softener as a secretary and also Simpson's Greenhouse for many years. Deb enjoyed bowling at Tri-Ami and was also a youth bowling coach. She loved babysitting her grandchildren, knitting and crocheting, making each one of her family members an afghan. The last few years she was busy as a co-leader with the Cowabunga Critters with the Shiawassee County 4-H program involving rabbits. Deb enjoyed making people laugh, feeling welcomed and was there to help anyone in need.

She is survived by her husband Ed Vaclavik of Ovid, MI; daughter Donna and Dan Hall of Ovid, MI; son Bill and Leesa Vaclavik of Ovid,MI; grandchildren: Caleb Hall (Annika Pupava) of Ovid, MI; Xander Vaclavik (Chloe Moore) of Ovid, MI; Callie Hall of Ovid, MI; Zoey Vaclavik of Ovid,MI; Calsea Hall of Ovid, MI; Jaxon Vaclavik of Ovid, MI; siblings: Charles and Nadine Weiderer of Tampa, FL; Steve and Mary Weiderer of Owosso, MI; Virginia Weiderer of Ovid, MI; David Weiderer of Ovid, MI; and sister-in-law Diane and Dave Olney of Ludington, MI. She is also survived by special grandson Ethan Klingler of Ovid, MI; all of her special 4-H Critter members, her best buds Sir Ringo and Muffin, her BFF's Mareta Valentine of Florida and Sheree Stevens of Chapin, MI and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Georgiana Weiderer, Charles Edward (Erma) Weiderer, one brother Michael Weiderer, nephew Redneck Dave, mother-in-law Mary Quinn, her grandparents, and many aunts and uncles.

Cremation will take place and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the funeral home to help cover final expenses. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.



Rose Marie Welton

Rose Marie Welton, age 87, of Elsie, Michigan, passed away Friday, August 12, 2022, just two days short of her 88th birthday.

Rose was born in St. Johns, Michigan on August 14, 1934, the daughter of Jesse and Marian (Frink) Sturgis. She graduated from Elsie High School with the class of 1952. On June 26, 1954, she married Bruce Edwin Welton in Elsie, Michigan, and they were blessed with 68 years of marriage.

Her family was most important to her and she was always there for them. Rose had worked for Universal Electric, in Owosso, Michigan and Ovid-Elsie Public Schools. She was also a member of Duplain Church of Christ, where she was a secretary there.

She is survived by her husband Bruce Welton of Elsie, Michigan; two children: Brett and Cheryl Welton of St. Johns, Michigan; Rosanne and Chuck Harden of St. Johns, Michigan; her grandchildren: Craig and Jessica Welton, Kyle Welton and Sherry Cho, Derrick and Alexa Welton, Michael and Sarah Harden, Brianna and Craig Kinney, Jonathan and Mallory Harden. She is also survived by six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, son Brian Kent Welton, and her nine siblings.

Funeral Services and visitation will be private at Smith Family Funeral Homes – Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, MI, with Mr. Everett Smith officiating. Burial will take place at Mt. Rest Cemetery, St. Johns, Michigan.

Memorials may be made to Parkinson Foundation, 200 SE 1st Street, Suite 800, Miami, FL 33131. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



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Minister:
Rev. Joyce Wallace
Worship Service
10:30 a.m.

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street

Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:15am

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

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

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163 W. Main St., Elsie
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Pastor Phillip Rogers

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Pastor Eugene Blair

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

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

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

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Osmond & Pauline Smith
along with a family reunion.
Bring a dish to pass, lawn chair,
and your own drinks.
August 28, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
at
10036 W. Wilkinson Rd.
Ovid, MI 48866

We will be meeting at house first then going to
the gravesite at 2:30p.m. with dinner
following at the house.

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

It is Sunday morning and I'm in a bit of a fog. I just can't seem to get the gears moving this morning. Yes, I have set the oven to clean and apparently it is a three and a half hour session to do its self-cleaning. Which in and of itself is not really true. I still need to wipe out the ashes and wipe off the racks. Easier yes but still a bit time consuming. I also have a citrus combo gradually cooking on the stove top. I was supposed to cover the fruit with water which is funny because the fruit floats even though it is cut in slices. So I held the fruit down and covered it, hopefully there is enough water on it for after it comes to a boil, I'm supposed to simmer it for a couple of hours. This is probably going to be another one of those learning issues that I keep hearing about. Not a learning curve.

Pleasantly surprised when I received an invitation to the fifty-fifth class reunion. First one must have been lost in the mail. Now I need to get it back into the mail with a note mentioning that I probably won't get there until noon-ish because I have the St Johns' Farmer's Market. Curious as to why the time is set for mid day.

It has been a busy week and I'm enjoying the water aerobics. However to be completely honest, I'm more focused on doing the laps in the pool. Started doing one then moved up to two before class and then after class. It should keep my knee happy and help to tone me up all over the place, and believe me I do need the toning. The folks in the class are interesting and it has given me something to reflect upon...my flawed reaction to others. Some of my reaction could be assigned to not being up to snuff, hopefully the new dosage of thyroid meds will bring me back into line and I will concentrate on being more affable. I'm glad that Karen pointed out my reaction to the gent in the class that is very outgoing and appears to me to like hearing himself talk. No doubt I'm wrong and he is just hitting a nerve that I didn't realize was a bit bare. Oh well, on-wards and upwards.

Thursday morning, I picked up Eli and Brody to help me in the garden. I pulled weeds with them and wish that the weather

had cooperated a couple of weeks ago when they were to come. Some of the weeds were as tall as me and they were taller than the boys so everyone did work hard. We worked for three hours and then I took them to the local pizzeria for a large pepperoni pizza and root beer or tea. The youngsters were thrilled when they found their favorite hand dipped ice cream which is blueberry waffle. While we worked in the garden, the cotton wood tree was removed from my yard and shortly it will become a raised bed that I hope to plant with strawberries. It helps to have goals to concentrate on.

I didn't make the market this week, I was hitting on the exhausted side of life. I just couldn't seem to get into gear on Friday afternoon nor did I have any focus ability working for me. I was wiped out again and took a four hour nap, then went to bed at nine and slept in until eight on Saturday morning. Shortly after nine, I was in St Johns picking up my prescription and a few groceries and by one I was sound asleep. Got up at five and stayed awake until after ten and back into bed until seven this morning. Hopefully my battery is getting charged so that I can get back to being more functional. It does appear that I will be late in getting the loaves of quick bread up to church for others to take home.

Dang it, Monday was another one of those sleep filled days. Fortunately, I did manage to set some more garlic dill solar pickles to start. The old cottonwood tree has been transformed into a raised bed for strawberries thanks to the ingenuity of my neighbor Larry and his skill with the skid loader. Currently it is filled with the dirt and sawdust from the stump and topped off with chipped wood. Larry has promised me some mature equine/bovine mixed manure to top it off. Of course I have to wait for the chips and such to sink in as they deteriorate. Larry also removed the last clump of lilacs that had been killed by the aerial spraying of nearby fields, sadly I won't be able to replace them because they came from the homes of many good friends who have now passed. Looking at the lilacs was a good way to remember those folks.

It does appear that I will be busy for awhile. Two bushels of Red Haven peaches, fifteen pounds of ripe bananas, a plethora of zucchini, and more than a peck of pickling cucumbers are sitting my my living room expecting to be processed. Thankfully I have all that I need to get these jobs done. May your days be filled with challenges to focus upon and that certain delight in accomplishing your goals. God bless you daily. Crystal Mitchell©2022



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CITY OF OVID SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 8, 2022

The draft minutes may be requested at the Municipal Building located at 114 E. Front Street, or you may view them on the City's website at: www.ovid-mi.org

Mayor Lasher opened the public hearing at 7:00 pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Miss Hibbard, Mr. William, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Starn and Mr. Ordiway.

ABSENT:

EX OFFICIOS: Ben Helms – Chief of Police, Rich Simpson - DPW Superintendent, Liza Kusnier-Treasurer and Josefina Medina-Clerk.

VISITORS: None.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Brown, second by Williams to approve agenda as printed

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: A motion was made by Perrien, second by Brown to accept the minutes Regular meeting held on July 13, 2022 with corrections.

MOTION CARRIED

CHECK REGISTRY: A motion was made by Williams second by Perrien to accept the check register for the period of July 13, 2022 thru August 9, 2022 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

POLICE: A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Brown to authorize the Chief to purchase an evidence locker and not to exceed \$1,500.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Williams, second by Ordiway to accept the Treasurer, Police and DPW reports as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion was held. A motion was made by Brown, second by Williams to pay Officer Watson an amount of \$2,318.40 for a onetime bonus in appreciation of loyalty to community.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Lasher instructed that the resolution #2022-07 be stipulated that it was read into the record as presented. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to adopt resolution #2022-07 as read into the record to purchase a new patrol car through Berger Chevrolet. Roll call was taken as followed: YEAS: Starn, Perrien, Brown, Williams, Hibbard, Ordiway and Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution may be requested in its entirety at the city hall or on the city's website.

2. A motion was made by Starn, second by William to authorize use of all city properties, closing of streets and parade route as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Brown, second by Perrien to approve the light parade.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Brown, second by Williams to approve the budget amendments as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Williams, second by Brown to approve the two quotes as presented by Five Star Masonry.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion was held on the bids for the fencing at the ball fields. No action was taken.

6. Mrs. Medina gave a report on the election.

7. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Perrien, second by Williams to authorize the Clerk to pay Thornton & Sons the \$35,900 for now.

MOTION CARRIED

8. Mayor Lasher informed the council that the budget process will begin in September.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Discussion on the city's procedure for the municipal building being designated as a storm shelter. Discussion was held on if the city will continue the recycling program in the new renewal garbage contract due to residents contaminating the recycling units.

Discussion was held on violation of an agreement with a resident.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Lasher closed the meeting at 8:36 pm.

Josefina Medina, Clerk
City of Ovid

Obituary

Janice Elaine (Johnston) Wolfe

Janice Elaine (Johnston) Wolfe, age 78, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, August 12, 2022 at Sparrow Carson Hospital surrounded by her family.

Janice was born on August 9, 1944 in Owosso to Dale & Ila (Lochridge) Johnston. She graduated from Chesaning High School in 1962. On December 4, 1962, in a snowstorm, she married Ronald Dale Wolfe of Ashley. In their almost 60 years together they farmed, camped, and raised three children.

Over the years she was a 4-H leader, youth group leader, mail carrier, worked at the elevator in Pompeii & Ithaca, and served as a secretary at East Washington Church. Janice enjoyed spending time with family, friends, and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was known for her singing and recorded many CDs. Janice was especially well known for her kolaches and made more than anyone can count for graduations, special occasions, and always for Christmas. She did catering for many weddings and other events with her friend Sharon Simmons and daughter Dawn.

She is survived by her husband, Ron; her daughter Dawn Wolfe; sons: and daughters-in-law: Brian & Julie Wolfe and Greg & Lori Wolfe; grandchildren: Seth Wolfe, Kimberly



(James) Braman, Jenna (Alex Myers) Wolfe, Jayvin (Kiersten) Wolfe, and Lyndsi Wolfe; great-grandsons, James, Brayden, and Weston Braman. She is also survived by her brother Rodney (Judy) Johnston; sisters-in-law: Eileen Nicholas and Aleatha Foote; and many nieces and nephews. She was also blessed with many kids who called her "Ma Wolfe" and many "adopted" grandchildren. Janice was preceded in death by her parents Dale & Ila Johnston; in-laws: Dale & Ruth Wolfe; brothers-in-law: Larry Nicholas and Kenneth Foote.

Funeral Services celebrating her life were held at East Washington United Brethren Church on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. at with Pastor Jeff Reser officiating. Burial was in Collier Cemetery, Ashley, MI.

Memorials may be made to East Washington United Brethren Church or to Gratiot County Relay for Life. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Ithaca, Michigan.

We love you, Mom!

Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price Owner/Publisher meridianweekly.com

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Rock Out with Miranda & the M80's on August 24th

submitted by Bill Tennant

If you're looking to spend an evening with one of the most energetic and entertaining bands in mid-Michigan, mark on your calendars, Wednesday, August 24 as the day to make that happen. That's when Miranda & The M80s will hit the stage at the William E. Tennant Performance Shell in the beautiful St. Johns City Park.

"This group, formed in 2015, has been a state wide favorite for a number of years," said Bill Tennant, Concert in the Park coordinator. "Jeff Dietrich, the group's leader and drummer, is a graduate of St. Johns HS – he and the band do a great job of playing all of that wonderful 80s music. You will thoroughly enjoy this evening of rocking out with Miranda, Jeff, and their friends."

Miranda & The M80s consists of Miranda, who brings a background of classical training and musical theater experience to her amazing vocals, Len, 'The Axe' who studied guitar at MSU, Drew 'The Bass Melter' has a few years of classical training, and Jeff, who has a vast background of drumming experience in many different genres. This group of unique individuals come together to form this amazing cohesive band – a band you're going to want to spend some time with.

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.

So, set your GPS to: 801 W Park St, St Johns - 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.

Enrollment Open for LAFCU's Free Personal Finance Course

submitted by Jan Jenkins

LANSING, Mich. — Enrollment is open for LAFCU's free, comprehensive personal finance course Pathway to Financial Transformation for adults, ages 20 and over.

The 16-session course covers topics critical for financial stability and, ultimately, financial freedom. It is structured similar to a college course with assignments and quizzes.

This is LAFCU's second offering of the course; the first cohort graduated April 2022. Scott said some students were able to stop living paycheck-to-paycheck, pay off debt, start a savings account and improve their credit score.

One graduate, Cathy Daniels, Dimondale, sums up the course's impact: "It changed my life. It is so useful to everyday life it should be required learning for everyone."

The one-hour classes will be held virtually on Thursdays at 6 p.m., about twice monthly, Sept. 8, 2022 – April 27, 2023.

Topics include financial attitudes and behaviors, budgeting, investing, home and automobile ownership, dealing with financial stress, improving one's credit score, money management in retirement, and barriers that have prevented equal access to financial resources.

Speakers are LAFCU professionals in collections, lending, investments, insurance, and diversity, equity and inclusion; as well as outside experts in financial counseling, auto lending and auto maintenance, and mortgages; and even a health and wellness coach.

Course graduates will be celebrated at a cap-and-gown ceremony.

To enroll, visit www.lafcu.com/pathway. The enrollment deadline is Sept. 6, 2022. The course is open to people who live, work, worship or attend school in Michigan, the credit union's geographical service territory.

The Pathway to Financial Transformation personal finance course is the most recent complement to LAFCU's financial literacy program, which includes free classes on singular financial topics for adults and real-world financial education opportunities for K-12 students.

To learn more about LAFCU, call 800.748.0228 or visit www.lafcu.com.

Editorial



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Royal Rats

The other evening the Weekly Sportsman was on the phone with his sister listening about all the drama in her neighborhood. How neighbors are forming alliances and working together while others are pitted against each other. Threatening sticky note messages left on doors, annoying phone calls and texts, and keyboard warriors spewing self proclaimed wisdom on local facebook pages and discussion boards. What is all of this fuss about in Royal Oak?

RATS!

Royal Oak is not alone as many suburbs in southeast Michigan have been dealing with an exploding rat population over the last ten years but this problem has manifested itself recently. Part of the problem is the proximity to Detroit which ranks as the eighth rattiest city in America. COVID has done a lot but an often overlooked consequence is the closing of restaurants and reduction of food waste causing rats to go elsewhere for food, water, and shelter. A female rat can give birth to up to twelve babies at a time and a breeding pair of rats and their offspring can be responsible for up to 15,000 rats a year. What do rats like to eat when human food waste is not available? Canine feces. You can see how this situation can get out of control very quickly.

If the Weekly Sportsman encountered such a problem the solution would be traps, poison blocks, and a lot of target shooting at night with illumination and an air rifle. But therein lies a problem with this country boy's simple solution. In urban areas even air rifles are illegal, rat traps are expensive and most don't care to reuse the jaw snapping plastic devices, and poison blocks wreak havoc on more than just rats. It seems that in royal oak most residents want all types of wildlife critters visiting their bird feeders from squirrels to raptors and poisoned rats digested by other animals has untargated consequences. The whole local eco-system seems to be out of whack or is it that humans are the ones out of whack by trying to play Mother Nature?

The reality of the situation is that there are no real quick answers. Nobody wants their untrained neighbors lacking marksmanship skills shooting up the neighborhood. Felines could be released by the thousands but then when the rats are gone they would turn to songbirds and other visitors of bird feeders. The local government could offer a bounty but then again some taxpayers would object. Lots of different plants, herbs and vegetables could be grown and left in their natural state or made into deterrent sprays but good luck finding those residents with the skills. Garbage could be contained better and shelter denied by cleaning up junk piles along with making sure structures are solidly secured, however, hoping for a hard winter kill is unlikely due to climate change. Neighbors could form ecologically safe groups like the Ferndale Rat Patrol and Residents Are The Solution but that just doesn't seem to be working.

If real life case studies are researched the Canadian province of Alberta and their efforts should be a model. But declaring war, or shall the Weekly Sportsman say a carefully crafted public education campaign, on a pest for decades requires strong politicians and an army of educated government workers serious about eliminating a public health hazard. Sometimes humans can't pick and choose which wildlife species occupy their neighborhood to fit their hippie dippy social lifestyle and belief system. Mother Nature is very resilient and it is hard to manipulate a living ecosystem. Deer ticks, emerald ash borer, wolves in the UP, whitetail deer in central and southern Michigan, asian carp, coyotes, zebra mussels....

Do you have a solution for the growing rat problem in Detroit and adjacent suburbs??? Please let the Weekly Sportsman know.

-WS

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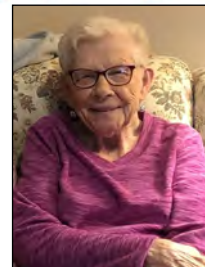
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**For those who can not attend we are also
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Doris Edgar

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Michigan Apple Harvest is Around the Corner - It's Almost Crunch Time!

submitted by Diane Smith
LANSING. -The 2022

crop of Michigan grown apples will soon be harvested, to the delight of Michigan Apple fans and consumers everywhere. Michigan's climate and geography provide ideal conditions for growing apples, and the mild spring weather, along with dedicated growers, nutrient rich soil, and plenty of heat, sunshine and rain result in quality, colorful, flavorful apples for consumers to enjoy. With an average annual harvest of nearly 24 million bushels, Michigan is the third largest apple producing state in the United States. While Michigan is third in quantity, many believe the flavor of Michigan-grown apples is the best in the world.

"Michigan's climate provides a growing season of mostly cool nights, warm sunny days and plenty of moisture - ideal factors in producing a flavorful crop of apples. This year, growers are optimistic that they will harvest an above-average sized crop with great quality and flavor - and that's definitely something for consumers to get excited about," said Diane Smith, executive director of the Michigan Apple Committee.

Consumers eagerly anticipating the 2022 Michigan Apple harvest can find estimates of harvest dates for their favorite varieties, and information about cider mills and farm markets at MichiganApples.com. Early variety Paula Reds are estimated to begin harvest August 23, and Ginger Gold on August 26. These varieties are most likely to be found at a local farm market, while consumer favorites Gala, McIntosh, and Honeycrisp, which will be harvested in September, are commonly found in the produce section of most grocery stores and supermarkets.

"Many consumers don't realize that they can support Michigan growers by purchasing Michigan Apples in the grocery store, as well as in farm markets and cider mills. Michigan is the third largest apple producing state - meaning they are sold on a commercial basis as well as in what's known as agritourism locations," said Smith.

Follow the Michigan Apples social media accounts on Instagram, Pinterest, TikTok, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube for the latest on the 2022 apple harvest.

The Michigan Apple Committee is a grower-funded non-profit organization devoted to marketing, education and research activities to distinguish the Michigan apple and encourage its consumption in Michigan and around the world. For more information, visit www.MichiganApples.com.



Ovid-Elsie cont' from front...

handled through administrative channels at the appropriate level. If a satisfactory solution is not achieved through this process that is when it should be brought to the Board of Education. Speakers are requested to complete a written request form (Michigan Compiled Laws 15.261-15.275) prior to the regular board meeting. Jones reminded the community that some special meetings are required by law to keep confidential. Such as Student disciplinary actions, contract negotiations and consultation with attorneys. At this time many community issues have cost the school district over \$16,000 in legal fees. It is imperative that the public follow the protocol set in place to express a complaint or concern to help keep costly time and money at a minimum. In conclusion, he reminded the community that the students are "Our #1 Priority." Details and the entire meeting can be seen live on Kellie Nethaway FB and read on the O-E web site.

The Board of Education met in a closed session prior to the prior to the adjournment. The next Meeting date is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2022 in the Information Center at 6:30 pm.

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.

Meridian Weekly

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Deborah Price Owner/Publisher

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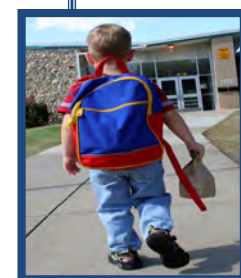
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Editorial

Welcome Back

Dear Marauder Families,

The new school year is rapidly approaching and with that, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and welcome everyone back to the 2022-23 school year!

My name is Randy Barton and I have worked at Ovid-Elsie Area School for the past 21 years. Recently, I was appointed as Interim Superintendent and I am excited to lead the District and continue to advance Ovid-Elsie Area Schools in the right direction. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to Dr. Cunningham as he enters retirement and the next chapter of his life. Ovid-Elsie Area Schools has been an outstanding place to work and learn for the past few decades and it is my goal to continue this fine tradition of educational excellence.

School will officially begin for all students on Wednesday, August 24, 2022. The buildings are currently open and all staff will report back officially on Monday, August 22, 2022. This year's school calendar may be found by visiting our District website and by clicking on the header that reads "District Calendars".

The Elementary Open Houses are slated for Monday, August 22, 2022. Leonard Elementary's times will be from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. while E.E. Knight will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Middle School and High School will also have their Open Houses on Monday, August 22, 2022. Sixth Grade Orientation begins at 6:00 pm, and Open House for all Middle School students from 6:30-7:30 pm. High School Freshmen Orientation will start at 6:30 pm, and Open House for all High School students from 7:00-8:00 pm.

Our device deployment for all students will take place during the first few days of school. If you need assistance or a device prior to this date, please contact help@ovidelsie.org.

Ovid-Elsie Area Schools has been selected for the "Summer Seamless Option" for our food service program. Thus, all students will be eligible for free breakfast and lunch! However, it is still critical that we have families fill out the free and reduced lunch application available at lunchapp.com or by using a hard copy. These applications help the District receive grants such as the Summer Seamless Option as well as other opportunities. Please take a moment to fill out this application - we greatly appreciate it!

With the departing of a few staff due to retirement or new opportunities, we would like to welcome several new staff members. We are excited to welcome these new staff members to the Marauder Family: 5th grade - Sierra Howes; 8th grade ELA - Mary Schmidt; Middle School Special Education Teacher- Danielle Cook; Middle School Success Coach - Claire Holley; Middle School Secretary - Trina Pontack; Media Center Specialist - Nicole Stawara; High School Success Coach - Michelle Ott; High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director - Mike Watson. On an interim basis, Cody Staley will assume the responsibilities of Operations/Building and Grounds while Carla Perrien will assume the responsibilities of Transportation. We also have a couple of new paraprofessionals - Ashley Rundell,

Hannah Phillips, and Kortney Miller. We still have a few positions to fill, but if you see these new faces around please welcome them!

Finally, we are wrapping up the construction and projects that were slated for this summer and the buildings are looking amazing! I would be remiss if I didn't thank our building and grounds crew for all of their hard work this summer as well as our technology staff who kept things up and running all summer long. Mark H. O'Donnell Stadium is nearing completion and we expect to officially break ground on our solar project at any time. We are thankful for the support of our community and are proud of the outcome of our bond extension projects.

We are excited to have students back on campus this Fall and if we all do our part, TOGETHER we will make this a great year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher, your building principal, or the Superintendent's office.

Yours in Education,

Mr. Randy Barton, Interim Superintendent, Ovid-Elsie Area Schools



Suggested Steps to be Taken

Letter to the Editor:

Regarding the O-E fuel situation, Board President Jones said in a recent statement that steps had already been taken to ensure that this doesn't happen again. To my knowledge, not a single one of these steps that has been taken has been told to the public. This certainly doesn't help working toward transparency. I am including my list of items that I feel should be taken and I would hope that the Board could tell us that all of these and more have been done already.

Steps that should be taken to address our district fuel situation:

- Full surveillance camera coverage of the area around and including the fuel pumps
- Complete documentation for every single disbursement of each type of fuel as is required by the State of Michigan for subsidized fuel. This documentation should include date, name of person taking the fuel, amount of fuel disbursed and the purpose for which it is being used. This information should be made available for any future FOIA request.
- Remove all 'automatic stipends' in administrator contracts that give guaranteed amounts of money for district travel, regardless of actual miles traveled. Mileage costs have decreased since COVID and several meetings continue to be done remotely.
- Have administrators turn in monthly mileage forms for actual miles traveled for district business to be reimbursed at the current IRS rate. Each trip should be documented with date, destination, purpose of trip and actual miles traveled. Reimbursement should also require that 'mapquest' or 'google maps' be attached to reimbursement forms for trips to verify actual miles. To my knowledge, most schools and businesses already do this.

Like I said, these may have already been done and I hope that the Board will disclose the actual steps they have taken to be transparent with the public.

Margaret White

Dear Andy,

My mom is making me write this to you. So, here it is. I am 15 and will be a sophomore this year. My problem is some of the other guys at school like to bug me and I feel bullied. They have made remarks like, "Did you get that Arthuuurr. Do you want me to call you later and explain it, Arthuuuuurrr" (not my real name)

A couple of the guys have called me on my cell phone just to give me a hard time. I don't like what they say, and it is making me {feel} embarrassed. I stopped participating in group talks or classroom participation last year because I know one of them would call or text me. I am smart and I do my best when I do my assignments.. I want to enjoy school the next 3 years and get the most out of what I need to learn to go to college.

They have been bugging me since middle school. We were friends in elementary school at one time. I just do not understand how they can say such mean things to me and call me names. I don't want to say which school because the school knows about these guys. It is not just me they bully so that is why my mom said to write to you. Some days I just can't stop thinking about it. I am not looking forward to going back to school. From, Feeling Bullied

Dear Bullied,

The definition of bullying is any written or spoken words intended to intimidate or harass another person causing emotional or physical harm to them or their property, unwanted negative, threatening, or insulting verbal remarks. Your situation certainly qualifies as "Bullying."

Make sure your teacher knows when it happens. Your teacher will understand and will take appropriate action at the time. Even if it is giving them a warning to "knock it off" The school has policies for Cyber Bullying as well as verbal and physical offences.. Stand up for yourself. Do not escalate the problem. Report it!

Let your lesson be... to not be like these guys. Unfortunately, many grow up to be bullies and become rude and mean to spouses and co-workers. It is highly likely these boys are insecure and dealing with problems of their own. Often teens do not understand their own emotions; Like jealous, angry, and confused and display their immature behavior towards you or someone else who becomes the victim. It is important to report it.

I like to suggest you use this technique to help you to stop thinking about what has been said to you from the bullies. It is called: Problem Solving 3-3-3. In 3 hours, the words and actions may still hurt. In 3 months you and they hopefully will be more mature. In 3 years, you'll be graduated and off to college and your career. Life will get better, I promise. Unfortunately, there will often be bullies but you will be better prepared to handle difficult situations.

Study; turn in your assignments and do your best so you can develop the habits and behavior it sounds like you want to have. Do NOT bully back. Walk away and be positive with your words and actions. Use 3-3-3 to address issues and/or challenges you may need to face.. Sometimes we need to use 5-5-5-5 = 5 min, 5hrs, 5 days, 5 months, 5 years. Try it for problem-solving in most any situation. If you continue to get unwanted calls, BLOCK their phone numbers. Thank you for writing and sharing this with others; you are not alone in this challenge. I am so sorry you have to go through this. Andy at email: askandyforadvice@gmail.com or ask_andy@aol.com

P.S. To find more information about stopping Bullying in our schools and community: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/basics/bullying>

"That Bloody Vending Machine"

"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs shall hear His voice, and shall come forth...(John 5:28-29)."

Since 1978, there have been almost 40 deaths from vending machines. Death is complicated enough, but to die by tilting a vending machine on top of you really takes the Tasty-kake. We are told death is natural, right? Wrong. Death is not natural. Death is the most un-natural thing I can think of — we stupidly pulled it down on top of ourselves.

The Bible says death is the result of sin, our rebellion against God. "The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23)." We earned death by our rejection of God's best for us. Even today we mostly ignore God as irrelevant. "The soul who sins will die (Ezekiel 18:4, 20)." Sin changed the natural course of His loving will for us and death was conceived.

But death also focuses us. Our life can seem busy or dull, but seeing death up close changes us. We think deeper and wonder, "Where is that soul I knew so well?" We see their body, but we know it's only a clay shell. King Solomon said, "It is better to go to funerals than parties because death is the end of every man and the living take it to heart."

Death silences us too. No one has an answer for this bizarre event. When we stare at a loved one in a coffin, and smell decay...no one can comfort our blurry grief. No one, that is, except Jesus, the Son of David. "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me shall live even if he dies (John 11:25)." Easter defanged death's bite.

So His death saves us. That's why His words are a marvel to those in the tombs. All the dead will hear Him...and come forth to give an account for their life. The resurrection of the dead is as sure as death stalking you today, and so is His voice to call you to judgment. Jesus earned the right when He rose again and killed death (Revelation 1:18).

Bob Dylan wrote, "Do you ever wonder just what God requires? You think He's just an errand boy to satisfy your wandering desires." We treat God like a vending machine. We think if we pull a cosmic lever then He'll do our bidding. But what does God want? "For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord God. "Therefore, repent and live (Ezekiel 18:32)." He wants to restore us, but our sin remains.

Sin made a chasm between God and us (Isaiah 59:2). We need to repent, put our sin on Jesus, and take His blood sacrifice to bridge this gap (2 Corinthians 5:21). But how? Vending means "to transfer to another person the equivalent." We must make a transfer, and receive Him by faith (Colossians 1:13-14). You can look at a Tasty-kake all day, but it's not yours until you pull the lever...His blood for your sin. Then His voice will be a joyous thrill to hear on that last day, if today is your salvation day (2 Corinthians 6:2).



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You can also mail or drop questions
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**Faith
Focus**

by Phil Hoppersberger
Graham Community Church

Sports

Wolfpack's Koerner, FSU Student-Athletes Honored by GLIAC for Academic Success

BIG RAPIDS — A total of 70 Ferris State University student-athletes have achieved Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) All-Academic & All-Academic Excellence Team honors for the 2022 spring athletics campaign as announced by the league office.

The 70 Bulldog student-athletes represent seven varsity programs, including softball, men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis along with men's and women's outdoor track and field.

Laingsburg grad Zach Koerner is entering his sophomore season on the Bulldog men's links team. He was the 2021 All-Shiawassee Area Golfer of the Year after an outstanding four-year career for coach Greg Beavers' Wolfpack.

Overall, a total of 911 student-athletes achieved all-academic recognition from across the conference member institutions this past spring season.

Ferris State had 21 student-athletes tabbed to the GLIAC All-Academic Team and another 49 who received GLIAC All-Academic Excellence Team recognition.

Criteria states the student-athlete must be an active member on the roster at the end of the season, not a freshman or a first year transfer student. All-Academic Teams are comprised of those student-athletes that meet criteria and carry a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0-3.49. Academic Excellence Teams are comprised of student athletes that have a cumulative GPA of 3.50-4.0. Grades are based on marks from the fall semester.

Overall, the Bulldog Softball program led the way in the spring with 16 honorees, including a FSU-best 14 excellence picks. The women's track and field squad finished with 15 recipients with men's track and field garnering 12 honorees. The men's tennis team racked up eight awards with women's tennis finishing with seven winners while both the men's and women's golf teams each had six individuals on the list.

In total, the Bulldogs finished the 2021-22 athletics season with a total of 195 student-athletes featured on either the fall, winter or spring all-academic teams based on the sport. The 195 recipients included 129 GLIAC All-Academic Excellence picks in addition to 66 all-academic winners.

All-Academic and Scholar-Athletes selections for FSU's NCAA Division I men's ice hockey program have yet to be announced.



Wolfpack Grad Danek Joins Evansville Soccer Program

LAINGSBURG — The University of Evansville women's soccer team strengthened its goalkeeping corps, as head coach Chris Pfau announced the addition of Oakland University transfer Myia Danek -- former Laingsburg HS grad -- to the Purple Aces' 2022 roster.

Myia is the daughter of Scott and Jill Danek of Laingsburg.

Danek played two seasons at Oakland University, and will have three years of eligibility remaining at UE due to the COVID-shortened season of 2020-21. Danek made her collegiate debut during the COVID 2021 spring season, stopping both shots she faced as a true freshman in a match against Robert Morris. Danek then went 1-0-0 with a 1.61 goals-against-average in three matches for Oakland in fall 2021, while facing 27 total shots and recording 10 saves.

Danek earned first-team all-state honors at Laingsburg High School as a junior in a season in which she recorded 106 saves. She currently plays for Cap City Athletic 1847 in United Women's Soccer, a national pro-am league which provides high-level competition for college players, aspiring and former professionals, and international standouts.

"I am excited to add Myia to our program," said Pfau. "She brings experience, hard work and a great attitude. She is driven and wants to get better each day and make the team better. On top of all of that, she is a tremendous person, and she will be great not only for our team, but for our University."

Danek joins a strong incoming class for Evansville featuring Indiana natives Ryleigh Anslinger (Evansville, Ind./Memorial/Indiana Univ.), Kaylee Woosley (Evansville, Ind./North), Amy Velazquez (Avon, Ind./Avon HS) and Ella McAndrew (Greendale, Ind./Lawrenceburg HS), first-team all-Ohio standout Paige Radel (Metamora, Ohio/Evergreen), Southwest stars Chrysta Vasquez (Henderson, Nev./Coronado HS) and Isabel Valdez (Phoenix, Ariz./Desert Vista HS), Texas native Kathryn Tyler (Lantana, Texas/Liberty Christian HS), and Floridian Joelle Haines (Jacksonville, Fla./IMG Academy).

Evansville is coming off of a season in which the Purple Aces began with the best start in program history, ranked as high as #5 in the United Soccer Coaches Midwest Region poll, and earned a spot in the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament finals.



O-E's Morris Figures Into MSU Football Plans Again

EAST LANSING — A strong kicking game has been a staple for Michigan State football for several seasons. In recent years, Dan Conroy, Mike Geiger, and Matt Coughlin were all reliable place-kickers for the Spartans.

Coughlin had his moments of struggles more than Conroy and Geiger, but a kicker was never an outlying need while the three of them were in East Lansing. Amongst the three kickers, they only missed five total extra points.

Michigan State's heir-apparent at the position is true freshman Jack Stone. Can he continue the lineage of reliable Spartans place-kickers? There are high hopes amongst the coaching staff he does.

So, Where does that leave Ovid-Elsie graduate Evan Morris?

Answer: as a strong, versatile contributor for the Spartans.

Morris, who plays tight end and can also handle kickoffs, is a two-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree. Morris has a towering figure for a kicker, measuring in at 6-foot-5 and 221 pounds. The former Marauder may have come into MSU's program as a preferred walk-on, but he was ranked 18th nationally as a punter by 247Sports and 37th as a kicker by Kohl's Kicking Camps in the 2019 class.

Morris showed that leg as a senior at Ovid-Elsie, averaging 58.1 yards on kickoffs, with 31 touchbacks. And his junior year, he made two field goals longer than 50 yards, which put him on the national map.

"Evan is extremely determined to be the best specialist he can be," his former O-E coach, Travis Long, explains. "He works very hard at perfecting his technique. He wants to be great." Morris averaged 55.8 yards on his kickoffs in the 2021 campaign.

He was ranked the No. 18 punting prospect in the nation by 247Sports and No. 20 by Kohl's Kicking Camps, coming out of Ovid-Elsie, and was named the best American roll-out punter in the Class of 2019 by Kohl's.

Evan also ranked among the top kickers (No. 37) in the nation. In addition to kicking, he played tight end and defensive end for Coach Long at Ovid-Elsie High School, where he earned first-team all-conference and honorable mention all-state accolades as a kicker his senior year in 2018. Morris averaged 58.1 yards on kickoffs and had 31 touchbacks on 43 kickoffs.

That senior season at O-E, he was 25-of-28 on PATs and also made two field goals, and had 16 catches for 340 yards and seven TDs as a receiver. On defense, he registered 45 tackles, including 10 for losses with six sacks, as a defensive end. Evan also had an interception return for a touchdown and a fumble recovery.

An honorable All-State selection as a junior, Morris made 17 field goals during his high school career, including two from 50-plus yards.

Since the Mark Dantonio era at Michigan State, the Spartans have had quality special teams. Fans remember the infamous "Little Giants" play against Notre Dame in 2010, and the "Trouble with the Snap" play against Michigan in 2015.

Morris looks to help those Spartan special units any way he can in 2022.



Ovid-Elsie Varsity Softball & Sports Boosters 29th Annual Golf Scramble

Proceeds to benefit the O-E Sports Boosters and the Softball Program

Sunday, September 11th, 8:30 a.m.

Shotgun Start • Four Person Scramble

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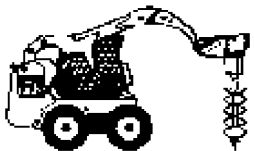
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Sports



Wolfpack Boys Dominate Soccer Opener, 8-0, Over Potterville

LAINGSBURG — Brayden Thomas pounded in four goals, and the Wolfpack boys varsity soccer team opened its season with an 8-0 win over Potterville here Wednesday, Aug. 17.

Coach Natalie Elkins' Wolves opened up the big lead in the first half and won by mercy rule; no second half was played.

Laingsburg's first goal came from Brayden Thomas off an assist from senior Dylan Hulliberger. The second score was from new senior Jacob Essenberg, also with a cross-assist from Hulliberger, then a goal from defensive midfielder senior Aaron Willoughby from a defensive rebound.

Other goals came from Thomas, unassisted; French exchange student senior Paul Pageot; two more unassisted by Thomas, and the last on a blast by Hulliberger.

Coach Elkins is being assisted by Jeremie Wilson and JV Coach Jackson Wilson, and assistant Mike Salas returned for the second season since taking over the Wolfpack helm in 2021.

Kelley, Women's Bowling Team Feted at Spring Arbor 5th Annual CNA Awards

SPRING ARBOR — The Spring Arbor University Athletic Department recognized and celebrated the achievements of its student-athletes at its fifth annual Cougar Nation Athletic (CNA) Awards, presented by True Community Credit Union.

The women's bowling team, featuring Ovid-Elsie graduate Mikayla Kelley, received the Team Comeback of the Year Award.

Kelley is entering her sophomore season with the Lady Cougar bowling team.

The CNA Awards is a formal, red-carpet event modeled from the well-known ESPYs and created to give the department an opportunity to celebrate and honor the academic, athletic and community excellence achieved by all SAU student-athletes. Awards ranged from the Athletes of the Year to Performance of the Year and Academic Teams of the Year. Nominations for each award were submitted by the SAU Athletics staff, coaches and trainers, and voted on by the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

In total 28 awards were handed out to individuals and teams across the department. Among the prominent awards given were the Male and Female Senior Athletes of the Year, the Don McDonald Junior Scholarship, the Kay Dunckel Sophomore Scholarship and the Miriam Sailors Freshman Scholarship.



Albion Women's Wrestling Makes History at Collegiate Nationals

ALBION — Laingsburg's Gabby Motz is headed to a good place. Albion College's Sam Parcell and Jayla Oberst have made history.

In their first year as a program, Parcell and Oberst became the first from the Albion College women's wrestling program to compete at the National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships.

After receiving a bye, Parcell faced off against a tough opponent at 123 from North Central. Parcell fell into the wrestlebacks, pinning her first opponent in 2:58. She then went on to win via injury, staying alive for another round. In her fourth bout of the day, the decision did not go in favor of the Albion freshman.

At 116, Oberst went 0-2, dropping a tough opening bout. The freshman put up a good fight in the second match, but came up short, 8-2.

Motz announced her decision to wrestle for Albion at her Letter of Intent signing last fall at Laingsburg High School. During Motz's senior season for the Wolfpack, she was voted a Lansing State Journal high school athlete of the week winner, and regarded as one of the top girls wrestlers in the state. For much of the 2022 prep season, she was ranked by Michigan Grappler as the state's top-ranked girl in the 110-pound weight class.

Her success at the varsity level included top-five finishes at the MYWAY girls finals in the 117 pound weight class the last two seasons. She was third in 2020 and finished fifth last season.

The future remains bright for the Albion Britons women's wrestling program.



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Another Successful Outing

The Laingsburg/Ovid Lions Golf Outing was held on Saturday, August 13th at Pine Hills Gold Course. Twenty three teams took part in the fund raising event. The golf was great and the steak dinner afterwards was delicious as always. Both clubs wish to thank all who donated prizes for the raffle and to the golfers for their continued support.



*PDG Kurt Stromland and
Laingsburg Lion Jackie Bader*



*1st Place
Nick LaFontsee
Greg Beavers
Kevin Fraidenburg
Terry Fraidenburg*



*2nd Place
Doug Adams
Brad Latuszek
Will Rosenquist
Eric Lutzke*



*3rd Place
Skip Turek
Jeremy Merrell
John Saller Sr.
Randy Gregg*

*Closest to the Pin -
Tim Parker
Longest drive(mens) -
Mike Jackson
Longest drive
(womens) -
Patricia Cavanaugh
Longest putt -
Remi W.*



Left to right. Laingsburg Lions, Del Dreja, Justin Bader and Nick Holtman.

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