

## Veteran Public Relations Firm Hits 20-Year Milestone

*submitted by Carrie Rathbun Hawks*

Laingsburg – Rathbun Public Relations is thrilled to be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Founder Carrie Rathbun Hawks, APR, started Rathbun PR in 2002 after 10 years in agency, nonprofit and corporate roles. She is based out of her home in Laingsburg.

With three decades of experience, the core of Rathbun's business is creating and managing strategic public relations programs for her clients – which have ranged from arts and health care to economic development, governmental and manufacturing organizations. Special skills include strategic planning, research, branding, communication counseling and asset analysis, and professional speaking and communications-related training. By using the four-step process – research, planning, implementation and evaluation – she has been able to guide clients through building their communications programs from the ground up, as well as helping those who are already established but need to refresh and redirect. As a result, she has received numerous awards for outstanding work in her field.

Rathbun is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America, a 2018 ATHENA International Award winner, and was chosen by her peers in 2012 as the PACE Maker of the Year by the Central Michigan Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. She graduated from Michigan State University with a BA in communication.

In her 30-year career, Rathbun has also been on numerous boards in an effort to share her experience and give back to her community. She currently sits on the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, is vice-chair of the Shiawassee Arts Center Board and serves as a director on the board of ePIFanyNow™, a Lansing-based organization dedicated to passing kindness forward. Rathbun is also working with other Athenians to expand opportunities for personal and professional development for women in Shiawassee County and mid-Michigan.

"I have been blessed with a successful run so far, and I don't take any of it for granted," shared Rathbun. "All the awards I've received, clients I've had the honor of working with and organizations I've helped lead humble me. I love what I do and wouldn't be where I am without the support of so many."



## Governor Whitmer Announces \$1.2 Million in USDA Grants

*submitted by Jennifer Holton*

LANSING, Mich. – Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Gary McDowell today announced a \$1.2 million federal investment to help the state's meat and poultry processors to expand their processing capacity. This funding was made available through the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grant (MPIRG) program.

"Today's investments in Michigan's small agriculture businesses will strengthen our food supply chain and help reduce food costs while creating good-paying jobs for Michiganders," said Governor Whitmer. "Michigan is known for its strong food and agriculture businesses, and I'm thrilled that USDA is committed to helping them continue to thrive in our state. I will work with anyone to invest in every region of our great state and was proud to invest in rural and agriculture economic development in the bipartisan budget I signed a two months ago, empowering rural Michigan to compete for and win more projects and create good-paying jobs."

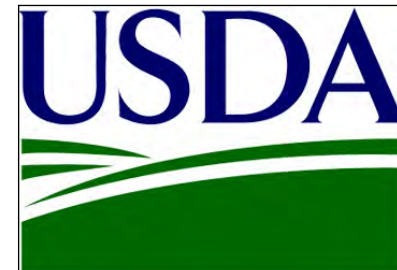
MPIRG, a new program authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, is jointly administered by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service and Food Safety and Inspection Service. The program was part of USDA's comprehensive funding package to help small and very small processing facilities weather the pandemic, compete in the marketplace, and get the support they need to reach more customers.

"Michigan's food and ag sector is an economic powerhouse generating billions for the economy and supporting jobs in our communities," said McDowell. "Our farmers and food-based businesses continue to show their resiliency and ability to adapt. These funds from USDA provide additional support to allow these help our small meat and poultry processors grow."

Six Michigan companies were awarded federal MPIRG grants:

Bellinger Packing & Associates Inc. in Ashley: \$200,000  
Country Smoke House in Almont: \$200,000  
Clear Water Meats in Eau Claire: \$200,000  
Thomas Elliott (Veritas Vineyard, LLC) in Jackson: \$200,000  
Marrow in Detroit: \$200,000  
Merindorf Meats Inc. in Mason: \$200,000

With this grant funding, meat and poultry processing businesses can cover the costs for improvements such as expanding existing facilities, modernizing processing equipment and meeting packaging, labeling, and food safety requirements needed to achieve a Federal Grant of Inspection under the Federal Meat Inspection Act or the Poultry Products Inspection Act, or to operate under a state's Cooperative Interstate Shipment program. These changes allow these facilities to serve more customers in more markets.



## September is Hunger Action Month

*submitted by Michael Steibel*

For many, a daily meal is a simple choice of what to eat.



For people facing hunger, a daily meal poses a very different type of choice. It's often an impossible decision between food or other crucial needs, such as electricity, childcare, or medicine. Nobody should be forced to make a choice to go hungry.

Greater Lansing Food Bank is joining Feeding America to inspire people to act and raise awareness of people facing the impossible choice of hunger. September is Hunger Action Month and a time to mobilize to end hunger. You can choose to donate or advocate. You can choose to volunteer or raise awareness. You can choose to help end hunger.

For more information on how you can get involved this Hunger Action Month - visit [www.GLFoodBank.org](http://www.GLFoodBank.org)



On Friday, September 9th, the Ovid-Elsie varsity football team played their home opener against Durand on the new turf at Mark O'Donnell Field. Photo by Michelle Ladiski.



OE tight end, Clay Wittenberg goes up over a Byron defender for a completed pass. The Marauders defeated Byron 55-7. See pages 6-14 and page 16 for sports coverage and Fall Sports Team Photos and Previews. Photo by Michelle Ladiski.



# Social



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—Holly Holm

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## Ovid Public Library

Thank you everyone who helped us by purchasing books and other goodies during our Carriage Days sale. However, there's still many many more books to be had so if you weren't able to visit us during the sale or you need more books to get you through the winter months ahead come on in and get some more! We will be selling our remaining books for \$2.00 a bag. There's still plenty of good ones to choose from!

Please join us on Monday September 19th for our Adult Booktasting. It starts at 1:00. This is a good place to find out what good books other people are reading. You just never know, you might just find a new book or author that will become your favorite.

On Friday, September 23, we will be having our first Preschool Story Hour for this school year. Ms. Shelly will be reading books and we will have a fun fall craft for the kids to make and take home. Story hour begins at 10:30. We are hoping to see a lot of little ones at the library on Friday!

## Breakfast is Back

The Laingsburg American Legion Post 248 Sunday Breakfast is back starting Sunday, September 11th. Breakfast will be served to the public from 8am-11am every Sunday. The Legion is located at 1240 E. Grand River in Laingsburg. For more information call (517)651-6050. Bring the family for a delicious breakfast.

## Clinton County Historical Society

submitted by Judy Hubler

Art Wainwright will be the speaker at the annual Clinton County Historical Society program at Agro Liquid, 3055 West M-21, St. Johns, MI on Thursday, September 15 at 6:30 PM

Mr. Wainwright will be talking about some interesting experiences during his career of more than 40 years in broadcasting. He hosted and produced the "Route 10 Coast-to-Coast" TV show, spending most of his time on the road traveling the backroads of Michigan and the USA.

The public is invited. Please join us in welcoming Mr. Wainwright. Cookies and drink will be provided.

## Laingsburg Board of Education

submitted by Krissy Pratt

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct a regular board meeting on Monday, September 14, 2022. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm in the Middle School Media Center, please see our website at www.laingsburg.k12.mi.us for up to date information.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: student enrollment/class size, 2022-23 budget update, legislative update, personnel, and any other business that may properly come before the board

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.

## ST. JUDE'S NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus Pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day, by 8th day your prayers will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.

Thank you St. Jude.

KV

## SAC's Member Artists Show

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Center presents the 25th Annual Member Artists Show now through October 30, 2022. The non-juried show features the multi-media work of 80 mid-Michigan artists from as far away as Ann Arbor, Royal Oak and Mt. Pleasant. The exhibit is sponsored by James Finzel.

Awards totaling \$500, judged by award-winning sculpture artist, Mark Chatterley, will be presented at the opening reception, Saturday, September 10, 4-6pm. SAC is one of the stops on this year's Downtown Owosso ArtWalk, which also takes place on Saturday, 3-8pm.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, located in Curwood Castle Park in Owosso, is open Monday through Friday 10am-5pm, weekends 12-4pm. The public is welcome and there is no admission charge. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieseke Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. SAC, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2022, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate, entertain and enrich the quality

of life in our community. For more information call the Arts Center at 989.723.8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.

## SHILOH JUNCTION FALL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION



8049 N State Rd, Orleans MI  
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616-902-8052 and 616-902-7822

Saturday September 24th 2022

1st Ring Small Items start at 10 AM

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## Shiawassee County Bat Tested Positive for Rabies

submitted by Grace Czubachowski

On August 30, 2022, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) laboratory confirmed that a bat found in Shiawassee County tested positive for rabies. Rabies can only be confirmed with laboratory testing. While this bat was found in the City of Owosso, it is important for county residents continue to use caution with bats no matter their location.

Rabies is most commonly transmitted by a rabid animal scratch or bite. Most reported cases occur in wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, bats, and foxes.

If a bat is found inside the home, the Shiawassee County Health Department recommends safely collecting the bat and following these guidelines:

- Wear leather gloves. A bat should never be handled with bare hands.

- Place a clear container over the bat, slide a piece of sturdy cardboard under the container, and firmly secure the cardboard or the lid to the container with tape.

- Contact the Communicable Disease Nurse at the Shiawassee County Health Department at 989- 743-2356. If the Health Department is closed, keep the bat cold until it can be taken to the Health Department.

- A dead bat should be submitted to the Health Department for rabies testing. Do not crush the bat or put the bat into the freezer.

Most people know when they have been bitten. However, exposure can occur without an individual knowing they have been scratched or bitten, especially with bats. Bats have small teeth and tiny claws, making it difficult for an exposure to be detected.

A sleeping person awakened to a bat in the room is considered exposed. It is also considered an exposure when a bat is found in a room with an unattended child, or a mentally impaired or intoxicated person. Under such circumstances, it is very important to capture the bat for testing.

If a pet has been exposed, it is important to capture the bat and submit it for testing. If this cannot be done, follow up with your veterinarian or Disease Surveillance at 989-743-2356. All cats and dogs must have current rabies vaccinations.

Death from the disease is most frequently a result of individuals being unaware of their exposure, or from failure to seek medical attention after being bitten or scratched. On average 2-3 people in the United States die each year due to rabies.

## Owosso Parkinson Support Group

Owosso Parkinson Support group to meet on Wed, September 14 at 5:00PM at Shiawassee Council on Aging, 300 N Washington St, Owosso, 989-723-8875. The Owosso Parkinson Support Group meets the second Wednesday of each month.

Special guest speaker for the evening will be Eric Theis will be talking about new Placid. It is a medication that helps with Hallucinations and delusions. Eric Theis has a lot of knowledge of this medication, will share it with the group.

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, please join us. We provide information, encouragement, fellowship, and support. If you have any questions about Owosso Parkinson Support group, please call Karen Prussner, Facilitator. at 989-723-6901.

## September is Hunger Action Month

submitted by Michael Steibel

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### SCIOTA TOWNSHIP, SHIAWASSEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

#### NOTICE OF AMBULANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING TO REAFFIRM SPECIAL AMBULANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT; AND TO INCREASE AMBULANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT; AND TO CONSIDER OBJECTIONS TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVY AND CONFIRM THE ASSESSMENT ROLL.

To: The Residents and Property Owners of the Township of Sciota, Shiawassee County, Michigan, and other interested persons:

The Township Board has estimated the cost and expenses for providing ambulance, motor vehicles, personnel, equipment, and housing, in order to provide ambulance protection and accordingly the day has been fixed for hearing on the cost estimates and on the question of reaffirming the Township-wide special assessment district, and to increase the special assessment per household to \$160 per year; and to distribute the Special Assessment Levy, so as to defray the expenses of providing such ambulance service, by special assessment on the property to be especially benefited.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on September 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Public Hearing, at the Sciota Township Hall, located at 3990 Leland Road, Laingsburg, Michigan, to consider reaffirming the ambulance special assessment district, which encompasses all of Sciota Township and to increase the ambulance Special Assessment for four years (starting in the fall of 2022), at \$160 each year, against each residential household within Sciota Township; and to consider objections to the distribution of the Special Assessment Levy.

**TAKE NOTICE** that there will be no other Public Hearing on this matter for four years.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that appearance and protest at this hearing is required to appeal the amount of special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal, if an appeal shall be desired. A property owner or part in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment or may file his or her Appearance by letter, delivered to the Clerk, by USPS mail or in person, by September 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. The property owner or any person having an interest in the property subject to the proposed special assessment, may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the State Tax Tribunal, within thirty (30) days after confirmation of the special assessment roll if that special assessment was protested at this hearing. At said hearing the Sciota Township Board will consider any written objection to any of the foregoing matters, which might be filed with said board, at or prior to the time of said hearing, as well as any revisions, corrections, amendments and/or suggestions.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place and may submit comments on any of the foregoing.

Jamie Parker-Wing, Clerk  
Township of Sciota

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### REAL ESTATE

Nice, quiet corner location already has a 22x24 garage on concrete and an additional 22x32 storage building. There are also two sheds on property. Site was formerly a residence but the home has been removed and it is ready for a new owner to build on. (subject to seller confirmation). The successful bidder will be required to execute a purchase agreement at that time and provide a non refundable earnest deposit check of \$5000.00. For more information on the Real Estate Contact Listing Agent Listing Agent Lee Aldrich CELL: 989-763-1042 Leasure Enterprises of ALMA - 989-763-1042

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## Fredrick-Allen Family Reunion

Descendants of Mable (Allen) and August Fredrick met Sunday, August 28th, 2022, at Bates-Scout Park in Laingsburg for the 88th Fredrick-Allen Reunion.

Jon Dahl of DeWitt gave the invocation before a potluck dinner.

Mick Danek presided over the business meeting and, as the group's historian, reported five deaths since last year's reunion. Gloria Danek gave the secretary and treasurer's reports.

The eldest attendee was Glen Dahl, 91, of Montague. Youngest was Jack Dahl, 5, the son of Victoria and Justin Dahl of Bath. Linda Dahl of DeWitt wore the lucky name tag. The Dahls also traveled the farthest and had the most family members present. Prizes were also awarded for 9 through 54 consecutive years of attendance.

The Dahls are descendants of the late Hazel (Fredrick) Dahl, who was the second of the fourteen children of Mable and August and who lived to celebrate her 100th birthday.

The rest of the afternoon was spent catching up on family news, looking at pictures from previous reunions, taking group photos, and enjoying the playground.

The 2023 reunion will be held August 27th at the same location.



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## Obituaries

### Mary Veronica Galko

Mary Veronica Galko, age 95, of Elsie, MI, passed away Saturday, September 3, 2022, at her daughters home surrounded by her family.

Mary was born in Flint, Michigan on February 13, 1927, the daughter of Frank and Matilda (Gebels) Wlosek. She graduated from Beecher High School in Flint in 1945. Mary married Ed Galko on September 3, 1949 at Sacred Heart Church in Flint, MI. Ed passed away on June 11, 2003.

Mary worked at the Redmond & Universal Plants in Owosso, MI. After marriage her career was raising her family. She loved needle craft, making homemade quilts, dancing to the polkas, visiting the casino, puzzle books and she enjoyed being with her family and friends.

She resided most of her life in the Elsie Area, was a member of the VFW Auxiliary, Central Michigan Polka Association, a member of the Altar Society of St. Cyril's Catholic Church in Bannister. She was a devoted life long catholic and her faith was very strong.

She is survived by her children: David and Linda Galko, Ronald Galko, and Lynn Fruchey; four grandchildren: Vicki and Jake Woodbury, Jeff and Amanda Fruchey, Greg and Jacki Galko, and Mikki and CJ Reha; and six great-grandchildren: Ellie and Emma Woodbury, Clayton and Claire Fruchey, and Jackson and Charlotte Galko. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Ed, son-in-law Christopher Fruchey, seven sisters, and one brother.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Cyril's Catholic Church, Bannister, MI, on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, with Fr. Kevin Maksym presiding. Burial has taken place at Ford Cemetery, Elba Township, MI.

Memorials may be made to WOES Polka Palace or St. Cyril's Catholic Church, Bannister, MI. Online condolences can be sent to [www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com). The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



### Reginald Arthur "Reggie" Stevens

Reginald Arthur "Reggie" Stevens, age 95, of St. Johns, MI, passed away Saturday, September 3, 2022, at his home.

Reginald was born in Greenbush Township, Michigan on December 29, 1926, the son of Arthur and Grace (Green) Stevens. He graduated from Rodney B. Wilson with the class of 1944. On April 19, 1975, Reginald married Janese I. Beebe at the Eureka Congregational Church.

Reggie and Janese wintered in Plant City Florida for 35 years. He loved woodworking projects, the Detroit Tigers and Michigan Football. Reggie proudly served his country in the United States Army. He attended the Eureka Christian Church where he also sang many solos. Reggie was a life long farmer and was a member of the Farmers Union and American Agriculture. He resided his entire life in Clinton County.

He is survived by his wife Janese Stevens, two sons: Jerry Stevens, and Larry and Tamie Stevens all of St. Johns, MI. He is also survived by his grandson Jacob (Autumn) Stevens, great grandsons: Dexton Stevens, Jacoby Stevens and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers: Ray Stevens, Myron Stevens; and four sisters: Gladys Sweet, Helen Fowler, Catherine Stevens, and Geraldine Halteman.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, MI, on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, with Rev. Keith Whipple officiating. Burial has taken place at Eureka Cemetery, Eureka, MI.

Memorials may be made to Eureka Christian Church or St. Johns American Legion Post 153. Online condolences can be sent to [www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com). The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, Michigan.



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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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### ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



### Duplain Church of Christ

5565 E. Colony Rd.

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Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

11:00am

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Children's Minister: Jessica Prieto

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**HERITAGE  
MONUMENTS**



# Obituaries

## Jeanne Louise Serviss

Jeanne Louise Serviss, age 79, passed away on April 2, 2022

Jeanne Louise Serviss was born February 14, 1943 in Little Britain, New York to Robert and Louise Finley.

Jeanne spent her childhood years growing up on the family farm with her sister Elizabeth in New York enjoying many hobbies and was active in 4-H as well as the Little Britain Grange and spending time with her family & friends.

She married Paul Bundschu in her early 20s and started her family. First Paul Jr then 4 years later, Christy then Betsy to complete her family. She moved from New York early in her marriage to start a dairy farm in Pennsylvania and then later moved to St. Johns Michigan raising sheep and her children. She divorced Paul shortly after Betsy was born and later met the love of her life Bob Serviss at a snowmobile race in Ovid Michigan introduced (actually set up) by her friends and neighbors Dave and Diane Hill. Bob quickly embraced this instant family and they were married and moved to the family farm in the early 70s where they raised peppermint as well as spearmint, many farm related crops and started the dairy farm Cedar Lawn Vu which was the foundation for many champion Holsteins & Jerseys as well as winning top awards in milk production and quality. Cedar Lawn Vu was also the very first pipeline dairy in the state of Michigan put in by De Laval.

Bob and Jeanne were both very active in their communities and raised the kids with agriculture in the forefront. Jeanne was well known for her amazing ability to cook and loved large family gatherings where the whole family would come to the farm for holidays and family dinners and so enjoyed visits from her grandson Josh who spent a lot of time & summers on the family farm. Jeanne was a pioneer as a female in the Holstein industry paving the way for a lot of women in agriculture including her daughters and later her granddaughter. She was known by many in the industry being involved in export, livestock sales and later in career large CAFO operations. Jeanne loved dairy shows and most definitely the World Dairy Expo. She had "her spot" at the rail and everyone knew where to find her during the show. After her husband passed away in 1994 her daughters continued with the dairy until relocating to Idaho where she continued to dairy farm for several years. In Idaho she continued the tradition of keeping the family involved in ag and was involved with the Idaho Holstein Assn and was named Idaho Woman of the Year. At many shows and fairs you would see Jeanne cooking for anyone who stopped by and there was always enough for one more.

Jeanne loved spending many days "grandma sitting" and as her granddaughter Rose grew enjoyed watching her love for farm life grow and was most proud of her. Grammy was loved by many but Rose was at the top of the list. She tried to be at every event whether it was a soccer game in the rain or one of the many livestock shows Rose competed in grandma was there. Jeanne began dividing her time between Idaho and Texas where Betsy had relocated for a position at Dell and officially moved there a few years ago to enjoy the warmer weather. There she enjoyed canning, gardening, visits from family, reading and trying one of the many recipes she saw on the Pioneer Woman for whom she was an obsessed fan. There are so many blanks to fill in on a life so fully well lived.

Jeanne loved her family very much. She was a "mom and grandma" to so many touching many lives. She was a devoted wife, mother and grand mother as well as great grandmother. Her daughters Christy and Betsy & granddaughter Rose would like to thank St Davids Round Rock Nursing staff and a special thanks to her niece Teresa as well as family friends Riki and Susan for surrounding mom with love as we all said goodbye.

At her wishes there will be no funeral. There was a celebration of life Saturday September 10, 2022 at Hoovers Corners in Carland, MI from 1-3 pm. The family looked forward to seeing friends and family there.



## Marian Irene Kurncz

Marian Irene Kurncz, age 89, of St. Johns, Michigan, passed away Friday, September 2, 2022, at her home surrounded by her family.

Marian was born in Maple Grove, MI, on December 22, 1932, the daughter of Julius and Loretta (Eickholt) Andres. She graduated from St. Michael's High School, Maple Grove, Michigan, with the class of 1951. On August 8, 1953, she married Peter Kurncz at St. Michael's Catholic Church in New Lothrop, Michigan. They were blessed with 57 years of marriage, prior to Peter's passing on January 9, 2011.

Marian was the matriarch of the Kurncz family and was the backbone of Kurncz Dairy Farm. She was a leader in 4-H Program in Clinton County, Michigan. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in St. Johns and sang in the church choir for many years. She served on the board of St. Johns Public Schools. Pete and Marian was the Grand Marshall's of the St. Johns Mint Festival.

She is survived by her children: Ann and Dan Connelly of Birmingham, MI; Gloria and Gary Barker of Gross Point Farms, MI; Michelle and Kevin Kent of Sanford, MI; son Pete and Sandy Kurncz of St. Johns, MI; eleven grandchildren: Miranda and Angel Garcia, Peter and Stacey Kurncz, Courtney Kurncz, Sean and Carolin Connelly, Ashley and Bryan Freeman, Collin Connelly, Robert and Alex Barker, Michael and Tori Barker, Noah Kent, Karley Kent, and Makayla Kent. She is also survived by thirteen great-grandchildren: Bianca, Grant, Grady, Eva, Brody, Kooper, Miles, Quincy, Gavin, Addyson, Riley, Shayne, and Brayden, one sister Agnes May and one brother Bernie Andres. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and great-grandson Peter Kurncz IV, and two sisters: Milly Andres and Dorothy Koan.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, Michigan, on Monday, September 5, 2022, with Rev. Fr. Michael Williams presiding. Burial has taken place at Mt. Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Peter's Sunny Day Foundation, 1315 Harvest Moon Way, St. Johns, Michigan 48879 or you can donate on line at: [www.peterssunnyday.com](http://www.peterssunnyday.com). Online condolences may be made at [www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com). The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, Michigan.



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— Martin Luther King, Jr.

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## GRIDIRON GURUS

by Tom Turek  
[sports@meridianweekly.com](mailto:sports@meridianweekly.com)

### Gridiron Gurus PICK 'EM Contest WEEK 2

We're through Week #1 of the Gurus. How many of us remain thinking we're Gurus -- I'm not sure.

But that's the beauty of the game of football. You can flap your lips all you want ... but the winners are determined between the lines.

If you failed to get in on the action of the first week's pigskin pick 'em, there is still plenty of time to get started as we will be running the contest every week until the end of the regular college football season (no bowls).

It's simple, fast, easy to play and FREE. For those who play every (or most every) week, there will be a winner's prize fund to be disbursed at the end of the season for whoever ends up picking the highest total of winners.

First place - \$100; second place - \$60 and third place - \$40. Just pick your winners and make a check mark to the

right of their name on the entry blank below. No worry about Las Vegas point spreads, just pick who you think will win the game outright. Make sure your entry gets to The Weekly before each Thursday at 5 pm.

Don't forget to fill in the tiebreaker as this will decide any and all ties. Entries are accepted in person at The Weekly's offices at 200 S. Main in Ovid, by e-mail at [HYPERLINK "mailto:sports@meridianweekly.com"](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:sports@meridianweekly.com) (sports@meridian-weekly.com) or via USPS delivery.

For those of you that get your Weekly fix on line at the paper's website - [MeridianWeekly.com](http://MeridianWeekly.com), just click the Sports link in the left navigation menu column. Enter your picks and with a few clicks you can play.

Each week the top three winners will receive a coupon for redemption at the sponsor of their choice; 1st place (Pizza), 2nd place (Sub) and 3rd place (Breadsticks) will be awarded.

We would like to thank our gracious sponsors, Foo-G's Pizza in Elsie, Main Street Pizza in Ovid and PDP's Pizzeria in Laingsburg. All winners can pick-up their coupons at The Weekly.

This week we bring back guest picker, Spartan die-hard, going by the pen name of Duffy's Ghost. Yes, he was around for the glorious 1960s turnaround of MSU football. The Wolfman returns as a veteran of the contest.

Deadline to enter this week is Thursday at 5 p.m.

## Sports

### P-W Holds off Frantic Wolfpack Comeback, 28-21

PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA — P-W has become accustomed to dominating Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) football action.

But the Laingsburg Wolfpack served notice on Thursday evening here.

The Pirates may not be enjoying their typical romp through CMAC foes in 2022. They certainly had their confidence shaken by a ferocious Wolfpack comeback that ended up just short, in a 28-21 loss to the host Pirates.

P-W, coming off an opening 26-6 loss to Redford Union, evened its record at 1-1, 1-0 in CMAC play. Coach Brian Borgman's Wolves are now 0-2, 0-1, including an opening night 50-31 loss to non-league Durand.

"Laingsburg is a good football team and we needed to play a clean football game, eliminating mistakes. That being said, if we execute and don't turn the ball over, we can play with a team like that," said P-W coach Jeremy Miller, whose school owns a 45-15-2 all-time advantage over LHS.

What the Pirates didn't plan on, however, was the Wolves' trickery and potent passing game, as they rallied late in the contest.

Pewamo-Westphalia built a 28-7 lead, the eventual winning score coming on Brent White's 6-yard blast to pay dirt.

As the second half grew longer and the lights came on, the red-and-white had some surprises in store. QB Ty Randall completed a short pass in the flat to Hayden Johnston, who pulled up suddenly and lofted a 32-yard scoring strike to a wide-open Eli Woodruff. After Jack Audretsch tacked on the extra-point, the lead was cut to 28-14.

The Wolves' weren't done. Randall led another drive toward the Pirate end zone, finding Connor Hulliberger with his second TD catch of the night to push the Pirates further. Audretsch was true on all three of his point-after kicks, and this one sliced the lead to 28-21.

The hosts were able to hang on for the final 3:22 as the clock ran out.

Hulliberger, who opened the scoring with a 14-yard reception to put LHS up 7-0, nabbed 7 receptions for 120 yards. Woodruff was right behind him with 3 grabs for 104 yards. Jack Borgman and Kyle Thelen were also featured in the Wolves' potent passing game with 6 and 4 catches, respectively. Randall completed 20-of-43 in a very busy passing night, amassing 277 yards, two TDs and was intercepted once. Combined with Johnston's TD pass, the red-and-white rolled to 309 passing yards.

Conversely, LHS was out rushed 248 yards to 95. Randall carried 9 times for 58 yards, and Borgman 7 touts for 41 yards.

Mikey Brooks led the Wolf defenders with 10 tackles; Mitchell Yates 8, Kyle Thelen 7, Matt Freels 6 and Seth Sivak 6.

Borgman's Wolfpack travel to Saranac this Friday, September 16 in CMAC action starting at 7 p.m.

### Bath Wins Again at GLAC Golf Jamboree Near Perry

PERRY — Glenbrier Golf Course hosted the second Greater Lansing Athletic Conference (GLAC)'s second jamboree of the 2022 season, as Bath again posted the winning team score, with four girls golfers in the Top Ten.

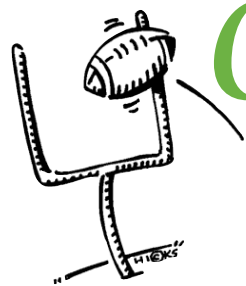
The Bees scored 200 as a team to outdistance Lakewood 218, Perry 233, Olivet 234 and the Laingsburg 312.

Top individual scorers were Aubrie Schaibly (Bath) 45, Audrey Hilliard (Lakewood) 48, Anna Schaibly (Bath) 50, Drue Allen (Olivet) 50, Makenzie Vasquez (Lakewood) 51, Kaitlyn Dickey (Bath 52) and Lilly Dilday (Bath) 53.

### Meridian Weekly

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## GRIDIRON GURUS

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Form must be at The Weekly office no later than Thursday, September 15 at 5pm

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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...ASHLEY BEARS



**ASHLEY BEARS FOOTBALL:** Front row (l-r) Trent Bylsma, Logan Drummond, William Long, David Johnson. Second row (l-r) Jon Snider, Aiden Denman, Andrew Passmore, Robert Kral, Bailey Long. Back row (l-r): Asst. Coach Jake Schmidt, Heath Powelson, Caden Passmore, Gavin Malek, Gibson Jason, Chase Kral, Head Coach Kevin Saylor. Photo by Deb Price

## Ashley Football Preview

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Ashley football team bring seven returners from last season's team to this year's squad. Those returners are seniors Logan Drummond, Heath Powelson, and Caden Passmore and sophomores Chase Kral, Jon Snider and Gavin Malek. Newcomers this year are freshman, Will Long, Gibby Jason, Aiden Denman, David Johnson, and Drew Passmore.

The strength of this year's team is their speed along with their depth and experience; having seven returners from the previous year. Coach Saylor is returning once again to coach the Bears and he expresses "We hope to stay close in games we shouldn't be in and win the ones we should. We always strive to make the playoffs."

## Bears Kick off the Season at Home

by Ashleigh Shaw

Deckerville traveled to Ashley in the home and season opener this year. The Bears came out of the gate strong, matching Deckerville score for score, but one dropped ball at the 11-yard line for a walk-in touchdown to take the lead seemed to be as close as the Bears could get. At half-time Ashley trailed 28-14 but were down their starting quarterback and running back with some fatigue. Ashley ended up losing the game 56-14.

"I told the team that the scores was defiantly not what that game looked like, they played hard from start to finish" said Coach Saylor.

Offensively for the Bears Logan Drummond completed 4/10 passes for 113 yards and 2 touchdowns. Drummond also had 11 carries for 49 yards and a two-point conversion. Bailey Long rushed 6 times for 26 yards as well as catching a pass for 57 yards and a touchdown. Caden Passmore also caught 2 passes for 51 yards and scored a touchdown and Will Long had 3 catches for 11 yards.

Defensively Ashley was led by Drummond who had 13 solo tackles and 8 assists, Bailey Long had 6 tackles and 4 assists, Heath Powelson had 7 tackles and 5 assists, Gavin Malek had 10 tackles and 3 assists, Caden Passmore had 5 tackles and 3 assists, Will Long had 8 tackles and 3 assists, Gibby Jason had 7 tackles and 3 assists and Aiden Denman had 4 tackles and 2 assists.

## Bears Grab First Win of the Season

Ashley traveled to take on Merritt Academy in game two of the season, winning that game 26-6. The Bears were able to run the ball at will along with having good strong defense that stood their ground.

"Our running game was on point in this game, the offensive line took over and moved some bodies. I am very proud of the heart and resolve the teams played with tonight" expressed Coach Saylor.

Robert Kral was back at the quarterback position and he completed 4 passes for 82 yards and a touchdown. Bailey Long rushed for 159 yards and scoring 2 touchdowns, while Logan Drummond rushed for 66 yards scoring a touchdown and a 2-point conversion.

Defense was once again led by Drummond who had 11 solo tackles. Long came next with 8 solos, while Gavin Malek had 5 solo tackles, 3 sacks and a forced fumble.



**ASHLEY BEARS CROSS COUNTRY:** Trevor Dolloff, Sophia Wirt, Coach Hannah Williams, Payton Rohn. Photo by Deb Price

## Wirt, Rohn Lead Bears into 2022 CC Season

ASHLEY — Hannah Williams heads the program as the Ashley cross-country team enters the 2022 prep season.

Williams will be assisted by Andy Denman as the Bears return two seasoned performers. Both Sophia Wirt (11 grade) and middle school standout Peyton Rohn "... have a lot of experience running," says the coach.

The Bears were still seeking newcomers to the team as school opened in mid-August.

## Ashley Cross Country's First Meet of the Season

by Ashleigh Shaw

Ashley traveled to Uncle John's Cider Mill in an invite from Ovid Elsie this week. All three runners from Ashley competed. Peyton Rohn won a medal and finished 27th in the lady's middle school race finishing in 16:58.16. Trevor Dolloff finished 38th in 14:34.12



**ASHLEY BEARS JV VOLLEYBALL:** Front row (l-r): Karissa Brady, Ava Juhas, Marissa Brady. Back row (l-r): Charlie Zamarron, Jade Saylor, Head Coach Deann Smith, Elise Drummond. Missing: Ryley Hanley. Photo by Deb Price

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MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...LAINGSBURG WOLFPACK



**WOLFPACK VARSITY FOOTBALL:** Team includes: Rocco Keilen, Eli Woodruff, Kyle Thelen, Kyle Boettcher, Vance Klont, Lucas Matthews, Brock Johnston, Jack Borgman, Bryce Smith, Jackson Audretsch, Ty Randall, Camren Curtis-Hart, Mitchell Yates, Matt Freels, Mikey Brooks, Seth Sivak, Dillion Soldan, Marty Meyers, Connor Hulliberger, Troy Matthews, Noah Gentner, Garrett Matthews, Wyatt Stanfield, Tommy Gousetis, Alex Forcier, Carter Schlaack, Sean Divine, Elliott Wilsey, Jayse Grettenberger, Noah Brewer, Brad Dedic, James Nixon, Hayden Johnston. Head Coach: Brian Borgman. Asst. Coaches: Dan Mills, Dan Blemaster, Stephen Gerger, Erick Pratt, Chris Esch, Cedric Ford.

Photo by Keith Kingsbury

Laingsburg Football Schedule

Sept. 16	7:00 pm	Saranac A
Sept. 23	7:00 pm	Bath (Homecoming)
Sept. 30	7:00 pm	Dansville A
Oct. 7	7:00 pm	Fowler A
Oct. 14	7:00 pm	Perry H
Oct. 21	7:00 pm	Montrose
		Hill-McCloy H



Wolfpack Predicted for Upper Echelon Finish in Tough-as-Nails CMAC Football

LAINGSBURG — The longest-tenured football coach in LHS history returns a bevy of skill position players as Laingsburg shoots for an upper-echelon finish in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC).

The 2022 season kicked off August 26 against non-league foe Durand, as Brian Borgman enters his 21st season leading the Wolfpack. The former Williamston HS and Bowling Green University standout is the Wolves' all-time winningest coach, sporting a 113-85 career record (.570).

Borgman has had just six losing seasons at LHS — which is tough to do in the ultra-competitive CMAC, against the likes of CMAC charter members Pewamo-Westphalia, Fowler and Pottersville.

Laingsburg itself is proud of its CMAC charter member status, and is a pre-season pick for 3rd place with returning standouts OL/DL James Nixon (12th grade), OL/DL Elliot Wilsey (11th), RB/LB Mike Brooks (12th), WR/DB Kyle Thelen (12th), WR/DB Hayden Johnston (12th), WR/DB Eli Woodruff (12th), QB Ty Randall (11th) and WR/DE Connor Hulliberger (12th).

The red-and-white returns 8 starters on offense, 9 on defense, and welcomes newcoming talent in RB/DB Jack Borgman (11th), RB/LB Seth Sivak and RB/LB Jackson Audretsch.

Coach Borgman explains, “We have 32 players on this year’s team which gives us depth and variety. We need to fill some holes on the O-line with departures from last season, but almost all of our skill positions will be back.”

Veteran CMAC observers will note the pre-campaign predictions don’t differ from seasons and seasons ago: 1 P-W, 2 Fowler, 3 Laingsburg, 4 Dansville, 5 Bath, 6 Saranac and 7 Pottersville. The Wolves get a chance to make some noise right, taking on Pewamo-Westphalia in the season’s second game on September 2.

“We have a lot of strength at our (veteran) skill positions,” says the coach. “We need to stay healthy and (develop) some good OL and DL play.”





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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...LAINGSBURG WOLFPACK



**WOLFPACK VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY:** Team includes: Cody Cataline, Noah Devereaux, Grace Knull, Logan Robinson, Hazel Burley, Madison Phillips, James Foltz, Oliver Stanfield, James Pratt, Emily Rathka, Felix Ramirez, Addison Rusz, Evelyn Logghe, Cade Fuller, Jacob Cromley, Tucker Nethaway, Sawyer Shastal, Tanner Scanlan, Aden Baynes, Kathryn Magyar, Ethan Mohny, Cameron Koonter, Caleb Boettcher, Gabe Medina. Head Coach Shawn Baynes. Photo by Keith Kingsbury



**WOLFPACK VARSITY SOCCER:** Team includes: Trevor Barrett, Jake Rivet, Luke Snyder, Kaleb Salas, Haydon Collier, Brayden Thomas, Dano Winans, Noah Devereaux, Adam Myers, Aaron Willoughby, Marion Graham, Jacob Essenberg, Zachary Grandy, Paul Pageot, Dustin Winans, Alex Myers, Dylan Hulliberger, Andrew Park, Lucas Shastal, Mitchell George, Alex George. Head Coach: Natalie Elkins. Asst. Coaches: Jeremie Wilson and Jackson Wilson. Photo by Keith Kingsbury

## Wolfpack Cross-Country Team Returns Three State Qualifiers to Promising 2022

LAINGSBURG — Veteran coach Shawn Baynes eyes a top-three CMAC (Central Michigan Athletic Conference) finish for a Wolfpack cross-country team that boasts 18 runners out for the 2022 season.

The Wolves return 10 harriers — including three MHSAA qualifiers from 2021 — as they continue a rock-solid X-country tradition at LHS.

Returnees are Emily Rathka, Addison Rusz, Evelyn Logghe, Aden Baynes, Felix Ramirez, Sawyer Shastal, Tanner Scanlan, Cade Fuller, Jacob Cromley and James Pratt.

Those new to the Wolfpack are Noah Devereaux, James Foltz, Caleb Boettcher, Logan Robinson, Tucker Nethaway, Madison Phillips, Kathryn Magyar and Grace Knull.

Through the opening few meets of the 2022 season, the Wolves including the newcomers have already showed great promise.

## Laingsburg Soccer Schedule

Sept. 14	5:30pm	Maple Valley A
Sept. 17	10:00am	Portland A
Sept. 19	5:30pm	Chesaning H
Sept. 21	5:30pm	Leslie H
Sept. 26	5:30pm	Bath H
Sept. 28	5:30pm	Perry A
Oct. 3	5:30pm	Dansville H
Oct. 4	5:30pm	Lansing Christian H
Oct. 8	TBA	GLAC Conference
Oct. 11	6:00pm	Clio A

## Laingsburg Cross Country Schedule

Sept. 21	5:30pm	Pewamo-Westpalia CMAC A
Sept. 28	TBA	Pewamo-Westphala Invite
Oct. 1	9:30am	DeWitt Invite A
Oct. 4	5:30pm	St. Patricks A
Oct. 6	5:00pm	Apples to Apples Uncle Johns A
Oct. 15	10:00am	Greater Lansing Championship A
Oct. 19	5:30pm	Potterville A
Oct. 22	9:30am	Shiawassee County Invite A
Oct. 29	TBA	MHSAA Districts Begin

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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...LAINGSBURG WOLFPACK



**WOLFPACK VARSITY VOLLEYBALL:** Team includes: Callie Clark, Ashley Bila, Addy Elkins, Ally Hill, Remi Fuller, Hailey Mahoney, Brynn Wilson, Maggie Willoughby, Ellie Baynes, Sophie Freeman, Joy Antcliff, Bella Strieff, Kaitlyn Kingsbury. Head Coach Kelsey Jones. Asst. Coaches: Erin Cooper and Andrea Mahoney. Photo by Keith Kingsbury

## Wolfpack Girls Golf Team is Young, Looks to Learn and Improve as 2022 Progresses

LAINGSBURG — An inexperienced group in 2022 on the Wolfpack girls golf team is looking to offset that with “...great attitude” says veteran coach Greg Beavers.

“Our (goal) is to learn and improve as the season progresses,” the coach explains.

Returning players are Olivia Rodriguez, Emilia Laing and Erin Pohlada. Newcomers rounding out the roster are Hailey Rueckert, Lillian Platte, Tessa Boyle, Katie Laing, Mariah McLean and Mirabella Carolan.



**WOLFPACK GOLF:** Team includes: Erin Pohlod, Hailey Rueckert, Lillian Platte, Olivia Rodriguez, Teresa Boyle, Emilia Laing, Mirabella Carolan, Kaitlyn Laing, Mariah McLean. Head coach: Greg Beavers. Assistant Coach John Saller. Photo by Keith Kingsbury

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LAINGSBURG — An inexperienced group in 2022 on the Wolfpack girls golf team is looking to offset that with “...great attitude” says veteran coach Greg Beavers.

“Our (goal) is to learn and improve as the season progresses,” the coach explains.

Returning players are Olivia Rodriguez, Emilia Laing and Erin Pohlada. Newcomers rounding out the roster are Hailey Rueckert, Lillian Platte, Tessa Boyle, Katie Laing, Mariah McLean and Mirabella Carolan.

### Laingsburg Volleyball Schedule

Sept. 12	7:00 pm	Alma H
Sept. 14	7:00 pm	Fowler A
Sept. 20	7:00 pm	Swartz Creek H
Sept. 28	7:00 pm	St. Patrick H
Sept. 29	7:00pm	Olivet A
Oct. 5	7:00 pm	Dansville A
Oct. 8	8:00am	St. Johns Invite A
Oct. 19	7:00 pm	Bath A
Oct. 20	7:00pm	Montrose Hill-McCloy
Oct. 22	TBA	CMAC Tourney A
Oct. 27	TBA	New Lothrop A

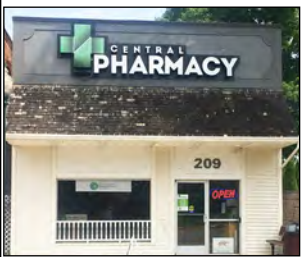
### Laingsburg Golf Schedule

Sept. 12	TBA	Holt Invite A
Sept. 13	TBA	Bath Tourney A
Sept. 15	TBA	Olivet Tourney A
Sept. 19	TBA	Tullymore Invite Standish A
Sept. 20	TBA	Lakewood Tourney
Sept. 27	TBA	Pre-Regional H
Sept. 29	TBA	League Tourn. MSU East



Team photos not included this week will be published when they are taken!  
Coaches please remember to send your results everyweek to be included in the Meridian Weekly! email to: news@meridianweekly.com or Tom Turek at tomturek20032003@yahoo.com

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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...OVID-ELSIE MARAUDERS



**OVID-ELSIE MARAUDER VARSITY FOOTBALL:** Team includes: Gage Kvalevog, Braxton Stenger, Caven Brooks, Perrien Rasch, Isaac Orta, Jamison Custer, Cavan Mortinsen, Cohen Brown, Cole Workman, Colin Veith, Cohen Tyler, Beau Price, Tryce Tokar, Carter Kelley, Clay Wittenberg, Logan Thompson, Danilo Klikovac, Julien Mortier, Luke Follett, Clayton Fruchey, Landon Stoneman, Kevin Ley, Brayden Leland, Kole Middleton, Jaksen Jones, Hayden Pontack, Dawson Taylor, Joe Bancroft, Drake Ritter, Jake Bowen, Kevin Torrey, Kamryn Middleton, Brady Risinger, Orion Thomlison, Tony Vanderlip, Austin Darling, Breckin Kirby, Hunter Bates, Justin Cole, Alex Lopez. Head Coach: Travis Long. Asst. Coach: Joel Longstreth, DJ Chapko, Damien Miller. Photo by Ortman Production LLC.

## Marauder Grid Team Fields Young, Talented Squad in Defense of 2021 MMAC Championship

OVID-ELSIE — Strong play on the offensive line and a rock-solid LB corps are the hallmarks of a 2022 Marauder varsity football team looking to defend its share of the Mid-Michigan Activities Association (MMAC) title.

"We are talented but young, and we will have to mature fast to compete at the level we need to win," says veteran head coach Travis Long. "Expect our youth to show early on but improve with each week." The Marauders opened the season with a 36-8 loss at traditional opening rival, non-league Portland.

Depth at offensive line should be a strength this year, with early injuries to a few players that will strengthen as they come back. "On defense our linebackers are very solid with the return of Wittenberg and Stoneman. Kevin Ley should anchor both the offensive and defensive line, while Logan Thompson will be our leader in the secondary," explains the coach.

Returning players include Gage Kvalevog, Perrien Rasch, Colin Veith, Beau Price, Clay Wittenberg, Logan Thompson, Luke Follett, Landon Stoneman, Kevin Ley, Kole Middleton, Hayden Pontack, Tony Vanderlip and Justin Cole.

Newcomers to the varsity Marauders are Braxton Stenger, Caven Brooks, Isaac Orta, Jamison Custer, Cavan Mortinsen, Cohen Tyler, Tryce Tokar, Carter Kelley, Danilo Klikovac, Clayton Fruchey, Brayden Leland, Jaksen Jones, Joe Bancroft, Drake Ritter, Jake Bowen, Kamryn Middleton, Orion Thomlison, Austin Darling, Breckin Kirby, Hunter Bates, Cole Workman, Alex Lopez and Julien Mortier.

Coach Long will be assisted this season by Joel Longstreth, DJ Chapko, Jason Bowen, Nick Hufnagel, Austin Loynes, Randy Uresti and Marc Johnson.

Coming off a 5-1 league, 6-4 overall showing last year, the big question is can the Marauders repeat as tri-champions in the MMAC. Ovid-Elsie also looks to rebound from consecutive losses to close 2021, including a 36-0 whitewashing by Millington in the MHSAA Division 6 playoffs.

"Our conference is tough top to bottom," says coach Long. "New Lothrop will be favored. Durand, Montrose, and Mt. Morris will be tough games. Chesaning, and Byron are all improving from previous years. We expect to compete with everyone we play.

"Kevin Ley and Logan Thompson are four-year varsity players; we expect them to have great years. Clay Wittenberg and Landon Stoneman are three-year varsity players, they may be the best linebacking crew in the conference. Beau Price had a great off-season and should be a solid player at both tight end and defensive end. Perrien Rasch and Logan Thompson expect to get the bulk of the carries on offense," concludes coach Long.

### Ovid-Elsie Animal Clinic, P.C.



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## Ovid-Elsie Football Schedule

Sept. 16	7:00pm Montrose Hill-McCloy	Away
Sept. 23	7:00pm Edsel Ford HS	Home
Sept. 30	7:00pm Chesaning Union Schools	Home
Oct. 7	7:00pm New Lothrop HS	Away
Oct. 14	7:00pm Mt. Morris HS	Home
Oct. 21	7:00pm Corunna HS	Away

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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...OVID-ELSIE MARAUDERS

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**OVID-ELSIE MARAUDER JV FOOTBALL:** Team Includes: Ben Wildes, Blake Fabus, Owen Long, Nolan Rasch, Joe Zuniga, Michael Bancroft, Wes Plowman, Brock Spitzley, Payton Maas, Robert Kebler, Kaleb Veith, Jake Harden, Javen Belill, Hunter Long, Daniel Topping, David Lohr, Troy Haynie, Jaxon Ladiski, Landen Kusnier, Tucker Loynes, Braxton O'Bryant, Harris Evans, Thomas Ergon, Daniel Olger, Drew Goins. Head Coach: Nick Hufnagel. Asst. Coach: Austin Loynes, Randy Uresti, Marc Johnson. Photo by Ortman Productions, LLC

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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...OVID-ELSIE MARAUDERS



**OVID-ELSIE MARAUDER GIRLS VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY:** Team includes: Alyse Ladiski, Izzy Loynes, Ella Powell, Alexis Spitzley, Kaia Spiess, Hannah Koutz, Madison Thornton, Piper White, Clarissa Baese, Audrey Bensinger. Head Coach: Wes Diener. Photo by Ortman Production, LLC



**OVID-ELSIE MARAUDER BOYS VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY:** Team includes: Ryan Gavenda, Levi Ruben, Austin Smith, Gunner McCreery, Clay Powell, James Kelly, Josh Miller. Head Coach: Wes Diener. Photo by Ortman Production LLC

## Marauder Cross-Country Teams Look Like Strong MMAC Contenders

OVID-ELSIE — Veteran coach Wes Diener is looking for a couple of harriers to emerge in hopes for contending for the 2022 Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) cross-country championship.

“The key to the boys team will be the emergence of a fourth and fifth runner if this happens we should be able to contend for a league title,” says coach Diener. “Our girls have a strong top two, with a good pack of 3-5 will be key to defending the league title and going to state as a team.”

Returning to the boys team are Ryan Gavenda, Clay Powell, James Kelly and Austin Smith. Returning on the girls’ side are Alexis Spitzley, Piper White, Kaia Spiess and Madison Thornton.

Newcomers include JD Miller, Levi Ruben, Gunnar McCreery; and for the girls, Clarissa Baese, Audrey Bensinger and Izzy Loynes.

“Our girls should be able to defend our MMAC title,” explains the coach. “The boys should be fighting New Lothrop for first place.”



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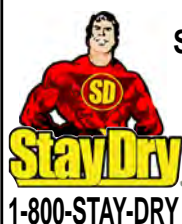
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# MEET THE TEAMS...2022 FALL SPORTS...OVID-ELSIE MARAUDERS



**OVID-ELSIE MARAUDER BOYS TENNIS:** Team includes: Justice Moore, Nico Del Campo, Mason Ritenburg, Bruce Thornton, Talan Parsons, Dom Kline, Gage Wiktorowski, Tayt Kline, Chaycen Thornton, Jackson Custer, Gavin Chadwick, Josh Brown. Head Coach: Mike Ritenburg. Photo by Ortman Production LLC

## Ovid-Elsie Boys Tennis Team Back on Track After Two-Year Hiatus

OVID-ELSIE — After two years away from the courts, the Marauder boys tennis team returns this season under coach Mike Ritenburg.

"We haven't had a tennis program for two years. "So (our only experience) is Justice Moore with one year of tennis experience."

That considered, fielding a team may seem a daunting task. But the coach explains, "We have a lot of enthusiasm and a fresh start. We have a strong group of junior that should help us get a good start."

The roster includes five juniors, one sophomore and and six freshman.

Says Ritenburg, "The lack of experience may hurt us, but we have a very athletic team. With the new team, we are looking to surprise some people."

"We are hoping to get off to a strong start ... we should have a good base of a team going forward."

## Ovid-Elsie Sport Schedules

### Ovid-Elsie Boys Tennis

Sept. 19	4:00pm	Fenton	Away
Sept. 22	4:00pm	Chesaning	Away
Sept. 26	4:00pm	Lakewood	Home
Sept. 27	4:00pm	Tri	Home
Oct. 1	10:00am	Tri Lansing Christian	Away
Oct. 3	4:00pm	Chesaning	Away

### Ovid-Elsie Cross Country

Sept. 27	4:00pm	MMAC #2 Chesaning	Away
Oct. 4	TBA	Birch Run Invite	Away
Oct. 8	pm	Greater Flint Championship	Away
Oct. 10	4:30pm	Uncle Johns MMAC #3	Home
Oct. 22	TBA	Shiawassee XC Championship at Corunna High School	Away
Oct. 29	TBA	Regionals	Away



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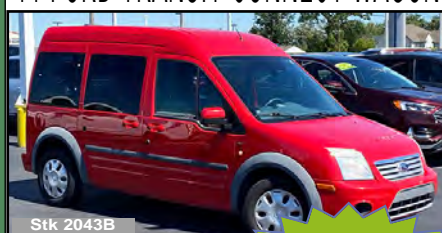




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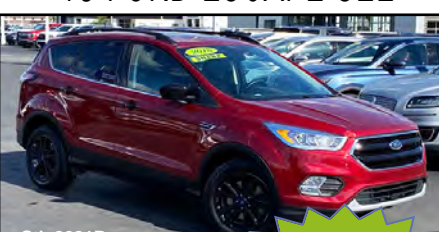
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## Sports

### Marauders Trounce Byron on MMAC Gridiron for 1st Win of 2022



Braxton Stenger scores a touchdown for the Marauders against Byron.  
Photo by Michelle Ladiski.

BYRON — Logan Thompson rushed for 62 yards and two touchdowns, Tryce Tokar 50 yards and a pair of scores, and Jamison Custer led a dominant Ovid-Elsie ground attack with 93 yards as O-E crushed Byron on Thursday night on the road.

How good was the Marauder scheme? Custer averaged 31 yards per carry, and five other players averaged dou-

ble-digit yardage per run.

O-E's 55-7 win also featured touchdown runs by Custer, Isaac Orta, Perrien Rasch and Caven Brooks as coach Travis Long's crew mauled the Eagle defense to the tune of 572 yards - on just 46 plays. 495 of those yards came on the ground.

The Marauders — still stinging from an opening game loss at Portland — dominated their first league game in defense of their 2021 Mid-Michigan Activities Association (MMAC) championship, taking command with three TDs in the first quarter.

The Eagles, coming off a 1-8 season and playing their first game under new head coach Matt Wilcox, kept things close, relatively, in the first quarter. Byron trailed 21-7 at the quarter break after QB Nathan Erdman found Reece Arndt on a scoring toss. Arndt finished as the host's offensive leader with four catches for 83 yards; Erdman completed 4-of-9 aeriels for 105 yards.

But that was the only yardage a bruising O-E defense would allow. BHS ran the ball 23 times — for negative 18 yards. Clay Wittenberg (8 tackles), Gage Kvalevog (5) and Cohen Brown (5) anchored against the run, while Braxton Stenger picked off three Eagle aeriels and had a tackle for loss. Drake Ritter also snared an interception for O-E.

Tokar clicked on 3-of-4 passes for 50 yards, and Colin Veith was good on 1-of-4 passes for 27 yards. Veith added 23 yards rushing on just two carries.

Ten different ballcarriers punished the Eagle defense, including Carter Kelley (33 yards), Cole Workman (19 yards) and Brown (9 yards).

Wittenberg, Stenger and Logan Thompson all caught passes for O-E, Wittenberg leading the way with two grabs for 38 yards.

Brooks attempted three extra point kicks, and hit all three.

The romp was a good warm-up for Long's charges, as they next take on a powerhouse Durand offense that features an old-school T-formation, ground-and-pound attack. That MMAC showdown is September 9 at Mark O'Donnell Field.

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