

Meridian Weekly

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January 1, 2023

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12 PAGES



Pictured here (l-r) Chad, Melissa, Hunter and Noah Huffnagel along with their family pet, Pistol Annie.

New Mobile Tire Service Opens in Elsie

Need Tires? Well they are just a phone call and appointment away. Elsie residents, Chad & Melissa Huffnagel are the owners of Cardinal Tire Service, a mobile tire service that brings their service to you.

The couple started the business in the Fall and offer residential and commercial tire sales and service for autos, rv's, campers and trailers including mounting, balancing, rotation, and the best part is they bring the service to your location. "We have access to all the major brands, if you want a certain tire, we can get it for you," explained Melissa.

Cardinal Tire Service is licensed and insured and can be reached by calling or texting (989)640-0083. They are available by appointment only. You can also Follow and Like them on Facebook.

E.W. Sparrow Hosptial, Sparrow Specialty Hospital Easing Visitor Restrictions

submitted by John Foren

LANSING, MI – E.W. Sparrow Hospital and Sparrow Specialty Hospital are easing their inpatient visitor policy and lessening restrictions on seeing patients.

Effective immediately, visitors during regular visiting hours (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.) are no longer required to check in at the registration desk in the hospital lobby. Only two visitors will continue to be allowed in a patient room at any given time. Visitors must be 12 and older on all units and those ages 12 to 17 must be accompanied by an adult.

COVID-positive patients are now allowed unlimited visitors a day, with a maximum of one at a time. Previously, only two visitors were allowed per day. Additional PPE must still be worn and is available prior to entering the patient's room.

The changes are aimed at better supporting our patients and their medical needs since an important aspect of care and healing is having loved ones present when possible. OSHA and MIOSHA are also no longer enforcing COVID screening rules and there is a general industry trend of lessening visitor restrictions.

The revised policy only impacts E.W. Sparrow Hospital in Lansing and Sparrow Specialty and not our remaining Community Hospitals.

Some restrictions remain in place to protect our patients, caregivers, and visitors. All visitors must be free of all signs and symptoms of illness; should perform hand hygiene when entering/exiting the building and the patient room, and as needed; and are required to properly wear face masks at all times. If a mask is not being properly worn, the individual will be asked to leave the facility and may lose their visitation privileges.

Sparrow Health System reduced the number of visitors for the first time in 2020 to help limit the potential spread of COVID as we experienced record high number positive patients and caregivers. Sparrow is proud to be Mid-Michigan's leader in COVID care.

To learn more about visiting the hospitals, visit Sparrow.org/Patient-Resources.

Remembering A Few of Those We Lost in 2022



Albert "Bert" Wassa
January 26, 2022
Navy Veteran
Lifelong Dairy
& Crop Farmer



Roger Lee Dershem
May 25, 2022
Business Owner
Community Leader



Robert Lee Wilber
June 16, 2022
World War II Army Veteran
Detroit Tiger Fan



Donald & Nancy Hinkley
Newspaper Publishers
Laid to Rest Together
on July 10, 2022



"Chief" James Brown
July 3, 2022
Ovid-Middlebury Fire Dept.
Lake Missaukee Fire Dept.



Evertt Reneaud
September 28, 2022
Deicated Scout Master
MSU Retiree
Spartan for Life



David White
October 24, 2022
Lifetime FFA
Member & Promoter



Eleanor "Ellie" Bowles
November 4, 2022
Fundraiser for American
Cancer Society
Polka Granny on WOES



Hay..Did you have a Merry Christmas? These hay stacked holiday images are located at the Harris home in rural Ovid. What a festive and creative idea on display during this holiday season. Thanks for the assist on this one Dan!! Photo by Deb Price

Social

Elsie Masonic Lodge to Hold Monthly Pancake Breakfast

submitted Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – Elsie Masonic Lodge #238 will hold their monthly pancake breakfast Saturday, December 31, 2022. This is a wonderful way to kick-off New Year's Eve festivities. The breakfast will be held at the Elsie Masonic Community Center, 100 E. Main Street, Elsie, 9 am-Noon. The menu is: pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, orange juice and coffee. The cost is free; however, all donations will be given to the Elsie Baby Pantry.

The next scheduled Masonic Pancake Breakfast will be Saturday, January 28, 2023.

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Elsie Public Library

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

Christmas has come and gone, 2023 is just around the corner. Kids are still on Christmas break. Come to the library and see what is new. Make a New Year's resolution regarding how many books you will read this year. Time to have a goal set!

We have a new stem table for the little ones. The table is filled with plastic balls, little people and farm animals. If you can find the puppy dog, a piece of candy is your reward.

The puzzle table has a beautiful picture of an angel. This puzzle has just been started. Calling all puzzlers for help with this lovely puzzle.

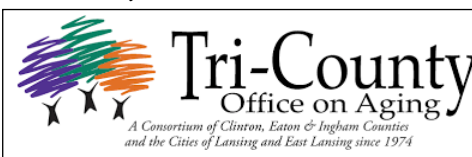
On January 4th, we will start a Winter Reading Bingo Challenge. The contest will run through February 27th. Bingo cards are available at the front desk. Fill the card by reading the specific type of book listed. It only takes 5 books to finish your card. Once finished, your name will be entered in a drawing for a prize. The contest is open to all ages.

Our holiday hours are as follows: The Elsie Public Library will be closed from Jan. 1st through January 3rd, 2023. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Elsie United Methodist Church to Host Tri-County Office of Aging Informational Meeting

submitted by Dawn Levey

ELSIE – Elsie United Methodist Church will host an informational meeting for



area senior citizens and their caregivers. The Tri-County Office of Aging will present information about services available for the area's senior citizens. The event will take place Monday, January 9, 2023, 11 am at the Elsie United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 160 W Main Street, Elsie. All are encouraged to attend. Lunch will be served and there is no charge for this event. Reservations are encouraged but not required, to RSVP call 989-862-5239, feel free to leave a message.

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**A MATTER OF
BALANCE**
MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

A Matter of Balance

submitted by Christine Histed

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns about Falls in an interactive workshop which aims to reduce fall risk, increase physical activity, and reduce the fear of falling in older adults. The workshop does include seated exercises to improve balance, strength, coordination, and stability.

Online via Zoom, Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 12 – February 9, 2023, from 10:00 am – 12 noon

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a 6-week, interactive workshop that helps non-professional caregivers to take better care of themselves while caring for someone else. Topics include stress management, relaxation, dealing with difficult emotions such as anger, guilt, depression, dealing with losses, communication, and more.

Online via Zoom, Wednesdays, January 18 – February 22, 2023, from 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Diabetes PATH is a 6-week interactive workshop designed for individuals with diabetes and pre-diabetes. You will learn how meal plan, decrease stress, get physically active, balance blood sugar, make goals, improve energy, and more!

Online via Zoom, Mondays, January 23 – February 27, 2023, from 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Cost and how to register for all workshops listed above Free of charge but donations accepted

To register call Tri-County Office on Aging at 517-887-1465 or e-mail Christine at histedc@tcoa.org

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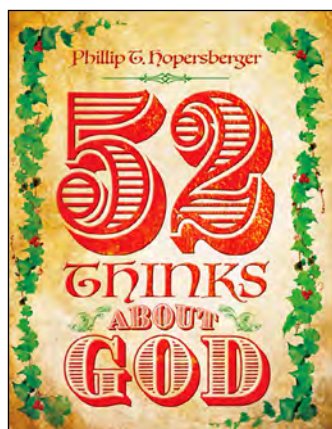
Call for an appt.
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A Look Back Through 2022

Phillip T. Hoppersberger Publishes Book

January 23, 2022



Phillip T. Hoppersberger

During the weeks ahead the Meridian Weekly will publish a Look Back Through 2022.

Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price Owner/Publisher meridianweekly.com

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Community Mourns Loss of Zachary Miller

January 30, 2022



Pictured here are Lieutenants Chris Goldman (at left) and Zac McNamara, escorts of Elsie Engine 1, which carried the casket of Elsie Fire Fighter, Zach Miller. Captain, Heath Arnette drove Elsie Engine 1 from O-E high school after the funeral service for a final pass of the fire station in Elsie where the flag was at half staff and to his final resting place in Fairfield Cemetery.



Ovid-Elsie's Harden Shatters 100 Breaststroke Record with 1:06.03 Clocking

February 20, 2022



OE swimmer Sam Harden shatters long standing record in the 100 Breaststroke.

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REVERSE RAFFLE

Saturday, March 11, 2023

5:00 p.m. (doors open at 4)

Elsie's American Legion Hall

Only 300 Tickets will be sold!

Raffle tickets are \$60

Each ticket includes one entrance into the raffle and one all you can eat and drink (beer and wine) dinner. You must be 21 to attend.

A total of \$7,100 will be paid out!

There are more than 20 payouts of \$100 or more, and a
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If interested in purchasing tickets or contributing to the raffle call
Amy Knickerbocker (989) 992-7797
or Ovid-Elsie High School (989) 834-2271

*Non-Profit 501 (c)(3) documentation available upon request

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LIVE ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

1551 E. LOVEJOY RD, PERRY, MI 48872

DIRECTIONS: South of Perry, MI 1 ½ miles on m-52 to Beard Rd, East 5 miles to State Rd, South 2 miles to Lovejoy Rd, East to Auction.

Mr. Dashner enjoyed Auto Body Repair at his home shop. Viewing is Friday, Jan. 6, 2 pm to 5 pm and day of auction beginning at 8:30 am. 10% BP.

Please be sure to check website for more information and photos.



HOUSEHOLD: 5 pc Amish Built Oak Bedroom suite, Full Bed; 2019 RCA 65" LED UHD TV; Lighted corner curio cabinet; Glass Top coffee table & end table; Oval Dining table & 8 chairs; 60" Lighted Ceiling Fan, NIB; 4 ft Carved Eagle atop stand; Kitchen ware; Foosball Table; 3 Paint Ball guns & accessories; **COLLECTIBLES:** 100+ NASCARS Die Cast Cars, Trucks, Dragsters; Collection of Disney's Magic Memories Figurines; Clown Emmet Kelly 82" Oil; Detroit Red wings collectibles; 2000 Lionel Train Set; (2) Snap-On Train Sets; Kentucky Derby Drinking glasses; Frederick Town Cast Iron Dinner Bell; **VEHICLES:** 1928 Model A Street Rod Body & Frame; 2017 Chevy Trax LT SUV, 121,000 miles; 2004 Ford F250 Super Duty Lariat 4x4 w/ Meyers Plow, 150k miles, New tires, Detached Box ready to paint. **TRAILERS:** 18 ft tandem Equipment trailer; 14 ft tandem Landscape Trailer; 4x6 trailer; JOY 125 Mobile Air Compressor. **EQUIPMENT:** Kansas Jack Magna Rack III Frame Straightener w/ alignment tools & chains; Upright air compressor; 36" Metal Brake; Metal Band Saw; Masking Paper Dispensers; Panel Tables; Metal Benches; Porta powers; Industrial Sand Blaster; Lincoln Arc Welder; Commercial Sewing Machine; Automotive Rotisserie Stand; Bench Vise; Floor Jacks; Cherry Picker; Cabinets; Welding Outfit; Extra tanks; Drill Press; Shop Fan; Assortment Drawers; **TOOLS:** MAC MB1700 Tool Box; Power Tools; Hand Tools; Mechanics Tools; Air Tools; Flaring Tools; Magnum paint sprayer; 8 gal air compressor; Milwaukee Right angle driver; Coleman 4000w generator; Battery charger/Booster; 80 hole nut/bolt bin; Chop Saw; Salamander Heaters; Craftsman (Table Saw, Radial Arm Saw, Jointer); DeWalt 12" Compound Miter Saw on portable stand; & More! **LAWN & GARDEN:** eXmark Lazer Z XS Zero-Turn riding Mower 72" Cut, 1442 hrs; Little Wonder 8hp Blower; Red Lion Trash Pump; 3000 psi Pressure Washer; Lawn Sweep; Snow Blower; Lawn Trailer; Front Tine Rototiller; Stihl String Trimmer; Stihl Pole Saw; Two-Wheeled Wheel Barrow; Cant Hook. **Estate of Gary Dashner**

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Editorial

Winter Bird Feeding Safety

As you sit around during the holidays watching Hallmark Christmas movies, with very poor acting, consider taking a break to help your backyard bird populations survive the winter snowy months. Besides, those holiday movies are all the same and follow one of two plots; a small town girl moves home to save a family business and falls in love or an American girl gets caught up with royalty from some distant small colonial country and also falls in love. Anyway, back to the birds...

In case you happened to miss the directive by the Michigan DNR this last Fall everyone was supposed to remove their backyard bird feeders to help prevent the spread of the highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak that affected waterfowl, raptors, scavengers, gulls, and terns. While it would be very uncommon for the aforementioned species to visit your backyard, it doesn't hurt to clean feeders that create an artificial gathering of birds. Feeders should be washed with a 10% bleach to water solution and birdbaths with a 10% vinegar to water solution. Make sure both are dry before filling with food and water. This ten minute chore will help keep your local birds healthy and don't worry if you missed the ending to a Hallmark Christmas movie because more than likely the girl gets boy and they kiss.

-WS



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

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Obituaries

Lyle Robert Huntoon

Lyle Robert Huntoon, age 91, of Ovid, MI, passed away Saturday, December 24, 2022, at Ovid Healthcare Center.

Lyle was born in Dearborn, Michigan on June 4, 1931, the son of Fred Byron and Catherine Belle (Bigelow) Huntoon. He proudly served his country in the United States Army. He resided in the Ovid area for the majority of his life. On June 2, 1952, Lyle married Shirley Mae Bredow in New Mexico. They were blessed with 53 years of marriage prior to her passing on July 17, 2005.

Lyle had many loves, besides his family. He loved his AA Program, which he joined in 1967. He was proud to have had 55 years of sobriety. Lyle dedicated his life to helping hundreds of others to find their "Higher Power" through the Alcoholics Anonymous Program. He also obtained his pilot's license while still working construction jobs. Upon retirement, he bought the airplane which brought much joy to him and his wife.

Lyle is survived by three daughters: Julie (Jim Pomaville) Crackel of Bay City, MI; Teresa (Bill) Beauchaine of Laingsburg, MI; and Bonnie (Bob) Harper of Owosso, MI; and two sons: Fred (Robin) Huntoon of Ovid, MI; and Lyle (Samantha DeSantes) Huntoon of Panama. He is also survived by fifteen grandchildren; nineteen great-grandchildren; one brother Dan (Sara) Stahl; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife Shirley, grandson Christopher Huntoon, granddaughter Kim Ormerod, father Fred Huntoon, mother Catherine (Guy) Stahl, and four brothers: Jim Huntoon, Fred Huntoon, Bob Stahl, and Bill Stahl.

A Private Graveside Service will be held at Ford Cemetery, Elsie, MI and a celebration of Lyle's life will be held in the spring.

Memorials may be made to your local AA Chapter. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



A Fresh New Year of Recycling Begins

submitted by Ellen Link

New Year's Resolutions #1 & 2: Reduce your output of waste (like clamshells!). Recycle as much as you can. These are resolutions you can actually keep! And we make it as easy as possible at the Greater Laingsburg Recycling Center (7500 Woodbury Rd.): you drive in, we empty your car, you drive out—pausing, perhaps, to check out the freebie shelves (check out the good books!). Per usual, the facility will be open the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (Jan. 3 and 17) and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays (Jan. 14 and 28). If you're new to recycling or just want to know more, you'll find the website Why Recycle? (<https://whyrecycleglr.wordpress.com/>), created by Laingsburg's Ava Brewer, an excellent source of information. And if you have ideas or suggestions, please pass them along. The GLR is all about "working toward a sustainable future in our own backyard."

Hopes are high that recycling in our state is poised to accelerate. Michigan's laws governing solid waste were over 25 years old and in dire need of updating. It took years for numerous organizations, particularly Kerrin O'Brien at the Michigan Recycling Coalition (MRC), to hammer out a bipartisan package of bills on recycling, waste reduction and solid waste management that finally passed the House in 2020 and was expected to sail through. Yet the package of bills, known as Part 115, languished in the senate until this past current lame duck session, when it was passed but with last-minute provisions attached to allow the burning of plastics through pyrolysis and gasification. Numerous environmental organizations objected, but Gov. Whitmer signed the bills in December. Stay tuned for updates.

The GLR will continue to accept Christmas cards, wrapping paper (please try to remove the tape), and defunct Christmas lights, and to update our new tiny library, situated by the road. Our trial run of collecting denim is on hold until we meet with the vendor for their approval, but we're hoping they'll give us the go-ahead. (Don't forget you can take gently used, upscale clothing you no longer want to The Clothesline in downtown Laingsburg.) And we'll be targeting the disastrous proliferation of plastic water bottles this year—we'll keep you posted.

Please make sure your recyclables are clean and separated: Newspaper and phone books; tin and scrap metal, separated from aluminum; corrugated cardboard (include brown paper bags here); boxboard; mixed office paper and junk mail; magazines; books; plastics— #1 bottles and jars, no clamshells (takeout, berries, bakery and salad containers), #2 (milk jugs/cloudy separated from solid colors), and #5 ("tubs", e.g., yogurt, sour cream, etc.); non-corroded household batteries (please separate into regular, rechargeable, lithium and button); glass bottles and jars (all colors); electronics (no televisions; a \$5 fee for flat screen monitors); empty inkjets; and dental care products like toothbrushes, spent toothpaste tubes and floss containers. Please minimize your use of plastic bags and take them back when emptied.

For details on what we accept, visit our Facebook page or website—<https://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite>. Questions? Contact Terry or Ellen Link at (517) 651-2005 or Beth Lange at 651-6437. Let's all make a healthy environment our priority for 2023.



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Minister:



Rev. Joyce Wallace
Worship Service
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Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street

Pastor: Zella Daniel

Sunday Worship 11:15am

Duplain Church of Christ

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

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

11:00am

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

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Associate Minister: Matthew Barnum

Children's Minister: Jessica Prieto

www.duplainchurch.org

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Evening Service - 6:00 p.m.

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Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: JD Paik



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Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

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Wed. 9:00am

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Bannister

We Welcome You to Come...

Editorial... cont' page 10

What did you all think about the blizzard of 2022? I was happy to get to the coffee shop and back home safely. I ended up delivering two of the pre-ordered and paid for raspberry pies. One lady was stuck ten miles out of town and didn't have a vehicle with four wheel drive. I dropped hers off at her sister's apartment. I then dropped off the other one at the girl's folks because it was on the way home. Of course there were several white outs on the way and a huge drift in the west lane which is south of the Hollister / Ridge Road intersection.

I was amazed at how very strong the winds were, I parked my truck headed out of the driveway. I walked around to the west side to get some packages out and into the house. It was a bitter wind blowing and a gust darned near threw me to the ground as I walked to the house. Of course there were several drifts that I had to navigate before I got to the front steps. It would have been nice to just slip into the house and stay there...it didn't quite happen that way. The cats were trying hard to invade my premises. I filled a pitcher with water and went out onto the west deck where their electric water dish sits. It was empty and they all gathered there as I refilled it. I had fed them before I left but hadn't checked their water dish and of course the crew let me know how wicked I had been.

I went back into the house and proceeded to finish up wrapping gifts. I rather enjoyed making the packages look festive. I am pleased that I made some good choices. I still need one more gift to finish up everything. I was very disappointed that church services were canceled because of the weather. To be honest, I also felt a bit guilty because I didn't get any more fudge made but my nephews were just as happy with the chocolate covered peanuts that I gave them. Diane gave them some of Barb's wonderful caramel corn. The boys aka young men were pleased.

On Saturday afternoon as I headed out to my truck I had to navigate a couple of the snow drifts. I ended up on the ground when I tried to walk down a drift. I went with the fall but covered my face with my arms cause I didn't want it puffed up with bruises. Not a good look any time of the year.

Also very pitiful during yuletide. It was a very exasperating experience, because I had to crawl across the frozen ground to get to a bigger drift so that I could leverage myself off the ground. Of course the gifts had gone flying along with my purse and phone. Time I got up off the ground the front of my jeans were wet. How comfy!?! I picked up my stuff and decided that I was better off just getting into the pickup. Blew the snow off my phone and went to my daughter's to have chili with my two youngest grandchildren who had to work when we planned on having our family Christmas. Yup, I'm still a bit lame even though I visited my chiropractor.

I woke up rather lame on Christmas day but had the time to have a long hot shower that seemed to ease the tension. Then I played at being a coach potato as I caught up on old Christmas classic movies. Prudence was thrilled that I was there to keep her cozy warm but did let me know if I was moving too much. She didn't like me folding clothes, worse yet if I got up out of the recliner to take care of them. She did like the snuggle part where she could keep me in the submissive and stopped me from moving my lap, that was her territory. It was a perfect day for her.

Our family Christmas was scheduled for 3PM on Monday. I made dressing for the turkey and went over to Diane & Brent's at eight to stuff the bird. Had coffee and chit chatted and also swiped the last pound of butter that was in her fridge. I needed it to make the German Chocolate cake and frosting from scratch. The last bit was used on the dinner rolls that I had made, my timing was decent and the rolls came out of the oven at 2:30, I buttered their tops and put a towel over the top of them to get them transported. The three layer cake was wrapped in aluminum foil. Note to self, I need to find a good sized cake carrier. While the cake was cooling, I ran Pru over to Karen's so that she wouldn't feel abandon, I couldn't imagine her being happy with a bunch of youngsters trying to pet her. I was afraid that someone would get snapped at. Not a good thing.

The party got a bit noisy at times but everyone seemed to have a good time. Diane was so busy that she didn't have time to unwrap her gifts until a couple of families had departed. There was much laughter. I hope that your New Year is filled with much happiness, compassion and consideration for what is going on in the lives of your family and friends. Next week I will try to explain more in detail if you are interested. May God bless you daily, and be thankful for all your blessings. Me, I'm darn near ecstatic because I didn't break anything other than the fall. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2022



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

This is a wonderful look at God's sovereignty, His acting, and our free will and being responsible for acting on God's prompting.

First, God put into the heart of Titus a great concern for the Church in Corinth. No doubt this involved both Titus's mind and emotions. The desire, the idea was given.

How would Titus act?

The Text says that he was obedient. He was coming to the Corinthians "...on his own initiative."

How about that? God gave Titus the desire, and yet Paul says that Titus is coming on his own initiative.

Both are true. God doesn't force anyone to do His will. But He does lead and prompt us through His Holy Spirit.

When we have that leading, that prompting, we are responsible for what we will do with it. To act on it in faith or to dismiss it.

When God puts a desire on our hearts and in our minds, there are three ways in which we can react-


1. Be disobedient. Totally tank it.
2. Be disobedient, then change our minds and be obedient.
3. Be obedient right from the very beginning.

If we've been Christians long enough, we've probably experienced each one of these. Hopefully more of the second and especially the third.

This third option is the best one for us to take, and that is the one of obedience. Hopefully we all know the joy of being obedient to the Lord when He has asked us to do or say something. Isn't it a wonderful feeling?

No rationalizations. No running away. No excuses. Just being obedient to whatever the Lord has for us to do.

Is there something that the Lord has been calling you to do, but you've been putting it off? Is there something that you know you need to say or do or stop doing? Do it now through the power and help of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to help you to stop doing whatever it is that needs to be done with and buried. Whatever it may be, live in the freedom of obedience to Christ today.



Editorial

Editorials are welcome.
250 words or less.
Email to:
news@meridianweekly.com
Must include name.

God has created people with free will. This means that we have the ability to choose what to think and what to do.

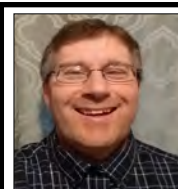
God has created us as moral beings and so we are responsible for our actions. Since we have free will we are responsible for the choices that we make on a day in and day out basis.

This includes how we will serve the Lord.

God sometimes puts desires onto our hearts and minds, and then we are responsible for what we do with them.

We see a great example of this in one of Paul's Letters to the Church in Corinth. Paul writes-
"Thanks be to God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative."

- 2 Corinthians 8:16-17



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
www.letsmeetgod.com



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Senior Spotlight

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (60 and Over)

submitted by Becky Zemla

Capital Area Community Services, Inc. is taking applications for the U.S.D.A. Commodity Supplement Food Program. This program provides nutritious food, on a monthly basis to low-income residents of Shiawassee County who are 60 years of age or above.

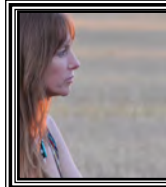
Persons sixty years of age or older (130% Poverty index guidelines) To qualify, individuals must lie in Shiawassee County and meet program guidelines.

Family size 1 - \$17,667; family size 2 - \$23,803; family size 3 - \$29,939. For each additional family member add \$6,136.

Distribution for Shiawassee County will begin January 4, 2023 at Capital Area Community Services, 1845 Corunna Ave., Owosso, MI 48867. 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00pm.

January 4, 2023 will be drive thru only.

If you have any questions, please call 989-723-3115.



Struggling for Happiness?

by LeeAnna Woods
Licensed Therapist, Reiki Master and Owner
of Healing Feather Wellness
www.HealingFeatherWellness.com
(810) 339-0260

The holiday season can sometimes be difficult for certain people, even though it's a time for cheer, happiness, and celebration for most.

Those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, suffering from loneliness, fighting medical conditions, or are separated from their family and friends, can find the holidays to be nothing more than a struggle instead.

People's emotional state of well-being can change from season to season, without any warning signs that we see. There's no way to know how different situations will affect someone. They could have triggers that are set off by the holiday spirit of things such as; the smell of gingerbread cookies baking, putting up the lights, or anything at all that sparks a reminder of what they're lacking during the season.

Now those things might not seem to be any big deal, but for the person who is triggered, it's a completely different story. Those simple things may set the person into a downward spiral which can become devastating for them to deal with through the holidays either around people or alone. It can lead to anxiety, panic attacks, depression, deepening their loneliness, heightening stress levels, and more, creating an open door for other health problems.

This holiday season let's be more aware of those around us and give the gift of caring to everyone we see, known or unknown, both young and old. After all, emotional well-being has no age limit, race type, nor any set creed. Let's all enjoy the holidays together in harmony and set out to create happiness through the community.

If you're someone who doesn't handle the holidays so easily then try something new or take a different way of approaching it with people who have a light shining within them, to help you see your way

through the season. Maybe join a group for the holiday spirit of helping others or volunteer in the community to celebrate the season in another way. Just being around others can be enough to boost the endorphins in the body creating a positive mood.

If you are one of those people who are a shining light during the season, then shine even brighter this year, because there's still a lot of darkness lingering out there. Maybe secretly adopt a family or person who needs some extra light in their life during this time. It can be as simple as a phone call just to say you were thinking about them, up to spending money to help them with their needs. Nothing is never too big but more importantly, anything is never too little!

Here are some ideas for things to do or gifts that perhaps they would never think about doing for themselves;

- drop off a few bags of groceries with maybe some special snacks.
- take them out to eat.
- get them a tree or decorations.
- give them a gift certificate for wellness (massage, Reiki, yoga, haircut, manicure or pedicure, etc.)
- surprise them with a special photo session by a local photographer (like Sun & Moon Photography in Saint John's).
- take them to the movies.
- take them out for an activity (golf, bowling, arcade, sports game, etc.)
- spend quality time with them.
- start a yearly holiday ritual with them.

The list can go on forever with ideas but the main one is, you thought of them and you cared enough to let them know in a special way. It's literally the fact that someone took the time to actually care about them.

You can even do this for a complete stranger too. If you have or get a feeling that you could brighten up or help a person you see, then do it. Give them a compliment on their outfit, hair color, cologne, or eyes. Pay for their coffee in line or tell the waitress that you're paying for their meal without them knowing. It's no different than paying in forward and can you imagine if we all began doing it?! The world would be changing in a positive way, by becoming less greedy and more loving, by being less ego driven and more caring. If that's not shining a light for the holidays, then what is? We should continue to do things like this throughout the year, but for now, the human population probably needs to take baby steps.

Either way, looking for the light or becoming a light, it creates happiness and well-being for everyone involved. It also helps improve the emotional and mental health of people that aren't seen but are felt.

Stay healthy and bright this winter. Have a wonderful holiday season and smile, you're worth it! Merry Christmas and have a happy new year.

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Sports

O-E Wrestling Grads Competing On the Mats This Winter at Adrian

ADRIAN — Alexis Hart-Butcher and Sharla Juhas are alums of the Ovid-Elsie wrestling program competing on the mats this winter for the Adrian College Bulldogs.

The Adrian women's wrestling team fell to cross town rivals Siena Heights, 27-20, in their most recent action before the 2022 holiday season. The highlight of their young campaign was a 1st place team finish at the Albion Invitational.

The Lady Bulldogs will have an extended break before they travel to NWCA Multi-Divisional National Duals in Louisville, Kentucky on January 6 and 7 to begin the 2023 calendar year.



Alexis
Hart-Butcher



Sharla
Juhas

O-E's Koutz Continues Collegiate Cross-Country Career at Adrian

ADRIAN — Emme Koutz, the daughter of Adam and Rebecca Koutz and an Ovid-Elsie HS graduate, recently completed her junior year in cross-country for the Adrian Bulldogs.

Emme has run a collegiate-best 6k time of 25:00.5 at the Knight Invite.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2020 from Ovid-Elsie High School, as a member of the National Honors Society.

In cross-country for the Marauders, she was First Team All-Conference in 2016, 2018, and 2019; a State Qualifier 2016-2018; and an individual Mid-Michigan Activities Conference champion in 2017.

At Adrian, Emme is majoring in Teacher Education.



Happy Birthday, Isedeane!

Isedeane Applebee will be celebrating her 90 birthday on January 9th, 2023 with a get together with her immediate family.

If you'd like to help Isedeane celebrate, birthday wishes can be sent to P.O. Box 45, Ovid, MI 48866.



Celebrating 100th Birthday

On Tuesday, January 10, 2023, or Mom/Grandmother, Rose Ellen Senrud will celebrate her 100th Birthday.

Help us come rate this milestone by showering her with blessings.

Cards may be sent to her at 826 W. King Street, 5th Floor, Room 575-1, Owosso, MI 48867. Thank You & Bless You.



Wolfpack Runs Off Stretch in 2nd Quarter to Win Battle of Unbeatens

CORUNNA — Laingsburg and Durand both entered their Corunna Holiday Tournament as unbeatens here December 28.

After a numbing flurry in the second quarter — a 17-3 run — coach Dan Morrill's Wolfpack never looked back, winning the contest 84-53.

Junior Zander Woodruff of Laingsburg led all scorers with 29 points. Ty Randall had a huge first half and added 14. Connor Hulliberger chipped in 11 for the Wolfpack.

The Railroaders were led by Gabe Lynn with 22.

LHS stays unbeaten at 4-0 (1-0 in CMAC play) while Durand goes to 5-1.

Morrill's charges took on host Corunna for the Holiday Tournament championship on Friday evening at CHS.




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Life insurance can provide peace of mind for you and the loved ones you leave behind. The income tax-free death benefit can help pay for housing and debt, as well as funeral costs and living expenses.

A Modern Woodmen of America financial representative can review flexible and affordable life insurance options. The more you learn about your options, the better prepared you can be to select the type of life insurance that's best for you and your family.

Let's start the conversation.



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If you are unable to make the fundraising dinner and would like to donate to the cause, checks may be made out to Ovid-Elsie Baseball and mailed to Brian Young, 1012 S. Hollister Road, Ovid, MI 48866.



Meet the Teams - Laingsburg Wolfpack



Laingsburg Varsity Wrestling

Front row (l-r): Jacen Smakal, Tucker Nethaway, Aden Baynes, Dustin Winans, Sean Divine, Mikey Brooks, Garrett Mathews. Second row (l-r): Troy Mathews, Wyatt Stanfield, Jack Borgman, Jay Montgomery, Dano Winans, Noah Gentner, Kyle Boettcher, Dylan Soldon, Bryce Smith. Third row (l-r): Ethan Schneederger, Logan Robinson, Alex Forcier, Aaron Willouby, Thomas Smith, Felix Ramirez, Marlon Graham, Sebastian Ruff. Back row (l-r): Sawyer Shastal, Tyler Woodbury, Jacob Slider, Caleb Boettcher, Carter Schlaack, Riley Kieffer, Brad Dedic, Marty Meyer, Coach Baynes. Not pictured: Kyrese Demp, Cade Fuller, Noah Deveraux, Zach Grandy, Alex Grandy, Lorenzo Stuckey, Gauge Ream, Charlie Porbusky, Dylan Koenig, Coach Kevin Koenig, Coach John Hummel, Coach Matt McDougal and Coach Dan Clevenger. Photo by Deb Price.



Laingsburg Girls Varsity Basketball

Team includes: Mallory Woodbury, Evelyn Logghe, Callie Clark, Ella Merrell, Ashlee Hawes, Brenna Highfield, Bella Strieff, Kyleigh Luna, Ellie Baynes, Head Coach Doug Hurst, Asst. Coaches: Troy Hill, Eric Wade. Photo by Deb Price



Laingsburg Boys JV Basketball

Front row (L-r): Mitchell George, Greg Stewart, Leandro Dolega-Caceres, Colin Hart, Logan Holm. Back row (l-r): Jake Rivet, Dominic Garcia, Dylan Hoard, Dylan Witgen, Emilio Garcia, Head Coach: Dillon Bates. Missing Josiah Hawes. Insert: Max Powers. Photo by Deb Price



Laingsburg Girls JV Basketball

Team includes: Jameson Conklin, Savvy Stirm, Harper Strouse, Grace Knoll, Alaina Asher, Samantha Lapinski, Morgan LaMacchia, Skylar Stiff, Samantha Knoblauch, Bella Latuszek, Justine Miller, Head Coach Kara Mahoney, Asst. Coach Andrea Mahoney. Photo by Deb Price



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Meet the Teams - Laingsburg Wolfpack



Laingsburg Boys Freshman Basketball

Team includes: Everett Rodriguez, Liam Esch, Logan West, Kollin Bentley-Barr, Waylon Rowley, Leandro Dolega-Caceres, Josiah Hawes, Evan Lefevre, Nate Malone, Kaleb Salas. Head Coach Brian Borgman. Photo by Deb Price

Sports

Lady Maraunders Move to First Place in MMAC

Thursday night, December 22nd, the Ovid-Elsie Lady Maraunders took on the visiting Chesaning Indians in an MMAC showdown which features two undefeated conference opponents. Ovid-Elsie would come away with the victory, 54-15.

Senior Kiah Longoria came out and scored 10 first quarter points to pace the Lady Maraunders to a 23-3 first quarter advantage. Ovid-Elsie followed it up with an 11-5 second quarter and a 18-1 third quarter before surrendering the fourth quarter 7-2. Ovid-Elsie led by as many as 44 points which brought a running clock into play.

"I'm just so impressed with our defensive intensity," said Head Coach Ryan Cunningham. "That's the third straight game we've held our opponent to under ten points in the first half. Our girls take great pride in our defense and it really showed tonight. It was probably the most compete game - offensively and defensively - that we have played this season."

Junior Evalyn Cole led all scorers with 20 points while adding 8 steels and 6 rebounds and fellow classmate Braeden Tokar added 11 points and 4 assists. Ava Bates added 8 points and 5 rebounds while Ellyanna Carman chipped in with 3 points and 3 rebounds and Izzy Loynes had 2 points to round out the Marauder scoring.

The Lady Maraunders collected 18 steels on 33 Indian turnovers and handed out 12 assists on 21 made baskets. Rebounding was deadlocked at 25-25 but Ovid-Elsie out shot Chesaning 41% to 21% from the floor. Ovid-Elsie committed just 8 turnovers on the night.

Ovid-Elsie (5-2, 4-0 MMAC) will be idle until Ithaca (6-0) comes to town on January 3rd. Chesaning falls to 4-3 and 3-1 in the MMAC.



Evalyn Cole going for the layup and another 2 points of her 20 point total against Chesaning. Photo by Denise Burgess

A Look Back Through 2022

Strieff Signs with LCC

February 22, 2022



Strieff Signing: LCC coach Emily Quintero, Lorna and dad / coach JJ Strieff make it official: Lorna's college career will start at LCC. See story on page 9.

State Champion

Parsons dominated the competition at Ford Field

March 13, 2022



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


District Champs

March 13, 2022



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

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Editorial

It's Never Too Late to Build Your Childs Self-Esteem

Dear Andy, My first marriage lasted 20 years. We had 2 beautiful children, and I was lucky to be a stay-at-home mom. We were hands-on parents, and we did a great job raising our kids. We provided them with everything they needed and more. However, to this day, they are in their 20's and do not make very good decisions unless we walk them through it, step by step. It's our own fault; we allowed them to be completely dependent on us. I cooked all the meals, and my daughter or son do not have a clue in the kitchen. We paid for whatever they needed over the years, including college, but they have very little sense of costs or expenses when it comes to them being independent in the "real world." They both are good students and are academically successful with a potential of a satisfying career. Their dad and I are on good terms and still have our "nearly adult" children, as always, a priority.

I am happily remarried and have two more beautiful children. We have Sunday dinner together and go on our vacations together in the summer and during the holiday breaks. The older kids go to their dad's one weekend and visit my home the opposite weekend. They both love their stepsisters, and we love them being a part of our lives. Our concern is...we want the younger girls to grow up making more of their own decisions and being more independent. I am such an organizer and planner; I am afraid I will be making the same mistakes. Do you have any suggestions? Super Mom

Dear Super Mom, Unfortunately, children do not come with instruction booklets, so experts have written tons of books for parents. It's not too late to work with your older children. On Sunday's plan meals that your older daughter can assist you in preparing the food. Work up to the time when she will prepare the complete meal by herself. Make a cookbook of family recipes and easy meals for both your (nearly adult) children. Take her grocery shopping with you or send her to the store with a list and coupons. Set up a budget for both of your adult children. Be honest about how much everything costs.

If you are still paying for extra expenses and they are not working for their spending money, give them a date to find a part-time job. If they cannot find a paid internship in their academic field, there is nothing wrong with working at the school bookstore, or a restaurant as a waiter, or scooping ice cream. It will give them a sense of responsibility and money you will not need to hand out. Encourage them to save 25% of their new income for vacation. It will give them a sense of pride to spend their own money and a better understanding of how much life costs. Everything can be a lesson in work ethics and responsibility. Chores without money as part of their life will also be a life lessons and skills they can take with them into their adult life.

As for your next generation of children, to become wise decision makers, children must be allowed to make decisions. Allow the girls to pick between 2 outfits that you lay out. Let them decide and support them. Say how adorable they look and compliment them when they have made a "good" choices. Another strategy that works is my favorite phrase "...you decide, sweetie." When you are at a restaurant give them 2 choices and let them decide. As parents we are placed in the decision-making role by their million questions every day. Like, "Can I have a snack?" "Can I go outside to play?" "Can I call my girlfriend?"... These common questions typically have a "yes" or "no" answer. So, if it is going to be a "yes" empower your children (any age) to make the decision themselves.

Learn the phrase, "You Decide." If your answer is "No," by all means say "no." I always like to give a single reason but that is just my personal preference. But only one...if you start listing reasons then you lose your credibility. Instead of being the authoritarian figure by making all their decisions, you will give your children the opportunity to experience their independent thinking process. When they have mastered some decision-making skills, you can add some qualifying conditions.

Such as, "Can I watch television?" Say, "If you can keep the sound low so it won't disturb anyone else; you decide." or answer the question, "Can I call my friend?" by saying, "...when you finish the dishes. You decide." This will help them develop good "decision-making skills" while processing "thinking skills" at the same time. Playing family games are an important part of the decision-making process for each person and playing together strengthens decisions as they participate, especially parents.

Other phrases like "It's up to you," "It's your choice," "You chose," "You can decide." Or "I am happy with whatever you decide." Always treat your child with respect, honesty and kindness and they will grow up with the good characteristics you are hoping for them. Do not patronize or let them control every situation...it is ok to say "no way!"

My favorite book to recommend is YOUR CHILD'S SELF-ESTEEM by Dorothy Briggs. Her proven strategies have helped millions of parents repeatedly over the years. Her ideas can be adapted to any age child. It is my belief that It is never too late to build your child's confidence and self-esteem. Andy at ask_andy@aol.com or ask_andy@gmail.com

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Memorial Healthcare Cancer Center Welcomes New Hematologist/Oncologist

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to welcome Dr. Anas Alsara to the Cancer Center.

Dr. Anas Alsara is board-certified in Medical Oncology and Hematology. He is a clinical assistant professor at Michigan State University and has extensive research experience as well as several publications in cancer research. After completing his fellowship at Michigan State University, he served as a hematologist and oncologist in Midland, Michigan.

Dr. Alsara is a member of the American Society of Hematology (ASH), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), and Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology (MSHO).



Pictured (l-r): Charlie Thompson, Director of Facilities, Abbie Majzel, Vice President, Talent Management, Russ Seigel and Josh Wissinger, Facilities Manager

Russ Seigel Named Memorial Healthcare December EOM

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso, Michigan – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to announce Russ Seigel, a Skilled Maintenance employee in the Plant Operations department for being selected as our December Employee of the Month. Russ has been employed at Memorial Healthcare since May 2013.

According to his nomination, “Russ always has the best interest of the patient in mind with anything he does. Since I have been employed at MHC, there have been many instances that I have needed assistance with from him, from overseeing installation of new flooring, unclogging toilets to plowing our off-site parking lots. Russ is always friendly and very prompt when a service is requested. Russ truly takes pride in his job and goes above expectations to ensure timely resolution!”

Russ lives in Owosso, has one daughter who was recently married and lives in East Lansing. His hobbies include golfing, bowling and boating. An interesting fact about Russ is that he was a past Mr. Owosso. Russ’s personal outlook is, “Is to see the world with a positive outlook, to see the glass as half-full and to always ask how I can help others?” He would like to be remembered as someone who made a difference in the lives of those around him. On being honored as Memorial Healthcare’s Employee of the Month, Russ is quoted as saying, “The staff at the off-site offices are the best and they make my day brighter.”

Beautifying Laingsburg AND Open For Business

by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

LAINGSBURG

- Have you noticed the beautiful potted plants and colorful umbrellas on Grand River in downtown Laingsburg? Paula Willoughby, City Clerk and Amanda Aldrich, Deputy Clerk worked on a City improvement Grant with the I-69 Thumb Region Mini-Grant Program.

The City recently received approval for \$2,000 and the City Council matched the Grant with another \$2,000 along with a \$2,000 match from the Laingsburg Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

A total of \$6,000 was spent on letting the community know they are open for business, with the continued CDC restriction wearing masks and social distancing guidelines. The monies purchased flowers and 7 large pots which were planted by Girl Scout Troop. The grant paid for 15 outdoor tables with an umbrella and 60 chairs. More outdoor seating will offer the businesses more customers who are not currently allowed to operate at full capacity.

At the time of this article, the umbrellas were being shipped. For now, additional seating will help the businesses who are serving with limited capacity, according to Paula Willoughby, City Clerk. She stated, “The Laingsburg City Council, the DDA, and business owners are excited and supportive of this project.”

Two tables are being placed in front of Tammy’s Café & Bakery. They are only serving take-out, at this time. Two more tables in front of Rose Villa Retreat, three tables in front of PDP’s Pizzeria, and as many as regulations allow in front of Twilligers full-menu Restaurant and Tavern.

A special thank you from the City to the Girl Scouts for planting the flowers. It takes all of us to make a small town successful. Thank you!



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