



My Turn At Bat

by Tom Turek

In March 2008 I went to my doctor for a routine physical. Things looked good, especially my blood work, where I had lowered any A1C concerns and my blood pressure.

Two days later the doctor called me and said I needed to get a biopsy. My prostate specific antigen (PSA) numbers were elevated. Dramatically. A very thorough, rather unpleasant biopsy revealed that I did, indeed, have prostate cancer.

My options were easy, at least for me.

I've got cancer in my body? I want it gone. So my skilled urologist performed successful surgery. I was lucky then, then lucky ever since. I've remained cancer-free.

Like many (most?) families reading this, however, cancer has hit us hard. My brothers all had what I had. Other family members continue to battle courageously against cancer while you read this very sentence.

We lost -- way too young -- a beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt and niece last August 1 to this scourge. To say cancer hits home ... well, yeah. It's personal.

Like a punch to the gut.

My options in the spring of 2008 were easy, at least for me. But what about since? What are our options in fighting back against this pure evil?

We battle. We continue to battle. You read that last paragraph correctly; cancer — all forms of cancer — are the closest thing to pure evil I've encountered on this Earth.

That's why the news coming out of Laingsburg High School last week was so inspirational. A group of high school athletes picked up the mantle, rallied around the battle flag and joined the fight.

Inspirational? How about a basketball program, consisting of a few players from a rural high school in Michigan, that leads the nation in their chosen fund-raising initiative?

That's right. You read that last paragraph correctly, too. The Coaches vs. Cancer effort undertaken by neighboring Laingsburg and Bath high schools smashed the 2021 national fundraising total by 30%; Laingsburg's total alone topped the national 2022 leader, and when Bath added their dona-

tions to the pot, a few dozen student-athletes, their coaches and parents had raised nearly \$10,000.

LHS, specifically, is blowing away the rest of the North Central Region — consisting of schools in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia and Michigan — by some \$8,000. Student-athletes raised the money, much of it in a week solely dedicated to community service, hosting raffles, free throw shooting pledges, a Wall of Hope cards showcased on the gymnasium wall, door-to-door donation drives, school-donated game ticket sales and online donations.

All proceeds go directly to the American Cancer Society, to battle all types of this generations-changing disease.

My options in the spring of 2008 were easy. They remain easy today. The drive for donations continues through the middle of March, when the prep basketball regular seasons end.

You can join me in the battle by going to the website main.ascevents.org, click on the Laingsburg team page and donate the dollar amount of your choice.

Battle on. If you need inspiration, Varsity and JV basketball players at Laingsburg High School are helping to show you the way.



Wolfpack head coach Daniel Morrill (2nd from right) is pictured with assistant coaches (L to R) Tim Beebe, Jordan McGee and Ryan Powell, displaying the check for over \$9,300 in donations -- the combined effort of Laingsburg (\$7,324.88) and Bath (\$2,023.00) high school basketball programs.

Village of Elsie

submitted by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – The Village of Elsie held the first regular meeting of 2023 Tuesday, January 10, 2023. The highlight of the evening was committee appointments.

Officials were presented the proposed 2023 committee appointments for approval. Beginning with the street administrator, Joe Ondrusek. The remainder of the committees were approved, as well. President Pro-tem Jason Freeman; Clerk, Susan Lightner; Treasurer, Cindy Brzak; Budget, Dorothy Ornelas, Joe Ondrusek, Sam Frink; Ordinance, Jason Freeman, Kory Witt, Todd Carroll; Park & Cemetery, Todd Carroll, Dorothy Ornelas, Kory Witt; Personnel /Police Todd Carroll, Jason Freeman, Sam Frink; Zoning Board Administrator, Shane Grinnell; Zoning Joe Ondrusek, Don Cook, Dawn Levey, Doug Fox; Clinton Area Ambulance Service, Kory Witt; and Fire Board, Tom Frink.

Shane Grinnell, village manager, discussed the securing of scales to address overweight semis within the Village of Elsie. The topic was prompted by the issues taking place on the roads and streets in the Village of Elsie. It is possible to share scales with the weigh master or motor carrier on and off season. To purchase the scales it would cost \$10,000. The first steps include addressing a local ordinance to cover the issue, an ordinance that is set by the motor vehicle code. With a local ordinance the majority of the fines stay local. Discussion followed. Shane, noted that those who know that they are overloaded will avoid major roads like 127 and use local roads.

Officials, introduced the State ordinance regarding over-weight commercial vehicles, Michigan Motor Vehicle Code. A public hearing will be held 15 minutes prior to the February regular meeting.

Shane Grinnell reported that the auditors were in to prepare the 2021 financial audit. At this point the audit looks good. There are concerns with the current accountant and the timely completion of monthly financials and bank reconciliations.

Grinnell presented the Department of Public Works monthly report. Monitoring wells are still in progress, sampling those that are accessible, it will result in one or two additional test wells. The Water tower inspection has been completed and the recommendations presented in a 5-10-year maintenance plan. The inspectors noted that overall, the water tower is in very good shape. The village will be working with the Spicer Group to develop a 5-year Master Plan for Water Assessment.

Kory Witt, presented the 5-year proposed projections and the budget for Clinton Area Ambulance Service for approval. After a brief discussed the budget was approved.

Val Vail-Shirey, County Commissioner, was present to introduce herself and to provide the list of committee appointments.

Monthly action was taken to approve the agenda with the addition of Clinton Area Ambulance Budget approval; approval of the December 2022 minutes and the financial reports. Police 67 calls in December, 485 call/complaints in 2022, 621 including the calls addressed by the Clinton County Sheriff's Department. In addition, officials took action to approve the expenditures totaling \$46,882.93.

Rep. Filler Sworn in for Third Term

State Rep. Graham Filler today was sworn in for this third term in office on the opening day of the new legislative term.

Filler continues to represent the 93rd House District, but the communities it includes have changed due to the redistricting process. The district includes portions of Clinton and Gratiot counties – which Filler has represented in the past – as well as portions of Montcalm, Ionia, and Saginaw counties.

Filler said, "Hearing from local people about the issues that matter most to them helps me be a better voice for our district. I encourage everyone with questions, concerns or ideas to reach out to my office."

Residents can contact Filler's office by calling (517) 373-1778 or emailing GrahamFiller@house.mi.gov. Correspondence can also be addressed to Rep. Graham Filler, N-1197 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909.

In the Legislature, Filler served as chair of the House Judiciary Committee from 2019 to 2022 and has been a strong advocate for law enforcement and public safety, mental health services, agriculture, and the availability for reliable and affordable energy.



Laingsburg Lions Free Spaghetti Dinner

Dine with Your Laingsburg Lions Club on January 17, 2023 from 5-7pm hosted at the Laingsburg American Legion, Post 248.

CDC Precautions will be observed.

Serving Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Beverage and Dessert.

Carry Out available. Sorry, no deliveries.

All are welcome, bring the family and join us at the Laingsburg American Legion located at 1240 E. Grand River.

Social

Library News

Elsie Public Library

Our winter weather is crazy and unpredictable. Our library is predictable. Check out our library catalog at (<https://els.agverso.com/>) to see all the new books and DVDs we have available for you!

We have lots of new books on 2 shelves just inside our front door. If you are not sure what kind of book you are looking for, talk to our staff. They have lots of suggestions. If we do not have what you are looking for, we will research it and order it for you through our interlibrary loan partners.

While you are checking out our books and movies, your children can be playing with our toys in the Children's section of the library. We have a new stem table for the little ones. We also have a game table and several interactive toys. Some toys are up on shelves but will be brought down upon request. It is truly a kid-friendly zone. There are activity days on every Monday in January, for the children, and a special children's program on Saturday, January 21st. Come and join in.

We have recently purchased the book "The History of Elsie: Children's Edition", by Quinn Passmore. Come in and check it out (or put a hold on it if already borrowed). There is some very interesting history and wonderful old pictures in this book.

Come see what is happening at 145 W. Main St. in Elsie. We would love to see you here.

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Laingsburg Community Schools Meeting

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2023. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., as of now it will be held in the middle school media center but please see our website at <http://www.laingsburg.k12.mi.us/> for up to date meeting information.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: Organizational Meeting-Election of Officers, School Board Recognition, LEAF Presentation, Robotics Presentation, 2022/23 Budget Update, 2023/24 Preliminary Budget Discussion, Legislative update, Board Policy and Bylaws Update, Personnel and any other business that may properly come before the board.

Board meetings are open to the public. Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.

Michigan House Office

State Rep. Brian BeGole, of Antrim Township, today announced his House office in Lansing is open to help serve people in the 71st House District.


BeGole is in his first term as a state representative after working in law enforcement for 32 years, including the past six as Shiawassee County Sheriff.

"I am committed to protecting the constitutional rights of residents, supporting small businesses that serve as the backbone of our state and local economies, and making our region an even better place to live, work and raise a family through responsible reforms," BeGole said. "Having served in law enforcement, I understand that being accessible when people need me is incredibly important. I encourage people to contact my office with any questions and concerns, and I am excited to start working on their behalf in Lansing."

People can contact BeGole's office by calling (517) 373-0853 or emailing BrianBeGole@house.mi.gov. Correspondence can also be mailed to N-1090 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909.

The 71st House District includes Corunna, Durand, Owosso, Perry, Bancroft, Byron, Morrice, New Lothrop, Vernon, portions of Lennon and Ovid, and the townships of Antrim, Bennington, Burns, Caledonia, Fairfield, Hazelton, Middlebury, New Haven, Owosso, Perry, Rush, Shiawassee, Venice and Vernon. It also includes Chesaning, Oakley, Brady Township and Maple Grove Township in Saginaw County and Argentine Township, Gaines Township, and a portion of Mundy Township in Genesee County.

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State Police Seeks Volunteers

LANSING, MICH. The Michigan State Police (MSP) has created a Civilian Actor Program (CAP) and is soliciting citizen volunteers who want to serve as actors in scenario-based training with members of the 143rd Trooper Recruit School (TRS) and their instructors. The goal is to create a diverse pool of actors reflective of the communities the MSP serves to provide the most realistic training experience for the recruits.

The recruit training exercises will be held at the MSP's Training Academy, in Dimondale, on various dates from Feb. 17 - May 18, 2023, and at the Fort Custer Training Center, in Battle Creek, May 31 - June 1, 2023.

Citizens will serve as actors for the following types of scenarios:

Traffic Stops
Arrests
Domestic Violence
Civil Disputes
Larceny
Retail Fraud

To qualify, you must be at least 18 years old, have a valid driver's license, and complete all sections of the application. Applicants must have never been convicted of a felony or any crime, regardless of penalty, involving violence, dishonesty, or false statement. All applicants will be subject to a criminal background check.

Selected applicants will be required to complete the CAP class, consisting of legal instruction, role player responsibilities, role player safety, scenario introduction, and scenario practice. Additionally, those who complete the CAP class and participate in training exercises shall submit to a weapons search on-site and must sign a liability waiver.

Application can be made online. The deadline to apply is January 20, 2023. If you were previously accepted into the program for the 142nd TRS, you do not need to apply or retake the CAP class to assist with the 143rd TRS.

Selected participants will receive a confirmation email with additional instructions for CAP class registration, to be held in February, and recruit training exercise date registration.

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MI HEARTSafe School Program

LANSING, Mich. – In Michigan, the MI HEARTSafe School Program was developed to prepare school facilities to respond to cardiac emergencies. Fast-acting cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and access to an automated external defibrillator (AED) prior to emergency medical services (EMS) arrival is critical for best possible outcomes.

By recognizing the signs of a sudden cardiac arrest and responding quickly by calling 911 and using CPR and AED before EMS arrives, schools can support a safer environment for students, staff and their communities. A virtual workshop Tuesday, Jan. 24 will be held to teach schools about the program requirements, importance of cardiac emergency preparedness, and the available tools and resources to help them achieve the criteria.

Sudden cardiac death claims the lives of approximately 250 Michigan children and young adults under the age of 40 annually. The MI HEARTSafe School Program, supported by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Michigan Department of Education (MDE), American Heart Association, Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and Michigan Alliance for Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death of the Young (MAP-SCDY), has certified 713 schools in its nine-year history, and expanding the awareness of the program to rural areas and at-risk populations is needed to ensure all Michigan schools are ready in the event of a sudden cardiac emergency.

“Preparation is key to ensuring positive outcomes during cardiac emergencies,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “Swift action paired with access to life-saving equipment and training saves lives. Having schools trained for cardiac emergencies can help decrease the number of tragedies and prepare school employees to respond in a timely manner and avert what could be a life-threatening situation. We encourage all schools to apply for a HEARTSafe certification.”

If schools want to learn more about how to prepare for these emergencies, MAP-SCDY will be hosting the Jan. 24 virtual workshop from 10 a.m. to noon. Registration is required.

Requirements to become a MI HEARTSafe School include:

A written medical emergency response plan and team that can respond to an emergency during school hours and after-school activities and sports.

Current CPR/AED certification of at least 10% of staff and 50% of coaches, including 100% of head varsity coaches and physical education staff.

Accessible, properly maintained and inspected AEDs with signs identifying locations.

Annual cardiac emergency response drills.

Pre-participation sports screening of all student athletes using the current physical and history form endorsed by MHSAA.

Resources to help meet the criteria are available on the MI HEARTSafe School website. Schools meeting these requirements are able to apply for the MI HEARTSafe School Award and the application cycle is open from January through May 15, 2023.

For more information about the MI HEARTSafe Schools program, visit Migrc.org/miheart-safe or email MDHHS-MI-HEARTSafe@michigan.gov.

USDA Announces \$1.5 Million to Increase Meat Processing Capacity in Michigan

EAST LANSING, Mich., Jan. 10, 2023 – U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan Brandon Fewins today announced \$1.5 million to improve meat processing capacity in Michigan.

“USDA is committed to helping provide abundant and affordable food,” said Fewins. “By adding to local capacity and shortening the supply chain, we are keeping food dollars close to home, reducing transportation costs and boosting Michigan agriculture.”

Grower-owned cooperative Michigan Turkey Producers will use a \$1,531,204 grant to help upgrade the hot water system, wastewater treatment facilities and refrigerated trailers to accommodate an expansion at its plant in Grand Rapids. With recent automation upgrades and the continuing expansion made possible by the grant, the plant will be able to add a shift and double its processing capacity to 10 million turkeys annually. The additional capacity also will allow the plant to provide back-up for other facilities of similar size in neighboring states.

The funds are provided through the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program. This project is part of a \$12 million investment to expand independent meat and poultry processing capacity in Ohio, Michigan and Minnesota.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the leadership of the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

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A Big Thank You

The Laingsburg Area Food Bank would like to thank our generous community and volunteers for all the work accomplished and donations made in 2022:

- 1,646 individuals from local families were served - 724 more than in 2021.
- 34,587 meals were distributed to local families - 12,412 more than in 2021.
- 4,790 personal care items were distributed to local families - 1,656 more than in 2021.

The ongoing support shown by this community for those in need is a real source of pride. Unfortunately, the need continues. Thank you, Laingsburg, for helping our neighbors through tough times.

Beekeeping Basics Workshop Announced

submitted by Donna Kanan

OWOSSO - The Shiawassee Conservation District is hosting a Beekeeping Basics Workshop on Saturday, February 4, 2023. The workshop will be held at the Shiawassee County Fairgrounds Community Center from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. The registration fee is \$5 per person and includes morning refreshments and an informational packet. Space is limited to the first 35 individuals who register.

This workshop is designed to help beginner beekeepers understand what is necessary to get started in beekeeping and how to avoid beekeeping difficulties. Featured speakers, David Anthony and Leo Stevens, owners of AWS Bees, will discuss different types of bees and honey, apiary equipment, and colony management. “Keeping bees can be very rewarding and fun,” said David Anthony. “You don’t need to invest in much equipment to produce your own honey, and one hive only takes up a space of 19x20 inches.” Participants are encouraged to ask questions during the workshop and have fun learning about the exciting world of beekeeping.

In addition, Shiawassee Conservation District programs and Farm Bill conservation programs will be discussed. Participants will learn how these programs can complement your beekeeping operation. Attendees will have the opportunity to earn a MAEAP Phase 1 credit.

Visit www.shiawasseeccd.org for further details about this workshop and other Conservation District events. RSVP by calling the Shiawassee Conservation District at (989) 723-8263 x3.

PUBLIC NOTICE

STORAGE WILL BE REMOVED

Storage facility location: 9446 E. M21 Ovid, Michigan 48866 Unit #C19-64
Actions taken and timeline
Communication to Tenant: USPS 70201810000115308427
Notice of non-compliance mail out: 2022-12-19
Notice of non-compliance received: 2022-12-21
Settlement date to resolve non-compliance dispute: 2023-01-03
Public notice of sale or other disposition- FIRST NOTICE: 2023-01-15
Public notice of sale or other disposition- SECOND NOTICE: 2023-01-22
Newspaper contracted to publish notice to the public: The Weekly
Contents of the unit will be removed: 2023-01-23
Description of unit contents: Miscellaneous items with or without personal or familial value. Some items may or may not be in individual containers.
Owner/manager actions: All items will be sold and/or discarded. Upon removal of all items the unit will be restored to a functional, safe condition, making this unit available to other prospective tenants.
This action is pursuant to self-storage facility act 570.521 1986-March-31, State of Michigan.

Ovid-Elsie Sports Booster in collaboration with Marauder Athletics Presents



REVERSE RAFFLE

Saturday, March 11, 2023

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

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Obituaries

Kristina Lee “Nina” (Boose) Stevens

Kristina Lee “Nina” (Boose) Stevens passed away on December 20, 2022 in Louisville, Kentucky. She was born April 8, 1953, the daughter of Donald Forest and Elaine Ruth(Taber) Boose in Akron, Ohio. She was a premie arriving three months early and spent the first 94 days of her life in a premie incubator. The family relocated to Michigan when she was three years old. At age 9, Nina, joined her Dad’s family in Ovid. She attended Ovid-Elsie schools and graduated from Grand Ledge in 1973.

In 1978, she married Jeffrey Weideman. Together they had five children, daughter, Heather Weideman, Clayton (Sheri) Weideman, Vicki (William) Barwick, Jeffrey (Mary Jo) Weideman and Jarred Weideman, they all survive her. Survivors also include her step-mother, Violet Splan, sisters: Teri Rossman, Ruth (Mike) Benovic, Debbie (Art) Price, Chris (Bob) Campbell, Irene (Dave) Wyrick, Kathy (Brian) Bracey and Karen (Dave) Rosquin, Brothers: Steve Lang and Dan (Sandie) Spear. She was blessed with 13 grandchildren, one great-grandchild and many cousins, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, step-father, Lyle Splan and sister, Dinah Tyler. Cremation has taken place and she will be buried with her Father, Donald Boose in Diamondale, Michigan. A memorial service will be held at a later date.



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Dennis Elton Hunt

Dennis Elton Hunt, age 67, of Laingsburg, MI, passed away Monday, January 9, 2023, at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, MI.

Funeral Services will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes – Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI, at 1:00 P.M., on Friday, January 13, 2023, with Pastor Mona Kindel officiating. Visitation will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023, from 2-8 P.M., with the family present from 2-4 & 6-8 P.M. and on Friday from noon until the time of the service at the funeral home.

Dennis was born in Lansing, MI on September 13, 1955, the son of Allen and Beverly (Moore) Hunt. He married Jacqueline M. Young on July 24, 1982. They just celebrated their 40th anniversary. Dennis loved to read, go camping, hunting, and bowling. He played Fortnite with his son and grandson quite a bit and watched a lot of movies. He retired from General Motors in June of 2006.

He is survived by his wife Jacqueline; sons: Chad Allen Hunt of Laingsburg, MI; Christopher (Jean) Hunt of Holt, MI; and daughter Cassandra (Kody) Jones of Laingsburg, MI; his grandkids: Karson, Kalie, and Lauren; also great-granddaughter Azzariah. Dennis is also survived by his brother Jerry (Jackie) Hunt of Lake George, MI; sister-in-law Shari Hunt of Grand Ledge, MI; mother-in-law Roberta Young of Ovid, MI; brother-in-law Mark (Kris) Young of Ovid, MI; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother Dwayne Hunt, and his father-in-law Edward Young.

Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI.



Lawrence “Larry” R. Beachler-Braden

Lawrence “Larry” R. Beachler-Braden, age 55, of St. Johns, Michigan, passed away in his home on December 10, 2022. Larry was born on October 9, 1967, and graduated with the class of 1985 from Ovid-Elsie High School. He enlisted in the Navy and spent the next 4 years serving his country. Returning to civilian life, Larry entered the workforce as a laborer for several different companies over his lifetime. He loved his yearly trips spent on the water kayaking, canoeing, and fishing. He also loved bonfires and hanging out with his friends and family. Larry will be remembered as being laid back and relaxed and made everybody comfortable with his easygoing nature.

Larry is preceded in death by his father, Richard Beachler, mother and step-father, Cheryl and Ray York; and brother, Zeno “Butch” Budd, Jr. He is survived by his siblings: Shawnee (Scott) Polash, Frosty (Ginny) Budd, Erica Alvarez, Jessica (Brian) Fox, Lora (Dave) Spears, Lyle Parker, and Richie (Kristen) Beachler; nieces: Scotlin, Tifanee, Sheena, Erin, Chelsea, Alexis, Brittany, Tasha, Becca, Candace, and Makayla; and nephews: Calvin, Chaz, Jacob, Cameron, Mateo, and Nick. He is also survived by special friends, John and Diane Kohn, and Lori; and his football buddy, Kyle.

A memorial service celebrating Larry’s life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be directed to the family to help with final expenses. Arrangements entrusted to Vickers Leslie Funeral Home, 109 N. Church Street/P.O. Box 503, Leslie, MI 49251. 517-878-6600.



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We Welcome You to Come...

Grant Opportunities for County Fairs

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) today announced the 2023 competitive grant cycle for the state’s county fairs to make building and other capital improvements to their fairground facilities. Additionally, grants are available for associations or other organized events hosting fairs or expositions showing livestock and commodities. Both grant proposals must be received by MDARD via email no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2023.

The capital improvement program provides additional funds to help county fair officials make needed improvements to their fairground facilities; including but not limited to structural improvements or other renovations to buildings.

The shows and expositions grants provide financial support for awards like premiums or promotional activities of the livestock and commodity expositions, fairs, and festivals.

The submitted grants will go through a competitive grant process and be reviewed by an evaluation committee.

Eligible applicants include fairs incorporated under Public Act 80 of 1855 or county owned and operated fairs operating under Public Act 11 of 1929 and have submitted all required year-end reports for the prior three years.

Livestock expositions hosting expos must meet the required number of exhibitors.

Proposals must be sent the department via email at MDARD-Fairs@michigan.gov.

For more program information, an application form, or submission criteria, please visit MDARD - County Fairs Capital Improvement Grants (michigan.gov) or email Michael Hetherington or call 517-285-8463.

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Oh my goodness, it is already mid-week and I don't seem to have accomplished much... Well, maybe a little bit, I finally got the Fitbit that I received for Christmas ready to use. Or should I say, I got Diane to get it programmed for me. Did you know that it normally takes about two thousand steps to walk a mile? So I have checked mine and see that I have only covered about a mile and a half today. That being said, I also started my Christmas shopping for 2023 and am even trying to keep said items. Not my fault that some that I like to gift have some of the same proclivities as I do. Of course, I do hope that I don't hide them too well like a few of the gifts that never got delivered in 2022. I digress.

Have you ever developed a "taste" for something that makes little sense to you? I used to eat Ramen Noodles when I was living off campus in my college days. They were cheap and fit the bill for being easy to fix and hard to wreck. Don't believe that I ever demolished them... That of course was until recently when I put a pan on the burner with the required water, powder from the packet and the noodles. I still haven't figured out why they didn't turn into a pasty mush. Fortunately they don't explode on the ceiling like boiled eggs do if you ignore them. They did a good job of burning to the bottom of a Paul Revere two quart pan. Charred to perfection, the bottom of the pan was black, I had to put baking soda and vinegar in it and let it soak overnight. I scraped the pan and used a steel Scrubbie to remove the charcoal. The pan was saved and perhaps I have overgrown the taste for those noodles?

I found a good use for two day old cinnamon rolls. We had about a dozen left over on Saturday after we closed MG's Perx & Pastries. So I took them home and taxed my mental facilities as to how to use them. Of course I just cut them up into small pieces, added some plumped raisins followed with eggs, milk, sugar and a pinch of salt. Dang but they made a nice appealing bread pudding. I took them with some biscuits, sausage gravy and beef stew to church for our brunch. Carol and Sandy enjoyed and approved of the bread pudding. Feedback is a good thing and it was Diane's idea to share with our church family.

The venison is canned and on the shelves where it belongs. I now have more room in my kitchen and am considering thawing the two rather large pork butts that are now in my freezer. I have a fondness for canned pork. Probably because Mom used to can it when I was a child and it was a Sunday night treat. Just thinking about it causes me to salivate. Mom was an amazing cook and baker. Of course there was either home made bread or dinner rolls to accompany the meat. The table always had home made butter and jam to slather on the bread or rolls.

Tomorrow I have to zip over northwest of St Johns to meet with my euchre partner and friends to practice playing. Last Thursday was the first time that I had played with Lisa as my partner and the four of us enjoyed ourselves. I believe that we played three games and lost one. Lisa is easy going and willing to pick it up for a set. Dave and his Lisa were our adversaries. We even have spectators, last week it was Lisa's Mom. This week it will be Dave's Lisa's Dad. Got that?

Karen picked me up at KBS last night when I dropped off my pickup. Of course she brought me home where we chatted and played dominoes. Of course, I lost, and then she added insult to injury by trying to teach me how to play a new card game. New to me, it is called Peanuts and is like playing a fast paced double deck game of double solitaire with issues. Of course I lost but it was fun and I'm looking forward to our rematch.

May you always be ready for the rematch, enjoy life and may God bless you daily. He does me.

Crystal Mitchell©2023



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
www.letsmeetgod.com

The Church, and you can spell that with both a capital "C" and a lower-case "c," are called by God to be different from any other institution.

We are called by God to be a community of different people. Not elitists or exclusive, but different. So different that non-christians see this and are attracted to it.

The church is to be a place where God tells us how to live and we live in that way, which at times is different from how non-christians live.

It's to be a place of love and forgiveness. A place of true, deep friendships. A place of belonging. A place where God is worshiped and exalted, loved and followed.

Here is a description of the start of the Church as recorded by Luke in the Book of Acts-

"All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

- Acts 2:44-47

See how radical this is? People selling possessions and even property to help those who had need. People bringing their food to share meals together. These are marks of a different people. People doing things God's way and not like everyone else. This was especially true during the 1st century, but is also true today.

Imagine if all churches were like this. No wonder "...the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Who wouldn't want to be a part of this? A true, loving, welcoming community of believers and followers of God.

While the Church and individual Christians should be different in some areas from those who don't believe in God, we are to be an inclusive group. A place where everyone is welcome. God loves to bring all types of people into His Church. Young, old. Rich, poor. Famous, infamous. Straight, homosexual. Drug addict and teetotaler. God welcomes with open arms anyone who repents of their sins and believes in the gospel.

Anyone who believes enters into the church; a place where there is-

- Care for the poor and helping others. True community.
- Doing what is right.
- Everyone has a role to play. Something to do.
- The good news of the gospel is both proclaimed from the pulpit and shared in the office lunch-room and at the local coffee shop.
- People are encouraged and supported.
- Primary focus on our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Celebrating and Honoring 10 Years of Service

In 2013 community members did the work to bring CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) to Clinton County. It has been my privilege to be at the table since 2013; we all blinked, and 10 years have passed!

Over the past 10 years, a few highlights of our agency's accomplishments have included:

- Founded as a 501(c)3 charitable organization
 - Serving children who are in foster care through our CASA Program in 2014
 - Starting Clinton County's first Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in 2017
 - Ownership of our beautiful building in 2018
 - Assuming the role of the county's Toys for Tots Coordinator in 2020
 - Supporting with Clinton County's first Canine Court Advocate in 2020
 - Facilitating the creation of a virtual tour of our courthouse in 2022
 - Hosting Darkness to Light Programs in 2022
- I have been asked do you ever stop and think about these

things? I will admit I do not (who has time to do that :). 2023 provides an opportunity for us to pause, celebrate, and honor these highlights.

The truth of the big picture is; YOU have been our village to make all of these accomplishments, and more, possible for Clinton County children and youth. It feels easy to create a list, but the impact of the list is advocacy for children and youth and ensuring they have a voice; a voice in the complicated systems in place to protect them. Systems in which we are SO fortunate to work alongside professionals who quietly work together, expecting no accolades, to ensure justice.

Thank you seems not enough but thank YOU. All services our agency is able to provide are through YOUR encouragement and support. We hope you will join us this year as we celebrate and honor our advocacy on behalf of Clinton County Children and youth--we are just getting started.

Together in celebration and honor,
Kelly L. Schafer, M.S., Executive Director
The Voice for Clinton County's Children

Working Hands

Exhibition Statement: "The core concept of our exhibition is a celebration of women welders and their unique creations. Each piece is a one-of-a-kind sculpture using steel or aluminum to create multi-media contemporary and abstract art. Most artists, using metal and welding as the foundation of their art, are men. It is unusual to find women in this field. Yet, we found our artistic inspiration in this trade. All 3 of us use metal as a foundation of our aesthetic, then add other mediums to tell a story or create a unique visual experience."

The artists of the Working Hands exhibition are the recipients of the Elizabeth Charles Award. Elizabeth Charles believed in the arts as a vehicle for self-expression and as a means to develop a deeper understanding of our humanity. As a student, Elizabeth actively championed human equity and diversity. This fund made in her honor is awarded to artists with a vision for or emphasis on enhancing awareness and equity across race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ethnicity.

Visit the Gallery

View the exhibition from January 11 - February 25, 2023, during our open hours:

Wednesdays: 11 AM - 4 PM

Thursdays: 11 AM - 4 PM

Fridays: 11 AM - 6 PM

Saturdays: 11 AM - 4 PM

Reception and Artist Talk

You're invited to see the exhibition, meet the artists and join us for an artist talk on Thurs, Jan. 26, 2023, from 5 - 7 PM. The artist talk will take place at 5:30 PM. Learn more and RSVP on Facebook [HERE](#).

This exhibition is generously supported by George Orban and Rae Ramsdell.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Requests to amend the Clinton County Solid Waste Management Plan

The Solid Waste Planning Committee will be holding a public meeting on **Thursday, February 23, 2023** at 6:00pm in the Clinton County Courthouse Board of Commissioners Room to begin reviewing and discussing two requests to amend the Clinton County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The requests include 1) one additional county to the SWMP for waste import and export and 2) amend the total area sited for use at the Grand River Avenue landfill located at 8550 West Grand River Highway, Grand Ledge, Michigan.

Draft amendments will be reviewed at the February 23rd meeting and then made available for public comment once the committee agrees on a draft. Copies of the proposed draft amendments will be made available to all municipal offices, on the Clinton County website (www.clinton-county.org) and through email or regular mail by request.

For additional information, please contact the Clinton County Department of Waste Management by emailing recycle@clinton-county.org or calling the office (989) 224-5186.

Editorial



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

6 Signs You May Need a New HVAC

There's no place like home, especially when that home is a comfortable and safe haven. One of the ways residents find comfort in their homes is by maintaining the right indoor temperatures, which fluctuate along with the seasons. While there is much to be said about opening windows and doors to let Mother Nature do her thing, indoor comfort is often maintained with an HVAC system.

HVAC stands for heating, ventilation and air conditioning. It can include heat pumps, furnaces and air conditioning units. It is an automated system that works by adjusting a thermostat to regulate air temperature, and sometimes humidity, in the home. According to Enviguard, a commercial contracting provider, HVAC systems also may be used to improve indoor air quality through filtration and oxygen replacement.

1. Age

If the HVAC system is more than 10 years old, it could be time to begin budgeting for a new unit. Many modern, efficient systems may last 12 to 14 years with routine maintenance. But it's good to keep an HVAC system's age in mind so you can readily recognize when it might start to fail.

2. Longer or constant running times

An efficient, properly working system will quickly heat or cool the home and then turn off. A system that is turning on repeatedly or having to run for awhile before the set temperature is reached could be nearing the end of its utility.

3. Strange noises

Groaning, banging or loud humming noises should be addressed. While these noises may indicate that certain components need maintenance or replacement, they also could be symptoms of age and a system nearing failure.

4. Frequent repair visits

Knowing the HVAC company's repair person by name is a sign that the system has required too much work in recent months. Repeated issues and repairs are probably signs that it's time to consider a system replacement.

5. Higher bills

Sticker shock when receiving electricity or gas bills likely mean the HVAC system isn't working efficiently and might need to be replaced.

6. Poor indoor air quality

If the home is dusty or humid or even if allergies seem to have cropped up out of nowhere, this could indicate a poorly functioning HVAC system.

HVAC systems are vital to keeping indoor environments comfortable and safe. Such systems may exhibit certain signs that indicate they need to be replaced.

Shedding Light on Home Solar

Consumers shopping around for home improvement projects may be leaning toward overhauls that can reduce energy consumption and save them money in the long run. This is a driving factor behind a growing number of homeowners investigating solar energy for their residences.

The upfront expense of solar panels is significant, costing anywhere from \$10,000 to \$14,000 for initial installation. However, comparatively speaking, homeowners can spend \$1,500 or more per year on electricity, so solar panels will pay for themselves over time. Keep in mind that costs may vary depending on energy needs and how many panels will be required to service the system.

The Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Advice says that the amount of power generated from a solar energy system depends on a few factors:

1. The average number of hours of direct, unshaded sunlight your roof gets each year;
2. The pitch (angle), age and condition of your roof, and the compass direction it faces;
3. The size and strength of your system; and
4. Environmental factors such as snow, dust or shade that may cover the system.

Save even more money
Consumers can contact their utility companies to find out if they provide homeowners who produce solar power with "net metering." This program pays the homeowner money or gives credit for excess power the system produces and returns to the electric grid. Individuals also may be eligible for energy tax credits or other benefits.

Liagre Joins Shiawassee Chamber as Interim Executive Director

Owosso, Mich. — The Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce is excited to introduce Ruthann Liagre as its interim executive director. She will continue in the role until the chamber board completes its new strategic plan early next year and determines what it will be looking for in a permanent director.

"Ruthann brings significant experience in human resources and nonprofit management to our organization. She is also an active volunteer for several organizations who have benefited from her seasoned wisdom," explained Char Hebekeuser, SRCC Board Chair. "Our board and staff are very excited to have her helping steer the ship as we continue to rebuild after a challenging year."

Liagre will oversee the day-to-day operations of the chamber, represent SRCC in the community, manage personnel, and oversee member relations and events. She will work closely with the chamber's three employees to ensure the organization's mission of connecting leaders and supporting entrepreneurs to build an extraordinary Shiawassee region is met.

In addition to having been the vice president of human resources for Memorial Healthcare for almost six years, Liagre also served on the Shiawassee Community Foundation board. She is currently on the SafeCenter and Memorial Healthcare Foundation Auxiliary boards. Liagre is also a volunteer with Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts. She and her husband, Phil, were honored this summer with Lebowsky's Outstanding Volunteer Award. Additionally, Liagre was named the 2022 ATHENA International Award recipient from the chamber.

For more information about the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce, visit shiawasseechamber.org.





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Sports



(l-r): Coach Kyle Spiess, Haley McClung, Maddisyn Miller, Ava Judas, Kaia Spiess and Max Spiess.
Photo by Marie Spiess

Lady Marauder Wrestlers Travel to Gladwin Invite, Bring Home Hardware

GLADWIN — A contingent of Ovid-Elsie Lady Marauder wrestlers traveled to Gladwin for an all-girl tInvitational Tournament ... and they did not disappoint despite some excellent competition.

Ava Juhas and Maddisyn Miller led coach Kyle Spiess' Marauders with 1st place efforts. Miller went 4-0 to top her bracket, and Juhas put together a 3-0 mark for top honors in her bracket.

In addition, Kaia Spiess was 2-3 on the day for the Marauders, and Haley McClung went 1-4 in five matches.

Workman, Parsons Pace Ovid-Elsie Grapplers at Prestigious Detroit Invite

DETROIT — and Talan Parsons at 113lbs. and Cole Workman at 132 led Ovid-Elsie's trip to the prestigious Detroit Catholic Central Individual Prep Wrestling Tournament recently.

The meet is said to be one of the toughest competitions in the state. All divisions and all competing teams were represented by powerhouse programs: Davison, Dundee, Detroit Catholic Central, Grand Rapids Catholic Central, Hudson, Hartland, Gladstone; there were 24 teams total, including several Division 1 and 2 teams the Marauders do not ordinarily get to compete against.

Workman's 16-man bracket had 8 ranked wrestlers, including Cole, who is ranked 6th in Division 3.

Parsons' 16-man bracket featured 12 ranked wrestlers, including Talan who is ranked 1st in division 3.

Workman (seeded 8th) went 1-2 on the day. He won his first match 5-1 over Anspaugh of Jackson Northwest. Cole then had last year's state champion Chinavere from Dundee in the sec-

ond round. In an excitingly close match, Cole lost 1-5. His 3rd match was down to the wire with a controversial takedown that was ruled too rough. If the points were awarded it would have been a come from behind win against Rousse of Traverse City Central.

Talan was seeded 2nd in a stacked weight class. His first victory was a fall in 1:24 against Koerner from St. Xavier in Ohio; 2nd match was another win 8-2 against Division 3 rated #6 Grant from Grand Rapids Catholic Central. His semifinals match was against undefeated Drew Hansen ranked Division 3 rated #2. Parsons won 4-1 to move on to the finals against Dominguez of Detroit Catholic Central Division 1 rated #4. 1st period was scoreless. 2nd period Talan won the coin flip and chose bottom position and scored an escape with 10 seconds left in the period.

In the 3rd period Dominguez chose down, but Parsons rode him out for the 1-0 win to win the tournament.



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Sports



LAINGSBURG'S Zander Woodruff goes baseline for two points in the Wolfpack's home victory over Bath.

Wolfpack, Bees hit almost \$10,000 mark in Coaches vs. Cancer game

LAINGSBURG — Laingsburg's boys varsity basketball team stayed undefeated January 10 with a win over neighboring Bath.

It's not often that result will take a backseat to anything else.

Yet, together the two programs celebrated with a Coaches vs. Cancer event. Combined, \$9,347.88 was raised and will go directly to the American Cancer Society.

In the game, coach Dan Morrill's Wolves came out on top 63-31 to move to 9-0 (4-0 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference).

Zander Woodruff scored 21 and Eli Woodruff scored 18 for the 'Pack. DeVondre Chandler scored 8 for Bath.

Marauder keglers impressive in action vs. Byron Eagle bowlers

OVID-ELSIE — The Ovid-Elsie Marauder keglers were in action on Saturday, January 7th at Riverbend Bowl in Corunna.

They competed against Byron.

The girls team went 15-15, the boys 30-0. The girls will bowl two Baker games to determine the winner at a later date. Girls high games were Karina Custer, 135, Ella Powell, 125 and Gracie Schultz, 175 & 176.

High scores for the boys were, Devyn Pugsley, 207, 203, Gunner Barrett, 151, Tobin Clark, 139 and Hunter Maxa, 132.

Marauder boys romp, 65-24

OVID-ELSIE — A great defensive effort and a "step-up" performance by Ovid-Elsie's boys basketball team headlined a 65-24 victory over MMAC foe Mt. Morris here January 6.

A 30-point, 10-rebound double-double by Clay Wittenberg helped propel coach Josh Latz's Marauders to O-E improves to 5-1 (3-1 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference). The visiting Panthers fell to 5-2 (3-2 in the league).

Latz's Marauders were supported by Logan Thompson's 11 points and four boards, Gunner McCreery's eight points, four boards and four assists and Tryce Tokar's six points and two steals. Braxton Stenger sparked the defense with four steals.

"We're so proud of the way we played tonight," said coach Latz. "We had another great defensive performance against a solid and athletic team. We had some guys really step up and get after it tonight. It's been really tremendous to see our improvement."

Pewamo-Westphalia girls race to 19-0 lead, shutdown Wolfpack 47-16

LAINGSBURG — Visiting Pewamo-Westphalia raced to a 19-0 first quarter lead, enroute to a 47-16 girls basketball win here January 6.

Coach Doug Hurst's Wolfpack dropped its third game in four contests, falling to 5-3 (1-3 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference) with the loss. P-W moved to 5-2 overall (2-2 CMAC).

Laingsburg's Ella Merrell led the Wolves with 5 points, with Ellie Baynes contributing 4 pts, 5 rebs.; Callie Clark 3 pts.; and Bella Strieff 2 points and 7 rebounds.



Callie Clark



Ella Merrell



Ellie Baynes

Wolfpack girls get back on track, beat Bath by 36-26 count in CMAC

BATH — Callie Clark came through with a career-high 14 points and six rebounds, helping right the ship for the Laingsburg varsity girls basketball team here January 11.

The Wolves scored a 36-26 victory to improve to 6-4 overall, 2-3 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) — and snap a three-game losing streak.

"Our girls came out tonight and just played with a lot of heart, and worked well together. It was a very good team effort," said veteran coach Doug Hurst.

After Clark, the LHS effort was led by Ellie Baynes 8 pts, 5 rebs and 4 assist; Ella Merrell 5 pts, 3 steals; Bella Strieff 4 pts, 10 rebs; Kyleigh Luna 4 pts, 6 rebs, 3 steals; and Ashlee Hawes one point.

Marauder boys move to 6-1 with 56-23 MMAC thrashing of Byron

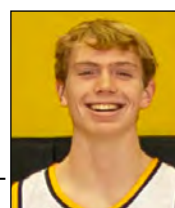
BYRON — Ovid-Elsie rolled to a 20-2 early lead and steamrolled the host Eagles here January 10, by a 56-23 score.

"We did a really good job of coming out strong again tonight now for the third game in a row," said veteran coach Josh Latz.

"Defensively we did a really nice job of turning Byron over, which gave us some transition opportunities. It was also great to see 11 of our guys get into the scoresheet, and for all 15 of them to play quality minutes."

The Marauders won for the 6th time in 7 games behind Clay Wittenberg's 15 pts, 6 rebs, 5 steals, 3 blocks; Logan Thompson 8 pts, 2 steals; Braxton Stenger 5 pts, 5 rebs, 3 steals; Jamison Custer 5 pts, 2 assists; Tryce Tokar 5 pts, 3 rebs, 3 steals; and Bruce Thornton 5 pts and 2 steals.

Byron slumped to 1-6 with the loss.



Clay Wittenberg



Logan Thompson

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Sports



OVID-ELSIE'S Hailee Camppbell shows up tough on defense for the Marauders. Photo by Denise Burgess

Marauder girls humble Byron cagers, 58-14

BYRON — Ovid-Elsie junior Hailee Campbell recorded her first double-double, scoring 13 points and grabbing 10 rebounds, as coach Ryan Cunningham's Marauders cruised to a 58-14 victory.

The win marked the Marauders' 7th straight victory and left them 8-2 overall, 6-0 in the MMAC.

O-E got out to a slow start but won the first quarter 17-7, then followed it up with a 25-5 effort in the second stanza. The stingy Marauder defense allowed only two second-half points to the Eagles, O-E winning the second half 16-2.

Ava Bates added 12 points and 7 steals for the Marauders, while Braeden Tokar chipped in with 9 points, 4 steals and 3 assists; Evalyn Cole 8 points, 9 steals and 6 assists; Ellyanna Carman 6 points and 5 rebounds; Aubrey Kurka 4 points; Rylee Lewis 3 points, Izzy Loynes 2 and Murphy Alexa, one.

The Lady Marauders were able to turn Byron over 39 times and collect 29 steals while dishing out 18 assists on 24 make field goals. O-E also out-rebounded the Eagles 36-32.

Wolfpack dominates 3rd road game in 4 nights, crushing Battle Creek Lakeview

LAKEVIEW — Three prep basketball games in four days is just about unheard-of in prep basketball circles. Talk about exhausting.

Yet, Laingsburg was up to the task.

Coach Dan Morrill's Wolfpack traveled to Lakeview for their 3rd road game in 4 nights on January 6 and came away with a 76-21 win. The Wolfpack remains undefeated on the season at 8-0 with the non-league victory.

Why so many games in such a compact period of time? Coach Morrill explained, "We added some games as did all schools when the MHSAA allowed for 22 games this year. One of those games we thought to be Swartz Creek and they were on our schedule. That was in the spring of last year and we have had a turnover of a few athletic directors.

"When reviewing contracts this year, we learned that Swartz Creek was not an option and so the search for a 22nd game was on. Most schools had their schedules made and it was very difficult to find someone. We feel fortunate that Lakeview was willing to host us. It is an hour and a half bus ride but we really enjoyed the trip."

Zander Woodruff had 30 points to lead LHS. Eli Woodruff and Jacob Essenberg each had 9 for the Wolfpack. Ben Grant had 8 to pace the Spartans.

The Wolves returned home with their busy schedule in full swing. They hosted their Coaches vs. Cancer game, "... then Friday we have no practice and we will be doing positive things with community service," said Morrill. "Our players are resilient We are excited about the week we have coming up that we are calling a week of giving to others."

Bulldogs beat the Bears

ASHLEY — The Ashley Boys basketball team battled against the Bulldogs from St. Charles this week. The game seemed closer than the score showed as both teams played hard and physical. Ashley struggled to score and St. Charles helped in speeding the game up for the Bears, which ultimately left the Bears with a loss. Logan Drummond led Ashley with 8 points and Caden Passmore chipped in 3 points and grabbed 5 rebounds.

Leslie opens up big early lead, holds off Wolfpack girls, 57-41

LAINGSBURG — Leslie used its big size advantage and fast-break skill to open up a 24-8 lead, then held off the host Wolfpack in the second half in non-league girls basketball action here January 9.

The defending GLAC champion Blackhawks scored a 57-41 victory, leveling their record at 5-5. Veteran coach Doug Hurst's Wolfpack fell to 5-4.

Laingsburg leaders were Bella Strieff with 10 pts, 5 rebs; Ellie Baynes 8 pts; Ella Merrell 8 pts, 3 steals; Callie Clark 5 pts; Ashlee Hawes 4 pts; Mallory Woodbury 4 pts and Evelyn Logghe 2 pts.

"We're in a rut of not playing to our potential right now, putting ourselves in bad situations," said coach Hurst. "As a team and coaching we will continue to focus on getting back on track and being competitive like we know we can and should."

O-E girls Maul Panthers

OVID-ELSIE — Ovid-Elsie's 61-3 girls basketball victory over visiting Mt. Morris sent prep historians scrambling for the record books.

Coach Ryan Cunningham's Lady Marauders moved to 7-2 overall (5-0 MMAC) while the Panthers dropped to 0-5 on the year.

Ovid-Elsie opened the game with a 26-0 first quarter run and followed it up with a 17-3 second quarter before the running clock kicked in. The Lady Marauders held scoring advantages of 13-0 and 5-0 in the third and fourth quarters, respectively.

Evalyn Cole, Ava Bates and Braeden Tokar paced Ovid-Elsie with 12 points each while Rylee Lewis knocked down two three pointers en route 6 points. Hailee Campbell added 5 points while Aubrey Kurka, Izzy Loynes and Ellyanna Carman each scored 4 points. Kiah Longoria added a bucket to round out the Marauder scoring.

Cole added 5 rebounds and Bates 4, while Cole and Tokar each handed out 5 assists. Tokar held honors in the steal category with 7 thefts while Cole added 6, Bates 5, and Campbell 4.

Ovid-Elsie held a commanding 28-15 rebound advantage and collected 29 steals on 33 Panther turnovers. The Lady Marauders also handed out 18 assists on 26 made baskets and shot over 48% for the game.

Wolfpack Boys Blitz Dansville 91-44, Improve to 10 and 0

LAINGSBURG — The host Wolfpack opened things up in the second half, blitzing Dansville in Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) boys basketball action January 12.

After a 36-23 lead at half time, Laingsburg followed Eli Woodruff's career-high 35 points to a dominant victory.. Zander Woodruff had 21 and Luke Snyder added 10 for the hosts. Drew Frantz had 12 to lead the Aggies.

Coach Dan Morrill's Wolves remained perfect at 10-0 overall, 7-0 in the CMAC with the home win.



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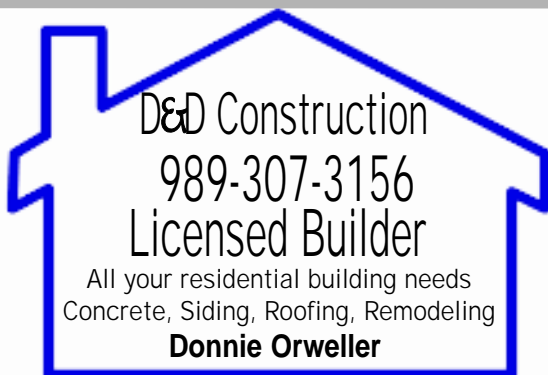
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State Police Poster Contest

submitted by Jolene Hardesty

LANSING, MICH. The Michigan State Police (MSP) Missing Children's Clearinghouse invites fifth grade students statewide to participate in the 2023 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest. The annual contest creates an opportunity to promote child safety while discussing the issue of missing and/or exploited children. There are almost 950 missing children in the State of Michigan currently.

Michigan's winning artist will have a shot at the national contest, which includes a free trip to Washington D.C. and their artwork featured as the National Missing Children's Day poster. The 2018 national winner was a Michigan student from Clinton Township.

Contest rules are as follows:

Applicants must be in the fifth grade.

Original artwork should reflect the theme "Bringing Our Missing Children Home" and the phrase must appear somewhere on the poster.

Digitally produced images, collages, cut-outs, and stamping will not be eligible for consideration.

The finished poster must measure 8½ x 14 inches.

The poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the artwork and a brief biography of the artist, either written or typed. Submissions are due to be postmarked by Jan. 27, 2023, and must be mailed to:

Michigan State Police Missing Children's Clearinghouse

Attn: Ms. Jolene Hardesty

7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, MI 48821

Cellist Alisa Weilerstein at Wharton Center

EAST LANSING, MI — Cellist Alisa Weilerstein will take Wharton Center's stage, performing Bach Cello Suites 1, 3, and 5, for one night only on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 7:30 pm. Tickets from \$21 on sale now through the official Wharton Center Ticket Office, online at whartoncenter.com, or by calling 517.432.2000 or 1.800.WHARTON.

Weilerstein has garnered fans around the world. Hailed as "Yo-Yo Ma's heiress apparent and sovereign of the American cello" by New York Magazine, Weilerstein is one of the foremost cellists of our time. Her published recordings include chart-topping albums as well as the recent winner of BBC Music's Recording of the Year Award.

This performance is a special chance to hear three of Bach's beloved Cello Suites—Nos. 1, 3, and 5. Holding a very special place in the musical canon, these unaccompanied suites are a musical touchstone, particularly the beloved Suite No. 1. Weilerstein recently recorded all six suites, which became a best-selling album. Of the recording, The Guardian proclaims an "exceptional cellist's music emerges with sunlit clarity into its own vast space."

COVID-19 health and safety protocols continue to evolve. Please visit the Wharton Center website at whartoncenter.com/covid-19 to review the most up-to-date information and requirements.

MDARD Specialty Crop Grant Opportunity

submitted by Chelsea Lewis-Parisio

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) today announced a request for proposals through the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Ag Marketing Services.

The program is designed to enhance the competitiveness of Michigan's specialty crops. Grant proposals must be emailed to MDARD at MDA-grants@michigan.gov by 3:00 p.m. on February 28, 2023.

The grants have a maximum award of \$100,000 for research proposals and \$125,000 for marketing, training, and education proposals designed to enhance the competitiveness of the state's specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined as "fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture)."

The awarded grants will be funded by traditional farm bill funding. The program's funding priorities are:

Market Enhancement to promote specialty crops

Market Expansion, Availability, and Access to Specialty Crops

Farm to Institution

Research and Development relevant to specialty crops

Plant Health & Pest Management

Farm Sustainability

Training & Education addressing local, regional, and national challenges confronting specialty crop producers

Enhancing Food Safety

Environmental Sustainability

Workforce/Labor

Acceptable proposal activities include but are not limited to the following: promotion; marketing; research; nutrition; trade enhancement; food safety; food security; plant health programs; education; increased knowledge and consumption; increased innovation; improved efficiency and reduced costs of distribution systems; environmental concerns and conservation; product development; good agricultural practices; good handling practices; and good manufacturing practices.

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations; local, state, and federal government entities; and for-profit organizations. The organizations must be legal entities recognized by the IRS, and applicants must reside and/or conduct their business in Michigan. Proposals should demonstrate how the project will produce measurable impacts for the specialty crop industry, and not benefit only a specific product or a single organization, institution, or individual.

For program information, application form, and submission criteria, visit www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants. At the bottom of the page, click on the Specialty Crop Block tab. For more details on the informational webinar on January 11, 2023, at 9 a.m., visit the website for the link. No preregistration is required.

"In the depths of Winter I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible Summer." —Albert Camus

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Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 23-31697-DE
Estate of Lawrence Richard Beachler
TO ALL CREDITORS: "NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Lawrence Richard Beachler, died December 10, 2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Chantelle Polash, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 100 E. State Street, Ste. 4300, St. Johns, MI 48879 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 01/15/2023 Chantelle Polash, Personal Representative 10587 E. Garfield Rd. Ashley, MI 48806 (989) 640-0393

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Memorial Healthcare is Offering Monthly Open Interviews

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso, Michigan – Are you looking for a new career in 2023? Memorial Healthcare is hosting monthly Open Interview events on the third Wednesday of each month from 1:00 – 3:00 pm beginning January 18, 2023, at the Memorial Healthcare South Auditorium, 826 W. King St., Owosso.

We are looking for awesome people to join our team! Bring your resume, dress professionally, interview on-site with one of our hiring managers and wear a mask.

We have over 100 positions available:

- Registered Nurses
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Whether you are hoping to find a fresh start, a better job, or

a new career direction in 2023, Memorial Healthcare has a wealth of exciting career opportunities for you.

Top 10 reasons to work at Memorial Healthcare:

- 1.On the Job Training for Some Positions
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- 9.Largest Employer in Shiawassee County
- 10.Progressive Healthcare System

To view a complete listing of available positions, please visit the career page at memorialhealthcare.org. For additional information, email Makayla Chrzan at MChrzan@memorialhealthcare.org or call (989) 729-4327.

Ashley Hutchinson, RN, Honored with Daisy Award at Memorial Healthcare

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso, MI – Memorial Healthcare is pleased to announce Ashley Hutchinson, Registered Nurse, in our Home Health department as our December 2022 recipient of the DAISY Award. Ashley was recognized with the DAISY Award for going above and beyond to deliver safe and compassionate care to her patients.

"The DAISY Award is one of the most prestigious awards a nurse can receive. It is an honor to present this award to Sherry; her nomination story was touching. I look forward to honoring many of the amazing nurses at Memorial Healthcare for years to come with the Daisy award." said Tyler Yaklin, MBA, BNS, RN, Chief Nursing Officer and Associate Vice President of Patient Care Services.

Ashley received this award based on the following nomination story, "My nurse Ashley was patient, helpful and always explained everything. She has an awesome personality and bedside manner. Ashley listened to all my boring stories and responded with enthusiasm and interest. When I first came home from the hospital, I was not sent home with any replacement tanks, and alarms were going off. Even though it was 12:01AM, Ashley called me and explained it all to me. My nurse was very dedicated and professional, I just cannot say enough about my care. On a scale of 1-10, I would rate Ashley a 12."

The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary, compassionate, and skillful care given by nurses every day. Nurses are nominated by their patients and patient's families. DAISY Award nominations are accepted all year long and can be made at www.MemorialHealthcare.org or in person at the hospital's main campus.

Ashley was presented with a certificate of recognition, a DAISY pin, and an incredible serpentine stone sculpture carved by the artists of the Shona Tribe located in Zimbabwe, Africa. This sculpture is known as the "Healer's Touch" and it portrays the embracing relationship nurses have with their patients. "I am so incredibly honored to receive the Daisy award," said Ashley. It was very unexpected and I am so happy to know that I have made a difference! I am so thankful for my patients and my co-workers for all the support. I feel very blessed!"

To learn more about the DAISY Award, please visit MemorialHealthcare.org/Patient-Information.

Working Hands

Exhibition Statement: "The core concept of our exhibition is a celebration of women welders and their unique creations. Each piece is a one-of-a-kind sculpture using steel or aluminum to create multi-media contemporary and abstract art. Most artists, using metal and welding as the foundation of their art, are men. It is unusual to find women in this field. Yet, we found our artistic inspiration in this trade. All 3 of us use metal as a foundation of our aesthetic, then add other mediums to tell a story or create a unique visual experience."

The artists of the Working Hands exhibition are the recipients of the Elizabeth Charles Award. Elizabeth Charles believed in the arts as a vehicle for self-expression and as a means to develop a deeper understanding of our humanity. As a student, Elizabeth actively championed human equity and diversity. This fund made in her honor is awarded to artists with a vision for or emphasis on enhancing awareness and equity across race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ethnicity.

Visit the Gallery

View the exhibition from January 11 - February 25, 2023, during our open hours: Wednesdays: 11AM - 4PM. Thursdays: 11AM - 4PM. Fridays: 11AM - 6PM. Saturdays: 11AM - 4PM Reception and Artist Talk

You're invited to see the exhibition, meet the artists and join us for an artist talk on Thurs, Jan. 26, 2023, from 5 - 7 PM. The artist talk will take place at 5:30 PM. Learn more and RSVP on Facebook HERE.

This exhibition is generously supported by George Orban and Rae Ramsdell.



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