



Left to Right in the large Group: AG Issues Team: Robert Kral, Chase Kral, Carson Litwiller, Owen Crumbaugh, and Lee Follett

Ashley FFA at District Leadership Competition

submitted by Amber McAllister

The Ashley FFA competed on Thursday, January 25th in the District Leadership Competition held at Ithaca High School. Gavin Malek was the District Winner in Job Interview and will be advancing to Regionals at Delta College in February.



Other Contestants were Gibby Jason receiving Silver in Prepared Public Speaking, Olivia Dysinger receiving Silver in Prepared Public Speaking, and the Deer Management AG Issues Team consisting of Owen Crumbaugh, Lee Follett, Chase Kral, Robert Kral, and Carson Litwiller also receiving Silver.



Gavin Malek

Left to Right: Prepared Public Speaking Participants: Gibson Jason and Olivia Dysinger



Undefeated and Rated: The Laingsburg boys varsity basketball team remain unbeaten (11-0). The lady Marauder basketball team looking to capture another MMAC title, they are currently 11-1 on the year.
Photos by Burg Sports and Denise Burgess

Valentines for Ovid Healthcare Residents



(l-r): Jill March, Acitivites Director, Jessica Woodworth and Angela Griffen displaying the special box for valentines for the residents

by Deb Price

It's the time of year when Cupid's Arrows make their way to our friends and loved ones. Kids make those special Valentine's for this classmates, grandparents and others as a way to spread some love.

"We would like valentines from the community to bring some sunshine to our residents," stated Jill March, ADC.

Ovid Healthcare would like to invite everyone to send some love to the residents by dropping off a Valentine wish or simple letter in the red box out front of the facility now thru February.

Valentine wishes can be directed to a resident by name or to anyone of the individuals that live there. Those that have a specific name on them will be delivered to that person and the others will be distributed evenly to residents by staff members. Let's show the residents how much this small town community loves them by spreading some cheer with a Valentine to brighten their day.

Ovid Healthcare is located at 9480 E. M-21, Ovid. For those unable to make the drive to the facility please send your Valentine wishes thru the mail.

City of Ovid Residents

This is the winter for utility work in the city. Consumers will be replacing gas lines on Front St. from East St. to Main St. and connecting new service lines to the houses.

Frontier will be installing fiber optic cable on West Oak and West Clinton streets from Main St. to West St. and Consumers will be replacing gas lines on West Pearl, West Williams, and Gratiot Street. Some of these lines date from the 1930's.

This work should be in the right-of-way and not affect the street surface. Their equipment will be on the streets while they are working.

We do not yet have a street-by-street schedule of work. The work is expected to be complete by the end of February.

William Lasher, Mayor

100th Pin for Parsons: In the Semi-Finals of the home Ovid-Elsie wrestling tournament on Jan 27th, Talan Parsons reaches the milestone of 100 pins as he closes in on his next milestone of 150 Victories. Parsons record for the year is 29-1. See more on wrestling and other winter sports stories on pages 6-7-8-9 and 12.
Photo by Marie Spiess



Social

Ashley UMC Ash Wednesday Service

submitted by Pastor Zella Daniel

The Ashley United Methodist Church invites everyone to Ash Wednesday Services on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the Ashley United Methodist Church, 102 N. New St., Ashley, Michigan. The public is most welcome to attend.

Ash Wednesday is a reminder of our mortality and the need for reconciliation with God and marks the beginning of the Lenten season.

OE All School Reunion

submitted by Pat Courter Jorae

Save the date! EHS/OE All School Reunion will be held Sunday, July 14, 2024. Group lunch will be held at the Elsie Legion.

We are looking for a current mailing list. If you have one please mail it to: Elsie Historical Society, P.O. Box 125, Elsie, MI 48831.

Watch for more information.

Holy Family Catholic Church

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Strong Tower Radio

submitted by Patsy Towar

On Saturday, February 10th at 11:00am the St. Johns Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1400 S. Oakland St., St. Johns will present the Strong Tower Radio, Family Friendly Inspirational Music Program featuring Strong Tower Radio Quartet.

Admission is Free.

Contact (989) 330-7747. strvarietyhour@gmail.com with any questions.

Listen to Strong Tower Radio on str.fm

<https://www.strongtowerradio.org>

A free will offering will be taken.

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon at Bannister UMC

submitted by Deb Smith

There will be a Soup & Sandwich Luncheon at Bannister United Methodist Church on Tuesday, February 20th from Noon-3pm.

Note New time. We will be serving lunch at noon. Please come & join us! Our next lunch will be on Tuesday, March 19th so mark your calendars!

We will also be trying something new on Saturday, February 10th from noon-3pm: Saturday Fun Day! Lunch from noon - 3PM followed by more fun, fellowship, board games, card games &/or conversation! JOIN US! Free will offering.

If schools are closed due to the weather. Our lunch will be cancelled as well.

Duplain Township Notice of Public Accuracy Test

Duplain Township Public Accuracy Test of election equipment Monday, February 5, 2024, 5 p.m. at Duplain Township Hall, 145 E Main Street, Elsie, MI 48831.

Dawn Levey
Duplain Township Clerk

Beauty and Barbershop Directory

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Laingsburg Lions Raffle

Raffle tickets are now available for the Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Raffle. 1st Prize is a Custom Golf Cart, 2nd, a grill, 3rd, \$500 shopping spree, 4th, \$500 in cash, 5th, E-Bike, 6th, Xbox Game system, 7th, \$200 in cash and 8th, \$100 in cash. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Drawings will take place on Monday, May 27th.

Tickets are available from any Lions member or at Sage Market, Leonard Hardware, Twilligers Tavern and the Meridian Weekly.



Ovid Public Library

Exciting things are about to be happening at the Ovid Public Library! Beginning February 10 the library will be closing so that we can begin some renovations. The library will be tentatively closed until mid-March. We are replacing carpeting with vinyl plank flooring and painting all the walls. We are excited for the update. In the meantime, be sure to come down and check out lots of books so that you have something to read until we reopen. And grab a puzzle or two as well. All the books are being moved to storage pods so we will not be able to get you more until we reopen!

We have lots and lots of sale books that we would like to see go to a new home. There's everything from crafting and cooking to murder mysteries and childrens books. There's even some dvd's. Come on down and see if there's anything you're interested in. Everything is by donation so whatever you feel is appropriate is accepted. All monies go directly to help fund all of our programs. And the more books that are bought the less we have to move during our renovation project!

On Tuesday, February 6, the back room of the library will be available for crafters to come in to work on their crafts. There's plenty of room to spread out and craft. The room is open to all crafters Tuesday from 1-5.

We will be having our Classic Movie Time on Wednesday, February 7. We will be showing the movie "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" starring Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell. Movie time will be 1:00. You are welcome to bring a snack if you like. There will be water and coffee and small snacks provided.

On Friday, February 9 we will have a Children's Story Hour. Ms. Shelly will be reading and we will have a valentine craft for the kids to do. This begins at 10:30 and usually lasts for about an hour.

The Library Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 21 will be held at the Ovid Middlebury Fire Hall at 7:00.

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The Pleasure of Recycling in Winter

submitted by Ellen Link

Loading up your car with recycling in the middle of winter may not sound too enticing. But knowing that all you have to do is drive into the Greater Laingsburg Recyclers' facility, where volunteers do the work of unloading all your materials, should make that task a bit easier. In February we will be open as usual on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (Feb. 6 and 20), 4-6 p.m., and 2nd and 4th Saturdays (Feb. 10 and 24), 9 a.m.-1 p.m. However...

The recent spate of bad weather which took out our power on Jan. 13, requiring us to close down operations early, and which again closed down our facility on Jan. 16 due to the extreme cold, suddenly made us aware we were in need of a bad-weather policy. Please note: In the future, the GLR Recycling Facility will be closed if a Severe Weather Warning or a "Dangerous Travel Conditions" warning has been issued by local jurisdictions; it is 15 degrees or colder; Laingsburg Schools are closed due to weather conditions; or the facility has a power outage. For updated information, check out our website or Facebook page or call (see below).

A lot of people seem to be cleaning out the house these days, getting rid of all kinds of items they no longer need—including old medications. DO NOT FLUSH THEM DOWN THE DRAIN. According to the EPA, in homes that use septic tanks, prescription and over-the-counter drugs flushed down the toilet can leach into the ground and seep into groundwater. In areas where residences are connected to wastewater treatment plants, prescription and over-the-counter drugs poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet can pass through treatment systems (not usually equipped to remove them) and enter rivers, lakes and, eventually, drinking water supplies, harming humans as well as fish and other aquatic wildlife. What to do?

In the Laingsburg and Corunna areas, you can take them to the Sheriff's Department; in Owosso, to the Public Safety Department (lobby); in Perry and Durand, to the City Hall; and in Bath, to the Bath Charter Twp. Police Dept. Those in other communities should inquire at their local police departments or check with the local pharmacy for a take-back program.

What we accept, 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 (clear and transparent green and blue only), no clamshells (bakery and produce containers); #2 (rinsed milk jugs/cloudy separated from solid color bottles and jars, seam on the bottom—no motor oil containers); and #5 (food cups, tubs and lids, e.g., yogurt, sour cream, etc.); non-corroded household batteries; glass bottles and jars only (all colors), caps and lids removed—no windows, mirror panes or drinking glasses; electronics; televisions (\$10-20) and monitors (\$5-10), the fees dependent on type and size (call or check our website); Brita water filters; denim (no more than 5% spandex, zippers and metal buttons removed); dental products; empty inkjets; plant/nursery containers; and hearing aids (batteries removed). We're also now a drop site for old eyeglasses for the Laingsburg Lions Club. We do not accept polystyrene (Styrofoam®) or plastic bags (return to grocery store).

For further details on recyclable items and other useful info, visit our Facebook page or website (<https://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite>). You can also call Terry or Ellen Link at (517) 651-2005 or Beth Lange at 651-6437. New volunteers of any age are always welcome. Let's continue working together toward a sustainable future in our own backyard.



Congratulations to Paula Hicks for being our second Queen of Hearts winner of the year. Pictured are Commander Alex Hagerty handing Paula Hicks her check and the other faithful Queen of Hearts workers.

Laingsburg Area Food Bank 2024 Schedule Change

submitted by Ellen Link

Beginning January 2024, the Laingsburg Area Food Bank will be open:

Mondays: 1 pm to 3 pm

Thursdays: 5 pm to 7 pm

Please note the time change—Thursdays are now 5 pm to 7 pm.

The Laingsburg Area Food Bank welcomes and provides our neighbors in need with food and resources. Dedicated volunteers and extraordinary community support make this assistance possible.

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To the Qualified Electors of Fairfield Township

The Presidential Primary election will be held on Tuesday February 27th, 2024. Polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Vote at Township Hall located at the corner of Henderson and Vincent Road.

Absentee ballots are available by calling Clerk, Carolyn Long at 989-277-4826.

Greenbush Township

Notice is hereby given that the Public Accuracy Test of the Electronic Tabulating Equipment of the Tuesday, February 27th 2024 Presidential Primary will be conducted on Monday February 5th at 2:00pm at the Greenbush Township Hall. Located at 1883 E. French Rd. St. Johns MI.

It is to demonstrate to the Public that all votes cast will be accurately counted on all candidates in accordance with MLC 168.798

Ramona Smith
Greenbush Township Clerk
o: 989-224-3993 m: 517-930-4180

ST. JOHNS K of C #3281 1108 N. BUSINESS-27 • ST. JOHNS 2024 Fish Fry Schedule

Fridays: Feb. 16, 23 - March 1, 8, 15, 22

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm Public Welcome

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Take-Out Dinners Available - Call 989-224-1225

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Charlotte & Family




"When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure."
Author unknown



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Obituaries

Dee Alice Holley

Dee Alice Holley, of Elsie, died on January 25, 2024 at McLaren Hospital after a brief illness. She is 76 years old.

Dee was born on April 30, 1947 in Lansing, Michigan, the oldest of four children born to J.D. and Nellie (Kaufman) Washburn. She was a 1965 graduate of Elsie High School and enjoyed a long career as the Director of Merchandising for Michigan Milk Producers Association, until her retirement in 2006.

Her unwavering faith and strength were the bedrock of her life, and she served as a beacon of hope and comfort to many. Dee was a faithful prayer warrior, fervently praying for her family and many others by name each day and was always an advocate for others. She sent care packages for overseas missions, helped many with financial counseling, helped folks with renting and purchasing housing and sang and served at the Lansing Rescue Mission. This steadfast commitment to others is a testament to her role as a good example of "the Hands and Feet of Jesus." She was a faithful member of Duplain Church of Christ and Vestaburg Church of Christ for many years, was instrumental in starting the Sharing Corner and enjoyed singing in the choir. Her passion for music extended beyond the choir as she was also a talented drummer in the Elsie Band, and was proud of many family drummers.

Dee was an advocate for others, always ready to lend a hand or a voice when needed. Even amidst her own battles, including a valiant two-year fight against cancer, she maintained an energetic and determined spirit, preferring to get things done rather than be idle. She enjoyed traveling, was a talented seamstress and relished the opportunity to host backyard parties. Her greatest joy was her family - she was a loving sister, wife, mother and doting grandmother and great-grandmother who will be greatly missed by many.

She is survived by her husband of fifty seven years, Bill Holley; her sons, Mark Holley and David (Sandra) Holley; grandchildren, Callum, Emma, Steven, Michael (Kelly), Rebekah and Elizabeth; great-grandchildren, Brayden, Neila, Skylar, Kynlee, Willow, Natalia and one on the way; sister, Rita (John) Craig; brothers, Kam (Kathleen) Washburn and Dan (Pam) Washburn, as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family members and many dear friends.

A Funeral Service was held at Duplain Church of Christ, 5565 E Colony Rd, St Johns on Monday, January 29, 2024.

Memorial contributions may be made in Dee's name to Lansing Rescue Mission, Duplain Church of Christ or Vestaburg Church of Christ.

The family was served by the McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel.



Jerry Miah Vining

Jerry Miah Vining, age 85, passed on Thursday, January 25, 2024 at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, MI.

Jerry was born on July 6, 1938 the son of Eddy Jay and Hazel Lucille (Mitchell) Vining in Middleton, Michigan "a place that's not the end of the world, but you can see it from there". He attended Fulton Public Schools.

Jerry, at the age of 17, married Nadine Evelyn Race on September 9, 1955. Times were different then, not sure that's legal these days. They settled in St. Johns, Michigan where they raised their family and recently celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary. They were members of the Duplain Church of Christ.

Although he retired from skilled trades at Motor Wheel after over 30 years, Jerry was a Jack-of-all-trades teaching his grandchildren all there was to know about... well just about everything. He was a hard worker with a great work ethic which he proudly passed on too many of his grandchildren by example. Jerry built his house, learning how to do so along the way, no job was too big. He enjoyed taking care of his 8-acre yard where he taught his children and grandchildren how to "drive a stick".


Jerry was an avid sportsman (hunting, archery, shooting, fishing, and trapping) who had some big trophies and also some big stories that everyone loved to hear. He was really great at writing poems and coming up with catchy tunes while bouncing the little ones on his knee.

Jerry was known for many things such as making his famous grilled chicken using his secret recipe or disabling safety features on power tools because "they just got in the way" (despite this, he still had all 10 digits), but most of all, he was mostly known in these parts for being the BEST GRANDPA EVER!

Jerry is survived by his wife Nadine, three daughters: Melody (Robert) Nydam of Whitinsville, MA; Dawn (Richard) Hood of Ovid, MI; and Lori Barrett of Maple Rapids, MI; ten grandchildren: Brandi (Joel) Schneider, Linae (Kevin) Good, Heather (Stewart) Barrett, Amy (Phillip) Knapper, James (Katie) Barrett, Monica (Vishwa) Srivastava, Michael (Lisa) Barrett, Valerie (Ryan) Holt, Bobby Nydam, and Dillon (Hailee) Barrett; fifteen great-grandchildren: Ty (Kaitlyn) Cook, Zane (Maggie) Cook, Ayden Cook, Ashley Good, Tyler Barrett, Zoe Southwell, Quintin Southwell, Henry Knapper, Caleb Knapper, Teddy Holt, Draven Barrett, Tori Barrett, Stanley Barrett, Lucy Barrett, and Everett Barrett; two sisters: Helen Smith and Clarice Strayer; sister-in-law Sherry Vining, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, son-in-law Chris Devereaux, his siblings: Eunice (Floyd) Mitchell, Eddy (Thelma) Vining, and Jack Vining.

Funeral Services were held at Duplain Church of Christ, St. Johns, MI, on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, with Mr. Andy Goodrich officiating. Burial has taken place at Eureka Cemetery, Eureka, MI.

Memorials may be made to Duplain Church of Christ 5565 East Colony Road St. Johns, MI 48879. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Osgood Chapel, St. Johns, Michigan.



Church Directory

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Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Watch Sunday Service on
YouTube at [elsiebaptist](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs1eBaptist)
Pastor Phillip Rogers

Laingsburg United Methodist Church

210 Crum St., Laingsburg
517-651-5531
Worship Service: 10:30am
Minister:
Rev. Tiffany Newsom

Middlebury United Methodist Church

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573
Minister:
Rev. Tiffany Newsom
Worship Service
9:00 a.m.

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:15am

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns
Pastor: John Jakus
Sunday School: 9:00am
Worship Service 10:00am
517-651-6210

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

160 W. Main St., Elsie e(989) 862-5239
Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: JD Paik

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Father Raj

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

I've just finished reading two books. One was filled with vikings and was set in the early twelve hundreds. The story was interesting and relaxed me because it was a fantasy. The other book is called "A Tale of Two Biddies" written by Vicki Kuyper. Ladies this is a must read, I believe that the gents would also get some important insight by reading it. It has touched both my sense of humor and my heart strings. Yes, I am a biddy and am doing it in style. If and when you take the time to read this book you will learn a great deal. Being a biddy is not a bad thing...

Today was a bit on the frustrating side. I was making chocolate covered peanuts for Valentine's Day and found myself short of the resources needed to complete the process. As in I have run out of white chocolate, I hadn't planned on making milk chocolate covered peanuts but that is what I will be doing on the morrow. Also my valentine bags weren't what I had expected. I thought that I had some charmingly printed cellophane bags to fill. Total disappointment because they were plastic and not classic. I like the printed cellophane bags because you can see what is inside of them, they are cute packaging. The plastic bags that I had on hand are very concealing, no ambiance involved. Dang it, I should have at least mixed up a batch of sugar cookies and had the dough chilling, I must have been having a pea brain moment.

Brent went to the Farmer's Elevator in Ovid and picked me up two forty pound bags of cat food and delivered them to me. He saved me a lot of lifting and carrying and I do appreciate that. Probably the cats appreciate more than I do. Tiny Terror drops into the front door whenever it pleases her, which is always. She is smart and clever and if she would not try to usurp Prudence's boundaries and would stay out of my house plants she could stay inside for awhile. The dark tabby has also been making overtures and has almost let me touch him. He wants to come in and I won't allow any in that I can not pick up or pet. Remember the cat in the dryer incident? That and I don't want to get attached so I have not named him. The kittens still make a big show of escorting from my vehicle to the house when I get home in the afternoon. They must be big on pomp and circumstance. Who knew? I get a daily parade.

Now I know why I didn't want Tiny Terror in the house, my house plants were dry and begging to be watered. Fortuitously I realized that I needed to moisten them up a bit. Some more than others. They all seem to be perkier than they had been. And yes, I still need to do some transplanting. This of course means that I need to get into the old granary and haul in a bag of potting soil so that it warms up and I can use it. Not for me so much as for the poor plants that are used to their sixty-eight degree environment. Imagine how your body would respond if your feet were plunged into and buried in a mound of freezing dirt. The plants would not be very happy and they would probably die. That would not make me happy. I like being happy.

Yesterday afternoon, Karen invited me over for some of her homemade chop suey. It was delicious and I over ate. Then she sent me home a big bowl of it because she didn't want to eat it for the next couple of weeks. Now I need to get me some more rice or noodles to serve with it. The day had been very busy and the new gal hadn't shown up for work. She misunderstood when she was needed. Anywho, I didn't get out until twelve thirty and had to make a run to St Johns. I had to pick up a prescription and a few supplies for the shop. I got home after two and decided that I needed a nap so I set the timer to get a forty-five minute nap. Diane called me before the alarm went off and I chatted with her and was a few minutes late getting to Karen's. And yes, Karen did call me to see if I had fallen asleep and I told her that I was headed out the door. Of course we had a great visit, as did Pru, who got spoiled.

May your days be filled with great visits and friends that share their cooking. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2024



Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

You can also mail or drop questions off to: Meridian Weekly
P.O. Box 11, Ovid, MI 48866

GRUMPY OLD MAN

Andy, My husband has become a grump! He seems to find excuses for anything that needs to be done! For example, if the hall needs painting, he says, "I can't, it needs to be sanded first, ...it needs the edges taped." It's been 5 years and it's still not done. It's been like that with most all projects around the house for several years. He seems to think retirement is watching sports on TV, mowing the lawn or playing cards with his buddies. He complains about everything, food, other drivers, people, trash, hangers, laundry just everything! He has become a yeller, too. He cannot have a conversation without taking the opposite position or noting the negative or obvious. Every day is a complaint day! What can I do?

Fed Up being married to a grumpy old man?

Dear Fed up. Perhaps he is in some pain or discomfort. You should encourage him to see his doctor for an annual wellness check. Ask him if you could go along to see if there is something that is making him so grumpy. As for the yelling... that could be due to loss of hearing. Men are good at hiding their woes by complaining about the "small stuff" and "acting grumpy." A complete physical with blood workup might be in order. You didn't say how old he is, but as people age, some lose ambition after working for 40 years and lose that "Sense of Purpose" feeling. Men need appreciation. (...and yes, so do women....Don't send me hate mail)

As for chores around the house and finding obstacles to avoid jobs, it often can just be a bad habit to avoid things he does not see as immediately necessary. What can you do? Timing is everything....don't interrupt or mention a chore when he is watching a favorite program.

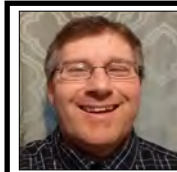
Write up a to-do list (together): Put some easy chores on the list, like replacing the knob on a kitchen cupboard. Tighten the screws on the back door. Empty the window boxes into the compost. Hammer in the nails on the porch slats. And, discuss if some bigger jobs like trimming the branches on a tree could be hired out. He may want to get to it so it can be completed at a lower cost. Offer to assist on the jobs on the to-do list. Work together.

To get him to your way of thinking, make sure your projects are affordable and that you have the tools or replacement supplies handy. A list will help him know you both have the same priorities.

Try seeing the chore list from his point of view. He might not notice something that needs to be fixed. Seeing a list and checking it off can make a person feel good about themselves. Sometimes when I complete a project that was not on my list, I add it to my list just to cross it off.

Make compliments on what he has accomplished. Show appreciation. Don't complain. Be happy! Happiness is contagious. Let me know how it goes. Andy @ ask_andy@aol.com

P.S. Maybe he just needs a dish of stewed prunes. That worked on my Grandpa.



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
www.letsmeetgod.com
tohearns@yahoo.com

In his book, "70 X 7, The Freedom of Forgiveness", David Ugsberger tells of General William Booth, the founder of the salvation Army, who had lost his eyesight. His son Bramwell was given the difficult task of telling his father there would be no recovery. "Do you mean that I am blind?" the General asked. "I hear we must contemplate that," his son replied. The father continued, "I shall never see your face again?" "No, probably not in this world." "Bramwell," said General Booth, "I have done what I could for God and for His people with my eyes. Now I shall do what I can for God without my eyes."

In Galatians 1:1, Paul writes, "Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead."

Paul here is not saying that human approval is unimportant, but that real approval comes from God Himself. If God has given you a task and has equipped you to do it, then people's opinions on the matter are ultimately irrelevant.

We see this throughout the Bible. God called David, the youngest in Jesse's family, to be the King of Israel.

God called Amos, who was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but was a shepherd and took care of sycamore-fig trees, to proclaim the word of the Lord.

God called Phoebe to be a deacon in one of the first churches.

Throughout history God calls His people to serve Him. All Christians are called to serve the Lord in some way. It was true in Old Testament times, true in New Testament times and true today.

How about for you? Who has God called you to be? What has God called you to do?

For some of us, that may be crystal clear. For others, the waters are a bit muddy and we're not sure what it is that God wants for us to do. For some of us, we may be doing God's will right now. Some of us are in the process as God is preparing you for what He wants for you to do in the future.

If you're not sure what it is that God wants for you to do, you can start in prayer. By simply asking God what He would like for you to do. And to not pray this just once but for as many days as needed until you believe you've heard from the Lord.

Another thing is to take a look at your talents, desires and spiritual gifting. What do you like to do? What are you good at? Check with others- what do they say that you're good at? What do they say that your strengths are?

And of course, as you do these things, read the Bible. Read the Bible to make sure that what you are being led to do is Scriptural. And also to get ideas on how the Lord may use you.

For example, when you read about the need for justice, does that inspire you to work for human rights?

When you read about helping the poor, does that inspire you to go into that line of work?

When you read about preaching the gospel, does that inspire you to do missions work or teach a Sunday School class or lead a small group in church?

When you read about prayer, are you encouraged to pray? To pray prayers that change lives for now and for eternity?

Let me encourage you today to take a step of faith and ask God what He would like for you to do.



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Ode to the Groundhog

Happy Groundhog Day! The Weekly Sportsman's birthday twin friend, Amanda Fisher, wrote this poem over twenty years ago. Some research has been done to answer the age-old question asked of every groundhog/woodchuck including the one in this poem. Enjoy!

Oh little groundhog all furry and brown Why does your face wear such a frown? Could it be the shadow you see

Or is it the sound of a buzzing bee?

Fear not little woodchuck, for I am near Bringing you lots of laughter and cheer We'll sing songs and celebrate the day If you'd only come out to play

Oh little varmint, why do you burrow And why does your little brow so furrow

Is it the pondering of the question I did ask I did not realize it would be such a task

All i did ask was simple enough

It really isn't a question that tough Shall we share it for all to see?

Or keep it to myself and thee

Share then, share little groundhog that question I posed It went like this, don't turn up your nose.

How much wood can a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Well, the weekly sportsman has done some research and a typical woodchuck excavates 35 cubic foot of dirt when making a den. A single cubic foot weighs 20 pounds so technically a woodchuck can chuck 700 pounds of dirt or maybe even wood. So about half a face cord of dry oak stacked 4ft x 4ft x 16 inches.

Tune in to WOES 91.3 every Friday at 3:00 p.m. to listen to the Weekly Sportsman's Report.

-WS

Senior Spotlight




2024 Chocolate Fantasy at Clinton County Senior Center

On Thursday, February 8 from 6-8pm we are hosting an evening filled with sweet treats at 201 E. Walker St., St. Johns.

Our "Chocolate Fantasy" will feature at least 25 delectable, mouth-watering chocolate creations from area restaurants, chefs, caterers, confectioners & individuals.

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No need to sit home alone. Come join us for social activities that will help you stay vital and involved. Activities may include: bingo, puzzles, cards, exercise, day trips, Art and more.

Home Delivered Meals

More than a Meal, a safety check too! A low-cost, nutritionally-sound meal is delivered to persons in Shiawassee County who are homebound, age 60 years and older, and have been assessed as physically or mentally incapable of preparing their own meals. SCOA is a proud member of Meals On Wheels America!

In-Home Services

In-home services are designed to give seniors assistance while in their own home. Services include home-making, personal care, and respite for individuals 60 years or older who live in Shiawassee County. Those referred to the program will be assessed to see if they qualify.

Medical Equipment

Do you need home medical equipment or have some to donate? Wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, shower benches, canes, etc., if we have it you're welcome to use it until you no longer need it!

Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program

MMAP (Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) is a non-profit organization with trained volunteer counselors in communities across Michigan.

Transportation

SCOA has an agreement with Shiawassee Area Transportation Agency (SATA) to provide Shiawassee Seniors with FREE rides Monday through Friday 9:00am - 6:00pm. You can contact SATA at (989) 729-2687.

Home Injury Control

SCOA offers a home injury control program for seniors who need small home modifications in order to remain living in their own home.

Health & Wellness

Hearing Screening & Minor Hearing Aid Adjustments Services available; Blood Pressure Screenings

Silver Sneaker Exercise taught by Abbie Mars with Valley Area Agency on Aging.

Chair Exercises facilitated by a volunteer.

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Wolfpack Takes Down Bath, Concord in Prep Wrestling

BATH -- Laingsburg's varsity wrestling team took down Bath and Concord in dominating fashion, as the Wolfpack continues to build its team resume for the 2023-24 post-season.

Coach Shawn Baynes' Wolves have easily established themselves as one of the CMAC's best programs, at the very least. Bath fell by a 76-3, while non-league Concord suffered a 72-9 defeat.

Individual results opposite the host Bees:

- 106 lbs: Ethan Schneeberger won by forfeit.
- 113: Cooper Mund d. Jack Swincicki (B) by fall.
- 120: Marlon Graham d. Jack Talbott (B) by fall.
- 126: Dano Winans d. Madison Wagner (B) by fall.
- 132: Logan Robinson won by forfeit.
- 138: Garrett Matthews won by forfeit.
- 144: Troy Matthews won by forfeit.
- 150: Martin Meyers won by forfeit.
- 157: Bryce Smith won by forfeit.
- 165: Jack Borgman won by forfeit.
- 175: Nolan Rowley (B) d. Seth Sivak by dec., 9-7.
- 190: Alex Forcier won by forfeit.
- 215: Wyatt Stanfield d. Jayden Braska (B), 14-1.
- 285: Riley Kiffer won by forfeit.

Against the Concord Yellowjackets, only losses at 138 and 285 lbs. marred the LHS scoring. Troy Matthews, Meyers, Smith, Borgman, Sivak, Forcier, Stanfield, Schneeberger, Mund, Graham, Winans and Robinson all turned in point-producing performances for the red-and-white.

Orioles Play Ovid-Elsie Boys Tough, But Suffer 10-Point Loss

MORRICE — Victorious for their fifth time in their last six outings, the Ovid-Elsie varsity boys basketball team traveled to Morrice and downed the Orioles, 43-33.

Rounding out a three-game road swing, coach Canyon Walker's Marauders improved to 9-4 and 7-1 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC), behind only the undefeated Chesaning Indians.


After winning consecutive games over the Byron Eagles and Burton Bentley Bulldogs, Morrice falls to 4-9 and 2-2 in the Genesee Area Conference (GAC) Blue Division.

Both teams were without an impact player in this one, as senior forward Mason Ritenburg was sidelined for the Marauders and junior guard Joel Fisher was out for the Orioles.

Ovid-Elsie delivered an inspired defensive performance, holding Morrice to single-digit points in three of the four quarters, including just two in the second.

The Marauders took a 27-11 lead into the halftime break and were able to keep the Orioles firmly at bay over the contest's final 16 minutes.

Junior forward Tucker Loynes led Ovid-Elsie with 12 points and senior center Hunter Bates finished with 11. Sophomore Oliver Long racked up a game-high 14 for Morrice in defeat.



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Sports

Lady Marauders Take Down Otisville-Lakeville by 40 Points

OVID-ELSIE — At Ovid-Elsie, the Lady Marauders took down the visiting Lakeville Falcons by a 66-26 count.

Ava Bates had a game-high 17 points to go along with 5 rebounds and 3 steals. Braeden Tokar added 16 points and 6 rebounds to propel Ovid-Elsie to 8-1 (6-0 MMAC).

"They sat in a zone all night trying to slow us down," said O-E coach Ryan Cunningham. "After a slow start, I was really happy with how we executed on both ends of the floor and worked the ball inside. Tokar showed some dominance inside."

Ellyanna Carman added 9 points and 4 rebounds for O-E while Hailee Campbell chipped in with 8 points and 4 rebounds. Evalyn Cole (9 steals) and Tava Kvalevog each added 4 points and Alyson Moore and Lily Bates each a triple en route to their 3 points each. Kenzie Keck rounded out the scoring with a pair of free throws.

Ovid-Elsie connected on 16 of 19 tries from the foul line and collected 21 steals on 33 Falcon turnovers. The Lady Marauders also handed out 20 assists on 23 made baskets and out-rebounded Lakeville 29-19.



#21 Ellyanna Carman, looking for a good pass played a great game

Lady Marauders Inch Closer to Another MMAC Title, 52-37 Over NL

NEW LOTHROP -- Ovid-Elsie's Lady Marauders improved to 10-1 on the season and 7-0 in the MMAC with a convincing 52-37 nod over the host Hornets.

The win gives Ovid-Elsie a two-game cushion over second place New Lothrop (7-4. 5-2 MMAC).

"We knew this was going to be a battle," said veteran Marauder coach Ryan Cunningham. "New Lothrop is very good, they are well-coached, and it is always a tough place to play at."

Ovid-Elsie would claim the first quarter 14-3 but New Lothrop got hot from behind the arc in the second and outscored OE 18-7 in the second stanza to tie the game at 21 at the half. Both teams scored nine points in the third stanza before Ovid-Elsie would close the game out with a 22-7 fourth-quarter run.

"We talked a lot about how this would be a game of runs and we needed to match their energy in their gym," added Cunningham. "We felt that if we could keep things close, we could

make that final push and we did."

Braeden Tokar (3 rebounds, 7 assists, 3 steals) and Evalyn Cole (4 assists, 5 steals) paced the Lady Marauders with 12 points each while Ava Bates added 9 points, 3 rebounds, and 2 steals. Hailee Campbell played solid all the way around with 8 points and 5 rebounds, but it was her defense that drew accolades from Cunningham.

"We gave her the toughest assignment tonight and that was to try and slow down Wendling," noted Cunningham. "She still had a good game but Hailee made her work for it."

But Ovid-Elsie was motivated in other ways tonight, Cunningham mentioned. Not just because of the league showdown, but because of some of the locker room material that was found.

"Our kids found some inappropriate and degrading material in the locker room," Cunningham said. "At first, it was hurtful but I believe it helped fuel our fire. It was disappointing to see especially from a team we respect so much. I wouldn't tolerate that stuff being displayed in our locker room, but in the end, we are going to rise above it and put it behind us."

Ellyanna Carman added 5 points for OE while Dannika Campbell chipped in with 4 points and Lily Bates 2 points to round out the Marauder scoring.

Marauder gals humble solid Morrice team, 49-21

OVID-ELSIE -- In a game that matched up a pair of one-loss teams, Ovid-Elsie cruised to a 49-21 win over visiting Morrice. Ovid-Elsie improves to 11-1 while the Orioles drop to 8-2.

After a sluggish start in the first quarter (7-6), the Lady Marauders used a 40-10 run in the middle quarters to put the Orioles away. Morrice managed to outscore OE 5-2 in the 4th.

"They came out and played a zone and we struggled to connect early on," said O-E coach Ryan Cunningham. "Once we stopped settling for outside shots and used our defense to fuel our offense, we got going."

Braeden Tokar had a game-high 15 points along with 6 rebounds and 5 steals while Evalyn Cole (6 rebounds, 4 steals, 4 assists) and Ava Bates (9 rebounds, 4 steals, 3 assists) scored 12 points each. Hailee Campbell chipped in with 4 points and 7 rebounds while McKenzie Keck, Francesca Giacobbe, and Tava Kvalevog each added 2 points.



#13 Senior Braeden Tokar fighting for a good basket and 2 for the board. Photos by Denise Burgess

Coaches please remember to send your results every week to be included in the Meridian Weekly!
Email to: news@meridianweekly.com
or Tom Turek at tomturek2002003@yahoo

Leave a legacy of lower debt

Life insurance can help pay mortgage, bills

Jason's neighbor, a widow, sold her home six months after her husband died. The woman told Jason she was moving from the neighborhood because she couldn't afford the mortgage, credit cards and car loan without her husband. Jason was unsettled thinking debt could force his family into the same predicament.

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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Sports

Ashley Boys Basketball

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Bears played a feisty Akron-Fairgrove team last week and came up short losing 53-47. Ashley trailed most of the night but was able to tie it up with a few minutes to go, but couldn't take the lead. "I am very proud of the way the team fought back being down by 10 with six minutes to go and tying the game at 47. We had some good looks at the end and just couldn't get one to fall" said Coach Sourek. Robert Kral had 15 points and 7 rebounds, Carson Litwiller scored 12 and had 6 rebounds and Joie Fabus had a double-double with 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Ashley also took on Merrill in a conference game. "We started off with cold shooting and never really got in the rhythm" expressed Sourek. Joie Fabus had another double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds, Carson Litwiller scored 11 points and had 8 rebounds and Robert Kral added 5 points.

Vestaburg was also a conference game where the Bears came up short. "We have a very young basketball team and it showed tonight. We have to work harder as a team and continue getting better" said Sourek. Carson Litwiller had the double-double for the team on the night scoring 15 points and grabbing 11 rebounds, Joie Fabus also added to his stats with another double-double soring 10 points and pulling down 10 rebounds, Robert Kral added 5 points and 6 rebounds.



Joie Fabus

Robert Kral

Lady Bears Lose in Close Games

by Ashleigh Shaw

The 2024 basketball season is moving quickly and the second half is underway. Merrill visited Ashley in a conference matchup. Ashley controlled the game at the beginning but were unable to keep themselves in the game, going on a small scoring drought and not winning the second quarter, losing 50-29. Karissa Brady had 8 points and 12 rebounds, Ellie Drummond scored 8 points grabbed 9 rebounds and added 4 steals, Marissa Brady had 8 points and 8 rebounds. "We were able to come out and control pace in the first quarter, we were just unable to convert our changes at the free throw line into points. Merrill did a nice job of creating more pressure as the game went on and we struggled with turnovers in the second quarter and fell too far behind" said Coach Shaw.

Taking on Vestaburg for the second time, Ashley made it a ball game. They came out and lead after the first quarter and were only down a few at half time. Some foul trouble took out one of their key players for most of the third quarter which proved to be a detriment as the Lady Bears fell 45-33 to the Wolverines. "Tonight we were able to get off to a strong start, having the lead after the first quarter. We missed quite a few opportunities to score around the rim in the second quarter and that ended up hurting our chances of staying in the game" expressed Shaw. Karissa Brady had a double-double on the night scoring 15 points grabbing 10 rebounds and adding 3 steals. Ellie Drummond scored 10 points had 7 rebounds and 3 steals, Marissa Brady added 6 points and 10 rebounds.



Karissa Brady

Ellie Drummond

Boys Basketball District 81 Roster Set for March Madness

CHESANING -- A local MHSAA District boys basketball tournament is set for Feb. 26 at Chesaning.

New Lothrop will compete in MHSAA District 81 at the Division 3 level alongside Byron, host Chesaning, Montrose, Ovid-Elsie and St. Charles.

Tough Stretch for Wolfpack Girls Materializes; Losses to St. Pats, Fowler

FOWLER -- In the midst of a six-game winning streak a couple weeks ago, veteran Laingsburg coach Doug Hurst looked at his schedule and saw a literal "murderer's row" coming in late January.

His biggest concerns materialized, after all.

Back-to-back losses

to Portland St. Patrick and Fowler -- two of the elite girls basketball programs in the CMAC -- left the Lady Wolfpack 5-7 overall, 4-7 in league play.

"We knew going into a five-game stretch against these top teams that it would be tough," said Hurst. "This is the most balanced I've seen the league in a long time. It has been both exciting and frustrating over the last few weeks.

"We have shown that we can play with the top teams, then (sometimes) we have shown when we're not focused against those teams you play (it's a rough ride). Last night with Fowler was one of those nights. Those games are over; hopefully we've grown and learned as we go into the second half of the season."

In a 58-48 loss to St. Pats, the Wolves actually rolled to a 22-13 first quarter advantage before the Shamrocks rallied in the middle two periods. LHS was led by Laingsburg Ella Merrell's 15 points and 4 rebounds; Ashlee Hawes 7 pts, 8 rebs; Mallory Woodbury 6 pts; Payge Woodworth 5 pts, 6 assists; Callie Clark 5 pts; Bella Strieff 4 pts, 6 rebs; Kyleigh Luna 3 pts; Lilli Morrill 2 points and Harper Strouse 1 point.

The 50-30 loss at Fowler saw Ashlee Hawes with 8 points; Ella Merrell 6 pts; Bella Strieff 4 pts, 9 rebs; Mallory Woodbury 4 pts; Kyleigh Luna 3 pts; Callie Clark 2 pts, 4 rebounds and Lilli Morrill 2 points.



Ella Merrell

Ashlee Hawes

Laingsburg's Schneeberger Leads the Way; Wolfpack Grapplers 7th at Lakewood

LAKE ODESSA — Ethan Schneeberger led the way, and the Laingsburg wrestling team turned in a solid 7th place showing at the Lakewood Wrestling Invitational here January 27.

Paced by Schneeberger's first-place finish at 106 pounds, coach Shawn Baynes' Wolfpack accumulated 67 points in a prestigious 12-team field.

Schneeberger, a sophomore, defeated Jody Bitner of Wayland Union in a 4-1 decision in the final. His personal record now sits at 20-4 on the year.

Senior Jack Borgman was runner-up at 175 pounds for the Wolfpack, classmate Seth Sivak was third at 165, and Wyatt Stanfield finished fourth at 215.

Marauder boys take down Hornets in key MMAC battle

NEW LOTHROP -- Ovid-Elsie's varsity boys basketball team won for the 7th time in 8 league outings to stay hot on the heels of the MMAC leaders.

The final score was 41-26, though it didn't look like it'd be a 15-point win at the outset. "We started out fairly slow, we didn't play a team for quite some time," said coach Canyon Walker. "We got into some early foul trouble and had to go into our bench. But I tell my guys every single day, I would take our 13 over any one else's every single time."

The coaching staff singled out Javen Belill, "

... for the tons of energy he brings." Going into halftime, Belill nabbed a steal which turned into a fast break layup, then the next play he took a charge, which led to O-E scoring.

Said Walker, "This sparked us going into the half and we came out and handled our business after that. NL made some threes but our defense held them to low numbers in the second and third quarters.

"I'm really proud of the kids, and I mean everyone," Walker explained. "We always say our practices should be the hardest games we play and I am a firm believer in that."

Mason Ritenburg led the Marauders (8-4 overall, 7-1 MMAC) with 10 points and Gunner McCreery added 9.

The loss dropped the Hornets to 4-8 overall, 3-6 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Association (MMAC).



#3 Senior Mason Ritenburg putting in a quick shot for 2 points
Photo by Denise Burgess



Victor Township Clinton County, Michigan Proposed Special Meeting Minutes of the Victor Township Board January 30, 2024

A Special Budget Workshop Meeting of the Victor Township Board to review the proposed township budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year was called to order by Supervisor Conklin at 7:00 p.m. at the Victor Township Hall, 6843 Alward Rd., Laingsburg, Mi.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a roll call of board members in attendance: Present: Conklin, Prange, Townsend, Fickes, Willoughby. Absent: None 1 Citizen in attendance

The Township Board reviewed the proposed Supervisor's budget and made changes and additions to what was presented.

Motion by Conklin to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Supported by Prange. All in favor.]Motion carried.

Lianne Prange, Clerk
6843 E. Alward Road
Laingsburg, MI 48848

Sports

Wolfpack Blitzes O-E Early, Rolls to 83-47 Win

LAINGSBURG -- The host Wolves came out raining three-point shots, shell-shocking their visitors from Ovid-Elsie enroute to a dominant 83-47 boys basketball victory in a rare Saturday matinee contest.

The non-league win in the neighborhood tussle kept Tim Beebe's Wolfpack unbeaten at 13-0, while Ovid-Elsie dipped to 8-4 overall.

O-E's 1st -year coach, Canyon Walker, said his team was looking forward to improving game-by-game as the season progresses. The Marauders remain in the thick of the MMAC league race at 7-1 and could meet Laingsburg again in the state's post-season tournament.

"Laingsburg came out and hurt us right away with those three-pointers. They're a really good team," Walker said. "We played much better in the second half. Our goal is to keep improving each game, win our league, then get a rematch with Laingsburg in the Regionals."

The Wolves got three-balls from seniors Zander Woodruff and Ty Randall to open the contest, then raced to a 29-9 bulge after one quarter. Over the next two periods, the lead ballooned to 69-35.

"Our guys are good at keeping each other going. They've got each other's backs," said 1st-year Wolfpack mentor Beebe. "The leadership on this team is outstanding, especially from a great group of seniors."

Said seniors have won 38 of their last 39 games, including last season's unbeaten regular season. Woodruff led all scorers with 28 points; Cam Ballard, Dom Garcia and Max Powers also tossing in three-balls for the hosts. Jackson Audretsch, Greg Stewart, Logan Holm, Mitchell George, Elliott Wilsey and Aiden Maddaloni also found the scoring sheet for the red-and-white.

Tucker Loynes scored 24 points to lead O-E. Mason Ritenburg, Hunter Bates, Travis Milner, Bruce Thornton, Gunner McCreery, Jake Bowen, Javon Belill, and Jamison Custer also provided points for the Marauders.

Zander scores career-high 42; Wolfpack moves closer to CMAC title

LAINGSBURG -- Zander Woodruff, mid-Michigan's scoring leader, tossed in a career-high 42 points and the host Wolfpack pushed closer to a 2nd-straight CMAC boys basketball championship here January 30.

A dominant 65-45 victory over title-contending Fowler was the last triumph in Laingsburg's unbeaten (14-0, 11-0) run so far. Fowler fell to 10-6 overall, 9-3 in the circuit.

Though the Eagles made a few runs at the Wolves in the middle two quarters, ultimately it was Woodruff -- surrounded by solid supporting efforts, especially from the LHS "big men" inside -- that held the Birds at bay.

"We needed to execute. We didn't execute. And win you play a great team like Laingsburg, well ... you saw what happens," said Fowler coach Kam Riley. Coach Tim Beebe's Wolfpack raced to a 20-4 lead while the contest was still in the first quarter.

"Fowler is a good team. They missed some shots tonight they don't usually miss," said Beebe. "This conference is a great (proving ground). It's a battle to get through the league season, and it helps prepare us all for the post-season."

Every time FHS got close, LHS had an answer. Woodruff swished a couple a NBA -range three-pointers in the third quarter that particularly silenced the Fowler faithful.

It wasn't just a one-man show, however. The Wolves showed their usual toughness on the glass. Senior Ty Randall scored seven points, Mitchell George added four, and Vance Klont, Cameron Ballard, Dom Garcia, Jackson Audretsch and Elliott Wilsey all hit points for the Wolfpack.

Alex Halfmann led the Eagles with 10 points.



Cameron Ballard scoring two for Wolfpack.

Photo by Burg Sports

O-E's Spiess and Miller Defend Home Mat

OVID-ELSIE — Last year, the Ovid-Elise Girls Wrestling Tournament experienced a tremendous surge in participation, going from 79 competitors in 2022, to 133.

This year, the event's growth was less pronounced, but the 138 grapplers to suit up still made it the school's biggest girls wrestling bash to date.

In a testament to the growth of the local girls wrestling scene, this year is the first in the invitational's history to feature multiple individual champions hailing from area schools.

Last year's tournament featured only one local gold medalist — Chesaning's Krysta Luce, who prevailed at 144 pounds. In 2022, no local girls were winners. This year, Luce was joined in the champions' circle by O-E's own Kaia Spiess and Maddisyn Miller.

Spiess was tops at 110 pounds, and Miller bested all comers at 190. All the champs had dominant runs, winning every one of their combined matches by pin.



Maddie Miller secured 1st place with 3 pins

Spiess went through Hemlock's Ashlyn Emmendorfer in 1:03, before taking down Owosso junior Julionna West in an even more efficient 24 seconds. The win improves her season record



Kaia Spiess bested the 110 pound division at the all girl invite at OE.

Photos by Marie Spiess

against female competition to 14-5.

Miller's path to the top of the podium included a 56-second pin of Portland's Rylan Johns and a 57-second stop of Swan Valley's Tamara Bryce ahead of a clash with Midland's Halle Spears in the final.

Miller was able to secure another victory by fall in 3:30, bringing her season record against girls to 15-1.

In addition, Ovid-Elsie's Ava Juhas and Haley McClung finished third and fourth at 105 and 125 pounds, respectively.

Coach Kyle Spiess' Marauders accumulated the tournament's third-most team points, with 70, behind DeWitt (140) and Fowlerville (135). Owosso was 10th in the team standings with 46 points; Chesaning was 12th with 38, and Perry was 14th with 31.

CITY OF OVID NOTICE OF COMMITTEE AND BOARD POSITIONS

City of Ovid is looking for electors to fill a Charter Review Committee. The board will be comprised of seven (7) electors from the City of Ovid appointed by the mayor and approved by Council. The Committee shall examine the Charter and recommend to the Council any amendments which appear to be necessary or desirable. The charter is currently located on our website at www.ovidmi.org or a print is available at city hall. A meeting stipend will be paid.

Interested parties should submit a letter of intent to City of Ovid, PO Box 138, Ovid, MI 48866; drop box located at 114 E. Front St., email at clerk@ovidmi.org Subject line Charter review Committee or Board of Review. Or you may fill out board application located on our website www.ovidmi.org under Government > Current Openings. Deadline to apply February 8.

Susan Tomasek Swan
Clerk, City of Ovid
989-834-5550

TOWNSHIP OF VICTOR Clinton County, Michigan NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF ELECTRONIC VOTING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that Victor Township Election Commission will hold a Public Accuracy Test of the electronic voting system to be used in the February 27, 2024 Presidential Primary Election on February 15, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at 6843 E. Alward Road Laingsburg, MI 48848. This test is being conducted as required by Michigan law (MCL168.798) to demonstrate to the public that votes cast will be accurately counted for all offices and on all proposals.

The Victor Township board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 10-day notice to the Victor Township board. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Victor Township board by writing or calling the following: 517-651-2094. Notice complies with MCL 141.436 and MCL 211.24e

Lianne Prange
Victor Township Clerk

Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or faster man.
But sooner or later, the man who wins is the man who thinks he can.

Vince Lombardi

City of Ovid Special Meeting January 29, 2024

Open Special Meeting:

Mayor Lasher called the Special Meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call of Members Present:

L. Ordiway, L. Perrien, M. Olger, B. Lasher, E. Brown-ABSENT, M. Perrien, E. Starn

Other in Attendance- Susan Tomasek-Swan-Clerk, Lisa Rousseau- Chief of Police, Scott Gould- City's Attorney

Agenda

Council Member L. Perrien made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member M. Perrien seconded the motion.

Carried on a voice vote

Public Comment: Opened 6:31 pm Closed 6:31 pm none

Meeting Purpose:

Union Contract:

The board discussed the calculation of personal and sick time leave.

Council Member M. Perrien made a motion to approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Capital City Labor Program (CCLP) as presented. Council Member M. Olger supported the motion.

Upon Roll Call vote the following voted AYE: E. Starn, M. Perrien, W. Lasher,

M. Olger, L. Perrien, L. Ordiway

Upon Roll Call vote the following voted NAY: None

Absent: E. Brown

Motion Carried

Adjournment-

Council Member M. Perrien made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council

Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.

Carried on a voice vote

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm

Respectfully Submitted by
Susan Tomasek Swan
City of Ovid Clerk

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

Notice of Foreclosure by Advisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on March 6, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s):
Nicholas Crockett, a single man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any):
Cardinal Financial Company,
Limited Partnership
Date of Mortgage: October 7, 2022
Date of Mortgage Recording:
October 10, 2022

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$330,201.35

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Bingham, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: The part of the South 30 acres of the West 1/2 of the Northwest fractional 1/4 of Section 3, Town 7 North, Range 2 West, Bingham Township Clinton County, Michigan described as follows:

Beginning at the Intersection of the Easterly limited access right of way of Scott Road, and the North line of said South 30 acres, said North line also being the centerline of existing Avery Road, said intersection lying North 02 degrees 29 minutes 28 seconds West, 1091.43 feet; thence South 88 degree 13 minutes 16 seconds East 199.10 feet from the West 1/4 corner of said Section 3; thence continuing along said centerline of

Avery Road, South 88 degrees 13 minutes 16 seconds East 274.52 feet; thence South 01 degrees 48 minutes 44 seconds West, 485.64 feet to the Northerly limited access right of way line of US. 27; thence along said right of way line, North 89 degrees 48 minutes 09 seconds West, 286.43 feet; thence North 02 degrees 29 minutes 25 seconds West, 165.77 feet; thence South 87 degrees 30 minutes 32 seconds West, 40.00 feet; thence North 02 degrees 29 minutes 28 seconds West, 192.75 feet; thence North 31 degrees 11 minutes 57 seconds East, 121.69 feet to the end of said limited access right of way; thence along the accessible right of way line of Scott Road, North 31 degrees 11 minutes 57 seconds East, 37.89 feet to the point of beginning. Common street address (if any): 1048 Avery Rd, Saint Johns, MI 48879-9331

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: February 4, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1521370
(02-04)(02-25)

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 21, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Norman P. Blakely, single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: December 9, 2016 Recorded on December 12, 2016, in Document No. 5248581, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Ninety-Two Thousand One Hundred Forty-Five and 55/100 Dollars (\$92,145.55) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Clinton County, and described as: Commencing 76.5 feet North of the Southwest corner of Lot 5 in Block 8, Village of Westphalia, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the recorded Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 22, Clinton County Records; running thence East 223 feet; thence North 118.16 feet; thence West 223 feet; thence South to the Point of Beginning. Commonly known as 311 S Westphalia St, Westphalia, MI 48894 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Nationstar Mortgage LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1520399
(01-21)(02-11)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 14, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Taylor Edward Nearhood and Sarah Hurst, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns Foreclosing Assignee (if any): New American Funding, LLC fka Broker Solutions, Inc., dba New American Funding Date of Mortgage: February 8, 2023 Date of Mortgage Recording: February 16, 2023 Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$284,890.25 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Victor, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Beginning at a point 400 feet North of the Southeast corner of the North 50 acres of the East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 11, Town 6 North, Range 1 West; thence West 768 feet; thence North 429 feet; thence West 552 feet; thence North 131 feet; thence East 1320 feet; thence South 560 feet to the point of beginning. Common street address (if any): 6214 S Hollister Rd, Ovid, MI 48866-9605 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: January 14, 2024 Trott Law, P.C. 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 642-2515

1519276
(01-14)(02-04)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on February 28, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Ernest J. Rompf and Deirdre A. Rompf, husband and wife, and Terri Severson, a single woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: August 18, 2005 Recorded on August 22, 2005, in Document No. 5086089, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Huntington National Bank Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand Thirty-Two and 92/100 Dollars (\$194,032.92) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Clinton County, and described as: The North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 31, T5N, R3W, except commencing at the Northeast corner of Section 31, thence West 2635 feet to the North 1/4 corner of Section 31, thence South 1048 feet, thence East 2353 feet, thence North 524 feet, thence East 282 feet, thence North 524 feet to the beginning, and except beginning on the East line of Section 31, T5N, R3W, at a point 524 feet South of the Northeast corner of Section 31, T5N, R3W, thence South 374 feet on the East line of Section 31, T5N, R3W, thence West 282 feet, thence North 374 feet, thence East 282 feet to the point of beginning, Watertown Township, Clinton County, Michigan. Commonly known as 16170 Wacousta Rd, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale will be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The Huntington National Bank Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1520398
(01-21)(02-11)

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Talan Parsons is Top Local Grapppler at O-E Boys Invite

OVID-ELSIE — Senior Talan Parsons led Ovid-Elsie during the biggest wrestling day on the regular-season calendar for Marauder Nation.

A day after hosting its girls wrestling invitational, coach Kyle Spiess' grapplers welcomed another swarm of grapplers Saturday for the Marauder boys invite.

O-E was not ultimately able to defend its home mat, settling for fifth place in the team standings with 112 points, behind Grayling (151), Clare (143.5), Birch Run (138.5) and Ithaca (129.5).

Parsons was dominant as usual, meeting with no real resistance en route to a title at 113 pounds, pinning Grayling's Caleb Baker in 30 seconds to seal the deal. The one-time MHSAA Division 3 state champ (and two-time runner-up) is now 31-1 on the year.

Five other Mauraders found spots on the podium Saturday, including Ryker Parsons, who placed second at 120, Trey Milner (second at heavyweight), Cole Workman (second at 138), Anthony Silva (third at 113) and Chaycen Thornton (third at 150).

Hornets Wrestle Past Marauders in MMAC Dual

OVID-ELSIE — Senior Talan Parsons, sophomore Chaycen Thornton and junior Trey Milner tallied pins for the Marauders, competing at 120, 150 and 285 pounds, respectively — but the visiting New Lothrop Hornets wrestled past O-E, 54-27 in a league dual meet here.

Eight Hornets collected victories via pin in the MMAC match, with junior Blake Wendling doing so at 106 pounds, fellow junior Hunter Wolf at 113, freshman Kyler Campbell at 132 and senior Cole Noonan at 215, among others.

Marauder Bowling Teams Falter at Riverbend Bowl

CORUNNA — “It was not a good day,” said veteran coach Matt Fabus, for Ovid-Elsie bowling teams competing January 27 opposite the New Lothrop Hornets.

The Marauder girls dropped a 28-2 nod to NL, while the male Marauders fell by a 26-4 score.

Top keglers for the girls were Lily Saylor 133, Victoria Dennis 87, Kyra Pupova 118, Grace Goetschy 98 and Brooke Pugsley 198-163.

For the boys, Peyton Holmes rolled 169-139, Collin Julie 158, Gage Wiktorowski 179-146, Brayden Gruesbeck 140-204 and Devyn Pugsley 202-188.



Devyn Pugsley



Collin Julie



Brooke Pugsley



Lily Saylor



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