

June 30, 2024

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12 PAGES

Elsie Lions Host Kidsight During Dairy Festival

The Elsie Lions Club will be again hosting the Lions Kidssight, USA at the Elsie Dairy Festival on Friday, July 12th from 10:30am-4:00pm. The testing trailer will be located by the Lions food trailer. Each child who completes the testing will receive a free hot dog from the Lions Club. Make plans now to get your child's (age 1-9) eyesight tested and even Santa will be there!!

Kidsight, USA is a national organization with a coordinated coalition of active and experienced Lions vision screeners. This service is needed as vision problems that go undetected by the age of 7 become permanent. The concern is that many millions of kids now have worsening eyesight from prolonged "screen time" in today's world. And this service is FREE, the screenings are conducted by Lions Volunteers who have been trained in the proper use of Touchless Screening Devices.

Don't miss this opportunity to get your child tested during the Elsie Dairy Festival on Friday, July 12th.



Christmas in July at the Elsie Dairy Festival

Federal Flood Insurance Now Available in Duplain Township

by Dawn Levey

ELSIE – Duplain Township has joined over 22,000 communities nationwide that are allowed to purchase federally backed flood insurance. This availability follows the community's adoption and enforcement of ordinances to reduce flood losses and acceptance by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Duplain Township is now a participant in the NFIP effective on MAY 17, 2024. Residents will be able to purchase flood insurance up to the limits under the regular phase of the program. However, there is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance coverage goes into effect. For single-family dwellings, the building coverage limit is \$250,000 and the content coverage limit is \$100,000. Renters can also protect their belongings by purchasing contents coverage. For commercial properties, the building and contents coverage limits are both \$500,000.

Lenders must require borrowers whose properties are in a designated flood hazard area to purchase flood insurance as a condition of receiving a federally backed mortgage loan in accordance with the Federal Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

The NFIP is implemented through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. There are over five million flood insurance policies in more than 22,000 participating communities nationwide.

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Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

by Dawn D Levey

ELSIE – The regular monthly meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, June 24, 2024. It was an evening of amending the 2023-24 general fund operating budget and the food service operating budget following reviewing the proposed 2024-24 budget for both accounts.

The teachers who completed the probationary status are now Michigan tenured were recognized: Amy Fanning, Nicholas Hufnagel, Johnnie Lewis, Leyna Miller, Michelle McDowell, Hannah Ramirez, and Guy White.

Chris Winters, athletic director, introduced coaches and student athletes and presented an update and highlights of the 2023-24 athletic season. Spring and winter athletes were in attendance and were recognized.

Shawn Pardee, food service director, gave her annual report. State review completed in February and in May the department did very well and will be implementing two action steps. There will be a change in cleaning supplies in all schools and they will be ecofriendly. In addition, there will be improvements made to the refrigeration systems with alerts transmitted to the director's phone. The department hired a chef, Chef Jeff who will be working with the middle school and high school menus to improve options and to encourage additional participation in the program. He has been surveying students to give them a voice on the food that is served. It was noted that he is a dietitian and nutritionist.

Followed, by PBIS report and perception reviews presented by Amber Foster. Documents are available on the Ovid-Elsie PBIS website, this is an approach not a system where students and staff are rewarded for positive behavior. Attendance improved by 12%, and suspensions reduced by 38.6% during the 2023-24 school year. Areas that need growth are students treating each other with respect, recognition for good work, and preparing students for future work. The action plan includes, recognizing students and staff, expand PBIS Team for more representation, the district will incorporate character building/life skills, conflict resolution and problem solving in the curriculum. The program is also on the website.

Dr. Wayne Petrolje, superintendent, presented the monthly report. At the end of this calendar year there are three members whose terms expire Eric Jones, David Huff, and Michael Schiffer. Packets are available at the Clinton County Clerk's Office for interested candidates the deadline is July 23, 2024, 4 pm. Next, the superintendent is up for review and evaluation, Tuesday, August 6, 6-9 p training for board members at the CCRESA. Next, he covered the conflict-of-interest policy of the district as it applies to members of the board of education. If a conflict exists the individual must disclose and must recuse themselves and abstain from some votes and issues.

Under the topic of old business, the NEOLA policies were presented for the second reading of 13 policies, one is a new policy. Officials took action to approve the 13 policies as presented.

Under the topic of new business individual and small group contracts were presented for review and approval. It should be noted that two failed to be approved and will be addressed further at the July meeting. A one year contract, 2024-25, was approved for Cody Staley Director of Building and Grounds, beginning July 1, 2024; a three year contract for Shawn Pardee as Director of Food Service was also approved. The one year 2024-25 for Chris Winter Athletic Director and additional human resources responsibilities the job description would be developed thorough out the year, effective July 1 approval failed due to the addition of HR position and the lack of clarity.

Melissa Jones, school nurse, the contract was extended; Morgan Alexander elementary social worker was extended a three-year contract noting that funding is provided by grant funding; Amber Foster, emotional and mental health coach, the contract was extended, as well.

New employees: Halley Lindloff high school mathematics teacher; Shane Tyler building engineer at the high school effective July 1, and Paul Kebler custodian at the middle school effective July 12; Sonya Seidel high school custodian; Jim Borton part-time custodian at the high school effective July 1.

Office assistances made up of three staff members the proposed contract included \$13 per hour and a single health plan, if not covered by another health plan. The assistants work 5-7 hours per day, 180 days per school year this contract will be revisited in July. Discussion focused on offering healthcare to this group of part time employees and no other units.

Officials addressed the revised budget of the 2023-24 general fund operating budget. The committed loan of approximately \$900,000 for the football field improvements was added to the budget, also succession cost of turf in 8-9 years. Ending the year in the black of \$60,000 plus. Next, the 2024-2025 general operating budget was presented and approved, negative deficit of \$28,000, a very close to balanced budget. Eric Jones, thanked the budget committee for a job well done.

Revised and proposed food service budgets were approved. Revised food service operating budget 2023-24, noting food service is in spend down mode. The projected 2024-25 food service operating budget, \$900,000 expenditures which exceeds revenue, still in a spend down mode.

Social

Whether you wrapped us in a hug, sent a card, attended the Celebration of Life, donated to the Gift of Life Michigan or in any way showed your support in the time when we needed it most, We Thank You

The Family of Kurt Coon



Ovid Historical Society Meeting

submitted by Roger Matthies

The July meeting of the Ovid Historical Society will be on Tuesday, July 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mary Myers Museum.

Please join us for this enjoyable evening as we plan events for this year.

The museum is at 131 East Williams Street in Ovid.

PUBLIC NOTICE SCIOTA TOWNSHIP ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING

Notice is hereby given that Sciota Township will hold a public Election Commission Meeting to be used in the August 6, 2024, election on:

MONDAY, JULY 8, 2024
AT 6:50 P.M.
AT THE
SCIOTA TOWNSHIP HALL
3990 Leland Rd.
Laingsburg, MI 49948

This test is being conducted as required by Michigan law (MCL 168.798) to demonstrate to the public that the computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law.

Jamie Parker-Wing
Sciota Township Clerk
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Library News

Ovid Public Library News

Our summer reading program is nearing the halfway point. We've had over 300 people sign up with lots and lots of participation at our many programs. Kids and adults have enjoyed stories, crafts, bingo, race cars, movies, science alive, bubbles, chalk and games. There's still lots more fun ahead. Be sure to check our facebook page or come to the library for information on upcoming events.

While we are busy with the summer reading program, we have still taken the time to get some new books. Some of our new titles are Eruption by Michael Crichton and James Patterson, Swan Song by Elin Hilderbrand, Husbands and Lovers by Beatriz Williams, Resurrection by Danielle Steel, Our Little Secret by Lisa Jackson as well as lots of others. Come on in and find a good book to read this summer!

Another good activity to do when it's too hot to go outside is a jigsaw puzzle. We have a puzzle exchange at the library. You can bring puzzles here that you are finished with and exchange them for one at the library. We have lots to choose from!

On Tuesdays the crafters are here at 1:00. The back room tables are open for our crafting patrons to spread out and work. It's always more fun to craft with others so come on in and join them.

Next week there will be no summer reading program activities due to the July 4th holiday. The Ovid Public Library will be closed July 4 through July 7 and will reopen on Monday, July 8.

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Still Time to Enter Elsie Dairy Festival Super Parade

submitted by Michelle Salander

There's still time to enter the Elsie Dairy Festival Super Parade. Deadline is July 8th, 2024. If interested please contact Michelle Salander at 989-251-9910. Plus new this year, there will be a "Quite Zone" for those who are sound and/or light sensitive. It's on S. Knowlton st. between W. Main st. & W. Maple st. and on W. Maple st. to Church st. Parade starts at 11am on Saturday July 13th, 2024.

Come out and enjoy the Super Parade!!!

Ashley High School Reunion

submitted by Karen Follett

The 72nd All-Class gathering will be held Sunday, July 14, from 12 Noon- 3pm at Ashley's Community Center in Ashley.

Join us for a potluck meal, reminiscing, & reacquainting. Pass the word on to other alumnus.

Car Wash for Girls Troop

submitted by Melissa Holmquist

American Heritage Girls Troop MI1228 and Trail Life Troop MI2717 invite you to a car wash on Saturday, July 6th from 1-4 p.m. at Grove Bible Church. Zavelynn's Petite Coffee House and Bakery will be there too. This is a great opportunity to give back in support of faith based scouting organizations for the youth of our community. Both troops are growing rapidly. Stop on by and see us!

The Armory Acquired by Detroit-based Real Estate Holding Company

submitted by Ruthann Liagre

The Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce (SRCC) is excited to announce the successful sale of The Armory to a Detroit-based real estate holding company. This pivotal acquisition marks a significant milestone for the local real estate market and the Chamber, enhancing SRCC's ability to improve its financial position and better serve its members.

Continuity and Commitment

Despite the change in ownership, SRCC will remain in The Armory as a tenant and continue scheduling conference rooms, ensuring a seamless transition for all involved. We are also pleased to announce that all current tenants have committed to new leases, guaranteeing their continued presence at The Armory for the next three to five years. This commitment underscores the strong tenant relationships and highlights The Armory's appeal as a premier location for businesses.

Future Prospects

The new ownership is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of the property, aiming to provide a stable and thriving environment for all tenants. This transition is anticipated to bring positive growth and development to the area, fostering a dynamic business community.

Transaction Details

The transaction was expertly handled by the Owosso-based real estate firm, Woodworth Commercial. For more information about the acquisition, please contact Woodworth Commercial at 989-723-3711.

Contact Information

Woodworth Commercial Phone: 989-723-3711

Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce Phone: 989.723.5149

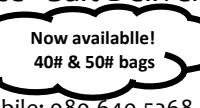
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“Full Cord” Bluegrass at its Finest Comes to St. Johns July 3rd

submitted by Bill Tennant

Wednesday evening, July 3rd - St Johns City Park! That's all you really need to know as one of the best bluegrass bands in the country will be in town that night! The "Full Cord" concert will begin at 7:00 in the William E. Tennant Performance Shell.

“Full Cord” has made it into the top tier of bluegrass groups in the United States after winning two major awards – first the prestigious 2022 Telluride Bluegrass Band Competition in Colorado, and they followed that up with another much-coveted honor when the international Bluegrass Music Association named “Full Cord” it’s “Momentum Award Band of the Year!” This Michigan based group have recently performed locally at the Ten Pound Fiddle and the Charlotte Bluegrass Festival. They are currently performing concerts throughout the United States. The band’s debut album on Nashville’s Dark Shadow recording was released in November 2023 and has maintained charting positions through the Spring of 2024.



Full Cord Bluegrass Band

"When I look back at last year's amazing lineup, there was one new group that really stood out to both me and my committee," said Bill Tennant, committee chair. "Full Cord, the incredible award-winning bluegrass group, were actually better than advertised. The musicians are all high-quality performers - and yet, the way that they were able to perform as a group, feeding off each other, was at a totally different level - highly professional."

If Bluegrass is your thing - or even if it isn't... you owe it to yourself to make your way up to St. Johns to hear these amazing musicians; Eric Langejans guitar/vocals; Todd Kirchner bassist; Grant Flick fiddle; Brian Oberlin mandolin /vocals become one – an incredible band called “Full Cord.”

Bring a chair or blanket – visit the Lion's Club Food Trailer - the concert takes place rain or shine. The concert is free, but donations are greatly appreciated and needed to support the series each year.

So, set your GPS to 801 W Park St, and enjoy an evening of music you won't soon forget! The CCAC receives funding from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Concert in the Park series is co-sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns. New this year is a third sponsor for each concert as the Shell Committee is starting a fund-raiser for a much-needed addition to the back of the Shell for performers to use and for additional storage. The St. Johns Rotary Club has donated to the building fund this summer and are the sponsors of this amazing concert.



Full Cord Bluegrass Band

Ovid-Elsie...continued from front

Ovid-Elsie Budget projection appropriations were brought to the board for review and approved. This is internal accounts, currently the district has 75 accounts involving student services, debt services, trust and agency funds and new capital project fund. A revised budget 2023-24 was presented for each and a proposed budget for 2024-25. This is a new report, officials will be updated on a regular basis on these accounts.

Additional compensation recommendation one time \$125 paid through payroll for those employees who received a revised W2 for the 2021-22 school year. Through roll call vote the recommendation passed.

The 2024-25 calendars were approved the k-12 and the Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School calendar. The first day for staff is August 19, and first day for students August 21, 2024. Calendars will be posted on the district website.

New hires and contracts were approved as were the resignations of Joe Longstreet special education teacher at the middle school; Kevin Somers retiring Operations Manager and Program Director for WOES.

Four master agreements – Food Service, three-year agreement, salary three steps and longevity; Transportation three-year agreement, bus drivers, language changes, salary regular rates, field trip rates, athletic trips and washing and cleaning hourly rates; and Administrative Assistants, language changes, salary seven steps over a twenty-year period and longevity. Custodial Maintenance four-year agreement, language updates salary schedule remains the same 2% minimum-3% maximum increases yearly.

same 2% minimum/3% maximum increase yearly.

Monthly action was taken to approve the consent agenda excluding expenditures and financial reports included: approval of the minutes of the May 20, 2024 regular meeting and the June 10, 2024 finances committee meeting. In addition, approval of teachers recommended for continued probationary status; the annual MHSAA membership resolution and approval of the FFA annual field trip requests.

Public Comment, Dwight Nash thanked the board and Ovid-Elsie Schools for their support after the untimely death of Gwen Nash, a former OE staff member.

Closed session negotiations.



Life can be rough.

Either we or someone we know of could very well be dealing with a tough issue at this very moment. You or someone else is struggling and in a real bind.

During such times it is good to pray to God for help. To read His Word, the Bible, for comfort and guidance.

But there is usually a waiting time. We have to wait for God to answer our prayers. And during this time, we may wonder if God is listening to us. We may wonder if He really cares about our situation or the situation that our friend or loved one is in.

If so, be encouraged, for God does care and He is working even when we can't see it.

David writes in Psalm 26:3, "I have always been mindful of your unfailing love and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness."

Psalm 33:4 says, "For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does."

Whether it's an issue of health, work, finances, job security, relations with one's spouse or someone else, bring it to the Lord today. Bring it to the Lord another time today, as often as you feel led to do so.

As Jesus says, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

- Matthew 7:6-8

On another occasion, "...Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. 2 He said: 'In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. 3 And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

4 "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out. 6 "And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

- Luke 18:1-8

**Religious Thoughts**

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

Editorial**Clarification on Recent Campaign Advertisements in the Media***Letter to the Editor:*

Recent advertisements in the media have portrayed Donald Trump as the person responsible for the overturning of Roe v. Wade as a result of his appointments to the Supreme Court.

As a result of that action, every state now has the ability to make their own decision regarding this important issue.

In addition to bringing local control back to the states, other accomplishments of the Trump presidency include bringing balance, autonomy, and common sense back to the U.S. foreign policy. He also elevated immigration to national attention. His immigration policy kept Americans far safer than where we are today. His foreign policy kept us out of foreign wars.

Lastly, please consider where America is economically today as compared to four years ago under President Trump. One only has to compare your grocery budget today versus 4 years ago under Trump's presidency. The Trump administration achieved a record-breaking economic comeback, with the unemployment rate reaching 3.5%, the lowest in a half-century. The economy added new jobs. Middle-class family income increased and incomes rose in every single metro area in the United States for the first time in nearly three decades.

Respectfully Submitted,
 David J. Smith, Jody M. Smith, Essex Township
 Theresa Owen, Greenbush Township
 Gail Wadell, Elsie
 Karen Andrews, Olive Township

Re-Elect Val Vail-Shirey as District 1 Clinton County Commissioner*Letter to the Editor*

If you live in the Townships of Duplain, Greenbush, Ovid or Victor, then please consider re-electing Val Vail-Shirey as our Clinton County Commissioner. In the past two years of her Commissioner Tenure, Val has been an integral part of our Clinton County Planning Commission as the Board liaison. During those two years, I have seen her work tirelessly on the Rural Townships' behalf. Val comes from a farming heritage which allows her to understand the specific concerns of rural and farm residents. Through Val's leadership, the county's outdated ordinances were updated in the crucial areas of industrial scale wind and solar. These outdated ordinances were significantly improved with the addition of protections for the landowners who are not participating in wind and solar leases, while still preserving property rights for those entering into such leases. Large, utility scale battery storage is currently being addressed, again with Val's leadership to ensure the protection of the public and our fire-fighting personnel. Please vote for Val Vail-Shirey to ensure the needs of our rural communities are listened to and acted upon.

Sincerely,
 Theresa Owen
 Greenbush Township

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6:00 - 9:00 pm

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**The Meridian Weekly Welcomes Letters to the Editor**

Letters must be 250 words or less.

**Letters must have your name, town it is from and phone number
 (phone number will not be published).**

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

Update on City of Ovid Project

Letter to Editor

Street paving for those streets where water lines were replaced will start on Tuesday July 9th. Those streets are Main St. from M-21 to Second St. Elm St., and Clinton, Front, Williams, and Pearl, from Main St. to East St. Each street will have the remaining asphalt removed and the base prepared for the new asphalt to be laid down. The entire width of the street will be new asphalt.

Main St Street will have half the street done at a time. This will keep Main St. open while the paving is done on the other side. The repaving and right of way restoration should take about two weeks with the completed streets open as soon as their work is completed.

This is part of replacing 25,500 feet of water mains, originally installed in 1954. Work still to be done is replacing the ancient water mains on west Elm St. and west Clinton, west Front, west Williams, west First, West St, and Fitch St.

To date 120 galvanized water lines from the sidewalk to the home were replaced with new water lines at no cost to the homeowner as part of the project.

Seventy five percent (75%) of the projects cost is a grant from the State with twenty five percent from the water system revenue. The project is scheduled to be completed by August of 2025.

William Lasher, Mayor

Opposed to Recent Article

Letter to the Editor:

In a recent issue of the Meridian Weekly (June 23, 2024) there was an article about recent election legislation that passed the Michigan House. The article was "submitted by Denny Schwarze." The headline, "Rep. BeGole: Recount Reforms Pushed by Democrats will Weaken our Election Laws", might well have been written by the author, who as it happens, works for the Republicans in the House of Representatives. It gives the impression that it is written by an independent journalist. It is not.

This is a tactic that has become normalized in sending press releases to small independent newspapers like the Meridian Weekly, where the small staff does not have the resources to verify backgrounds and interests of the authors. If Sen. Sam Singh, a Democrat, was to use a similar approach, wouldn't readers want to know that the John Doe who "submitted" it worked for Singh?

Back to the issue at hand, election reforms dealing with recounts. The House Fiscal Agency itself reported its analysis of the bill, which the author of the article chose to ignore:

"In 2016, Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein requested a recount of ballots in Michigan, even though she received approximately 1.07% of the vote in the state.

Additionally, two petitions were filed in 2022 requesting state-level recounts of Proposal 2 and

Proposal 3 due to alleged voter fraud. Neither petition requested a recount of enough votes to impact the results, and the cost of conducting the recount was reportedly much higher than the collected deposit. The recount of Proposal 2, which was originally approved by over 860,000 votes, resulted in a net change of six "No" votes, and the recount of Proposal 3, which was originally approved by over 580,000 votes, resulted in a net change of 111 "Yes" votes.

Although many feel that these recounts were frivolous, they were required to be conducted because the petitions were filed legally. As a result, it has been suggested that the Michigan

Election Law be amended to discourage similar requests and to clarify recount procedures."

In other words, the legislation addresses frivolous and costly recounts that allege fraud without any evidence OR where the vote isn't even close enough to produce a different result. Rep. BeGole and Mr. Schwarze are on the bandwagon of suggesting any defeat of a candidate of their choosing must be due to fraud. If they can convince enough people to believe that our election system is easily manipulated by repeating these unproven claims of fraud, then our democracy, as fragile as it is, is indeed in deep trouble. Be skeptical of what you read.

Terry Link
Laingsburg



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Half of the year is shot... I still have much that I would like to accomplish. Simple things like get and keep a weed free garden. Remove the aggressive interlopers out of my flowers. Weed wack like I were crazier than normal. Every time that I mow the lawn I notice what yet needs to be done. It does make for an interesting view of both my expectations and reality. I just finished mowing the lawn after picking up small limbs that had been blown off from my trees. I believe that I only have sixteen in the yard of which half are catalpa trees. One of which is not in sync with the rest of them. It doesn't get around to blossoming until a good two weeks after the others are finished. I think that it either has control issues or just likes to be a diva.

I have managed to make six batches of strawberry freezer jam this week. I was amazed because I even found space in my freezer for them. Of course this makes me want to? More like need to defrost the small freezer so that I can bring more in and save me a trip to the shed. I remember when a trip to the shed meant that I was going to get my butt whupped. Probably for fighting with my oldest brother. I know that this is hard to believe because I was known for being a sweet kind child. Not so much with my brother.

My arms look rather tacky tonight. I was mowing around the hedge of bushes on the west end of the lawn. The shrubs weren't very cooperative. So I believe that they need to be cut back. I've also noted that I need to trim back the lower branches of some trees. I don't enjoy being swatted by low hanging branches. I honestly thought that I had alleviated that problem. I was wrong. I missed a few and they did smack me as I drove under them if I didn't duck down quickly. Not as quick as I used to be or I was distracted.

Last Saturday I visited Therese in Laingsburg after I was finished at MG's Perx & Pastries. She had given me a room divider and an unusual frame. I was amazed that the room divider was so darn heavy. We managed to load it and the frame into the back of my pickup. Please note, I said managed. It was not that easy. After a good chatty visit I headed back home. I pulled up to the front steps of the deck. Then I did the smart thing and called my granddaughter Noah to help me carry it into the house. It was her day off and she sweetly acquiesced my request. What a gem!!! I did send home a few cookies with her, I truly appreciated her assistance. Plus we got it done before the rain started.

I hope that you are all looking forward to the firework displays that will be lighting up the sky on the Fourth of July. I also hope that you acknowledge those who have kept us safe through the years. May God bless them daily. If any of you folks are driving about, why don't you stop in Elsie and have a good look at the memorial site that is filled with amazing statues of our military folks. No they are not in parade gear.

I have spent quite a bit of time visiting with friends this week. I just tried to touch base with them whenever I was near their homes. I have been gabby with Karen several times this week. We were trying to figure out why I was being such a 'grumpy Gus'. I was either feeling as if whatever I did was never good enough for others or that others expected be to bend over backwards to please them. There are days when I don't wish to meet other people's expectations. Finally had the MRI and believe it or not it shows that I'm not being a whine tail. There is a tear to be addressed but I'm not to call the surgeon's office before Monday because the referral may not have reached his office. I've been told to see him when he makes his visit to St Johns Memorial. IT is a once a month thing... I plan on making an appointment to his Lansing office, that way I may be able to have it taken care of before September. Enjoy the Fourth of July, be thankful and may God bless you. Laugh and enjoy life.

Crystal Mitchell©2024



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Michigan Cherries

Quite the coincidence that the same week Michigan cherries are coming into season a secret cache of preserved cherries and other fruits are discovered at Mt. Vernon. Stored in what appears to be "hooch" jars they could be some of the famous cherry bounce Martha made for George and his journeys. Hopefully this discovery, along with the examination of the fruit and pits, will show more about the cherry trees cultivated at Mt. Vernon over 250 years ago.

Unfortunately, it is very unlikely that anything could be propagated from the pits but efforts will probably be made.

The first tart cherry trees in Michigan were planted in 1852, followed by the first commercial orchard in 1893, and now Michigan ranks #1 in the country for tart cherry production. Over 75% of the nation's tart cherry crop is produced in Michigan. When sweet and tart cherry production figures are combined Michigan ranks #4 in overall production. While the Michigan sweet cherry production numbers are lower, it is hard to argue that any other sweet cherry tastes better.

When one starts eating them it is nearly impossible to stop and who doesn't like sucking the pits clean and then going for spitting distance. Other than served fresh, sweet cherries are also great for easily cooking down for dessert and ice cream toppings or sauces for meat entrees like pheasant breasts and venison steaks. On the other hand, tarts are best served in pies, cobblers, along with other baked goods, not to mention health healing products.

Where to find these little Michigan treasures? Sweet cherries are usually pretty easy to find every summer from late June/early July until about mid August. They are all picked by hand and store very well which allows many weeks of sales at roadside stands and farmers markets. This year expect to pay around \$8- \$9/quart... tarts are a whole different story. Most tarts are either the variety Montmorency or Balaton that are harvested by a shaker machine and immediately cooled in cold water at the orchard. From there they are then shipped in large square metal tanks stacked on flatbed trucks to the processor. Some orchards handpick or offer u-pick options but either way they need to be kept in cool water until they are placed in refrigeration. If you try sourcing from a farmers market don't be surprised if you have to order a week in advance especially if you are looking for a large quantity. Average price for a quart of tarts is usually a dollar or two below the sweet cherry price. When it comes to pitting tart cherries, sometimes a sharp paring knife and your fingers will work better than a cherry pitter!

-WS

Editorial



Editorials are welcome.

250 words or less.

Email to:

news@meridianweekly.com

Must include name.

CITY OF OVID PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST NOTICE For The August 6, 2024 Primary

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the August Primary Election has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Chamber located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the programs and the Election Equipment being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the clerk's office or online at the Michigan Voter Information Center at <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us>

Susan Tomasek Swan, Clerk
City of Ovid
114 E. Front St., Ovid, MI
989-834-5550

Can Pancakes Be Recycled?

submitted by Ellen Link

Well, maybe not recycled exactly, but the uneaten ones can be composted. Huh?

Every year, on the last Saturday of July, the Laingsburg Business & Community Association (LBCA) hosts the Pancake Breakfast in downtown Laingsburg. The event includes an antique car show, crafts, other fun activities, and the inevitable bags of trash produced by such events. But this year things will be a little different. The Greater Laingsburg Recyclers got the LBCA's permission—and blessing—to make this a "ZERO-WASTE event," with throw-away utensils, plates and cups being replaced by certified compostable items. These will be combined with leftover food items and all of it will be hauled away by My Green Michigan (an offshoot of Hammond Farms) to be turned into the rich compost used by many of us to enrich our gardens, thereby diverting from the landfill 90 percent or more of the waste!

This event will require the efforts of quite a few volunteers, especially because we are also open for recycling that Saturday. If you're interested in helping us change the waste paradigm, let us know—we'd love to have you join us. Folks can also help by bringing their reusable beverage containers for water, coffee, etc. Help us make this a day to celebrate—and repeat year after year. And we can always use more volunteers for regular collections; the more help we have, the more we can accomplish.

In the meantime, the GLR's recycling facility will be open in July as usual on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (July 2 and 16), 4-6 p.m., and 2nd and 4th Saturdays (July 13 and 27), 9 a.m.-1 p.m. See below for info on how to view the long list of materials we accept and how to sort them. Some things are easy, but plastics not so much. Take PET #1's: we accept transparent clear, green and blue bottle and jar types but NOT clamshells (e.g., berry and salad containers) and no #1's that are opaque or shiny. Confusing, right? We don't make the rules, we follow them. If you're new to this, start with one or two items and work your way up, and don't expect to get everything right the first time, particularly because the rules keep changing on us!

Another item worthy of note: Do not bring us or anyone else your old cell phone until you have "wiped" it clean to ensure your safety. Remove the SIM card if it has one (you may be able to reuse it on another phone) along with any SD cards. Do a factory reset; go into settings and sign out of all accounts and erase all personal information. Full instructions (<https://nordvpn.com/blog/how-to-wipe-phone/>) can be found online. The same would be true for other electronic items containing personal information.

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



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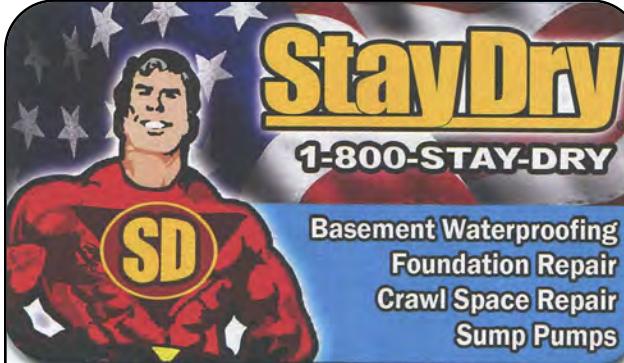
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Sports

Wolfpack's Woodruff, with LHS Record 54 Points, Makes TV-6 Awards Contingent

LANSING -- Scoring a school-record 54 points in a high school basketball game will get you noticed.

That's exactly what happened to recently-graduated Laingsburg High School alum Zander Woodruff, when it was announced he was the recipient of the WLNS TV-6 Mid-Michigan area Sports High School Award.

The 6 Sports High School Awards were announced on June 20 on a 7 pm broadcast. The event livestreamed on WLNS.COM as the final Team of the Year winner was announced, along with winners in the following categories: Female MVP, Male MVP, Team of the Year, Play of the Year, Coach of the Year, Moment of the Year, Inspiration of the Year, Record Breaking Performance and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Coach Tim Beebe's Wolfpack boys basketball team was unstoppable during the regular season -- their second-straight undefeated regular season -- but in a game at Freeland the Wolfpack proved themselves against one of the state's best. In the process, senior standout Woodruff broke a school record with an incredible single-game performance.

In one of many season highlights, the Wolfpack, ranked No. 1 in Div. 3, traveled to Freeland to play the Falcons, who came in to play ranked No. 6 in Div. 2. Woodruff was dialed in from start to finish, breaking the school record for points in a game with an astounding 54.

Despite Woodruff's scoring surge, Laingsburg trailed by nine points in the fourth quarter. Head coach Tim Beebe said they changed up their defense and it paid off immediately. Laingsburg closed the game on a 16-0 run to win 72-65.

"That record means a lot," said Woodruff. "Growing up, I've always dreamed of breaking that record, you know? Being the leading scorer here at Laingsburg, you know that means everything to me. As far as personal goals, that's definitely one thing I wanted to set as a freshman. I wasn't on the team my freshman year but I still was able to get it done the last three years."

"That's a really important record," added coach Beebe. "I kept saying the single-game record is just one of those things that if it happens, it happens, but you can't focus on that. But the career scoring record is important because it shows his body of work throughout his three years on varsity, just how much time he's put in and how much he's progressed each year."

In addition, in a 85-43 win over Lansing Christian in early February, Wolfpack scored 43 points that helped the Wolfpack improve to 18-0 at the time. That performance gave him the school record for most career points. The previous record was held by Brandon Woodworth, who scored 1,505 career points from 1994-1997.

Woodruff has announced his commitment to play for Lansing Community College this fall. "First I would like to thank God for giving me the opportunity to play the game I love," he explains. "Next I would like thank my family for pushing me to be a better person every day."

"Finally thank you to all the coaches that have took their time recruiting me and giving me the opportunity to play at the next level. I am very excited to see what the future holds."



Zander Woodruff and family at award ceremony



would like to thank God for giving me the opportunity to play the game I love," he explains. "Next I would like thank my family for pushing me to be a better person every day."

"Finally thank you to all the coaches that have took their time recruiting me and giving me the opportunity to play at the next level. I am very excited to see what the future holds."

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Sports

Wolfpack Soccer Girls Roll out 2024 Post-Season Awards



Laingsburg's 2024 CMAC soccer champions with veteran coach Natalie Elkins, holding the hardware. Team includes: Erin Pohlod, Paige Erickson, Emilee Mertens, Desire Knoblauch, Payge Woodworth, Addison Elkins, Liva Skutane, Lillian Platte, Kendall Hoard, Sydney Curtis, Callie Clark, Hayden Wilson, Ivy Collier, Addison Rusz, Sarah Kibzey, Madison Phillips (manager), Samantha Gutzman, Mariah McLean, Elena Scafetta, Samantha Knoblauch, Joy Antcliff. Head coach: Natalie Elkins. Asst. coaches: Jeremie Wilson, Geoff Heyd, Aaron Willoughby, Luke Snyder, Dylan Hullibarger, Shawn Fulton.

LAINGSBURG -- A stellar season that culminated with 14 wins in 20 soccer games -- including a trip to the District Finals -- was rewarded for Laingsburg's girls varsity team recently.

Awards Night at LHS included eight players receiving individual honors.

First Team All-CMAC honors for the conference champs went to 1st team all conference goalkeeper Joy Antcliff, midfielder Addison Elkins, striker Desire Knoblauch, wingback Callie Clark and defender Samantha Gutzman.

Antcliff, a multi-year veteran in goal for the Lady Wolves, led the team to a 14-5-1 overall record.

Elkins was named the team's MVP after anchoring the squad as the Wolves' "quarterback." The multi-year letterwinner and a stellar defender, Elkins scored 10 goals and added 9 assists for 29 total points.

Knoblauch is the LHS record holder for goals scored. She again led the red-and-white with 54 points, including 24 goals and 6 goal-helpers.

Clark was another of the Wolfpack's excellent versatile players, excelling on offense and defense. Callie totaled 28 points on 11 goals and 6 assists.

Gutzman, a defensive specialist, still managed 5 goals and 2 assists to total 12 points on the campaign.

Second Team All-CMAC plaudits went to Payge Woodworth (the team's runnerup in points scored with 44, 18 goals and 8 assists) and Mariah Rue McLean, another of the team's stellar defenders.

Kendal Hoard was named to the All-CMAC honorable mention contingent, and was voted as the team's Most Improved Player, after notching a goal and three assists, good for 5 points on the season.

In addition, Elkins was All-Academic, District, Regional and HM all state. Antcliff hauled in All-District and All-Academic awards. Clark was All-District and took home the team Playmaker Award award. Gutzman was named All-District and the team Best Defender. Knoblauch was All-District and the team's Best Offense, and Woodworth earned All-District and the team's Freshman Impact Award.

Addison Rusz was honored with the Wolfpack Award for the best team spirit.



"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime.

~ Babe Ruth



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Tracie Minnard

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Laingsburg & Ovid Lions Clubs

2024 Golf Outing - 4 Person Scramble

Saturday, August 10

9:00 AM - Shotgun Start

Pine Hills Golf Course

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www.pinehillsmi.com

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Sports



The Ovid-Elsie Football Team was nominated for Team of The Year at the 2nd Annual WLNS Awards.

They were runners up to Mason Football.

Front (l-r) Tryce Tokar, Cole Workman, Jamison Custer. Back (l-r): Coach Travis Long, Joe Bancroft, Jake Bowen, Cohen Brown, Javen Belill, Clayton Fruchey.



Ty Randall
1st Team

All League, All District, All Region, All State



Dom Garcia
1st Team

All League, All District, All Region, Honorable Mention All State



Emillio Garcia
2nd Team

All League, All District



R.J. Garcia
2nd Team
All District



Jackson Audretsch
2nd Team All League
1st Team All District



Cam Ballard
Honorable Mention
All CMAC



Elliott Wilsey
Honorable Mention
All CMAC

Victor Township Clinton County, Michigan 6843 E. Alward Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848 Proposed Board Minutes from, June 11, 2024

The regular board meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Conklin at 7:01 p.m. and the pledge to the flag was given.

Attendance: Roll call: Conklin, Prange, Willoughby, Townsend, Fickes. Absent: None 15 citizens in attendance.

Public Comment:

- Suzanne Nelson gave information she had gathered from materials received regarding Ambulance Runs in Victor Township

- Phil Hanses, Clinton County Drain Commissioner was present. The Drain Commissioner and staff are responsible for the construction, operation, and maintenance of over 625 established county drains in Clinton County.

- Kendel Darragh gave an update on the renovation project of the Briggs Public Library located in St. Johns

- Rodney Palmer, Mercy Ambulance director, was present to answer any questions regarding Ambulance Service in the township.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Willoughby to approve the June 11, 2024 agenda with additions of Bath School Museum letter of recommendation and sale of fire truck.

Motion seconded by Prange. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Willoughby to approve the May 14, 2024 regular meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Willoughby to approve the June 4, 2024 special meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Prange to accept the June 4, 2024 Treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills and Payroll: Motion by Willoughby to disburse the May 2024 bills (Paid June 4, 2024). Motion seconded by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried.

Checks# 29099-29127 in the amount of \$26,069.63.

Motion by Willoughby to disburse May, 2024 payroll and related payroll expenses. (Paid June 4, 2024) Motion seconded by Townsend. All in favor. Motion carried.

Checks# 13074-13082 in the amount of \$9,780.96.

Planning Commission: There were questions regarding roadside mowing for the 2024 season. Supervisor Conklin will get back with the Planning Commission after he discusses the matter with the Road Commission.

The Planning Commission would like a sign identifying Stilson Cemetery to replace the one taken down with the old fence. VT office Administrator will try to find an estimate on a sign matching the one at Reed Cemetery.

The next Planning Commission Meeting will be June 25, 2024 (No July meeting due to Independence Day holiday)

LSW (Fire): Fickes attended the meeting. Victor Township is waiting on information from LSW on the new proposed contract. LSW will be asking for an increase in the Fire Protection Services.

Maintenance & Facilities:

Maintenance Report: Security cameras are being installed

Cemetery Report: The Cemetery mapping and verifying is ongoing.

Unfinished Business:

Emergency Services (Ambulance): There will be a Special Meeting to further discuss ambulance services in Victor Township on: July 9, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at the Township Hall, 6843 E. Alward Rd., Laingsburg, MI

SHPO: Motion by Willoughby to accept the proposal from Preservation Forward in the amount of \$2,850.00 to provide background investigations, research, documentation, and any other required information necessary to prepare Section 106 application and reports for the Land and Water Conservation Grant Project at the Victor Township Hall Park project. Motion seconded by Fickes. Roll call vote: Prange: yes, Townsend: yes, Conklin: yes, Willoughby: yes, Fickes: yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

Lake Victoria Fireworks Permit: Motion by Prange to approve the Lake Victoria Fireworks Permit of Jon Nash-ACE Pyro, LLC for July 5, 2024. Motion seconded by Willoughby. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bath School Museum Committee: Bruce Harte, Bath School Museum Committee member, was present to give the board information regarding the project to construct a new historical museum. The Bath Middle School is currently used to show the artifacts and memorabilia from the May 18, 1927 Bath School bombing tragedy. Motion by Willoughby to write a letter of recommendation supporting the construction of a new historical museum.

Motion seconded by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sale of 1995 Ford Utility Fire Truck: Motion by Willoughby to accept the purchase offer of \$8,500.00 for the 1995 Ford/E-One Light Rescue Truck to T-Line EV LLC. Motion seconded by Fickes. Roll call vote: Fickes: yes, Townsend: yes, Willoughby: yes, Prange: yes, Conklin: yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Other business:

Clinton County Planning and Zoning is in the process of reviewing Zoning Ordinances for potential amendments. One of the considerations is reducing the 10-acre minimum lot size for the A-2 Zoning District (General Agriculture). They are asking for the township's input prior to making any decisions or formal recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. Motion by Willoughby to leave the 10-acre minimum lot size for the A-2 Zoning District as currently stated in the Zoning Ordinance.

Motion seconded by Prange. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Conklin to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Seconded by Fickes. All in favor. Motion carried.

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING OF THE VICTOR TOWNSHIP ELECTION COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Victor Township Election Commission will meet July 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm. at the Victor Township Hall located at 6843 E. Alward Rd. Laingsburg, MI 48848. The purpose of this meeting is to appoint election inspectors, election chairpersons, and receiving board for the August 6, 2024 Primary Election.

Lianne Prange
Victor Township Clerk

Seven LHS Wolfpack Sackers Bring Home Post-Season Plaudits

LAINGSBURG -- The baseball Wolfpack's outstanding 2024 season ended recently with seven of coach Todd Randall's players earning a plethora of post-season awards.

The Wolves capped a 22-13 season in disappointing fashion, falling short of their fourth-straight championship with a 6-3 loss to Lansing Catholic Central.

The 2023 All-Area Player of the Year, Ty Randall, overcame Tommy John surgery in the off-season to come back with 1st team All League, All District, All Region and 1st Team All State for his 2024 campaign.

Randall owns school records over his 4-year career: batting average in a season (.518), hits in a season (59), hits in a career (189), RBI in a season (47) and RBI in a career (130).

The pitcher/shortstop also owns pitching records for wins in a season (11), wins in a career (22), strikeouts in a season (135) strikeouts in a career (296) and ERA in a season. All pitching records were broken in just three seasons on the mound.

Randall's senior season produced the new LHS batting average record, that included 59 hits, 43 RBI, 21 steals and 45 runs scored.

Junior outfielder/pitcher Dom Garcia was awarded 1st team All League, All District, All Region and honorable mention All-State honors in MHSAA Division 3. Garcia hit .387 with 48 hits, 11 doubles, 25 RBI, 21 steals and a team-leading 48 runs scored.

His brother, junior Emillio Garcia, a 1st baseman/pitcher, was named 2nd team All League and All District. Mio batted .345 with 38 hits, 8 doubles, 20 RBI, 20 stolen bases and 45 runs scored on the 2024 campaign.

Third sacker R.J. Garcia was named to the All District team, after batting .404 with 42 hits, four doubles, 28 RBI and 23 runs scored over the course of the '24 season.

Senior catcher Jackson Audretsch earned 2nd team All League and 1st Team All District plaudits. Jack batted .316 with 30 hits, 6 doubles, 20 RBI and 5 runs plated.

Seniors Cam Ballard, an infielder pitcher and Elliott Wilsey, an outfielder, were named to the honorable mention All-CMAC team for the Wolfpack.



Open Microphone Events, Music in the Park Series Hosted in Downtown Laingsburg

LAINGSBURG -- The Laingsburg Business and Community Association (LBCA) will be hosting its popular, annual Music In The Park series at the McClintock Park Pavilion / Amphitheater every Thursday from 6-9 p.m. through August 15.

Bring your blankets and chairs, and come on out to McClintock Park to enjoy Music in the Park. This free event is hosted by the LBCA and weekly event sponsors.

"We've got some great bands for the 2024 season, along with some delicious food trucks that makes it fun for the whole family," explains LBCA officer Ed Tyler.

The weekly lineup includes:

JULY 11: Atomic Boogaloo, sponsored by Watkins Funeral Home.

JULY 18: Whiskey Diski and The Barrel Boys, sponsored by the Laingsburg Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

JULY 25: Sudden Impact, sponsored by Rathbun Public Relations and Breakaway Bar & Grill.

AUGUST 1: Electric Flower Co., sponsored by Wirostek Lighting and Pine Hills Golf Course.

AUGUST 8: Mixed Flavors, sponsored by Local Roots.

AUGUST 15: Atomic Annie, sponsored by Laingsburg Family Dental.

Free schedule cards with the music lineup and other Laingsburg events are readily available at several Laingsburg businesses.

Also this year, Twilligers Tavern will be hosting an 8-week open mic series one hour before music in the park starts. The following below are the dates that we will be having the open mic series

Thursday, July 11th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 18th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 25th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 1st from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 8th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 15th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

If you have a music talent that you would like to showcase please visit the LBCA website to register for the open mic series.

MDHHS Offers Tips to Stay Healthy During Poor Air Quality Days

submitted by Chelsea Wuth

LANSING, Mich. -- As the 2024 North American wildfire season continues and warmer weather increases the risk of higher ozone levels, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is providing Michigan residents steps to take to protect themselves from risks related to poor air quality.

The Air Quality Index (AQI), which can be found on the AirNow website, is a color-coded way for residents to see what the levels of some types of air pollution are in their area. Higher AQI values indicate there is a higher concentration of pollutants in the air and a need for Michiganders to take steps to protect their health.

Residents can also sign up for alerts through the EnviroFlash system. This subscriber system allows you to choose the area you would like to get alerts for, and it will send them directly to your email or through a text message.

Before a wildfire smoke event, MDHHS recommends you:

Familiarize yourself with your forced air HVAC system or your window air conditioning unit. If it has a fresh air intake or outdoor air damper, you will need to close it during a smoke event.

Ensure you have replacement air filters that are rated MERV-13 or higher.

Consider purchasing a portable air cleaner. If you do not have one, you can make a do-it-yourself air filter.

Help neighbors and family members make a plan for possible wildfire smoke.

If you have asthma or other respiratory illnesses, heart disease, diabetes or another health condition that may make you more sensitive to wildfire smoke, talk to your health care provider ahead of time to make a plan.

Children under the age of 18, pregnant people, outdoor workers and older people (age 60+) are also more at risk. Talk to your health care provider ahead of time to make a plan.

Check your local fire risk and read tips from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for preventing wildfires in Michigan.

During a poor air quality day, take action to protect your health based on the AQI Index. Some recommendations may include:

Reduce the time you are active outdoors.

Consider less intense activities that require less physical exertion.

If ozone levels are unhealthy, schedule outdoor activities for the morning or evening when ozone levels are usually lower.

In the event of wildfire smoke, avoid activities that create more fine particles indoors, including smoking cigarettes; using gas, propane or wood-burning stoves and furnaces; frying or broiling food; and burning candles or incense.

In the event of wildfire smoke, create a clean air room. If you can't stay cool at home, the electricity goes out or too much smoke is still getting in your home, it may be best to seek shelter elsewhere. Call Michigan 211 information on cooling centers.

For additional guidance on protecting your health during poor air quality visit the MDHHS Health and Wildfire webpage.

CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO HEARING TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

FILE NO: 24-31857AY

In the matter of
PATRICK DERMONT WILSON II
TO: PATRICK DERMONT WILSON
1347 E. TOWNSEND RD.
ST. JOHNS, MI 48879

TAKE NOTICE: On July 23, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., in the FAMILY DIVISION COURTROOM, 100 E. State St., St. Johns, MI 48879 before HON. LISA SULLIVAN, JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT/FAMILY DIVISION a hearing will be held on the PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. The law provides that you should be notified of this hearing. If you fail to appear at this hearing YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE TERMINATED.

If you choose to attend this hearing and you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Reninda Jones
16430 Park Lake Road, Lot #022
East Lansing, MI 48823

Leo F. Madarang P77360
230 Kent St.
Portland, MI 48875
(517) 647-7873
(06/30)

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Carol L. Witt Living Trust

Date of Execution: May 22, 2008

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, CAROL L. WITT, who lived at 3741 W. Pratt Rd., St. Johns, Michigan 48879

Died on May 20, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustees of the Carol L. Witt Living Trust within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Diane Miles
3893 Round Lake Rd.
DeWitt, MI 48820
(517) 420-3801

Wieber Pratl Law, PC
Alexa B. Pratl P83426
201 E. State Street
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989) 224-9449
(06/30)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary 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 A.M., on JULY 17, 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. 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. TO ALL PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. MORTGAGE SALE - A mortgage was granted by MONTGOMERY JOHNSON, a single man, Mortgagor(s), to PORTLAND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, 9077 CHARLOTTE HWY, PORTLAND, MI 48875, Mortgagee, dated OCTOBER 6, 2017, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Clinton County, and State of Michigan on OCTOBER 10, 2017, in INSTRUMENT NO. 5259160, which was assigned to NEIGHBORHOOD MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, LLC, 975 N. MAIN ST., SUITE D, FRANKENMUTH, MI 48734, by Corporation Assignment of Mortgage dated OCTOBER 6, 2017, and recorded on OCTOBER 13, 2017, in INSTRUMENT NO. 5259342, of Clinton County Records, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest the sum of ONE HUN-

DRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND NINE AND 68/100THS (\$118,009.68) DOLLARS including interest at (4.375%) percent per annum along with attorney fees and costs as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage or any part thereof; NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the date and time stated above, the undersigned will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, the premises described as follows: TOWNSHIP OF EAGLE, COUNTY OF CLINTON, STATE OF MICHIGAN, described as follows: THE WEST 1 / 2 OF LOT NOS 1,6 AND 7, BLOCK 15, VILLAGE OF EAGLE, CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 52 OF DEEDS, PAGE 453, CLINTON COUNTY RECORDS. MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 13723 W. GRAND RIVER HWY., EAGLE, MI 48822 The redemption period shall be SIX (6) MONTHS from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, 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 damage to the property during the redemption period.

KAREN L. ROWSE-OBERER
(P41893) ATTORNEY FOR MORTGAGEE 24525 HARPER AVENUE
ST. CLAIR SHORES, MI 48080
(586) 777-0770 Dated: 6-16-2024

(06-16)(07-14)

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE

FILE NO: 24-31881-NC

In the matter of
Faustina Aisha Arzu Heidemann
TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: Christina Heidemann has filed a petition for name change. A name change hearing will be held on July 22, 2024 at 9:30a.m. at 29th Circuit Court 4th floor to change the name of Faustina Aisha Arzu Heidemann to Faustina Anne Heidemann.

(06/30)

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of
DAVID MARCEL LAMANQUE,
TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent,
DAVID MARCEL LAMANQUE,
died on April 20, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Pauline Pearl Clafin, personal representative, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Pauline Pearl Clafin
458 Main St.
PO BOX 94
Coldbrook, NY 13324
(06/30)

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Weddle Estate Online Auction bid now through July 9. Shop tools, 5k watt generator, antiques, gun stocks, cast iron pans, cigar boxes, vintage signs, ammo, much more! To bid visit Bid.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com. Call 1-800-835-0495. CPM

Ballard Estate Online Auctions, not through July 10. Bid anywhere, anytime @ JohnPeckAuctions.com. John Deere tractor, tools, lawn/garden, more! Selling or need an auction? Call John Peck 989-345-4866. Offices Charlotte & Gladwin. CPM

Johanneburg Online Auction, July 18, 8-4pm. International tractor, tree equipment, boats, 1976 Olds Delta 88, anvil, power tools, household items, collectibles, more! CrydermanAuctions.com to view catalog, other auctions. Call 586-784-8890. CPM

HALL RENTALS

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ELSIE: Elsie American Legion Hall Rental. 220 S. Ovid, St., Elsie. Call for more information 989-494-6987. 1538 EOW

HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WANTED Local church office seeking friendly and skilled individual. Computer skills required. Office, book-keeping, and customer service experience highly preferred. Part-time. Send CV and letter of interest to elsieumc@gmail.com. Preference given to submissions by July 5th. 1739+2

LAND WANTED

WANTED: Farm Land wanted to rent for 2024 and beyond. Also farm land to purchase on land contract. Contact Don Cuthbert at (517) 881-1724 or email 1don.cuthbert@gmail.com. 1604tf

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VENDORS WANTED

VENDORS WANTED: For Saturday, September 7th one day Carriage Days event, 10am-6pm. Set up Friday night, Sept 6th at 6 pm or Saturday morning at 7am. Booth size 10x10, cost \$30 plus \$5.00 for electricity if needed. Applications available at the Meridian Weekly office or by emailing Liz at elizabethsnidere23@yahoo.com. 1736tf

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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 July 10, 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): Timothy W. Kocher, a married man and Victoria J.C. Kocher, his wife, who executes this mortgage for the sole purpose of waiving her Dower Rights

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Wells Fargo Bank, NA

Date of Mortgage: February 11, 2004

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 18, 2004

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$86,275.26

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Dewitt, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 10 and 11 of William G. Leland's Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 44 of Clinton County Records

Common street address (if any): 1151 Hannah Ave, Lansing, MI 48906-6818

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: June 9, 2024

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1532271
(06-09)(06-30)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. 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 July 10, 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): Erika Phan, Married Woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Cross Country Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee: Flagstar Bank, NA Date of Mortgage: June 24, 2022 Date of Mortgage Recording: July 6, 2022 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: \$328,567.93 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the City of East Lansing, Clinton County, Michigan, and are described as: Unit 275, Hawk Nest Condominium, City of East Lansing, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the Master Deed dated January 8, 2003, recorded January 10, 2003 in Instrument No. 5015889 and First Amendment to Master Deed recorded in Instrument No. 5025073 and Second Amendment to Master Deed recorded in Instrument No. 5061832 and Third amendment to Master Deed recorded in Instrument No. 5080152 and by Fourth Amendment to Master Deed recorded in instrument No. 5224518 and by Fifth Amendment to Master Deed recorded in Instrument No. 5226580, as amended, Clinton County Records and designated as Clinton County Condominium Plan No. 30, together with rights in General common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1978, as amended. Commonly Known as: 695 Phoebe Ln., East Lansing, MI 48823 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act 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 Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and 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. Dated: 06/14/2024 For More Information, please call: Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A. Attorneys for Servicer 255 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900 Orlando, Florida 32801 (855) 287-0240 Matter No. MI-005580-24

(06-09)(06-30)

(06-23)(07-14)

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**USDA Announces Availability
of \$25 Million to Help Expand
High-Speed Internet Access in
Rural Areas**

submitted by Alec Lloyd

EAST LANSING - U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan Brandon Fewins today announced \$25 million is now available through the Broadband Technical Assistance (BTA) Program to help local organizations, cooperatives and Tribes expand affordable, high-speed internet projects in rural communities.

"This funding is available on a nation-wide basis, and I urge qualified Michigan applicants to contact USDA," Fewins said. "This is an incredible opportunity to bring high-speed internet into more rural Michigan communities."

The BTA program provides funding to help communities and organizations receive or deliver broadband technical assistance and training that will expand high-speed internet into rural and Tribal communities. This includes providing funding for feasibility studies, network designs, hiring efforts, application development assistance and more.

Under the Technical Assistance Providers category, applicants must propose to deliver broadband technical assistance that will benefit rural communities. Up to \$15 million is available. The minimum award is \$100,000. The maximum is \$1 million.

Under the Technical Assistance Recipients category, applicants must be the recipients of the broadband technical assistance. Up to \$10 million is available. The minimum award is \$50,000. The maximum is \$500,000.

Applications must be submitted electronically using Grants.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on August 20, 2024.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways.

To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

To subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit the GovDelivery subscriber page.

**Jennifer Lightle, RN, Honored
with Daisy Award at Memorial
Healthcare**

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso - Memorial Healthcare is pleased to announce Jennifer Lightle, Registered Nurse, on 2-North as its second quarter recipient of the DAISY Award! Jennifer received this award based on the following nomination:

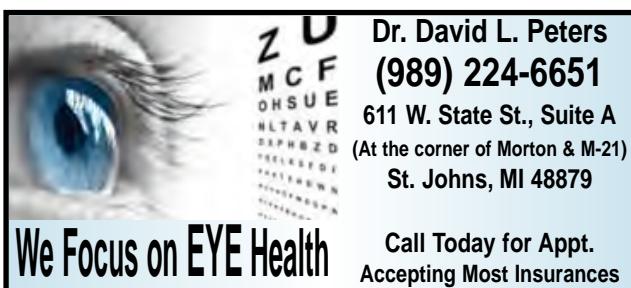
"Jennifer shows compassion and care for her patients. She takes the time to understand them and their needs. She remains calm in very stressful situations. Jennifer not only tends to her patients but also listens to the families to understand the dynamics outside the hospital setting. She is a hard worker with a big heart and cares for the patients and families as if they were her own, giving them the respect they deserve. Jennifer is the type of nurse who consoles her patients or families during difficult situations. I watched Jennifer remain calm during a time of passing for a patient who couldn't be held by her family. Jennifer held the hand of her dying patient, reassuring them until the end. The patient squeezed back, letting Jennifer know that she wasn't alone at the end. When the family arrived, Jennifer comforted and helped them understand, giving them reassurance and peace knowing that their loved one was comforted until the final moment."

Jennifer was presented with a certificate of recognition, a DAISY pin, cinnamon rolls, 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.

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.



Jennifer Lightle, RN



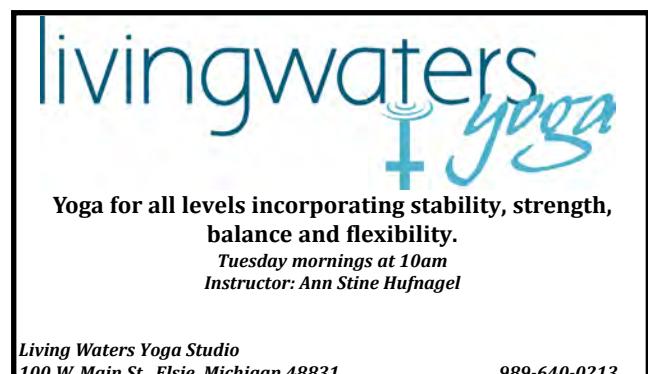
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(At the corner of Morton & M-21)
St. Johns, MI 48879

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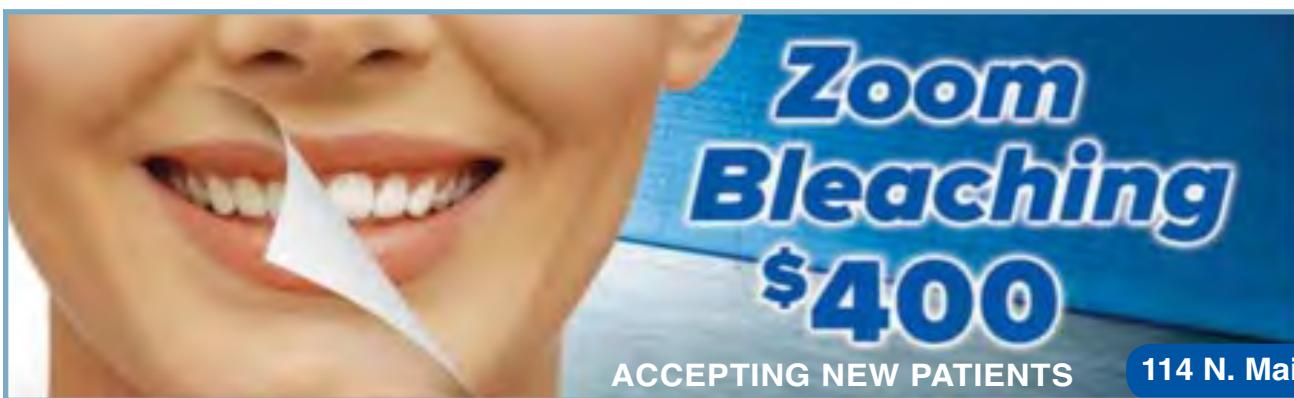
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