



Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners with members of Ovid VFW Post 8964.

Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Winners

submitted by Aaron McClung

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ovid Memorial Post 8964 held their annual Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen award banquet on November 26th, 2024.

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 27,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. The Patriot's Pen VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. The VOD is reserved for students in grade 9-12 and the PP is reserved for students in grade 6-8.

This year's Voice of Democracy placers are 1st place Braydin Gruesbeck, 2nd Place Ignacio Orta-Oski, 3rd Place Damion Misener. Honorable Mentions: Troy Haynie, Kyra Pupava, Victoria Dennis, Manuel Cedotal, Gavin Barrett, Allison Antes, Sean Silapatkul.

For the Patriot's Pen, 1st Place Lillian Miller, 2nd Place Drew Jullie.

The first-place winners will advance to the District Level to compete against other post winners within the district. That banquet will be held on January 11th in St. Louis, MI.

Mrs. Dana Blank was presented with the Teacher of the Year award to represent VFW Ovid Memorial Post 8964 as the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher. Mrs. Blank was an obvious choice to be a recipient of this award. Mrs. Blank's commitment to her students is just a small part in her selection for this award. Mrs. Blank has been a key part in supporting the VFW's Youth Scholarship programs helping promote patriotism and citizenship. Mrs. Blank also serves as a coordinator of school trips to Washington D.C. and promotes American History in some of her lesson plans. These are just a few reasons that Mrs. Blank is so deserving of this award. We wish Dana Blank great success and hope to see her selected through the state to go to the national level.



Dana Blank receiving Teacher of the Year Award from VFW Member Aaron McClung

Merry Christmas From the Meridian Weekly Family to Yours



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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, December 16, 2024. The highlight of the evening was recognizing the fall fund raising activities of the athletic teams and comments from staff and the public regarding the direction of the district and the board of education.

Kevin Nash, board member, opened the meeting with the following action. With regrets he moved that due to accusations of possible ethics violations two board members should be prohibited from voting and participating in the discussion on specific matters. The item was supported by Mary Thompson. He further commented that a review needs to be made regarding Eric Jones and Dr. David Huff, held at a special meeting the first week of January with Mr. Josh Miller temporarily as board chair. The action appeared to leave the board in a state of confusion. The motion failed with a three yes; three no, and one abstention.

After monthly action items were addressed in the consent agenda the floor was opened for communication from Ovid-Elsie personnel. Michelle Moore, athletic administrative assistant, commented that the fear of instability is having an impact on staff. Athletic directors come and go, it is important to retain and support good staff specifically for the current athletic director Chris Winter. She further commented that the board should approve the administrative contracts this evening.

Danas Blank, English teacher, first extended a thank-you to Eric Jones and Mike Schieffer for their service and to Dr. Petroelje. Blank indicated that it is time for change and we need you to mentor that change. The high school is not a toxic work environment, we have an amazing team of educators and para professionals. Worried about the possible loss of Chris Winters, athletic director and Dan Davenport, we are hemorrhaging and need these quality people. She has indicated that the negativity has got to stop, we need stability. She stated that, "Once a Marauder, always a Marauder."

Melissa Jones, district nurse, community member and parent, commented that the lack of kindness and how we treat one another needs to change, we can do better. "Choose kindness." We are the models that set the tone for the community. Misinformation and accusations need to be addressed. "Be kind and be thoughtful, build up rather than tear down."

Mandy Fruchey, elementary staff, reminded board members that in May 2023 she addressed the board regarding concerns about the district – asked to eliminate division and negativity, she is "Marauder Proud." We need to go back to "students first," it is lost. Ethics, targeting and accusations can be hurtful and are counterproductive. In the last two years Ovid-Elsie has lost 22 teachers, 2 superintendents, 2 athletic directors, one building and grounds director, one transportation director, and one curriculum director, just to name a few. It should be noted that since the December 16 meeting the district has lost a third AD, with the resignation of Chris Winters. Take the negative energy and ask educators what you can do to help in a positive way. "We are failing our kids."

Travis Long, teacher and coach, parent, commented that we need to do our best to retain the staff, Chris Winters needs to be retained, he is the best for our kids. We need to retain staff.

Next, the public had the opportunity to address the board. Sue Kadelk – thanked Eric Jones and Mike Schiffer for their commitment to Ovid-Elsie Area Schools. Furthering her comments by stating that members should consider their votes carefully. She was surprised that the December agenda is a pretty hefty compared to the last few years. Questioned the agenda. Supports change and a search for a new superintendent.

Charlie Green, resident and grandparent, He commented that he visits the fourth-grade classroom, a student was asked how he feels the response, "Depressed." Teaching is a complex challenge. Judge by actions, not my intentions. Just a thought. He stressed his support for past, and present board members.

Chris Winters, athletic director, introduced members of the Ovid-Elsie Marauder Athletic Council, students in a leadership role. Olivia Coon, addressed the board of education. Fund raising events focused on Breast Cancer and the Susan G. Colmen Foundation. The athletes raised over \$2,000. A check was presented to Ashley Dire representing the Susan G. Coleman Cancer Foundation, huge thank-you.

Dr. Wayne Petroelje commented on the student leadership and the great work they do. A thank-you was presented to retiring board members Mike Schiffer and Eric Jones and gifts presented from Ovid-Elsie Area Schools.

Officials once again addressed the NEOLA Policies this was the second reading of the policies – two portions, A - eleven having to do with the finances; B - six policies a variety of topics, with the next step to approve the policies and presented. Approved as presented.

New Business items started with employee retirement of Heather Cunningham, Leonard Elementary School teacher, effective January 2025. Accepted with regrets.

Contracts were presented for board approval. – Katlin Kusnier hired as the business office specialists effective December 9, 2024. Officials approved the recommendation and extended the contract. Long term sub position to Linda Snelling for the remainder of the school year filing the position vacated by Mrs. Cunningham, approved. Teaching position - Robert "Cory" Gavenda as the high school building trades teacher, effective January 21, 2024, also approved.

Three-year contract 25-26, 26-27, 27-28 to administrative staff were approved for– Rachelle Parsons, Felicia Gingrich, Tim Ormsbee, Chris Winter, Bryan Powell, Jason Tokar, and Dan Davenport.

cont' on page 3

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
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of this notice.

Mark R. Tabor
6749 Springtree Ln.
Lansing, MI 48917

(12-22)

Social

Blood Drive at Bannister ZCJB Hall

*submitted by Joanne
Fornusek*

Give a priceless gift this holiday season! The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive at the Bannister ZCJB Hall on Thursday, Dec. 26 from 12 -5:00 pm. The drive is sponsored by the ZCJB Lodge and St. Cyril's Knights of Columbus. Appointments can be made at the American Red Cross website and walk-ins are also welcome.



Medinas Celebrate 50 Years

Ray and Josy Medina of Ovid were both teenagers when they married on December 21, 1974 at St Pauls Catholic Church in Owosso.

They have four children, Elizabeth Hernandez, of Lansing, Estrella (Eric) Starn, of Ovid, Raymond (Stefanie) Medina, Jr., of Laingsburg and Michelle Leslie of Henderson. They have been blessed with seven grandchildren, Leticia, Emilio, Selicia, Logan, Kameron, Adrianna and Julian and one great grandchild, Cairo. Additional family includes Brian & Amy Young along with Preston and Carter.

Cards of Congratulations can be sent to them at 136 W. Oak Street, Ovid, MI 48866.



Ovid Library Holiday Hours

The Ovid Public Library will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and will reopen on Friday, December 27 at 10:00. We will also be closed on Tuesday, December 31 and will reopen on Friday, January 3 at 10:00. We hope everyone has a very happy and safe holiday!!

Elsie Library Adventures

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

Christmas is almost here. I suppose we can begin counting the hours instead of the days, although that would require more time than most of us would deem worthwhile. Between shopping, wrapping, and baking, try to find time to relax with a good book, a fun movie or a family puzzle. I found a glow-in-the-dark Christmas puzzle here at our library and just started it at home. We have books about making easy holiday cards and gifts, cookbooks of tantalizing treats, books with Christmas crafts, and magazines with Christmas ideas. You could also check out one of our holiday cake pans.

The Elsie Public Library will be open December 23rd, 28th and the 30th. (Hopefully I can finish that glow-in-the-dark puzzle.) We will not be here on Wednesday, Christmas Day, or Thursday, the day after Christmas.

January First we are closed, but we will be back January 2 at our normal hours.

On January 2, 2025 our Winter Reading Bingo Challenge begins and runs through February 28, 2025. It is a fun way to challenge everyone to keep reading. This challenge is for everyone! Only five books are needed to complete the challenge. The bingo sheets look entertaining; the middle bingo box is actually "a book of your choice." Come, pick up your bingo sheet, and let the games begin.

"Christmas: the only time of year one can sit in front of a dead tree eating candy out of socks." Unknown

Elsie Lions Club Wild Game Dinner

Make your calendar for the January 13th, 31st Annual Elsie Lions Club Wild Game Dinner. This will be held at the Elsie American Legion Hall starting at 6 pm. Bring a wild game dish to pass and your place setting, potatoes, rolls, milk and coffee will be provided. The club will be raffling a Mossberg Patriot 350 Legend. Tickets for the raffle are \$10 per ticket and can be purchased now by calling Lion Richard Easlick at 517-881-0024 or Lion Rick Jones at 989-666-2781, they will also be available at the event if not sold out. Make plans now to attend this fund raising event for the Elsie Lions Club.

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OE Area Schools...cont' from Front

Individual contracts – three-year contract offered to Jarred Hyzer technology; Cody Staley – director building and grounds; Carla Perrin – transportation director; Crystal Loynes administrative assistant to the superintendent, Melissa Jones, school nurse; and Shawn Pardee, director of food service; all effective July 1, 2025

Human Resources & Business Management Position – to be posted immediately, which also includes human resources.

With the resignation of the curriculum director, it was recommended that Jara Latz receive a \$500 monthly stipend to pick-up the slake. This will be effective November 2024. Noting that there is no conflict with the teacher's master agreement. Petroelje noted that thirteen applicants have been received for the curriculum development position and that the team will interview the top six.

Ovid-Elsie Area Schools received a request form Laingsburg Community Schools to enter into a service agreement with the transportation department to provide maintenance services for their fleet of fifteen buses. Currently OE provides this service for Ashley Community Schools fleet. The OE mechanics feel they can handle the additional service agreement. The request was approved.

The organizational meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Board of Education is slated for January 20, 2025, 6:30 pm.

Finally, individual school members provided comments. Micheal Schiffer expressed a sincere thank-you to the public for letting him represent and assist with the growth of Ovid-Elsie Area Schools. And offering the following advice, please try to work together for the kids. "It has been an honor to have set here, 21 years."

Eric Jones read a statement – he chooses kindness and peace. It is an honor. Six-years, every decision I have made is putting for kids first. He voiced his concerned about the attitude of the new board members focusing on stakeholders, not the children. Focus on the educators and children and not work a specific agenda. "Students first." He further resigned and stepped down for the last fifteen days of his term, and passed the gavel on to Mr. Josh Miller.

Monthly action was taken to approve the consent agenda. The action included approval of the meeting agenda, the minutes of the November 18, 2024 regular meeting; approval of the minutes of the special board meeting, December 11, 2024; payment of expenditures and financial reports for October 2024 and approval of the Snow Sculpting field trip.



Deer Hunting Family Style: Two Dads and their sons were successful on opening day of deer hunting. Pictured here (left-right) James Rabb and his sons Carter and Easton and the 12 pointer they bagged. Levi and Dad, Nate Hofferbert along with Jackson with the 8 pointer they bagged. The family hunt took place on Rabb Family Farm in Elsie.

Dawn D. Levey Appointed by the Governor of the Michigan Wildlife Council

Dawn Levey, of Elsie, retired in 2022 after teaching in an alternative program for thirty-two years. She holds an associate's degree in social work from Montcalm Community College and a Bachelor of Science in education from Central Michigan University. She has been involved in conservation for more than forty years, serving as the president of Michigan United Conservation Clubs and as a member of numerous boards, including Michigan United Conservation Clubs who have nominated her for this seat, Michigan Bow Hunters, and the National Wildlife Federation.

Dawn Levey is appointed as an individual who has purchased hunting or fishing licenses in this state on a regular basis, including at least once during each of the last 3 years, and is nominated by statewide sportsmen's organizations for a term commencing October 10, 2024, and expiring March 31, 2028. She succeeds Edgar Roy, whose term has expired.

The Wildlife Council was created to educate about the importance of Wildlife conservation and the role of hunters and anglers in preserving Michigan's great outdoor heritage for future generations.



Dawn D. Levey



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“Grief is like the ocean. It comes on waves ebbing and flowing. Sometimes the water is calm, and sometimes it is overwhelming. All we can do is learn to swim.”

~Vicki Harrison

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

Earl Howard Vincent

Earl Howard Vincent, age 78, of Ovid, MI, passed away Thursday, December 12, 2024, at his home.

Earl was born in Owosso, Michigan on November 18, 1946, the son Gerald C. and Loretta E. (Donahue) Vincent. On March 17, 1994, Earl married Noreen May Brown in St. Johns, MI. They have been married thirty years.

Earl was a hard worker and always kept busy. He worked for Green Meadow Farms for thirty-six years, retiring December 31, 2023. He also had his own farm where he also raised cows, goats and horses. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Johns, MI. Most of all, Earl loved his family. He was a great dad to eleven children and deeply loved his wife.

He is survived by wife Noreen Brown, ten children: Eric (Debbie) Vincent, Chad Vincent, and Amber Vincent, Denise (Trevor) Oski, Dana (John) Woodend, Martin (Melissa) Ball, Kathryn (Dennis) Walker, Grant (Ariel) Fish, Emily (Kevin) Brown, and Caleb (Diana) Brown; many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and his sister Shirley Walker. He was preceded in death by his parents, one son George Ball, and his siblings: Jean Durham, Kenneth Vincent, and Grace Kares.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Johns, MI, on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, with Rev. Fr. Michael Williams presiding.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, 109 Linden St., St. Johns, MI 48879. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.



Lisa Marie Andersen

Lisa Marie Andersen, age 67, of Bannister, MI, passed away Monday, December 16, 2024, at University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Lansing.

Lisa was born in Carson City, Michigan on January 1, 1957, the daughter of Howard Carl and Rosemary Rebecca (Howell) Andersen.

Lisa graduated from Ashley High School in 1975. Lisa was a Nurses Aide at Ashley Care Center and worked in the cleaning department at Hazel Findlay in St. Johns. Lisa loved her horse Babe and her dog Jenny. She enjoyed riding her 4 wheeler and hunting, especially with her dad. Lisa also liked attending Ashley football games. She attended East Washington United Brethren Church in Ashley for many years.

She is survived by her siblings: Joann Kremer of Saginaw, MI, Deann and Alan Spriggs of Elsie, MI, Christine and Ed Powers of Bath, MI, and Cynthia and George Sholtz of Plato, MO; two sisters-in-law: Laurel Andersen and Deb Andersen-Knight. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers: Howard Carl "Dick" Andersen, II and Timothy Andersen, and brother-in-law Kent Kremer.

A private burial will take place at North Star Cemetery, North Star, MI. A celebration of Lisa's life will be held at a date to be announced.

Memorials may be made to the Harvest Revival Worship Center, 1380 E. Main St. Edmore, MI 48829. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



John Franklin Stewart

John Franklin Stewart, age 67, of Ovid, Michigan, passed away Thursday, December 18, 2024 at the University of Michigan Health-Sparrow of Lansing.

John was born in Orange, Texas on June 10, 1957, the son of John and Barbara (Taylor) Stewart. He graduated from Ovid-Elsie High School in 1975. He worked at General Motors for 30 years. He enjoyed spending time at his families cabin at Vernel Lake Ian the Upper Pennisula of Michigan.

He is survived by his wife Terri (Moore) Stewart and son Nicholas (Jamie) Stewart of Ovid, brother, Bill Stewart of Ovid, sister, Patti Stewart, of Ovid, brother, Ed (Chris) Stewart, of Ovid. Grandchildren, Katie Stewart, Matthew Stewart, Sawyer Stewart and Cora Stewart. Sister-in-law, Vicki (Jim) Horvath, several nieces and nephews.

Cremation has already taken place and there will be a private family graveside service at a later date.

He was predeceased in death by his son, John Stewart, his parents, and one brother, James Stewart and his in-laws, Charles and Shirley Moore.



Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Where is this year going? It is going by at high speed and that makes it very hard to keep up with all that is happening around me. I seem to be running on aggravation and that seems to be thriving. My to do lists seem to be getting shorter just taking more time to finish them. That is not a very equitable way of doing things. I made several moves with my new waterline, that being from one vehicle to another and it finally made it into the house. Of course I have put it in a safe place... Still searching for that particular spot. I may need to just go and buy another one, it might be quicker.

Saturday evening we all gathered at Diane and Brent's to frost some Christmas cookies. I got to watch and enjoyed myself greatly. Nine year old Isabella was meticulous and very concentrated on her efforts. Her cookies became very artsy. Then came two year old Vanessa's efforts. The icing used was royal and Grandpa Brent held the bags of icing for Vanessa. She appeared to be either milking a goat or a cow. Her technique was correct and amusing. When sprinkles were added to the cookies Vanessa was beyond gleeful at spreading them around, the pan, the cookies, the table... I'm sure that you have the picture. At every third cookies Vanessa would take a bite to ensure the freshness of the product. Yes, the cookie was then iced and sprinkled.

On Sunday after church, Karen and I went to Ollie's to finish up our Christmas shopping. As we walked into the store and grabbed our carts we got to visit with Santa Claus. He asked Karen if she was on the naughty list... she didn't answer right away and Santa decided that she must be on that list. I laughed and he let me pass. Within five minutes I heard familiar voices. I turned around and standing by Santa was my daughter, son-in-law, and great granddaughters. They got my attention and I waved... That is when the four of them told on me, and Santa put me on the naughty list. It was a hoot!!! He still wished me a Merry Christmas when I headed out the door.

This morning I had my last physical therapy and no improvement. So I am now getting my head wrapped around having a knee replacement. Not my idea of fun, but a necessity. Which reminds me that I need to make a couple of phone calls for medical reasons. Be right back. Not quite, it took longer getting the phone calls routed to the correct persons. So now I have to be at another location tomorrow afternoon. What would I do without these technologies? What would any of us do without all of this access to new information...

I'm in a bit of a funk. Nothing seems to be meeting with my expectations. I still have a bunch of gift wrapping to finish up. As in I'm barely started but on the good side I don't have to have it done before this coming Sunday. After PT this morning I did make a drive over to see Therese in Laingsburg. I dropped off some pickles and a plate of goodies made for munching. Of course we sat there drinking coffee and chatting for a couple of hours. Time did fly and we did enjoy ourselves. It is good to be a bit gabby at times. One of life's little blessings. Because Miss Prudence is so in love with the quilt that Therese made me, Therese is now making a smaller version for Pru. Yup, my pup is spoiled but she is always good company. For me anyways.

Be amused by what is happening in your life. Children always bring me smiles and laughter. Be amazed at their logical thought patterns. Be touched by their sweetness and beguiled by their innocence. They are one of our greatest blessings. May God bless you daily and may you notice these blessings. I hope that you are ready for this season of giving. Merry Christmas.

Crystal Mitchell©2024



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"The Kingdom of God is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field (Matthew 13:44-46)."

I think trash is cool. As a kid in Detroit we used to go alley-picking all the time. We joyfully followed our sacred creed, "One man's trash is another man's treasure." Why root in rubbish? Because there's always a chance, a thrill, that we'd find some treasure!

In 1991, a man spent four dollars at a flea market on an ugly picture (for the frame). He dismantled it, found an envelope, and folded inside was a Declaration of Independence printed by John Dunlap on July 4, 1776 (only 7 of the 25 still exist). It had wet ink smudges at the folds, but those blemishes added value as it was printed that very day.

Its value is over 8 million, but value is really what one is willing to pay (last month a banana duct-taped to a picture frame sold for 6.2 million). I guess, "Beauty is in the eye of the banana-beholder," but Jesus knew a priceless work of art when He saw it, and that is people. Based on what He paid, in blood, you're a very special treasure (John 3:1-16).

In the Kingdom simile, Jesus is the man, the field is the world, and you are the treasure (or "the pearl" in verses 45-46). You may not feel like treasure, maybe even wrecked your life, but God sees a pearl; so dear He "sells all that He has" just to buy you back. "For the joy set before Him He endured the cross (Hebrews 12:2)." You're His thrill!

Why joyfully love you, happily give up all, and die on a Roman cross with a smile? Because His opinion of you is what alley-picker's see, the true worth...not the mess. We look for the Dunlap behind the ugly image. The world sees four dollars, but Jesus sees you as 8 million, and knows He can change you into a living Rembrandt, if you agree.

Agree? In Luke 19, Jesus told another story about His Kingdom, of ownership and authority, but the nobleman (Jesus) was rejected, "We do not want this man to reign over us," the citizens said. Whenever something broke, my Dad would say, "I can fix that." Our Father in Heaven says the same, "I can fix you." But you have to bring what's broken to Him, let Him dismantle the frame, fix you, and reign as your King of Kings.

My simile is the unwanted toys on the Island of Misfit Toys in the Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer cartoon, except that I see it as an Easter story. What's more unwanted than a corpse? We bury them and burn them. They stink, but a tomb doesn't stink if it's empty! That's what Jesus does — He rescues us, loves us, and changes death to pearls.

The largest pearl in the world is the Giga Pearl. It weighs over 60 pounds. The irony is that the Giga looks like a big white blob, not a pearl; a beach rock we'd walk past, but that misfit blob, in the eye of the right beholder, is worth 200 million today. An ecstatic Jesus sees you as His Giga, except that you are even more precious (1 Peter 1:18-19).

It's simple faith (John 1:12). Admit your sin, that you've trashed your life, and let Him alley-pick you up. Just bend your knee to the risen Christmas King "where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in." Christmas means there is always a chance, and Easter means your smudges are on a "pearl of great value" that Jesus wants.



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Stocking Stuffer

If you are looking for a stocking stuffer and you are running out of ideas consider a milk carton of CCI .22 WMR Maxi-Mag rimfire ammunition. Wally World currently offers the 125 count carton for \$30.94 compared to 16.36 for a plastic case of 50. If you buy two cartons it is like getting 50 for free. The forty grain bullets leave with a muzzle velocity of 1875 feet per second.

Plenty of wallop for taking care of varmints.

-WS

CACS Thanks the Community

Letter to the Editor:

We would like to extend our most sincere appreciation to everyone who assisted with Christmas Wishes this year. Everyone at The Meridian Weekly, for their part in "getting the word out". Great Job! You are always there to assist.

To all of those businesses, groups, clubs and families who adopted or made contributions, you are the absolute best! Through your actions, you have made December 25th a very special day of the year, brightened 257 childrens' lives and ensured wishes came true.

Thank you for caring and sharing this Christmas Season.

Rebecca Zemla,

Shiawassee Center Manager Brenda and Karen,

Center Staff

Capital Area Community Services, Inc.

Laingsburg United Methodist Church Offering Christmas Eve Service

submitted by Carrie Rathbun Hawks

Laingsburg, Mich. —Laingsburg United Methodist Church will offer a traditional Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. Dec. 24, 2025. The church is located at 210 Crum Street in Laingsburg.

"We invite the community to join us as we celebrate Christ's birth. Advent is a season of waiting for his coming as well as the joy it brings," said LUMC Pastor Kendi Holcomb-Densmore. "All are welcome."

People who are unable to come to the service in person can view it live on the church's Facebook page.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

submitted by Sue Casler

The United Church of Ovid, 131 W. Front St., Ovid will be holding a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Picture this...candles everywhere...carols singing... special music...a meaningful time with family and friends. There's nothing like this special night. There is no other day like it on our calendar. Join our candle-lighters, musicians, and our pastor as they guide us through this awesome "real" candlelight experience. (Battery operated candles are also available.) Every year we look forward to inviting our extended friends and family, to this genuinely meaningful service for kids of all ages.

For more information about The United Church of Ovid, please feel free to call 989-834-5958.

Meridian Weekly

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Area Christmas Holiday Lights



3658 E. Maple Rapids Rd., Elsie



8550 N. St. Clair Rd., Elsie



We are lighting a candle in each of our funeral homes...

Since Christmas is a time for remembering, we are lighting a candle in our funeral homes for all the families we have served the past year.

As you enjoy this Christmas season, we hope this gesture will serve to remind you of Holidays past and the importance of family.

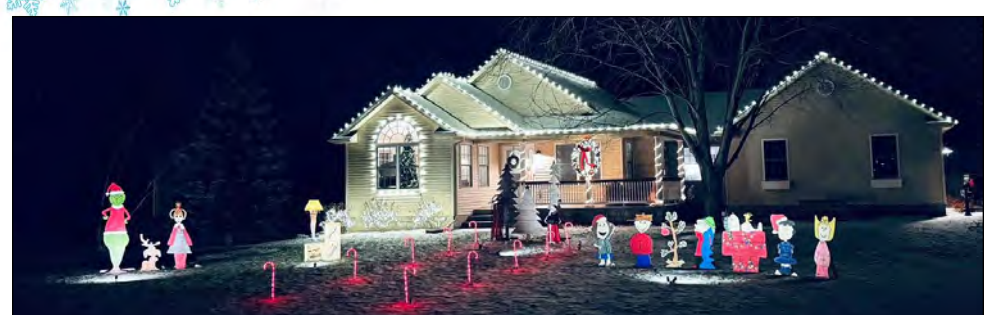
May the quiet peace of Christmas fill your heart and home.

*Samuel and Carol Smith
& Family*



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Ovid: (989) 834-2233	Fowler: (989) 224-2365



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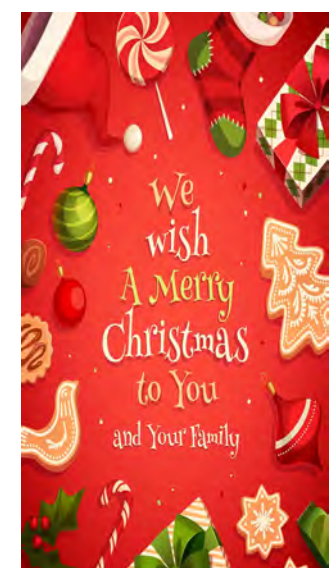
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Thank You Ovid Community

Submitted By the Ovid Christmas Basket Committee

Saying THANK YOU to the Ovid Community just doesn't seem to be enough! We again saw a large request for Christmas Baskets this year and you responded. Seeing the area businesses, churches, schools, organizations, and community members come together to make Christmas brighter for 70 families is truly an amazing sight and defines the Christmas spirit.



Many thanks to the Leonard Elementary families who donated to the food drive sponsored by the SOS group, the Spiess Family for their annual drive that provides so many of our toys, personal hygiene and peanut butter and jelly, Chelsey Goodrich for organizing the food and personal hygiene drive during the Ovid Carriages Days Christmas light parade and Chief Lisa Rousseau and the Ovid Police Department for their donations from Fill a Cop Car, thank you for keeping it local. We were able to donate all extras to the Elsie Food Bank which will continue to provide assistance to the Ovid-Elsie Community.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the following:

- The Country Kitchen and their staff and volunteers that do so much to provide the Ovid Community Thanksgiving Meal that brings in monetary donations to help provide gift certificates in the baskets.
- Main Street Pizza, Applebee Oil and Propane and Ovid Village Food Pride for your assistance with gift certificates.
- The Ovid Lions Club for the use of the hall, Larry for making sure it was ready to go for us and Greg Martin for keeping track of the finances.
- Zumba with Molly for offering a free class for food donations
- Ovid Public Library for collecting donations.
- The Weekly for collecting donations and providing advertising.
- A wonderful group of hunters for providing venison we could offer to the shoppers.
- The E.E. Knight Elementary SOS for the toy drive that was held and Fobear Mechanical, Stewart Farms, Carmedic and Williams family.
- Ovid Holy Family Catholic Church for your continued support of generous donations
- Ovid United Church for your continued support of generous donations, gift cards, boxes, and use of carts for the distribution
- The Heartland and Middlebury Churches for your continued support of donations and family adoptions.
- The Cole and Bedoway families.

Thank you to the individuals and families that have provided monetary support and donations of gift cards and items, these baskets are possible because of YOU! And lastly, THANK YOU to the many volunteers that showed up and worked so hard on Sunday and Monday to sort items, fill the boxes, set-up the shopping area, and distribute, this couldn't be done without the time you volunteer to assist. THANK YOU Heather, Brent, Evra, Molly, Duane, Conner, Charley, Mayor Mary, Jason, Gunner, Jamison, Jennifer, Deb, Doc, Susie, Mike, Diane, Jeff, Officer Watson, Sergeant Hoy, Sue, Shawn, Lora, Jody, Marie, Kyle, Max, Tori, Shirley, Karen, Genevieve, Rachel, Renae, Erica, Josh and Pat!

*Wishing you
and your families
all the joys of a happy,
healthy, and prosperous
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*

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Lady Marauders Climb to 4-1

OVID-ELSIE — Senior guard Ellyanna Carman tossed in 15 points as Ovid-Elsie's girls varsity basketball team scored a 60-44 win over visiting Durand in Mid-Michigan Activities Conference play here December 13.

First-year coach Shaun McKinney's Lady Marauders improved to 4-1 (2-0 MMAC) on the season, while Durand dropped to 2-2 (1-2 MMAC).

Also breaking double figures was Alyson Moore, who finished with 14 points. Kendal Tokar and Dannika Campbell each added eight points for O-E.

The Marauders put their MMAC streak on the line at home against Chesaning (0-4, 0-3 MMAC) last Tuesday.

McKinney's Marauders keep rolling into cage showdown with New Lothrop

OVID-ELSIE -- The Marauder girls varsity basketball team stood 5-1 overall, 4-0 in the MMAC with its latest conquest -- a 54-16 smashing of the Chesaning Indians.

Ovid-Elsie hasn't lost a conference game since 2021, as the two-time defending MMAC champs.

The big victory set up a December 20 league showdown with New Lothrop, the Marauders' closest challenger early in the 2024-25 season.

Coach Shaun McKinney's Lady Marauders were led in the victory over the Indians by Ellyanna Carman with 10 points, Kendal Tokar 10 and Lilian Bates 8.

Marauder Wrestlers Salute Military

OVID-ELSIE -- The Marauder wrestling program impressed at a successful home quad meet.

"Not only did we celebrate our wrestling military family members but also the seniors on the team," explained coach Kyle Spiess. "We wrestled better than ever so far this year and the only word that comes to mind is grit. And we had a lot of it."

"From freshman defeating state placers to our experienced seniors keeping their dominant and winning ways, the team functioned as a family and the results showed by the final scores."

O-E defeated a tradition-rich New Lothrop team, 42-36, and dominated Byron, 70-6.

At the Fowlerville Invitational four days later, Varsity, JV and girls tournaments were all held in one gym with 6 mats. "It's great when the team gets to travel together," said coach Spiess. The format is a round-robin tournament, so all athletes get a lot of matches in.

Ovid-Elsie wrestled 40 matches. Top finishers were:

Conor McClung 165 lbs., 1st.; Haley McClung 125 lbs., 2nd.; Trey Milner heavyweight, 2nd.; Landen VanConant 157 lbs., 4th.; Jeremiah Stewart 165 lbs., 4th.; Anthony Silva 113 lbs., 4th.

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City of Ovid
Draft Regular Meeting
December 9, 2024

Open Public Hearing:
Mayor M. Perrien called the Public Hearing Meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Council chambers located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid, Michigan.

Roll Call:
M. Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn

Guests:
There were 11 in attendance.
Adjourned Public Hearing: Public Hearing adjourned at 7:02 PM
Regular Meeting: Regular Meeting opened at 7:02 PM.

Agenda:
Council Member E. Brown motioned to approve the agenda as presented.
Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote

Minutes:
Council Member L. Perrien motioned to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2024 Regular meeting and December 4, 2024 Special meeting as presented. Council Member E. Brown seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.

Invoice/Check Register:
Council Member E. Brown motioned to approve the invoice/check register from November 14, 2024 through December 10, 2024 for a total of \$57,795.68.
Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.
Open Public Comment: Opened 7:04 PM Closed: 7:04 PM None.

Treasurer's Report:
Council Member E. Brown motioned to authorize Mayor M. Perrien to approve any budget amendments for the year end for Fiscal Year 2024. Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.
Council Member E. Starn motioned to approve the reports from, Treasurer, Attorney, Police and DPW. Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.

New Business:
a. Elect Mayor Pro Tem:
Council Member L. Perrien motioned to nominate E. Starn to Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member M. Jones seconded the motion.
Carried on Voice Vote.
b. Boards and Committees: Council Member E. Brown motioned to accept the list of Boards and Commission as presented. Council Member M. Soliz seconded the motion.
Carried on Voice Vote.
c. Employee Bonus: Council Member E. Starn motion to give a bonus of \$300.00 for full time employees and \$150.00 for part time employees. Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on Voice vote.
d. Approval of Rules of Procedures: Council Member E. Starn motioned to approve the Rules of procedures 2025 as presented. Council Member M. Olger seconded the motioned. Carried on voice vote.
e. 2024-14 Resolution to adopt the Recreation Plan:
Council Member E. Starn motioned to adopt resolution 2024-14 "Resolution to adopt the Recreation Plan" as read into the minutes. Council Member E. Brown seconded the resolution.
Upon roll call vote the following voted YES: M. Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn
Upon roll call vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
f. Poverty Resolution 2024-15: Council Member E. Brown motioned to adopt the resolution 2024-15 "Poverty Resolution "as read into the minutes. Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Upon roll call vote the following voted YES: E. Starn, M. Jones, E. Brown, M. Perrien, M. Olger, L. Perrien, M. Soliz
Upon roll call vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
g. Resolution 2024-16 Budget Resolution: Council Member E. Brown motioned to adopt resolution 2024-16 "Fiscal Year 2025 Budget". Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Upon roll call vote the following voted YES: M. Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn
Upon roll call vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
h. Water Rate Change Resolution: Council Member E. Brown made to motion to adopt resolution 2024-17 "Set Water Rates" as read into the minutes. Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Upon roll call vote the following voted YES: E. Starn, M. Jones, E. Brown, M. Perrien, M. Olger, L. Perrien, M. Soliz
Upon roll call vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
i. 2024-19 Resolution Meeting Schedule: Council Member E. Starn motioned to adopt resolution 2024-19 "Set Regular Meeting Schedule for 2025" as read into the minutes. Council Member M. Jones seconded the motion.
Upon roll call vote the following voted YES: Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn

Upon roll call vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
j. Pay Application #11: Council member E. Brown motioned to approve pay application #11 in an amount of \$459,480.10 and authorize the Mayor to sign any documents necessary for the application. Council member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Carried on voice vote.
k. USDA Estimate #2 Council member M. Olger motioned to approve pay USDA-RD Estimate #2 in an amount of \$267,263.74 and authorize the Mayor to sign any documents necessary for the application. Council member M. Soliz seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.
l. Code Enforcer Position- A discussion was held on a code enforcer position.
m. Progressive Corrective Discipline Policy: Council Member E. Starn motioned to approve the Progressive Corrective Discipline Policy with FMLA to be replaced with FMLP and the revisions presented. Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Carried on voice vote.
n. Replacing Historical Marker-
Council Member E. Starn motioned to restore the historical marker located on Main St. and to apply for the grant with Mr. Schafer Fox working with Mayor M. Perrien to write the grant for the city. Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on voice vote.
o. Garage Floor Repair- Cement Work- Council Member E. Brown motioned to not to spend over \$2,000.00 on repairs for garage floor at 114 E. Front St. Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Carried on voice vote.
Old Business:
a. Carriage Towne Place 3 Ordinance # 147 and 148: Council Member E. Starn motioned to place out for review Ordinance 147: Ordinance to rescind Ordinance Carriage Towne Place Ordinance adopted July 12, 1991. Council Member M. Jones seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.
Council Member E. Starn motioned to place out for review Ordinance 148: Tax Exemption and fee in lieu of Taxes for Carriage Towne III. Council Member E. Brown seconded the motion.
Carried on voice vote
b. Resolution 2024-12: Resolution to Adopt the Annual Exemption Option for Health Insurance Contribution: Council Member E. Brown motioned to adopted resolution 2024-12 The Annual Exemption option as set forth in 2011 Public Act 152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act. Council Member M. Soliz seconded the motion.
Upon Roll Call vote the following voted YES: E. Starn, M. Jones, E. Brown, M. Perrien, M. Olger, L. Perrien, M. Soliz
Upon Roll Call Vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
c. MMPA Appraisal Contract- Complete Appraisal: Council Member E. Starn motioned to put out bid for RFP (request for proposal) for property reappraisal for Michigan Milk Producers Association property. Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on voice vote.
d. Civil Infraction Fee Resolution 2024-18- The board reviewed the civil infraction fees. Council Member M. Olger motioned to adopt resolution 2024-18 "Civil Infraction Fee Schedule". Council Member L. Perrien seconded the motion.
Upon Roll Call vote the following voted YES: M. Soliz, L. Perrien, M. Olger, M. Perrien, E. Brown, M. Jones, E. Starn
Upon Roll Call Vote the following voted NO: none
Absent: none
e. CIP Approval- Council Member E. Brown motioned to accept the Capital Improvement Plan for 2025-2030 as presented. Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.
Boards and Commissions:
a. OMESA- Council Member M. Olger motioned to not appropriate \$21, 500.00 to Ovid-Middlebury Emergency Service Authority. Council Member M. Soliz seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote
b. Planning Commission- Council Member E. Starn motioned to appoint Jackie Garcia-Henning and Stephanie Shelton to the Planning Commission Board. Council Member M. Soliz seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.
Adjournment-
Council Member E. Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 PM.
Council Member M. Olger seconded the motion.
Carried on a voice vote.

*Respectfully submitted by
Susan Tomasek Swan, Clerk*

Sports

Ovid-Elsie Bowling

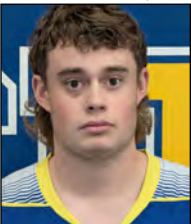
The O-E Bowlers were back in conference action at Colonial Lanes in Flushing.
O-E would take on Lakeville, the boys won 17-13; the girls won 8-22.
Some boys scores were Collin Jullie 152, Landyn Adkins 156, Brayden Gruesbeck 177-151, Devyn Pugsley 168-161.
Girls scores were Alex Heckman 197, Halie Arnett 145, Brooke Pugsley 146.
OE Bowling vs Durand
The keglers would find winning ways against Durand on Dec. 14th at Grand Blanc Laness.
The girls won 16-14 with high games of Abby Orweller 131, Alexah Heckman 121, Haylee Arnett 138-152, Brooke Pugsley 136-201.
The boys won 23-7 with high games of Peyton Holmes 181-121, Landyn Adkins 160, Brayden Gruesbeck 202-297, Devyn Pugsley 211-165.

Bears Add Two Losses to the Season

by Ashleigh Shaw
The Bears struggled this week scoring, taking on two good teams. First, they took on the Vestaburg Wolverines who bring a tight defense and Ashley struggled to score against it. On the night Carson Litwiller and Will Long each had 3 points a piece and Michael Kiefer had 4 points.
In the second game was against the neighboring Fulton Pirates a very good offensive team. "We worked hard but went down pretty quick and struggled to play catch up the rest of the night" commented Coach Sourek. Gib Jason scored 14 points and had 6 rebounds, Miachael Kiefer scored 4 points and had 4 rebounds and Carson Litwiller scored 5 points.



Michael Kiefer



Gib Jason

Lady Bears Lose Two Tough Games

by Ashleigh Shaw
Ashley took on to league foes this past week, the Vestaburg Wolverines and the Fulton Pirates. Against the Wolverines they lost 54-39, Ellie Drummond once again had a double-double with 24 points and 12 rebounds. Marissa Brady scored 11 points had 4 steals and 3 assists, while Karissa Brady added a bucket, and 7 rebounds and Peyton Rohn had 2 points. "We started off slow offensively in the first half and it was too much for us to overcome" stated Coach Shaw.
Against the Pirates from Fulton the Lady Bears had another slow start and let the Pirates score too many points by turning over the ball. Drummond again lead the Bears with 12 points, 7 rebounds and 5 steals, Karissa Brady had 10 points, 7 rebounds and 5 steals, Marissa Brady scored 8 points and grabbed 10 rebounds adding 4 assists and Zoe Sneider scored 3 points.



Ellie Drummond



Karissa Brady

Meet the teams for Ovid-Elsie will be
published December 29th

Sports

Wolfpack Cagers 5-Point Loss to Fowler

LAINGSBURG -- The visiting Eagles closed with a 16-10 spurt in the 4th quarter to hand Laingsburg a CMAC boys basketball loss.

The setback marred an excellent shooting game from coach Tim Beebe's Wolfpack, as the Wolves shot nearly 46% from the floor. Too, they out-rebounded the Eagles 35-32.

Those kind of stats usually add up to a victory -- but the Eagles narrowly averted a big, early-season upset. FHS stood 5-0 overall, 4-0 in the CMAC after league action as of December 17.

The Pack, which led 39-38 through the third quarter, was led by Mitchell George's 18 points. Dom Garcia added 10, Jake Rivet 8, Landon Freeman 6, Josiah Hawes 4 and Leandro Dolega-Caceres 3 for the red-and-white.

17 points from Asher Koenigsnecht and 13 from Aaron Simon led Fowler.

Laingsburg fell to 0-3 in the league, 0-4 with the loss -- then picked up their first win of the season, 56-49, at Potterville on December 13.

Wolfpack cagers collect first win, 56-49 over Vikes

POTTERVILLE — Dom Garcia scored 16 points and Laingsburg outlasted the host Vikings in overtime, the Wolfpack collecting its first boys basketball victory of 2024-25.

Coach Tim Beebe's Wolves moved to 1-4, 1-2 in the conference, with the CMAC win. Potterville also stood 1-4, 1-2 after Laingsburg prevailed, 56-49, in the extra session.

Leandro Dolega-Caceres added 13 points and Mitchell George 12 to the winning total.

The 'Pack improved to 2-4, 2-2 in the circuit, following up the Potterville win with a 73-49 league conquest of Perry.

Wolfpack Girls Grab Second-Staight Victory, 56-41 Over Perry Ramblers

PERRY -- Girls basketball programs going in opposite directions clashed in CMAC action here December 17.

With a 56-41 victory, Laingsburg won for the second straight game to move to 2-2 under 1st-year coach Daniel Morrill.

Conversely, the host Ramblers lost their second-straight, to fall to 2-2 after a perfect start to the 2024-25 season.

The Wolfpack's Mallory Woodbury led all scorers with 16 points, and Brooklyn Holm chipped in 15. Payge Woodworth added 8 and Harper Stouse and Lilli Morrill each had 6.

For Perry, Abigail Cochrane had 14, Ruby Simon added 12 and Sara Austin scored 8.

O-E Boys Shake Off Sluggish Start, Run Past Montrose

OVID-ELSIE -- After a sluggish start, the host Marauders went on to claim a decisive conference win over Montrose on December 9 by a count of 63-29.

"The game got off to a rough start for us; we struggled offensively in the opening quarter, managing just 11 points," said coach Canyon Walker. "We finally found our stride, outscoring Montrose 34-9 in the second quarter and taking a commanding lead into the break. Our energy picked up in the second quarter, we were able to settle down and execute our offense more effectively, and our defense stepped up, which made all the difference."

Despite the slow start, O-E's defensive efforts were solid throughout, limiting Montrose to only 29 points.

Senior guard Tucker Loynes was the standout performer for the Marauders, leading the charge with 31 points. Loynes sat out the entire fourth quarter with the game well in hand, showcasing his efficient scoring and leadership on the court.

Montrose stood 1-2 in the MMAC, 1-3 overall following the loss.

Ovid-Elsie 66, Durand 51

Walker's Marauders ended Durand's perfect start to the young season with a 66-51 victory on Friday. O-E improved to 3-2 (2-1 MMAC), while Durand dropped to 5-1 (2-1 MMAC).

Ovid-Elsie overcome a 10-point deficit after the first quarter thanks to Tucker Loynes' 22 points, and some stingy defense that limited Durand to nine points in the second quarter and seven in the fourth quarter.

Travis Milner Jr. (13 points) and Tryce Tokar (12 points) also scored in double figures for the Marauders.

Coach Walker credited the play of Joie Fabus and Mike Bancroft with keeping the Marauders alive after the challenging start. "It would have been easy to let the game slip away, but the bench players rose to the occasion and kept the team in the game. One of the standout moments came in the second quarter, when freshmen Joie Fabus and Junior Mike Bancroft delivered crucial plays. Fabus, who played significant minutes off the bench, scored four points in the period, while Bancroft hit a huge three-pointer to keep the momentum shifting in Ovid-Elsie's favor," Walker said.

Marauder basketballers outlast Chesaning, 58-55, in league thriller

CHESANING -- In a thrilling MMAC rivalry matchup on the road, Ovid-Elsie's boys basketball team fought through adversity to secure a 58-55 win over Chesaning.

It was a rematch of two of the top teams in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference (MMAC) from last season.

Despite a strong first half and a dominant performance from senior guard Tryce Tokar, coach Canyon Walker's Marauder squad had to weather a tough second-half surge from the Indians to come away with the hard-fought victory.

The game started on a high note for Ovid-Elsie, as they came out of the gates hot, outscoring Chesaning 21-11 in the first quarter. "We continued our strong play with another 21-point effort in the second quarter," said coach Walker. "By half-time, we built a 42-24 lead, largely thanks to our high-scoring offense and tough defense, which limited Chesaning to just 24 points in the first half. As the game wore on, we showed some signs of inexperience, struggling to maintain our early intensity."

Chesaning took advantage, outscoring O-E, 31-16, in the second half, and closed the gap to just three points in the final moments of the game. Fortunately for OE, Tokar's hot shooting and the steady play of senior Jake Bowen helped the Marauders keep their heads above water.

Tokar, who had been on fire throughout the game, finished with 25 points, including seven three-pointers—just one short of tying the school record for most threes in a game. Bowen was also a key contributor, going 5-for-8 from the field and 5-for-7 from the free-throw line, adding 15 points to the scoreboard.

"We knew it was going to be a battle going into Chesaning, we knew they would have a second half push but we are also happy to get out of there with a win," explained Walker.



GRIDIRON GURUS

by Tom Turek
sports@meridianweekly.com

Weisenberger outdistances stellar field as top Gridiron Guru of them all

OAKLEY — Rod Weisenberger strung together multiple double-digit wins to — rather easily — outdistance the field in our 2024 Gridiron Guru contest.

The wildly popular contest boasted the most number of players ever. Aspiring gurus were presented a slate of 12 games each week over the 14-week collegiate regular season; the schedule also included a field of six NFL games during 13 of those weeks.

That being said, 168 total games were on the season-long docket. Weisenberger was true on .732% of his selections, with a three-game cushion over his nearest competitor. That may not seem like much ... but believe us, as tight as this competition gets, that's an impressive win total.

For those who played every week, the prize fund ended up being \$100 for first place, \$60 for second place and \$40 for third place. In addition, weekly prizes were given out: a pizza for 1st place, submarine sandwich for 2nd, and breadsticks for third.

Our runner-up Guru for 2024 was a regular top finisher in the contest: Edith Lagunas. Edith selected her winners at an outstanding .714% clip.

Not uncommonly, we had a tie for 3rd place. Russ Ginther and Zach Grieder — two other familiar faces in the weekly winnings — both came in with .708% accuracy.

Each week through the 2024 edition of the contest, the top three winners received a coupon for redemption at the sponsor of their choice; we express our gratitude to our gracious sponsors, Main Street Pizza in Ovid and Twilliger's Tavern in Laingsburg.

Prize certificates can be picked up at The Weekly office in Ovid.

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE 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 12, 2025. 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. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by ROYAL DAVIS AND MARGARET DAVIS to SEATTLE MORTGAGE COMPANY dated April 20, 2006 and recorded May 9, 2006 as Instrument No. 5099800, Clinton County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Longbridge Financial, LLC by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of \$243,403.13. Said premises are located in Clinton County, Michigan and are described as: Beginning on the East-West 1/4 line of said Section 17 at a point 330.85 feet North 89°45'22" West of the center of Section 17, T6N, R1W, Township of Victor, Clinton County, Michigan, thence South 00°02'09" West, 1330.00 feet; thence North 89°45'22" West, 330.85 feet; thence North 00°02'09" East, 1330.00 feet to the East-West 1/4 line of said Section 17; thence South 89°45'22" East, 330.85 feet on said East-West 1/4 line of said Section 17 to the point of beginning. Said property is commonly known as 5434 Green Road, Saint Johns, MI 48879. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 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. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Please be advised that any third party purchaser is responsible for preparing and recording the Sheriff's Deed. If this is a residential Mortgage, the following shall apply: 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 COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU: ARE A DEBTOR IN AN ACTIVE BANKRUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPTCY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY. Dated: December 6, 2024 Attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage: Thomas E. McDonald (P39312) Brock & Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (844) 856-6646 File No. 24-33475

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - CLINTON COUNTY 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 January 08, 2025. 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): Stefan V. Farrell and Tamara Farrell, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: September 26, 2006 Recorded on October 24, 2006, in Document No. 5108090, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. Bank National Association, as successor Indenture Trustee to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Indenture Trustee for GMACM Home Equity Loan Trust 2004-HE3 Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Ninety-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Seven and 38/100 Dollars (\$99,327.38) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Clinton County, and described as: PARCEL A-3: PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 20; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, 476.61 FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 20 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, 225.00 FEET ALONG SAID NORTH LINE; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST, 874.33 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 46 SECONDS WEST 224.99 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 875.96 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as 5130 Pratt Rd, Saint Johns, MI 48879 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. U.S. Bank National Association, as successor Indenture Trustee to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Indenture Trustee for GMACM Home Equity Loan Trust 2004-HE3 Mortgage/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

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CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE 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. 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 a.m. on January 8, 2025. 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. **DEFAULT** having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made on December 2, 2014, by Kareem Everett, a single man, given by him to Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, of 3777 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823, as Mortgagee, and recorded on December 11, 2014, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Clinton County, in Instrument Number 5222408; on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due and unpaid, as of the date of this Notice, the sum of Sixty-Nine Thousand Two Hundred Five and 85/100 Dollars (\$69,205.85); and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt or any part thereof secured by said Mortgage, and the power of sale in said Mortgage having become operative by reason of such default; **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, at the South entrance to the Clinton County Courthouse, 100 E. State Street (M21), St. Johns, Michigan, that being one of the places for holding the Circuit Court for Clinton County, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder or bidders at public auction or venue for purposes of satisfying the amounts due and unpaid on said Mortgage, together with all allowable costs of sale and includable attorney fees, the lands and premises in said Mortgage mentioned and described as follows: **SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BATH, COUNTY OF CLINTON, STATE OF MICHIGAN:** Lots 11, 12 and 13, Supervisor's Plat Number 1, of a part of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Town 5 North, Range 1 West, Bath Township, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 14, Clinton County Records, **ALSO**, a part of Outlot C of said Supervisor's Plat Number 1, Bath Township, described as beginning at the/ Southeast Corner of Lot

11, Supervisor's Plat Number 1, running thence West 30.6 feet thence South 300.2 feet, thence East 30.6 feet, thence North 300.2 feet, to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Also, Lot 31, Culver's Plat Number 1, a plat thereof as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 4, Clinton County Records. **AND** That part of Lot 30, Culver's Plat Number 1, Bath Township, Clinton County, Michigan, described as: Beginning at the Northeast corner of Lot 30, thence Northwesterly along the Northerly lot line to the Northwest corner of said lot, thence Southwesterly along the Westerly lot line to the point of intersection thereon, thence Southwesterly to a point on the Easterly lot line which is 34 feet Southerly along the Easterly lot line from the Northeast corner of Lot 30, thence Northerly along the Easterly lot line 34 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as: 15793 Culver Drive, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 Tax Parcel Numbers: 010-160-000-030-01; 010-160-000-031-00; 010-380-000-011-00 and 010-380-000-135-00 The period within which the above premises may be redeemed shall expire six (6) months from the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with M.C.L.A. Sec. 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the time of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the mortgagor(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. This notice is from a debt collector. Dated: November 18, 2024 **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** of East Lansing, Michigan, Mortgagee **FOSTER, SWIFT, COLLINS & SMITH, P.C.** Benjamin J. Price Attorneys for Mortgagee 313 S. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48933 (517) 371-8253

(12-01)(12-22)

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF CLINTON NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Case No: 24-32407-DE Estate of JANET LOU TEEGARDIN, Date of Birth: August 7, 1943 **NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:** The decedent, JANET LOU TEEGARDIN Died: October 28, 2022 Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased will be forever barred unless presented to Sharon Williams, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 201 E. State St. Ste. 3400, St. Johns, MI 48879 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Sharon Williams
5656 E. Centerline Road
St. Johns, MI 48879

Jessica Blake P79847
PO Box 7038
Huntington Woods, MI 48070
(313) 424-8685

(12-22)

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 January 8, 2025. 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): Susan K. McMillen, a single woman
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint
Mortgage Servicing
Date of Mortgage: October 9, 2006
Date of Mortgage Recording: October 31, 2006
Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$87,791.89

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Watertown, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 35, Westwinds No. 2, a subdivision on the East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 13, Town 5 North, Range 3 West, Watertown Township, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 4 of Plats, Pages 31-32, Clinton County Records. Common street address (if any): 13140 Shadybrook Ln, Dewitt, MI 48820-9252

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: December 8, 2024
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