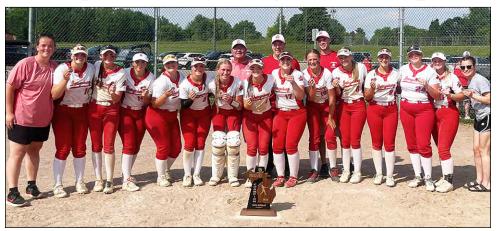
Meridian Weekly



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Wolfpack Softball Regional Champions



Laingsburg Varsity Softball Team

Team includes: Alayna Merrell, Alaina Asher, Juliette Latuszek, Harper Strouse, Bella Latuszek, Savvy Stirm, Morgan LaMacchia, Skylar Stiff, Willow Patterson, Kali Spade, Addyson Buchin, Jaylynn Smith, Peyton Stahr, Makenna Johnston, Coach Jeff Cheadle, Coach Madisyn Rawza,. Photo by Burg Sports

Marathon Champions: Wolfpack Outlasts Titans for Regional Crown

LESLIE — At Laingsburg High School, they open up the weight room every morning at 6

Half of the varsity softball roster regularly shows up.

That kind of stamina and endurance training paid off nicely for the Lady Wolfpack here at the MHSAA Regionals -- a two-game challenge that turned into a marathon.

First, Jeff Cheadle's Wolves outlasted Bronson, 5-3, in 7 innings in the Regional semifinal. Then, they logged a nerve-wracking 11 innings to wrap up the Regional title, 5-4 over Jackson

"The girls deserved it," Cheadle explained. "They worked hard, all season long, and you could tell, going back-to-back. I thought they gritted it out and fought to the very end.

Bronson saw its season come to an end with the 5-3 loss. The Wolfpack scored all five of their runs in the third inning on six hits, a sacrifice fly, and a bases-loaded walk, forcing the Vikings to play catch-up the rest of the contest. Bronson picked up two runs in the third and one in the fifth. They had a golden opportunity to tie the game in the sixth, but a two-out groundout stranded the tying run off Laingsburg starter and winner Addy Buchin. She allowed three runs on 10 hits, striking out five hitters and walking none

The Vikings closed out their season with a record of 29-10. Laingsburg, at 23-11-1 and ranked 5th in Division 3, moved on to challenge Lumen Christi for the Regional championship. It would be the Wolfpack's second Regional crown in three years.

Junior standout Bella Latuszek was once again the Wolves' dramatic late-game star, lofting a sac fly that plated Savvy Stirm with a walk-off, 5-4 win in the bottom of the 11th for the title. Stirm was placed on second base in the bottom of the 11th and moved to third on an another flyout near the rightfield foul line.

Under MHSAA rules, a runner is placed at second base to start each inning after the 10th, if a game is still tied. Home team was decided by a coin flip before the game at Leslie High

Lumen Christi's Erin O'Dowd opened the scoring with a home run in the opening inning. Laingsgburg then chased Titans' starter Bella Wrozek with a 4th inning uprising that ended with a 4-1 lead. Latuszek singled, then the Titans booted an error that tied the game at 1-1.

continued on page 8

Special Board of Education Meeting -Administrators as Coaches Debate

by Dawn D Levey
ELSIE - A special meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held Wednesday, June 11, 2025. There was one agenda item – Administrative Coaching Policy discussion. A full house of students, parents and community were present in support of the administrators coaching.

Jason Tokar addressed the board with a thoughtful and informational message to the members of the school board. He addressed legal consequences regarding discussing disci-plinary events of specific students, parents are concerned. He provided information for officials, identifying the roles and responsibilities of staff, conflict of interest and a resolution process. Parent complaints should be forward to administration.



Public comment was extensive and emo-

tional at times. It was noted that the letters received from individuals who requested that they be read and were shared. The letters were in support of administrators coaching – who better to lead us than those who are invested in our students, many are skilled, we want what is best for our teams and our students. The letters over whelming were in support of administrators as coaches. Additional public comment included the following. The visibility of administrator's builds a stronger community, enriching our school communities, impactful mentors, allow them to lead both in the office and on the field. Strong leaders also serve as life coaches. Many provide strong leadership, the trending of qualified administrator] coaches leaving this district; there are shortages and the administrators fill this gap. Coach/AD McKinney was the focus. Some concerned about the board's recent actions, the culture has developed a bad reputation because of attitudes by officials, what is the purpose a goal of board officials. Overwhelming support for administrators. Challenge, make decisions based on coaches that will prepare these students for life, figure it out. Do what is best for kids. Is this a topic once again, when does it end. They keep leaving why? It is amazing that key people are unable to attend because they are at events with kids.

A number of the board members indicated that they received comments from community members both in favor of administrators coaching and those in opposition. Board members Susan Kadlek and Mary Thompson indicated that those in opposition were afraid to address the public. This comment did prompt a response from the public because of the individuals present had never addressed the Ovid-Elsie School Board before. Board members shared their ideas regarding a policy.

Mark Horak, soon to be O-E Area Schools superintendent, commented that he does not favor a policy prohibiting administrators and/or teachers from coaching but feels each situation should be handled on a case-by-case basis. He prepared a memo for board members regarding how he is proposing to address the issue, specifically addressing Mr. Shaun McKinney as athletic director and girls' varsity basketball. McKinney shows the ability and skills to address multiple responsibilities. He listed the potential benefits like continuity and proven leadership, and concerns that need to be monitored including conflict of interest, oversight structures, and time constraints. The full recommendations will be presented for formal consideration at the July 2025 board meeting. Horak noted that a one-size fits all approach would not be effective. There was a general consensus among the board members present that the proposal addresses the concerns they have presented.



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Social

Mint Country Garden Club

submitted by Cherie Delger

Mint Country Garden Club will be having a garden tour this month, June 26th, at 6:30 pm located at MI Lavender Patch Farms, 1949 W Taft Road, St. Johns , MI 48879. Annette Humphries will be our speaker and guide. Call or text Cherie at 989-277-7788 for more information. We would love to have you ioin us.





Walkers Celebrating 70th Anniversary

Leroy Walker married the love of his life Marilyn Perry on June 18, 1955, at the Hier home, Leroy's parents, and the reception was held at the Odd Fellow Hall.

Together they had two daughters, Cindy and Michelle.

The couple resided in Ovid all their lives until the last few years when they moved to Laingsburg to be closer to their daughter Michelle.

Their whole marriage they enjoyed spending time in their RV and still do to this day. Their family includes daughters Cindy & Al Bulemore and Michelle & Steve Halm; 8 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren with one on the way.

Cards can be sent to 8740 Hollister Rd., Laingsburg, MI 48848



Burger Night is Back

The American Legion Post 248 in Laingsburg will be doing burger night on Wednesdays, from 5:00 -7:30p.m. through July. There will be burgers and hand cut fries. Bring the family out for a delicious meal.

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107th Annual **Ola Holiness Camp**

submitted by Jerry Drummond

Ola Holiness Camp Meeting will be held June 15th – June 22th, 7 p.m. each evening

The camp is located at 7212 S Bagley Rd. (US-127), Ashley, MI 48806 (1/2-mile North of M57 on US127).

This is the 107th year for Ola Camp. Camp meetings were common several years ago, but have become a rare occurrence in our day. I encourage you to take this opportunity to participate in these 8 days set aside for spiritual refreshing and a coming together of our community.

The purpose of our camp meeting is for people to have a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit. The speaker for the week is Reverend Dale Freed, who grew up in Alma and is serving as an evangelist to various denominations. Our worship leader is Freeman Yoder a member of the board. You can check us out on facebook at Ola Camp Ashley MI.

Dress is casual and the atmosphere is peaceful.

Memorial Healthcare to Host Free Lunch and Learn on "What is Osteopathic **Manipulative Medicine?**"

submitted by Dianna Vsetula

Owosso - Memorial Healthcare will be hosting a FREE community Lunch and Learn presentation on Tuesday, July 22nd from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Owosso.

The topic of this educational presentation will be on "What is Osteopathic Medicine?" and will be presented by Dr. Reddog Sina from Memorial Healthcare Institute for

This presentation will be held at Memorial Healthcare's Auditorium,

826 W. King Street, Owosso. Please RSVP to Becky Dahlke, Community Resource Manager at (989) 729-4856 or by email at RDahlke@memorialhealthcare.org. RSVPs are due by Tuesday, July 15th.

visit,

information please www.MemorialHealthcare.org

Calling All Golfers submitted by Lisa Jelenek

It's that time of year again Clothesline/Connection have their annual golf outing at Pine Hills in Laingsburg. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 12, 2025. Check in begins at 8:30 with shotgun start at 9:30. \$70 per person or \$280 for a team. Each team will receive a golf survivor pack and a welcoming goodie bag. Register by calling Greg Beavers at Pine Hills (517-651-9700) or visit our website more information

(www.laingsburgclotheslineconnection.org) First place prize is four 18 hole rounds of golf with cart and range balls at Eagle

Food will be served at the turn and pizza at the conclusion as we raffle off wonderful prizes from Peacock Farms hayride, Bonnie Lucille, Propagation Station, Lakeside Garden, DG Hair Salon, Leading Edge, Little Hawk, Tammy's Bakery, and many more from local businesses.

Åll funds raised will go toward continuing our free tutoring at The Connection which opened 2024 and replacing old carpeting and lighting in The Clothesline, which has served our community since 2006! Open Saturdays 10-2:00 and Wednesdays 3-6:00 offering high quality, gently used or new clothes for everyone at very low prices or free to those folks referred to us.

Hope to see you there for this fun event which helps us make a big difference! Thanks!

Elsie Village Council Proceedings

ELSIE – The regular meeting of the Elsie Village Council was held Tuesday, June 10, 2025. Officials were updated on the annual Dairy Festival activities.

Mrs. Brook Wooley, Elsie Dairy Festival, presented an update. The festival is slated July 10, 11, and 12. The pageant has a lot of young ladies involved, the jail will be a fund raiser for the Elsie Area Fire Department. The committee decided to include two sets of grand marshals because there are so many couples to be honored. In addition, the Dairy Festival committee will assist with the cost of additional police protection provided by the Elsie Police Department.

Dorothy Orneas, trustee, reported on the Hero Park & Scripture Brick Committee. A work session was held Saturday, June 6, 2025. The park is coming together. The Elsie Masonic Lodge provided lunch and work assistance. Mike White is spear heading the activities at the park.

Next, Ed White updated officials on the status of the Elsie Park improvements. The weather has not been cooperating, painting on the pickle ball court will take place when the rains stop. Duplain Township donated funding for, four soccer nets, and additional were donated so a total of six. The goal is to bet more activity at the Village Park.

Business update, Jason Freeman, village president. The Elsie Lions Club would like to purchase pole flags for the light polls, sixteen in all. There is some question whether the fiberglass polls could sustain the flags. More research will be completed before a decision is made. Discussion followed. Freeman and Bryce met with Capital Catalyst Tim Fear to discuss renewal in the organization, The renewal was put on hold and it will be reevaluated in January. Brief discussion on a possible lease and/or land contract regarding the Emergency Services Building and the Elsie Area Fire Department. Decisions on the matter are open ended while negotiators take

Destinee Bryce, village manager, reported that an applicant was interviewed for a part-time clerical position with the village. The initial job description would be to collect water bills and to become familiar with BS &A. Now waiting for background check to be completed.

Chief Bryce presented the May 2025 Elsie Police Department report, noting that there was a decrease in complaints. There were eighteen traffic stops. In addition, there were twenty-one calls for service including traffic enforcement, motor carrier enforcement, two suspicious situations, assist to another agency, and one mdop complaint.

One zoning application has been requested for the month and letters for blight enforcement have been sent and twelve certified letters regarding lawn issues. Over the weekend there were issues with side by sides, four wheelers and dirt bikes. The issue is being addressed.

In addition, road detours and designated parking areas have been established with the Elsie Dairy Festival committee, as well as, scheduling for officer details and adequate police cover-

Managers report, the flags have been an issue at the cemetery, 432 flags (ten extra) cost is approximately \$538, this is not possible this year. Perhaps a community organization could assist with the purchase. The Village office firewall on the server is non-compliant and would cost \$5,000 to replace; the lien portion must be protected. However, the base work could possibly be stored in the cloud. This topic will be researched further. Bryce discussed issuing work/village related business emails to reduce the paper consumption.

DPW - Clinton County Road Commission provided an estimate for chip seal it, is expensive \$44,000. Bryce reported that the Act 51 funds received have been received for the year. Crack sealing is a band aid for road problems. Officials discussed the options. Officials opted to wait the storm, for one year. So, there are additional funds to do the work right. Bryce commented that, "We need a strategic or master plan before we start the process."

Officials took action to approve the L-4029 - 2025 tax rate request. The L-4029 was approved as presented.

Public Contact Dan Fabus commented on a number of issues. He noted that First Street is in bad shape, the motor bike issues and the speeding vehicles. In addition, he requested that the village consider allowing him to purchase the property owned by village in front of his residence it is just under a half-acre. It was recommended that he talk to his neighbors who may also want the same consideration. The properties are located on Frist Street. The request will be researched further.

Nicole Fickes County Commissioner, - reported on the ticks, bats, bird flu issues as directed by the Mid-Michigan Health Department. In addition, the county belongs to LEAP a service that is available for economic development and a service provided by Clinton County Commission. He infrastructure committee met to discuss the direction of the jail, the timing is not right for a new build; looking at detailed renovation of the current building, this is being evaluated at a cost of \$50,000. Also, at the infrastructure committee is looking the at the Clinton County Fair Grounds evaluating the renovation needs, the next step will be to develop a master plan.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, approval of the May 13, 2025 regular meeting minutes and the May 13th closed session minutes and the financial reports. Expenditures totaling \$74,090.41 were approved.

Music in the Streets and in the Park This **Summer in Laingsburg**

LAINGSBURG -- Popular entertainment events are returning for summer, 2025 in the

City of Laingsburg. Twilliger's Music In the Streets series is featured on Wednesday nights, starting at 6:30 p.m. with the Clarkson Band. The series throughruns October.

variety of bands will be showcased during the



Music in the Park, at McClintock Park Amphitheater by the Laingsburg Business and Community Association (LBCA). Thursdays begin with Open Mic -- for anybody to perform -from 6:00 -7:00 p.m. The concerts follow from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The Summer 2025 lineup includes:

June 19th Atomic Annie

June 26th Tad & The Fat Kats

July 10th Electric Flower Co

July 17th Mixed Flower

July 24th Sudden Impact July 31st Madison Olivia Band

August 7th Universal Band August 14th JP & the Energy

Residents are also reminded to get Summerfest 2025 on their calendars, scheduled for July

The annual Pancake Breakfast will be presented again by the LBCA on July 26th from 8-11 a.m. The annual Car Show also makes it appearance that day.

The Meridian Weekly



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OVID TOWNSHIP DRAFT MINUTES - Thursday, May 22, 2025 1015 Baese Ct., Ovid, MI

Supervisor J. West called the regular meeting to order at 6 p.m., with the Pledge to the Flag.

Roll Call: Supervisor Jennings West, Clerk Claudia Barrett Pluger, Treasurer Nancy Hughson, Trustee Bobby Byles Absent: Trustee Kurt Wolf Guests: 9

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by N. Hughson to approve the agenda, Seconded by B. Byles. Carried. Approval of Minutes: Moved by B. Byles to approve the minutes of April 24, 2025, Seconded by N. Hughson. Carried.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Moved by B. Byles to approve the Treasurer's report, as read, Seconded by J. West. Carried.

Clerk's Report & Check Register: April 25, 2025-May 22, 2025, \$47,026.88: Moved by B. Byles to approve the Clerk's report and register, Seconded by N. Hughson. Carried

New Business:

Great Lakes Asphalt - Parking lot update:

Moved by B. Byles that we go ahead and pay \$1,400 for the second coat of seal coating, as recommended by the asphalt company, Seconded by C.

Roll Call Vote: N. Hughson-Yes, J. West-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried. Rotary Glass, LLC - Door sweeps & stripping:

Moved by J. West to spend the \$779.12 and have Rotary Glass come and fix it all, Seconded by B. Byles.

Roll Call Vote: N. Hughson-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. J. West-Yes, B. Byles-Yes. Carried. Hall Rental of May 17, 2025. Board discussion regarding violations and charges: Motion by B. Byles to keep the deposit, and refund the remainder after repairs, Seconded by J. West.

Roll Call Vote: N. Hughson-No, J. West-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-No. 2-Yes, 2-No. Board discussion.

Motion by N. Hughson to withhold \$110 from the deposit, Seconded by J. West. Roll Call Vote: N. Hughson-Yes, J. West-Yes, B. Byles-No, C. Pluger-No. 2-Yes, 2-No. Board discussion.

Motion by N. Hughson to withhold the entire \$250 deposit. Seconded by B. Byles. Roll Call Vote: J. West-Yes, N. Hughson-Yes, B. Byles-Yes, C. Pluger-Yes. Carried. Reports By:

County Commissioner - Nicole Fickes CAASA - Supervisor Jennings West Public Comments: Opened 6:48 p.m. Closed 6:53 p.m.

Board Comments: None

Adjournment: Motion by B. Byles to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by C. Pluger, Carried, Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Clerk

Ovid Historical Society Fundraiser Ongoing submitted by Karen Anderson, Ovid Historical Society Secretary

OVID - Restoration is in progress for the Mary Meyers Museum, with long-awaited plans are moving forward. After much membership discussion, committee meetings, and estimates, as well as generous donations from the community, projects are underway.

Exterior repairs are being made, and the interior is getting organized with a new facelift, along with a spring cleaning. A committee is currently working on the grounds to give more curb appeal to the house and a venue in a gazebo for events. Another Committee is purging duplicate items and identifying historical artifacts with related significance to the Museum and the History of Ovid. This ongoing project is open to anyone who would like to volunteer to help.

Donation containers in the Ovid area businesses for your convenience, are available for you to help with part of this endeavor. Every dollar counts. If your business or an individual would like to make a financial donation, please send a check to the Ovid Historical Society, PO Box 94. Ovid. MI 48866.

To volunteer your talents or time for upcoming projects, please join the members at a meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at the Mary Meyers Museum, located at 131 West Front St., a block from the Ovid Library. If you want or need any Ovid History, a Historian is available in the History room on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00, located in the City of Ovid Library. The



committee is in the process of scanning all documents with a projected date of October 1, 2025 for completion. The History Room is available to the public at any time the library is open or by appoint-

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Worship Service: 10:30am Pastor:

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

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Worship Service 10:00am

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

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Pastor: Dr. Tom Rundel fcclaingsburg.com

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Temporary Pet Foster Homes Needed

submitted by Kelly Schafer

Giving Paws, headquartered in St. Johns, has partnered with SafeCenter who serves domestic and sexual violence victims in Clinton and Shiawassee Counties. Together the nonprofit organizations are working together to ensure the pets of those who experience domestic and sex-

We know abusers use pets as one way to control their victims in ways that will create a barrier to families living in safety. Some methods include threatening to harm or kill pets, financial abuse that doesn't allow the pets to have needed veterinarian care and blaming the victim for behaviors that may harm a pet. Together, Giving Paws and SafeCenter are ensuring adults and children do not have to make the impossible decision of leaving pets behind.

Giving Paws is currently seeking temporary pet foster homes. Foster homes can expect to have a comprehensive background check, training and support. With grant funding and our generous community, Giving Paws anticipates providing for all needs of pets being fostered. Volunteer foster homes can choose what type of pet(s) work best in their home; we anticipate pets being fostered for 60-90 days.

For more information, please contact Giving Paws at GivingHappyPaws.org, ExecutiveHandler@gmail.com or stopping in to see us at 312 N. Clinton Avenue in St. Johns

MDARD Offers Summer Safety Tips to Help Owners Keep Their Animals Happy and Healthy

submitted by Lynsey Mukomel

LANSING, Mich. — As Michiganders begin to enjoy the warmth of the summer season, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) is sharing some of the best ways to keep animals healthy and safe.

Keep animals safe this summer by following these seven easy tips:

Travel Smart: Make sure animals have everything they need to travel safely

Be sure your animals have all the documentation, vaccinations, tests and treatments they need to reach their destination. Vaccinations are central to animals' preventative care as the vaccines can protect them against common diseases, such as rabies, leptospirosis and distemper. Talk to your veterinarian to ensure your animals have everything they need to be ready to go! More information can also be found on MDARD's Animal ID and Movement page and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Pet Travel website.

Let it Flow: Provide unlimited cool, clean, fresh water

Just like people, animals can quickly get parched in hot temperatures. No matter the species, animals should have access to an abundant supply of cool, clean, fresh water to prevent dehy-

Happy Tummies: Avoid feeding animals people foods

While it may be tempting to toss your animals a few crispy nuggets from the grill, they cannot enjoy all the same foods and treats as we do. Salty, fatty, and/or highly seasoned foods (like chips, nuts and meat fat) can cause digestive upset. Also, chocolate, grapes/raisins, onions and xylitol (an artificial sweetener found in many candies and gum) can be poisonous to animals; and bones can cause injury and illness.

Know Their Limits: An animal's ability to tolerate heat varies

An animal's age, breed, type of coat, and health history can all play a role in their ability to tolerate the heat. Keep an eye on them for signs of heat stress—like increased panting or drooling and being more lethargic. If they are showing these signs, it is time to immediately move them

Look Before They Splash: Avoid harmful algal blooms (HABs) in bodies of water

HABs form due to a rapid growth of cyanobacteria, also called blue-green algae, which are naturally found in lakes, rivers and ponds. To prevent illness in animals, keep them out of areas with scums or discolored water, rinse them off after contact with any lake water, and bring clean, fresh water for them to drink. If an animal becomes sick after contact with a suspected HAB, call your veterinarian right away.

Also, animal illness due to HABs is reportable to MDARD. To report cases, submit a Reportable Disease Form or call 800-292-3939. To report any suspicious looking algae, email algaebloom@michigan.gov.

Search No More: Make sure animals have proper identification

With all the fun outdoor activities, it can be easy for animals to sneak away and become lost. Make sure they have identification tags and/or microchips that are up to date with your current contact information, ensuring a better chance they can be returned home.

Small Circle of Friends: Keep animals away from wildlife, ill animals and animals of unknown health status

Any animal, domestic or wild, has the potential to carry disease. Even if an animal looks healthy, it could still be ill and pass unwanted germs to your animals. Protect your animals by keeping them away from any unfamiliar creatures.

These tips can help keep your animals safe and healthy throughout the summer. If there are any concerns about your animals' health now or throughout the year, please talk to your veteri-

Editorial

Cougar Cubs and Readings
For over a century in
Michigan there has been a
debate amongst not only
hunters and DNR officials but
also wildlife biologists over the
existence of wild cougars
roaming the state. The last
known native cougar docu-



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

mented was in 1906 when it was caught in a trap belonging to former Governor and owner and editor of Sault News, Chase Salmon Osborn Sr. His eighteen year old son Chase Jr., along with teen friend Ted LaLonde, attempted to dispatch the cougar but three rounds were not enough so they needed to go back to camp and return with a more adequate supply. The hide of the cougar was given to Michigan State Supreme Court Justice and former State Attorney General Charles Austin Blair. Blair was a son of Michigan's venerated Civil War governor, Austin Blair. The pelt was made into a rug and the front page article from the Sault News detailing the event was framed for display.

Since that time there has been almost a complete denial and claim from the DNR that any sightings most certainly must be pets that had escaped captivity. As more and more sightings occurred during the 20th Century and then later DNA samples were collected the company line out of Lansing was that these cougars were transients and just passing through in an easterly direction from their origin on the northern plains. Then the standard response from the DNR

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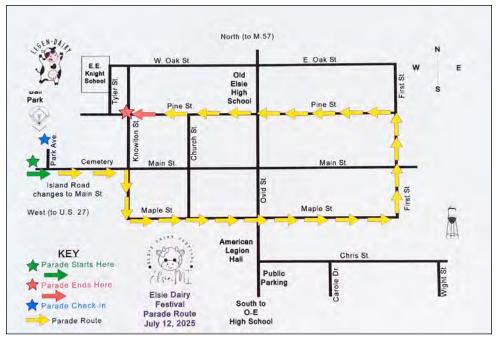
changed to that there may be a resident male population but certainly not a breeding population and thus a continued justification to not manage the alleged male only population. Then in March of 2025 it finally happened... 7-9 week old cougar cubs were spotted in Ontonagon County in the western Upper Peninsula. Could it be? Was this for real? Well, the DNR has acknowledged their existence in a press release with an almost celebrious and braggerous attitude that Michigan has the habitat to support such an elusive creature. Ironic to say the least.

The Weekly Sportsman has been following this whole saga play out with very keen interest for about 25 years. Brother in law and Yooper native Don McKay, written about before in this column, shared a story many times over about a cougar seeking refuge in a small brushy area in the middle of a cedar swamp that had been clear cut just north of the airport in Hessle. Don often recalls that time when bowhunting with his son and son in law and they heard blood curdling screams let loose by this feline beast while making their way eastward back towards a hunting cabin. Neither the hunters nor the cougar

were very comfortable. Around this same time the drumbeat was really becoming louder as blurred trail cam pics and articles about scat and DNA started filling statewide papers with Sunday feature stories that at the time only inflamed the stories about what existed in the northern woods. Throw in a posting by federal authorities at Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore and sand dunes to be cautious and alert because of recent cougar sightings and one has to start wondering what the DNR was hiding or didn't want to address.

In 2005 Bob Butz authored the book Beast of Never, Cat of Good which is a one stop read with very credible citations and sources about the history of cougars in Michigan and most recent sightings. Butz traveled the state and talked to many witnesses and attended a lot of town hall meetings to uncover proof that countered statements from the DNR. In this book, the author spends a lot of ink highlighting Dr. Patrick Rusz and his work at the Michigan Wildlife Conservancy headquartered at the Bengel Wildlife Center in Bath. Through extensive DNA sampling from hair and scat Rusz and others authored many studies released and published in scientific wildlife journals. While some take issue with collection methods Rusz definitely took the cougar debate from backwoods legends to modern day wildlife management. Two years later, the existence of Michigan cougars continued to gain credibility when they were the cover story of the Michigan History January/February 2007 issue. From there things went rampant with more and more trail cam photos and cougar roadkills being documented but still the same broken record from the DNR as to the lack of a breeding population. In 2024 Aaron J. Veselenak authored Silent Spring the Panther: Historic Accounts of Michigan Big Cat Attacks which iss a very deep dive covering cougar attacks from southern to northern Michigan from settlement of our state to present. A tremendous amount of research was done including the use of many primary and secondary sources with accounts that at one time filled local newspapers. As the author separates fact from fiction the pages come alive with tales that will raise neck hair and give the reader goose bumps. All three literary sources give a fascinating account and call into question what is really happening in the remote areas of Michigan. They will all leave the reader wondering what the truth is about these cougars. Some may have dismissed parts or the whole entirety but things have changed. These writings have been validated in their reports with the recent confirmation of cougar cubs in the western Upper Peninsula.

In an era of strained budgets and the inability of the DNR to manage wildlife properly one has to wonder about the future management of a breeding cougar population in Michigan. After decades of uncertainty the DNR can no longer give denials and make excuses. Regardless of whether from original native Michigan bloodlines, or from a transient population from the northern plains, there is a current breeding population of cougars in Michigan.



Elsie Dairy Festival Accepting Parade Entries

submitted by Michelle Salander

The Elsie Dairy Festival parade will be on July 12th, 2025 at 11am. and is still accepting entries until June 28th, 2025.

You can email me at: michelle.elsiedairyparade@gmail.com

The parade line up will be at the Elsie park. This years parade theme is cow print/history of Elsie."

Michigan Youth Challenge Academy Class #52 to Graduate

submitted by Michael Kroll

LANSING, — The Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA) will hold a graduation ceremony for 117 cadets at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at Marshall High School at 701 N. Marshall Ave., Marshall, MI 49068. Doors will open at 9 a.m. and the ceremony is open to the public.

The graduating class consists of cadets from across the state, hailing from 40 different counties: Allegan, Alpena, Baraga, Barry, Bay, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Clinton, Genesee, Hillsdale, Ingham, Iosco, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Leelanau, Livingston, Macomb, Mecosta, Midland, Monroe, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Ogemaw, Osceola, Otsego, Ottawa, Sanilac, Schoolcraft, Shiawassee, St. Joseph, St. Clair, VanBuren, Washtenaw, Wayne and Wexford.

The voluntary academy is a cost-free alternative education program which offers at-promise youth the opportunity to change their future. As part of the curriculum, cadets participate in drill and ceremony formations, meet physical fitness standards, perform community service and receive classroom instruction.

Of the 117 anticipated graduates in this cycle, 90 are earning their high school diploma while the remaining cadets will continue their academic pursuits toward earning their high school diploma upon their return home. Over the past 22 weeks, cadets have performed more than 5,100 hours of community service to help individuals and organizations in the Battle Creek area.

Class #53 will begin on July 13, 2025 and the MYCA is encouraging interested cadets and families to submit their application as quickly as possible here: Admissions Process. For more information, contact Jayme Ham at 269-968-1397, Joan Miller at 269-968-1368 or Yasser Quadri at 269-968-1048.

Graduates of the MYCA are eligible for the Michigan Job Challenge Program, an extension program of the MYCA, which teaches workplace essentials, provides opportunities to learn a skilled trade and assists with job placement.

About Michigan Youth Challenge Academy

The Michigan Youth Challenge Academy educates, trains and mentors at-promise youth in a quasi-military environment at no cost to participants, giving young people the skills to become productive and responsible citizens. Applying the military model to alternative education, the Academy promotes competency development through academic opportunities, life skills and vocational preparation. Visit Michigan Youth Challenge Academy.



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Must include name.

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Piano Recitals

On Thursday, June 5, 2025 two piano recitals were held at the home of instructor, Sue Palen, at 6672 Taft Rd, Ovid, MI. Students invited family and friends and each performed two pieces of their choosing. Those taking part included:



Back row: Wyatt Boots, Mike Tribley, Reagan Gothop, Emmie Smith, Aubrey Smith and Mrs. Palen

Front row: Paige Boots, Katie Tribley, Clara Kibby and

Not able to perform was Leighton Latz.



Back row: Scout Pattison, Elijah Doyle, Rachel Ladiski Front row: Macyn Orth, Lincoln Peterson, Harper Peterson and Vivian Platte



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Big Band Jazz Coming to St. Johns on June 18th

submitted by Bill Tennant

Get ready to tap your toes - snap your fingers - move in your seats -and eventually get up and dance - you won't be able to sit still as The General Assembly Big Band, with vocalist Paula Jury Jarvis, rolls into the beautiful St Johns City Park for an unforgettable evening of Big Band Jazz. This concert will take place on Wednesday evening, June 18 starting at 7:00 in the William E. Tennant Performance Shell.

The Big Band sound that gained popularity in the 40's has continued to maintain a following as it continues to grow, creating new sounds, while continuing to honor the major bands of the past. You'll hear songs from the likes of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, etc., combined with more contemporary tunes written in the big band format on this Wednesday concert.

"This 17-piece band will totally blow you away with their great iconic sound," states Bill Tennant, series coordinator. Since its founding in 1972, The General Assembly Big Band has been entertaining audiences on the west-side of the state, fulfilling their mission to keep the big band sound alive for future generations. Whether you're a jazz aficionado or simply looking for an enjoyable summer evening, this concert is not to be missed."

The Concert in the Park series is co-sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns. As the committee continue to raise funds for the much-needed addition to the back of the Shell, we have a third sponsor for each concert this year. The sponsor for this wonderful concert is the William and Rosemary McCarthy Living Trust. Bill and Rosemary were regular attendees of the Concert in the Park series for many years and will be recognized at this concert.

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.

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Speakers at the event included those who had vital roles in bringing the new hospital to fruition or who help operate the current UM Health-Sparrow Ionia. Speakers were (from left) Bill Roeser, former hospital president; Linda Reetz, current president; Connie O'Malley, regional chief operating officer, U-M Health; U-M Health board member and former Ionia Mayor Dan Balice; and current Mayor and board member John Milewski.

UM Health-Sparrow Ionia Celebrates 10 Years of **Rural Care**

submitted by John Foren

IONIA, MÍ Dozens of community leaders and team members celebrated 10th anniversary of the advanced new University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Ionia hospital



Monday, honoring a decade of growth and improved access to health care for rural residents.

At an event at the hospital, 3565 S. State Road, speakers noted the additional health care services UM Health-Sparrow Ionia has brought to the community and the vital role it plays in Ionia County and surrounding areas.

We are the only hospital in Ionia County, so we have a purpose here, a strong purpose," said Linda Reetz, president of UM Health-Ionia and Eaton. "Thank you for supporting rural health care. It's a need, it's a necessity.

The hospital was dedicated on June 4, 2015, after the original Ionia County Memorial Hospital nearly closed as it aged beyond repair. The new 65,000-square-foot hospital was built for \$25 million and included all-new technology, along with LEED certification for meeting strict environmental standards.

Ten years later, "Growth is happening across the region," noted Connie O'Malley, regional chief operating officer for U-M Health, including a pain center, cardiac rehabilitation, urology and pulmonology services.

For more information on UM Health-Sparrow Health Care Scholarships, go to UofMhealthsparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/um-health-sparrow-hospitals/ionia.





Elsie Lioness Club serving up sno-cones at OE Field Day

Ovid-Elsie Field Day

submitted by Carolyn Long
We were fortunate to have nice weather for field day this year and a large crowd. It was bitter-sweet for Mr Doug Long for his last field day.

He puts a lot of time and energy into this day. His students are always excited and look forward to it each year.

Doug Long enjoying his last field day as he is retiring from OE Schools.

The Elsie Lioness Club again this year sold snow-cones during field day. Thanks to all those Lioness that took the time to work and those that shaved ice also. The Lioness Club sold over 750 snocones. As you can see some have more than 1-2-3 or 6!

Dave O'Bryant had his food trailer out for the event and was elated by how busy he was also. His trailer made a good place for and the parents other guest that were out watching to eat. Dave said he ran out of almost everything!

Thank you Mr Long for your patience and time with our children. May you enjoy your retire-

ment and the next chapter in your life.

Catch the Clarkson's **Every** Wednesday

Now thru October, Jack Tess Clarkson will appear on the patio outside of Twilliger's Tavern in downtown Laingbsurg from 6:30pm-9:00pm every

Wednesday evening. Gather up your friends and enjoy some great music.



2517 W. Dewey Rd., Owosso

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ESTIMATES

LCC Performing Arts Presents A Midsummer Night's Dream

submitted by Laura Paige Tufford-Dunckel

LANSING-Lansing Community College's Performing Arts program kicks off its 2025 summer season with one of the most popular and



widely performed Shakespearean comedies, A Midsummer Night's Dream. All performances begin at 7 p.m. at the outdoor amphitheater. In the event of rain or extreme heat, performances will move to the Dart Auditorium. All performances are free. Donations will be accepted. For more information, go to www.lcc/showinfo

June 25-29 @ 7 p.m., A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare, Directed by Mary Job.

A story of order and disorder, reality and appearance and love and marriage, A Midsummer Night's Dream tells the twisted and humorous tale of four love-swept Athenian youths escaping parental and royal matchmaking, a bickering fairy king and queen, a royal wedding, and a rambunctious group of vorking-class citizens aspiring to perform in the roles of their

Pictured: Storm Hawthorn (Helena), Lukas Nowak (Demetrius), Logan Natvig (Puck), Sarah Lehman (Cobweb), Dinah DeWald (Moth) and Carlisle Shelson (Mustardseed).



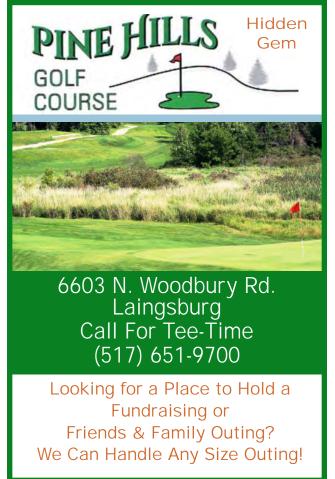
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Sports

Champions cont' from front

The next three runs came quickly: Peyton Stahr singled in Latuszek. MaKenna Johnston and JuJu Latuszek each drew RBI walks with the bases loaded, and it was 4-1.

Lumen Christi tied the contest in the 5th, after Lily Ganton stole home on a double steal

and Wrozek singled to right, scoring two RBI assisted by a Wolfpack error.

Talk about endurance. Wolfpack ace Buchin threw all 18 innings on the day. Against Bronson, she allowed three runs on 10 hits, striking out five hitters and walking none. In the regional final, she surrendered four runs — three earned — on 10 hits, tallying 11 strikeouts and

Ollie Powers took the loss for Lumen Christi, after coming on in relief in the 4th frame. She wiggled out of a jam in the bottom of the eighth inning with Laingsburg having the winning run at third with one out.



Photos by Burg Sports



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Another Heartbreaker: Lady Wolves Come Oh-So-Close, But Drop 10-9 Nod to Grass Lake in Softball Quarterfinals

JACKSON -- Another nail-biter. Another heart-breaker.

Laingsburg High School's red-hot varsity softball team cooled off just enough to suffer a one-run loss that ousted team from the MHSAA post-season tournament, just two wins short of the State Finals.

Grass Lake (35-5 overall) outlasted Laingsburg, winning 10-9 to advance to the state semifinals for the first time in the Warriors' school history. Jeff Cheadle's Wolfpack closed the books on another fine season at 24-12-1. Too, the Wolves bid a fond farewell to graduating seniors Addy Buchin and Willow Patterson -- who have given so much to a program that qualified for the State Quarterfinals two of the last three years and make the MHSAA D3 Semifinals in 2023.

We played tough against a very good hitting team. We played well, basically we came up maybe one hit from advancing," explained Cheadle, who has skippered the LHS program since

For softball afficiendos, this game had it all. Great defensive plays, including a pair of 6th inning gems by Makenna Johnston in rightfield for LHS, which held it to a one-run game. Timely pitching in spots by both Buchin and Grass Lake winner Morgan Conrad, logging key

But mostly, outstanding hitting. At times, this was a slugfest. Offense wasn't hard to come by; Grass Lake and Laingsburg traded the lead back and forth and combined for 19 runs and 23 hits in the game, and each team had an inning in which they batted around.

To open the first inning, Laingsburg's Bella Latuszek got an RBI double off ball hit deep into right field. Then Buchin hit Latuszek home while getting thrown out at 1st to take a 2-0 advan-

In the bottom of the first, the Warriors knotted the score at 2-2. The bases were loaded after a double by Leilah Smith and a single off a bunt by Makenzie Hilberer. Conrad was thrown out at first, but was able to send Bree Salts home to end the first inning at 2-2.

The Wolfpack responded with a big 3rd inning. With two out, Latuszek got things going when GL third-sacker Kennedy Collins booted a grounder. Peyton Stahr hit a grounder past the shortstop for an RBI single, before Harper Strouse sent a ball to deep center field for a 2-RBI double that got the Wolfpack the lead at 5-4. Alaina Asher topped off the inning with an RBI single to extend the lead 6-4. The Wolfpack's momentum carried over into the 4th as Latuszek sent a line drive to centerfield for a single as LHS led 7-4 in the 4th.

The storyline also featured redemption. Collins bounced back from her costly error, drilling a RBI triple after big hits by Emily Brown and and Bree Salts. The Warriors stormed back to take a 8-7 advantage in the bottom of the 4th.

Grass Lake eventually chipped away to add two more runs for a 10-7 lead. Buchin hit a 2-RBI double for the Wolfpack to make it 10-9 entering the 7th inning. The Wolves got runners into scoring position at 2nd and 3rd with two outs, but a pop-out foul to Collins ended the rollercoaster contest.

Grass Lake catcher Salts went 3-3 with two doubles, two runs, and three RBI. Leliah Smith, Collins and Reese Lape each added two hits. Conrad earned the pitching win, throwing all seven innings and 126 total pitches.

Bella Latuszek batted 3-for-4 to lead Laingsburg. Buchin plated four RBI while going 2-for-3. Savvy Stirm and Strouse also had a pair of hits, Strouse -- the junior catcher -- driving in two runs. Alaina Asher and Peyton Stahr hit singles, while Alayna Merrell, Buchin and JuJu Latuszek drew tough walks off Conrad.

Buchin fired 142 pitches, striking out 7 and walking five while allowing 13 hits.

'I thought the season was very successful," explained Cheadle. "We played an extremely hard schedule to challenge us. I think it paid off for the state playoff run. We were District Champs and Regional Champs, and made a Quarterfinal appearance. Our players played with a lot of grit and competed everyday. I had a fun time coaching this group.'

Said Grass Lake coach Roger Cook, "We were the home team today, so getting to move on to the next round for the first time makes this season even more fun. This win represents not just Grass Lake as a community but all of Jackson County. It'll be exciting to step onto the field at MSU for the first time and hopefully we can keep this rolling.

The Warriors advanced to face Algonac (24-14-1) in the MHSAA D3 State Semifinals on Friday at Secchia Stadium at Michigan State University.

Photos by Burg Sports



MDARD Launches Interactive Dairy Map for National Dairy Month

submitted by Lynsey Mukomel

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) unveiled an interactive artisanal dairy products map today to mark National Dairy Month this June.

"Dairy is a leading sector of Michigan's agriculture industry and has a significant impact on the state's economy," said MDARD Director Tim Boring during a visit to Verdant Hollow Farms in Buchanan earlier today. "National Dairy Month provides a perfect opportunity to celebrate the contributions of dairy farmers and processors to Michigan's economy and encourage dairy consumption to promote healthy eating habits."

Since 1939, National Dairy Month has encouraged families to celebrate milk as their beverage of choice based on its nutritional value. As part of this year's Dairy Month celebration, MDARD created the virtual Michigan artisanal cheese, milk, and ice cream map to help consumers find delicious, locally produced specialty products throughout the state. The map features 11 Michigan dairy farms and processors from across the state specializing in small batch production of dairy cow and dairy goat products.

Michigan's robust dairy industry includes nearly 850 dairy family farms and over 444,000 cows, which produce enough milk to supply our entire state while meeting increased consumer demand nationally. From milk and cheese to yogurt, ice cream, and more, dairy farmers provide consumers with an abundant selection of healthy, safe and nutritious food.

Michigan dairy businesses use a range of technologies, from large dairy processors with automated 'robotic' milking systems to smaller on-farm artisanal cheese makers making cheese in small batches. MDARD is committed to supporting unique, diverse agricultural practices that support farms of all sizes, which in turn helps Michigan's economy continue to thrive.

For nutrition information about dairy products, visit USDA's MyPlate page.

More Michigan Dairy Facts

To identify which dairy products are produced in Michigan, look for Michigan's state code, 26, on the package. Each dairy container is identified by a 5-digit code. The first two numbers are the state code; the last three indicate which processing facility produced the dairy products.

Michigan's dairy industry ranks 6th nationally in total pounds of milk produced, with a production of 12.1 billion pounds of milk in 2024.

Michigan dairy farms produced more than one billion pounds of milk in nine of the last 12 months, as part of an elite group of five other states to hit this mark.

Michigan milk production averaged 27,580 pounds of milk per cow in 2024, leading the nation.

There are 138 licensed dairy processing facilities (Grade A, manufacturing, transfer stations and cleaning facilities). In addition to bottling milk into gallon, half gallon, and pint-sized containers, our processors also make cheese, ice cream, yogurt, dry powdered products and infant formula.

There are a total of 828 Grade A dairy farms and 20 Manufacturing Grade dairy farms in Michigan, for a total of 848 permitted dairy farms.

Michigan has 327 robotic milking units (automated milking installations) on 70 farms, and 133 pasteurizer units in use statewide.

MDARD Seeks Proposals for Food Safety Education, Training Grants

submitted by Lynsey Mukomel

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) is seeking proposals for food safety education and training as part of the annual Food Safety Education Fund grant program. The grant cycle for 2025-2026 runs from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

"Protecting Michigan's food supply is one of MDARD's top priorities," said MDARD Director Tim Boring. "Grants from the Food Safety Education Fund help deliver training that local governments and food service businesses depend on to help keep Michiganders and their families safe."

The Food Safety Education Fund was established under Section 4117 of the Michigan Food Law of 2000, as amended, and is funded through assessments of \$3.00 to \$5.00 from each Michigan food establishment license.

Up to \$356,600 is available during the 2025-2026 grant cycle for projects focused on food safety training and education. Of the total budget, \$242,500 will be available for consumer food safety education and \$114,100 for education to food service establishment employees and agents of the MDARD director.

Grants from the Food Safety Education Fund are competitive and designed to provide food safety training and education to consumers, food service establishment employees, and staff from state and local government agencies who enforce the Michigan Food Law of 2000. Those eligible to receive grants include Michigan governmental and non-profit organizations and entities. Producers, manufacturing processors, marketers and growers are NOT eligible for this grant opportunity.

Proposals with sub-grantees will be considered. Proposals should not include funding for required routine training such as HACCP or manager certification such as ServSafe.

An electronic copy of the Request for Proposals, including grant criteria and the new application form, are available on MDARD's website.

MDARD will score and select proposals based on the following criteria:

- · Goals/objectives to improve food safety
- · Statewide need and audience
- · Measurable outcomes
- · Partnering with other organizations
- · Matching funds
- · Opportunities to build upon previously funded projects

Applicants are encouraged to submit grant applications electronically. Applications should be sent to: MDARD-FSEF@michigan.gov. Electronic submissions are due no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, June 16, 2025, and will be confirmed via email receipt. If you have not received a confirmation email within five business days of submission, please email MDARD-FSEF@michigan.gov.

Hard copy submissions must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, June 12, 2025, to allow time for delivery. Hard copies should be mailed to:

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Bureau of Food Safety and Animal Health, Human Food Division

P.O. Box 30017 Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Joint Evaluation Committees will convene in July and August 2025 to review and make recommendations to MDARD on the proposals to be awarded. MDARD will announce grant awards in September 2025 for projects that run from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026. MDARD considers multi-year proposals on an individual basis, contingent on future year funding.

Shiawassee County Fair Entries

submitted by Dawn Reha

Shiawassee County Fair, August 3-9, 2025, is only weeks away! There are endless opportunities for Shiawassee County residents of any age to showcase their talents at the Fair. Online entries from in-county residents are accepted June 1-15. The link to complete the online entries can be found on the website, www.shiawasseefair.com. Need help with your online entry? Call the Fair office at 989-743-3611 to schedule an appointment and we can help you with the process!

Live outside of Shiawassee County and want to participate?

We have you covered! Out of county residents are invited to enter projects in the still exhibit building or in the dog program. Out of County entry period is June 16-20.

Exhibitor Guide Books are available at the Fair Office, public libraries and at many businesses throughout Shiawassee and surrounding counties. You can also access the digital copy on the website.

Don't miss the best week of the year - Shiawassee County Fair - August 3-9.

Sports







Ellie Drummond

Robert Kral

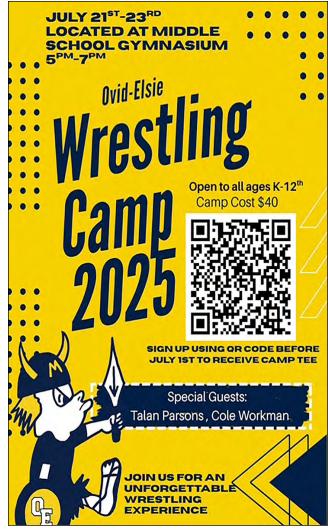
Carson Litwiller

24-25 MSAC All-Conference Softball and Baseball

by Ashleigh Kaufmann

Ashley had some athletes honored this season for their accomplishments on the field. Ellie Drummond received MSAC all-conference honorable mention team for her performance this season.

Carson Litwiller received first team all-conference, and Robert Kral received honorable mention. Congratulations to these athletes on their hard work and dedication





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COUNTY LEGAL INTON

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE FAMILY DIVISION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF SHIAWASSEE

ABBIGAIL ELIZABETH AUGUSTA

EX-PARTE ORDER FOR ALTERNATIVE SERVICE

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Corunna, Michigan on June 9, 2025 Present: Honorable Thomas Dignan Family Court Judge

Petitioner filed an ex parte motion for service of process by publication. After reading the motion and exhibit, the court finds that petitioner has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Bryan Augusta by the methods provided in MCR 2.105.

The court further finds that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Bryan Augusta actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Petitioner may serve process on Bryan Augusta by publishing the following notice once each for a period of three consecutive weeks in The Meridian Weekly (a newspaper in Clinton County, Michigan.)

"In the matter of Abbigail Elizabeth Augusta, adoptee, TO: Bryan Augusta: TAKE NOTICE on Tuesday, July 15,2025 in the Shiawassee Circuit Court, Family Division for the State of Michigan. located at 110 East Mack Street, Corunna, MI 48817, a hearing will be held on the PETITION FOR HEARING TO IDENTIFY FATHER AND DETERMINE OR TERMINATE HIS RIGHTS. The law provides that you should be notified of this hearing. If you fail to appear at the hear ing YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE TERMINATED."

2. The address of Bryan Augusta is currently unknow.

Thomas Dignan P42382 Family Court Judge June 9, 2025

(06/15-06/29)

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 auc tion sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of hold-ing the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on July 16, 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 reg-ister of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge fee for this information: me(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew N. Ohlemacher Jr, a married man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage

Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns cessors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any):
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Date of Mortgage: June 21, 2023
Date of Mortgage Recording: June 29,

Amount claimed due on date of notice \$187,909.94 Description of the mortgaged premis es: Situated in Village of Maple Rapids, Clinton County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 7 and the South 14 feet of Lot 8, Block 8, B.P. Hutchinsons Subdivision of Maple Rapids, Village of Maple Rapids, Clinton County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as record-ed in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 14, Clinton County Records Common street address (if any): 226 N Ewen St, Maple Rapids, MI 48853 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).

1600.3240(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 15, 2025 Trott Law, P.C.

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

1564135 (06-15)(07-06)

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 cir-cuit court in CLINTON County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on July 2, 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. MORT-GAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Maria E. Soliz, a single woman, whose address is 108 Floral Avenue, Saint Johns, Michigan 48879, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGIS-TRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR MERCANTILE BANK OF MICHIGAN, being a mortgage dated October 29, 2019, and recorded on November 18, 2019 with Document Number 5286207, Clinton County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to NewRez LLC and then assigned to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated July 19, 2023 and recorded on July 19, 2023 and given document number 5337111 in Clinton County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR AND 90/100 DOL-LARS (\$76,924.90). Said premises are situated in the City of Saint Johns, County of Clinton, State of Michigan, county of Chinion, State of Michigan, and are described as: THE EAST 30 FEET OF LOT 5 AND THE WEST 9 FEET OF LOT 4, AVENUE ADDITION BLK 4, CITY OF ST. JOHNS, CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 1 OF PLATS, PAGE 8, CLINTON COUNTY RECORDS Street Address: 108 Floral Avenue, Saint Johns, Michigan 48879 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a fore-closure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 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. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLEC-TOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CON-CLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY. PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTOR-NEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOS-ING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: June 1, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490),

MI 25 6511 (06-01)(06-22)

Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009.

Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.:

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 ce of holding the circuit court in Clinton County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on JULY 16, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing greater on the day of the sale. Plac the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the proper-ty. 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 Sylvester Eugene Sherrill and Carol J. Sherrill, formerly Carol J. Arrell, husband and vife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Newrez LLC, Mortgagee, dated August 18, 2022 and recorded August 29, 2022 in Instrument Number 5328560 Clinton County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, by assignment.
There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand One Hundred Eight and 64/100 Dollars

(\$124,108.64). Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Clinton County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on JULY 16, 2025.

Said premises are located in the Township of GREENBUSH, Clinton County Michigan, and are described

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH SECTION LINE DISTANT 757.62 FEET NORTH 87°32' WEST FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 8 AND OF SAID SECTION 8 AND EXTENDING THENCE SOUTH 02°15' WEST 150 FEET, THENCE NORTH 87°32' WEST 80 FEET, THENCE NORTH 02°15' EAST 150.00 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 87°32' EAST 80 FEET, ALONG THE NORTH SECTION LINE (MAPLE RAPIDS ROAD) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. ALL IN SECTION 8, T8N, R2W. 2119 W Maple Rapids Rd, Saint

Johns, Michigan 48879
The redemption period shall be 6
months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accor dance 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. Dated: June 15, 2025 File No. 25-007693 Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(06-15)(07-06)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORE-CLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclo-

sure 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 August 13, 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 encour aged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance com-pany, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Josephine G. Freund to Longbridge Financial, LLC dated January 10, 2025 and recorded January 21, 2025 as Instrument No. 5350898, Clinton County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Said thirtigge Financial, LLC by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of \$114,236.95. Said premis-

the sum of \$114,236.93. Same pro-es are located in Clinton County, Michigan and are described as: TE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WATERTOWN COUNTY OF CLINTON, STATE OF MICHIGAN, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LANDS AND PREM-ISES SITUATED IN THE OF TOWNSHIP WATERTOWN COUN-TY OF CLINTON AND STATE OF MICHIGAN, VIZ: COMMENCING ON THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 17. TOWN 5 NORTH, RANGE 3 MEST, WATERTOWN TOWNSHIP, CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AT A POINT 550 FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION, THENCE WEST 270 FEET, THENCE NORTH 200 FEET. THENCE EAST 270 FEET. THENCE SOUTH 200 FEET TO

THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Parcel ID: 150-017-400-035-00 Said

property is commonly known as 13752 Forest Hill Road, Grand

Ledge, MI 48837. The redemption

period shall be 12 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 peri-od. 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 attor ney 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 BANK-RUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPT-CY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAF-FIRMED THE DEBT. THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATION-AL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A AS AN ALTEMPT TO COLLECT A
DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY.
Dated: May 27, 2025 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

(06-01)(06-22)

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF GLADWIN

CASE NUMBER: 2025-12456-CH

HOLLY ALLEN, an individual and CHARLES ALLEN, an individual Plaintiffs

ESTATE OF JOHN I KESSLER IR And ESTATE OF EILEEN F. KESSLER

LEFEVRE ASSOCIATES, PLLC

By: William Z. Kolobaric (P49466) Attorneys for Plaintiff 6120 Trumbull Detroit, MI 48208 PH: (313) 583-4121 FX: (313) 583-4201 william@shsgrp.com julia@shsgrp.com

ORDER GRANTING PLAIN-TIFFS' VERIFIED EX-PARTE MOTION FOR ALTERNATIVE SERVICE

At a session of said Court in Gladwin, Gladwin County, State of Michigan On: May 12, 2025 PRESENT: HON:

Michelle J. Ambrozaitis, Circuit Court Judge

This matter having come before the Court upon Plaintiffs Verified Ex-parte Motion for Alternative Service and the Court being otherwise fully advised in

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that: A. Service is allowed on the Defendants by publication in the legal newspaper for Clinton County for

three consecutive weeks. B. Defendants are required to file an Answer or otherwise respond no later than 28 days from the date of the third

publication.

C. Plaintiffs are entitled to default all Defendants who have failed to file and serve an Answer or otherwise responded within the specified time period. This order is neither an final order nor closes the case.

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE AND FORM:

Michelle I Ambrozaitis Circuit Court Judge

William Z. Kolobaric (P49466)

(06-01)(06-15)



CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT **COUNTY OF CLINTON** NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decendent's Estate/Trust

LORAYNE B. OTTO, Deceased Date of birth: November 23, 1929 NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

LORAYNE B. OTTO

died April 25, 2025 Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to co-Trustees of the Lorayne B. Otto Trust dated May 1, 2003, at 18477 Pellett Drive, Fenton, MI 48430; and 13625 Sienna Pass, DeWitt, MI 48820 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Lorie J. Krebs, co-Trustee 18477 Pellett Drive Fenton, MI 48430 (248) 705-9054

Luanne B. Stilwell, co-Trustee 13625 Sienna Pass DeWitt, MI 48820 (517) 490-7385

Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C. Douglas A. Mielock, P42924 313 South Washington Square Lansing, MI 48933 (517) 371-8203

(06-15)

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GARAGE SALE

ST. JOHNS GARAGE SALE: 19th, 20th; 9am-5pm. 1242 Astwood Mews. John Deere lawn mower, 738 4 wheel drive, hand & electric tools, lots of misc, some clothes. Have moved, not enough room!

GARAGE SALE ST. JOHNS: June 19th- 20th-21st. 8am-4pm. Christmas items, antiques, silverware, glassware, hostas, crafts - including towels, 1960's high chair, outdoor decor, old jewelry, shoes - clothes. 2895 Loomis Rd. St. Johns. 1790

LAND WANTED

WANTED: Farm Land wanted to rent for 2025 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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Big Day of Golf, Fundraising for Laingsburg Alumni Legacy Award

LAINGSBURG -- Golfers prayed for good weather to accompany their first outing of they year at Pine Hills Golf Course.

And they -- mostly -- got

A cloudy day, devoid of rain, greeted linksters to the 4th annual Laingsburg Alumni Legacy Award (LALA) golf outing -- a major fundraiser for the effort, that this spring granted a pair of scholarships to LHS seniors on Honors Night, May 20.

The winning foursome of C.J. Lott, Jake Munson, Justin Hier and Zack Goodrich fired a blistering 56 to finish 14-under and take home the top prize. They won in a tie-breaker over 2nd place team Kam Brown, Eric Nunn, Jack Bouck and Tom Turek.



The winning foursome of Jake Munson, C.J. Lott, Justin Hier and Zack Goodrich fired a blistering 56 to finish 14-under and take home top honors from this year's Wolfpack Legacy Golf Outing. If you're interested in joining support for the Laingsburg Alumni Legacy Award, please contact Tom Turek at tomturek20032003@yahoo.com.

The event raised upwards of \$7,000, with the LALA committee extending a big "thank you" to Pine Hills Golf Course for their gracious hosting of the event.

Also, gratitude went out to the event sponsors who made it all possible: Laingsburg Lions Club, Wolfpack Sports Boosters, Gene McGrath, Frank Mallon, Feighner Boat Lifts & Docks, Shaheen Chevrolet, the Meridian Weekly, The Dolan Family, an anonymous Detroit Tigers sponsor and Cross, Ragsdale and Associates.

Thanks to the generous support of corporate and individual sponsors, a \$5,000 award is available to Laingsburg High School seniors. The first grants were awarded in May, 2023 to LHS seniors Chloe Stork and Caleb Boettcher; last year, the recipients were LHS seniors Hannah Sebenick and Jaylei Kramer.

The LALA awards are off and running. An alumni committee of LHS grads created a 501(c)3 scholarship fund to help graduates attend schools of higher learning. Alumni are now being asked to help support a future LHS graduate attend his or her choice of schools to advance their knowledge and carry the Laingsburg Legacy to new heights. Contributions can be of any amount at the donor's discretion; a typical gift is just \$100 per year.

Persons wishing to make a contribution to the Legacy Award, or for more information, can contact Christian Ragsdale, Class of 2013, at 403 Haley Court, Laingsburg, MI 48848, or Tom Turek, Class of 1975, at tomturek20032003@yahoo.com.

Ovid Historical Society News

submitted by Historian Ken Miller

The Ovid Historical Society successfully arranged to remove the large 740 pound file cabinet from within the Ovid Historical Societies History Room. With the help of Liam, Gabe and Logan Thompson; children of Lance & Mary Ehlert Thompson, of Ovid Iron and Metal. With the aid of an appliance cart, fork truck and the strong effort by the young Thompson boys; room was made for appropriate book shelves in our small storage room.

Historian Ken Miller; formally of Ovid is in the process of organizing and digitizing Ovid's history.

The history room is open to the public on Tuesdays 1-3 in the Ovid Public Library.





Celebrating the University of Michigan Health-Sparrow scholarship recipients for Clinton County are (from left) UM Health-Sparrow Clinton Director of Operations Kevin Hansen, UM Health-Sparrow Clinton Medical Chief of Staff Mark Weismiller, M.D., students Brenda McCann, Anna McCann, Ian Goodrich, Emma Arts, Adeline Pung, Mia Ballard, and Megan Verhougstaete, UM Health-Sparrow Clinton Chief Nursing Officer Mariah Hesse and UM Health-Sparrow Clinton President Mark Brisboe. Not pictured: students Chloe Feldpausch, Phoenix Miller, and Kathryn Thornton.

UM Health-Sparrow Clinton Awards Scholarships to Local Students

submitted by John Foren

ST. JOHNS – University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Clinton has awarded

\$1,000 scholarships to 10 Clinton County high school students who intend to pursue higher education in a health-related field.

The funds for these scholarships have been generously donated by benefactors of UM Health-Sparrow, including the Merten and Geraldine Whyman Health Careers Scholarship Endowment Fund, an endowment fund established in 1986 for Clinton County students pursuing health related curriculums, and the Clinton Physician Impact Fund, dedicated to advancing students in the Clinton community.

The scholarships are being awarded with the hope of supporting the graduates in achieving their goals and, in turn, encouraging them to assist UM Health-Sparrow Clinton's highly skilled team members in their efforts to provide leading-edge and compassionate care, close to home.

2025 UM Health-Sparrow Health Care Scholarship recipients for Clinton County are:

- Emma Arts, of St. Johns, who plans to study Nursing or Exercise Science at Central Michigan University.
 - Mia Ballard, of St. Johns, who plans to study Nursing at Lansing Community College.
 - Chloe Feldpausch, of Fowler, who plans to study Nursing at Lansing Community College.
- Ian Goodrich, of DeWitt, who plans to study Biology at the University of Michigan or Michigan State University.
- Adeline Pung, of Westphalia, who plans to study Kinesiology at the University of Michigan.
- Kathryn Thornton, of Elsie, who plans to study Exercise Science at Central Michigan University.
- Megan Verhougstaete, of DeWitt, who plans to study Human Biology at Michigan State University.

2025 UM Health-Sparrow Clinton Physician Impact Fund Award recipients are:

- Anna McCann, of St. Johns, who plans to study Engineering at the University of Michigan.
 Brenda McCann, of St. Johns, who plans to study Engineering at the University of
- Michigan.

 Phoenix Miller, of St. Johns, who plans to study Physics/Astrophysics at Michigan State University

For more information on UM Health-Sparrow Health Care Scholarships, go to UofMHealthSparrow.org/Scholarships.







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