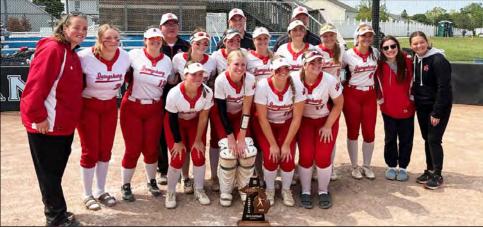
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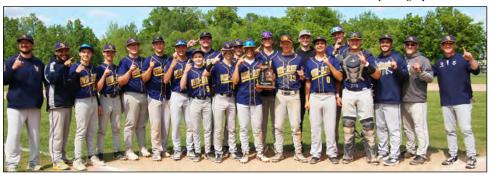
**VOLUME 33 • ISSUE 1789** June 8, 2025 12 PAGES

# **District** 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



**Ovid-Elsie Varsity Baseball** 

Team includes: Sean Silapatkul, Blake Fabus, Joe Zuniga, Jaxon Ladiski, Javen Belill, Corbyn Janes, Jayce Herblet, Brody Howard, Clayton Fruchey, Hunter Long, Tucker Loynes, Daniel Topping, Lance Wiktorowski, Jake Bowen, Coach Ben Skoczylas, Coach Mike Loynes, Coach Photo by Mid-Michigan Area Athletic News

## **State Champion**

It's official. Ovid-Elsie standout pole vaulter Tryce Tokar will complete his high school career ... undefeat-

Tokar vaulted himself to a four-straight individual State Title with a vault of 15'0".

Stories and photos on pages 7, 8 & 12

Tryce Tokar





Laingsburg Varsity Soccer

Team includes: Erin Pohlod, Emilee Mertens, Kierra Rusz, Payge Woodworth, Allie Brasseur, Alayna Nanasy, Lillian Platte, Kendal Hoard, Sydney Curtis, Ella Dorman, Hayden Wilson, Ivy Collier, Addison Rusz, Sarah Kibzey, Madison Phillips, Samantha Gutzman, Ines De Juan, Gwenith Clark, Lila Esch, Raegan Cousineau, Samantha Knoblauch, Paige Erickson, Aleigha Highfield. Head Coach: John Hill. Asst. Coach: Geoff Heyd. Photo by Emma Heyd

## **OE** Teacher and Employee of the Year

Ovid Elsie Area Schools is proud to announce their 2025 Teacher and Employee of the Year Award Recipients. After receiving over 100 nominations from the school community, our teams selected two very deserving candidates: Ruben Nodarse and Ginger Kusnier.

Ruben Nodarse is a Spanish Teacher at Ovid Elsie High School. He is originally from Havana, Cuba and grew up in Hamtramck, MI. He has taught in OE for 22 years and retires this school year. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Central Michigan University and teaching credentials from Spring Arbor University. Ruben has Employee of year Ginger Kusnier and taught Spanish, PE, Life Skills, Algebra, Reading Teacher of year Ruben Nodarse and Computers throughout the years. Prior to teach-



ing he was a licensed EMT and worked in physical therapy clinics, colleges, pro-baseball and high schools as an athletic trainer since 1987. His other accolades include: Employee of the Month at Clinton Memorial Hospital, the Dale Carnegie Award, and at Ovid Elsie Area Schools: The 101% Award and the Marauder Motivator Award. When asked what the best thing about his career was, he said, "The relationships with the students. I learned from them as much as they did from me. Making a difference does not always seem obvious but as I reflect on it, teachers make a difference in our students' lives." He is looking forward to retirement in Florida with his wife, Cheryl and dog Tank.

Ginger Kusnier is a true staple of the Ovid-Elsie community. She has dedicated an incredible 35 years to the OE kitchens, serving as Head Cook for the last 30 years. A proud Ovid native and 1987 Ovid Elsie graduate herself, Ginger's commitment extends beyond her work; she's also actively involved in a book club and religious education at Holy Family Catholic Church in Ovid. When asked about the most rewarding aspect of her long and impactful career, Ginger shared that she most cherishes the relationships she's built with both her colleagues and the students. She will be missed next year as she heads into the next chapter of her life in retirement.



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## Social

## **Mint Country** Garden Club

submitted by Cherie

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



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## **Elsie Library Adventures**

The Summer Reading Challenge is here. Feel free to start signing up as you visit. This challenge is for all ages. If you are reading this article, then you should come and sign up. I will do my best to find a book that will might enjoy. I have an extremely humorous author in mind! We will have flyers and a sign-up book at the front desk.

The Summer Reading Program also begins on June 11th. There will be a story, craft and a snack on each Wednesday for six weeks. This year we are adding crafts and fun geared for the middle-aged children, as well.

On June 9, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Morgan Terrell will be here from the IQhub in St. Johns. The program will be about seeds and plant needs. Join us that afternoon and plant seeds to take home and watch grow! The IQhub has so many nautical events planned this summer around shipwrecks.

There is a jar by the front desk with tickets for a yearly drawing of two Elsie Dairy Festival tickets. If I can't guilt you into the reading challenge, maybe I can dangle an orange ticket in front of you. Seriously, the adult tickets are orange!

The representative from Potter Park left a paper about a program called FALCONERS. I quote, "FALCONERS is a program designed to allow children or adults with unique abilities (such as autism or developmental disabilities) and their whole family to have an enriching education experience in a safe, welcoming and sensory friendly environment." Seriously, this is a monthly event and free for the family members/support group. Most events include activities and crafts in the zoo AND snacks!!! We have a QR to scan here at the library, but I imagine it can be found on-line, as well. Sounds like a wonderful outing! Come and get a free Potter Park Zoo pass at the library....how can you beat free?

The Elsie Library Book Club will meet Thursday, June 12 at 6:00 pm. We read (or are reading) "The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot." The author Marianne Cronin managed to tackle the subject of terminal illness with such poignant insight into the personalities and lives of the two women. A good read, to be sure! This is the last book club meeting until September 11th, please come in a join us then!

The next Elsie Public Library Board meeting will be held on June 18, at 7:00 pm.

Ovid Public Library
On Monday, June 9 we will be having our Adult Booktasting at 1:00. Come join us to see what books are popular right now. Or maybe find an old classic. Share what you've been reading with others, too. We look forward to knowing what everyone is reading.

If you haven't signed up for the summer reading program, you can still do that. Make sure you take care of all overdue books. Also, if you are signing up for the summer reading program, you need to have a library card from the Ovid Public Library. You just need to bring something with your current address on it such as your drivers license or a piece of mail. Only books checked out with your Ovid Public Library card count towards your goal.

TWO

D∰G

TAVERN

Laingsburg

After many ideas, conversations and tears, we have made the decision to close the Two Dog Tavern for a bit to heal from our loss.

James was not only our son, he was a brother, a friend, co worker and more. He ran our kitchen.... he gave us his best and entertained us daily.

He will be greatly missed by many and we need some time to navigate through our new path. We hope you all understand as I know many of you have experienced this pain. That's why we call you family and love you all.

We will miss you for a few weeks and hope to come back as good as you remember! Follow us on Facebook for updates.

Much love from Rich, Dee, Maggie, Brittany, Jaymie,

## **Music in the Park Series Returns with Clarkson Band** on June 12th

LAINGSBURG -- Bring your blankets and chairs, and come on out to McClintock Park to enjoy Music in the Park. This free event is hosted by the LBCA (Laingsburg Business and Community Association) and weekly event sponsors.

It to the amphitheater returns on Thursday, June 12 from 6 to 9 p.m.



Tess and Jack Clarkson

The kickoff event for 2025 in the Clarksons Band, with a "special guest," with the evening sponsor by Memorial Healthcare of Owosso.

The LBCA has some great bands for the 2025 season, along with a variety of delicious food trucks that makes it fun for the whole family.

Check out the lineup for 2025 and follow our Facebook page to keep up to date with the latest events. The complete schedule is posted at http://www.laingsburgbuiness.org/musicin-the-park-1.

## **Ovid Historical Society Fundraiser**

submitted by Karen Anderson, Ovid Historical Society Secretary

- 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 appointment.

**Ola Holiness Camp Meeting** June 15th - June 22th 7 p.m. Each Evening 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 piritual refreshing and a coming together of our commu-

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.



# 126th Army Band Opens the St. Johns Concert in the Park Season

submitted by Bill Tennant

The St. Johns Concert in the Park series is starting its 22nd season off with a bang as the 126th Army Band leads the charge into a remarkable season of great performances. This highly anticipated opening concert will take place in the William E. Tennant Performance Shell on Wednesday, June 11 at 7:00 p.m.in the beautiful St Johns City Park.

"It doesn't get any better than this," says William Tennant, chair of the Concert in the Park Committee. "We're thrilled to have the 126th Army Band kick off our series this year. Their music brings a sense of pride and unity to our community – we are so looking forward to this special opening performance."

The 126th Army Band of the Michigan National Guard, the "Governor's Own" as of 2013, has been entertaining the citizens of Michigan and beyond for over 6 decades. The band, currently under the leadership of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kimberly Ferrante, has a rich history of performing at various events and ceremonies nation-wide. The band trades its roots to the 119th Field Artillery Band, with service dating back to the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II. Following several reorganizations, the current unit was officially designated as the 126th Army Band on February 1, 1968.

The 30-member band, based at the Belmont Armory and assigned to the Michigan National Guard Headquarters in Lansing, will be performing a variety of traditional band music along with a patriotic set of compositions. Don't miss this great opportunity to experience the 126th Army Band live and in concert. Join us for an evening of exceptional music and community spirit.

The Concert in the Park series is co-sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns. A third sponsor for each concert has been added this year as the Shell Committee continues to raise funds for a much-needed addition to the city park facility. The St. Johns Kiwanis Club has graciously donated to the building fund and will be recognized at this grand opening concert.

The summer concerts are open to the public free of charge – donations are graciously accepted. The Lion's Club food trailer will be available this year and as always, all concerts are presented every Wednesday rain or shine.

So, set your GPS to 801 W Park St, St Johns - bring a chair or blanket and enjoy the evening! The CCAC receives funding from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THERE WILL BE A BUDGET HEARING FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR FOR ASHLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, ASHLEY, MICHIGAN.

DATE OF MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025

PLACE OF MEETING: ASHLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS MEDIA

CENTER 104 N NEW ST ASHLEY, MI 48806

**HOUR OF MEETING: 6:30 P.M.** 

PHONE NUMBER OF PRINCIPLE OFFICE OF

**BOARD OF EDUCATION: 989-847-4000** 

A COPY OF THE BUDGET IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE AT 104 N. NEW STREET, ASHLEY, MI.

PURPOSE OF MEETING: The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Ashleigh Shaw Secretary, Board of Education



## **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 sexual violence have care.

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

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



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You can pay with Venmo - @TERRYFOREGOLF

\*\*\* DEADLINE - AUGUST 2 2025 \*\*\*

## Obituaries

### Michael Patrick Jeffreys

Michael Patrick Jeffreys, age 69, of Ovid, MI, passed away Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at his home.

Michael was born in Bay City, Michigan on February 17, 1956, the son of James Patrick and Margaret Agnes (Widmayer) Jeffreys. He graduated from Ovid-Elsie High School in 1974. He worked for Federal Mogul for many years.

Mike's life revolved around cars, motorcycles, boats or anything with an engine. He loved his adopted cats, Red and Buddy. He enjoyed taking care of his lawn and cooking.

He is survived by five siblings: Lynda (Russell) Mallery, Jill (Andrew) Arthur, Mark (Kari Vaughn) Jeffreys, Michelle (Thomas) Hatta, and Ellen (Kameron Busch) Jeffreys; brother-in-law Charles Wiegel, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister Brenda

A cremation has taken place and a memorial service will take place at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Shiawassee Humane Society or the American Cancer Society. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.



# Church Directory

## **Advertise In Our Church Directory!** Call (989) 834-2264

### **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

163 W. Main St., Elsie Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Watch Sunday Service on YouTube at elsiebaptist Pastor Phillip Rogers

## Laingsburg United **Methodist Church**

210 Crum St., Laingsburg 517-651-5531

Worship Service: 10:30am Pastor:

Kendra Holcomb - Densmore

### **Middlebury United Methodist Church**

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid 989-834-2573

Pastor Kendra Holcomb-Densmore Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

## **Bannister United** Methodist Church

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

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

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

## **ELSIE UNITED METHODIST** CHURCH

160 W. Main St., Elsi e(989) 862-5239

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

### First Congregational Church Laingsburg 01 E, Grand River Road, Laingsburd

(517) 651-6741 Sunday Worship 10:00am Pastor: Dr. Tom Rundel fcclaingsburg.com

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## Jonadene Dorene Lupnitz

Jonadene Dorene Lupnitz, age 79, of Laingsburg, MI, passed away Sunday, June 1, 2025.

Jonadene was born in Ovid, Michigan on April 18, 1946, the daughter of John and Virginia Doris (Holton) Green. She was a graduate of Elsie High School.

Jonadene's children and grandchildren were her whole world. Family meant everything to her. She did enjoy traveling and trips with her sisters. Keeping in touch with family and friends was very important to her. Jonadene's faith was most important to her and her relationship with Jesus.

She is survived by her daughter Rona (Chad) Collier of Laingsburg, MI; daughter Janae (Steve) Helt of Lake Odessa, MI; grandchildren: Janelle (Chase) Jackson, Alex (fiance' Kayla) Craft, Jared (Shannon) Craft, Corryn (fiance Jeff) Collier, Cameron (fiance' Kaylee) Collier, Devin (Kristyn) Purdy, Kris (Sammi) Purdy, Alyssa (Brian) Purdy, Barrett Griffith, Erin (Freddie) Carr, Chase (fiance' Kaitlyn)



Purdy, Meagan (Cameron) Warstler, Connor (Jenny) Helt, Nicklas Helt, Logan Helt, and Madison Helt; many, many great-grandchildren; her sisters: LuAnn Arbogast of Ovid, MI; Jessica Green of Carland, MI; Debbie and Jim Shedd of Traverse City, MI; Dena and Mike Upton of Maple Rapids, MI; Dawn and John Bernat of Elsie, MI; and Denise and Ron Saylor of Ashley, MI; daughter-in-law Rebekah Purdy of Greenville, MI. Jonadene was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Roger "Luke" Lupnitz, her son Tim Purdy, her brother LaMont Green, and brother-in-law Larry Arbogast.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.

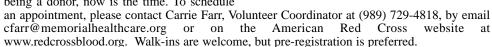
## **Memorial Healthcare Host Blood Drive** June 13

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso -Memorial Healthcare will host an American Red Cross blood drive on Friday, June 13 from 10 am to 3:45 pm at the Memorial Healthcare Auditorium, located at 826 W. King Street, in Owosso.

Did you know, every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood, which means more than 36,000 blood donations are needed every day. With each blood donation this can potentially save up to three lives.

There's a critical shortage of blood and blood products, so if you've been putting off being a donor, now is the time. To schedule







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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

## Editorial



# A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

It has been two very busy weeks since I was able to put ink to paper. During this time I have almost been swamped with a never ending 'to do list'. I had been asked if I would like some Hosta plants. Of course I said yes, I have several places in the yard where there is more shade then sunshine, they would be perfect. So, I said yes. I got a call on Saturday afternoon telling me to come over and that they would dig them and I could take them home. (I had just picked up a twin bed and it was in the back of the truck so I had to unload it first). I did mange but it is still sitting in the dining room until I can get someone to help me take it upstairs. There was a suggestion that if I had a tarp it could be laid on the floor of the pickup bed. It would expedite the unloading process. And it did. During the digging I got to sit back and relax and was a bit overwhelmed with the number of plants that were loaded into my truck. When they were all dug up the bed of my truck was covered with hostas. From the back of the cab to the tailgate flooded with them plus three Yucca plants, a Maple tree, and a rose bush. You're correct, I didn't have the room for all of them. So I made phone calls to friends and relatives. I then did deliveries on Saturday evening to Elwell and Perrington

Dena was pleased with her big bunch and a couple of the Yucca plants. Ryan got both colors of the hostas and one Yucca. I got to visit with them both and then headed home. I did stop at Rolayne's and asked her if she would like some. She has several different types planted beautifully along the rise of her home. I wasn't sure if she would be interested. Fortunately for me she was very interested and I left her with a bushel sized clump of green and white plants. She offered me some of her miniature hostas and I said yes, just not that day. Finally I headed home.

First thing Sunday morning I planted the rosebush in my front yard. I was thrilled because I could dig with a shovel which to me is beyond wonderful. Last year I couldn't have lifted either leg to push the shovel into the ground. This year after all of my 'cook and prod sessions' I could. I am thrilled that I can do more now. That's an Amen blessing. I also delivered Hostas to Therese in Laingsburg and a couple of large clumps to Margie in the St Johns area. I did make it to church on time and then had a cousin ask for some, our back up pianist, Rita came for some and my minister took home quite a few. Pastor Zella and Therese were right on top of it. They surrounded a tree with skirting, added top soil and planted the hostas and used black mulch to finish the job. They kindly sent me pictures of before, during and after...

Yes I did save some for me and Diane. Hers are all planted and mine are still sitting in a five gallon bucket with water. I have to get a place dug up for their new home. My to do list is growing. I still don't have my garden planted but Diane and Brent came over on Monday and lined the last three of my raised bed, put in a layer of straw and filled them with top soil. They also gave me a light 'tongue lashing' for lifting five gallon buckets of dirt. It's nice to know how much they care. Of course, I managed to line up a bit more work for Brent on his day off. I bought four new hard tires for my metal mesh bottomed wagon. He took off two that were flat and I didn't watch so now I'm not sure of the process. Brent is a pretty good sonin-law and is becoming a very good cookie baker.

I hope that Noah can give me some help tomorrow afternoon. She is very agile and strong and I hope that she has the time to take the forty pound box of wax out of the pickup bed and hopefully sweep it out for me. The truck and car are both going into the shop next week. So much for being on top of everything. I will manage as I always do. May you be able to overcome any obstacles that come your way. May God bless you. Enjoy.

Crystal Mitchell@2025



# **Religious Thoughts**

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

Christianity teaches that there is only one way to God and only one way to know Him. This means that all other religious views are invalid and that their followers do not know God. While this sounds harsh and judgmental, we can see that it is nonetheless true by use of an illustration.

Let's say that you are driving in a fairly desolated area and you come to a very small town. Just as you make it into town, your car breaks down. It is still driveable, but definitely needs to get fixed before you try to make it to the next town.

You ask someone if the town as a repair shop and he says yes, Best Fix Repair can do it, and he gives you the location. This person is sure that Best Fix can do the job. They say that they've taken their car there several times, always with great results. They even give you the manager's name.

Sounds good. So you hop in and drive to Best Fix Repair. But when you get there, you find that not only does Best Fix not fix cars, they don't even exist! You double-check the directions and you are in the right place, but no garage in sight. You need to find another place to get your car fixed.

As you're thinking about this, a person walks up to you and says, "You're looking for Best Fix Repair? Well, as you can see, they don't exist. I'm sorry about that, he fools a lot of people with a great sales pitch, but it's all just big talk. But I have good news for you. In town we have a place called Fix it Fast Repair. It's just a couple of blocks down the street and to the right. They'll take care of you, no problem. It's a bit expensive, but they guarantee their work and it's always top notch.

Great! Hopefully you can finally get your car fixed. So you go to Fix it Fast Repair and the same thing happens. They aren't there either! How can this be? You were told, again quite convincingly, that Fix it Fast was here and they were a solid shop. Not only can they not help you, but they can't do so because they don't exist!

About this time a third person approaches you. Similarly to the second, she says, "Fix it Fast Repair? Well, as you can see, they don't exist. I'm sorry about that, I'd like for him to stop telling people that the garage is here, but he's 100% convinced otherwise.

I know this may be hard to believe, but I truly do know of a real garage that actually exists, it's right here in town and can really fix your car. In fact, it's the only garage in town."

By now you have your doubts. Two people have led you to imaginary garages and here before you is a third.

But your car is broken and the town is small; it won't take long to drive there. So you decide to go and ask for the name of the garage and the directions.

"Last Hope Garage," she says. "Just one block down and to your left. Can't miss it."

So you go and find that, yes! Last Hope Garage is actually there! It exists and they can fix your car.

This illustration with the garages is true for different religions. People may be sincere and even adamant that they know the truth and that their beliefs are correct. But when you go and investigate, you'll find that their god or gods do not exist. Since they do not exist, they can do nothing to help you. They can't love you, forgive your sins or give you eternal life. You cannot know them personally.

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."- John 14:6

"Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God—or rather are known by God—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable forces? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? You are observing special days and months and seasons and years!"

- Galatians 4:8-10

Paul in this passage lays out the damaging effects of legalism. We see here that legalism is not from God. It is a "weak" and "miserable" force that enslaves people.

Stated in basic terms, legalism is a way to try to earn or merit God's love and approval through good works. In effect we're saying, "Thank you, Lord, for your grace, but I can take

it from here."

When we engage in legalism, we take our focus off of God, off of the cross, and put it onto ourselves. We try to become good enough in God's sight; to do more so He will love us more. We go to church, get baptized, say prayers. All good things, but with the wrong motives. We worry that we aren't doing enough or aren't good enough. Legalism robs us of our joy in the Lord that we should have and does so every time.

How are some ways to break the bondage of legalism? To escape it's evil clutches? Here are two things we can do:

1. Remember that you have received Christ's righteousness, through faith alone, and this makes you clean and guilt-free before God.

Paul says that Jesus Christ "...has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption."

1 Corinthians 1:30

2. Rest in God's love, knowing that you are His beloved son or daughter.

1 John 3:1-2 says, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!...Dear friends, now we are children of God."

You don't earn the right to become a child of God; it, like salvation, is a free gift from God. It is received by faith in Christ's death on the cross and bodily resurrection from the dead as a full payment for all of your sins.

# Continuing Issues With The Ovid Township Clerk

Letter to the Editor:

- 1. At the February 2024 Board meeting, the Township Board approved publishing the board meeting minutes in the Meridian Weekly Newspaper. In March, the Clerk reported that she had talked with the Township attorney, and there was no law requiring the board to put the meeting minutes into the paper. The board then voted to rescind the approval. At the April 2025 Board meeting, the board again voted and approved publishing the meeting minutes into the Meridian Weekly. Following discussion about the number of days to get the meeting minutes to the paper and published, Trustee Byles offered to provide whatever assistance that the clerk would need to comply with the motion. The clerk responded to Trustee Byles in a very negative, disrespectful and unprofessional manner.
- 2. At the February 2024 Budget meeting, the Clerk acted as the Administrator for the meeting as the Supervisor was running late. The budget meeting ended at 6:30 p.m. The Administrator announced the board would progress directly into the regular monthly meeting that was scheduled to start at 7p.m., even though there was no advance notice given to the public. Residents showed up at 6:45 thinking that they were going to see the regular meeting only to be told that the meeting was almost completed.
- 3. When the Salaries and Pay Raises are set for the Board Members, the actual verbiage is shown as "Resolution To Establish Ovid Township Officers Salary" in the meeting minutes. Actual dollar values are not shown.
- 4. Public comments are not shown in the meeting minutes unless specifically requested by the speaker. These actions by the Clerk show a total disrespectful attitude toward board members, violations of the State of Michigan Constitution of 1963 and the Open Meetings Act, and information being kept from the public

Why? And why can't the Board do something of benefit to the township residents that is above the law?

William Keith Jones Township Resident



Editorials are welcome.

250 words or less.

Email to:

news@meridianweekly.com

Must include name.

# 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.







113 N. Main St., Ovid • 989-834-5389



Back row (l-r): Lions Greg Snider, Dr. Robert Peterson, Past District Governor Brent Beracy, Robin Wooley, Douglas Sturgis, Richard Easlick, Roger Weyersberg, Arden Densmore, Dennis Long, John Shipley and Rick Jones. Seated (l-r): Lion Glenn Tucker and Don Gilbert.

### **Elsie Lions New Officers**

submitted by Richard Easlick

The Elsie Lions Club held their last meeting before summer break, PDG Lion Brent Beracy did the installation of officers for the upcoming year of 2025-2026. New officers are Lion Richard Easlick president, Lion Douglas Sturgis Vice-President, Lion Rick Jones Treasurer and Lion Greg Snider the Secretary.

PDG Lion Brent Beracy also presented, from Lions International, several members with Milestone Chevron Pins for year of service, they are as follows: Lion Rick Jones 15 years, Lion Robert Skaryd Jr. 25 years, Lion Les Loynes 25 years with Elsie Lions Club and a total of 47 years, Lion Jim Stewart 15 years, Lioness Karen Riegle 20 years and Douglas Sturgis accepting on behalf of his mother Joanne Sturgis, deceased, for 30 years of service.

The Elsie Lions Club members today have a total of 734 Years of Service! Serving Our Community!





(l-r): Dominic Scalzo Rockford, Clayton Fruchey OE, Joe Bancroft OE, Tava Kvalevog OE, Pastor Phillip Rogers, Greg Stewart Laingsburg, Tucker Loynes OE and Josiah Rogers Williamston.

## First Baptist Church of Elsie Celebrates 7, 2025 Graduates

submitted by Richard Éaslick

On Sunday June 1st. The First Baptist Church of Elsie honored 7 graduates from Ovid-Elsie, Laingsburg, Rockford and Williamston.

Inspirational comments from the graduates parents, followed by Senior graduate Josiah Rogers sharing his message. The service ended with special prayers for the graduates from the congregation .It was a great day!





## Sports

## Overcoming Obstacles: Marauder Sackers Stun Indians, District Field

NEW LOTHROP — Fourteen innings. Forty-two outs. The opportunity to be ousted. Or to be outstanding.

Overcoming huge obstacles and upsetting the heavily-favored tournament king-wannabe, Ovid-Elsie's varsity baseball turned in the improbable on MHSAA District Tournament Saturday.

Mike Loynes' Marauders won the whole darn thing, for the school's first District crown since 2016.

"We finally put 14 innings together and got rewarded. We got contributions up and down the lineup today," said Loynes, after O-E stunned both Chesaning and New Lothrop for the District championship. "I'm so proud of these guys."

Corby Janes tossed a complete-game gem to upset the undefeated league champion Chesaning Indians, 5-3, in the opener. The Tribe entered the contest with a 26-5 record; O-E was 8-17. No brainer, right?

Wrong. James allowed one earned run (three runs total) in the victory over Chesaning, and if the Tribe was saving ace Brady Sager for a possible second game ... well, they waited too long. The Marauders roughed up starter Adam Woodcock for 5 hits and 5 runs in 4 2/3 innings, before Sager came on in relief.

It was too late. Dan Topping had driven in two runs with two hits, and Jake Bowen added a RBI from his #3 slot, with Lance Wiktorowski, Clayton Fruchey and Javen Belill all hitting safely for the

victors. Chesaning threatened in the bottom of the 7th, tallying one run, before Janes slammed the door shut. The Indians rapped 9 hits, but left 9 runners on base.

Head Coach, Mike Loynes, hoisting the

Photo by Mid-Michigan Area Athletic

Marauders 1st District Championship

District Championship Trophy.

On to the title game. Howard only surrendered two earned runs in O-E's win over New Lothrop, an unlikely 7-2 romp that ended the Hornet season at 15-18. The Hornets took an ill-fated1-0 lead in the first inning on a double by Jameson Kopschitz.

The Hornets took an ill-fated1-0 lead in the first inning on a double by Jameson Kopschitz. Howard then threw four-straight shutout innings and retired 11 of 13 batters, while his offense staked him to a 5-2 lead.

O-E scored five unanswered in the first inning, initially with an infield single from Howard

that combined with a New Lothrop fielding error allowed Clayton Fruchey to score. O-E took a 3-1 lead in the second inning with an RBI double from Witkorowski and a sacrifice fly off Fruchey's bat that plated Logan Brown.

The Manual of State of the lead to 5.1.

The Marauders scored single runs in the third and fifth innings to extend the lead to 5-1. Daniel Topping hit an RBI single in the third inning, and Javen Belill scored on a fielder's choice in the fifth after being hit by pitch earlier in the frame.

Howard faced trouble in the sixth inning when, with the Marauders leading 5-2, New Lothrop had the tying runner at the plate with no outs. But he got out of the jam with two popouts and a strikeout to end the frame.

Howard finished the game in the seventh with a strikeout of Kopschitz. He allowed five hits over the seven innings, struck out four batters and walked two.

New Lothrop had advanced to the final with a 8-6 victory over Montrose, yet another MMAC rival, in Saturday's opening contest.

O-E advanced to Wednesday's regional semifinal, traveling to Lansing Catholic (18-6) to face the Cougars.



## Wolfpack Girls Claim Another Division 3 Girls Soccer District

DANSVILLE -- Laingsburg got goals from Kierra Rusz and Payge Woodworth in nail down a girls soccer District Championship here May 29. The Lady Wolfpack won for the 14th time in 20 games, need-

The Lady Wolfpack won for the 14th time in 20 games, needing an extra session to get past the Bees. Rusz's shot found the back of the net in the second extra session. Assists on the LHS goals went to Kierra Rusz and Madison Phillips.

Erin Pohlad was stellar in goal again for the Wolves as she she stymied the Bees with four saves in five attempts.

Bath had advanced to the District Final with a 3-2 win over Lansing Christian. Laingsburg advanced to the title game with a 4-0 shutout past Dansville.





#2 Emilee Mertens connects with ball during the District Final agains Bath. Team mate #25 Aleigha Highfield looks on. Photo by Emma Heyd





## Junior Leagues Now Forming Starts June 12th



**\$5 Sibling Discount** 

Beginner Session starts at 8:30am to 10:30am. Students will be taught swing, rules and etiquette. A couple holes will be played to teach course management.

Second session starts at 11am to 1pm and is geared for more competitive play.

Clinic teaching and the group will play up to 9 holes.

<u>Sunday</u> from 5pm-7pm for additional Junior League opportunty!

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## Sports

## Payback: Wolfpack Wins **District Softball Title in** Walk-off Fashion

LANSING – Bella Latuszek ripped a two-RBI double, creating a dramatic ending to an improbable run to a District softball championship.

It was Revenge Saturday for Jeff Cheadle's Wolfpack, who had been dethroned a week earlier by Perry from defending another CMAC title. And, it had been a year almost to the day since Lansing Catholic Central stunned the highly-rated Wolves in the 2024 District tournament



The Lady Wolves settled

LHS served notice early of what was coming. They opened the scoring in the first inning with 4 big runs off Perry All-Stater Sarah Austin, eventually building the bulge to 8-0 in the

To say the Ramblers were stunned is putting it mildly. They entered the contest at 19-3, were unbeaten in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), and had swept the Wolves during the regular season. They bounced back with three unearned tallies in the bottom of the 5th, but that would

Buchin was a two-way star for Laingsburg. She pitched all seven innings, yielding just four hits and one walk to a talented

The Wolves got to Austin for 12 hits. Makenna Johnston delivered big-time with four RBI, with Latuszek adding three hits and two runs for the LHS offense.

Advancing the District final, Laingsburg looked unstoppable, racing to a 3-0 lead by the 3rd inning opposite the LCC Cougars. Zoev Gruber -- the same hurler who ended Laingsburg's heartbreaking 2024 season -- was in the circle for Lansing.

The Cougars clawed back, taking a 4-3 lead in the 7th inning by plating two runs. Then came Latuszek's heroics. It all started with two outs.

One out left in the season. Savanna Stirm singled. Alayna Merrell got on base via a Lansing error. Latuszek ripped a drive to centerfield, with the season on the line, for a walkoff cham-

For Cheadle, the twin wins moved him to 944 in an iconic

Lansing Catholic closed the books on 2025 with a 17-6

## **MHSAA Tournament Tune**up: Lady Wolfpack Splits with Greyhounds LAINGSBURG — Nobody was aware what a precursor

this non-league doubleheader would be.

Yet, a precursor it was ... to Laingsburg's huge softball Saturday in the MHSAA District tournament.

In a tournament tune-up, Jeff Cheadle's Wolfpack split a nonconference doubleheader with Eaton Rapids.

The Wolfpack took Game 1, 11-5. Addy Buchin pitched a complete game for Laingsburg, allowing five runs (two earned) on 10 hits with one walk and striking out seven. She also had a double and an RBI at the plate. Peyton Stahr drove in three runs and JuJu Latuszek hit a homer for the Wolfpack.

Laingsburg fell behind but couldn't complete the comeback in a 9-8 loss in Game 2. The game was called due to rain after

Eaton Rapids had an 8-1 lead after three innings when the Wolfpack came storming back with seven runs combined in innings 4-through-6. Eaton Rapids tacked on a run in the fifth that proved to be the difference.

Stahr pitched five innings and allowed nine runs (five earned) on 13 hits with one strikeout. Laingsburg got doubles from Stahr, Buchin, Savanna Stirm and Harper Strouse. Bella Latuszek went 3-for-4 with two RBI.

## **Ovid-Elsie Splits with** Mt. Morris Ahead of Districts

OVID-ELSIE -- Mike Loynes' varsity baseball team spruced up for post-season play in a MMAC doubleheader split with Mt. Morris.

The Marauders concluded league play at 6-8, while the Panthers stood 7-7 heading into the MHSAA state tournament.

Ovid-Elsie bounced back in the second contest for a 12-6 home win, drawing 12 walks and blasting 8 hits off Panther pitching. At the top of the order, Lance Wiktorowski and Clayton Fruchey each had three runs scored; Jake Bowen went 3-for-4 and drove in a pair; and Javen Belill went 2-for-4. The Marauders also feasted on three Panther errors, in support of the O-E firing duo of Brody Howard and Lance Brown. They combined on a 6-hitter, striking out 8 and walking 4 to salvage the

Mt. Morris had scored a tight 7-5 triumph in the opener, making a winner of Nick Lovelady. The Panther ace limited O-E to 8 hits, striking out 6 and walking just one.

Howard led O-E with 3 hits in 4 at-bats, scoring two runs. Wiktorowski, Fruchey, Bowen, Long and Brown all hit safely for O-E. The Panthers touched Marauder starter Corbyn Janes for twin runs in each of the 1st and 2nd innings, before Loynes' charges knotted it up at 4-4 in the bottom of the 3rd. The 'Cats put the contest away with three runs in the top of the 4th. Janes fired 100 pitches, 71 for strikes, and struck out 10 while deserving a better fate.

### Marauder, Wolfpack Track and Field Athletes Shine at MHSAA State Finals KENT CITY -- It's official. Ovid-

Elsie standout pole vaulter Tryce Tokar will complete his high school career ... undefeated.

Tokar vaulted himself to a fourstraight individual State Title, leading O-E to a 6th place team finish at the annual MHSAA State Finals here May

The State Meet is the highlight of the prep track season, the mountain every athlete is trying to scale. It may be a long time before you see another Marauder do it in four straight seasons.

Travis Milner



**Brock Spitzley** 

Tokar recorded a leap of 15'0" to nab the crown, and also added an additional medal by compet-

ing with the Marauders' runner-up 800-relay team. That quartet ran a time of 1:30.80

and also included Wyatt Lover, Travis Milner and Owen Long, as O-E finished with 28 team points.

Chesaning's Indians rolled to the Division 3 State Title, accumulating a score of 57, far ahead of runner-up Pewamo-Westphalia (34).

Brock Spitzley -- the school record holder as of 2025 -- was second in the discus with a toss of 174'3" and Milner -- a sophomore -- took seventh in the 400 (:50.93) for coach Doug Long's Marauders.

Clay Powell continued his outstanding work in the 800 m run for the

Marauders, where he earlier this season set a new school record. This time out, he ran 22nd in 2:04.93.

The Marauders also showed well in the relay events:

4x100: Ovid-Elsie Tryce Tokar (Sr.), Alex Aekvorathongchai (Sr.), Wyatt Lover (So.), Owen Long (Jr.) (15th, :44.67).

4x200: Tryce Tokar, Wyatt Lover, Owen Long, Travis Milner (2nd, 1:30.80).

4x400: Tryce Tokar, Marshall Leavitt (So.), Clay Powell, Travis Milner (16th, 3:33.85).

Devereaux, Dolego-Caceres, Relay Team highlights Laingsburg effort: Noah Devereaux, a junior, clocked 28th in the 800 m (2:08.52) and 13th in the 1600 m (4:32.21) to spark Laingsburg to a 55th place team showing in the 65-team field.

Leandro Dolega-Ĉaceres, another junior, placed 36th in the high jump with a 5'9" effort.

In the 4x100 relay, Dolega-Caceres, Carson Helmer (Fr.), Mitchell George (Sr.) and Grey Seguin (So.) sprinted 23rd in

Felix Ramirez (Sr.), Logan Robinson, James Foltz (Jr.) and Devereaux took 24th in the 3200 m relay in 8:48.55 for coach Brian Borgman's Wolfpack thinclads.

## Wolfpack Soccer Team **Advances to Regional Final** with 2-1 Win

LANSING -- Payge Woodworth got off five shots -- and scored on two of them -- leading Laingsburg's varsity girls soccer team to the MHSAA Regional Finals.

The Wolfpack's 2-1 victory over Adrian Lenawee Christian also showcased stifling defense, combined with stellar goalkeeping from Erin Pohlad.

Playing the Regional semifinal at Lansing Christian High School, coach John Hill's Wolfpack peppered the Cougar net with 15 shots -- including blasts from Allie Brasseur, Kierra Rusz, Hayden Wilson, Ivy Collier, Addy Rusz, Makenzie Phillips, Gwenith Clark and Aleigha Highfield.

The loss ended an outstanding 16-6 season for Lenawee Christian. For Laingsburg, it was the Wolves' 15th win in 21 contests.



both scores in the 2025 District at Lansing Catholic, shocking Perry 8-3 in the semifinals, then nipping LCC, 5-4, for the cov-

end the scoring off LHS ace Addy Buchin.

Rambler team. With the bat, Buchin ripped three hits.

career. Laingsburg, 22-11-1 overall, moved on to the Regional semifinals at Leslie, opposite Bronson.





## MDHHS and Michigan Falls Prevention Coalition Launch 211 Feature Page

submitted by Lynn Sutfin

LANSING - The Michigan Department Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports Health Services. Oakland University and the



Michigan Falls Prevention Coalition have partnered with Michigan 211 to offer fall prevention resources on mi211.org. The information is designed to connect health care providers, community organizations and residents with vital fall prevention resources

About 30% of Michiganders ages 65 and older report falling each year and most of these falls occur at home.

This initiative aims to improve statewide access to evidence-based fall prevention programs, durable medical equipment and nutrition services that support older adults and individuals at risk of a fall," said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, chief medical executive. "Falls can lead to serious injuries, including head trauma and broken bones. By collaborating and sharing resources, we can work together to make Michigan a safer place for everyone.'

Individuals and health care professionals can access resources and services through the site or by calling 211. Searches for education and safety planning resources, physical health and wellness services, daily living supports and home accessibility modifications can be conducted by ZIP code. In addition, 211 specialists have been trained to assist callers in locating fall prevention services.

The website was made possible through a \$408,499 grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund Healthy Aging Grant. Funding also supported development of the Michigan Falls Coalition website and an awareness campaign about the Michigan 211 resource. The coalition is supported through partnerships with MDHHS and Oakland University and brings together organizations and providers to collaborate to reduce fall risks among older adults and adults with disabilities, identify state or community needs, recommend policy changes and

build capacity

"Oakland University is proud to lead innovative research and community partnerships that improve the health and safety of Michiganders," said Dr. Chris Wilson, lead author on the grant application and associate professor in the Physical Therapy Program at Oakland University's School of Health Sciences. "Through our leadership within the Michigan Falls Prevention Coalition and initiatives like the 211 resource platform, we are committed to connecting older adults and individuals with disabilities to the services and supports they need to stay safe, active, and independent in their homes and communities.

"The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM), which provides falls prevention programs in the community, is excited to have this resource available so people can locate programs," said Ann Andrews, MPH, senior program manager, National Kidney Foundation. "The MI Falls Prevention Coalition started in 2021 as a small advisory group for a federal grant the NKFM received. There was great interest in the group from among stakeholders across the state and it's exciting to see what the coalition has grown into from these initial

Health care providers and community organizations can help expand this resource by adding fall prevention programs to the website. Eligible programs include:

Fall prevention education and exercise programs.

Senior-focused exercise programs.

Urinary incontinence prevention initiatives. Nutrition services supporting fall risk reduction.

Durable medical equipment providers offering fall preven-

Home and environmental modification programs.

Other related fall prevention-focused programming.

Organizations and providers interested in listing their proupdating existing details can mi211.org/providers. Once a 211 representative speaks with the organization liaison directly, updates and new listings will typically be posted within 10 business days.

For more information, visit the 211 falls prevention page mi211.org or the Michigan Falls Prevention Coalition's website at mifallsprevention.org.

## CLINTON COUNTY LEGAL

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 fol-lowing 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 Clintor 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 prop-erty. A potential purchaser is encour-aged 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 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 Longbridge 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 es are located in Clinton County, Michigan and are described as: THE 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 WEST, 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 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 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 REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS
NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATION-AL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT 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)



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

Estate of PAMELA MARIE DOLEN Date of birth: June 17, 1957 NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent PAMELA MARIE DOLEN

died May 14, 2025 Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Wesley Luke Dolen, personal rep resentative, or the probate court at 100 E. State St. Ste. 3400, St. Johns MI 48879 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Wesley Luke Dolen 1570 N. Edgemont St. Apt. 107 Los Angeles, CA 90027 (213) 949-0152

Jonathan Dorton P#88047 522 Kipling Blvd. Lansing, MI 48922 (517) 803-6328

(06-08)

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## CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

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

CASE NUMBER: 2025-12456-CH

HOLLY ALLEN, an individual and

ESTATE OF JOHN J. KESSLER, JR., 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

This matter having come before the Court upon Plaintiffs Verified Ex-parte Motion for Alternative Service and the Court being otherwise fully advised in the premisses: 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 J. Ambrozaitis, Circuit Court Judge

William Z. Kolobaric (P49466)

(06-01)(06-15)

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 AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER
AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER
STATED IN THIS NOTICE. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVER-TISEMENT. 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 a.m. on June 11, 2025. The amount due on the mort gage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the pur-chaser 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 a fee for this information. DEFAULT having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made on May 23, 2023, by Big Duck Leasing, LLC, a Michigan limited lia-bility company, given by it to Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, of 3777 West Road. East Lansing, Michigan 48823, as Mortgagee, and recorded on May 23, 2023, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Clinton County, in Instrument Number 5335514; on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due and unpaid, as of the date of this Notice, the sum of One Million Two Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Five and 35/100 Dollars (\$1,266,725.35); 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, June 11, 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 CITY OF SAINT JOHNS, COUNTY OF CLINTON, STATE OF MICHIGAN: A parcel of land in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 4, Town 7 North, Range 2 West, Clinton County, Michigan, the surveyed boundary of said parcel described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 4; thence North 89 degrees 02' 51" West along the South line of said section 987.15 feet; thence North 00 degrees 57' 09" East 449.63 feet; thence North 01 degrees 21' 14" West 337.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGIN-NING of this description; thence North 89 degrees 02' 51' West parallel with the South line of said section 19.30 feet; thence North 01 degrees 21' 14" West parallel with the North-South 1/4 line of said section 565.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 02' 51" East parallel with said South line 565.00 feet; thence South 01 degrees 565.00 feet; thence South 01 degrees 21' 14" East parallel with said North-South line 540 feet; thence South 44 degrees 47' 57" West 34.64 feet; thence North 89 degrees 02' 51" West parallel with said South line 520.70 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as: 203 E. Tolles Drive, Saint Johns, Michigan 48879 Tax Parcel Number: 300-004-300-080-00 The period within which the above premises may be redeemed shall expire six (6) months from the date of 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 person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property dur-ing the redemption period. This notice is from a debt collector. Dated: May 1, 2025 MICHIGAN STATE UNI-VERSITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION of East Lansing, Michigan, Mortgagee FOSTER, SWIFT, Mortgagee FOSTER, SWIF1, COLLINS & SMITH, P.C. Benjamin J. Price Attorneys for Mortgagee 313 S. Washington Square Lansing, MI 48933 (517) 371-8253

(05-11)(06-08)

## **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

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



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NEWLY REFURNISHED HALL: \$800 and \$400 for 1/2 hall rental. St. Johns K of C. Call rental agent Diane Smith (989) 227-2233 or (989) 620-1693. EOW

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

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WANTED: Farm Land wanted to rent for 2025 and beyond. Also farm land to purchase on land contract. Contact Don Cuthbert at 881-1724 1don.cuthbert@gmail.com 1604tf

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## CLINTON COUNTY LEGALS

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in CLINTON County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on July 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 pur-chaser 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 a fee for this information, MORT-GAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Maria E. Soliz, tani mortgage made by Maria E. Soil, a single woman, whose address is 108 Floral Avenue, Saint Johns, Michigan 48879, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR MERCANTILE BANK OF MICHIGAN, being a mort-gage 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 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, 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, pur-suant 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 per 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), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6511

(06-01)(06-22)

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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.

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## **Plymouth Christian Stymies** Wolfpack Goal Scorers, Advances Past Regional

LANSING -- Mary Michalak is one of the top goalkeepers in the State of Michigan. Laingsburg found out just "why" in the state's Regional Finals.

Clare Binder scored the winning goal and Michalak had a key save in the closing seconds while lifting Plymouth Christian to a 1-0 victory over the Wolfpack at Lansing Christian High School.

The Eagles had been knocking on the door of claiming the first Regional in school history in recent years with title game losses in 2022 and 2024.

sends Plymouth Christian (16-3-3) into the Division 4 state semifinal where it will face Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett at Waterford Kettering.

Coach John Hill's Wolfpack -- in his first year behind the bench -- captured CMAC and District championships while finishing 15-7 overall.

When the Lady Wolves were able to advance the ball past the Eagles' stiff defense, they had Michalak standing in their way. Payge Woodworth, Kiki Rusz, Ally Brasseur, Ivy Collier and Makenzie Phillips all were thwarted in shot attempts on the

The Eagles got off just 7 shots on Laingsburg's standout goaltender, Erin Pohlod.



This time, they advanced to the State Semifinals. The win Jayce Herblet tagging out LCC player sliding into 3rd during final match up with Lansing Catholic.

Photo by Michelle Ladiski

## **Cinderella Marauders Ousted** in MHSAA Baseball Regional, 11-1

LANSING -- Cinderella's glass slipper fit just fine for a

But then, it came all undone.

The clock struck midnight for Ovid-Elsie's upstart varsity baseball team at Lansing Catholic Central here June 4. The Cougars pounced on O-E pitching for a 5-0 lead by the bottom of the 3rd inning, then cruised to a 11-1 victory in the opening round of the MHSAA Regionals.

LCC is tough to beat at home; it was the Cougars' 6th win in 7 games at the friendly confines. Lansing Catholic (17-4 overall) advanced to the Regional Final to take on the winner of

Saginaw Valley Lutheran and Mt. Morris.
O-E completed its season at 10-18, with a District Championship trophy in hand from upset wins over Chesaning and New Lothrop the Saturday before.

Lansing's Drew Tolfree and Conner Weber combined to one-hit the Marauders, Clayton Fruchey recording O-E's lone safety. Corbyn Janes and Brody Howard both drew walks, and Janes plated the Marauders' lone RBI, a single run in the top of the 4th.

The hosts executed some timely hitting: they only left four men on base, and their 11-hit attack produced 10 RBI.

Janes started and fired three innings, before giving way to Lance Wiktorowski in relief.



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