

Reidy quietly shows meaning of ‘team player’



Onsted High School senior Emma Reidy, right, attempts to stop a Clinton High School player during a home match last week.

Photo, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer

Coaches are always talking about being a good team player. For more than a year, Emma Reidy of Onsted High School did it from the sidelines ... very quietly.

The senior tore her ACL in the last soccer game of the season as a sophomore and it has taken her more than a year to get back to playing basketball and soccer.

But through the whole process she attended practices, went to games, and supported her teammates who were on the court.

Reidy returned to the basketball court this past winter and is currently part of the Wildcats varsity soccer team.

"It (being off for a year) was hard mentally because I like to stay busy," Reidy said. "Just watching games from the sideline was tough. "I was working out at home hoping to get back."

She tore the ACL the last game of the year against Columbia Central. Reidy said doctors suggest therapy for six months because they did not believe her ACL was fully torn. Six months later, she had surgery and another six months of therapy ensued.

She still plays with a brace on her left leg – a constant reminder of what could happen at any moment.

"The brace makes my calf a little tight," Reidy said. "Doctors recommended it because I am cutting all the time."

The senior said it felt funny the first time she ran up and down the basketball court.

"It is a little nerve racking because you don't want to do it (tear an ACL) again and go through the therapy," Reidy said. "Playing soccer with the brace is easier because the cleats stop you from sliding."

While off for the injury, Reidy had to endure COVID-19 precautions – a double whammy for someone who loves to stay busy.

"I learned not to take things for granted ... they can be taken away so fast," Reidy said. "There was not much to do, and I was trying to find things to do around the house since you couldn't go anywhere."

Reidy said she has a 3.92 grade point and is clinging to the final spot in the top 10 at Onsted for the Class of 2021. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University.

She won the schools sportsmanship award in the past and several academic awards for having a GPA over 3.5 while participating in a varsity sport.

"Sports teaches you to bond with other people and working together," Reidy said.

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Napoleon hosts invitational



Addison High School runner Marquis Bills takes the baton from a teammate during a relay at the Napoleon Invitational on Friday. Below, Hope Wilkes of Columbia Central High School earned top-four finishes in three distance events at the Napoleon Invitational.



Photos, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer

When East Jackson High School paused its sports schedule for COVID-19 restrictions last week, Napoleon picked up the baton and ran with it.

The Pirates hosted the Napoleon Invitational last Friday in place of the East Jackson Dome Invitational.

Teams who were expected to be at EJHS traveled to Napoleon instead.

East Jackson expects to reschedule the invitational, possibly on May 7 according to Napoleon officials.

Ida won both meets with Onsted second and Napoleon third in the girls' event. Addison placed sixth and Columbia Central seventh in the meet.

In the boys' meet, Addison finished third behind Ida and Manchester, Napoleon placed fourth, Onsted was fifth, and Columbia Central took seventh.

Taking firsts for Onsted in the girls' meet was Kayla Ross in the 400-meter dash (1:05), Kennedy Ross in the 200-meter dash (27.78), Caleigh Tyler in pole vault (8-0), the 800-meter relay team of Kennedy Ross, Kamryn Ross, Kylee Bridges and Kayla Ross (1:59) and 1,600-meter relay team of Kayla Ross, Kamryn Ross, Emily Kilpatrick and Kennedy Ross (4:34.95).

Ann Joseph of Napoleon took first in the 800-meter run (2:39),

Chelsea Bamm won the shot put (32-7), Katelyn Landa won the discus (89-2.5), and the Pirates team of Madelyn Norman, Emily Smilowski, Katelyn Smilowski, and Ann Joseph won the 3,200-meter relay (11:09).

Addison placed second in the 800-meter relay (2:02) with a team of Ally Beougher, Taylor Wils, Erin Flynn, and Alaysia Allen.

Hope Wilkes of Columbia Central finished second in the 3,200-meter run (13:20).

In the boys' meet, Addison runner Ryan Worsham won the 400-meter dash (54.11), Nathan Rodlund won the 110-meter hurdles (16.36), Marquis Bills took first in the high jump (6-4), and the 800-meter relay team of Dylan Malinowski, Nathan Sines, Bills and Worsham took first place (1:37).

Napoleon was led by Alex Darnell who won the 800-meter run (2:14) and the 3,200-meter relay team of Darnell, Hugo Gamez, Josh Darling, and Jacob Darling who finished second (9:24).

For Onsted, Dylan Terryberry was second in the 110-meter hurdles (17.38) and second in the long jump (19-6), and T.J. Wesley was second in the pole vault (11-6).

Caleb Ronders finished fourth in the 800-meter run (2:22) for Columbia Central.

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Napoleon third at Ida golf invitational

By Jeff Steers

Exponent special writer

Napoleon High School finished third to Trenton and Bedford in the Ida Murdock Invitational on Friday.

The tournament used the modified Stableford scoring system with points awarded for birdies, pars, bogeys, and others.

Napoleon Coach Shawn Murphy said Evan Brzyski earned medalist honors at the tournaments. Scoring sheets were not made readily available to coaches after the tournament.

Onsted finished 13th in the tournament led by Trey Linhart.

Onsted quad: Onsted High School finished fourth with a four-man total of 210 at Devils Lake Golf Course last week. Hillsdale Academy won the event with a total of 176. The Wildcats were led by Trey Linhart with a 47 and Dillon McCullough shooting a 51 – including a hole-in-one. Rykert Frisinger shot a 39 earning medalist honors for HAHS.



This photo is of a Blanding's turtle which is a semi-aquatic turtle of the family Emydidae. This species is native to central and eastern parts of Canada and the United States. It is considered to be an endangered species throughout much of its range.

Report turtle sightings to the DNR

Anyone out spring turkey hunting or scouting a new hunting sport for fall who spots a Blanding's turtle, Eastern box turtle, spotted turtle or wood turtle, is asked to report their observations at Michigan.gov/EyesInTheField. Reporting on the sightings of an Eastern massasauga rattlesnake is also appreciated.

These observations provide valuable data on distribution, relative abundance and trends for Michigan's reptiles and amphibians say DNR officials

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Soccer results



Onsted High School defender Allycia Lanz, left, of Onsted High School attempts to stop Sky Chandler (10) of Clinton High School from advancing the soccer ball during a home match last week.

Photo, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer

The Onsted High School varsity soccer team has probably seen enough of Clinton High School player Maddie Freitas on the soccer field. Freitas scored all eight goals in an 8-0 win over the Wildcats to open the 2021 Lenawee County Athletic Association season.

The CHS junior scored four goals in the first half and another four goals in the second – end-

ing the game at the four-minute mark with the eighth goal of the game.

Onsted senior Coral Martin stopped numerous shots in goal.

Ida 2, Columbia Central 1: Columbia Central High School fell 2-1 in the debut of new coach Tiffany Flinn. Ava Evans scored the only goal for the Golden Eagles in the home opener last Wednesday.

Baseball Roundup



PHOTO BY PAUL SNYDER

double-header at Columbia Central.

Stewart and Luke McDorman had 2 hits apiece for the Eagles offense that had seven hits.

Adams picked up the win on the mound for Columbia allowing four runs on seven hits while striking out three and not allowing a walk.

Columbia dropped the first game of the day to the Mounties 8-4 despite out-hitting Northwest 9-3

Earlier in the week the Eagles dropped their LCAA Conference double-header opener to the Hillsdale Hornets 9-6 and 11-1 at Columbia Central as the Eagles were held to only nine hits in the two games.

Wildcats off to slow start

The Onsted Wildcats opened their 2021 season at Milan Saturday dropping both games of a double header 6-5 and 7-1.

Milan rallied to score two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to take the first game 6-5.

Logan Hunt had a double, Alex Schmidt a single and two RBIs. Logan Koltz a hit and RBI, to lead the Wildcats, while Ethan Thompson, Brock Shoemaker, and Brady Giroux had singles to account for the Wildcats 6 hits in the game.

Lincoln Lipinski took the loss on the mound allowing three runs on four hits and walked one in two innings of work.

In the second contest the Wildcats were held to only three hits for the game, with Hunt collecting two singles and Schmidt one single.

The Wildcats will host Clinton, Grass Lake and Jonesville in the Annual Onsted Invitational Saturday and travel to Columbia Central on Tuesday.

Napoleon nowhere to go but up

The Napoleon Pirates 2021 Baseball season is off to a rough start. After dropping two games at Parma Western a week ago, the Pirates fell to the Northwest Mounties 10-6 and 7-1 at home on Monday, then lost a pair to the Clinton Redskins on Friday to fall to 0-6 on the early season.

The Pirates will try and get on the winning path with upcoming games at Reading on Friday and at East Jackson on Monday.

Addison captures Red Bat Classic

Zac Conley and Kenny Jarchow help lead the Addison Panthers to a 14-8 win over the Lenawee Christian Cougars Friday to capture the Red Bat Classic Championship at Addison.

Conley had 4 hits and drove in 4 runs, while Jarchow pitched 4 innings of shutout ball, not allowing a hit while striking out 7 and walking only three. Jarchow helped himself out at the plate with 3 hits (two singles and a triple), 1 RBI and scoring 3 times.

The Panthers advanced to the championship defeating Litchfield 15-0 in the opening round of the tournament.

Earlier in the week at Manchester the Panthers opened Cascades Conference play dropping both games of a doubleheader 9-2 and 13-0.

The Panthers will travel to Dundee for a double-header with the Vikings and host the Michigan Center Cardinals on Monday.

Columbia splits doubleheader

Ethan Stewart delivered the game winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning as the Columbia Central Golden Eagles rallied for two runs in the seventh to defeat the Northwest Mounties 5-4 and earned a split in a Saturday



Binocular Birds: Catching a glimpse of these birds is fun, sometimes painful



Local photographer Deb Sautter caught this excellent photo of a black crowned night heron.

One of the things I love about this time of year is bird watching. I get SO excited, in fact I often run in to inanimate objects. I don't know what is, I am as coordinated as the next guy, yet I seem to have a knack of bumping into these stationary obstacles quite often whenever I get my blood pumping about something. Just this past weekend I was scouting for a place to set up my turkey blind for the upcoming season, and then what to my wondering eyes should appear (no, not a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer), but several evening grosbeaks. They were hopping along a dirt road and gathering up pebbles which they use to grind the seeds they eat. They look like a big goldfinch but have a stocky beak that they use for crushing seeds and black and white wings and a tail. They shed the outer layer of their bills in the spring, giving them a blue green color. They live primarily in the northern Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula, I didn't have my camera with me at the time, my phone was in my truck, and so I didn't get any pictures. RASCAL!

Recently I was looking for a spot to set up a bird house for Jenny wrens and I spotted one of the tiniest birds you'll ever spot in Michigan. It was only about four inches in tall and this pudgy little guy was about the weight of two pennies, it had a yellow stripe on the top of his head, surrounded with black stripes. It had white eyebrows

and sort of orange/yellow wings with black spots on its wings. It was fluttering about like a hummingbird and was hovering around the tips of the evergreen pine needles. It was a golden-crowned kinglet. They are often seen high above in the pine trees feeding on frozen moths that are inside the tips of pine needles. A couple cool fun facts about these little guys; they make a hanging nest made up of moss, lichen, and spider webs, which looks like a mini-Baltimore orioles' nest. Secondly, because they have such high metabolisms and high body temperature, if they don't eat every two hours during their waking hours in the winter they will die. In fact, as much as over 85 percent won't make it through the winter. But these friendly little birds make up for it by laying two broods a year and up to eleven eggs in each clutch. Like chickadees they come right up to you if you're near one.

This next bird is common in the U.P. and Canada but can be seen in the Lower Peninsula when it returns from its winter migration to the southern states and Mexico. Its name comes from the Swedish word "Lom," meaning lame. This is due to the way they walk on land, hobbling along as if wounded, but their rear mounted short, stubby legs are better for swimming. You will often hear these birds before you spot one, due to their very unique call that sounds eerily like something right out of a Stephen King

novel. It sounds like the laughter of a crazy person. I am talking about the common loon. Their calls led to the phrase "crazy as a loon." These aquatic birds may not move about well on land but are excellent swimmers and are at home in large, clear lakes. They are brownish white in late fall and winter but become black and white in the spring and summers months. I get a kick out of the fact that the chicks will take a ride on the parents' backs.

I started this article by calling these birds "binocular birds" because you might need binoculars to spot them. This time of year is an excellent time to see them due to migration, the breeding season and the lack of leaves on trees making it easier to spot them. By the way, when I thought I spotted a golden crowned kinglet high up in a pine tree, I ran and got my binoculars. After stumbling around my kitchen and grabbing them, I high-tailed it back to the pine tree and started scanning it. Suddenly, I spotted one hopping between branches and while keeping my binoculars upwards and walking slowly backwards to get a better view, I stepped in the wet grass and slid backwards, tripped on a branch laying on the ground and fell flat on my a#*. After picking myself up, I looked around to see if anyone was watching.

So, grab a pair of binoculars and start scouting the lakes, treetops, fields and roadsides. You might just spot something cool! Just watch out for those damn inanimate objects.

Obituaries

Camille Dianne Gormley

Camille Dianne Gormley, 82, passed away peacefully at home, with her loving family by her side, Friday, April 16, 2021. Camille's family and friends will gather Thursday, April 22, 2021, from 2 to 4 p.m., 6 to 8 p.m. at Eineder Funeral Homes, Brooklyn Chapel and 10 to 11 a.m. on Friday, April 23, 2021 at St. Rita Catholic Church, 10516 Hayes Road, Clarklake with her Mass of Christian Burial to follow at 11 a.m. Interment of ashes at Norvell Township Cemetery. Fr. Tom Helfrich, OSFS will serve as celebrant.

Camille was born on November 15, 1938, in Norvell, Mich., to Harper and Evelyn (Stahl) Harris. She married the love of her life, James Gormley, on April 12, 1958, at Our Lady of Fatima, in Michigan Center, Mich. She will be remembered for her love of hosting parties. Camille was an amazing seamstress and a terrific cook. She co-owned and operated Land-O-Lakes Garbage Company, was a Norvell Township deputy treasurer, and a member of the



Camille Gormley

St. Rita Catholic Church. Camille was also a Daughter of the American Revolution and a member of the Jackson Historical Society. Her most cherished time was with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Camille is survived by her husband of 63 years, James; her children, Eric (Angel) Gormley of Brooklyn, Amanda "Amy" (Kevin) Szentmiklos of Brooklyn; two grandsons, Anthony and Chance; two great-grandchildren, Paisley and Shaun; sister-in-law's, Sandee, Susie, and Joan; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Eddie, Norman, and Brad; brother-in-law's, Bruce and Keny; sister-in-law, Theresa; and one grandchild, Tyler.

Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Rita Catholic Church. Please leave a message of comfort for Camille's family or sign her guestbook at www.EinederFuneralHomes.com.

Donald Guy Pabst



Don Pabst

Donald Guy Pabst, 71, passed away March 2021 in Henderson, Nev. From complications of cancer.

He was born on March 5, 1950, to Virgil G. Past and Elizabeth (Tilden) Fielder. Don was an alumnus of the first class of Columbia Central High School.

Don is survived by his son, Dirk; daughter, Abigail and grandsons, Fletcher and Lance Pabst; sisters, Karen (Bill) Kerr, Lana (Jeff) Smith, Suzanne Christensen; brother, Eric Pabst, several nieces and nephews and many cousins.

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Lucille Parsons

Lucille Parsons, 85, of Adrian went to be with her Lord on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at her home under the loving care of her family and Hospice of Lenawee. Lucille was born on December 4, 1935 in Grays Knob, Ky., the daughter of William H. and Mary I. (Ball) Murdock. She married her childhood sweetheart, Curtis Parsons Sr. on December 9, 1950 in Harlan, Ky. Lucille was a 40-year member of Bethany Assembly, more recently an active member of Crossroads Community Church in Adrian, where she enjoyed serving during the Church renovation, as long as she was able. She was a devoted and loving wife to Curtis Sr., mother to her three children and grandchildren, Curtis Jr. (Gail) Parsons; grandchildren, Jennifer Parsons Prill, Curtis (Ellen) Parsons III, and Brandon (Alesha) Parsons; Diana Lynn Roney; grandchildren, Benjamin Roney, Angela (Joel) Erway and Emily Roney; Linda (Ed) Jackson; grandchildren, Trina (Danny) Daulton,



Lucille Parsons

Aaron (Cecily) Jackson; and ten great-grandchildren, Monica Gentner, Dylan and Elizabeth Erway, Rex Parsons, Jack Daulton, Owen and Claire Roney, Theo Garcia, Andrew and Isabella Jackson and numerous nieces and nephews. Lucille was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 67 years, Curtis Parsons Sr. and numerous siblings.

Visitation for family and friends took place on Sunday, April 18, 2021 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Anderson-Marry Funeral Home, Adrian. Visitation was held on Monday, April 19, 2021 from 10 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 11 a.m. with her nephew, Rev. Darrell Bozeman officiating at the Anderson-Marry Funeral Home, Adrian. Burial followed at Maple Shade Cemetery in Onsted.

You may send condolences to Lucille's family at www.andersonfuneralservices.com. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Hospice of Lenawee. Envelopes are available at the Anderson-Marry Funeral Home, Adrian.

Al Myers Jr.

Al "JR" Myers Jr., 86, of Onsted, died on Sunday, April 18, 2021, at ProMedica Toledo Hospital, Toledo, Ohio. He was born July 13, 1934, in Adrian to Almon and Lura (Vescelius) Myers. Al had been employed by Tecumseh Products for 39 years. He married Esther Hadden on July 9, 1955 and she survives.



Al Myers

he is survived by three sons, Timothy Myers of Coldwater, Steven Myers of Coldwater, and Michael Myers of Manchester; three grandchildren, Jenna Pykor, Stoli Myers, and Angie Sturgill; three great-grandchildren, Jae Pykor, Tyler, and Haley Turner; two nieces, Sally Miller and Linda Myers; and two cousins, Jill and Jane.

A graveside service for Al will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021, at 1 p.m. with a gathering beginning at noon until the time of the service at Maple Shade Cemetery in Onsted with Al's brother-in-law, Deacon Richard Bayes officiating.

You may send condolences to the family at www.andersonfuneralservices.com. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Lenawee or to the American Cancer Society. Arrangements have been entrusted to Anderson-Marry Funeral Home, Adrian.

Nathan Edward Broich

Nathan Edward Broich, 32, of Hudson, passed away on Sunday, April 11, 2021, at Mercy Health Partners Lakeshore Campus in Shelby, Mich. Nathan and his family had just moved to the Pentwater area to start anew after he earned his master's in business administration when medical complications arose and led to his death.



Nathan Broich

He was born on May 20, 1988, in Adrian, the son of Edward L. Broich, Jr. and Denise A. Broich (Borck). Nathan graduated from Addison High School in 2007. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Phoenix in business administration and his MBA from Capella University. Nathan was working at Gus Harrison Prison in Adrian and with his dad at Ed's Dozin' in Hudson when he moved to Pentwater.

Surviving Nathan besides his wife, Brittney are their two children, Chevy Noelle (7) and Raylan Leroy (5); his parents, Edward and Denise Broich of Hudson; his sister, Jessica and Phil Stark, II and their sons, Gabriel, Jonah and Silas of Onsted; his grandfather, Edward L. Broich, Sr., of Tipton; his in-laws, Christopher and Carmon Yeloushan of Jackson, and numerous other extended family members and special friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Margaret Broich, John Joseph Borck and Shirley (Wayne) Adams; an uncle,

Phillip Broich, and two cousins, Jarett Borck and Chad Austin. Funeral Services for Nathan will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 24, 2021, at West Rome Baptist Church, 11984 Rome Road, Manitou Beach, Mich., with Pastor Jeff Malin and Pastor Cary Coleman officiating. Burial will follow at North Dover Cemetery in Clayton, Mich. Visitation will be held on Friday, April 23, 2021 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the Brown-Van Hemert Funeral Home in Hudson and Saturday at the church from 9:30 a.m. until time of service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the family, Brittney Broich, C/O Brown-Van Hemert Funeral Home P.O. Box 44 Hudson, MI 49247-0044 to help with medical and funeral expenses. Due to COVID-19 restrictions masks are required, social distancing and capacity limits will be followed. Condolences and words of comfort can be left at www.brown-vanhemert.com.

Gary L. 'Coach' Myers

Gary L. Myers, 75, passed away April 10, 2021, at the Cedars in McPherson, Kans. He was born June 25, 1945 in Flint, Mich., to Glenn L. and Dorothy (McDaniel) Myers. He graduated in 1963 from Bendle High School in Burton, Mich., where he played football, basketball and baseball as well as participating in the band as a trumpet player. After high school he attended Spring Arbor College where he played baseball and basketball. It was during his senior year that he met Dianne Wiselogel and they were married in August 1967 in Parma, Mich.

After graduating in 1967, he went on to teach junior high science at Columbia Central schools in Brooklyn, Mich. He was also the high school baseball coach, assistant football coach and junior high basketball coach. During this

time, they were blessed with three children, Grant, Aaron and Lisa. In August of 1978, the family moved to Hillsboro, Kans., where Gary accepted a teaching and coaching position at Tabor College. After retirement in 2001, he and Dianne began spending their winters in Tucson, Ariz., where they met many new friends. In 1996, Gary was officially diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Because of this, he and Dianne later moved to McPherson, Kans., to the Cedars where he was able to get the care he needed and to be closer to their son Grant. Survivors include his wife, Dianne Myers of McPherson, Kans.; sons, Grant (Cari) Myers of McPherson, Aaron (Consuelo) Myers of Marion, S. Dak.; daughter, Lisa (Travis) Schmidt of Fairview, Okla.; sister, Gwen

(Malcolm) Hall of Cookeville, Tenn., eight grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Glenn and Dorothy Myers; brother, Richard Myers and sister, Sara Myers. A celebration of life service was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 17, 2021, at the Hillsboro M.B. Church, Hillsboro, Kans., with Pastor Mike Justice officiating. Family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Hillsboro M.B. Church. Memorials may be given to Fellowship of Christians Athletes or Parkinson's Disease Foundation in care of Jost Funeral Home P.O. Box 266 Hillsboro, KS 67063. Online condolences at www.jostfuneralhome.com

Phyllis Anne Bendall

Phyllis Anne Bendall, 87, passed away on Wednesday, April 7, she was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She passed away in her home under the care of her loving family and Henry Ford Hospice. Phyllis was born December 28, 1933 in Northville Mich., to Paul and Elizabeth (Olm) Becker. She graduated from North Adams High School in 1952. On February 7, 1957 she married Thomas Frederick Bendall.

Phyllis was known for her ready smile and love for her friends and family. Her take-charge attitude and graceful demeanor positively impacted her community, and she is cherished by a great number of friends. She was a long-time member of the United Methodist Women,

and a proud representative for Avon. She loved children and took pride in her role as homemaker, mother, and grandmother. She enjoyed listening to music, playing golf, and backyard bird watching, and she walked two miles every morning, rain, snow, or sunshine with her dog. Phyllis was a huge supporter of her grandchildren, and delighted in attending sports, music, and other events to cheer them on. Her kindness, generosity, and humor spread through her neighborhood and church community so that everyone was touched by it. A long-time member of the United Methodist Church, she rejoiced in worship and we are comforted knowing she is home with the Lord. She will be dearly missed by all. Phyllis was preceded in death

by her parents, siblings, Irving Becker and Ila Marie Jensen; and nephew, David Jensen. She is survived by her loving husband, Thomas; son, Kevin (Marybeth); daughters, Cheryl and Sharon (Tim); grandchildren, Elysia, Kaitlyn, Christopher, Katherine, Carly, William, and Brekke; great-grandchildren, Arianna, Devin, Ryan, Zeakyill, Russell, Dylan, Damien, Duncan, and Samael, as well as several nieces and nephews. Cremation has taken place and due to COVID-19 restrictions, a private service was held to honor her at the Napoleon United Methodist Church. Donations can be made in her name to the Brooklyn Food Pantry.

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- Mowing
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Brush hog mowing and lawns. Call Ed Bendele at 517-917-6441. *37

WORK WANTED

CLEANING - Will clean weekly, bi-weekly or monthly. Residential please call 517-252-5160. 1f

Pressure washing, painting, dock & lift install, deck staining and repair, 20 years' experience. Currently painting new construction on Constitution Avenue in Brooklyn. Free estimates, please call Jim 517-960-9832. *37

ATTORNEYS

SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIMS- For assistance contact the law offices of Rappleye & Rappleye, 525 Wildwood Ave., Jackson. Phone: 787-5811. 29f

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE

All display and classified ads are due on Fridays at noon for the following paper.

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Stoney Green (517) 592-0101 stoneygreen.com

Larry Wetherby (517) 938-8169 larrywetherby.com

Sheila Cote (517) 921-8651 sheilacoterealestate.com

Each office is independently owned and operated. 32f

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Rock, steel repairs, retaining walls, site work, grading, driveways. Call Crosslake Construction. (517) 937-6979 1f

SEAWALLS- Get your permit now for Summer construction. Free minor DEQ permits, steel, boulder, vinyl, walk, boat ramps, dredging. Call Shoreline Restorative Services 517-796-0645. 1fn

All display and classified ads are due on Fridays at noon for the following paper.

FOR RENT

Duplex for rent, 2 bdrm., \$600 per month, no problems, Clarklake Meyers Rd., available now. 517 262 1759 *3513

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Alicia Dickens 517-581-0258
Colin Cote 517-812-0035
Nicki Kennedy 517-414-9418
Mike Potts 517-990-7805
Jim Anderson 517-745-6046
Darren Grodi 517-937-4368
Jonathan Nichols 517-260-0563
Joy Knutson 517-812-4001
Tony Pruitt 517-812-5721
Jenna Chmielewski 517-937-5232

www.erareardonrealty.com
517-592-8326

AUCTIONS/SALES

Great Two Ring Estate Auction

Saturday, April 24th at 10:00 AM
5121 Michigan Ave. (U.S. 12) Tipton MI 49287



Ring One: 2000 Toyota Sienna XLE Minivan w/ 188,892 Miles * 2006 Toyota Camry XLE 4 Door Sedan w/ 120,163 Miles

Coins incl. Gold Coins & Silver - Silver dollars etc. * Jewelry - nice selection incl. Gold * Firearms & Ammo * Toys * Antiques * Military * Dolls incl. Vintage Barbie * Tools * Furniture * Vintage Advertising * Stoneware * Records incl. Beatles * Cast Iron Banks * 42in Riding Lawn Mower * More!



Ring Two: Watchmaker Repair Shop Auction - Estate of Robert (Joe) Willis

Massive amount of Pocket Watches * Wrist Watches * Clock & Watch Parts incl. NOS, Crystals, Screws, Gears, Used Parts, etc. * Machinist Tool Chests * Precision Lathe * Work Benches * Crystal Cabinets * Antique Cabinets * Repair Tools * Parts for Cuckoo, Gingerbread, Grandfather, Anniversary, Mantle and Everything Else Related To Clock Repair!

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5121 Michigan Ave. (U.S. 12) Tipton MI 49287
David Helmer 734-368-1733
Complete details with pics @
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BRAUN & HELMER AUCTION SERVICE, INC
38

RUMMAGE/ESTATE SALES

HEART O' LAKES UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH
7031 JEFFERSON ROAD • BROOKLYN

Mark Your Calendar

Spring Rummage Sale

April 22 9-7 \$5/bag
April 23 9-5 \$3/bag
April 24 9-noon, \$1/bag
Indoor. A.C. Organized
www.hotl.strong.com 3912

Estate Sale

April 23 & 24, 9am to 4 pm, 5180 White Road, Cement City. No early birds. Tools, furniture, baby items and household goods. *38

BIKE NEEDED!

Wanted!
3 wheel adult bicycle will pay top dollar if in good condition.
Call Don at 517 990 2854.

SUPPORT GROUPS

IF YOU WANT TO DRINK that's your business. If you would like to stop, please call 517-789-8883. AA Jackson area, local intergroup. 1f

JACKSON AL-ANON MEETING - Mon. & Fri. 10:30 a.m. First Presbyterian Church, 743 W. Michigan Ave. 937-9503 for more info. 1f

Al-Anon meets Thursdays at 7 pm at All Saints Episcopal Church Guild Hall, 151 N Main Brooklyn.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP MEETING - at Brooklyn Presbyterian Church every 3rd Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for more info call 517-999-3004. 251f

SPRINGVILLE CHURCH AA - Mondays 1 p.m. at Springville Methodist Church, Springville Hwy. & M-50. 1f

BROOKLYN AA MEETINGS, Tue. & Fri. 7:30-8:30 p.m. All Saints Church hall, Brooklyn. 1f

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God bless America! Land that I love!
Stand beside her, and guide her, through the night with a light from above!



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VILLAGE OF GRASS LAKE SYNOPSIS OF MARCH 16 MEETING

Village of Grass Lake synopsis via Zoom

38

March 16, 2021

1. Call to Order: President Joseph DeBoe called the regular meeting of the Grass Lake Village Council to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance: Present: J. DeBoe, J. Fitzgerald, J. Grimm, D. Keener, G. Lammers, W. Shemwell, and N. Zinis. Public present: David Trent Village Manager, Paul Lammers DPW Supervisor, Trudi Whitley Village Treasurer, Tim Griffith, John Hummer, Jennifer Keener, Patrick Morris, Mitchell Tenney, Kevin Caldwell, Deputy Shackelford. J. DeBoe led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Adoption of Agenda: Motion by W. Shemwell, second by G. Lammers to adopt the amended agenda. Discussion. Roll call vote, all in favor, motion carried.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Approval of Minutes: Motion by D. Keener to approve minutes for March 2, 2021 and March 4, 2021, second by W. Shemwell. Discussion. Roll call vote, all in favor, motion carried.
6. Disbursements: Motion by D. Keener to pay disbursements of \$47,193.88, second by W. Shemwell. Discussion. Roll call vote, all in favor, motion carried.
7. Treasurer Report: Motion by D. Keener to accept the treasurer's report, second by W. Shemwell. Discussion. Roll call vote, all in favor, motion carried.
8. Maintenance Report: P. Lammers reported out.
9. Correspondence: J. DeBoe stated he received Region 2 minutes from March 11, 2021 meeting and a flyer on Voices & Votes which the Grand Opening will be May 15, 2021.
10. Committee Reports: J. Fitzgerald (senior center), J. DeBoe (DDA liaison) and G. Lammers (schools) reported.

11. OLD BUSINESS:
a) Pedestrian Signs for School Crossings: D. Trent reported out.
b) SRI Settlement Agreement/ LRUUA Update: D. Trent reported out.
c) MDOT: Discussion.
d) Performance Review Committee Update: J. Fitzgerald reported out.
12. NEW BUSINESS:
a Community Involvement: Motion by J. Fitzgerald to appoint a community involvement committee to create a survey for the Village of Grass Lake residents, second by J. Grimm. Discussion. Roll call vote, all in favor, motion carried.
b Planning Commission Appointment: Motion by J. DeBoe to appoint Kevin Caldwell to the planning commission, second by J. Grimm. Discussion. Roll call, all in favor, motion carried.
c Extended Warranty-2010 Chevy Silverado Truck: This is tabled until more information is provided by D. Trent.
d Community Events: This is tabled until next meeting.
13. Village Manager's Report-David Trent: D. Trent reported out.
14. Upcoming Events: J. DeBoe reported out upcoming events. May 5, 2021 is the Sesquicentennial kick off at the Farmers Market you can check all events out at village website.
15. Public comment: W. Shemwell asked about light and noise ordinances. J. DeBoe would have to look up what the noise ordinances hours. There is a truck with no plates parked in the village parking lot behind Copper-nail on Lake Street and has been then for some time now.
16. President Recap-Joe DeBoe: None
17. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting by D. Keener, second by W. Shemwell. Roll call, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer Keener, Village Clerk

DOUG'S SUDOKU

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

9x9 grid with some numbers filled in: 1, 9, 6, 6, 8, 4, 1, 3, 9, 5, 7, 6, 8, 5, 4, 9, 8, 6, 9, 5, 5, 3, 2, 8, 5, 9, 4, 8, 6, 5, 1

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Today's puzzle solution

9x9 grid showing the solution to the puzzle: 8, 7, 1, 7, 5, 2, 9, 6, 7, 8, 8, 2, 7, 1, 6, 8, 7, 9, 5, 5, 6, 9, 7, 8, 4, 2, 8, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 7, 1, 8, 7, 6, 9, 8, 6, 7, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 7, 4, 7, 1, 4, 7, 1, 8, 9, 2, 6, 9, 5, 6, 8, 3, 1, 7, 2, 2, 8, 7, 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 6, 5, 1, 8

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

4/18

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Marriage licenses

Amanda L. Kirkpatrick, Jackson County clerk, reports the following recently recorded marriage license applications:

Dennis Jay DeWaters Jr., Jackson and Melissa Sue Lyons, Jackson
Caleb Benjamin Showerman, Jackson and Tara Ann Martinez, Jackson
Collin Wayne Mollitor, Jackson and Brianna Noel Grant, Parma
John Edward Brzozowski Jr., Jackson and Chelsea Kaylee Jones, Jackson
James Leon Pierucki, Jackson and Sarah Audrey Bosma, Jackson
Charles James Binschus, Jackson and Laura Jean Walker, Jackson
Shaemyn Kalina Broadus, Jackson and Duane Ladell Hightower, Jackson
Shane Richard Trudell, Parma and Bryn Elise Wierzbicki, Parma
Ryan Douglas Walters, Jackson and Sierra Lynn Little, Jackson
Patrick Matthew Clark Jr., Concord and Kendra Mae Bagwell, Tekonsha
Serena Marie Roberts, Jackson and Zachary Dale Waller
Soila Marie Pizano, Jackson and Chad Clifford Nelson, Jackson
Ethan W. Hanning, Springport and Tara Selena McClure, Springport
Kimberly Jane Cwynar, Jackson and Nathanael Creighton Mulvihill, Jackson
Taitlyn Marie Snyder, Jackson and Gregory Douglas Bitner, Jackson
Alyssa MarieAnn Glenn, Jackson and Zachary Alan Lloyd Guminski, Jackson
Mallory Mae Underhile, Michigan Center and Tyler Lynn Seamans, Michigan Center

CROSSWORD OF THE WEEK

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg April 18, 2021

ACROSS

- 1 Penne or ziti
6 Hardly flashy
10 Applies carefully
14 What supposedly surrounds Atlantis
15 Texter's 'seize the day'
16 Cartman on 'South Park'
17 Lamb Chop's puppeteer (see letters 6 to 3 in this answer)
19 'No way' guy?
20 '___ making a list ...'
21 Brunch drinks, for short
22 Apply a BBQ rub to, say
24 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
27 Circulation aid in a room
28 Vacation planner's destination? (9 to 5)
31 Matures, as an orange
32 Title for Ringo Starr
33 With 52-Across, common end for a riddle
36 Like the noble gases
37 Not even so-so
38 Bugged incessantly
40 Gives the go-ahead to

- 41 Pig such as the 2,552-pound Big Bill
42 'Want me to?'
43 Reaction to cold (6 to 3)
46 Part of some city streets
49 Wee hour
50 Open, as a wine bottle
51 Duke's sports org.
52 See 33-Across
55 Ragout or ratatouille
56 Sign of insufficient sleep, perhaps (8 to 6)
60 Pitchfork part
61 Heche of 1998's 'Psycho'
62 Big-city
63 Huskies' haul
64 Train whistle noise
65 49ers tackle Williams

- 9 More like an older brother, maybe
10 'Been there, done that' feeling
11 Became apparent
12 Beast on old nickels
13 Bloodhound's clue
18 Vegges out
23 Defining period
25 Follower of 'happily'
26 Penitent time
27 Unfit for farming
28 'Power' rock group, typically
29 Curling venue
30 Water meter reading
33 'Perhaps, or perhaps not'
34 In tip-top shape

- 35 Redding who recorded 'Respect'
37 Brand of speakers
38 Words of self-pity
39 Cantina bite
41 Signals on the freeway?
42 '___ you asked ...'
43 Looked radiant
44 Scull implement
45 Pool player's target
46 Breaks apart
47 Up to
48 Clip from a movie
51 Part of A.D.
53 Like a junkyard dog
54 'This ___ my day!'
57 Card game with a Batman version
58 Pecan, for one
59 Drop the ball

DOWN

- 1 Richly furnished
2 Post-Pilates feeling
3 Paintings with water colors?
4 Roadwork gunk
5 DiFranco of Righteous Babe Records
6 Hair salon treatment
7 Propels a scull
8 'Thrilla in Manila' boxer

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

15x15 grid with words filled in: LOSE, LEAFY, PTA, OVUM, ALLIED, EAR, KEEPITFIBERAKC, INDICTASSESES, REEF, HATHA, PAGED, BUM, MOOSE, ALLS, HITANEWOWL, LEI, HELIPAD, TIA, EXTRAMALLS, RENT, OTTER, BEE, MERGE, REAPS, SPUD, HERMIONE, ACTUAL, ABA, SHORTCHANGE, MET, TONGUE, PIES, SKI, TOOTS, EXES

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4/18

Coin Return by Fred Piscop

13x13 grid for a crossword puzzle with numbers 1-65 indicating starting positions for words.

GRASS LAKE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICES

SYNOPSIS OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 38
GRASS LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
UNAPPROVED
April 13, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm. By Supervisor Lesinski in person as well as by Zoom. Board Members Present: Bednarski-Lynch, Loveland, Zenz, Lesinski and Brennan. Bray present remotely due to medical reasons at his home in Grass Lake Charter Township, Jackson County, Michigan.

Items approved:
1. Agenda & Consent Agenda –
2. Monthly bills for General and Fire-including Payroll /Treasurer's Report
3. Fisher re-zone R-1 to AG
4. Winchester Estates re-zone GC and R-3 to a PUD
5. Assessor Diane Deboe resignation
6. Trustee Barry Butterfield resignation

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Prepared by Clerk Zenz. Approved by Supervisor Lesinski.

Copies of unapproved meeting minutes will be posted on the Townships website: www.grasslakect.com within seven days of the meeting and are also available upon request at the Township Office. Office hours are 8:00 to 4:30 Monday thru Thursday. Email requests to cathyz@grasslakect.com. Approved Minutes are posted on the "Minutes" page on the Townships website after approval by the board.

Grass Lake Township Public Notice 38

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Grass Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Grass Lake Charter Township Hall, 373 Lakeside Drive on May 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The request for a variance is being made by Tim and Cindy Brunett at 109 Highland Dr. Jackson Mi. 49201. The request is to enlarge the existing deck so it will be closer to the east property line than is allowed by ordinance per Section 7.04 District Requirements. The property is zoned R-2 (Residential) and the parcel #000-15-19-130-057-00

The property and request are more particularly described and on exhibit at the Grass Lake Charter Township Office and on the township's website.

Written comments concerning the variance may be sent to the Grass Lake Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 373 Lakes Dr. PO Box 216, Grass Lake, MI 49240 any time before the hearing date. The Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a regular meeting immediately after the public hearing.

Doug Lammers, Zoning Administrator
Chris Payne, Chairperson of the Zoning Board of Appeals

Please note, maximum attendance is 25 people. Anyone can attend via zoom, the meeting will be in person and on zoom both. The link to the zoom application will be posted on the Township's webpage for the ZBA's May 13, 2021 meeting.

Grass Lake Charter Township
Notice of Public Accuracy Test of Voting Equipment


To the qualified electors of Grass Lake Charter Township, Jackson County, State of Michigan. Notice is hereby given that a Public Accuracy Test for the electronic equipment that will be used in Precinct 1, 2, and 3 for the May 4, 2021 Special Election is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at the Grass Lake Charter Township Hall, 373 Lakeside Drive, Grass Lake, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Michigan election law.

Catherine Zenz, Clerk
Grass Lake Charter Township

GOD BLESS AMERICA

God bless America! Land that I love! Stand beside her, and guide her, through the night with a light from above!



NAPOLEON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICES

Synopsis of Regular Meeting Minutes 38
Napoleon Township Board
Unapproved
April 13, 2021

Call to Order at 6 p.m. by Supervisor Gallagher with members Graham, Hummer, Wilson, and Wymer present.

Items Approved:

- Adjustments to costs of new fire trucks; no net changes.
- An amount not to exceed \$35,000 for an offer on Unity Church of Jackson property.
- Rezoning of 4500 Wolf Lake Rd. from agricultural (AG-1) to residential (R-1).
- Conditional use permit and site plan for Saber Soft Wash, LLC, 6819 Brooklyn Rd.
- Appointment of Mindy Rice to the township planning commission.
- Bid of \$1,405 from American Backyard to demolish white garage at cemetery.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

John Hummer
Clerk

Napoleon Township Notice 38

Napoleon Township: Zoning District Changes. At a regular meeting of the Napoleon Township Board on April 13, 2021 the following property located at 4500 Wolf Lake Rd. was rezoned from Agricultural to Residential R-1 – 11.04 acres

John Worden, Zoning Administrator
Napoleon Township

NORVELL TOWNSHIP SYNOPSIS

NORVELL TOWNSHIP 38
106 E. Commercial St., P.O. Box 188
Norvell, Michigan 49263
(517)-536-4370
Fax (517)-536-0110

Synopsis of Special/Work Session Meeting-April 7, 2021

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. All members present.

Items Approved:
Agenda for the April 7, 2021 meeting
Table of Purchase of Large Monitor & Stand until 4/14/2021 Meeting
Approval of Increase of Credit Limit for Township Credit Card
Meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Items Discussed:
JCCD Funding
Website RFP
Adding Legal Opinion to Minutes
Pricing and forms for re-zoning requests
Camp Liberty Hot Rods for Heroes Event
Personnel Policy
Investment Policy

Prepared by Clerk Jeff Oswalt, Approved by Supervisor Bill Sutherland

Copies of meeting minutes are available upon request from the Township Clerk. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. to Noon, Friday. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, office is open by appointment only.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN 38
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF JACKSON
PETITION OF NOTICE OF HEARING
FILE NO. 21-334-DD

In the matter of Cheryl Lynn Lewis, an individual with an alleged developmental disability.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including NiGEL WYCK-OFF whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on May 17, 2021 at 9 a.m. at Probate Court, 312 S. Jackson St., Jackson MI 49201 before Judge Diane Rappleye (P48973) for the following purpose:

PETITION TO APPOINT A PLENARY GUARDIAN

March 26, 2021
Gabriellea Tackett
435 W. North St.
Jackson, MI 49202
517 784-1377

CAMBRIDGE TWP. SPRING CLEANUP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP 38
SPRING CLEANUP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP SPRING CLEAN-UP WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2021
LOCATION AND HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP OFFICE
9990W M 50
FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 12:00 P.M.
YOU MUST SHOW PROOF OF RESIDENCY.

FIRST PICKUP SIZE LOAD WILL BE FREE AND EACH ADDITIONAL LOAD WILL BE AT A COST OF \$40.00 PER LOAD TO BE PAID AT THE CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP OFFICE, PRIOR TO UNLOADING DEBRIS.

ITEMS "NOT" ALLOWED FOR DUMPING: COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL DEBRIS, SUCH AS SHINGLES, PAINT, YARD DEBRIS, HAZARDOUS WASTE, LIQUIDS, OIL, GARBAGE, BURNING BARREL ASHES, BATTERIES, BARBED WIRE, OR ANY FREON TYPE APPLIANCE THAT HAS NOT BEEN PROFESSIONALLY DRAINED AND TAGGED.

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VILLAGE OF ONSTED

Village of Onsted public hearing notice 38

Village of Onsted Planning Commission will hold a PUBLIC HEARING at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at the Onsted Village Office, 108 S. Main St. Onsted, MI 49265 to consider an application for change of zoning for parcel CA8-400-0030-00 located at 211 N. Main St. Onsted, MI 49265. The applicant is requesting a change in zoning from C-1 Central Business to RU-1 Urban Residential.

The application and materials are available for review at the Onsted Village Office, 108 S. Main St. Onsted, MI 49265, Monday 12:00 noon - 4:00 PM and Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk by Mail; PO Box 420 Onsted, MI 49265 or via email: clerk@villageonsted.org. All interested parties are invited to attend and express their views.

Robert Wright
Village Clerk

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICES

Liberty Township Notice 37, 38

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:15 pm, the Liberty Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hear a request at Liberty Township Hall located at 101 W. Liberty Road, Clarklake, MI 49234, from David Leightner, 144 Southwood Dr., Jerome, MI 49249, Property ID 074-18-33-457-052-00. He is requesting a 13' variance to meet the required setback at the front of his property.

Debbie Sheehan
Liberty Township Clerk

Liberty Township Notice 37, 38

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm, the Liberty Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hear a request at Liberty Township Hall located at 101 W. Liberty Road, Clarklake, MI 49234, from Deuane Morley, 11059 Sutfin Rd., Clarklake, MI, Property ID 000-18-33-201-001-07. He is requesting a variance of 20' for the required setback on the south side of his property.

Debbie Sheehan
Liberty Township Clerk

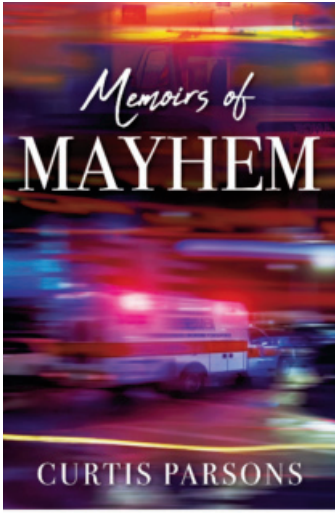
Synopsis of Liberty Township regular meeting 38

Synopsis of Liberty Township Regular Board meeting of April 13, 2021 roll call of members; Smith, Sheehan, Hubbard, Garver, and Vincent. The following items have motion and support; Approve agenda as presented, approve minutes of Regular Board meeting of March 9, 2021 as presented, approval of consensus agenda of departmental reports as presented. Payment of expenses in the amount of \$42,741.92 for March 2021 approved with a roll call 5 ayes 0 nays. Approval PA Application Bernstein, 5 ayes 0 nays. Motion to approve BS & A Software in the amount of \$25,015.00. Motion carried with a roll call 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion to approve mowing bid for two years of \$11,825.00. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. complete set of minutes are available during regular office hours.

Debbie Sheehan,
Liberty Township Clerk

Book features local stories

Get a copy of *Memoirs of Mayhem*, support Cambridge Township Firefighters and Rescue Association



Memoirs of Mayhem will soon be available at The Exponent. We will post more about how to obtain a copy to help the Cambridge Township Firefighters and Rescue Association in the process.

By Matt Schepeler

For more than 40 years, Curtis Parsons has been responding to emergencies in law enforcement, fire-rescue and emergency medical services. Over that time, Parsons, who spent the bulk of his time serving residents in Cambridge Township, saw a thing or two.

"It was quite a ride," said Parsons during a telephone conversation last week. Parsons now resides with his wife, Gail, in Wyoming.

Parsons had no intentions of writing a book after he retired from public service, but was encouraged by his brother in law. He decided to put pen to paper after realizing that his experiences could perhaps help people entering the field to



Curtis Parsons

understand a little of what they were getting into, as well as helping those already in the field learn coping mechanisms.

Once Parsons made up his mind, the stories poured out. "I started hammering away, with one story after another. We ended up with 45 stories," said Parsons.

As you might imagine, some of the stories are sad and even tragic, but others are humorous, such as one that happened while working as a Cambridge Township Police Reservist early in his career.

"One Friday evening we were doing security checks at the Onsted High School, when I saw a pickup truck backed up to a wing. I hung back in the shadows so I could try to get a handle

on what was transpiring. That is when I spotted two young men tossing something through an open window. I got on the radio and called on my partner to come in quietly behind me, which he did. We started walking up the alleyway, and the two men jumped into the truck and fired it up. As soon as they did, we threw our Maglite's into their face.

"What they had done is thrown two dozen chickens into a classroom."

Parsons said that after apprehending the two pranksters, he and his partner talked about their options, including calling their parents, but ultimately decided to call the high school principal Chuck Redding. When Redding showed up, Parsons said "If looks could kill, those two kids would have been dead on the spot."

"Ultimately, my partner and I weren't able to wait around and watch what surely had to be a circus when those two tried to recapture those chickens. They learned their lesson the hard way that night, but I had to admit it was a clever prank."

Of course, many of the stories that first responders witness first hand do not have happy or neat endings. Parsons' tells of experiencing feelings of helplessness when dealing with suicides, and of heartache, especially when dealing with children. He recalled one accident where a child was struck by an automobile. As he worked on the child, the driver of the car was screaming hysterically in the background, and was soon joined by the screams of the child's mother. The sound was haunting. "Any first responder will tell you, if they are honest, that the calls involving children are the most difficult to deal with," said Parsons. "Sleep was scarce that night as I replayed the event over and over. I could not get the sounds of screaming out of my head." The good news was that after being life-flighted out, the child was in intensive care for several days, but ultimately recovered from the injuries.

The book offers an insight into the emotional rollercoaster that comes with working emergency services. Parsons recalls the incident where people were killed in the Michigan International Speedway grandstands during the U.S. 500. He tells of a crash landing of an airplane and having his feet and legs scorched by aviation fuel and highlights how the handling of the deceased is done with respect and dignity.

People going into the field of rescue and emergency work need not only be ready for the highs and lows inherent with the job, but Parsons has practical advice as well. "Never turn down a chance for a meal," he said, as he recalled many times when he would be stuck working at a scene for hours on an empty stomach. The same goes for using the restroom. "You better go when you have a chance," he said.

While the rewards can be immensely gratifying, the sacrifice that goes into choosing a career of public safety goes beyond what most people imagine. The training never ends, the hours can be brutal, and the emotional toll it takes can weigh heavily.

Frankly, it takes a special kind of person to stick it out.

To show support for our local men and women on the front lines, The Exponent is purchasing a case of Parson's books. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy can make a donation of any size to the Cambridge Township Firefighters and Rescue Association. The money will be earmarked towards the purchase of a LUCAS device (CPR breathing device) for the department.



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Friday, April 23

12 noon - 4:00 p.m.



131 N. Main Brooklyn

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Cost: Donations to the The Brooklyn Food Pantry

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