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Inside
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- ★ Durand Receives Grant For Trumble Park
- ★ Donald J. Trapp Human Services Award

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Memorial Healthcare Welcomes Family Nurse Practitioner to Chesaning

Memorial Healthcare is pleased to welcome Alexa Klumpp, FNP to the Chesaning community.

Alexa will be joining Dr. Carolyn Ebert, Marcus Feldpausch, PA-C and Kimberly Wegscheid, FNP-BC at Memorial Healthcare Family Medicine in Chesaning. Alexa is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner with diverse patient care experience working with patients of all ages. She received both her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and her Master of Science in Family Nurse Practitioner degree from Chamberlain University.

Alexa joins Memorial Healthcare from Telemetry McLaren Greater in Lansing where she worked on the Telemetry medical surgical floor treating patients with preventative health conditions including the treatment and management of acute and chronic illnesses in patients.

Alexa is currently accepting new patients with most insurances.

To learn more visit www.MemorialHealthcare.org.



(Courtesy Photo)



THE LABELLE sisters are shown presenting a portrait of the Iwo Jima flag-raising to Mike Reeve, Director of the Clay W. Reeves Veterans Center. It was presented in memory of their late father, Marine Larrie (IE) LaBelle. The painting was done by the late Joe Yurek, a St. Johns artist who was also a WWII Marine veteran. The Harold R. Cooley Detachment 841 of the Marine Corps League assisted in the presentation. Shown left to right are: Denise Gardner, Crissy Rann, Mike Reeve and Laurie Hargrove.

(Courtesy Photo)

Durand Officials Celebrate Approval of \$1 Million Grant for Trumble Park Upgrades

The long-awaited news has finally arrived for Durand residents and officials alike. Representative Elissa Slotkin has officially approved a \$1,000,000 grant dedicated to enhancing Trumble Park, a cherished community asset.

Jeff Brands, Durand's mayor, expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "This grant approval marks a significant milestone for our city and underscores the commitment of our elected officials to invest in our local amenities."

The journey towards securing this grant began nearly two years ago when Representative Slotkin visited Durand during her congressional campaign. Candyce Wolsfeld, Director of the Greater Durand Area Chamber seized the opportunity to discuss community priorities with Slotkin, extending an invitation to Durand City Manager, Cameron Horvath, to join the conversation.

Reflecting on the pivotal meeting, Cameron Horvath remarked, "Slotkin's suggestion to apply for grants from congressional community project funds planted the seed for what has now materialized into substantial support for Trumble Park renovations."

Trumble Park, as the largest park in Durand, had been in dire need of significant upgrades, particularly in making the park more accessible to individuals with disabilities. Through community-driven initiatives such as the Annual Charity Chicken Barbecue, funds were raised to initiate the installation of a handicapped-accessible sidewalk leading from Monroe Road to the Park Pavilion. The Durand Lions Club furthered these efforts by contributing to the sidewalk's construction.

Following Slotkin's election, her staff convened a meeting at the Durand Chamber office, facilitating discussions with city and county officials and reminded the attendees of the allocation of congressional grants. Subsequently, Durand submitted an application for Trumble Park renovations, ultimately resulting in the successful approval of the \$1 million grant.

This is a victory worth celebrating as only so many projects in the Congresswoman's district are selected and funded fully amongst the numerous applications received. Slotkin's selection process led to Durand's grant proceeding to the full house for approval, underscoring the significance of Trumble Park's revitalization to the Durand community.

The approval of this grant marks a new chapter in the ongoing efforts to enhance Durand's public spaces and reinforces the collaborative spirit between elected officials community organizations and residents.

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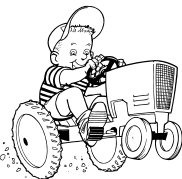
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Inspired Women Network to Host a Financial Literacy Webinar

Inspired Women Network (IWN) programming continues with a financial literacy webinar 12 to 1 p.m., Thursday, March 21. Women and Wealth: Preparing for Your Future, a free, online-only event, teaches attendees about creating financial goals and how they can lead to professional success and help prepare for unexpected life events.

Whether they're just starting a career or business and figuring out how to save, or for retirement, this event helps women embrace unique financial opportunities in their lives.

The event includes a panel moderated by Andrew Reger, RICP of Edward Jones. The panelists are accredited financial counselors, certified plan fiduciary advisors and chartered retirement planning counselors. Panelists include: Patricia VanLuven, AFC; Kelly Schluckebier, CPFA, CRPC, Schluckebier Hood Wealth Management Group – Stifel and Audrey Salander of Edward Jones.

IWN is the new women's leadership program of the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce. It was born out of a desire by women in the Shiawassee County region to have social, networking and professional development opportunities.

"IWN events offer women valuable educational resources and networking opportunities, whether they've been running their own businesses for many years or if they are just starting their professional careers," says Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce Interim Executive Director Ruthann Large.

Upcoming IWN events include Champions for Change Wednesday, April 24, Spring Social Hour Wednesday, May 22 and the Chamber Annual Dinner and ATHENA Leadership Award Celebration Thursday, June 13 at the Z Hall in Owosso. All upcoming events are 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Locations will be announced soon on the IWN Facebook page.

Register for Women and Wealth: Preparing for Your Future at shiawasseechamber.org or by contacting the chamber at (989) 723-5149 or ehuska@shiawasseechamber.org. IWN is generously underwritten in part by an anonymous donor. For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yv48fu9y>.

City of Owosso's 2024 Brush Pickup

The City of Owosso's brush pickup begins Wednesday, March 27. It may take several days for brush to be picked up throughout the entire city. Brush pickup will continue through the last Wednesday of each month until Oct. 30. It is not necessary to call to register your address for pickup. The placing of brush curbside should not occur earlier than the Sunday evening prior to the monthly pick-up commencement date.

Residents are urged to use the City of Owosso Leaf/Brush Drop off site located on Aiken Road (just south of Industrial Drive). The Aiken Road Compost Site reopens Saturday, April 6 and is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. until the end of the Leaf Season. This service is for city residents only. Proof of city residency must be presented. Grass clippings are accepted at the Aiken Road Compost Site.

On Wednesday, March 27 DPW crews will begin to cover the entire city, moving along as brush volumes permit and record each street as it is completed. It may take several days for brush to be picked up throughout the entire city. No return trips will be permitted once DPW crews have completed brush pick-up on a street.



OWOSSO HIGH School Symphony Band.

(Courtesy Photo)

Owosso Bands Receive Straight Ones at Festival

On Friday and Saturday, March 8 and 9, the Owosso Bands participated in the 2024 MS-BOA Band and Orchestra Festival held in the Owosso Performing Arts Center. 13 Different school districts sent 26 different ensembles for a total of nearly 1,300 performers to perform in our fine facilities. All of the bands performed their prepared selections for three adjudicators (judges) and also performed for one adjudicator (judge) in the sight-reading portion of festival. The criteria for the prepared literature is as follows:

- One of the music selections must be a march.
- One of the other pieces must be from the MSBOA "basic music list." This is a compilation of music selected by committee members over the years. The list is split up into different classification levels with varying degrees of difficulty.
- The last prepared piece is a "selected number" meaning a piece chosen by the director. This selection must be festival appropriate, in short "serious literature" as opposed to lighter or festive selections they may play at other times of the year.

After the prepared portion of the festival performance, bands sight read a piece for a judge. This music is an entire song that the band and the director have never seen before. They are given five minutes to become familiar with the basic elements of the piece. They are allowed to sing, clap, discuss, etc. but cannot play any part of the music during the preparation time. After the five minutes ends, the band performs the brand new music for the audience and the adjudicator for a rating. The rating is in light of the overall performance.

The four separate adjudicators judged each band on five different captions: tone, intonation, rhythm, technique and interpretation. Numerous captions were given an A+ rating throughout both the Owosso Middle School and High School Bands. The final rating from the adjudicators can range from poor, good, fair, excellent to superior. ALL FIVE performing ensembles made up of nearly 300 students from Owosso received first division rating in every category from every judge ("straight ones") for the highest rating available of Superior! The Owosso Band Program continues a decades long tradition of excellence in instrumental music both on the stage and marching field.

The Instrumental Music staff of Jillian Kowalczyk, Jordan Sterk and Michael Tolrud would like to thank their outstanding parents, supportive administration and the incomparable students of the Owosso Band Program. We sincerely appreciate all of your hard work and dedication and are honored to be your teachers!

A heartfelt thank you also goes to our community members. Without your support, we

Continued on Page 5

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Cancer Survivors Wanted

If you or someone you know is a cancer survivor, we would like to invite you to Shiawassee Relay for Life 2024. Each year, we hold a Survivor Ceremony and Luncheon, free for the survivor and their caregiver. We honor and celebrate you. When you register you will receive a free survivor t-shirt to wear at Relay.

If you would like more information on how to register and be part of our celebration, please contact Jill at jseely2682@gmail.com or (989) 721-0784.

We also offer luminaria bags for you to decorate and in honor of the survivor in your life or in memory of a loved one lost too soon.

At Relay for Life events, no one faces cancer alone. We come together every year at more than 2,500 Relay events around the country to support and celebrate survivors and caregivers. Each Relay has special events and activities (many throughout the year) just for survivors and their caregivers, so they can connect with others and know there is a strong support system available to them.

Curwood Festival Beautiful Baby and New Little Miss Curwood and Little Miss Owosso

The Curwood Festival is happy to announce that the 2024 Curwood Beautiful Baby contest will be held on Sunday, April 21 at 1 p.m. at Central Elementary School, 600 W. Oliver St., Owosso) in the gymnasium. Please enter on Ada and Lee Street by the gym. Information and applications are now available on the Curwood Festival website at www.curwoodfestival.com. Entry fee is \$20 per child with a \$5 discount for each additional sibling entered.

Prizes will be awarded for first place for each age group, boy and girl. There will also be grand prize winners for both boy and girl Beautiful Baby and Little Miss/Little Mr. The Grand Prize winners will ride in the Curwood Parade. Contestant age groups: Beautiful Baby: 6 to 18 months, 19 to 36 months, 37 to 60 months, Little Miss/Little Mr., 61 months to 7 years 11 months. All ages are based on application due date of Sunday, March 31.

Applications are due by Sunday, March 31 to the Curwood Festival office located at 212 S. Washington St., Owosso, by mail to Curwood Festival, P.O. Box 461, Owosso or electronically with the fillable form found on the Curwood Festival website.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the event chair at curwood-beauty2024@gmail.com. Admission fee is \$15 per family or \$6 per person.

Death Notices

The following was updated Thursday, March 14.

James D. Akers, 66, of Durand, passed away Tuesday, March 5. A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 9 at Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes, Durand.

Evelyn H. Smith, 86, of Owosso, formerly of Bancroft, passed away Wednesday, March 6. Services were held Monday, March 11.

Phillip A. Alward, 84, passed away Friday, March 8. Services were held Wednesday, March 13.

Thelma J. Hornus, 87, of Owosso, passed away Friday, March 8. Services were held Wednesday, March 13.

Jacqueline M. McCaughna, 62, of Laingsburg, passed away Saturday, March 9. Services were held Thursday, March 14.

Dolores Evelyn Quick Mumby



Age 92, passed away with her family by her side on March 7, 2024 at Welcome Home Assisted Living in Owosso. Dolores "Dee" was born to Evelyn (Pardonnnet) and Daniel Quick on Aug. 29, 1931 in Owosso. On June 10, 1950, Dee was married to Edwin Scott Mumby by his father Earl Mumby in the Corunna United Methodist Church. She worked in the accounting department at A.C. Spark Plug in Flint, where she used one of the earliest versions of the computer.

She attended Adrian College and completed her teaching degree from Central Michigan University. Dee had a long career (retiring several times) teaching in schools wherever her travels took her, from Owosso to Oklahoma. In addition to teaching at Eveleth School, Nellie Reid in Vernon, Corunna and Owosso Public Schools, Christian Schools in New Mexico and Oklahoma, she was the Administrator at Covenant Christian School in Owosso. She organized vacation bible schools and taught at her church's Sunday school. She loved to write, organize and produce plays for the children. Dee lived a very active life and loved to travel. She spent time living in Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado and visited destinations across the country, with a special fondness for coast of Maine where she enjoyed lobster and blueberry pie.

Dee is survived by her children, Catherine (Stephen) Achorn, Linda (Richard) Palatka and Philip (Lorie) Mumby; sister, Judy Weathers; along with eight grandchildren and twenty-five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edwin in 1980.

Dee insisted that those surviving her have a party when she passed. A celebration of her life will be held at 3 p.m., June 23, 2024, at New Creation Church, 1800 Corunna Ave., Owosso. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to New Creation Church of Owosso. To sign online guestbook, visit www.cremationsocietymidmi.com Arrangements made with the Cremation Society of Mid Michigan.

William G. Wessel Jr., 73, of Eaton Rapids, passed away Sunday, March 10.

Mary Gardner, 69, of Owosso, passed away Sunday, March 10. A Celebration of Life will be held at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 15 at Life in Christ Church.

Eugene Riley, 86, of Owosso, passed away Sunday, March 10. Services will be held at 3 p.m., Saturday, March 16 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.


Michael E. McRae, 69, of Byron, passed away Monday, March 11. A Mass of Christian burial will be held Friday, March 15.

Patricia G. Wieske, 69, of Vernon, passed away Monday, March 11.

Ardith M. Musson, 93, of Owosso, passed away Tuesday, March 12. Services will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 17 at Nelson-House Funeral Home.

Rosemary E. Steavens, 85, of Owosso, passed away Tuesday, March 12. A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 16 at St. Paul Catholic Church.


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<p style="text-align: center;">BANCROFT</p> <p>TABERNACLE OF HOPE CHURCH 6285 Bancroft Rd., Bancroft 989-634-9024 Sunday Service 10:30am Wednesday Prayer 6:30pm Pastor Glen Olson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BYRON</p> <p>ANTRIM BAPTIST CHURCH 4509 E. Lovejoy Rd., Byron 517-223-3126 • antrimbaptist.com Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am & 6pm Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7pm Regular services by phone. Call 517-518-1100</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CORUNNA</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CORUNNA 1120 Legion Rd., Corunna 989-743-5400 fbcorunna.com Co-Pastors: Tony Moore and Tim Duffield Sunday Worship 10:15am Wednesday Bible Study 6pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JUDDVILLE</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 3907 N. Durand Rd., Corunna 810-638-7498 10am Worship Sunday School is during Worship Rev. Russell Logston</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DURAND</p> <p>RISEN LIFE CHURCH 520 Kent St., Durand 989-932-6126 989-413-9566 Sunday Service 11am Live Stream Facebook risenlifedurand@gmail.com Clothes Closet open Thurs. & Sat. 10am-2pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MORRICE</p> <p>ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH 509 Main St., Morrice 517-625-4260 stmarymorrice.org Monday Mass: M, Tu, F 8:30am Evening Mass: Wednesday 6:30pm Saturday Mass: 4:30pm Sunday Masses: 8am & 10:30am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OWOSSO</p> <p>CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 120 Goodhue St. (Fayette Square) Owosso 989-723-2495 Morning Prayer: Mon-Sat 9am on Facebook Sun 10am Holy Eucharist at church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OWOSSO CONT'D</p> <p>OWOSSO CHURCH OF CHRIST 2005 S. M-52, Owosso 989-723-5407 Sunday School 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30am, 6pm Pastor Jeremy Wittwer</p> <p>OWOSSO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1500 N. Water St., Owosso 989-725-2201 firstumc@owossofumc.org Sunday Worship 10am</p> <p>ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 915 E. Oliver St., Owosso 989-725-5215 Sunday Mass at 9:30am</p> <p>ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 N. Howell St., Owosso 989-723-4277 www.stpaulowosso.org Saturday Mass at 4:30pm Sunday Masses at 8am & 11am</p> <p>ST. PHILIP LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS) 219 W. Oliver St., Owosso 989-723-6238 Sunday Bible Study 9am Sunday Worship 10am Wed. Bible Study 10am Wed. Worship 11am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PERRY</p> <p>FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH 12821 Warner Rd., Perry (517) 675-1567 Sunday Worship 10am followed by Sunday School Pastor Coleen Wilsdon www.werefaithcommunitychurch.weebly.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PERRY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>3100 Ellsworth Rd., Perry (517) 625-3400 Sunday Worship 9am & 11am (in church building) www.perrynazarene.com Live Streaming of Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHAFTSBURG</p> <p>COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH 7040 W. Beard Rd., Shaftsbury 517-675-7510 Sunday Worship 10:30am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Mtg 6:30pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OWOSSO</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 114 W. Mason St., Owosso 989-723-1670 Pastor Katie Wallen Sunday Worship 10am fbcowosso@gmail.com Home of 'The Baby Pantry' Open: 2nd Mon/Month 10a-2pm 4th Mon/Month 3p-7pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FIRST CHURCH OF GOD</p> <p>The Hub Owosso & The Hub R.E.C. Center First Church of God 2100 N. M-52, 989-723-4510 Sunday Fellowship 9:50am Sunday Service 10:30am www.TheHubOwosso.com Explore-Connect-Grow-Multiply Matthew 28:18-20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC</p> <p>An Open and Affirming Church 327 N. Washington St., Owosso 989-723-3010 firstcongregationalchurchowosso.com Sunday Worship 10:30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GRACE BIBLE CHURCH</p> <p>201 Michigan Ave., Owosso 989-723-1000 Sunday Service 11am Virtual Service- Facebook, Radio (92.5 FM) Website: GraceOwosso.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GRACEPOINTE WESLEYAN CHURCH</p> <p>1687 N. M-52, Owosso 989-723-5247 Sunday Worship 10am Virtual Worship on Facebook, YouTube and website: www.gracepointe-mi.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEW CREATION CHURCH</p> <p>1800 Corunna Ave., Owosso 989-723-8118 • www.nconline.com Services Sunday 9am Wednesday 7pm Helping people find and follow Jesus Christ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OWOSSO ASSEMBLY OF GOD</p> <p>1150 N. Shiawassee St., Owosso 989-725-8219 Sunday School 10am Sunday Worship 11am</p>
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Durand Library Upcoming Events

The Durand Memorial Library has planned several programs over the next few weeks with activities for all ages. All of the programs are free to attend and participate.

Children and adults are invited to drop in Tuesday, March 19 to make Easter and spring themed crafts between 2 and 7 p.m. A variety of crafts will be offered for all ages.

For children, Makerspace week will be held during spring break from Monday, March 25 through Saturday, March 30. Children can create their own craft projects with the Makerspace supplies or use the STEM kits throughout the week. Some new and different supplies will be available and parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate as well.

Children and families are also invited for Easter and spring crafts and coloring in the library on Saturday, March 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The annual Durand Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held the same day at 10 a.m. in Trumble Park.

Children can still participate in March is Reading Month through Saturday, March 30. Each day they check out a book from the library, they are eligible to enter a drawing for a prize. Books can be checked out on a parents' card if the child does not have their own library card yet.

The library will be closed on Good Friday, March 29. For more information on the library's activities, call (989) 288-3743, or visit the events page on the Shiawassee District Library website mysdl.org.

Owosso Bands Receive Straight Ones Continued from Page 3

would not have had the facilities to successfully host Band Festival. It was a true honor to get to host festival in the Owosso Performing Arts Center and on our High School Campus.

A special thank you also to our Band Boosters, parent volunteers and NHS student volunteers who gave their time to make this weekend a success.

Finally, a most sincere thank you to our administrators for all that you do to help the Owosso Band programs continue to succeed. Supporting our program in every way, from scheduling to showing support in attending performances, is part of what sets us apart from many districts. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to continue to flourish.

MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

A mobile food distribution will be held Saturday, March 23 from 9 to 11 a.m. at St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Parish, 700 Columbia Drive, Durand.

Greater Lansing Food Bank mobile food distributions are open to anyone in need of food for any reason, and you do not need to provide identification or proof of residency to receive food.

If you are not feeling well, PLEASE STAY HOME and arrange for someone to pick up food for you. Distributions may end sooner if all food is distributed.



OLGA QUICK, shown here with Alesha Miller, who presented her with the Donald J. Trap Human Services Volunteer Award.

Donald J. Trap Human Service Awards

Shiawassee County community organizations came together on Thursday, Feb. 29 for the Annual Community Collaborative Resource Conference. The theme of this year's conference was to equip participants with an understanding of trauma and offer tools to manage its effects. Trauma arises from many experiences ranging from individual "big" life events to recurrent experiences such as neglect, poverty, racism and addiction. Professionals who serve those experiencing emotional, psychological and physical pain may find themselves dealing with issues of secondary traumatic stress and compassion fatigue. Experts from Wayne State University, Wingard Consulting, Shiawassee RESD and Huron Behavioral Health spoke in-depth about how positive childhood experiences drive healthy development and help to mitigate the long-term effects of adverse experiences, the history of compassion fatigue, identifying and articulating both burnout and secondary traumatic stress, as well as developing resiliency skills.

Named after Don Trap, a former Assistant Superintendent of Special Education at Shiawassee RESD and leader



Sherri Svarck, shown here with Alesha Miller, who presented her with the Donald J. Trap Human Services Volunteer Award.

(Courtesy Photos)

in serving Shiawassee County families, the Donald J. Trap Human Service Awards have been a highlight of the conference for over 15 years. These awards lift up those individuals who positively impact children and families, participate in innovative programs and services, and form partnerships with others serving within the community.

Alesha Miller presented Owosso resident Olga Quick with the Donald J. Trap Human Services Volunteer Award. An active community member, Olga Quick strongly supports the Owosso High Choirs and Trojan Marching Band and is Treasurer of the Owosso Public Schools Board of Education.

Sherri Svrcek, Corunna High School Guidance Counselor for the past 25 years, was awarded the Donald J. Trap Human Service Professional Award, for her exemplary service to the children and families of Corunna Schools. She has been innovative, engaging and compassionate to all she has served while putting mental health for Corunna students at the forefront.

The Community Collaborative Resource (CCR) Networking breakfast will be held Thursday, May 2 in the Memorial Healthcare Auditorium from 8:30 to 10 a.m., and all community resource organizations are invited to attend.

HOME, GARDEN AND BUSINESS EXPO

The Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce is happy to announce that the Home, Garden and Business Expo is back. It will be held Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 21 (Kid's Day) from 10 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m. General admission is \$5 for those 18 and up.

Connect with local and regional businesses showcasing their products and services, from small enterprises to industry giants.

Celebrate the craftsmanship of local artisans and craftsman who bring a unique flair to home décor and design.

If you are interested in a sponsorship opportunity, contact ehuska@shiawassee-chamber.org.

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Owosso Area Ministerial Association (OAMA)
invites you to attend the ecumenical
COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
March 29, Noon

First Congregational Church
327 N. Washington St.
Owosso next to the Post Office.
Handicap accessible from Washington St.

The Independent
Newsgroup

CLASSIFIEDS

Call
989-723-1118
1907 W. M-21, Owosso



VALERIE ALLEN and Armin Mersmann, husband and wife of Midland, both have multiple exhibits on show. Valerie has around 13 acrylic paintings. She is inspired by travel, music and history. She has been painting for over 40 years. Armin has 14 exhibits, three are digital and the rest are graphite drawings. He has been drawing for 62 years. He stated that some pieces can take up to 15 hours to draw. The duo shares a studio space in Midland.

Shiawassee Arts Center Opens New Exhibit

The Shiawassee Arts Center opens a new exhibit featuring artwork by Valerie Allen and Armin Mersmann of Midland, Pooh Stevenson of Owosso and members of the Shiawassee Artists’ Guild. The exhibit, which runs Tuesday, March 12 through Sunday, April 28, is sponsored by CLH Insurance Agency. The public is welcome to attend the ‘Meet the Artists’ reception Sunday, March 17 from 1 to 3 p.m.

The Shiawassee Artists Guild is a group of 15 active members. The guild is a group of mid-Michigan artists working in varied art media: painting in oils, acrylics, mixed media, watercolors and pastels, drawing, pen and amp; ink, photography, printmaking, pottery and ceramic sculpture, jewelry making and amp; collage – the list goes on and on...

The Shiawassee Arts Center, celebrating its 52nd anniversary in 2024, is located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso and is open to the public free of charge, Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends 12 to 3 p.m. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieske Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. SAC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage participation and appreciation of the arts. For more information, (989) 723-8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.

The Z Hall Hosting Community Palm Sunday Dinner

In celebration of the Easter season, The Z Hall is hosting a community Palm Sunday Dinner Friday, March 24 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Guests will have the opportunity to gather with family and friends and be able to enjoy the traditional family style meals in a beautifully decorated space. Live music will be provided by Richard Lahmann on a beautiful grand piano.

“We are excited for people to come together around the dinner table and celebrate the special season of Easter,” stated Dr. David Skjaerlund, owner of The Z Hall. “It’s an opportunity to enjoy a relaxing time with good food and great friends.”

Meals will include the option of Czech fried chicken, honey baked ham, baked salmon and a delicious entrée salad. There are also options for children meals. Capacity is limited and tickets (\$23) must be purchased in advance at www.theZhall.com/events. For more information, call The Z Hall at (989) 723-7028.



POOH STEVENSON of Owosso is a photographer specializing in fine art photography, portrait work and other natural light images. Shown here with a piece from her collection, “Owosso: A Love Story.” Stevenson said that this collection came to mind when her and her husband became empty nesters. She turned sentimental and when thinking of the different things the family had done, she decided to take photos around Owosso. She has 18 photos on exhibit.



BONNIE BROWN, of Owosso, a member of the Shiawassee Artists Guild has three pieces on display including a watercolor, pastel and mixed media.



LINDA VANCISCE, of Owosso, a member of the Shiawassee Artists Guild has two pieces in the exhibit., “Heron” and “Enchanted.” Both are watercolors.



DAN CHRENKA, of Swartz Creek, a member of the Shiawassee Artists Guild has three photos on display from Yosemite National Park.
(Independent Photos/Melissa Shepard)

Rejoice!

Praise! Celebrate!

Faith Community Church

12821 S. Warner Rd., Perry, MI 48872 • 517-675-1567

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday - Sunday, March 24 at 10 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - Thursday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service - Sunday, March 31 at 7 a.m., followed by breakfast. All are welcome!

Easter Service - Sunday, March 31 at 10 a.m.

Catholic Community of Owosso

St. Paul Church

Holy Thursday, March 28, 7pm

Good Friday, March 29, 12:30pm

Easter Vigil, March 30, 8pm

Easter Sunday, 8am & 11am

111 N Howell St., Owosso

989-723-4277

St. Joseph Church

Easter Sunday 9:30am

915 E Oliver St., Owosso

989-725-5215

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OWOSSO

114 Mason St., Downtown Owosso
(Corner of Ball & Mason Sts.)

Easter Worship Service 10am
with special choir and handbell music

Pastor Katie Wallen

989-723-1670 ~ website: fbcowosso.org

Email: fbcowosso@gmail.com

Easter Sunday Service

March 31, 10:30am

with Holy Communion offered

First Congregational Church

UCC of Owosso

“May the Lord Jesus Christ Grant You Peace and Renew Your Strength”

989-723-3010 ~ 327 N. Washington St., Owosso

Laingsburg United Methodist Church

210 Crum St., Laingsburg • 517-651-5531

LAINGSBURGUMC.ORG

Easter Worship

10:30am

Welcoming All who wish to know Christ!

Join us

Easter Sunday

at Mount Hope, Corunna

JESUS LOVES YOU

Come as you are...leave as He is.

10:30am

Mount Hope Church, 220 S. Shiawassee St., Corunna

Relevant • Refreshing • Relational • Revival

Perry Church of the Nazarene

3100 Ellsworth Road • 517-625-3400

www.perrynazarene.com

Community Good Friday Service (March 29) 7pm

Easter Worship (March 31) 9am or 11am

Children’s Worship w/Egg Hunt 9 or 11am

Easter Fellowship 10am

STATE REPRESENTATIVE Brian BeGole (right), of Antrim Township, recently presented a state tribute to Battalion Chief Michael Thornburg of the Owosso Charter Township Fire Department in appreciation of his 51 years of service as he enters retirement. Thornburg joined the department in 1972, beginning as a firefighter and eventually serving as an assistant engineer, engineer and assistant chief.

“The life-threatening tasks firefighters face demand courage, preparation, commitment and knowledge,” BeGole said. “We are incredibly thankful for all that Chief Thornburg has provided in his service to our families and this community. He has also trained hundreds of firefighters over the years – helping to provide protection and security for countless more homes, businesses and lives.

“We owe him a debt of gratitude for his remarkable service and selflessness and I hope he and his family enjoy the same security and well-being he provided for others for decades.”

BeGole is in his first term serving the 71st House District, which includes Owosso Township.

(Courtesy Photo)



THE 2028 Shiawassee Scholars.

(Courtesy Photo/ Keith Kingsbury of Time Out Photography)

2028 SHIAWASSEE SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED

The Shiawassee Scholars Program identifies academically talented 8th graders who achieved the highest scores in Shiawassee County on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test). The 2028 Shiawassee Scholars class inductees are, in alphabetical order: Elliot Bohinski (Morrice), Jack Buckland (Laingsburg), Isaac Butts (Owosso), Meriel Burley (Laingsburg), Mason Carignan (Corunna), Abby Crandell (Owosso), Evan Cunningham (Corunna), Raegan Cousineau (Laingsburg), Tye DeLorge (Corunna), Parker Dennis (Durand), Emma DeShone (Laingsburg), Jackson Donley (Corunna), Ella Dorman (Laingsburg), Brody Downen (Corunna), Anabella Drauch (Durand), Enoch Fountain (Perry), Cooper Golab (Corunna), Jackson Griffin (Owosso), Grayson Groshong (Perry), Abigail Harper (Byron), Samuel Heslip (New Lothrop), Jayden Hodges (Laingsburg), Charles Hoskins (Byron), Levi James (Laingsburg), Benjamin Justice (Corunna), Brady Kohlmann (New Lothrop), Harmony Kwiatkowski (Corunna), Caleb LeCureux (Corunna), Evelyn Lindberg (Corunna), Parker Livingston (Owosso), Rory Matthews (New Lothrop), Benjamin Meyer (Corunna), Lorelai Miller (Corunna), Addison Minto (Durand), Aimee Montoto (Corunna), Jacob Moore (Owosso), Sylvia Passow (Owosso), Katherine Ramos (Corunna), Mackenzie Roush (Byron), Navraaj Singh (Owosso), Miriam Skarich (Owosso), Saige Stone (Perry), Lillian Smith (Durand), Knatalie Taylor (Perry), Brayden Williamson (Corunna), Cooper Wisler (Owosso) and Mya Zofchak (Corunna).

The Shiawassee Scholars Program provides resources and support to academically talented high school students to reach their full potential and is a partnership between the Cook Family Foundation and the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District. Shiawassee Scholars are provided opportunities to experience accelerated academic programs, a three-day trip to the University of Michigan and informational college and career planning assistance. The program began in 1999 and has recognized more than 1,200 scholars, many of whom have graduated from the University of Michigan and other top colleges.

For more information about the Shiawassee Scholars, contact Kelsee Gewirtz at the Shiawassee RESD by calling (989) 743-6102 or gewirtz@sresd.org.

Spring Tea at the Durand Depot

Join us for a delightful Spring Tea at the Depot on Sunday, April 28 at 1 p.m. Indulge in a charming afternoon complete with delectable lunch by Defying Gravity Bakery, fragrant tea, an enticing silent auction and our speaker — author Elizabeth Wehman. Tickets are priced at \$25 per person. Secure your spot by purchasing advanced tickets. Contact the Depot at (989) 288-3561 to make your purchase. The Depot is located at 200 Railroad St., Durand.

Don't miss out. Ticket sales close on Thursday, April 18.

Bennington Township March 4, 2024 Regular Meeting

The Bennington Township regular board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Lee Ash on March 4, 2024, 7:00pm, at the Township Hall. Present: Jim Forsythe, Matt Dutcher, Lee Ash, Cody Baker, Donna Ash.

Forsythe moved to approve the agenda as printed. Second by Baker. Motion carried.

Forsythe moved to approve the minutes for the February 5, 2024 regular board meeting as printed. Second by L. Ash. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Forsythe moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Second by Dutcher. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Forsythe moved to pay bills as presented in the amount of \$16,034.86. Second by Baker. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Resident asked if the road mowing would resume, specifically Friegle Rd. L. Ash stated that mowing would resume and that this is done by the county. Resident asked about an Early Voting polling place card that was sent to someone who no longer lives at that address. D. Ash responded that she could start the process to remove from the voter list.

Trent Adkins, Perry Fire Chief- Updated the board about activity and would be present if there were any questions regarding the contract.

Jason Hannath, DTE Site Manager – spoke about working with Townships regarding solar projects.

Board Reports:

Library – Kim White Shiawassee District Library Director – Commented that the Durand Branch has been recently renovated and that numbers for usage are returning to preCOVID numbers. Addressed the board about reaching peoples outside of the building walls and would like to partner with the Township to provide some services at the Township.

Plan Comm – D. Ash – Recommended approval of one Lot Line Adjustment.

- Baker moved to concur with the Planning Commission and approve Lot Line Adjustment PLLA24-001 for Jim and Shelly Robinson to adjoin parcel #010-40-005-000 and #010-40-006-000. Second by Dutcher. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Roads – L. Ash – 2024 Road Projects

- L. Ash moved to accept the contracts from Shiawassee County Road Commission for three road projects within the Township at a cost of ~\$236,125.00:

- o Scratch Course/Chip Seal Garrison Road from Morrice Road to M-52 at a cost of ~\$190,000.00

- o Gravel Cook Road from Hibbard Road to Bennington Road at a cost of ~\$27,925.00

- o Mineral Well Brine application at a cost of ~\$18,200.00

Second by Forsythe. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

SSEA contract – A new contract was received from SSESA to provide additional services within the Township to cover the portion that MMR will no longer be covering. There was discussion with Chief Adkins regarding the contract, concerns from the board that he will discuss with the SSESA Board.

Dutcher moved to accept the contract from SSESA with exception of paragraph 6C regarding Rate Adjustment. Second by Forsythe. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

Salary Adjustments – Dutcher moved to give a salary increase of \$3,000 to both the Clerk and Assessor. Second by L. Ash. L. Ash moved to amend the main motion by changing the salary increase for the Clerk to be an annual amount of \$26,000 for the Clerk and for the Assessor \$24,000. Second by Baker. All board members in favor of the amendment. Amendment carried. All board members in favor of the main motion now reading as the amendment. Motion carried.

Township Remonumentation – Forsythe moved to contract with the Shiawassee County Surveyor to provide additional remonumentation of corners within the Township at a cost of \$1000.00. Second by Baker. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Board of Review Alternative Dates – Forsythe moved to approve the Board of Review Resolution to set an alternate date for the March Board of Review First Taxpayer Appeal Meeting, setting the first day to Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Second by Baker. All board members in favor. Motion carried. (Complete wording of resolution available at the Township Hall.)

Poverty Exemption Resolution – Forsythe moved to approve the Bennington Township resolution to adopt poverty exemption income guidelines and asset test for 2024. Second by L. Ash. All board members in favor. Motion carried. (Complete wording of resolution available at the Township Hall.)

Fire Millage – Fire Millage for the Township expires this year and is due to be a ballot proposal in August. Discussion was to obtain ballot wording for the next meeting at a maximum of 2mills for 10 years.

2023 -2024 Budget Changes – Forsythe moved to amend the 2023 – 2024 budget by transferring \$50.00 from Election supplies 101-191-727.000 to Election FICA & Medicare 101-191-715.000. Second by Baker. All board member in favor. Motion carried.

2024-2025 Budget Presentation:

General Fund -	Revenues	\$1,005,410.65
	Expenditures	\$ 947,710.65
Fire Fund -	Revenues	\$ 156,500.00
	Expenditures	\$ 136,200.00
Cemetery Fund -	Revenues	\$ 610.00
	Expenditures	\$ 100.00
Ambulance Fund -	Revenues	\$ 141,610.00
	Expenditures	\$ 136,610.00
SATA Fund	Revenues	\$ 18,850.00
	Expenditures	\$ 18,546.99

L. Ash moved to approve the 2024-2025 budget for the budget hearing. Second by Forsythe All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Baker moved to adjourn. Second by Dutcher. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 8:20pm.

The **Bennington Township Budget Hearing** was called to order by Supervisor Lee Ash on March 4, 2024, 8:20pm, at the Township Hall.

Present: James Forsythe, Matthew Dutcher, Leonard Ash, Cody Baker, Donna Ash.

Forsythe moved to suspend with regular meeting procedure and move to the business at hand. Second by L. Ash. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Forsythe moved to approve the 2024 – 2025 budget as presented. Second by Baker. All board members in favor. Motion carried.

Forsythe moved to adjourn. Second by Dutcher. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Ash, Clerk

3-17-24

Dabble’s 3rd Annual Mom 2 Mom Event

Welcoming a new addition to the family is a momentous occasion for any parent, yet it often comes with the challenge of acquiring essential supplies. Recognizing the joys and struggles of parenthood, Dabble Community Enrichment Center is dedicated to alleviating the burdens faced by new parents and families in need.

On Sunday, March 17 from 12 to 4 p.m., Dabble will host its 3rd Annual Mom 2 Mom giveaway event, extending a helping hand to families in the community. With a steadfast commitment to supporting parents, Dabble has spent the past year collecting gently used and unwanted baby items to provide assistance to those who may find themselves in need. This will be held at Dabble Community Enrichment Center, 210 N. Saginaw St., Durand.

All items at the Mom 2 Mom event are offered completely free of charge, thanks to the generous sponsorship from Hi-Temp Heating and Cooling. Attendees are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to find essential supplies for their growing families. Additionally, attendees are welcome to participate in item exchanges or drop off any unwanted items they may have, although not required.

For more information about the Mom 2 Mom Event sponsored by Hi-Temp Heating and Cooling, as well as any media inquiries, please contact, Michael Nazarian at DabbleDurand@gmail.com or call (989) 502-1112.

Letter to the Editor

Independent Editor,

This year, being our Presidential election year, a few things come to mind.

For instance, we hear our Past President Trump say he will make America great again if he gets elected again as President. Just like he said in his first Presidential campaign. I believe our President Biden wants to make America great again also, if he gets re-elected.

I pray for both of them to become more honest and truthful and faithful to us all, whoever gets elected President. I pray for them also to honor our God as they campaign against each other and the one elected as President will serve our nation and draw strength and wisdom from our God. That goes for all our National Government agencies.

I remember when I was young, with my dad and mom, at a certain time each day, singer Kate Smith would sing on our radio, “God Bless America.” Always a blessing to us and others to hear her sing. I am sure.

Here are the words of the song “God Bless America.”

God Bless America, land that I love, stand beside her, and guide her, through the night with the light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies to the oceans, white with foam. God Bless America, my home sweet home. God Bless America. My home sweet home.

If Kate Smith was still alive, I believe you would still hear her sing this song today.

May God Bless our new President elect.

We all need to take a minute and think about where is your relationship with God.
Vaugh Hawley, Owosso

CITY OF DURAND MEETING

The City of Durand will hold a public hearing for the proposed project plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF). SRF funding includes improvements to the sanitary sewer system at the treatment plant. The projected overall budget for this project is \$350,000. Copies of the project plan are available for review at the following location: City of Durand Office; 215 W Clinton Street, Durand, MI 48429. A public information meeting regarding the treatment plant and force main improvements will be held at 6:30pm on April 1, 2024 at the City of Durand Office 215 W Clinton Street, Durand, MI 48429. This meeting will be a public informational meeting where information on the proposed project will be presented and the City will take any public comments or concerns. Any comments regarding this application can be submitted in writing to: City of Durand
Attn: Cameron Horvath, City Manager
215 W Clinton Street
Durand, MI 48429

PUBLIC NOTICE BENNINGTON TOWNSHIP MANDATORY WEED GRASS CUTTING

Notice is hereby given to Bennington Township residents and property owners that Ordinance #02-06-01 requires that weeds and grass not cut by May 1st will be subject to be cut by the Township entering onto the property for such purpose and the owner of the property shall be charged with the cost as many times as is necessary, plus an additional \$40.00 administration fee per cutting. Cutting shall be to the depth of 10 rods or the depth of the property which ever is less and to a height of less than 12 inches. This ordinance applies to residents and property owners of residential lands and/or subdivided lands.
Donna Ash, Clerk
Bennington Township
3-17-24

Burns Township and CDL Receive Grant

Burns Township and Community District Library announce a Community Center grant award in the amount of \$500,000. Burns Township and the CDL are set to revitalize their community landscape thanks to the grant. The award, part of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity’s Community Center Grant program, signals a big step forward towards realizing a project that has been considered for many years.

The project involves building a new township hall for Burns Township headquarters and the Byron branch of the library including a community center room. This approach will combine and expand community services beyond the limitations of the current facilities. The new building will not only host township offices but offer a space for the public for municipal and community events, meetings, elections, celebrations, classes as well as a wide variety of library programs to be hosted in the building.

Established in 2004, the CDL has seven branches located throughout the county, including: Bancroft, Byron, Corunna, Lennon, Morrice, New Lothrop and Perry. The current location of the Byron branch is within Byron High School. The grant will facilitate the relocation to the new building and cover the library portion of building costs, furniture, technology and provide expanded services not available at its current location.

In essence, this \$500,000 investment signifies more than the construction of a new township building; it symbolizes a collective investment in the future of Burns Township. The collaboration between Burns Township and CDL will not only meet the needs of today but also a growing community for the future.

The \$500,000 grant is part of a broader initiative by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, which allocated \$64 million in Community Center Grant funds for 100 Michigan municipalities and organizations. The initiative’s focus is on reinvesting in historically underfunded communities, supporting essential services through grants.

The competitive grant process, administered by the Michigan Community Service Commission, saw nearly 1,000 applications requesting over \$1 billion in funding. The grants, distributed across 43 Michigan counties, will serve a total of 80 counties, ensuring that the investment in Michigan neighborhoods continues to improve the lives of residents statewide.

NOTICE Township of Woodhull Shiawassee County, Michigan PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING for Woodhull Township will be held at the Township Hall located at 7315 W. Beard Rd., Perry MI, at 10:00 a.m. on March 22, 2024 and at such time and in accordance with the law, a Budget covering proposed expenditures and estimated revenues of the Township shall be submitted for consideration. “THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE SUBJECT TO THIS HEARING.”

Copy of budget will be available for Public Inspection at the Clerk’s Office located at 7315 W. Beard Rd. Perry, MI. The office phone number is (517) 675-4342.

March 22, 2024, the Township Board will hold a special meeting following the Budget Public Hearing. Purpose of this meeting is for the Township to make any necessary budget amendments to the 2020/21 budget and pay end of fiscal year bills. The Board will then Adopt the final budget for 2024/25, Bank Depositories, Fire Authority Resolution, Ambulance Resolution, Board Meeting Dates, Cemetery Fund and any transfer of funds if needed.

Lesley Daunt
Woodhull Township Clerk
March 12, 2024

SYNOPSIS of MINUTES Woodhull Township Board Meeting March 6, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Attendance
Supervisor Pam Slee absent. Present: Clerk Lesley Daunt, Treasurer Dawn Warfle. Trustee Tom Jelenek, Trustee Rick Betts
Clerk Daunt was appointed as moderator of meeting with absence of Supervisor Slee. All Ayes, motion carried.
Recommended Actions
Betts moved, supported by Warfle to amend the proposed agenda, by moving two decision items to the beginning of agenda. All ayes, motion carried.
Supervisor resignation
On February 7, 2024, the township received the following written statement: “As of February 7, 2024, I resign as Supervisor of Woodhull Township. Respectfully, Pamela Slee.”
Daunt moved, Betts supported to accept the resignation of Supervisor Slee. Betts-yes, Warfle-yes, Daunt-yes, Jelenek-yes, motion approved 4-0.
Appointment of new supervisor:
Daunt moved, Warfle supported to appoint Stephen Daunt as township supervisor thru the November 2024 term.
Warfle-yes, Daunt-Abstain, Jelenek-yes, Betts- yes. Motion approved 3-0-1.
Minutes for the February 7, 2024 meeting were approved All ayes.
Bills totaled \$14,468.11. check #28342 thru 28351, 3 EFTs total \$2440.36. Election went well.
Treasurer Report- \$930,640.00 in all accounts, \$137,649.00 of that being ARPA funds.
Park Commission reported that placement of musical play structure for the park, will be done by Park opening.
Decision Items
Approval of bills as presented, Motion carried all Ayes.
Betts moved, supported by Jelenek to reappoint Steve Webb to the Planning Commission. Motion carried all Ayes.
Public comments:
Paving of cemetery drive, Discussion of bathroom remodel. Sidewalks, Tornado siren and AED Defibrillator for Twp Hall.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm
Copy of full minutes may be viewed at the township hall or on the website, www.woodhulltwp.org

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MARCH 27, 2024 MEETING CANCELED

The regularly scheduled Shiawassee County Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 has been canceled due to a lack of agenda items. The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. within the County Board of Commissioners’ meeting room located on the first floor of the Surbeck Building, 201 N. Shiawassee Street, in Corunna, MI. Questions may be directed to the Community Development Department, 201 N. Shiawassee St., 3rd Floor, Corunna, MI during the hours of 8:00 A.M. – Noon and 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Village of Gaines REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 13, 2024 SYNOPSIS

Present: Valerie DeLauter, Wayne McGuire, Diane Nowak, Mark Sanborn, Ronda Roach, President Connie Greene, and Clerk Vicky Sandlin
Absent: Taunya Marek
The following actions were taken:
1. Approval of February 14, 2024 Regular Council meeting minutes as presented.
2. Approval of the bills.
3. Approval of the FY 2024/2025 Village of Gaines Budget.
4. Approval of FY 2024/2025 Fee Schedule.
5. Approval to table Wage Scale.
6. Approval of the FY 2024/2025 Regular Council meetings, Zoning Board of Appeals meetings, and Planning Commission meeting dates.
7. Approval of Resolution 2024-01 Huntington National Bank Open And Maintain Accounts.
8. Approval of Resolution 2024-02 Financial Plus Credit Union Open And Maintain Accounts.
9. Approval of Resolution 2024-03 Dort Financial Credit Union Open And Maintain Accounts.
10. Approval of 5K/Fun Run.
11. Approval to remove DPW employee.
12. Approval to accept quote from Clear View Tree Removal for removing Village trees.
13. Approval to table Peace Park Electrical
14. Approval of Brush Pick up dates (Wednesday, May 29, 2024 and Thursday, September 12, 2024).
A full copy of the above minutes can be viewed at the Village of Gaines office, 113 Genesee Street, Gaines, MI or at www.villageofgaines.net.
Clerk, Vicky Sandlin
President, Constance Greene

Letter to the Editor

Independent Editor,

On Monday, March 18th, the Owosso City Council is poised to vote to drastically change 70% of the city’s zoning ordinances. I am writing to the Council to request that a small, but very important part of the zoning ordinances, NOT be changed. I hope you will contact them too.

As written, the changes will enable ANYONE, especially developers and slumlords, in ALL single-family and two-family neighborhoods (every R-1 and R-2 zone) to build triplexes and quadplexes, allow ANY house to be divided into up to four apartments and reduce minimum front setbacks from 25 feet to 10 feet and side setbacks from eight feet to five feet.

The proposed city zoning ordinance states the intent is to: “redevelop old, low-density buildings into new higher density buildings.” A current house, maybe your neighbor’s single-family home, could be torn down and a four-unit building could be built within five feet of your lot line. Where will all the new residents park their cars? What about the garbage? The noise? What will happen to the value of your property?

Why? Why would the city write such draconian rules

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
SHIAWASSEE COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent’s Estate
CASE NO. 24-4086-DE
Hon. Thomas Dignan
Estate of Peggy Rosalie Bray
Date of birth: May 24, 1948
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent Peggy Rosalie Bray, died 6/25/2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Michael Bray, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 110 E. Mack St., Corunna, MI 48817 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
3-17-24
Michael Bray
12272 Warner Rd.
Laingsburg, MI 48848
517-304-8667
Justin D. English P71565
217 S. Water St.
Owosso, MI 48867
989-472-4242

that would run against the wishes of most homeowners if they were informed of the city’s intentions? As a general rule, it is neighborly to assume good intentions. Yet, this is really unfathomable. And unexplained. Even at the Council meeting, the only explanation offered was that the city had some “nonconforming” structures that would be solved with these zoning changes. In this case, the nonconforming buildings are houses that hold a number of apartments that are not allowed in their respective zoning districts, which make them ineligible for

loans. It is absurd to think that a serious city council would consider rewriting an entire residential housing code for the accommodation of a few nonconforming buildings. ‘Break the law, we will forgive you and punish everyone else.’

That explanation became even flimsier when a council member inquired how many nonconforming houses there were in the city. The answer. Dunno! Let’s change the character of our neighborhoods, let’s risk our property values, let’s risk the charm and unique beauty that we have for... Dunno.

During the Council meeting, in the discussion amongst themselves, city leadership repeatedly fell on the City Master Plan as their excuse for potentially destroying our neighborhoods. Yet in their own Master Plan it states:

Goal 1: 1.22 “Amend zoning standards to reduce the conversion of single-family homes to multi-unit apartments and minimize impacts.”

Goal 1. 1.24 “Plan for attached single-family and multi-family along corridors (M-21, M-71, and M-52) and as transitional uses between neighborhoods and commercial or employment areas.”

If city leadership wants to follow their Master Plan, then the obvious course is to develop new corridor zoning districts and leave neighborhood zoning alone.

What they didn’t explain at the Council meeting is that the city is attempting to become certified as a Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC). Nothing wrong with that, except for the veil of secrecy they seem to want to keep over their true motives. Nearly 70 other communities within the State have already achieved this distinction and another 228 are working towards it. Yet, when you look at the zoning ordinances of certified communities such as Laingsburg, Grand Blanc or Howell, their residential single and two-family neighborhoods are left intact. Again, there is NO rational explanation for the risk to long established residential neighborhoods based on elusive dreams of wooing new housing developments to scale. Other communities have not found it necessary or even wise.

City leadership needs to concentrate on reviving the city downtown and the economic and mixed-use corridors that already exist and that will draw visitors to Owosso. Be reasonable. Be sensible. Be smart.

In closing, Owosso’s neighborhoods are a core strength of the city. They always have been. The consultants that city leadership hired to help guide their Master Plan em-

The Independent ★ Sunday, March 17, 2024 9
phasized strong neighborhoods as a vital draw to both potential economic development and as a crucial part of the plan to increase the number of day-trippers to visit the charming city of Owosso. Neighborhoods will lose that appeal with indiscriminate city-wide permission to bulldoze the charm and slap-up nondescript but well-meaning quadplexes anywhere. It goes against Owosso’s Master Plan. It goes against common sense.

Please tell your City Council members to leave the residential zoning codes alone. Contact them before they vote on Monday, March 18th.

-Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor, (989) 725-0595, robert.teich@ci.owosso.mi.us.

-Susan J. Osika, (989) 277-0201, susan.osika@ci.owosso.mi.us

-Janae Fear, janae.fear@ci.owosso.mi.us

-Jerry Haber, (989) 721-1496, jerry.haber@ci.owosso.mi.us

-Daniel Law, (989) 627-7046, daniel.law@ci.owosso.mi.us

-Emily S. Olson, (989) 998-0549, emily.olson@ci.owosso.mi.us

-Nicholas Pidek, (260) 475-9524, nicholas.pidek@ci.owosso.mi.us

Sincerely,

Jane Ferraro, MPP

(Master of Public Policy,

UM Ford School of Public Policy)

City of Owosso Concerned Resident

GOLF OUTING IN DURAND

Durand Union Station will be hosting a benefit Golf Outing on Saturday, June 29 at Dutch Hollow in Durand.

Cost is \$400 per team. Registration forms available at www.durandstation.org/events or call Tom at (810) 624-2505.

There will be a longest drive (M/W) award, longest putt award, closest to the pin award, skins contest, team poker contest, door prizes, raffles, 50/50 drawing, FREE hot dogs at the turn and dinner provided after round.

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AT THE conclusion of their study of the lumbering history of Michigan, Owosso's Central School fourth graders and teachers donned their plaid shirts on Thursday, Feb. 22 for a bus trip to First Church of Christ. Teacher Mike Raffaelli prepared a delicious lumberjack breakfast of Crazy Charlie potatoes and pancakes for the students. Then they enjoyed an old-time sing-a-long with Mr. Raffaelli's friend Jeremie Wilson and some dancing that might not have been so enjoyable for the boys.

(Courtesy Photos)

Potpourri Herb Guild Holds First 2024 Meeting

"Welcome 2024 Tea" was the theme for the Thursday, March 7 Potpourri Herb Guild meeting held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Corunna, the twenty-two ladies that attended where welcomed by President Connie Miller. This "Welcome 2024 Tea" was to welcome back our herb members for the new year and introduce new members. Each lady shared a two-minute summary about themselves, which highlighted not only the diversity of the membership but also their love of herbs. The attendees were asked to bring their own special teacup and saucer for the tea. A wide variety of teas and treats were served.

The Guild recognized Beulah Hargrove of Grand Oak Herb Farm as an Honored Member. Mrs. Hargrove has rendered outstanding service to the Guild by being a member for more than ten years, hosting and working on special activities. She has taught guild members about the planting, growing and harvesting of herbs as well as the cooking and medicinal application of herbs. Beulah has shared her years of decorating experience with herbs and flowers in many sessions with the Guild ladies. Congratulations Beulah!

Jenny Hessler gave the March Garden Tip by speaking of our favorite herb, Basil. Hostesses were Judy Francis, Connie Miller and Teresa Dillon.

If you would like to attend our next Guild meeting it is on Thursday, April 4 at 1 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Coleen Stowell will be teaching us about the growing of microgreens. Find the Potpourri Herb Guild events and photo gallery on Facebook.

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March Consignment Auction. 1996 Ford F-150 XL, Cummins 6bt diesel

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power unit, tools, knives, pistols, collectables, heaters, antiques and much more! Bidding ends March 25. Catalog at NarhiAuctions.hibid.com. Questions, call 810-266-6474.

Short Notice Starrs Online Estate Auction. Bidding open. Massey Ferguson loader tractor, Kubota Diesel UTV, 3-point items, quality tools. Bid at JohnPeckAuctions.com Selling? Call John 989-426-8061. Offices in Gladwin & Charlotte.

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INSIDE TRACK

A Model District Where Students Want To Be
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Durand Middle School Students of the Month

Lucas Goodman (8th Grade):



Mr. Spaulding, “Lucas consistently pulls in A’s for grades, showcasing not just woodworking skills but serious dedication to his studies. He’s more than a classmate; he’s a natural leader. Lucas is the guy you can count on – in and out of the classroom. He is always willing to lend a hand to his fellow classmates. His commitment to excellence sets

a high standard and brings a positive vibe to our school community. Big props to Lucas Goodman for carving out success both in the woodshop and around the school. Keep on building, Lucas!”

Tim Krupp (Staff):



Students and staff alike nominated Mr. Krupp for staff member of the month. Included below is a sampling of the many nominations:

Ms. Duley, “Mr. Krupp, my work bestie of 25+ years, you exemplify the epitome of what a teacher should be, kind-hearted, tirelessly dedicated and the very best in your craft. I want you to know

that all of your greatness doesn’t go unnoticed. We all love you, Mr. Krupp!!”

Abby Lorts (student), “Mr.Krupp has mentored and shaped me in many ways and he has always been my favorite history and gym teacher. I love when we do

motivational Mondays, only usually they were on Thursdays, because he’d forget. Mr.Krupp always has the best stories and knows literally everything about football. He told me he can name the winners of the Superbowl up to 40 which is crazy. In all honesty, I loved having Mr.Krupp as my mentor through middle school.”

Jaydn Parker (student), “If you were to ask me who my favorite history/gym teacher is, I would definitely say Mr. Krupp. He isn’t only the best history teacher, he is an amazing kind hearted person. Mr. Krupp has inspired me in so many ways and has the best stories ever. He has taught me how to never give up on what I believe and so much more. I love how every time I walk into his class, he always has a story to tell or a motivational video/speech. He is the sweetest person and is always willing to drop what he’s doing and help his students. I am so grateful to have him as a teacher and friend.”

Colton Craven (7th Grade):



Ms. Sebok, “Colton is a fantastic student who always works hard and helps others. He is a leader in and out of the classroom, works well with all

students, is kind and remains curious about learning. All of these traits makes DMS proud to have a wonderful role model like Colton.”

Emory Adkinson (6th Grade):



Mrs. Franks, “Emory goes beyond being a model student for her fellow 6th grade students. She has friends and positive relationships in every

grade level. She applies 100% of her effort and detail to any assignment, is always willing to help others and never hesitates to volunteer. Emory is the definition of Railroader Pride.”

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