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THE HASTINGS BANNER

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BCSO deputy involved in deadly October shooting was justified, says prosecutor

Molly Macleod
Editor

A Barry County Sheriff's Office deputy who shot and killed a Hope Township man in October was justified in their use of deadly force, says Barry County Prosecutor Julie Nakfoor Pratt.

Jeremiah Johnson of Hope Township was shot and killed by a BCSO deputy after deputies were called to respond to a domestic situation involving a firearm in the 7000 block of Kingsbury Road shortly before 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 28. During the incident, Johnson was shot and killed.

The deputy involved in the incident, whose name hasn't been released, was placed on paid administrative leave following the shooting.

"It is my opinion that at the time Jeremiah Johnson was shot and killed by a Barry County deputy, the deputy honestly and reasonably believed that the use of deadly force was necessary to prevent the imminent death or imminent great bodily harm to his fellow officer, Johnson's wife, Siphiwe (Johnson's wife) and also himself. This was a justifiable homicide," wrote Pratt in a Tuesday press release.

Pratt said the deputies knew they were responding to a domestic incident in October and parked discretely at the end of Johnson's driveway before quietly approaching the home. Pratt said that while approaching the home, Johnson's wife called central dispatch and reported her husband was holding a gun to her head.

"The deputy drew his gun while entering the home because he was unfamiliar with the building in which a possible hostage situation was occurring," wrote Pratt. The deputies lawfully entered the home to perform a wellness check on Siphiwe, Pratt said.

Deputies heard arguing and screaming upon entering the home, according to Pratt and a Michigan State Police

See **SHOOTING** on 4

Maple Syrup Queen crowned



Madison Trowbridge was announced as Vermontville's newest Maple Syrup Queen following Queen's Night competition this week. The 16-year-old Vermontville resident will be the face of the annual Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival and its surrounding festivities. Trowbridge will be joined this year by her Royal Court, which includes Kaydance Harvey, Izabelle Racine and Shannon Kistler. The queen and her court's first event of the 2025 maple syrup season is the Sugaring Off Potluck, slated for Thursday, Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Vermontville. This year's Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival is scheduled for April 25-27. **Photo by Molly Macleod**

New staff writer joins View Newspaper Group

View Newspaper Group West welcomed a new staff writer to its ranks this week. Newcomer journalist Noah Peterson, 24, started his job with the local newspaper group earlier this month, according to editor Molly Macleod. He will write for The Hastings Banner, The Sun and News, and The Hastings Reminder.

Peterson said his pathway to the paper began in a familiar place.

"I found an ad in The Sun and News," Peterson said. "It's where I learned of this new position and thought it would be the best place to start."

Peterson graduated from Rochester Christian University in spring 2024 where he earned his bachelor's degree in mass communications and got hands-on experience in sports coverage while working as an editor for Shield Media, the independent student media outlet of Rochester Christian University.

"Because I grew up in this community," Peterson noted, "I know that working for the local paper will be a good start in my career. I hope to someday work my way into sports media and capture all content in Michigan sports."

Over the years, Peterson has gained knowledge in the journalism field. His strongest areas are photography and videography. In the past year, he launched a solo business for

See **WRITER** on 3

Accident in Hastings remains under investigation

Dennis Mansfield
Staff Writer

A reckless driver on eastbound State Street in Hastings ended up in a two-vehicle accident last week, with one man sustaining "serious" injuries, according to Michigan State Police reports.

MSP officials reported that troopers were alerted to a driver allegedly swerving in and out of traffic while traveling eastbound on State Street in Hastings at about 4:20 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6.

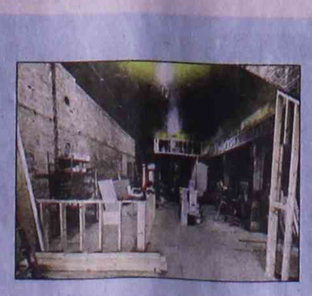
The 1993 Ford pickup truck, driven by a 54-year-old Cloverdale man, was spotted by troopers but reportedly hit a 2014 Honda sports utility vehicle near the intersection of State and Broadway, as well as striking

See **ACCIDENT** on 4



A 54-year-old Cloverdale man was left with serious injuries after a Thursday crash in Hastings. **Photos by Josh Winkelstein**





TRUMBLE RENOVATING HISTORIC BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN HASTINGS
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Local winter festival set for Feb. 15 at Gun Lake Park

Karen Turko-Ebright
Contributing Writer

Launching into their second year helping organize the Gun Lake Winterfest has been a chock-full of changes for Brad and Stacey Landman, with the biggest change for the event being the move to the Gun Lake Park for the community festival Saturday, Feb. 15.

"We have received a ton of positive feedback," Brad Landman said. "You never know how something will be received when you change it, but the great thing about Winterfest is that it has been allowed to evolve over the years.



This year, the annual Gun Lake Winterfest returns to the Gun Lake Park at 2397 Patterson Rd. in Wayland. **Photo by Karen Turko-Ebright**

"With two wonderful parks that can host the main event, we are always weighing the benefits of each. We decided to move it back to Gun Lake Park this year," he added. "We love this location because it's easy for everyone to see as they drive by, and it comes at a much lower cost."

Local business owner Kim Lynch, who sits on the GLWF committee, agrees with Landman that Gun Lake Park is more visible.

"I am so happy that we have moved it to the old location as I believe it will bring more foot traffic," Lynch said.

No matter the location, kids will have a blast thanks to Lynch, who oversees free activities.

"We are having a professional face painter and magician, a balloon artist, games, prizes, a big drawing and animals to pet," he said. "With times being tough for a lot of families, this should be a great opportunity for them to spend time together without worrying about their budget."

Deb Timmerman, Gun Lake Business Association president and treasurer, added that change is good.

"The changes came from committee members recognizing that costs were increasing and to keep the event sustainable, we needed to change the way it was being done," Timmerman said. "Many of the committee members remembered attending as youngsters when the event was held at the county park, and they wanted to bring back that community feel while supporting local restaurants and businesses."

Instead of a beer tent this year, there will be a trolley service. According to Landman, that helps support the goal of the GLWF planning committee is to support local restaurants and businesses.

"Given the limited parking, we use a trolley system to help people get to and from Gun Lake Park, local businesses, Birdie Blizzard and parking areas," she added. "The trolley is free to ride, thanks to sponsorship from our local businesses.

"Many people have said they love the return to Gun Lake Park. Since this event is 100 percent for our community, we always listen to what people want."

Every year, the Winterfest committee picks a local charity to receive a check. This year, the chosen charity to receive proceeds from the event is the General Federation of Women's Clubs-Gun Lake Chapter.

"These ladies are often in the background taking care of the area," Landman said. "They help residents who need a little boost; they raise funds and awareness for many projects out there but seldom get recognized for their work.

"We wanted to make sure they are recognized and hopefully give them a nice donation so they can keep up their great work."

Another implemented change to GLWF 2025 was stretching out Winterfest over a period earlier than just the big Winterfest day. Landman said that allowed festival-goers to experience more of what the Gun Lake area has to offer.

"Starting Winterfest at the Chief Noonday Car Park's Christmas on the Corridor Tree Lighting event was great," Landman said. "It gives us an excellent runway to grow the events between then and the main Winterfest event.

"In a perfect world, we'd love to see each local business host an event every week. The Chili Cook-off was super fun," he added. "I can't wait to see who won."

Another change, this year, features only the top three Gun Lake Idol winners performing on the main stage at Gun Lake Park. The three final winners were named at the Gun Lake Casino on Wednesday, Feb. 12, with the top performer receiving $750, $500 going to the runner-up and the third-place contestant garnering $250 for their effort.

Elizabeth Jones, who heads up Gun Lake Idol and advertising, said the change benefits the performers. "The singers had too much difficulty with the cold weather," Jones added.

More venues offered their stages this year, allowing more contestants to sign up to compete, with the Wayland Hotel featuring a contest best 32 performers. Other participating locations included Reds Sports Bar and Grill (18), Thirsty Buddy's (13), Russo's Pizzeria-Gun Lake (29), Russo's Pizzeria-Hopkins (28) and One More Grill (18).

Though, organizers stated some of the contestants were repeats, as they tried different venues in hopes of making the top three.

"This was Russo's first year participating, and they went all in with both locations, and they had a great turnout," Jones said. "The bars were packed with customers who normally ate there, and then many tables were reserved as contestants brought fans with them. It was great to see the restaurants still full later in the night."



The Polar Dip at the annual Gun Lake Winterfest draws a big crowd as it remains a main attraction. **File photo by Karen Turko-Ebright**

Winterfest Schedule of Events

There will be plenty for festival-goers to see and do at the annual Gun Lake Winterfest on Saturday, Feb. 15.

"We cannot wait to see you out and about in the Gun Lake area this Saturday," said festival committee co-chair Brad Landman. "Local businesses are excited to welcome you.

"We have a main stage packed with events and this event can only happen with community support."

Some of the scheduled festivities include:

- Vendor Market at Gun Lake Park.

Polar dip from 2 to 3 p.m., with the first dip at 3 p.m. Sign-up fee is $10 and the first 50 dippers will receive a free T-shirt. Changing tents will be available.

- Winterfest Mail Stage from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Various events, including kids' crafts and games, Gun Lake Idol Performers, Magician Alan Kazam Show, Dog Costume Contest, C's Pizza Eating Contest, Vernors Chugging Contest, Sand Bar Hot Wings Contest and Winterfest Chili Contest Winner, as well as 50/50 raffle. See festival website for times and details. Trolleys run to participating businesses and restaurants. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., vendor tents, raffle basket bidding and food trucks.
- Ice Fishing Tournament sponsored by Gillet's Bait and Hardware. Pending ice and weather conditions. Sign-in starting at 6:15 am at Gillett's. Return check-in at 1 p.m. at the store. For details, call 269- 672-5371.
- Winterfest Birdie Blizzard Disc Golf Tournament at Yankee Springs Township Park. Registration will be on site.

"A big focus has been using the stage a lot more this year, and the Vernors contest will be unique to Gun Lake Winterfest," said Landman. "I can't wait to see how the new events go over."

And, Theresa Paiz, who oversees apparel and vendor marketing for the Gun Lake Winterfest, said registration for the Polar Dip is already up over previous years.

"Overall, it will be a lot of fun and a great day," Paiz added.

For more information on GLWF 2025, visit online at gunlakewinterfest.com or check the festival's Facebook page, facebook.com/GunLakeWinterfestOfficial, for parking information and updated event schedule.

Hastings man convicted of crossbow murder back in court this week

Molly Macleod
Editor



Patrick Gilmore was back in court this week for a review hearing before Judge Michael Schipper. The 20-year-old was convicted to life in prison without the opportunity for parole in 2022 for the 2021 killing of 17-year-old Lane Roslund. Gilmore was also 17 at the time of the crime. **File photo**

A Hastings man sentenced to life in prison for the 2021 killing of a fellow teen is due back in court this week.

Patrick Gilmore, 20, stood before Judge Michael Schipper in the Barry County Fifth Circuit Court this week for a review hearing. The hearing was held before press time on Wednesday. The Hastings Banner will continue its coverage of the hearing next week.

Gilmore was sentenced to life in prison without parole in June 2022 after being convicted of the murder of Lane Roslund, a Hastings 17-year-old. Gilmore, a fellow 17-year-old at the time of the crime, pled guilty to the murder in exchange for dropping a charge of concealing the teen's body.

Gilmore is currently housed at the Gus Harrison Correctional Facility in Adrian under level II security.

Roslund's body was found in a shallow grave in Hastings Charter Township 32 days after his death in September 2021. Gilmore was sentenced to life in prison for shooting and killing Roslund with a crossbow.

Upcoming Events at the HASTINGS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Professional Events

Hark Up! A Traditional Big Band Celebration | Sat, 02/22 | 7:00 pm
Grand Rapids Symphony | Music of Harry Potter | Sun, 04/13 | 3:00 pm
DIVA Jazz Orchestra | Fri, 04/25 | 7:30 pm
Tickets: hastings.ludus.com | 269-818-2492

Other Events

HHS Choir Midwinter Concert | Thu, 02/13 | 7:00 pm
MSVMA HS Choir Festival | Wed, 02/19 | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
MSBOA Band & Orchestra Festival | Tue, 02/25 | 8:15 am - 3:45 pm
HS Musical | Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat |
Thu, 03/13 | 7:00 pm ~ Fri, 03/14 | 7:00 pm ~ Sat, 03/15 | 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Special program note: The performance of *Rhythm is Gonna Get You*, scheduled for Saturday, March 22, has been canceled.

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Patten Monuments makes big move after decades in the city of Hastings

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

Most people know how much work it requires to move out of a home or apartment.

That's nothing compared to what Patten's Michigan Monument Company has to deal with. The family-owned, Hastings-based cemetery monument business is exiting a location they've settled into for over 80 years.

"You find some things that have been sitting in a corner for 30 or 40 years that haven't been touched and we have to figure out what to do with it," chuckled Ryan Holley, who serves as vice president for a company that includes his father, Ron, as president and mother, Mary, as the secretary.

Patten Monuments has been a fixture at the corner of Greet Street and Cook Road since 1947 when it originally purchased its headquarters and would eventually build expansions. Early this year, though, the company moved a jaunt down M-37 into a brand new, sprawling, 17,500 square-foot facility located in Rutland Township, just outside of the City of Hastings.

The company is now located at 851 North M-37 Highway.

While operations have been consolidated there — all under one roof — Holley said that they continue to move things from the old location.

The 17,500 square feet of space is an upgrade from the roughly 11,000 square feet that Patten Monuments had at its previous location while also leaving the company with room for additional expansion.

The new space provides high ceilings so that the company can work with larger monuments. It also allows trucks to be loaded and unloaded inside rather than through a loading dock. The new facility effectively serves as the company's main office and production facility while it also maintains a sales presence in Battle Creek, Portage and Coldwater.

For a company that has roots that reach as far back as 1917, this sizable investment in the business could signify a new era for the company.

"We have new machinery, we are able to update it and grow into different areas, but I think there is also staying true to who we've been for so long," Holley said. "I guess my hope and my plan is to stay small, and customer-focused instead of growing into a big company where everything is just a number and pushed through. I think we're at a size where we're able to maintain that."

"We're big enough to do what we need to do for everyone but we're small enough where there is still an intimate setting," Holley added. "It's a nice push into the future as far as more room to expand and add different types of equipment. It's exciting."

As with any post-COVID pandemic construction project, it was a bit of a roll of the dice on whether or not the large-scale project would finish on time. While Holley and the team at Patten Monuments were hoping to open the new location at the end of last year, delays only tacked on a few months and they were able to open the facility first thing this year.

"Just like any big construction project, one thing kind of leads to the next," Holley said. "Overall, I was hoping by fall of 2024 to be in, so, right at the end of the year. It pushed it back kind of a few months but our slow time of the year is the winter so it almost made it nicer that we weren't trying to move in the fall."

While the new facility is exciting and the future is bright, Holley certainly acknowledged how great of a home the City of Hastings provided for the company for the last many decades.

"The corner of Cook and Green was a phenomenal corner. Everyone knew right where you were," he said.



Early this year, Hastings-based cemetery monument maker Patten's Michigan Monument Company moved into this brand new, sprawling, 17,500 square-foot facility located at 851 North M-37 Highway. **Photo by Jayson Buss**

Church Safety Conference slated for Feb. 22

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

No one likes to think about a situation where their lives might be in danger — but one local event is designed to prepare you for exactly that.

The Larry Jackson Memorial Barry County Sheriff's Church Safety Conference is where such information is exchanged. This year's event is slated for Feb. 22 at First Baptist Church of Middleville.

The event runs all day, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and features several guest speakers and break-out sessions with varying topics, from building safety and legal liabilities to de-escalation tactics.

It's an opportunity for groups and individuals to receive this kind of training even if they previously didn't have access to it.

"Particularly at churches, you don't want to think about an active shooter coming in, but we rather equip people to know what to do in those situations rather than they regret not knowing what to do," said Becky Wynsma, who is a member of the Barry County Sheriff's Auxiliary, a member of First Baptist Church of Middleville and helps to organize the yearly event with her husband.

The training and education don't just center on extreme situations like an active shooter, either. In fact, first aid training is also a popular breakout session for the event.

The event has steadily grown over time, with a record 393 people who signed up for it last year. As of now, around 290 people are registered for this year's event, putting organizers on pace to match last year's total.

Advanced registration is encouraged so that organizers can get an idea of a headcount for food purposes, but walk-ins are certainly welcome.

This year's keynote speaker is John Riley, of Gentle Response, an organization that provides de-escalation training.

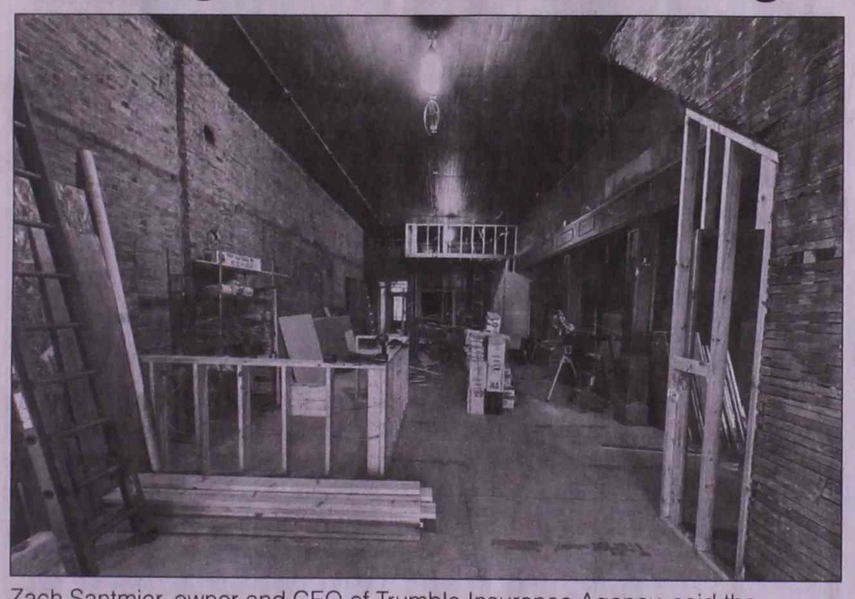
Riley is a former Army infantryman and retired member of the Grand Rapids Police Department. It was while preparing a conflict de-escalation training class for his church security team in 2016 that he realized what he had to share and teach would benefit anyone who deals with the public. Wynsma said people of all professions tend to partake in this training, including teachers.

"We think it is fantastic because it's more about trying to help communities and churches and schools," Wynsma said. "To just have more knowledge because the more you know the better you can help people. That's basically what it comes down to."

Wynsma also said that each conference features something new, so someone who may have attended the event each year will walk away learning something new.

Detailed information on the event, along with registration forms, can be found at barrychurchsafety.org.

Trumble renovating historic building in downtown Hastings



Zach Santmier, owner and CEO of Trumble Insurance Agency, said the number one question that seems to be on locals' minds lately is "What's going on at the old County Seat?" Santmier and his team at Trumble are happy to answer that question. Renovations are currently underway at the historic building on the corner of Jefferson and Church streets. Trumble purchased the building late last year and plans to use it as its new central headquarters for Barry County. Santmier said he and his team stripped the building down to the studs and is hard at work, preparing to make a physical presence for the agency in Hastings. For more on the renovations, look to this weekend's edition of The Reminder. **Photo provided**

WRITER

Continued from Page 1

photography and videography — Prime Productions and Photography.

"I have a passion for capturing content, especially sports and events," he added. "I have learned so much in the past year and I hope to continue to grow in the West Michigan area and beyond."

Noah Peterson

Macleod said that his primary focus will be news coverage in the Caledonia and Middleville areas, including schools, government and more. He looks forward to covering other stories like sports and local events.

After graduating from Caledonia High School in 2019, Peterson attended Grand Rapids Community College for two years before transferring to Rochester Christian University. There, he was given an opportunity to compete in the cross country and track teams while pursuing his bachelor's degree. Peterson graduated after three years with a degree in mass communications and was recognized as a two-time Character of Champion for his athletic accomplishments.

"College was a blast," Peterson said. "I never thought I'd get to compete at a professional level and graduate in a field I am very interested in pursuing."

Peterson came back home after graduating where he plans to start his career in journalism. Over time, he hopes to gain lots of experience and connections to pursue a career in sports media and communications.

"I'm excited to be back home in West Michigan," Peterson added. "I hope that my time at the local newspaper group provides me with new opportunities and knowledge of what I want to do with my life."

Macleod said she is thrilled to welcome Peterson on board.

"I know the Middleville and Caledonia areas are in good hands with Noah. I know firsthand what it's like to start your journalism career in the community you grew up. I'm excited to see him learn and grow while connecting with the community," she said.

Founded in 2003, View Newspaper Group is a locally-owned, locally-connected community newspaper group covering 13 Michigan counties. As Michigan's largest independently owned newspaper group, the company publishes 21 newspapers with print editions reaching more than 335,000 households each week, plus an additional 500,000 monthly online readers. For more information, visit mihomepaper.com or contact View Newspaper Group Brand Manager Emily Caswell at ecaswell@mihomepaper.com.



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Put your tax refund to work

Most of us probably don't enjoy preparing our taxes, but there's often a reward at the end — a tax refund. If you get a refund this year, how can you make the best use of it?

Of course, the answer depends somewhat on the size of your refund. Last year, the average tax refund was $3,050, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

Whatever the size of your refund, though, you'll want to maximize its benefit. Here are a few suggestions:

• ***Contribute to your IRA.*** If you were to receive about $3,000, it would go a long way toward funding your IRA for the year — but any amount would help. You still have until April 15, 2025, to contribute to your IRA for the 2024 tax year, but if you've already "maxed out" on it, you could use your refund for 2025. The annual contribution limit for a traditional and Roth IRA remains $7,000, or $8,000 if you're age 50 or older. And by getting an early start toward fully funding your IRA, you can reduce the pressure of having to come up with large amounts later in the year.

• ***Build an emergency fund.*** Your tax refund could help you start or expand an emergency fund. It's a good idea to keep up to six months' worth of living expenses in such a fund, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account, separate from the funds you use for your daily expenses. You might need to draw on this fund for unexpected expenses, such as a major home or car repair or a medical bill that's not fully covered by your health insurance. Without such an emergency fund in place, you might be forced to dip into your IRA or other retirement accounts to pay for these types of costs, and such a move could be expensive, resulting in taxes, penalties and lost opportunities for growth.

• ***Contribute to a 529 plan.*** If you have children or grandchildren and you'd like to help them further their education someday, you might consider investing in a 529 education savings plan. With a 529 plan, earnings and withdrawals are federally tax free, provided the money is used for qualified education expenses. Based on where you live, your 529 plan may provide state tax benefits, too. (It is possible, though, that 529 withdrawals could affect financial aid packages, depending on who owns the account.) A 529 plan can be used to help pay for college, accredited trade school programs, some K-12 expenses and even to help repay some student loans.

• ***Pay down debts.*** Your tax refund may give you a chance to reduce your debt load. But which debts should you tackle first? You could follow the "snowball" method by paying off the smallest of your loans or debts as quickly as possible. Or you could choose the "avalanche" route by making minimum payments on all debts and using extra funds — such as your tax refund — to pay off the debts that carry the highest interest rates. Either method could help you save money in the long term.

It's not often that you receive a financial windfall such as a tax refund — so think carefully about how you can maximize its benefits.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Service club sponsors educational trip to Lansing

The Kiwanis Club of Hasting helped give the students at Southeastern Elementary School a ride – literally.

The local service club announced it sponsored a recent trip for 264 elementary students, 26 staff members and 78 parents, not to mention six bus drivers, to the Impression Five Museum in Lansing.

"Whether it was the interactive displays or the opportunity to travel to Lansing, the day was filled with such great, fun experiences," said Kiwanis member Lyn Briel. "Yes, they enjoyed the educational opportunity but also the bus ride and being on a field trip.

"Kiwanis is proud of its sponsorship of Southeastern Elementary School and the opportunity to be a small part in furthering the students' educational experiences while supporting the teachers and parents through other beneficial programs," she added. — *DM*



Carl Lickley (left), president of the Kiwanis Club of Hastings, stands with Southeastern Elementary fourth-graders Malia Barnum and Heidi Pollet, and Southeastern Elementary Principal Kelly Wilson. The local service organization sponsored a recent trip to the Impression Five Museum in Lansing for hundreds of SES students, parents and school staffers. **Courtesy photo**



The staff and students at Southeastern Elementary gathered to express their appreciation to the Kiwanis Club of Hastings after the local service organization sponsored a recent trip to the Impression Five Museum in Lansing. **Courtesy photo**

Library hosting 'Lifestories' series in February

The Roundtable Companions for Racial Equity group kicked off February with a return to their "Lifestories" series, bringing speakers from diverse backgrounds to the Hastings Public Library on Monday evenings for discussions on a variety of topics.

Teresa Hedgewood, a nurse practitioner from Kalamazoo, kicked off the series on Monday, Feb. 3, sharing her views in "Another Side of Healthcare."

Hedgewood shared her experience as a teen mom looking to support her family when she began to work her way up through the healthcare system. As a woman and a woman of color, she faced many challenges in the 30 years it took for her to realize her dream and move from nurse to nurse practitioner.

She also touched on the mental health crisis facing the nation and what Barry County is doing to combat that need. A recording of Hedgewood's talk is available for viewing on the library's Facebook page.

A second presentation on Monday, Feb. 17 will feature Bill Griffey, Gun Lake Tribe education director, as he and a representative from Native American Affairs discuss the complexities of "Tribal Government and U.S. and Michigan Government" from the tribal perspective.

Educators Maggi Catchick-Houghton and Dannon R. Holley will provide the finale for the series during "Another Side of Education" on Feb. 24. The two will help provide a look at issues of diversity in education from different perspectives, spanning their experiences as educators moving from rural to urban school districts in Virginia and Detroit.

All of the presentations are free and open to the public.

The Hastings Public Library is located at 227 E. State St. in Hastings. For additional information, persons may contact the library by calling 269-945-4263. — *DM*

STARBASE Battle Creek shuts its doors for now; future in limbo

■STEAM program idled for more than 1,600 area students

John Hendler
View Newspaper Group

STARBASE Battle Creek closed its doors and program operations on Feb. 7. This closure not only impacted the Battle Creek site but all 90 programs across the United States, including two others in Michigan (STARBASE Alpena and STARBASE One Selfridge), Puerto Rico and Guam.

"At this time, we do not know if this is a temporary or permanent closure," said STARBASE Executive Director Amber Waterbury, who noted that STARBASE Battle Creek has been serving the community and region as a leader in STEAM education for 18 years and has approximately 1,600 children in the program. "Please know that we are working diligently to remain afloat and continue providing an empowering educational opportunity that inspires generations of children to come."

Fifth-grade students in the core program come to STARBASE Battle Creek for five hours (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) of instruction one day a week for five consecutive weeks with about 250 students attending each particular section at a time.

Students in STARBASE Advanced (approximately 80) are in grades six and seven, and students in the Outreach program (approximately 500) range from K-12. Several schools in the area participate in STARBASE programs.

STARBASE is part of the Department of Defense and Congress passes funding bills for the federal government, which, when signed by the president, become law. They entered the current fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2024, with no budget in place. The federal government is currently operating on a continuing resolution, providing limited funds and STARBASE funds are fully expended.

As the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate navigate the path forward for funding the federal government, Waterbury notes that there has been disagreement on how much to allocate for the 90 STARBASE locations.

"Currently, the House has proposed $60 million; the Senate has proposed $20 million," she said. "As a result of this disparity, the DoD comptroller (the financial reporting and accounting office) is acting conservatively and only released $20 million for all STARBASE locations during the continuing resolution."

On Jan. 29, the DoD program manager informed STARBASE they would have to close its operations on Feb. 7 because the DoD comptroller will not release additional funds.

STARBASE does not know if this shutdown is temporary or will be permanent.

"We will only learn this once Congress passes the appropriations budget and the president signs it into law," said Waterbury. "If the Senate concedes to the House and increases the STARBASE budget to $60 million, we've been told we can resume operations. If the House concedes to the Senate and lowers the budget, STARBASE will most likely face permanent closure."

STARBASE, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that operates STARBASE Battle Creek. They can fully accept any monetary donation people would like to make to help re-open the doors at starbasebattlecreek.org. (Contributions may be tax deductible.)

"With your critical financial contribution, we can supplement the shortfall in our budget while Congress makes a determination," said Waterbury. "The funds we raise can help us function in some form during this time. Your support is vital and will make a difference."

Waterbury is also urging people to each out to their Congressional representatives and senators, including senators Gary Peters (peters.senate.gov/contact/email-gary) Elissa Slotkin (slotkin.senate.gov/contact-your-senator/) and representatives Tim Walberg (walberg.house.gov/contact), Bill Huizenga (huizenga.house.gov/contact) and John Moolenaar (moolenaar.house.gov/contact).

Waterbury said she has been communicating with Peters' office and said the senator and his office have been very supportive.

"Your voice matters, and with enough support, we can help protect this invaluable program for future generations," said Waterbury. "A quick phone call or email to their offices can make a significant difference."

Those with questions can contact Waterbury at awaterbury@starbasebattlecreek.org or 269-969-3219.



This 2014 Honda sports utility vehicle was hit by a 1993 Ford pickup truck piloted by a 54-year-old Cloverdale man last week. The occupants in the Honda sustained minor injuries.

ACCIDENT

Continued from Page 1

a signal pole and fire hydrant, before coming to a stop.

Lt. DuWayne Robinson of the MSP's Fifth District headquarters in Paw Paw said the Cloverdale resident was transported to Corewell Health Butterworth Hospital, where he was treated for serious injuries. Robinson added the MSP had yet to release the individual's name, as the investigation is considered ongoing – and any potential charges – pending the results of blood tests for potential drugs or alcohol levels in the driver's system.

There were no passengers in the Ford truck. However, Robinson said minor injuries were reported to persons in the Honda SUV, though names and ages were not released.

SHOOTING

Continued from Page 1

incident report obtained by The Banner. When they approached the bedroom, deputies told Johnson "Don't move." MSP reports state Johnson then drew his gun, a 45-caliber Smith & Wesson 1911.

"One of the deputies observed the other deputy try to disarm Johnson and the two struggled over the weapon. At one point, the deputy observed that the muzzle of Johnson's gun was moving toward the direction of the deputy who was trying to disarm him. The muzzle was pointing in the direction of the deputy's chest and head and he feared for the deputy's life so he shot Johnson," wrote Pratt. "Deputies and emergency responders attempted life saving measures but Johnson was pronounced dead at the scene."

No video exists of the incident. Barry County Sheriff's Office deputies do not wear body cameras. MSP investigators requested dashcam video footage from the patrol car but were told the cameras had not been activated by the deputies responding to the scene.

The sheriff's office was assisted at the scene by Michigan State Police, Hastings Police Department, Barry Township Police Department and Barry County Central Dispatch.

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Kiwanis honors young citizens

Hastings elementary school and middle school teachers have selected students to be honored as citizens of the month by the Kiwanis Club of Hastings.

Students are selected by their teachers for reasons such as excellent citizenship, attitude, conduct, academics, character, service, leadership and sportsmanship.

The citizens of the month for January (with parents' names in parentheses) include:

Central – Amelia Mattice (student of Joshua and Abby Mattice) and Bryan Killian (student of Travis and Jennifer Killian).

Northeastern – Scarlett Williamson (student of David and Alyssa Williamson) and Luke Yeary (student of Trevor and Cheryl Yeary).

Southeastern – Blair Hulsebos (student of Jordan and Crystal Hulsebos) and Malachi Ricketts (student of Shawn and Bambi Ricketts).

Star – Kailey VanSyckle (student of Josh and Crystal VanSyckle) and Addison Lucas (student of Nick and Leah Lucas).

Hastings Middle School — Sixth graders Hunter Bierens (student of Jeffrey Bierens) and Korra Leonard (student of Dustin and Tegan Leonard); seventh graders Austin Milcher (student of Matthew and Jessica Milcher) and Gabriella Gole (student of Jason and Karen Gole); eighth graders Abigail Shafer (student of Robert Shafer and Julia Kaherl) and Breeya Solmes (student of Isaac and Kiralee Solmes).



Several Hastings middle schoolers were recently named citizens of the month. They include sixth graders Hunter Bierens and Korra Leonard; seventh graders Austin Milcher and Gabriella Gole and eighth graders Abigail Shafer and Breeya Solmes.



Kailey VanSyckle (left) and Addison Lucas are Star Elementary's January Kiwanis Citizens of the Month.



Southeastern's Citizens of the Month for January are Blair Hulsebos and Malachi Ricketts.



Amelia Mattice and Bryan Killian are Central Elementary's Citizens of the Month. **Photos provided**



Scarlett Williamson and Luke Yeary are Northeastern Elementary's Citizens of the Month.

Legal advice offered at no cost to Barry County seniors

The Legal Services of South Central Michigan-Battle Creek office will conduct in-person interviews for legal advice and possible representation, without charge, to interested Barry County seniors this month.

Those who wish to speak with an attorney should visit the Barry County Commission on Aging, 320 W. Woodlawn Ave. in Hastings, between 10:30 a.m. and noon on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Legal Services of South Central Michigan-Battle Creek office is a nonprofit organization that provides legal assistance, representation and education to low-income people in Calhoun and Branch counties and seniors in Barry, Branch, Calhoun and St. Joseph counties. The advice and counsel is funded primarily by the Area Agency on Aging Region 3B through the Michigan Aging and Adult Services Agency under the Older Americans Act of 1965. — *MM*

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Send your student achievements or personal milestones to

mmacleod@mihomepaper.com

THE HASTINGS BANNER
VIEW Newspaper Group

PIERCE CEDAR CREEK INSTITUTE EVENTS

— FEB. 14-20 —

Those interested can register for these events and find more information at cedarcreekinstitute.org/events/

Feb. 1-28 — Feb. Storybook Walk: "Winter Trees" by Carole Gerber; illustrated by Leslie Evans. A boy and his dog use their senses of sight and touch to identify seven common trees in the snow-covered forest. The Storybook Walk is free and self-guided on the Black Walnut Trail.

Feb. 1-28 — A Frosty Mystery Game. Solve the mystery! Follow clues on each sign to solve the mystery of who stole the Institute's rose hips.

Friday, Feb. 14 — Valentine's Day specialty dinner. Doors: 5:30 p.m; dinner at 6 p.m. Celebrate Valentine's Day with a romantic four-course dinner for two. Seating is limited; those interested are asked to make their reservations early. Select from prime rib, chicken Parmesan or a plant-based meal when registering.

Tuesday, Feb. 18 — Cedar Creek Book Club: "Serviceberry" by Robin Wall Kimmerer, 10 a.m. to noon. With a mix of fiction and non-fiction biographies, this book club is for readers who share an avid concern and interest in the natural world.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 — Family Science Night at the Hastings Public Library, 6-7:30 p.m. This highly interactive event is family-friendly, features many local organizations and explores science in a drop-in, at-your-own-pace format.

More information about these events can be found on the Institute's website at CedarCreekInstitute.org.

Nominations sought for Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame

The Friends of HPAC (Hastings Performing Arts Center) are seeking nominations for 2025 induction into The Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame (GFFAWOF). Nominees can be any past or present community member who has stood out in their contributions to the excellence in the arts or support of the arts.

A nominee should be either a group within the Hastings community at large or a person that has either lived in, or is from, the Hastings area and has contributed significantly to the Hastings Arts culture or utilized their talents with significant impact on others. They could also be a group or person that has made a significant contribution in areas such as, but not limited to application or teaching of the arts; performance of the arts; service to the arts or sponsorship of the arts.

"The Hastings Performing Arts Center is proud to announce that nominations are now open for the Groos Family Fine Arts Wall of Fame (GFFAWOF)," said HPAC site coordinator Spencer White. "This recognition honors individuals and groups who have made a significant impact on the arts in the Hastings area through performance, education, service or sponsorship."

The performing arts community wishes to show its gratefulness to the many volunteers, community members and groups that provide hours of time, passion and resources to local arts projects and programs in the area. Thanks to their contribution, a higher level of education and performance excellence is experienced by all ages in the Hastings area.

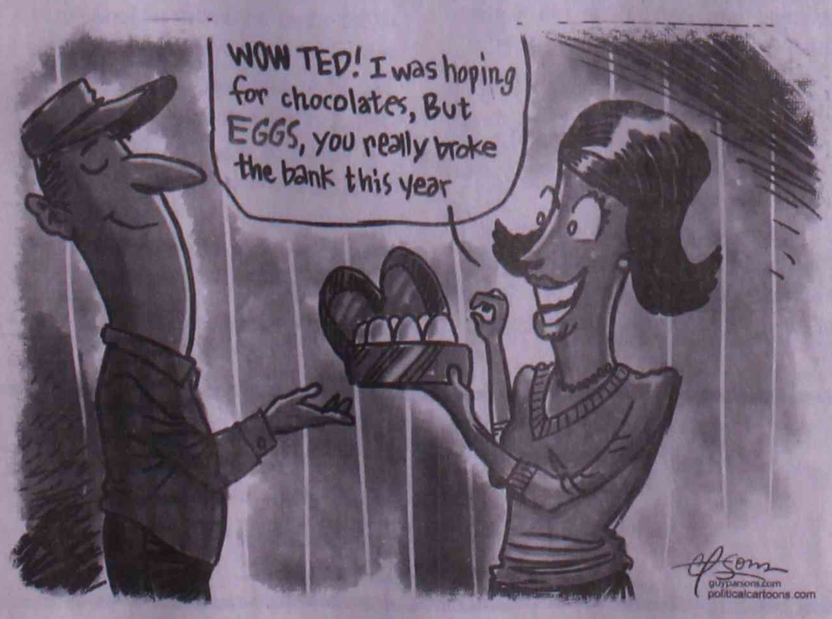
A nominee can be presented to the Friends of HPAC by anyone simply by submitting a nominee name, a short story of their contributions and contact information for the individual submitting the nomination. This contact information is pertinent so that the Friends of HPAC can follow up for more information if needed.

Send the information via email to HPAC@hassk12.org or submit a nominee by writing and sending the letter to Hastings Performing Arts Center WOF, 520 W. South Street, Hastings, MI 49058. Nominee forms must be received by Friday, March 7 by midnight.

The Friends of HPAC will review all nominations and will name candidates for the Friends of HPAC Wall of Fame induction ceremony planned for May. — *MM*



The Grand Rapids Symphony performs at the Hastings Performing Arts Center during the fall of 2023. **File photo by Bob Gaskill**



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OBITUARIES

VIEW OBITUARIES ONLINE. **HASTINGSBANNER.COM**

Elizabeth "Jane" Kahler



Elizabeth "Jane" Kahler, a cherished centenarian, age 105, passed away peacefully of natural causes on February 3, 2025, in Hastings, MI. Jane was born on November 17, 1919, in Bay City, MI, the beloved daughter of Pengrey and Mildred McKay.

Jane's life was a rich tapestry woven with love, dedication, and joy that spanned over a century. Her journey led her to the love of her life, Glenn K. Kahler, with whom she built a life filled with love and laughter until his passing. Jane was also preceded in death by her parents and her siblings, leaving behind a legacy of cherished memories.

Jane's professional life was marked by her role as a bank teller at Hastings City Bank, where she served her community with integrity and a friendly smile.

Jane and her husband Glenn shared a passion for exploration and warmth, which led them to live in Arizona for many years, and eventually moving to Indiana.

Jane's zest for life did not wane with age; she found joy and companionship among her senior friends and relished the activities at Thornapple Manor.

Jane is survived by her son, Robert Nystrom; grandchildren, Ben Nystrom, Michael (Heather) Nystrom, and Rachel (Eric) Greenfield; step-daughters, Susie Phillips and Nancy Eash; step-grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Jane can be made to the Thornapple Manor, https://www.barrycf.org/funds/thornapple-manor/, or by mail to Barry Community Foundation, Thornapple Manor, 231 S. Broadway St. Hastings, MI 49058.

Family and friends were invited to gather in her honor at a visitation on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025, at Girrbach Funeral Home, 328 S Broadway, Hastings, MI 49058.

Arrangements by Girrbach Funeral Home, to leave an online condolence visit www.girrbachfuneralhome.net.

HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY SCHEDULE

Thursday, Feb. 13 – Friends of the Library Book Sale, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 14 – Friends of the Library Book Sale, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday Story Time 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 15 – Friends of the Library Book Sale, 9 a.m.-noon; Dungeons & Dragons and Warhammer, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 17 – Crafting Passions, 10 a.m.; Lego Club, 4 p.m.; Lift Every Voice: Life Stories, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 18 – Baby Cafe, 10 a.m.; Great Decisions discussion group, 1 p.m.; mahjong, 2 p.m.; Youth Garden Club, 3:30 p.m.; chess, 5 p.m.; Clean Living: Reduce Toxic Load in Life, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 – Itsy Bitsy Book Club, 10:30 a.m.; Open Art Studio, 11:30 a.m.; Family Science Night, 6 p.m.

More information about these and other events is available by calling the library, 269-945-4263.

Worship Together



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HASTINGS FREE METHODIST CHURCH
"We Exist To Be An Expression Of Who Jesus Is To The World Around Us". 2635 N. M-43 Hwy., P.O. Box 8, Hastings. Telephone 269-945-9121. Email hastfmc@gmail.com. Website: www.hastingsfreemethodist.com. Pastor Brian Teed, Assistant Pastor Emma Miller, Worship Director, Martha Stoetzel. **Sunday Morning Worship:** 9:45 a.m. with Kids Church and Nursery. Aftermath Student Ministries: Sundays 6 p.m.

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH OF DELTON
7025 Milo Rd., P.O. Box 765, (corner of Milo Rd. & S. M-43), Delton, MI 49046. Pastor Roger Claypool, (517) 204-9390. Sunday Worship Service 10:30 to 11:30am, Nursery and Children's Ministry. Wednesday night Bible study and prayer time 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
502 E. Grand St., Hastings. Pastor Tod Shook Wednesdays - Bible Study - 6 to 7 p.m.; Sunday School - 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Service - 11 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. www.cbchastings.org.

WOODLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
203 N. Main. Pastor: Kathy Smith. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Worship 10:15 a.m.

CHRIST THE KING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)
328 N. Jefferson Street. Worship 10 a.m. Nursery provided. Pastor Peter Adams, contact 616-690-8609.

ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH
805 S. Jefferson. 269-945-4246 Pastor Father Jeff Hanley. Mass 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Mass 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

LIFEGATE COMMUNITY CHURCH
301 E. State Rd., P.O. Box 273, Hastings, MI 49058. Pastor Scott Price. Phone: 269-948-0900. Website: www.lifegatecc.com. Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Wednesday Life Group 6:30 p.m.

HASTINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
309 E. Woodlawn, Hastings. Matt Moser, Lead Pastor. Sunday Services: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; Senior High Youth Group 6-8 p.m.; Young Adults 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Family Night 6:30-8 p.m., Kids 4 Truth (Children Kindergarten-5th Grade), 6:30-8 p.m. Middle School Youth Group; 6:30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer. Call Church Office 948-8004 for information.

PLEASANTVIEW FAMILY CHURCH
2601 Lacey Road, Dowling, MI 49050. Pastor, Steve Olmstead. (269) 758-3021 church phone. Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

This information on worship services is provided by The Hastings Banner, the churchesand these local businesses:

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Reframing things

How do glasses work?
— Prisha, 8, Pa.

Dear Prisha,

I got glasses as a kid. I put on my new spectacles and was floored by the crisp details. I had no idea you could see individual leaves on trees. I thought everyone saw a green blur.

I talked about that with my friend Dr. Rachna Narula. She's an eye doctor—called an optometrist—at Washington State University.

She told me that glasses help direct light to the correct spot in the eye so we can see.

"If someone's eyeball is too short or too long, glasses help focus the image on the retina because that's where the person can see," Narula said.

We see because light gets inside our eyeballs and hits a layer of tissue at the very back called the retina. That tissue is full of cells that change light into electrical signals and shoot them up the optic nerve to our brains. Our brains turn the signals into images.

Getting light to hit our retinas depends on different parts of the eye working together. First, the light goes through the clear, squishy tissue at the front of the eye called the cornea.

The cornea bends the light to focus it toward the retina. Then, the lens, which is behind the cornea, bends the light a bit more.

Ideally, the cornea and lens work together to bend the light so it hits the retina.

But sometimes the distance from the cornea to the retina is too long or too short. The bent light hits in front of the retina or behind it. That makes our vision blurry.

Some people are near-sighted, or myopic. Their distance vision is blurry. Their eyeballs are too long, so the light focuses in front of the retina.

Some people are far-sighted, or hyperopic. Their up-close vision is blurry. Their eyeballs are too short, so the light focuses behind the retina.

Some people have astigmatism. Their cornea or lens isn't perfectly round. It's shaped more like an egg. That scatters the light, making it hit lots of places at the same time. That also makes things blurry.

An optometrist can measure the length and shape of our eyeballs. They use lots of instruments and ask us questions to figure out the perfect lens to correct our vision. Glasses bend the light before it gets to the cornea. So, the glasses lens, the cornea and the eye's lens work together to bend the light just right.

A glasses lens can curve inward—called concave—to fix near-sightedness. Or the lens can curve outward—called convex—to fix far-sightedness.

You can tell what kind of lenses you have by looking closely at them.

"Concave lenses are thinnest at the center, and as you go out, they become thicker," Narula said. "Convex lenses are the opposite. They're thickest in the center and become thinner toward the edges."

Some eyeballs need both kinds of correction, so some lenses do both.

Narula told me that lots of people don't realize they're having trouble seeing—like me thinking trees are green blobs. It can make doing stuff or learning difficult. It can give us headaches or make our eyes super tired.

That's why we visit the optometrist. The right glasses can reframe how we see the world.— *Dr. Universe*

Do you have a question? Ask Dr. Universe.
Send an email to Washington State University's resident scientist and writer at Dr.Universe@wsu.edu or visit her website,askdruniverse.com.

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

SSA Talks: Scams

HILLARY HATCH
Social Security Administration

Rebecca Rose, senior public affairs specialist in the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General's Division of Communications, joined episode 5 of SSA Talks to discuss Social Security scams and how to recognize them. Recognizing the signs of a scam gives you the power to ignore criminals and report the scam.

In this episode, Rebecca discusses the four basic signs of a scam. She reveals that scammers will usually:

Pretend to be from an agency or organization you know to gain your trust.

Claim that there is a problem or that they have a prize.

Pressure you to act immediately.

Tell you to pay in a specific way such as gift cards.

The episode also includes testimony from scam survivor, Kate Kleinert. She's a widow who shares her story of losing $39,000 to a romance scam and offers advice on recognizing and reporting scams.

Our blog titled What You Can Do To Protect Your Personal Information at blog.ssa.gov/what-you-can-do-to-protect-your-personal-information covers ways you can safeguard your personal information from scammers. To learn more about scams and how to report scams to our Office of the Inspector General, visit our scams webpage at ssa.gov/scam.

You can listen to this episode on our SSA Talks webpage at ssa.gov/news/audio-series.html and subscribe to receive alerts about future episodes. The SSA Talks webpage contains a transcript for each episode.

Hillary Hatch is the Public Affairs Specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525, or via email at hillary.hatch@ssa.gov.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE: 2025-30024-DE
WILLIAM M. DOHERTY

Court address: 206 West Court Street, Hastings, MI 49058

Estate of Sherry A. Fyan. Date of birth: 04/11/1945.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Sherry A. Fyan, died 01/22/2023.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Steven Fyan, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 206 West Court Street, Hastings, MI 49058 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 02/05/2025
Nathan E. Tagg P68994
202 South Broadway
Hastings, MI 49058
269-948-2900
Steven Fyan
3381 Fyan Drive
Freeport, MI 49325
269-680-9029

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NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT.

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in BARRY County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on March 13, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Angela Marie Metzger and Brad Allen Jousma, joint tenancy with full rights of survivorship, whose address is 600 E. North Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, being a mortgage dated July 9, 2021, and recorded on July 20, 2021 with Document Number 2021-009248, Barry County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated January 29, 2025 and recorded on February 3, 2025 and given document number 2025-000828 in Barry County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX AND 02/100 DOLLARS ($233,466.02). Said premises are situated in the City of Hastings, County of Barry, State of Michigan, and are described as: COMMENCING AT THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 8, TOWN 3 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 03'20" WEST 1743.01 FEET ALONG THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION 8; THENCE 90 DEGREES 0'00" EAST 99 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF NORTH STREET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 90 DEGREES 0' 00" EAST 30.75 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE; THENCE EASTERLY 68.52 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE, AND A CURVE TO THE LEFT OF THE RADIUS OF WHICH IS 433.00 FEET AND THE CHORD OF WHICH BEARS NORTH 85 DEGREES 27'59" EAST 68.45 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 03' 20" EAST 360.41 FEET; THENCE NORTH 90 DEGREES 00' 00" WEST 99.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 03' 20" WEST 355.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 600 E. North Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: February 13, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Kenneth J. Johnson (P69564), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6254
(02-13)(03-06)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on March 13, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Joyce J. Dennie, unmarried

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

Date of Mortgage: July 17, 2014

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 30, 2014

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $13,470.37

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Woodland, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: Lot Twelve (12) of Innovation Subdivision according to the recorded plat thereof being located in the Northwest one-quarter of Section 3 Town 4 North Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 7795 Woodland Rd, Lake Odessa, MI 48849-9323

The redemption period shall be 1 year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: February 13, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1552706
(02-13)(03-06)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on March 13, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Denton W. Kemp and Cindy S. Kemp, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: November 23, 2018 Recorded on November 28, 2018, in Document No. 2018-011472, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Three Thousand Two Hundred Fourteen and 90/100 Dollars ($103,214.90) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Barry County, and described as: Commencing 1,094 feet South of the Northwest corner of Section 22, Town 4 North, Range 7 West for point of beginning; thence East 198 feet; thence South 110.5 feet; thence West 198 feet; thence North 110.5 feet to point of beginning. Commonly known as 215 S Main St, Woodland, MI 48897 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1552985
(02-13)(03-06)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust Estate

Vernon L. Becker ("Decedent"). Date of Decedent's Birth: October 15, 1936.

Name of Trust: Vernon L. Becker Trust dated February 2, 2010.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Decedent, Vernon L. Becker died January 1, 2025. There is no personal representative of Decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued.

Creditors of the Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent, Decedent's estate, and/or Decedent's trust(s) will be forever barred unless presented to Trustee, John Veenstra, within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: January 29, 2025
Douglas J. Brackmann (P-40885)
Wesseling & Brackmann P.C.
6439 28th Avenue
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426
(616) 669-8185

John Veenstra
1426-132nd Avenue
Hopkins, Michigan 49328

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE: 24-29968-DE

Court address: 206 West Court Street, Ste. 302, Hastings, MI 49058
Court telephone no.: 269-945-1390

Estate of Leatrice D. Anderson. Date of birth: March 15, 1929.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Leatrice D. Anderson, died December 21, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jean M. Lockwood, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 206 West Court St., Ste. 302, Hastings, MI 49058 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 02/06/25
Robert L. Byington P-27621
222 West Apple Street, P.O. Box 248
Hastings, Michigan 49058
269-945-9557
Jean M. Lockwood
1280 Sunview Drive, Apt. 11
St. Johns, Michigan 48879

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on March 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Anthony T. Wonnacott, a single man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): New American Funding, LLC FKA Broker Solution Inc. DBA New American Funding

Date of Mortgage: August 24, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 6, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $74,549.95

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Thornapple, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at a point on the West line of Section 19, Thornapple Township, Barry County, Michigan, 1238.40

feet South of the Northwest corner of said Section; thence South 172.0 feet; thence East 300 feet; thence South

130 feet; thence East 300 feet; thence North 155 feet; thence East to the West 1/8 line of said Section: thence

North 147.0 feet; thence West to the Point of Beginning.

Common street address (if any): 4696 Patterson Rd, Middleville, MI 49333-9742

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: February 13, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1553000
(02-13)(03-06)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE
25-30011-DE

Court address: 206 W. Court Street, #302 Hastings, MI 49058
Court telephone no.: (269) 945-1390

Estate of Emil Anthony Przeklasa. Date of birth: 5/9/1951.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Emil Anthony Przeklasa, died 08/18/2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Judith E. Przeklasa, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 206 W. Court Street, #302, Hastings, MI 49058 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 2/6/2025
Byron P. Gallagher Jr. P42996
6025 N Hagadorn Road
East Lansing,MI 48823
517-853-1515
Judith E. Przeklasa
1941 Wisconsin Ave.
Englewood, FL 34224
(513) 607-8156

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE: 24-29968-DE

Court address: 206 West Court Street, Hastings, MI 49058
Court telephone no.: 269-945-1390

Estate of Kenneth A. Ervin. Date of birth: February 1, 1939.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Kenneth A. Ervin, died October 14, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Leslie E. Boonstra, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 206 West Court St., Ste, 302, Hastings, MI 49058 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Rhoades McKee PC
Neil L. Kimball P36653
55 Campau Ave. NW #300
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 235-3500
Leslie E. Boonstra
427 Bluff Drive
Middleville, MI 49333
(269) 953-6170

NOTICE

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on MARCH 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jason Fuller, married man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Neighborhood Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated April 1, 2020 and recorded April 17, 2020 in Instrument Number 2020-004093 Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Fifth Third Bank N.A., by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Sixteen and 39/100 Dollars ($158,816.39).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on MARCH 6, 2025.

Said premises are located in the Township of Assyria, Barry County Michigan, and are described as:

A parcel of land in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 22, Town 1 North, Range 7 West, described as: Commencing 10 rods 8 1/10 links West of the Northeast corner of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 22, thence West 10 rods 8 1/10 links, thence South 12 rods 16 2/10 links, thence East 10 rods 8 1/10 links, thence North to the Place of Beginning.

8150 Tasker Rd, Bellevue, Michigan 49021

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: February 6, 2025
File No. 24-009935
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(02-06)(02-27)

SPORTS

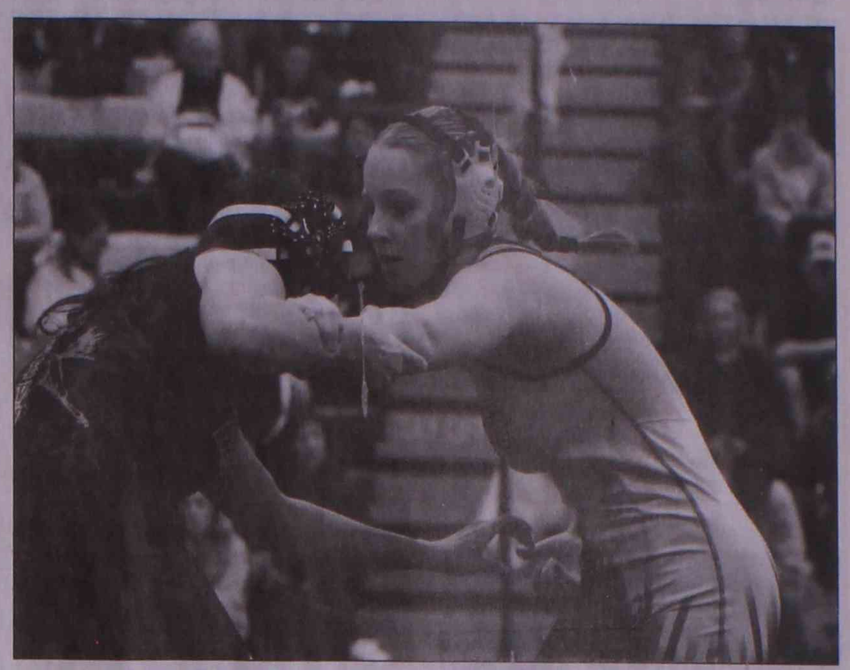
Grummet first for the first time at first ever district

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

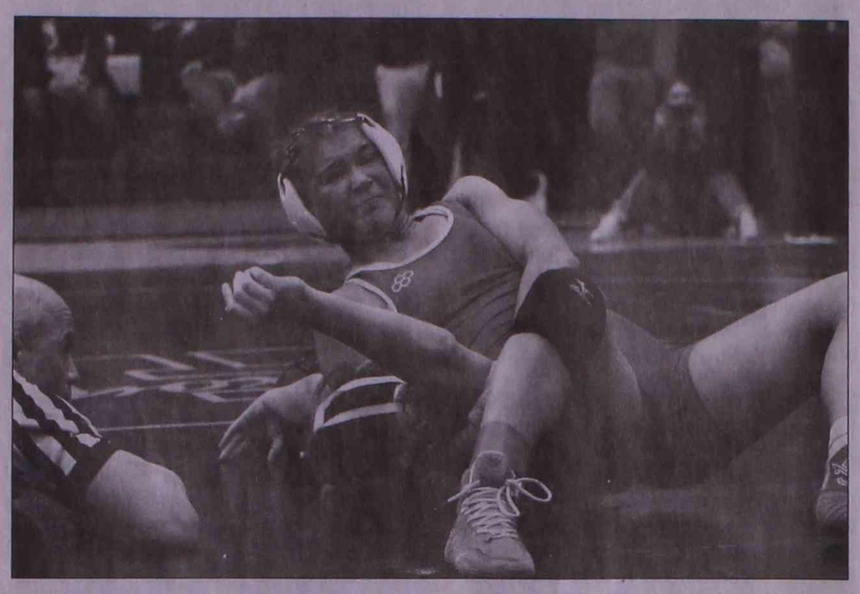
In the MHSAA's first season with an expanded girls' individual wrestling tournament, which includes a district round for the first time, every district champion was a first time district champion.

That goes for two-time state champions Maddie Hayden from Caledonia and Madison Nieuwenhuis from Plainwell, and for state medalists like Hastings' Dezarae Mathis and Naomi Grummet.

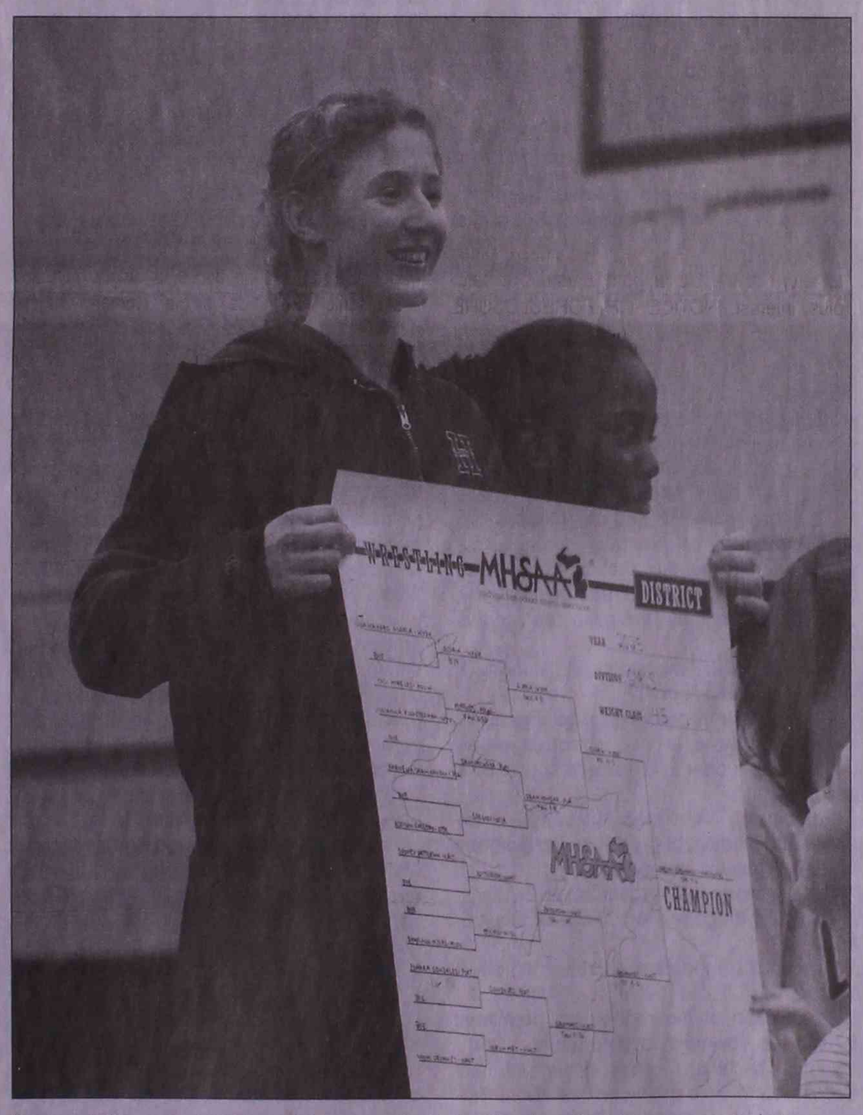
Grummet closed her junior season with an all-state medal in her hand for an eighth-place finish in the 155-pound weight class at the MHSAA Individual State Finals at Ford Field in Detroit last March. Her senior season will keep going towards a return to Detroit after she won a varsity tournament for the first time ever Sunday, taking the 145-pound weight class at the MHSAA Girls Individual Wrestling District hosted by Hastings High School.



Hastings' Autumn Miller (right) and Bellevue's Ariel Crawley battle for control during their 110-pound blood round match Sunday at the MHSAA Girls' Individual Wrestling District at Hastings High School. **Photo by Brett Bremer**



Delton Kellogg's Olivia Post (top) strains to try and pin Gull Lake's Madison Miarka during their 125-pound blood round match at the MHSAA Girls' Individual Wrestling District at Hastings High School Sunday afternoon. **Photo by Brett Bremer**



Saxon 145-pounder Naomi Grummet celebrates her first tournament victory ever at the MHSAA Girls Individual Wrestling District at Hastings High School Sunday. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Grummet couldn't help but grin as she hopped up onto the top step of the medal stand, the last district champion to be honored Sunday, and her grin turned into a big ol' smile as Saxon coach Erin Slaughter handed her a championship medal and the poster of the 145-pound bracket.

"I have never actually placed first," Grummet said. "The closest I have come was second. I was like, I really just want it especially at districts. It is our first districts ever, and getting a chart, I was so happy about it. The first, first place at districts. I was exhilarated.

"I am just so excited about that last match," Grummet added. "I was coming in and in my mind the whole time was that paper. I really wanted the chart thing. I was like, I'm going to get it."

Grummet pulled out a 5-2 win over Kelloggsville's Gloria Uwamahoro in the 145-pound championship match. The two were tied 1-1 after a quick escape by Grummet to open the third period. After most of a minute on their feet, Grummet scored the take down that put her in control of the match.

"She came in high, so my shot would have either been a blast double or a no shot, because she is so strong, so one thing I had to do, like the only shot I could get in on her, is like the no shot, just into her leg and pull it. I was like, I have got to do that shot right now, 1-1. I needed to make it work. I did not want to go into overtime, and it worked.

"It was like the best thing ever. She broke my head gear too. Very sad. The whole thing, ripped right off."

The Saxon senior is just in her second season of competitive wrestling.

"My brothers both wrestled and I would just watch, and I would be like I want to do that so bad. They were like three when they first started, and I was like this is what I want to do," Grummet said. Her brother Griffin Grummet is a sophomore on the Thornapple Kellogg varsity wrestling team.

"They like to throw me around," Naomi said. "The oldest of my younger brothers, [Griffin] is really good. He makes me cry sometimes. He's a good partner. He has been doing pretty good and I like to watch him."

Naomi is one of six Saxons who won their way through to the regional round of the state tournament. Mathis, a junior, took the championship in the 115-pound weight class by pinning Hamilton's Korrayah Kapenga 4:17 into their championship bout. Chloe Aicken was second at 155 pounds for the Saxons, Kennedy Lewis at 130 pounds placed third and Jordan Milanowski at 140 pounds and Aryonna Farrell at 130 both placed fourth.

"Everyone going out there and getting what they want, and just never giving up, it is one of the coolest things I love about all my teammates," Naomi said. "They want what they want, and they'll do whatever they can to get it."

Thornapple Kellogg got four girls through to regionals. Senior Emma Gibson won the 135-pound weight class. She pinned all three of her foes including Allegan's Dawn DeGood 1:20 into their championship bout. Raini Braska at 110 pounds and Adelaide Holderman at 170 pounds took runner-up finishes. Holderman couldn't help but smile as she high-fived a still kneeling Hayden after Caledonia's two-time state champion pinned her 58 seconds into their 170-pound title bout. Holderman had made quick work of her two foes with first period pins before running into Hayden.

The TK team also had Rylee Alberts at 140 pounds place third.

Lakewood had Lillian Teachworth at 105 pounds and Peyton Federau at 155 both place fourth.

Lakewood's Julianna Taylor, Delton Kellogg's Olivia Post, Thornapple Kellogg's Jaycee Teunessen, Briella Dykstra, Addison Barringer, Aubrey Sines, Shaylynn Myers, and Hastings' Bella Strimbeck, Autumn Miller, Sara Baker and Sydney Patterson all won their way into the blood round, the consolation semifinals, but saw their tournament run end one victory shy of qualifying for the Feb. 16 regional.

TK tops Blue Devils for district championship

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Trojan heavyweights put the hammer down early. Starting at 157 pounds, Thornapple Kellogg six consecutive matches to build a 34-0 lead in its MHSAA Division 2 District Final against Gull Lake in Richland Wednesday.

Things got interesting in the end, as the Trojans needed Griffin Grummet to seal the victory in the last of the 14 weight classes, and he did just that with a 7-4 win against his 150-pound foe, clinching a 43-35 win and the district championship for the TK varsity wrestling team.

The Trojans will head to Harper Creek High School Wednesday, Feb. 12, to take on the host Beavers in the MHSAA Division 2 Team Regional Semifinals. Parma Western and top-ranked Lowell meet in the region's other semifinal match-up Wednesday.

Gull Lake got to the final against TK with a 53-26 win over Pennfield in the district opener in Richland Wednesday.



The Thornapple Kellogg varsity wrestling team celebrates its MHSAA Division 2 District Championship after a 43-35 win over host Gull Lake in the district final Wednesday, Feb. 5, in Richland.

Camden Peter started the TK run at the opening of the district final with a pin at 157 pounds. From there TK got a technical fall from Blake Bossenberger at 165 pounds, a pin from Jackson Smith at 175, a tech fall from Jayce Curtis at 190, a pin from Tanner Buxton at 215 pounds and a pin from Abram Dutcher at 285 pounds.

A quick pin form Christien Miller at 113 pounds and Grummet's victory sealed the deal.

The Trojans were set to head to Harper Creek Wednesday evening for their MHSAA Division 2 Team Regional Tournament. The Trojans and Beavers were slated to meet in one regional semifinals while top-ranked Lowell was set to face Parma Western in the other.

The Trojans were at Harper Creek Saturday for their MHSAA Division 2 Individual District Tournament and five Trojans won their way through to this Saturday's MHSAA Division 2 Individual Regional Tournament at Gull Lake.

Curtis took second in the 165-pound weight class. He had a pair of pins and then a technical fall against Parma Western's Titan Parker in the semifinals before running into Lowell's Owen Segorski in the championship bout at their flight. Segorski pinned Curtis 1:20 into their final round match.

Smith at 175 pounds, Miller at 113, Peter at 157 and Bossenberger at 165 all placed third.

Trojan ski boys compete at D2 regional races

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Exchange student Claudio Costa led the Plainwell/Thornapple Kellogg Trojan boys' varsity ski team in both the GS and the slalom races at the team's MHSAA Division 2 Regional hosted by Grand Rapids Christian at Cannonsburg Ski Area Monday.

Costa finished in a tie for 27th-place in the GS and was 27th in the slalom too.

The East Grand Rapids boys and girls were well ahead of their competitors in the team standings and both captured regional titles. The Pioneer boys won with 86 points, with the low score in both events. Grand Rapids Christian finished the day with 145 points and West Catholic 157.5 to earn the other two team qualifying spots for the state finals.

The Plainwell/TK team did not have a girls' quad competing Monday. The boys' team was 13th in the day's final standings and also had Mark Gielincki 40th in the GS, Gerrit Taber 59th and Loehn Luckett 60th during the regional's cold and cloudy morning session.

The sun came out and the wind picked up on the hill for the boys' slalom competition in the afternoon. Behind Costa, the Trojan club had Luckett 47th, Taber 48th and Ben White 57th in the slalom.

The top three teams overall and top ten individuals in each event qualified for the Feb. 24 MHSAA Division 2 Ski Finals which will be held at Boyne Highlands.

Cadillac's Zane Wallis won the boys' GS competition with runs of 24.82 seconds and 25.96. The regional had the racers competing on two different GS set-ups and two different slalom set-ups for their four runs.

Costa had the top run for the Trojan club in each time down with times of 27.21 and 28.50. Gielincki put together runs of 28.12 and 29.68 in the GS. Taber had times of 31.94 and 32.46. Luckett had times of 32.44 and 32.16. Teammate Mathys Meneroud was just off their pace and placed 61st in the event, and teammate Robby Jones had the third fastest first run for the Trojans at 29.02, but didn't make it across the finish line in the second attempt.

East Grand Rapids' Quinn Irwin was the top slalom race with runs of 30.33 and 30.67. He also had the fastest second run of the GS earlier in the day, but a fall the first time down kept him out of the medals in that event.

Costa put together times of 37.20 and 36.63 to place 27th in the slalom. Luckett and Taber were within half a second of each other for the Plainwell/TK team. Luckett had runs of 43.95 and 47.88 in the slalom and Taber turned in times of 45.42 and 46.90 placing 47th and 48th respectively. White added times of 53.27 and 53.51 to place 57th.



Plainwell/Thornapple Kellogg skier Mark Gielincki gets out of the gate at the start of his second slalom run Monday during the MHSAA Division 2 Regional at Cannonsburg Ski Area. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Behind the top three boys' teams Caledonia was fourth with 186 points, 18.5 behind third-place West Catholic and ahead of Mattawan/Paw Paw 189, Cadillac 197, West Michigan Aviation Academy 203, Hackett/Vicksburg 226.5, Spring Lake 275, Forest Hills Central 315, Northview 323, Lowell 337.5 and Plainwell/Thornapple Kellogg 365.5.

The East Grand Rapids girls won a regional title with 57 points ahead of Cadillac 113 and Grand Rapids Christian 116 in the top three. They were followed in the standings by Mattawan/Paw Paw 132, Hackett/Vicksburg 181, Forest Hills Central 201, Grand Rapids Catholic Central 209, Caledonia 254, Spring Lake 279 and Northview 358.

East Grand Rapids' Sophie Hicks beat out teammate Hannah Darooge at the top of the girls' slalom leaderboard at the start of the day. Hicks had runs of 35.05 and 33.20, just shy of fourth tenths of a second better than Darooge's runs of 35.19 and 33.45.

The girls' GS title wen to Mattawan/Paw Paw's Anna Hoogerheide with runs of 26.39 and 26.13. She won without having the top time in either trip down the hill. Caledonia's Chiara Marta had the top first run time of 26.38 with a time of 26.22 on the second course. Darooge had runs of 27.83 and 25.65, the fastest second run of the competition.

The Plainwell/TK Trojans head to Timber Ridge for the Southwest Michigan Ski Conference Finals Wednesday, Feb. 19, and then will race at the Caledonia Invitational at Crystal Mountain Friday, Feb. 21, to close out the season.

NOTICE

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on MARCH 13, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Nicholas Toecker and Rachel Antony, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Ark-La-Tex Financial Services, LLC dba Benchmark Mortgage, Mortgagee, dated April 10, 2023 and recorded April 12, 2023 in Instrument Number 2023-002951 and Affidavit Affecting Realty recorded on January 29, 2025, in Instrument Number 2025-000738, Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Data Mortgage, Inc. dba Essex Mortgage, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Six Hundred Ninety and 67/100 Dollars ($172,690.67).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Barry County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on MARCH 13, 2025.

Said premises are located in the City of Hastings, Barry County Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 35, Supervisor Chase's Addition No. 2 to the City (formerly Village) of Hastings, Barry County, Michigan, except the West 123 feet thereof, according to the recorded plat thereof, filed in Liber 3, Page 2, records of Barry County, State of Michigan.

918 N Michigan Ave, Hastings, Michigan 49058

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: February 13, 2025
File No. 25-000855
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(02-13)(03-06)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Barry County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM, on March 13, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Stephanie Stolsonburg, a Married Woman as Her Sole and Separate Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, nominee for Finance America, LLC, dba FinAm, LLC, its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee: Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Soundview Home Loan Trust 2006-1, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-1 Date of Mortgage: November 16, 2005 Date of Mortgage Recording: March 23, 2009 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $117,030.18 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Yankee Springs, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 24, the Westerly 1/2 of Lot 25 and the South 10 feet of Lot 31, adjacent to said Lot 24 of Streeter's Resort, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats on Page 37, also the South 10 feet of Lot 31, adjacent to the Westerly 1/2 of Lot 25 of said Streeter's Resort. Also an undivided 1/4 interest in Lot 29 of Streeter's Resort, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats on Page 37. Commonly Known as: 11486 Lighthouse Ct., Middleville, MI 49333 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 02/13/2025 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 101829
(02-13)(03-06)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT: Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 P.M., on March 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE: Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Shante Byers and Jason Snell, the Mortgagor(s), and Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, the original Mortgagee, dated June 10, 2022, and recorded on June 22, 2022, as Instrument No. 2022-006960, in Barry County Records, Michigan, and last assigned to United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, the Foreclosing Assignee, as documented by an Assignment of Mortgage dated May 3, 2024, and recorded on May 23, 2024, as Instrument No. 2024-003898, in Barry County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice, the sum of Two Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Six and 00/100 U.S. Dollars ($271,676.00). Said premise is situated at 2478 Wasabinang Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058, in the Rutland Township, Barry County, Michigan, and is described as: LOT(S) 25, 32, 33, 34 AND 35 OF AL-GON-QUIN LAKE RESORT PROPERTIES UNIT NO. 1, RUTLAND TOWNSHIP, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 56 OF BARRY COUNTY RECORDS. EXCEPT: LOT 32 OF AL-GON-QUIN LAKE RESORT PROPERTIES UNIT NO. 1, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 56 OF BARRY COUNTY RECORDS. The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Pursuant to Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, if the property is sold at foreclosure sale the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder under MCLA 600.3278 for damaging the property during the redemption period. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: 01/24/2025 For More Information, please call: Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A. Attorneys for Servicer 255 South Orange Avenue, Suite 900 Orlando, Florida 32801 (855) 287-0240 Matter No. MI-005524-24

(01-30)(02-20)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE: 24-29968-DE

Court address: 206 West Court Street, Hastings, MI 49058
Court telephone no.: 269-945-1390

Estate of Jerry Lee Patrick. Date of birth: 09/13/1952.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Jerry Lee Patrick, died 06/24/2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Diana Lea French, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 206 West Court St., Hastings, MI 49058 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 02/03/25
Victor L. Bland P38278
4341 S. Westnedge Avenue, Ste. 2202
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-382-6900
Diana Lea French
12786 Boysen Road
Shelbyville, MI 49344
269-370-9145

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mmacleod@mihomepaper.com
THE HASTINGS BANNER
VIEW Newspaper Group

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - BARRY COUNTY

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Barry County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on February 27, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Jordan Jones, a single man and Stephanie Kelley, a single woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: March 27, 2018 Recorded on March 30, 2018, in Document No. 2018-003356, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-Eight and 35/100 Dollars ($117,988.35) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Barry County, and described as: Parcel 1: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 10, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREES 0 MINUTES EAST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 10 A DISTANCE OF 50 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY LINE OF BRISTOL ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 40 MINUTES EAST ALONG THE NORTHERLY ROAD LINE OF BRISTOL ROAD-126.5 FEET FOR THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 40 MINUTES EAST 120 FEET; THENCE NORTH 01 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 120 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 40 MINUTES. WEST 120 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 01 DEGREES 00 MINUTES WEST 120 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. ALSO, INCLUDING ALL LAND BETWEEN THE DESCRIBED PARCEL AND THE CENTERLINE OF A CHANNEL ON NORTH SIDE OF THE DESCRIBED PARCEL. PARCEL 2: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 10, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREES 0 MINUTES EAST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 10 A DISTANCE OF 50 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY LINE OF BRISTOL ROAD, WHICH IS THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 40 MINUTES EAST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY ROAD LINE 126.50 FEET, THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 0 MINUTES EAST PARALLEL WITH SAID WEST SECTION LINE 135 FEET TO THE CENTERLINE OF A CHANNEL, THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 40 MINUTES WEST 126.50 FEET TO SAID WEST SECTION LINE, THENCE SOUTH 1 DEGREE 0 MINUTES WEST ALONG SAID WEST LINE 135 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. ALSO INCLUDING THE RIGHT OF INGRESS AND EGRESS ON SAID CHANNEL FROM THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PARCEL TO BRISTOL LAKE. Commonly known as 2021 E Bristol Rd, Dowling, MI 49050 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1551592 (01-30)(02-20)

DK state medalists and youngsters still alive in D4

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

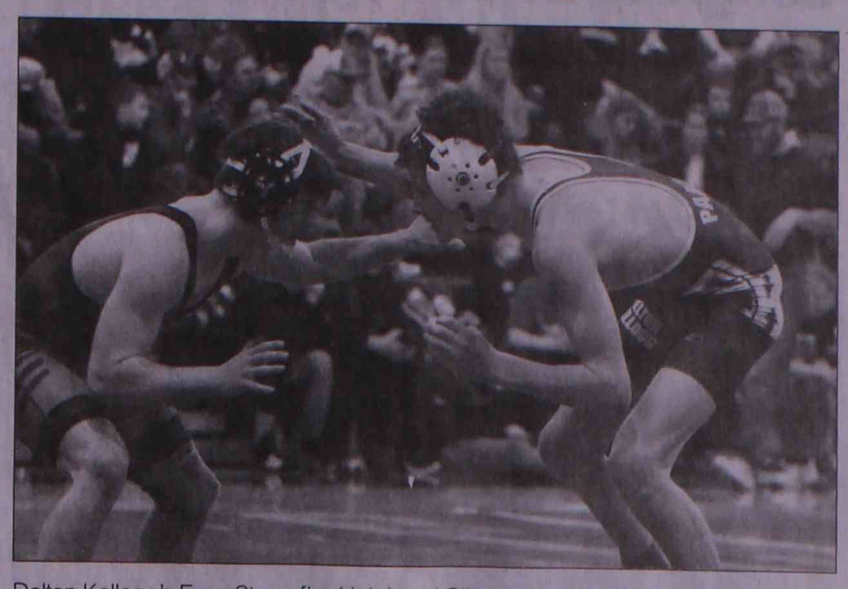
The two returning Delton Kellogg state medalists are on to the regional round of the state tournament, and three first-time regional qualifying teammates will join them.

The Delton Kellogg varsity wrestling team had five guys win their way through the MHSAA Division 4 Individual District Tournament at Lawton Saturday to earn spots in this Saturday's, Feb. 15, MHSAA Division 4 Individual Regional at Martin High School.

The group is led by senior Gauge Stampfler and junior Mitchell Swift who closed their 2024 on the medal stand at the MHSAA Individual State Finals in Detroit and both placed second in Lawton Saturday. The top four again at this Saturday's regional will advance to the state finals at Ford Field Feb. 28-March 1. Freshmen Mason Ferris and Evan Stampfler also got through the district along with sophomore Mendon Phillips. Phillips was the runner-up at 150 pounds, Evan third at 120 and Ferris fourth at 190.

Phillips has more wins on the roster than anyone this winter. He upped his mark to 37 victories on the season to get into the championship bout at 150 where he was stuck by Climax-Scotts-Martin's (CSM) Gixxer Blair. On the way to the final, Phillips outscored his three opponents 37-4.

Gauge Stampfler and Swift both have 34 wins on the season so far. A pair of take downs were just enough to get him a 7-6 win over CSM's Cole Reitz in the semifinal round. White Pigeon's Mazzy Lambert improved his record to 50-1 on the season with a 5-3 win over Gauge in the championship match at 132 pounds.



Delton Kellogg's Evan Stampfler (right) and Climax-Scotts/Martin's Logan Gilbert get settled into their 120-pound semifinal match at the MHSAA Division 4 Individual District Tournament at Lawton High School Saturday. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Swift needed just one pin to get to the heavyweight final, and he got that in the first period of his semifinal match with Marcellus' Brock Woodhouse. White Pigeon's Chaz Underwood outscored Swift 7-1 in their championship match.

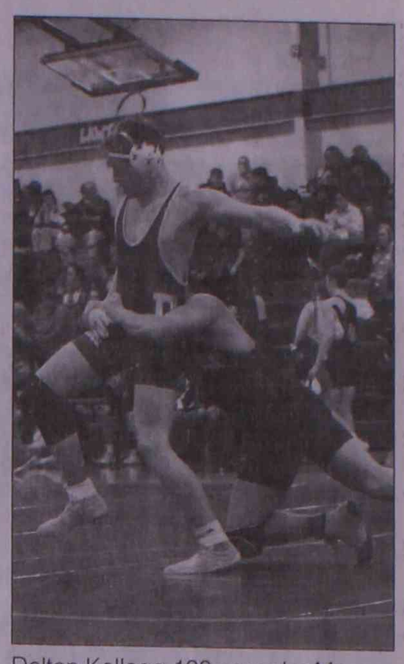
Evan Stampfler was a part of three technical falls, two he won and one he dropped to CSM's Logan Gilbert in the 120-pound semifinals, before closing his day with a 7-0 win over Decatur's Joel Pena in the 120-pound third-place match. The DK freshman lightweight now has 27 wins on the season.

The Panthers' Austyn Lipscomb surpassed the 30-win mark, but sees his season end with a 31-13 record after falling to Decatur's Aidan Wiggins in the blood round (the consolation semifinals) Saturday. Kayle Mclellan, a returning regional qualifier for DK, also had his season end with a blood round defeat, falling to Gobles' Jose Boger.

The Delton Kellogg regional qualifiers return to Martin Saturday where their team season ended last Wednesday, Feb. 5. The CSM squad outscored the Panthers 54-28 in their MHSAA Division 4 Team District Final.

Delton Kellogg took down Bloomingdale 72-12 in its district semifinal match while the CSM squad outscored Gobles 34-26 in its semifinal.

In the loss to the CSM squad Delton Kellogg got a pin from Swift at 285 pounds, and one from Lane Steele at 126. Lipscomb won by forfeit at 144. Evan Stampfler at 120 and Alec Sinkler at 132 both took technical fall victories.



Delton Kellogg 190-pounder Mason Ferris works to escape the grasp of Centreville's Matthew Blair during Ferris major decision in their blood round match Saturday at the MHSAA Division 4 Individual District Tournament hosted by Lawton High School. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Wins in the dual with Bloomingdale to start the tournament for DK included pins from Lipscomb, Phillips, Swift and Jace Hilton, and the Panther team had eight forfeit wins.

Saranac overtakes Lions with senior-led surge

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

It just didn't fall right for the Lions.

The match ups didn't fall right and the one last attempt at a trip by freshman Kade Wright didn't fall right.

It would have been an upset for sure, for Wright to defeat Saranac senior Andrew Wittenbach, the Red Hawks' lone returning regional qualifier from a year ago.

Wright got his shot in at the start of the 165-pound match, the final bout of the MHSAA Division 4 Team District Final at Saranac High School Wednesday, Feb. 5. Saranac held a 40-36 lead and the Lions last, best hope was really for the freshman to find a way to get a pin. Wright managed to get a single leg hold on Wittenbach, but had a tough time trying to trip up the Saranac senior and get him down to the mat.

When Wright finally did get Wittenbach to stumble midway through the first period, Wright lost his balance too. The more experienced wrestler came out on top at the end of the fall and soon earned the pin that clinched Saranac's 46-36 victory.

A trio of seniors, Ryan Bollone, Landen Winsor and Wittenbach earned pins in the final three matches of the district final to turn what had been a 36-28 Lion lead into a ten-point Saranac victory.

Bollone pinned Lion sophomore Josh Deppe in the 150-pound bout, and Winsor finished off a frantic period with Lion senior Jeremiah Penny with a pin less than a second before the clock ran out.



Maple Valley heavyweight Joe Long awaits the pin signal from the referee as he holds down Saranac's Whyatt Hicks during the bout in the MHSAA Division 4 Team District Final at Saranac High School Wednesday, Feb. 5. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

"My young ones just couldn't keep up with the older ones," Maple Valley head coach Tony Wawiernia said, before adding that he was expecting his team to have a good practice session Thursday as the focus turns to the individual state tournament which begins with a Division 4 District at Bellevue today, Feb. 8.

"It's just the little things. We talk about that all the time. Little things will bite you … it did tonight," Wawiernia said.

That list of little things centered largely around being better in the bottom position, working up off the mat.

"Our heads were on the mat, not moving on the bottom. We have to work more at getting our hands free and working out from the bottom. Just frustrating," Wawiernia said.

"But I've got a lot of first year kids. That makes a big difference," he added. "I don't want to make excuses, but it does. It makes it harder for them. I feel sorry for those ones, they felt so bad because they lost, but they're up against kids that are tougher and older than them."

Up until that final stretch, the Lions had won five of the six flights that were contested in the district final, all by pin. The Lions got victories in the first four weight classes to start the dual with a 24-0 lead. It took Lion junior Tyrese Robinson some time to finish the deal, but he eventually stuck Saranac's Jacob Bollone 4 minutes and 44 seconds into their 175-pound match that opened the final.

Lion junior Jackson Burpee, a state qualifier a year ago, took a forfeit win at 190, a weight class he has bumped up to the past couple weeks with an eye on a run back to the state finals at Ford Field.

Maple Valley senior Skyler Cook got taken down by Saranac's Eric Lake right at the start of the 215-pound match, but made a quick recovery to pin Lake 59 seconds into the match. The Lion team then got a pin from junior heavyweight Joe Long midway through the second period of his 285-pound match against Whyatt Hicks.

The rest of the way, the Lions added a pin by freshman Roman Schilz in the 113-pound match against Isaac Delinsky and a pin from exchange student Filip Nowak midway through the second period of his 144-pound match against the Red Hawks' Seth Purchase.

The first 23 points on the scoreboard for Saranac all came from forfeit wins – at 106 pounds, 120 pounds, 126 pounds and 132 pounds. It was only 23 points instead of 24 because of an earlier unsportsmanlike penalty against the Red Hawks.

Star freshman Gabriel Webb, who upped his record to 35-2 overall this season with his Wednesday performance, got the first win on the mat for the Red Hawks by scoring a 15-0 technical fall over Lion senior Robert Schilz in the 138-pound bout. Schilz couldn't get out from under Webb, but he did manage to avoid having both shoulders put on the mat while being on his back throughout most of the three periods.

Maple Valley opened the night with a 54-30 win over Fulton in the district semifinals while Saranac was outscoring Carson City-Crystal 54-22.

There were only four contested flights in that semifinal for the Lions. Long, Robert Schilz and Nowak all scored pins. The Lions got forfeit victories from Wright, Robinson, Burpee, Cook, Roman Schilz and Deppe.

Despite the team season coming to an end, Wawiernia said his team is tremendously better than when the season started back in November.

"I am proud of the kids. They all wrestled their hearts out. That is all you can ask of them. They're young. Hopefully, 90 percent of them will come back next year. We have some other kids in the hallway talking about it. We're having a good year and it is starting to show up in the school a little bit. Kids are realizing that we do have a team again. That is pretty exciting."

Cook, Penny, Robert Schilz and Nowak are the Lion team's four seniors this winter.

The Lion team got four guys through its MHSAA Division 4 Individual District Tournament at Bellevue Saturday with top four finishes that earned them spots in the D4 Regional at Schoolcraft Saturday, Feb. 14.

Nowak took a runner-up finish at 144 pounds with a couple big wins before falling to Union City's Aidan Taylor in the championship round in Bellevue.

Burpee, the Lions' lone returning state qualifier, was third at 190 pounds. He was bested by Mendon's J.T. Lux in the semifinal round and then scored quick pins in both of his consolation bracket matches.

The Lion team also had Long place third at 285 pounds and Cook place fourth at 215. They both wrestled their way into the semifinals too before falling and then took blood round victories (in the consolation semifinals) to secure their regional spots.

RUTLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF MARCH 3, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF RUTLAND, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Rutland Charter Township Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a special meeting (and public hearing) on March 3, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rutland Charter Township Hall, 2461 Heath Road, Hastings, MI 49058 for the purpose of considering the following matters:

1. The application of Kevin L. Anderson for variance relief from a setback requirement of the Rutland Charter Township Zoning Ordinance to facilitate construction of a proposed 12' x 22' addition to an existing nonconforming detached garage on the lake lot property commonly known as 2429 Chippewa Trail (parcel no. 08-13-050-027-00). The applicant is proposing to construct this addition with a setback of approximately 11.75' from the rear (street side) lot line. This proposed construction project requires the following relief to proceed:
   A. A variance of approximately 3.25' from the required minimum rear yard (street side) setback requirement of 15'. The Zoning Board of Appeals will decide this variance application pursuant to the variance standards in §220-24-9 of the Zoning Ordinance, and any other applicable provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.
   B. A determination by the ZBA that the proposed enlargement of the existing nonconforming building will not substantially extend the otherwise reasonably anticipated useful life of the nonconforming building. The ZBA will make this determination pursuant to § 220-22-5 of the Zoning Ordinance.

This application may also involve variances from other requirements in the Zoning Ordinance, as may be determined based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

2. Such other and further matters as may properly come before the Board.

The meeting/public hearing will be held at the Rutland Charter Township Hall located at 2461 Heath Road in the Charter Township of Rutland, Barry County, Michigan.

The Rutland Charter Township Zoning Ordinance and Map, and the variance application materials, may be examined by contacting the Township Clerk, and may also be examined at the meeting.

Written comments regarding the abovereferenced matters may be submitted to the Township Clerk prior to the meeting, and may also be submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the meeting.

Rutland Charter Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon reasonable notice to the Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact he Township Clerk.

Robin Hawthorne, Clerk
Rutland Charter Township
2461 Heath Road
Hastings, MI 49058
(269) 948-2194

Hastings girls make No. 9 Parma Western work for win

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Saxons and Panthers are on complete opposite ends of the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference standings.

The Parma Western varsity girls' basketball team is now 9-0 in the conference, and 16-1 overall, ranked among the very best Division 2 teams in the state of Michigan.

The Saxons don't have an I-8 win yet this season and are just 4-12 overall.

That ninth conference defeat was one the Saxons could take some pride in though.

Parma Western took its second win of the season over the Hastings girls, 55-36 at Parma Western High School Tuesday. The first meeting between the two teams, back in early January, was a 62-16 Panther win in Hastings.

This time around, it was just a two-point game at the half. Parma Western held a 22-20 advantage at the break.

Hastings was healthy for the first time in a week or two. The Saxons hit some shots early and their confidence grew. And the Saxon team was able to have a couple girls' assist senior forward Rachael Hewitt in filling the scoring column on the stat sheet.

"They absolutely played their tails off," Hastings head coach Ben Wilson said. "We were down two at the half. We challenged them going in where are we at in the season and what is your goal for this? They responded and played one of our best games of the year."

Hewitt had a team-high 15 points, and she had a bucket late in the first half that had the Saxons in front 20-19. Victoria Tack and Kalli Koning both buried two three-pointers and finished with eight points each. Maddie Peake chipped in three points and Bella Friddle had two for the Saxons.

Parma found its scoring touch in the second half and started knocking down some outside shots. The Panthers hit four threes in the third quarter to start to pull away a bit. A pair of those threes came as as part of an early 10-0 run in the second half for Western.

On the offensive side, Wilson said the coaching staff really worked with girls lately to be able to share the scoring responsibilities

"Confidence comes through preparation," Wilson said. "We have to be as prepared as possible, and have the kids know that they have a lot to give to our team, to keep looking for shots and keep being aggressive. You're not always what your record says you are. We're a talented team. We have kids that have played a lot of basketball. We've had some good moments, but we've been up and down and have to find that consistent effort.

"They're still in it," Wilson added. "They're committed to this and five seniors want to finish their career the right way."

The Hastings girls visit Wyoming Lee this afternoon, Feb. 13, and will be home against Jackson Northwest in the I-8 for senior night bFriday before going to Northwest for another conference ballgame Monday. The Hastings girls will also be in action in the conference at Pennfield Tuesday.

The Saxons fell 68-29 at Marshall in I-8 play last Friday, while illness was still running through the team.

"We just had no energy. We were tired," Wilson said.

Hewitt had 21 points in the loss. Koning chipped in three points and Friddle two.

Six Saxons make it through D1 district tourney

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Keegan Sutfin captured the Saxons' lone district championship Saturday at the MHSAA Division 1 Individual District Tournament hosted by Howell High School Saturday.

The Saxon senior ran his record to 36-2 by winning the 157-pound weight class for the Hastings varsity wrestling team. He is one of six Saxons who won their way through the tournament to a top four finish and a spot in this Saturday's, Feb. 15, MHSAA Division 1 Individual Regional at Portage Northern High School.

Isaac Friddle at 215 pounds, Hunter Sutfin at 106 and Reyd Zoerman at 120 all placed second in their weight class, and the Hastings team had Liam Renner third at 144 pounds and Jordan Humphrey fourth at 126.

Friddle, Hunter Sutfin and Zoerman all closed the day with more than 40 wins on the season so far.

Keegan Sutfin improved to 36-2 on the year with his three pins. He stuck Mattawan's Gage Love and then Howell's Grant Stewart both in the second period of their bouts, and then he finished off Everett's Antonio Williams with 12 seconds left in the first period of their 157-pound championship match.

Friddle had a pair of quick pins to get to the 215-pound final where he was pinned by Brighton's Sean O'Keefe early in the third period.

Hunter Sutfin survived an early scare, scoring a 6-5 win over Loy Norrix's Dennis Allen-Wormack in the quarterfinals and then took a major decision over Caledonia's Escher Reeder to get into the 106-pound title bout where he was pinned by Brighton's Jameson Wood. Zoerman took a pair of big wins before eventually losing out in a 9-1 major decision against Kalamazoo Central's Alek Marion in the 120-pound championship.



The Saxons' Liam Renner (back) works to score against Grand Ledge's Maddoc Taszreak during their 144-pound bout in the MHSAA Division 1 District Final at Grand Ledge High School Thursday. **Photo by Dan Goggins**

The Saxon team season came to an end last Thursday, Feb. 6, as they fell to Grand Ledge in the MHSAA Division 1 Team District Final at Grand Ledge High School.

The Comets took a 57-12 win over the Saxons, with Hastings' 12 points coming thanks to decisions from Zoerman at 120 pounds and Jace Acker at 157 and a forfeit win by Ian Grundy at 215 pounds.

The Saxons got to the district final by outscoring Everett 60-23 in the semifinal round to start the day. In that dual with Everett, Hastings got pins from Aden Armstrong, Humphrey and Friddle as well as forfeit wins by Matthew Shults, Tate Warner, Hunter Sutfin, Zoerman, Renner, Keegan Sutfin and Acker.

Delton Kellogg boys stretch win streak to five games

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Athens was overmatched at Delton Kellogg High School Monday.

The Delton Kellogg varsity boys' basketball team took a 73-21 win over the visiting Indians.

"The team came out with a lot of energy and did what they needed to do early, hitting shots and getting easy buckets," Delton Kellogg head coach Jason Howland said. "We were able to force turnovers which gave us more opportunities to score and get some easy buckets. We have been playing really well at home this season and a lot of guys were able to contribute to the win."

Tyler Howland had a game-high 23 points including three three-pointers to go with five rebounds for DK. Keegan Hill chipped in 13 points, five assists and three steals. Grant McArthur added 12 points, seven rebounds, three assists and four steals for Delton Kellogg as the back-court dominated.

DK also got eight points from Cristian Rojas and five each from Gabe Ramsey and Tucker Tack.

Brennan Godfrey led Athens with seven points and four rebounds.

The Delton Kellogg boys have now won five in a row to improve their record to 11-7 this season. They upped their Southwestern Athletic Conference Central Division record to 5-3 with a 54-39 win at Saugatuck last Friday, Feb. 7.

"We did what we needed to do to get the win," coach Howland said of the victory over the Trailblazers. "It was our first away game we had in a while and I think it affected our ability to execute at the level we should have. We have been doing a really good job of taking care of the basketball lately and this game we had too many turnovers.

"I am proud of boys and their effort. Its getting late into the season and this is when you want your team to execute and be consistent, soon it will be those teams that can do that the best that get to continue playing basketball late February into March."

The Panthers held the Trailblazers to eight points in the first half, building a 22-8 lead going into the intermission.

Grady Matteson hit three three-pointers and had a team-high 17 points for Delton to go with seven rebounds, two assists and three blocked shots. McArthur had 15 points and Hill 12 in the win. Tyler Howland chipped in nine points and four assists. Hill had eight rebounds, two assists and four steals. McArthur had five steals and three assists in the win.

City of Hastings
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing written and/or oral comments from the public concerning an amendment to Chapter 90 of the Hastings Municipal Code to amend Section 90-883 (b)(4) to increase the driveway width at the property line from 20 to 24 feet. The public hearing will be held at **7:00 PM on Monday March 3, 2025**, in the Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 201 East State Street, Hastings, MI 49058.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and to submit comments.

Please contact Dan King, Community Development Director, at dking@hastingsmi.gov or 269-945-2468 if you have questions or comments regarding this public hearing.

A copy of this information is available for public inspection from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday at the Office of the City Clerk, 201 East State Street, Hastings, MI 49058.

The City will provide necessary reasonable aids and services upon five days notice to Hastings City Clerk 269-945-2468

Linda Perin
City Clerk

Visit us online at mihomepaper.com

TOWNSHIP OF PRAIRIEVILLE
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 10115 S. Norris Rd. Delton, Michigan 49046, to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 10:00 am Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025, 1:00 to 4:00 pm and 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

APPOINTMENTS ARE SUGGESTED; letter appeals will be accepted and must be received no later than 5:00 pm the Friday before the first appeal hearing.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	44.95%	1.1123
Commercial	50.05%	0.9990
Industrial	40.11%	1.2466
Residential	44.16%	1.1322
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Jim Stoneburner, Supervisor Prairieville Township
Kevin Harris, Assessor Prairieville Township

Prairieville Township Board Meetings are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days' notice to Prairieville Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Prairieville Township by writing or calling.

Prairieville Township Clerk
10115 S. Norris Rd.
Delton, MI 49046
269-623-2726

HASTINGS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 885 River Rd., Hastings, MI 49058 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 1:00 pm Organizational Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 9:00 am to Noon and 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Thursday, March 13, 2025, 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 to 4:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

APPEALS ARE HEARD ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS; letter appeals will be accepted and must be received no later than 5:00 pm the Friday before the first appeal hearing.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	44.96%	1.1121
Commercial	53.61%	0.9327
Industrial	53.33%	0.9376
Residential	45.31%	1.1035
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Jim Partridge, Supervisor Hastings Charter Township
Kevin Harris, Assessor Hastings Charter Township

Hastings Charter Township Board Meetings are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days' notice to Hastings Charter Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Castleton Township by writing or calling.

Hastings Charter Township Clerk
885 River Rd.
Hastings, MI 49058
269-948-9690

Gains show up on scoreboard for Lions despite loss

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Springport had 14 fewer points than in the first ballgame of 2025

Maple Valley had 24 more.

That's progress.

The visiting Springport varsity girls' basketball team kept the Maple Valley girls winless in the Big 8 Conference so far this season by scoring a 63-37 win at Maple Valley High School Tuesday, but the final score showed big strides from when the two teams met in the first ballgame of 2025 back on Jan. 7.

Spanish exchange student Ines Sanchez led the Lions with 12 points and sophomore guard Aubree Roth put in 11 in the loss. The Lions haven't had a lot of nights this season with two girls in double figures, and everyone on the team is getting more confident with the basketball in their hands.

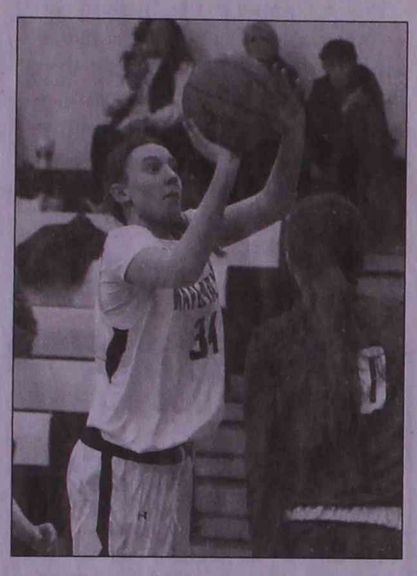
The Lions got six points from senior forward Taylor Casey and four from freshman center Abbigail Harvey.

"When we attack on offense with someone besides Ines, I think we're a better ball club," Lion head coach Landon Wilkes said.

"That is time, and I'm going to say this with a grain of salt that's me screaming at them. It is," he added. "They take it and they look to get better, and they understand that it is not a personal attack on them. I care about every one of these 21 kids that are in the program. I'll do everything I can to make them a better ballplayer and a better human being … I pulled one young lady out tonight and told her that if she decides she's not going to shoot, I'm not going to play her. So, that is kind of where we're at."



Maple Valley sophomore guard Aubree Roth flips a shot over Springport's Morgan Shoemaker during their Big 8 Conference contest at Maple Valley High School Tuesday. **Photo by Brett Bremer**



Maple Valley freshman Abbigail Harvey puts up a shot in the paint during her team's Big 8 Conference ballgame against Springport Tuesday. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

It's still a work in progress to be sure. Springport's full-court pressure did hurt the Lions early on in the ballgame. Oftentimes the Lions were able to get the ball over half-court, but then found themselves in a tough spot pushed to the sidelines.

The Spartans did get out to a 9-0 lead and things were never really any closer than that. The Spartans bumped their lead to 26-6 by the end of the first quarter and led 38-13 at the half.

Like most coaches, Wilkes was quick to point out the defensive improvements.

"We went to a man. We went two possessions of a 1-3-1, and that was the plan, to go two possessions of a 1-3-1 and then jump into a man," Wilkes said. "We don't work on it in practice. We don't have time to. There is other stuff we have to work on, and all I have told them is that you're going to learn to play man, and if you don't learn to play man I will find somebody else who will.

"We make some mistakes. I'll tweak that as we go along, and deal with it as we go, but number one when you're playing man-to-man defense it is all head and heart. When we get here (pointing to his head and his heart), we're fine. We can compete. We can do some stuff. We struggle on the boards still, which is kind of a frustrating thing for me, but we'll get there. We're still pretty young. Rebounding to me is just like defense, the head and the heart."

The Lion defense wasn't totally responsible for all of the 63 points allowed. A number of those came on lay-ups off turnovers by the Maple Valley offense. In the half-court, Springport took advantage of its size in the paint when it could.

The Spartans had three in double figures led by senior guard Chloe Speer who finished with a game-high 14 points. Sophomore forward Morgan Shoemaker had 12 points and senior guard Brooke Benden had 11 points. Springport also got eight points apiece from Hattie Gray and Payton Kubiak and six from Ciarra Brock.

The Lions are now 2-15 overall this season and 01-10 in the Big 8 Conference. They'll be on the road in the Big 8 Friday at Reading.

Springport evened its overall record at 7-7 and moved to 4-5 in the Big 8 with the win.

The Lions were within 20-12 at the end of the first half of a Big 8 ballgame against visiting Quincy last Thursday, Feb. 6, but the Orioles took off on a 22-6 run in the third quarter and outscored the Lions 33-9 overall in the second half.

Sanchez had ten points, nine rebounds and four steals in that loss. Roth finished with five points, three boards and two assists. Mariah Vandorp and Harvey had three points apiece.

Quincy got 24 points and six rebounds from Kendyl Musielewicz and 12 points, eight rebounds and six assists from Deziray Skirka.

Great start helps get DK girls win over Watervliet

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Panthers made it 3-3 in their past six ballgames with a 53-45 win over visiting Watervliet Tuesday night at Delton Kellogg High School.

The Delton Kellogg varsity girls' basketball team took a 14-2 lead to open the ballgame and led the rest of the night.

"Tonight was an amazing night for the team," Delton Kellogg head coach Kevin Lillibridge said. "The girls were physical, and played hard the entire game."

The DK lead wasn't big the rest of the night though. The DK girls had to battle. Watervliet fought back to get within four points by the end of the first quarter, and the Delton Kellogg lead was down to 24-21 at the half.

"Even with some struggles at the free throw line the girls kept getting after it," Lillibridge said. "The growth is unbelievable, and to see them beat a team like Watervliet that has competed against some really good teams this year shows that they are starting to believe in themselves as well."

The Watervliet girls are 5-12 overall this season and sit fourth in the Southwestern Athletic Conference Lakeshore Division. The DK girls moved their record to 4-13 overall with the win and will get back to SAC Central play at home against Martin Friday, Feb. 14.

Addie Stampfler had 21 points, nine rebounds, four assists and nine steals for the DK team in the win over Watervliet, just missing out on a triple double. Josie Williams had 12 points, 13 rebounds and four steals. Izzie Wendland added 11 points and Jalin Lyons had seven for DK.

That win came on the heels of a 59-31 loss in SAC Central play last Friday, Feb. 7. The Trailblazers lead the SAC Central at 7-0 in conference play and are 14-1 overall heading into this weekend's action. DK fell to 0-8 in the SAC Central in that defeat.

DK cheer closes SAC season at home, set for D4 district

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Delton Kellogg varsity competitive cheer team earned a fifth-place finish at the Southwestern Athletic Conference Final it hosted Thursday, Feb. 6.

The Panther team will be back in action Saturday as it heads to Schoolcraft for its MHSAA Division 4 District Tournament.

Coloma won the SAC D4 competition last Thursday with an overall score of 726.82 ahead of Lawton 689.84, White Pigeon 673.9, Gobles 644, Delton Kellogg 626.9, Comstock 551.9, Bloomingdale 495.1, Constantine 483.28 and Hartford 481.3.

DK put up scores of 207,.1 in round one179.1 in round two and 240.7 in round three.

The DK girls outscored Gobles in round two and had a two-point lead on the Tigers heading into round three, but Gobles jumped up into the fourth-place spot with its round three routine.

The winning team from Coloma had the top score in each of the three rounds, 224 in round one, 203.2 in round two and then a 299.8 in round three.

Allegan won the day's five-team SAC Division 3 competition with an overall score of 701.26.

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TOWNSHIP OF HOPE
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 5463 M-43 Hwy., Hastings, MI 49058 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 11:30 am Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

APPEALS ARE HEARD ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS; letter appeals will be accepted and must be received no later than 5:00 pm the Friday before the first appeal hearing.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	47.78%	1.0465
Commercial	45.18%	1.1067
Industrial	49.22%	1.0158
Residential	43.81%	1.1413
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Doug Peck, Supervisor Hope Township
Kevin Harris, Assessor Hope Township

Hope Township Board Meetings are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days' notice to Hope Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Castleton Township by writing or calling.

Hope Township Clerk
5463 M-43 Hwy.
Hastings, MI 49058
269-648-2464

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
BARRY COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Barry County Road Commission, 1725 West M-43 Highway, P.O. Box 158, Hastings, MI 49058, until 11:00 A.M. February 26, 2025 for the following items.

Specifications and additional information may be obtained at the Road Commission Office at the above address or at our web site at www.barrycrc.org.

Crack Seal Blocks	Culverts
Scraper Blades	Bit Mix
Slag	Gutters

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to waive irregularities in the best interest of the Commission.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF BARRY

David Solmes	Chairman
Jim James	Vice Chairman
Jamie Knight	Member

NOTICE: SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Barry County Board of Commissioners is seeking applications from volunteers to serve on the following Boards:

Barry County Conservation Easement Board – 1 Real Estate Interest; 1 Township designee
Mental Health Authority Board – 1 position for a primary or secondary consumer; 3 positions, preference with lived experience in mental health diagnosis and/or substance use disorder
Planning Commission – 2 positions
Tax Allocation Board – 1 general public position
Zoning Board of Appeals – 1 position

Applications may be obtained at the County Administration Office, 3rd floor of the Courthouse, 220 W. State St., Hastings; or www.barrycounty.org under the tab: How do I apply for: An Advisory Board or Commission and click to display the application. Applications must be returned no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, March 3, 2025.** Contact 269-945-1284 for more information.

Vikings knock off Raiders again in district

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Vikings knew it would be tougher than the 23-point victory that won them the 2025 CAAC White Championship.

They were right.

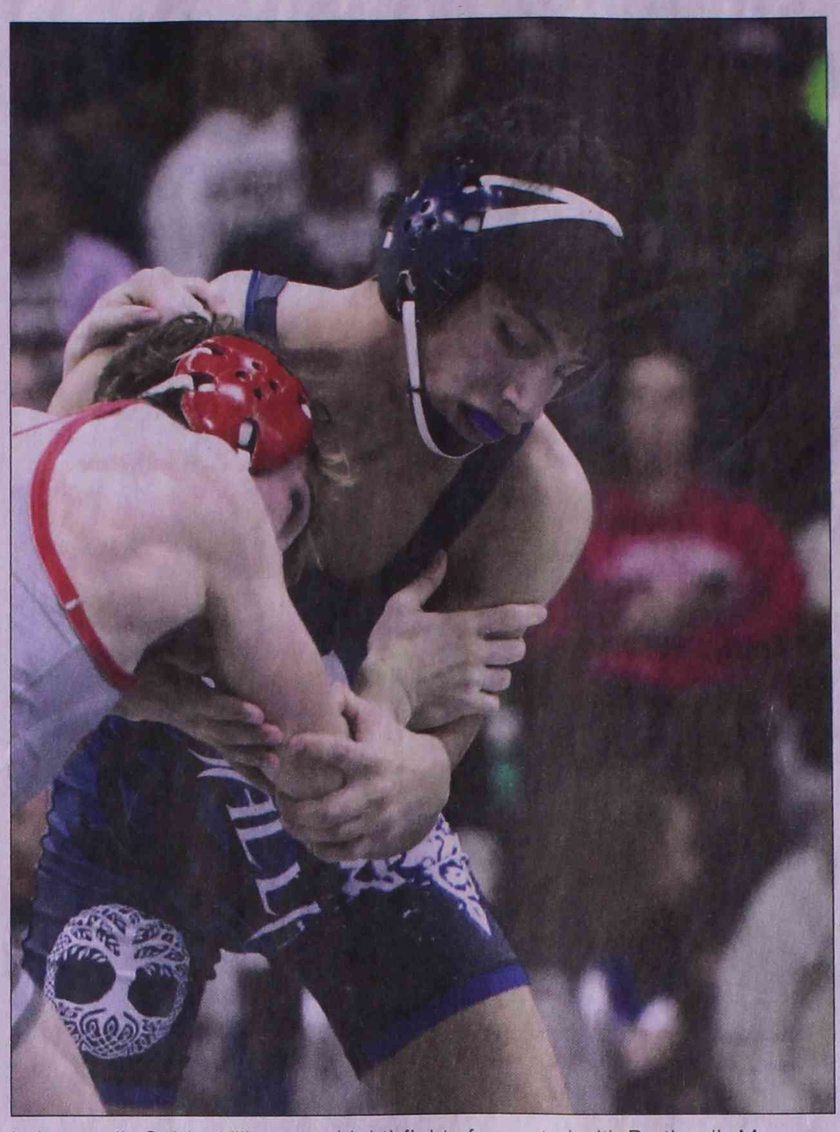
Lakewood clinched a win its MHSAA Division 3 District Semifinal against conference rival Portland in the penultimate bout Thursday, holding on for a 34-31 victory, and then went on to knock off host Central Montcalm in the district final for its second consecutive district championship. The Vikings will now head to Saginaw Swan Valley Wednesday, Feb. 12, for their MHSAA Division 3 Team Regional Tournament.

The state wrestling tournament isn't seeded until the final eight are wrestling at Wings Event Center the final weekend in February, and getting that far was a realistic goal for both Lakewood and Portland. The Vikings and Raiders drew each other for the opening round of the state tournament despite Lakewood being ranked eighth in the state in Division 3 and Portland fourth heading into the week.

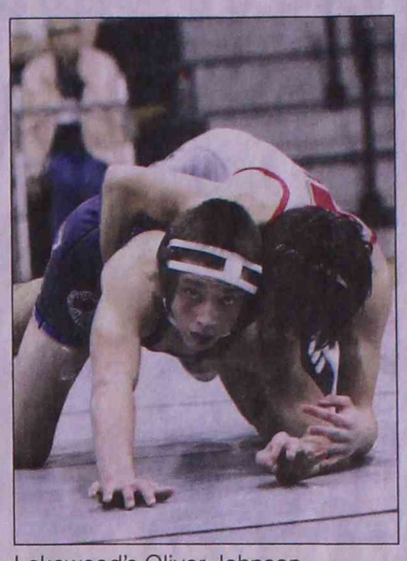
"It's really fun [to beat Portland]," Viking sophomore Bryson Boucher said. "I'm a sophomore now. That's two years in a row. It was kind of a long time coming. They beat us a lot. I'm 2-0, but before my freshman year they beat us two times in a row."

Portland had some reinforcements in the line-up who were out injured during the conference dual in Mason last month, but the Vikings did what they had to do - they stayed out of trouble. Portland managed just two pins and the Vikings were able to keep a few weight classes closer than they had been in the previous dual.

Viking senior Calder Villanueva rose off the mat and gave a couple hard claps in the direction of the Lakewood fans in the crowd after pulling out a big early win against the Raiders' Mason McGregor at 157 pounds that pushed the Vikings to their biggest lead of the dual, 22-5, six bouts in. Lakewood head coach Tony Harmer was pleased to see Villanueva get over his "butterflies."



Lakewood's Calder Villanueva (right) fights for control with Portland's Mason McGregor during the opening period of their 157-pound bout in Thursday's MHSAA Division 3 Team District Semifinal at Central Montcalm High School. The Vikings defeated conference foe Portland 34-31 and went on to beat Central Montcalm for the district title. **Photo by Brett Bremer**



Lakewood's Oliver Johnson works to get out from under Portland's Sawyer Dakin during their 120-pound match to close Thursday's MHSAA Division 3 District Semifinal at Central Montcalm High School. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

"Yeah, I wasn't feeling the greatest," Villanueva said. "I threw up practically everything I ate and drank after weigh-ins, but I knew he was a good kid. He teched one of my teammates."

But Villanueva said he was confident his grit would serve him well against McGregor as the match went on.

The two battled through two scoreless periods before McGregor opened the third period with an escape off the bottom. The two were back and forth from there. Villanueva managed the only take down of the match with 50 seconds to go, but a McGregor reversal 17 seconds later evened the score at 3-3. The Viking senior knew what he had to do.

"One thing we went over yesterday, just kicking our (rear end) up and getting our arms through and grabbing, and it worked. That's all I did," Villanueva said.

"Basically, twerking. He wiggled off and I got my two."

He got the reversal he needed with ten second to go for a 5-3 win.

"That felt good. I was pumped," Villanueva said.

All the Vikings were impressed with freshman Dakota Harmer who battled through two scoreless periods with Portland's Branlun Simon in the 106-pound bout before Simon got a quick escape in the third period. Simon held on for a 1-0 decision. But it was the kind of loss that draws cheers from the bench and smiles from the coach. Simon scored major decisions against Harmer both in the conference dual and at the All CAAC Championship last weekend, and head coach Tony Harmer spent some time reminding Dakota that the match at the All CAAC tourney was a 1-0 bout going into the third period so getting a better result was certainly possible.

"Dakota did a really good job on his defense. He wasn't doing anything stupid. Even though he lost, that was a big win for us," Villanueva said.

Lakewood had a 34-22 lead heading into the final three weight classes, the three lightest weights, and Dakota Harmer's effort was a good start. Stephen Aldrich had another strong effort in a defeat in which he held Portland's 113-pounder Landon Lenz to a 17-3 major decision. When the Raider team was assessed an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty following the bout, the match was all but clinched for the Vikings who just needed to avoid getting a similar penalty while 120-pounder Oliver Johnson took on the Raiders' Sawyer Dakin. Johnson did his job too, holding Dakin to a 3-1 decision.

The Viking team started on its early lead with senior Kade Boucher pinning Andrew Feldpausch late in the second period of their 126-pound match. Sophomore Vincent Stamm followed for the Vikings at 132 pounds with a 19-7 major decision over the Raiders' Issac Kramer. Lakewood senior Lydon "LJ" Rogers then outscored the Raiders' Zach Stanton 9-4 at 138 pounds.

"When we started off the dual, we switched Kade and Vincent around. Kade lost to Kramer, but then he beat Feldpausch this time, and Vinny did his job and he beat Kramer. So, it helped build that lead and build that momentum. LJ picked up his win, not what we expected, but he did really well," Lakewood head coach Tony Harmer said.

The Viking team also got a quick pin from sophomore Bryson Boucher at 150 pounds.

The only victory in those first six weight classes for Portland came from Griffin Opperman's 19-4 technical fall of Lakewood's Bryce Goodemoot. The Vikings were pleased with that result. Owen Prowdley was another Viking who held his opponent, Viking 175-pounder Bradley Meyers, to a five-point technical fall rather than allowing a six-point pin.

Portland had the match tied 22-22 nine bouts in after getting a pin from Landon Guilford at 165 pounds against the Vikings' Alexander Risk, Meyers' tech fall at 175 and then a pin from Gunnar Williams at 190 against Jacob Everett.

Lakewood's heavyweights righted the ship and wound up getting the Vikings all the points they would need with two pins. Bryan Aguilera, who the Vikings were happy to welcome back to the line-up recently, scored a quick pin of the Raiders' Sawyer Goodman at 215 pounds and Joel Simon stuck the Raiders' Barrett Spitzley early in the third period of the 285-pound match.

The dual with Central Montcalm was a bit anticlimactic after that. The Vikings took a 67-12 win over the Hornets who opened their night by knocking off Belding in the semifinals. The Hornets forfeited six weight classes to the Vikings. Dakota Harmer and Johnson had pins for the Vikings in their matches. Stamm and Rogers took technical fall victories, Kade Boucher won by injury default and Aldrich pulled out a 12-10 decision against the Hornets' Brayden Young at 113 pounds.

"We just need to keep doing the same thing - be prepared," Bryson Boucher said of his team's quest for a second straight regional championship. "I completely believe in Tony Harmer and our coaching staff up there. I believe everything that they say and everything we do up there to become the top team in the state. That is what we proved today. Portland was ranked ahead of us all year. Following him and his lead, we wouldn't be here without him, and trusting him in practice and going hard and doing what needs to be done.

"He's pushing us and believing in us. I feel like wrestling is so physical, but the mental aspect there of Harmer just pushing us and pushing us to our limits and knowing that we still have more than we think. Harmer knows we have more than we possibly believe. I think him pushing us this week and all the coaches pushing us this week helped us get here and we're still hungry and we're still moving."

Bryson is one of four returning individual state qualifiers for the Vikings this winter, joined by his brother Kade, Joel Simon and Stamm.

Bryson (150 pounds), Simon (285) and Stamm (126) all won individual district championships at Montrose Saturday at their MHSAA Division 3 Individual District Tournament. Everett scored a runner-up finish at 215 pounds, and Aguilera at 285, Dakota Harmer at 106 and Kade Boucher at 132 pounds all placed third. Villanueva at 157 pounds finished fourth. Bryson and Simon both have 42 wins on the season after Saturday's action.

The top four in each weight class earned a spot in the Feb. 15 MHSAA Individual Regional Tournament at Whitehall.



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Saxon cheer on top of I-8 a fifth straight time



The Hastings varsity competitive cheer team celebrates its fifth straight Interstate-8 Athletic Conference championship after winning the Feb. 5 conference finale hosted by Harper Creek High School in Battle Creek. **Photo provided**

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Saxons needed a win to keep the string alive, and they got it.

The Hastings varsity competitive cheer team captured its fifth consecutive Interstate-8 Athletic Conference championship by outscoring the Beavers at the top of the standings at the conference finale Wednesday at Harper Creek High School.

There was a tie at the top of the conference standings heading into the meet as Hastings and Harper Creek both won one conference jamboree this season.

"We put out three solid rounds and came out on top in the final," Hastings head coach Linsey Jacinto said. "This team has faced many hardships this season and had handled every one with determination and resilience. We are extremely proud of the work they have put in the season."

Northwest wound up jumping Harper Creek at Wednesday's meet to give the Saxons a solid cushion at the top of the final conference standings.

The Saxons got off to great great start to the meet, outscoring both Northwest and Harper Creek by four points in round one and then upping their lead in round two. The Saxons had scores of 212.20 and 183.66 in the first two rounds. That had them a little over seven points ahead of Northwest and about 14 ahead of Harper Creek going into round three.

Northwest put together scores of 208.20 in round one and 180.50 in round two. Harper Creek tallied a 208.10 in round one and 173.10.

Harper Creek did have the top round three score of 277.90 just three tenths better than the Saxons' tally of 277.60. Northwest held on to finish second with a score of 271.80 in round three.

Hastings had a final score on the day of 673.46 ahead of Northwest 660.50, Harper Creek 659.10, Pennfield 651.60 and Parma Western 601.68.

The Hastings girls will be back on the mat Saturday, Feb. 15, at Thornapple Kellogg High School in Middleville for their MHSAA Division 2 District Tournament. The top four teams from the district advance to the regional round of the state tournament.

Saxons will be busy in last days of regular season

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

A torrid stretch of six games in nine days to close the regular season tipped off Tuesday for the Hastings varsity boys' basketball team.

The Saxons were bested 57-37 by visiting Parma Western at Hastings High School Tuesday, a loss that drops the Saxons to 0-9 so far this season in the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference.

The Saxons are now set to visit Wyoming Lee Thursday, Feb. 13, and then play host to Jackson Northwest Friday, visit Jackson Northwest Monday, host Pennfield Tuesday for senior night and then head to Wellspring Prep to close the regular season.

Northwest is the team immediately ahead of the Saxons in the I-8 standings with a 1-7 record in conference play. Both teams have three victories overall.

Marshall, one of four teams within a game of the top spot in the conference, bested the Hastings boys in conference play last Friday at Marshall High School 54-32.

Jack Webb had nine points to lead the Saxon offense in the loss to the RedHawks. Porter Shaw had six points and Eli Randall chipped in five.

Marshall got 12 points apiece from Austin Miller and Austin Burns and 11 from JJ Tucker.

Hastings guard Quincy Brown attacks the basket and attempts a reverse layup against Marshall's Austin Miller during the Saxons' loss to the Redhawks on Feb. 7 at Marshall High School. **Photo by Seth Berry**

Saxon bowling squads both beat Coldwater

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Hastings varsity boys' and girls' bowling teams both knocked off Coldwater in Interstate-8 Athletic Conference duals at Hastings Bowl Tuesday.

The Saxon girls improved to 2-5 in the conference with their 19-11 win over the Cardinals. Heaven Simmet took two points with games of 174 and 201 for the Saxon team. Jen Stoline rolled a 192. The Saxons also got high games of 159 from Megan Ramey and 148 from Kaylin Schild.

In the Baker games the Hastings girls and the Cardinals tied at 122 the first time around, but the Saxons took the second Baker came to get the extra two-points in those contests.

The Hastings boys improved to 7-0 in the Interstate-8 with their 18-12 win over the Coldwater boys.

Andrew Barton picked up two points for the Saxons with games of 177 and 237. Hunter Pennington and Brody Mix both earned one team point in the regular games despite rolling two pretty solid scores each. Mix had a 182 and a 185. Pennington scored a 192 and a 182.

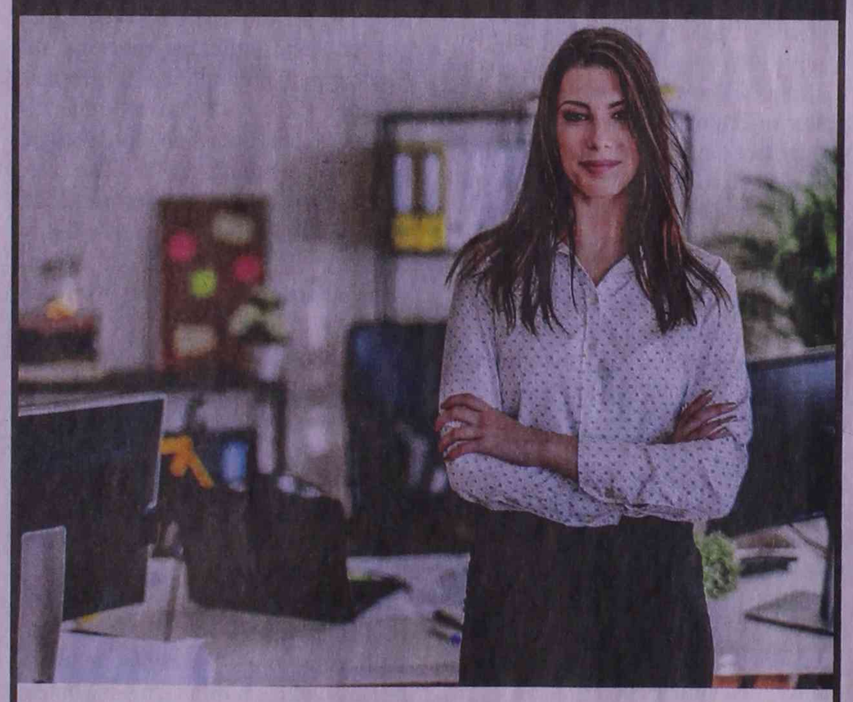
As a team, the Saxons rolled an impressive 231 Baker game too.

The Hastings girls took part in a regional tune-up last Saturday and Schild led the way for the team with a 29th-place finish that included a high game of 175. Simmet was 35th with a high single score of 179 from among her six. Stoline was 58th and Kass Harton 67th in a field of 102 bowlers.

The Saxons were set to host Pennfield Wednesday, Feb. 12, and will head to M-66 Bowl for the I-8 Singles Championship Saturday, Feb. 15, beginning at 1 p.m.

The conference duals conclude next week as the Saxons take on Northwest at Hastings Bowl Monday, feb. 17, and then visit Pennfield Tuesday, Feb. 18.

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Barry County Key Performance Indicators, 2020-2030

Indicator	2020	2024	Net Gain/Loss To Date	Projected by 2030	Projected Increase (2030)
Population	62,423	64,214	1,791	69,214	5,000
Housing Units	27,351	28,099	748	28,618	519
Employment	28,920	32,290	3,370	33,237	947
Licensed Childcare Slots (January reporting each year)	2,437	1,860	-577	2,179	319
Internet Connectivity (Number of homes and businesses with accessibility)	20,513	21,274	761	28,300	7,026

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