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VOL. 170, NO. 53

THE HASTINGS BANNER

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Rob Pouch was named the new superintendent of Thornapple Kellogg Schools at the end of second-round interviews on Tuesday, April 29. **Photo by Karen Turko-Ebright**

TK Schools selects Pouch as new superintendent

Karen Turko-Ebright
Staff Writer

After a months-long search process, Thornapple Kellogg Schools has named Rob Pouch as its next superintendent.

Pouch served as the superintendent of Morrice Area Schools for the last five years and as the principal at Linden Middle School from 2017 to 2021.

After the first round of superintendent interviews last month, Pouch remained a candidate, moving into second-round interviews at Tuesday, April 29's meeting.

After candidates answered numerous questions, TKS Board of Education President Dave Smith polled seven board members, including himself, to decide between Pouch and fellow candidate Bill Crane. While three board members raised their hands for Crane, four other hands tipped the scale in favor of Pouch.

"I am thrilled and excited to join the TK community. I'm looking forward to working with their board, staff and community to ensure the students of TK are college, career and world ready," Pouch told The Banner. He and his family are already in the transition of relocating back to West Michigan.

"We had two quality candidates, and the decision was very difficult to choose between the two, but ultimately the majority favored Rob," Smith said.

Other board members echoed Smith, including BOE Vice President Derrick Brock, who said during the community meet-and-greet and the candidates' tour of the school district on Monday, he had a chance to talk to administrators. He said he heard a common theme about both candidates.

"Some administrators said they did not think we could go wrong, that these candidates are fantastic," Brock said. "Thank you to those who have come before us and helped lay the foundation to make the district attractive and pull in these candidates."

Pouch said he is grateful to the community and the school board for their support.

"We recently sold our house in Howell, Michigan, and are fortunate to have a summer cottage in Ottawa County where we can reside until we can find what we are looking for in TK," Pouch explained. "My wife and I have five kids; we just sold a 30-acre hobby farm."

TK Schools has been searching for its next superintendent since former superintendent Craig McCarthy retired at the end of last year.

Pouch will start his role as superintendent on July 1.

ALL THAT JAZZ: Hastings hosts annual Jazz Fest



Jazz Fest is not just reserved for jazz bands – choirs are also welcome. Here, the Lakewood Youth Chorus performs at Grace Lutheran Church in Hastings. **Photo by Jayson Bussa**

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

Jazz musicians ranging from middle schoolers to accomplished professionals traveled to Hastings last week to take part in the annual Jazz Fest.

Put on each year by the Thornapple Arts Council, Jazz Fest has been around for 22 years. Last week marked the 21st installment of the event, as organizers took a year off during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Megan Lavell, executive director of the Thornapple Arts Council, said that in terms of popularity and participation, the last two years have been the festival's best. It's safe to say the event is fully back to form after coming to a screeching halt during the pandemic.

"We saw it grow steadily, then COVID happened and we took a year off," Lavell explained. "It took a couple of years to come back because there were still a few years where schools were trying to figure out if field trips were on hiatus or not."

"Now, we have no wiggle room in our schedule," she added. "This year and last year have been the biggest years ever. We've talked about the difficulty of including more schools if more want to participate."

Plenty of schools from around the state participated this year, sending bands and choirs to the event, which ran April 24–26.

Throughout those three days, bands and choirs performed in front of clinicians, who then worked through the music with the students, this providing invaluable feedback from professional musicians and music educators.

"Students don't get rated—they get to learn with someone hands-on along with their class," Lavell explained. "They're becoming better as a unit doing the thing they enjoy."

See **JAZZ** on 2

Officials continue search for Lake Odessa teen

Dennis Mansfield
Staff Writer



Devlin Tait

The search for an 18-year-old Lake Odessa resident has produced little in the way of clues where the person may now be, according to Ionia County Sheriff's Office officials, though the investigation into his apparent disappearance continues.

According to reports, Lake Odessa resident Devlin Tait was reported missing after last being seen at Carl's Market in downtown Lake Odessa at about 8:20 a.m. on Monday, April 21, allegedly traveling on foot.

"He's still missing," said ICSO Lt. Rick Charon, while providing an update on the missing person's case on Tuesday, April 29. "There's no recent sightings.

"We're trying to do a follow up," Charon added. "Basically, we're trying to track down his last financial transaction."

According to a description of Tait posted online, he's reported to be 6-foot tall and weighing 170 pounds. He reportedly was wearing a black zip–up sweatshirt, white T-shirt, blue jeans and cowboy boots when last spotted at a Lake Odessa business.

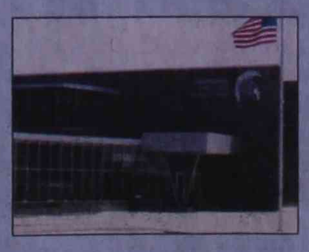
Charon said there is no evidence of foul play at this time.

"There's no evidence of anything other than he did not come home," the sheriff's lieutenant said.

Persons who might have seen Tait since the time of his reported disappearance are urged to contact the ICSO by calling 616-527-5737.

Tips may also be provided anonymously online through the Silent Observer website, silentobserver.org or by calling the Grand Rapids-based, non-profit organization at 616-774-2345.

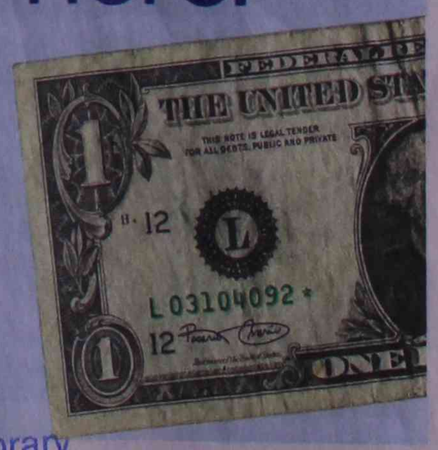
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Members of the Hastings High School senior class who attended the Hastings Rotary Club's annual Senior Lunch pose for a group photo. **Photos courtesy of Hastings Area School System**

Hastings senior class celebrated at annual Rotary luncheon

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

The Hastings Rotary Club welcomed visitors to its meeting this week.

A lot of them.

The Rotary Club invited the entire senior class from Hastings High School to join them for the annual senior lunch, which was once reserved for just male students but has since morphed into an open invitation to any senior who wants to partake.

The event was a joint effort with the Hastings Kiwanis Club, serving as a celebratory sendoff for graduating seniors as they prepare to embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Each student had the opportunity to take the microphone and share their plans for the future, ranging from college and vocational training to entering the workforce.

Rich Franklin, superintendent of the Barry Intermediate School District, addressed the packed room, offering advice centered on the themes of happiness and home.

Franklin encouraged seniors not to view college or their early adult years merely as a means to an end. Instead of focusing solely on their ultimate goals, he urged them to embrace the journey itself.

He also reminded students that the Hastings community would always be there for them and encouraged them to seek experiences beyond the city's borders.

"You don't have to move away to experience the world," Franklin said. "Many of you may not change your zip code. One of the things I love about Hastings is that it's kind of in the middle of nowhere but close to everything. Many adults who call Hastings home leave this corner of the world on all kinds of adventures."

Franklin concluded: "Here's to the beginning of your journey and to the great out there. See, taste, touch, hear and feel as much of the world as you can. Expand your comfort zone. Do something you haven't done before every day. Crack that oyster and follow your bliss. Hastings will always be here for you when you want, or need, to come home."



Hastings High School principal Teresa Heide (left) introduces her senior students, who each shared with the Hastings Rotary Club their post-graduation plans. Hastings senior Donald Kuck (right) was first to speak.

Alumni association seeks nominations for annual honor

The Hastings High School Alumni Association is working on plans for its annual banquet, which for 2025 is slated for Aug. 23 at the First Presbyterian Church in Hastings. And, those plans include seeking nominations for the annual "Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award."

According to HHSAA officials, nominations must be submitted by July 15 to be considered. Distinguished alumnus nominated for the honor may be any graduate from Hastings High School. Any classmate, friend, family member or community member may nominate an individual for the award.

Nominations must be typed and contain biographical information, along with an explanation of why the individual is being nominated. The reasons for the nomination can include accomplishments, vocational honors, awards received and community service, as well as organizational memberships.

The nominee may reside anywhere, with the only requirement being that they must be an alumnus of HHS.

Nominations should be mailed to Merry Ossenheimer at 1303 East M-79 Hwy., Hastings, MI 49058, prior to the July 15 deadline.

Also, any class representatives planning class reunion festivities for 2025 are welcome to let the HHSAA know their plans, and individuals are encouraged to attend upcoming board meetings.

For more information on the HHSAA or the nomination process for 2025, individuals may contact Ossenheimer by calling 269-948-8363. — *DM*



Clinician Andrew Rathbun (right) runs through some instruction with the Thornapple Kellogg High School Jazz Band following its TAC Jazz Fest performance in the Green Street United Methodist Church Friday morning. **Photo by Jayson Bussa**



The Hastings High School Steel Drum Band performs at Thornapple Plaza last Thursday as part of the Thornapple Arts Council's Jazz Fest. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

JAZZ

Continued from Page 1

"We also highly encourage participants to stay in town and see the other band — whether that's student, professional, or semi-professional groups—and just enjoy the camaraderie of the event."

"Women in Jazz" was the theme of this year's event, which also featured musicians playing at selected restaurants around town. Headlining performances included the Thornapple Jazz Orchestra featuring Edye Evans Hyde on Thursday, as well as New York-based Sherrie Maricle and the DIVA Jazz Orchestra on Friday.

And while the musicians walk away with more knowledge and experience in their craft, Hastings gets a notable economic bump from hosting the largest non-competitive, educational jazz festival in the state.

"People love coming to Hastings," Lavell said. "It's a cute little town. The restaurants all have Jazz Festival specials so they can move people through quicker because they've got packed hours all weekend. Parents like it because they can shop the little stores."



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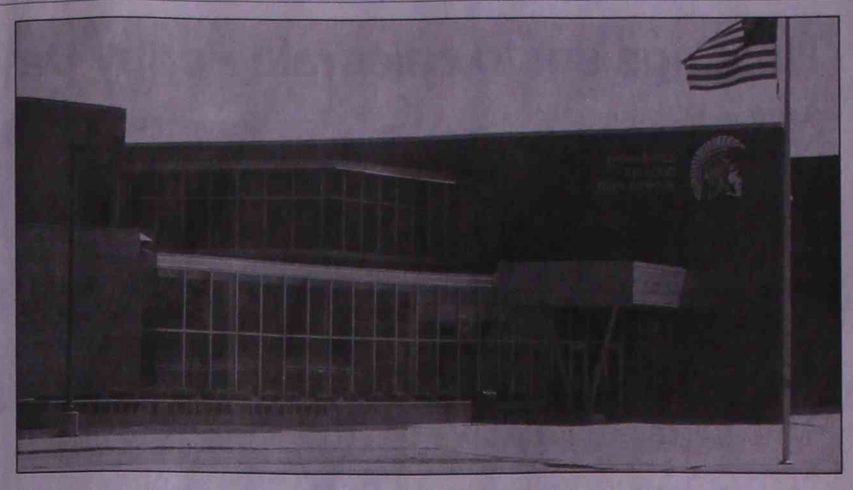
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DID YOU SEE?



LAKEWOOD INDUCTS NEW HALL OF FAMERS

Lakewood Public Schools has four new members in its Hall of Fame. The honored individuals included Larry and Lynne Hilton, Bill Bradley and Dennis Richardson. Pictured here after last week's induction ceremony are (from left) Bill Bradley; Annette Savage, representing her late husband, Richardson; Lynne Hilton and Larry Hilton. **Photo by Molly Macleod**



Thornapple Kellogg Schools interim superintendent Tom Enslen resigned from his post this week, citing a "dysfunctional" state of the district's governance team. **File photo**

TK Schools interim superintendent resigns

Karen Turko-Ebright
Staff Writer

Despite selecting its next permanent leader this week, Thornapple Kellogg Schools is currently operating without a superintendent after interim superintendent Tom Enslen announced his immediate resignation on Monday.

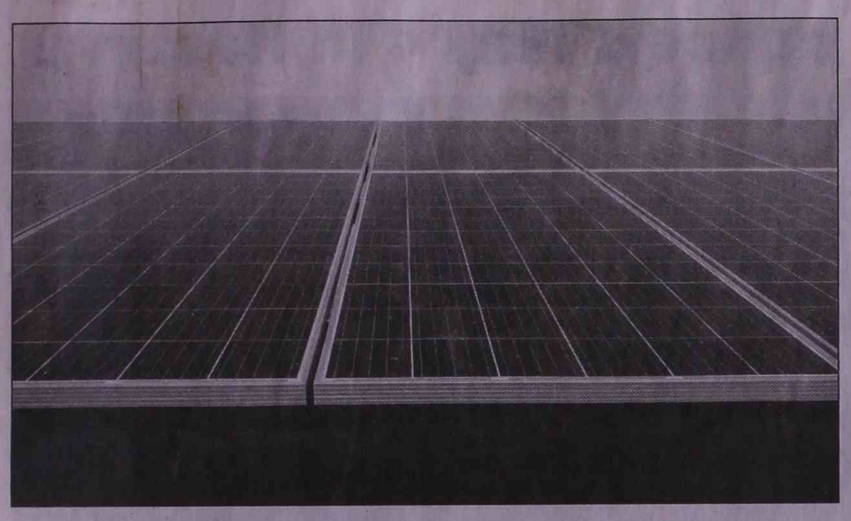
In an email to the Thornapple Kellogg Schools Board of Education Monday morning, Enslen announced that he was stepping down as TKS interim superintendent. The following email is from Enslen.

"I am stepping down as your interim superintendent, effective immediately. The current state of our governance team (school board and superintendent) is dysfunctional, and I don't feel supported enough to continue in this regard," Enslen said. "I truly have enjoyed my return here, and it's been wonderful rekindling relationships and making new friends. This is a great district, and I hope your new superintendent will love this place as much as I do. I am forever grateful for the opportunity I have been afforded, and I wish you all the best. Warmest regards, Tom."

The TK Board of Education approved a contract with Enslen to begin serving the TK district January 1, 2025, after Superintendent Craig McCarthy announced his retirement last December.

BOE Vice President Derrick Brock said in response to Enslen's email that Rob Pouch, the district's newly named school superintendent, will start his position in two months.

"The school board is excited to welcome its new leader and is looking forward to a bright future ahead," Brock said.



Barry County receives grant funds for solar project

Molly Macleod
Editor

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) recently announced the fourth round of Renewables Ready Communities Awards (RRCA), with Barry County in line to receive funding.

This round will support deployment of 1,836 megawatts (MW) of solar power projects – enough clean energy to power more than 1,830,000 Michigan households and businesses.

"Michigan's Renewables Ready Communities Awards continue to support local communities and our prosperous, healthy, clean energy future," said EGLE Director Phil Roos. "These awards will enable communities to invest where they see needs in infrastructure, public safety, and more, while accelerating the build-out of affordable green power to hundreds of thousands of Michigan residents."

The RRCA awards program provides flexible funding to local units of government to help fund community improvements and additional services for their residents. Examples include local road and bridge repairs; public safety systems; park and playground enhancements; accessibility accommodations; and upgrades to grounds, energy for public buildings, and streetlights.

The program aims to speed the build-out of large-scale renewable energy projects such as wind, solar, and storage by providing these incentives for communities that permit and host the projects. RRCA grants are provided in addition to the tax revenue and community benefits already received by host communities.

The new fourth-round awards total $8,132,500 and support eight local units of government, including $297,000 to Barry County for the Spring Creek Solar Project.

The solar farm, which is slated to become operational in 2026, is expected to generate 140 megawatts of power as Consumers Energy seeks to increase its portfolio of clean and renewable energy projects in response to laws that call for the state to achieve a 100 percent clean energy standard by 2040.

The project is being built on 1,500 acres of farmland in Johnstown Township.

Additionally, Calhoun County's Lee Township was awarded $2,495,000 for the Sunfish Solar 1 project and $1,545,000 for the Sunfish Solar 2 project.

Other municipalities receiving funding include:

$1,000,000 to Bethel Township in Branch County for the Branch Solar project.

$750,000 to Watertown Township in Sanilac County for the Watertown Solar project.

$625,000 to Parma Township in Jackson County for the Jackson County Solar project.

$600,000 to Hart Township in Oceana County for the Hart Solar project.

$570,000 to Meade Township in Huron County for the Silver Creek Solar Park project.

$250,000 to Bethany Township in Gratiot County for the Gratiot Solar Project.

Barry County Administrator Eric Zuzga said the funds will be used to invest in software, technological upgrades and new radios and body cameras for the sheriff's department.

"The county appreciates the governor's investment in communities that are hosting renewable energy projects," Zuzga said. "This grant provides the necessary resources that will allow us to invest in new radios and body cameras for the sheriff's department, invest in new software for the planning/zoning department, and to invest in technological upgrades for some of our meeting rooms/facilities."

Grants funds in Lee Township will be used to improve roads.

"Lee Township is honored to be awarded a Renewables Ready Communities Award and will use the funds to improve township infrastructure," said Township Attorney Catherine P. Kaufman. "Specifically, Lee Township hopes to work cooperatively with the Calhoun County Road Department to improve the condition of township roads."

Kaufman said Lee Township has reviewed and approved three solar energy projects, which combined will provide over 900 MW of solar energy.

The RRCA program's first round was announced in October 2024, the second round in December 2024, and the third round in January 2025.

Including the new round, awards through the program total more than $20.56 million – over two-thirds of its $30 million budget allocation – to 29 counties, cities, and townships across the state's two peninsulas that are hosting enough solar and battery storage to power approximately 4.3 million households.

An interactive map on the RRCA webpage displays all the Michigan municipalities with renewable energy projects eligible for the RRCA grant. Information on the map includes project size, intended use of award funds, and a dashboard summarizing statistics about the grant.

There is no deadline to apply for this funding opportunity. Grants from RRCA will remain available until funds are depleted. For more information on the RRCA, including eligibility requirements, funding amounts, and awardee obligations, visit EGLE's RRCA webpage.

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Three stops on the road to financial stability

Achieving financial stability doesn't happen overnight — it takes a journey. And, as with every journey, you'll need to make some stops along the way. These stops, or milestones, can tell you how far you've gone — and where you need to go next.

Milestone 1: Build a foundation

When you're first starting on your financial journey — typically, when you are beginning your career — you'll want to build a foundation by acting on key issues, such as saving, paying down debts and investing for the future. Here are some suggestions:

• ***Start your emergency fund.*** Eventually, you'd like to have several months' worth of living expenses kept in a liquid, low-risk account to deal with unexpected costs, such as large medical bills or a major car repair. For now, though, at least try to put away a few hundred dollars or a month's worth of expenses. To make it easier, have some money moved automatically each month from a checking or savings account into your emergency fund.

• ***Take your employer's match.*** Contribute enough to your 401(k) and health savings account (HSA) to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.

• ***Pay down your higher-rate debt.*** Try to pay down as much high-interest, non-deductible debt as you can afford. If possible, refinance debt at lower interest rates.

Milestone 2: Gain a better foothold

Once you've got your financial foundation in place, and you're established in your career, consider these steps to gain an even better foothold:

• ***Continue building your emergency fund.*** Try to get at least a couple of months' expenses in this fund.

• ***Put away more into your retirement accounts.*** If you can, try to put anywhere from 10% to 15% of your gross income into your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan.

• ***Check your debt-to-income ratio.*** Divide your monthly debt payments by your monthly gross income to calculate your debt-to-income ratio. If you're paying a mortgage, try to keep this ratio to 35% or less. Without a mortgage, try for 20% or less.

Milestone 3: Keep moving forward

As you move into your middle years — and beyond — it's time to further solidify your financial situation and keep making progress toward a comfortable retirement. These moves can help:

• ***Maintain your emergency fund.*** By now, you should be able to keep up to six months' worth of expenses in your emergency fund. A sizable emergency fund can help you if you need to switch jobs, and enable you to meet larger expenses without dipping into your long-term investments.

• ***Review your retirement goals.*** At this stage of your life, you should review your retirement goals regularly to determine whether you're still on track toward meeting them. If you aren't, you may need to adjust your investment strategies. Of course, your goals may have changed over time, and this, too, may require adjustments on your part. You may want to work with a financial professional who can suggest appropriate moves to help you on your way.

Reaching all these milestones will take diligence and commitment — but it will be worth the effort in helping you on your journey toward financial stability.

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

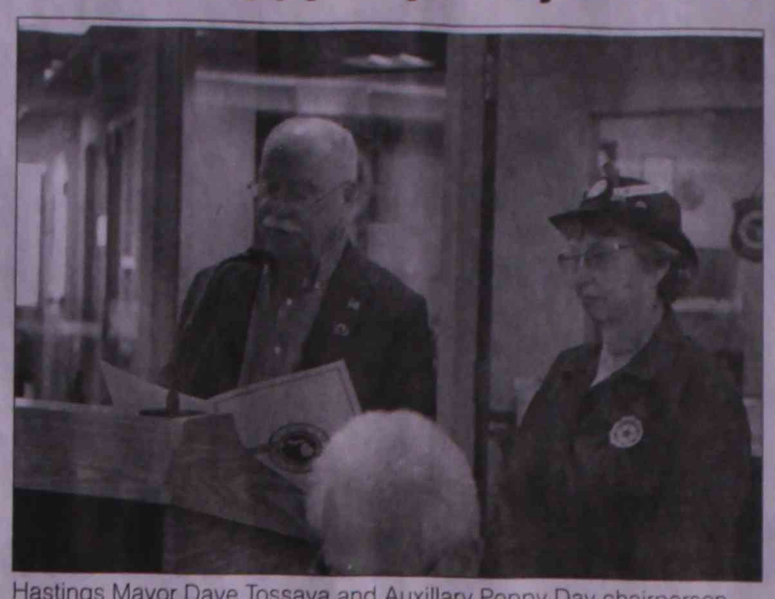
Hastings set to celebrate Poppy Days May 9 and 10

Molly Macleod
Editor

One of the most publicly recognized of the American Legion programs, Auxiliary Poppy Days marks the approaching Memorial Day. Since 1918, the poppy has symbolized the bloodshed during battle and the sacrifices made by American soldiers in all wars. It stems from the words of Col. John McRae in his 1918 homage, "In Flanders Fields," to the fallen of World War I.

Friday, May 23 has been designated as National Poppy Day for 2025, and all are asked to wear a poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

On Monday, April 28, Auxiliary Poppy Day chairperson Darlene Hopkins went before the Hastings City Council to receive a proclamation making May 9 and 10 Auxiliary Poppy Days in Hastings. This marks the 105th year that the American Legion has distributed poppies in remembrance of our war dead. Monies collected in donation serves the needs of active-duty military and their families and veterans in a variety of ways. Such funds are often made available to local families who have immediate and emergency needs not covered by other social programs.



Hastings Mayor Dave Tossava and Auxillary Poppy Day chairperson Darlene Hopkins seen at this week's Hastings City Council meeting. The City of Hastings has declared Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10 as Poppy Days for 2025. **Photo by Molly Macleod**

Recently, funds remaining at the end of the year were made available to Wilwin Lodge, a Michigan camp for recuperating veterans in the Huron-Manistee National Forest near Scottville, and a camp for children of disabled and deceased veterans.

American Legion veterans will be at Family Fare and Walmart from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10. Locals can stop by to talk with veterans of the American Legion and donate to the Auxiliary Poppy Drive.

In Flanders Fields

Col. John McRae, 1918

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row.
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

TWB hosts 'Michigan Made' concert May 4 in Hastings

For those looking to support local composers and artists, the Thornapple Wind Band is hosting "Michigan Made," a concert featuring original compositions from Michigan-based composers.

The concert is set for 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 4, at the Hastings Performing Arts Center on South Street in Hastings.

The performance will feature selections from David Gillingham (Michigan State University), John Moss (Central Michigan University), Leonard Meretta (Western Michigan University), Harland Nye (Carlton Township), Michael Scobey (Lake Odessa) and Justin Leto (Grand Rapids/Alma College) among others. Also, Justin Leto will guest conduct his composition "But What We Make."



The Thornapple Wind Band will perform "Michigan Made" on Sunday, May 4. **Courtesy photo**

First organized in 1995, the Thornapple Wind Band is a community-based organization seeking to bring Wind Band music to the Barry County area while giving adults the opportunity to combine their musical talents with others. The TWB is open to anyone with a passion for music, regardless of ability.

For more information on the TWB or the upcoming performance, persons may call or text 269-779-3310 or join the band's Facebook group. — *DM*

Clerk urging residents to obtain REAL IDs ahead of May 7 deadline



Sarah VanDenburg

Barry County Clerk Sarah VanDenburg is reminding residents to secure their REAL IDs before May 7's deadline.

"Beginning May 7, Michigan residents will need to present a REAL ID-compliant document to board domestic flights, enter military bases, nuclear power plants and certain federal buildings. Standard Michigan driver's licenses and state ID cards will no longer be accepted for these purposes unless they are upgraded to REAL ID status," said VanDenburg.

To obtain a REAL ID, residents must visit a Michigan Secretary of State office and provide:

- Their current Michigan driver's license or ID.
- A valid, unexpired U.S. passport, certified birth certificate, or qualifying immigration document.
- A certified legal name-change document if their name differs from the one on their birth certificate.

There is no additional fee for converting to a REAL ID when renewing or replacing your license or ID. However, those who convert outside of their renewal periods must pay a correction fee ($9 for a driver's license; $10 for a state ID).

VanDenburg said Barry County residents can request vital records through the county clerk's office to acquire the necessary documents for REAL ID compliance, such as a certified birth certificate. Certified copies of birth, death and marriage records are available for events that occurred within Barry County.

Residents can request records in person at the Barry County Clerk's Office at 220 W. State St. in Hastings, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Records can be ordered online through Official Records Online, the authorized online service provider, at officialrecordsonline.com

Additionally, records can be requested via mail by completing the appropriate vital records request form available online at the county clerk's website, barrycounty.org, and sending it to the clerk's office with the required fee.

Residents requesting a certified copy for the first time will pay $20. Each additional copy of the same record costs $7 each. Applicants 65 and older requesting their own birth certificates can receive the document at a reduced fee of $14.

"Residents are encouraged to obtain their vital records well in advance of the May 7, 2025, REAL ID enforcement date to ensure timely processing," said VanDenburg.

More information on REAL ID requirements can be found on the Michigan Secretary of State's website at michigan.gov/sos/license-id/real-id.

Editor Molly Macleod contributed to this report.

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The W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary is once again offering free admission to moms this Mother's Day, May 11. **Courtesy photo**

Kellogg Bird Sanctuary offers free admission day for moms on Mother's Day

AUGUSTA — Moms can enjoy the spring migration season, along with spring flowers and trees in bloom at the W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary this Mother's Day.

The W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary will continue the tradition of offering free admission to moms on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11. Sanctuary hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The sanctuary's Storybook Walk title for May is "Mama Built a Little Nest," by Jennifer Ward. Pages from the book will be located along the accessible, ¾-mile paved path to read while walking.

The May theme in the Overlook Building—an indoor space along the paved path—is "Be a Backyard Birder." Visitors can explore the worlds of nature and art through birds and birding-related activities.

The W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary is located at 12685 East C Ave., one mile north of M-89 and just west of 40th Street.

Anyone with questions is asked to contact the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary at birdsanctuary@kbs.msu.edu or 269-671-2510. — *MM*

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VIEW Newspaper Group

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Things to know when your child with disabilities turns 18

HILLARY HATCH
Social Security Administration

When your child turns 18 years old, they legally become an adult. This is an important time to consider their financial future – especially if they need additional care into adulthood. Here are five things that may help you prepare for this milestone:

Health and welfare decision-making

When your child legally becomes an adult, you can no longer make certain decisions for them about their health and welfare. However, you can stay involved through the Social Security Administration's Representative Payee program. Social Security will determine who best serves as a representative payee for your child's benefits. To learn more about the Representative Payee program, read the webpage at ssa.gov/payee/index.htm. Please note Social Security does not recognize power of attorney.

Changes in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligibility

SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with disabilities, as well as people 65 and older, who have little or no income and resources.

If your child receives SSI, when they turn 18 we will review their eligibility for continued SSI payments based on the disability rules for adults. For more information, please review the publication, "What You Need To Know About Your Supplemental Security Income (SSI) When You Turn 18" at ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11005.pdf. Please be sure to review this with your child. We also encourage you to check out Social Security's Youth Toolkit webpage at ssa.gov/youth.

Education transitions

If your child attends school, they have a few options to continue their education, such as pursuing:

A diploma: They may pursue further education in college or trade programs with an Individualized Education Program (IEP). More information on the IEP is available at ssa.gov/pubs/EN-64-118.pdf.

A certificate: They may have the opportunity to continue in a transitional program in their high school even after they complete their senior year. Most are permitted to remain until they turn 22.

Employment: Local vocational rehabilitation services can assist with employment options during pre-graduation IEP meetings.

Support for living arrangements

Once your child turns 18, they may choose or qualify for different living arrangements depending on the services they already receive. If your child receives therapy services at school, how will they receive them once they leave? They could receive them through a Medicaid waiver or private insurance.

Qualification for respite services may also look different. Respite services allow family caregivers time to step away from their duties. It is essential you understand all the benefits and options available to your child after they complete high school and before deciding on living arrangements and services.

Financial protections

Special Needs Trust: Update estate planning documents before your child turns 18. Otherwise, inheritance may terminate your child's governmental benefits.

ABLE Account: You can deposit funds into this account up to a certain limit each year. However, there are limits on what its funding covers. More information on ABLE accounts is available at ssa.gov/payee/able_accounts.htm.

The above is informational only and does not constitute financial advice or an endorsement of ABLE products or ABLE organizations by the Social Security Administration. There may be other financial options that could be a better fit for some individuals. You must use your best judgement to determine which option is best for your situation.

Children receiving benefits on a parent's record may continue to receive those benefits until age 19 if they're a full-time elementary or secondary school student. People who have a disability that began before age 22 may also be eligible to receive child's benefits at any age. For more information, review the publication, "Benefits for Children" at ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10085.pdf. As your child enters adulthood, consider these issues while you navigate their financial future.

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.

City council interviewing candidates for open seat May 12



Candidates for the vacant Hastings City Council First Ward seat will interview on Monday, May 12.

Molly Macleod
Editor

The Hastings City Council is looking to reach full capacity once again. Council members will interview candidates for the open First Ward seat at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 12.

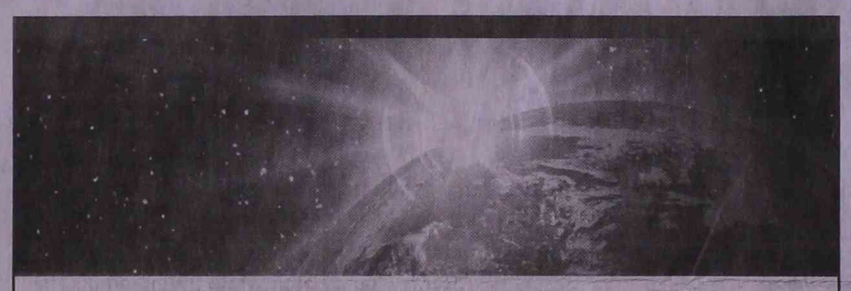
Hastings City Manager Sarah Moyer-Cale said this time could be adjusted based on the number of candidates interviewing later this month. As of Monday, April 28, only one candidate had applied for the vacant seat.

Monday, May 5, at 4 p.m. is the deadline for letters of interest to be given to the city clerk.

The upcoming interviews seek to fill the First Ward council seat left vacant by Bill Nesbitt, who served on the council since being appointed to the seat in February 2022. Nesbitt resigned at the end of March, citing health reasons.

According to city charter, the council must appoint someone to fill the seat within 45 days of Nesbitt's official end date on the council. If the council fails to appoint someone after 45 days, a special election will be held.

Council members will host a workshop for interviews on May 12, at 6 p.m. The workshop will be followed by the regular council meeting, where Moyer-Cale said council members could appoint someone — three days before the May 15 deadline. If all goes to plan, the new appointee will be sworn in at the Monday, May 27 meeting.



ASK DR. UNIVERSE

Shining a light

Why do glow-in-the-dark things light up when it's dark?

— Haygarth, 5, United Kingdom.

Dear Haygarth,

I love glow-in-the-dark stickers. I leave them next to a sunny window for a little while. Then turn off the lights and watch them glow.

I asked my friend Hergen Eilers how those stickers work. He's a physicist at Washington State University.

He told me that glow-in-the-dark things use a type of phosphorescence. That means they absorb energy—like light—and then glow. A material that can do that is called a phosphor.

Glowing in the dark works because of electrons.

Everything in the universe is made of atoms. That includes you, me, whatever you're reading this note on—and glow-in-the-dark stickers.

All those atoms are made of protons, neutrons and electrons. Protons and neutrons stick together in the middle of the atom. Electrons make a cloud around them.

Sometimes we say electrons are in orbitals. That's a way to describe where an electron could be and how much energy it has.

Electrons with lots of energy are farther away from the middle of the atom. They're in a higher orbital. Electrons with less energy are closer to the middle. They're in a lower orbital.

Things glow-in-the-dark because electrons can move to different orbitals.

"Light of relatively high energy comes in," Eilers said. "One of the electrons absorbs it and is kicked into a higher orbit. Typically, it then falls back pretty rapidly and emits some light."

So, light hits a phosphor—a glow-in-the-dark thing. The electrons in the phosphor suck in the light's energy. All that extra energy makes those electrons zoom to higher orbitals.

Then, the electrons burp out the extra energy as light. They fall back down to their usual orbital.

If it happened just like that, the glow of the burped-out light wouldn't be very exciting. It would happen too fast. But phosphors aren't perfect. Nothing in nature is perfect.

The tiny flaws in a phosphor—like missing atoms—make little nooks or holes. When electrons zoom up to higher orbitals, they can get trapped in those holes.

"Sooner or later—sometimes minutes, sometimes hours or even days—the trapped electrons come back down," Eilers said. "That's what you're seeing in the dark."

My glow-in-the-dark stickers glow because electrons in the sticker have gotten stuck in itty bitty flaws that act like traps. Then the electrons let out the extra energy and fall back through the traps to their normal places.

Without those flaws, glow-in-the-dark stuff wouldn't work. I guess cool things happen because nature is an imperfect glow-getter.

— 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.

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rowan Zalewski, born at Corewell Health Pennock, on March 26, 2025 to Faith Garber and Anthony Zalewski of Hastings.

*****

Lainey Marie, born at Corewell Health Pennock on March 30, 2025 to Sara Vaughan of Hastings.

*****

Hazel, born at Corewell Health Pennock on April 3, 2025 to Amy Hodges and Paul D. Vickery II of Delton.

*****

Emryn Aramina Dimock, born at Corewell Health Pennock on April 3, 2025 to Tara Harding and Zack Dimock of Hastings.

*****

Mason James Flessner, born at Corewell Health Pennock on April 8, 2025 to Emily Flessner and Jeremy Flessner of Woodland.

*****

Walter Nurenberg, born at Corewell Health Pennock on April 16, 2025 to Libby Nurenberg and Jared Nurenberg of Alto.

*****

Celina Renee Cogswell, born at Corewell Health Pennock on April 17, 2025 to Kathryn Cogswell and Adam Cogswell of Hastings.

*****

Violet Rose Heath, born at Corewell Health Pennock on April 18, 2025 to Harley Marie Wilber and Kaleb Steven Heath of Middleville.

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Gordon "Gordie" Bennett



Gordon "Gordie" Bennett age 84, of Hastings, MI, unexpectedly went to be with his heavenly father on April 25, 2025, and will be dearly missed by his loving family.

He was born at Pennock Hospital in Hastings, MI on October 26, 1940. He attended Hastings schools, graduating in 1958, where he met the love of his life, Delilah Durbin. They were married in February of 1960, and spent 65 years together through thick and thin.

Gordie worked at E.W. Bliss in Hastings for 25 years and then worked for Steelcase in Grand Rapids until he retired in 2006. He served in the Navy for six years starting in 1959.

Gordie became a Christian in his early life and dedicated a lot of his heart and life to Hope United Methodist Church, in the choir, as an usher, and many years as a trustee.

Gordie enjoyed spending time with his camping buddies, hiking, biking, bowling, and taking his children, grandchildren, and great grandson fishing. Mostly he loved spending time with his wife and family, who loved cooking for him and feeding him his favorite foods. He loved music, mostly the music of the 1950s, but also country and bluegrass. Fishing was his thing, and he loved to take the kids out and teach them all he knew. He was also an expert on morel hunting. He enjoyed feeding and watching the birds and the outdoors in general.

Gramps, Pops, Papa, as his family called him was known about town as a "social butterfly". Everywhere he went he found someone he knew and talked to everyone. He loved to meet new people. He was never anything but kind. If you didn't know him when he walked in, you knew him when he walked out. His daughters and granddaughters will always remember him as amazing, gentle, ready-with-a-joke, story, or some perspective on life who was, to his core, loving, hard-working, honest, ethical, patriotic and with a deep love of and trust in God.

Gordie is survived by the love of his life, Delilah Durbin Bennett; daughters, Christine Zinn and Cindy Bennett; granddaughters, Laura Martin, Alicia Kooistra (Stef) and Callan Warfield (Matt) and great grandson, Elliot, and great granddaughter, Harper, and his beloved cat Radar.

Pops will be joining in heaven family members he loved, his grandmother, Anna Edwards Brock; his mother, Ellen Edwards Thaler; father, Cecil Bennett; aunt, Elsie Sage; uncle, Marvin "Bud" and aunt, Mary Edwards, and brothers Joe Bennett and Lanny Bennett.

Funeral service will be at Hope United Methodist Church 2920 South M37 Highway, Hastings, MI 49058, on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 2 p.m. with a time of refreshments following. There will be military honors presented by the Hastings American Legion Post 45 and the active-duty members of the United States Navy. Private family interment at Ft. Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, MI.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Gordie can be made to Fig and Friends Pet Rescue, https://www.figandfriendspetrescue.org/donate.

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

Robert F. Pagano



Robert F. Pagano, 70 years old, resident of Delton, MI, formerly of Elmhurst, IL, passed away April 23, 2025 in Kalamazoo, MI. He was born February 16, 1955 in Chicago, IL, the son to the late Michael and Lucille Pagano.

Beloved husband of 28 years to Ingrid Pagano; loving father to Lauren Pagano, Michael (Rebecca) Pagano and Michelle (Brad) Oswalt; adored grandfather of Anthony, Nicholas, Lily, Josie and Willa; cherished brother of Mike (Candi) Pagano, Pat Pagano, Mary (Mike) Elste, the late Frank Pagano, and Kathleen (Anthony) Melone; dear uncle of Carrie, Bob (Clare) Elste, Jim (Jessica) Elste, Michael (Sheldon) Pagano, Nick (Danielle) Pagano, Anthony (Jessica) Melone and Kristina (Joe) Cardinal.

Robert was deeply loved and will be dearly missed by his family and all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

A visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at Elmhurst Community Funeral Home – THE AHLGRIM CHAPEL, 567 South Spring Road, Elmhurst.

For information, please call (630) 834 – 3515 or go to www.elmhurstfh.com.

Thomas Dale Watson



Thomas Dale Watson, age 60, of Hastings, MI passed away on April 23, 2025, at his home in Hastings, MI. Tom was born in Battle Creek, MI, on October 17, 1964, a son of Norman and Nancy (Greenfield) Watson.

He was raised in the Delton area and attended local schools graduating from Delton High School in 1983. Tom continued his education at Kellogg Community College where he studied Tool & Die. His education extended beyond the classroom, while he was attending classes, he was also employed at Fort Custer Tool & Die in Battle Creek.

After completing and achieving his Journeyman license, Tom began TNR Machine Inc in the garage of his home. The company quickly outgrew the garage and was relocated to the current location in Dowling, MI and saw the addition of Tom's brother Ron as his partner.

Tom had a passion for his work, and he was instrumental in forming a partnership with Hastings Area Schools to get young people interested in the Tool & Die industry. Tom's willingness to extend his passion into the school has provided hands-on workplace experience for several local students.

On March 21, 1987, he was married to Beth (Keeler) Watson in Hastings, MI. The couple began their lives together in the Dowling area, and in 1987 relocated to their home in Cloverdale where they raised their family together. Tom and Beth loved Rock and Roll music and enjoyed attending concerts whenever time permitted.

Tom was an avid outdoorsman, and enjoyed hunting deer, and turkey locally, and has travelled to several distant hunting destinations to pursue elk, bear and other species. As the weather began to warm, Tom could be found pursuing his passion for golf! In 2017 Tom capitalized on the opportunity to become an owner of The Legacy Golf Course in Hastings, MI. He truly loved being part of the course ownership team and could often be seen socializing with members as well as helping maintain the grounds. Each year as the golf season wrapped up, Tom and the "group" ventured to Florida for some well-deserved time away and of course more golf!

In 2020, Tom and his son Tim discovered the joy of dirt road cycling, and over the years he has completed the Barry Roubaix several times. His interest in multi-sport activities grew into CrossFit and distance running, which ultimately led Tom to participate in the 5th Third River Bank run completing the full 25K distance.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife, Beth; his children, Tim (Lexy Rugg) Watson, Matt (Monique Williams) Watson; siblings, Ron (Angie) Watson, Jennifer (Ray) Ostafin; two grandchildren, and his parents.

Funeral service will be held on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at noon at the Daniels Funeral Home Hastings, conveniently located 1401 North Broadway, Hastings, MI.

Those unable to attend the funeral service, as well as attended guests are invited to continue celebrating the life of Tom Watson as we enjoy a time of fellowship and luncheon at Daniels Funeral Home – Hastings immediately following the funeral service.

Interment will take place privately following the luncheon at Cedar Creek Cemetery in Dowling, MI.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Daniels Funeral Home - Hastings, MI. For further details please visit our website at www.danielsfuneralhome.net.

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"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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PIERCE CEDAR CREEK INSTITUTE EVENTS

— MAY 2-7 —

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

May 1-31 — May Storybook Walk: "Diary of a Fly" by Doreen Cronin; illustrated by Harry Bliss. Each day is a new adventure for a fly! Follow Fly's journey through her first day of school and all the things she learns about herself. After your storybook adventure, stop by the Visitor Center to pick up an activity sheet. The Storybook Walk is free and self-guided on the Black Walnut Trail.

May 1-31 — Spring Wildflower Walk. Michigan has many ephemeral wildflowers. Learn about many of these spring beauties and celebrate National Wildflower Week with this "wild" hike. The wildflower walk is free and self-guided on the Lupine Trail.

Saturday, May 3 — Monarch Butterfly Party (ages 7+, under 18 with an adult), 10 a.m.-noon. Celebrate the return of our monarch butterflies this spring. Explore what makes monarchs unique, visit their habitat, and learn how you can get involved in helping and protecting them. Discover how to tell monarchs apart from look-alike butterflies with a creative painting activity led by Institute volunteer and artist Al White, and take home your very own monarch butterfly artwork. Attendees will receive native plant seeds to invite monarch butterflies to their backyards. Institute members can register for this event for $7; non-members must pay $10.

Monday, May 5 — Spring Wildflower Accessible Tour, 2-4 p.m. Tour the Institute's main property in a motorized, all-terrain vehicle while learning about the many ephemeral flowers that carpet our forest floors. Halfway through the tour, enjoy a relaxing "tea time" on the trail. This tour is extremely limited (maximum of five per tour), so reserve your spot early. Institute members can register for this event for $7; non-members must pay $10.

Tuesday, May 6 — Spring Wildflower Accessible Tour, 2-4 p.m.

Wednesday, May 7 — Spring Wildflower Accessible Tour, 2-4 p.m.

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

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

'In My Time' by Robert Faulkner Part XIII

BANNER SEPT. 14, 1995

Robert Faulkner shares his memories of what it was like during the Great Depression and World War II for a businessman trying to make a living and keep his business growing.

He continues:

"Juanita told me that she was pregnant. We were very happy and also very surprised. Two doctors had told her that she would never have more children.

"On the night of May 16, 1945, I took Juanita to the hospital. We left David with our neighbors, the Pumpherys, who lived across the street. Robert Pumphery was David's pal. Linda was born on the morning of May 17. When I came home, David came running across the street.

"'What is it?' he asked. 'It's a girl!' I answered. He hesitated a minute and then, very sympathetically, he said, 'That's better than nothing, isn't it Dad?'"

"The Coloma Water Works were across the street from what had been our pond. Flowing wells supplied all the water for the village. I asked a well driller over and said, 'I want a flowing well right here,' pointing to a spot in our backyard beside what had been our pond. A week or so after Linda was born, we had a 3-inch pipe flowing almost full from a flowing well. The driller struck the spring at 53 feet.

"The neighbor, whom I suspected of sabotaging my pond, came over and stood looking at the well. He and his wife had a girl but he had hoped and prayed for a son. His words had a double meaning as he turned away shaking his head and muttering, 'Some people have all the luck,'

"We stocked our pond with bass and bluegills. David and his friends swam in the pond in summer and played hockey on the ice in the winter. It was a success.

"May 1945 was the month Germany surrendered. It was a time of great rejoicing, but the war in the Pacific raged on. In August 1945, we took Juanita's sister, Ella, and her husband, Seth, back to Patton Lake which had become our favorite vacation spot.

"At Mackinaw City, we waited for the auto ferry to cross the Straits of Mackinac to St. Ignace. We always looked forward to this part of the trip. The blue waters of the straits, Mackinaw Island in the distance, people feeding the flocks of hungry squawking seagulls, were sights and sounds I shall always remember. On the deck of the huge ferry, we enjoyed feeling the fresh lake breeze in our faces and visiting with other passengers.

"We crossed into Canada at Sault Ste. Marie. Gasoline wasn't rationed in Canada. We were elated, and we filled the tank. The really exciting moment occurred when we got to the Bruce Mines where we stocked up on groceries. Seth went wild when we saw big, juicy T-bone steaks in the meat case and found that he could buy all that he wanted. 'I'd rather take these home than to take fish,' he said. From Seth, who was the most avid fisherman that I've ever known, this was something.

"One morning during the second week of August, as I was going to Bielhart's to pump water, I met Mr. Bielhart on the boardwalk. 'The Yanks have done it!' he announced with a big grin. 'They wiped out a whole Japanese city with one bomb. They called it an A-Bomb. The war is about over. The Japanese can't last much longer.'

"Excitement swept through the camp. There was great rejoicing. I remember reading an article in the Saturday Evening Post in 1943 in which the author speculated on the possibility of making an atomic bomb. I couldn't help but wonder what would happen now that Pandora's Box was open.

"Dad, after 10 years in the legislature, decided not to run and retired at the end of 1944. He then sold his drugstore (in Delton) to Henry Bull (who sold the store to Clarence Weiss. When Mr. Weiss died, Mrs. Weiss sold it to Rickerts. In 1995, it was known as Hotra Pharmart) and was ready for a Florida vacation for the first time since 1938. Mother, Aunt Bessie and Dad stopped at our house in October 1945, on their way. In Florida, they stayed the winter at Garnett's Resort in Hypolux, just south of Lake Worth.

"They had to apply for new ration books. Many items were still hard to get. For a while in February 1946, they couldn't get butter or oleo. Mother told about standing in line for two hours to get two rolls of toilet paper.

"In February, David got sick. He complained of pain in his side. On the 26th, he had an appendectomy. He made a quick recovery and in March, during spring vacation from school, the four of us, Linda, David, Juanita and I, visited the folks in Florida. Riding in an airplane was still a novelty, so when we heard that we could take the ride in a plane for $5 at the Lantana Airport, David and I had to try it.

"You might be interested in the costs of things in 1946. I'm indebted to my dad's diary for this information. On the way home from Florida in April, they ate lunch at Leesburg. Chicken in a basket, $1.25, coffee, 10 cents. They had dinner at Bainbridge, Ga. On April 2. Dinner of ham, steak, potatoes, coffee, 80 cents. Their cabin for three cost $4 for one night.

"On May 22, Mother and Dad came to our house to help me celebrate my 36th birthday. In November, Dad sold the land where the golf course had been to the village of Middleville, for the site of a new pumping station and storage stacks for the village water system.

"Arnold left the Army in 1946 with the rank of lieutenant colonel and retired. He took his family to Florida. They lived north of Orlando. On Oct. 21, Lila presented Arnold with a baby girl whom they named Jean.

"Dad probably should have been an accountant. He kept meticulous records. For example, after Mother, Bessie and he returned from Florida in April 1948, he made the following entry in his diary: 1,226.4 miles from Eustis to Coloma. Spent $19.64 for gas, $9.80 for meals and $13.50 for three nights lodging.



The Faulkner home in Delton on Orchard Street circa 1915.

"At a Watervliet Chamber of Commerce meeting in 1948, there was a discussion of the condition of our small private hospital. Unless the homeowner could find a buyer, it could close. The discussion went nowhere and seemed about ready to end without action when I rose and brashly proclaimed, 'Let us make a community hospital out of it. We could raise the money to buy it.' Then, pausing a moment for effect, I continued, 'I move the Chamber of Commerce put on a drive to raise the $60,000 needed to buy the hospital.'

"I was pleased to see the motion adopted without debate but a moment later I was stunned. In my naivety, it never occurred to me that I would be appointed chairman of a committee to raise the money. Thanks mostly to the other two members of the committee, we did raise the money and we bought the hospital.

"Juanita was chosen as one of the original members of the hospital board. She served on the board until her death in 1971. For several years, she was the secretary. Because of her training and experiences as a registered nurse and her public interest, she was a natural choice.

"To celebrate Dad's 71st birthday, we took Mother and him on a circuit of Lake Michigan. We started on Oct. 1, went through Chicago to Fon Du Lac, Wis. On Oct. 2, Dad's birthday, we stayed in a cabin west of Ontonagon, on the shore of Lake Superior, Hiawatha's Michiguame.

"The leaves of the hardwood trees in Michigan's Upper Peninsula in October defy description. To say that they are gorgeous does not seem adequate. We saw them at their best. We had beautiful weather and the next day we went to the Porcupine Mountains overlooking the Lake of Clouds. The blue waters of the lake contrasted with the reds and oranges in the trees circling it. Later, Dave and Linda waded in Lake Superior. They collected some beautiful stones.

"The following day, we went to Brevort Lake. Dave and I fished. You could almost hear Dad chuckling as he wrote in his diary, 'Bob and Dave fished. Result, a nice pike for Dave and a mud puppy for Bob.'

"In 1948, I ran for the legislature and was defeated. I was, of course, disappointed but my campaign set off an unexpected chain of events. There was a vacancy on the school board and I was asked to fill it. My friend and next-door neighbor, Paul Mast, was elected mayor of Coloma and he appointed me to the Berrien County Board of Supervisors. This board had the powers later invested in the County Commission. I became acquainted with the leading politicians from all over the county. I also got an education in county government and county problems. On the school board, I learned about school problems including taxation equalization. This positioned me well for the 1950 election.

"In the fall of 1948, I purchased a television. We were the first home in Coloma to have television. The picture tube was about seven inches square. This was called a 10-inch tube because there were 10 inches on the diagonal.

"On our way home from Florida in April 1949, at our house, Dad wrote in his diary, 'Bob has a new television set and we spent the whole evening watching it. Reception is much better than I expected.'

"One afternoon soon after we got our TV, the trashman came to the door and asked Juanita if he could see the TV we had. She told him that in the afternoon the station only showed the test pattern. 'Could I see that?' he asked. Juanita took him into the living room, turned on the set, and went back to work in the kitchen. The carpenter she'd engaged to put a porch on the garage came to the back door and they were discussing the plans for the porch when the trashman came walking through the kitchen. 'Thanks, ma'am, that was wonderful.' The carpenter didn't know what to think.

"In 1949, David graduated from the eighth grade. Since I was on the school board, I was shown the courtesy of being asked to present the diplomas. This would require a short speech before the presentation. I had a terrible case of stage fright. I had read my campaign speeches over the radio in 1948 but I'd never given a speech before a live audience. I memorized my speech and practiced it for a week before the ceremony.

"The night of graduation I managed to choke down a few bites of supper. I had the proverbial butterflies. No one had briefed me about the ceremony. When I walked on stage, there were rows of students seated on both sides of the stage. The podium was front center stage. All of the students were behind me, out of sight.

"My hands were cold, my brain raced as I began to recite. Suddenly, I realized that I didn't know where I was in my speech. Now, sheer panic set in. I skipped down a paragraph from where I thought I was and I don't know to this day if I omitted a paragraph or not.

"Then I started to hand out diplomas. I would call the name and look around. The student would invariably come from the other side. I was nearly through before I realized that the diplomas were arranged so that the boys' and girls' names alternated and the girls were on one side of the stage and the boys on the other. After that experience, I wondered why I had ever thought that I could be a politician.

"On Sunday, Aug. 14, 1949, we celebrated Mother and Dad's 50th wedding anniversary at Paul and Aline's house in Middleville, the house where I lived in the 1920s. Our folks were married Aug. 15, 1899. Aline, Lila and Juanita served a dinner on the lawn. Attending the celebration besides their sons and wives were seven grandchildren and most of the original wedding party.

"At the first meeting of the Berrien County Board of Supervisors in Jan. 1950, I passed out cigars. Each cigar had a paper band on which was printed, 'It's a boy!' On Sunday, Jan. 8, 1950, Juanita gave birth to Robert Mitchell Faulkner. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces.

"From the very beginning, he was probably the most active child which I have ever seen. He didn't waste time creeping or walking. By nine months, he was running all over the house all day. Of course, we were all very happy about having a new family member, but 4-year-old Linda was especially excited about having a baby brother. My folks were spending the winter in Eustis, Fla., so they didn't get to see Bob until on their way home in April."

To be continued...



The Faulkners going fishing in 1917.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BARRY, HASTINGS
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
FILE NO. 25-30075-DE

In the matter of Christine E. Hill, Deceased, 2078 Bristol Rd., Dowling, Michigan 49050.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Richard D. Hill, Sr. whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: I, Dawn M. Kepler, intend to request my informal appointment as personal representative of the estate. This notice is being served upon each person whose right to an appointment is prior or equal to my own. The court will not act further upon this matter until 14 days after the date of publication of this notice. The actions you may take include: Upon paying a filing fee, filing a petition for formal proceedings to appoint a personal representative. Upon paying a filing fee, filing an application for informal appointment of yourself as personal representative, provided you have a higher priority to be appointed. Contact an attorney for assistance in representing you in any proceeding you wish to file in the court. The Court cannot provide legal advice or assist in completing or filing the forms.

Date: March 25, 2025
Dawn Kepler
1670 Otto Rd., Charlotte, Michigan 48813
517-588-1641

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE 2025-030057-DE
William M. Doherty

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

Estate of Anthony Tobias Wonnacott. Date of birth: 03/13/1966.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Anthony Tobias Wonnacott, died 07/23/2023.

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

Date: 04/28/2025
Joshua M. Farrell P79586
489 Seminole Road
Muskegon, MI 49444
231-760-4490
Anthony Junior Wonnacott
607 66th St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49333
616-325-6892

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE 2025-30100-DE
Hon. William M. Doherty

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

Estate of Frederick W. Johnston, Deceased. Date of birth: August 1953.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Frederick W. Johnston, died November 16, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Joel S. Johnston, 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: April 25, 2025
Thomas C. Richardson P31750
136 E. Michigan Avenue, Suite 800
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269-388-7600
Joel S. Johnston
10750 Cressey Road
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-623-5082

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE 24-3066-DE
William M. Doherty

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

Estate of Marl Steinbach. Date of birth: 10-31-1947.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Marl Steinbach, died 1-13-2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Sarah Fox, 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: 04/25/2025
David H. Tripp P29290
202 South Broadway
Hastings, MI 49058
269-948-2900
Sarah Fox
2142 Bayne Road
Hastings, MI 49058
616-893-4414

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
BARRY COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE 25-30080-DE
Honorable William M. Doherty

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

Estate of Shirley June Ames. Date of birth: 03/19/1935.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Shirley June Ames, died 01/16/2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Kerri L. Selleck, 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: 04/24/2025

Kerri L. Selleck
P.O. Box 233
Hastings, MI 49058
269-720-8640

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF BARRY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Trust

Trust of: CALLAN FAMILY TRUST. Date of Birth: February 14, 1931.

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, William James Callan, surviving Settlor of the Callan Family Trust dated July 14, 2005, as amended, whose address was 7435 Garbow Road, Middleville, Michigan 49333, died March 21, 2025. There is no personal representative of the decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to John W. Callan, Trustee of the Callan Family Trust, at 6713 Whitneyville Avenue, S.E., Alto, Michigan 49302, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: April 22, 2025
Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC
Rachael L. Kuilema Klein P82668
1700 E. Beltline Avenue, N.E., Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
(616) 726-2208
John W. Callan
6713 Whitneyville Avenue, S.E.
Alto, Michigan 49302

City of Hastings
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2025/2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

The City of Hastings will hold a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing written and/or oral comments from the public concerning the annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. The public hearing will be held at **7:00 PM on Monday, May 12, 2025,** in City Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 201 East State Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058. The City Council will consider the budget as proposed by the City Manager and presented to the City Council on April 28, 2025 with amendments.

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

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

A copy of this information, the entire proposed budget, and additional background materials are 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, Michigan 49058.

The City will provide necessary aids and services to individuals with disabilities upon five days' notice to the Clerk of the City of Hastings. Individuals requiring these services should contact the Office of the City Clerk at 269-945-2468, or via email at mpeacock@hastingsmi.gov.

Linda Perin, City Clerk

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SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - BARRY COUNTY
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement.

Notice is given under section 49c of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1449c, 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 May 22, 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): Aaron Poritt, unmarried man Original Mortgagee: Neighborhood Loans, Inc. Date of mortgage: June 10, 2022 Recorded on August 3, 2022, in Document No. 2022-008250, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Michigan State Housing Development Authority Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Three and 04/100 Dollars ($136,853.04) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Barry County, and described as: A parcel of land in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 26, Town 3 North, Range 8 West, described as: beginning at a point 1554.5 feet West of the North and South 1/4 line of said Section 26, said point of beginning being on the North line of State Highway M-79 and said point also being on the Southwest Corner of land previously deeded to school district number 2; thence West along said North line of said Highway M-79, 153 feet; thence North at right angles to said Highway M-79, 130 feet; thence East parallel with said Highway M-79, 153 feet; thence South at right angles to said Highway M-79, 130 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as 2987 Dusty Ln, Hastings, MI 49058 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 125.1449v, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 125.1449v(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. 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. Michigan State Housing Development Authority Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1559641 (04-24)(05-15)

FORECLOSURE 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 01:00 PM, May 22, 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 certain mortgage made by David Molette and Tammy Molette, Husband and Wife to Fifth Third Mortgage - MI, LLC, Mortgagee, dated December 3, 2003, and recorded on December 10, 2003, as Document Number: 1119049, Barry County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Fifth Third Bank, National Association by an Assignment of Mortgage dated December 07, 2023 and recorded December 07, 2023 by Document Number: 2023-009469, , on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Eight and 39/100 ($25,758.39) including interest at the rate of 5.50000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Rutland, Barry County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 3 of Treat`s Little Acres, according to the recorded Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, Page 78. Commonly known as: 3916 Woodruff Rd now known as 3937 Woodruff Rd, HASTINGS, MI 49058 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 12.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) 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. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: April 24, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Fifth Third Bank, National Association 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00274-1
(04-24)(05-15)

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 May 29, 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): Jon E Benson, a married man joined by spouse Kim Benson

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

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Village Capital & Investment LLC

Date of Mortgage: May 19, 2023

Date of Mortgage Recording: May 24, 2023

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $226,726.57

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Prairieville, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 24, Town 1North, Range 10 West, described as beginning at the point on the East line of said Section 24, which lies 420.53 feet due North of the Southeast corner of said Section 24, thence South 89 degrees 35 minutes West 264 feet; thence due North 145 feet; thence North 89 degrees 35 minutes East 264 feet; thence due

South 145 feet to the place of beginning

Common street address (if any): 13932 S M 43 Hwy, Delton, MI 49046-8406

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: May 1, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1559700 (05-01) (05-22)

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 May 22, 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): Robert W. Garrett and Lynette S. Garrett a/k/a Lynette Sue Garrett, husband and wife tenants by the entireties Original Mortgagee: Washington Mutual Bank, FA Date of mortgage: February 16, 2004 Recorded on February 23, 2004, in Document No. 1122601, and re-recorded via Loan Modification recorded on July 25, 2011 in Document No. 201107250007105 Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Thirty-Four Thousand Six Hundred Thirty and 82/100 Dollars ($34,630.82) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Barry County, and described as: THE WEST FIFTEEN ACRES OF THE EAST FORTY-FIVE ACRES OF THE WEST ONE-HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY-FOUR, TOWN ONE NORTH, RANGE EIGHT WEST, JOHNSTOWN TOWNSHIP, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Commonly known as 4203 Mud Lake Rd, Bellevue, MI 49021 The redemption period will be 12 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. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1559640 (04-24)(05-15)

Saxons score top pole vault total at Co-ed Relays

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Wayland set three new meet records and took the championship Friday at the Saxon Co-ed Relays at Hastings High School.

The Hastings varsity boys' and girls' set a meet record of their own with a total height in the mixed pole vault relay of 54 feet 6 inches. That height included jumps of 11 feet by sophomore Maverik Peake and Liam Renner and junior Isaac Lilley getting over the bar at 10-6. In the girls' competition, the Saxons added vaults of 9-0 by sophomore Bella Friddle, and 6-6 jumps from freshmen Jayden Evans and Bella Strimback.

Delton Kellogg was a part of the day's action too and junior Nick Muday had the second-best individual jump in the boys' pole vault with a height of 12-0.

Wayland won the meet championship with 59 total points. The Wildcats won eight of the 15 events. Hopkins was second with 45 points ahead of Hastings 43 and Delton Kellogg 18.

Hastings teams won four events. It was a good day for the Hastings throwers. They won the discus, finished second in the shot put behind Wayland, and then won the Throwers 4x100-meter relay. The Saxon team of senior Naomi Grummet and juniors Olivia Friddle, Odion Twiss and Matthew Shults won the throwers relay in 53.62 seconds, beating out the Wayland foursome in the race by about a second and a half.

Olivia Friddle had the top individual mark of the day in the girls' shot put at 31-5.5. Grummet was fourth at 27-2. In the boys' contest, Twiss placed third at 44-1 and senior Isaac Friddle seventh at 36-5.

In winning the discus, the Saxons got a PR throw of 119-8 from Odin Twiss that had him third individually and a PR of 109-2 from Grummet that put her as the runner-up. The girls' contest also included a season-best throw of 90-6 from Zoe Watson and a mark of 81-5 from Olivia Friddle. In the boys' meet, Shults was fourth at 108-1 and Isaac Friddle was fifth at 107-6.

Delton Kellogg's leader in the girls' throws, junior Violet Kokx had a pretty great evening. She turned in a PR of 85-2 in the discus that placed her fifth and she was third in the shot put with a mark of 27-5.

The Panthers had three third-place finishes for their top performances of the day, in the discus relay, the 4x400-meter relay and the 2400-meter distance medley relay.

Hastings also had an individual win in a field event from Bella Friddle who cleared 5-4 in the high jump, seven inches better than any other girl at the meet and a mark passed by only three Wayland guys on the other side. Vojtech Brtnik did clear 5-3 for the first time for the Saxon boys to tie Delton Kellogg sophomore Landon Madden for fourth individually in their competition.

DK junior Izabelle Gruber had a runner-up leap of 14-2.5 in the long jump for her team and Saxon freshman Zoey Carter flew 13-5.25 to set her PR and place fourth in that event. The Saxons also got PRs from Strimback and sophomore Chloe Pirtle in the girls' long jump.



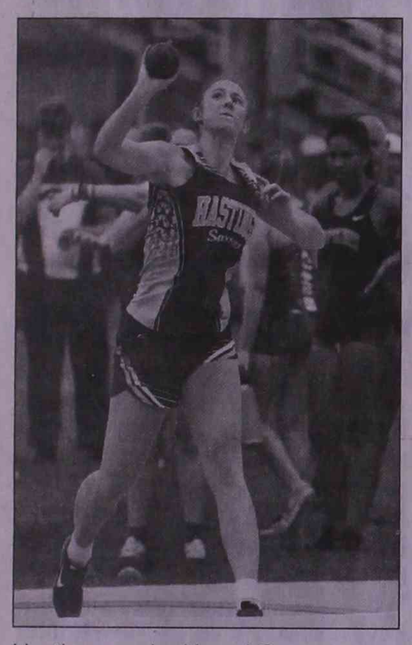
Delton Kellogg senior Mia Kohlen gets over the bar in the high jump during the Saxon Co-ed Relays at Hastings High School Friday.

On the track, it wasn't only the throwers succeeding for the Saxons. The 800-meter sprint medley relay team of junior Isaac Lilley, Ember Twiss, junior Balian Marlett and freshman Lilly Randall won in 1:56.94 in a race that includes two 100-meter runs, a 200-meter leg and a 400-meter leg.

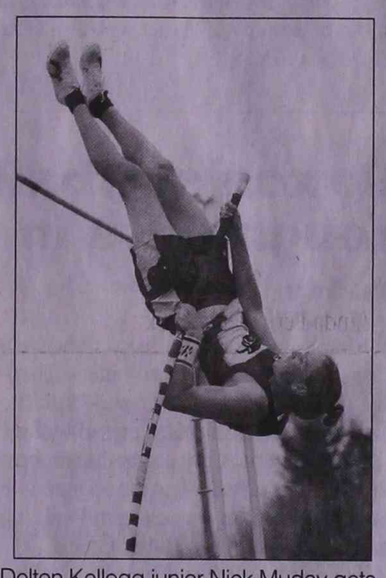
Wayland opened the meet with the team of freshman Bre Hoogewind, senior Maurgan Howard, freshman Mikayla Lenhart and senior Dylan Pallett winning the 4000-meter distance medley relay in 12 minutes 36.99 seconds. Pallett rode the heels of Saxon senior Brandon Simmons for a bit before making his move to get his Wildcats the win. The Saxon team of Pirtle, sophomore Logan Kimmel, sophomore Caroline Randall and Simmons placed second in 12:43.31.

The Wildcats also set a meet record in the 4x800-meter relay and the high jump relay. That high jump relay for the Wildcats was powered by senior Carter Marquard clearing 6-2 and senior Carter Williamson and sophomore Gavin Howard both clearing 6-0, and girls' heights of 4-9, a new PR by senior Addyson Moyle, 4-9 by sophomore Gwen Howard and a PR of 4-2 by junior Taylor Vriesenga.

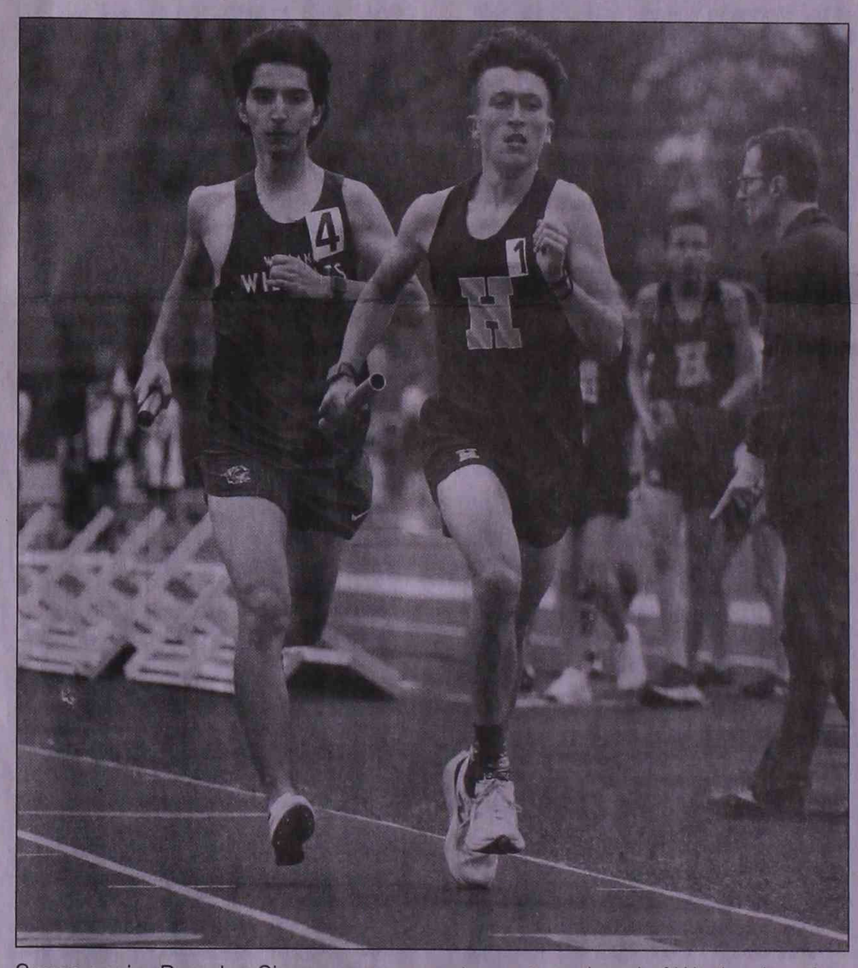
Delton Kellogg's leader in the girls' high jump also set a PR with junior Lily DeVries clearing 4-6.



Hastings senior Naomi Grummet fires the shot out during the Saxon Co-ed Relays Friday inside Baum Stadium at Johnson Field.



Delton Kellogg junior Nick Muday gets over the bar at 12 feet during the Saxon Co-ed Relays inside Baum Stadium at Johnson Field in Hastings Friday.



Saxon senior Brandon Simmons races a step or two ahead of Wayland senior Dylan Pallett during the final leg of the 4000-meter Mixed Distance Medley Relay during the annual Saxon Co-ed Relays Friday inside Baum Stadium at Johnson Field. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

DK track teams each pick up a win at K-Christian

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Delton Kellogg varsity boys' 4x400-meter relay team cruised to a 10-second victory over the Kalamazoo Christian foursome in the final event in Kalamazoo Wednesday to secure a team win.

The Delton Kellogg varsity boys' and girls' track and field teams both went 1-1 in a pair of Southwestern Athletic Conference Valley Division duals hosted by Parchment Wednesday, April 23.

The Delton Kellogg boys outscored Kalamazoo Christian 64-60, but fell to the host Parchment team 94-30.

The DK team of seniors Cyrus Bain, Miki Hovi and Jaime Saura and freshman Ryan Sinclair finished behind a pair of Parchment teams in the final event of the night, but turned in a time of 4 minutes 2.89 seconds to beat the Comet foursome in the race and secure five points to boost the DK Panthers into the lead.

Overall in the three-team meet the DK boys had just two wins. Junior Tyler Howland upped his personal record in the high jump to 5 feet 6 inches to win that one. DK sophomore Landon Madden ran to a winning time of 52.84 seconds in the 400-meter dash, his fastest 400 of the season.

The DK boys' team had its hurdlers at their best. Junior Carter Lynch was the runner-up in the 110-meter high hurdles with a PR of 19.23 and he also set his PR in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in a third-place finish. Freshman teammate Ryan Sinclair was the runner-up in those 300 hurdles with a PR of 49.05.

Parchment senior Elijah Damron-Webster won the two boys' hurdles races Wednesday, taking the 300 hurdles in 48.38 and the 110s in 18.93.

Parchment senior Deven Berner won the shot put and the discus, with DK guys scoring runner-up finishes in both throws. DK sophomore Evan Fleser was the runner-up in the discus with a throw of 101-0. DK senior Cooper Sandusky was the runner-up in the shot put with a mark of 40-4.

In the field, the DK team also had junior Nick Muday set a PR in the pole vault by clearing 12-0 for the first time. That earned him a runner-up finish behind Kalamazoo Christian senior Ayden VanDusen who cleared 13-9.

The DK girls took a 68-44 win over Parchment while falling 78-46 to Kalamazoo Christian.

The DK girls took three individual wins on the day. Senior Kylie Main ran her fastest 1600 of the season to win that race in 6:02.89. DK junior Violet Kokx won the shot put at 27-7. DK junior Izabelle Gruber won the long jump with a personal record leap of 14-6.

Gruber was the runner-up in both the girls' hurdles races. She had a season-best time of 18.24 in the 100-meter hurdles and finished the 300-meter low hurdles in 54.60.

Main added a runner-up time of 2:47.96 in the 800.

The DK teams were set to return to SAC Valley action April 30 at Martin taking on the Clippers and Lawton Blue Devils. DK travels to Parchment Friday, May 2, for the Parchment Relays.

Lawton Plays host to the SAC Championship Meet May 5.

Jensen third at Gull Lake tournament for Saxon golf

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Saxon junior Daniel Jensen was even through ten holes and finished at three over to place third Thursday at Gull Lake's Tom Collins Memorial tournament at Gull Lake View Golf Course in Augusta.

Jensen was one over on the back nine with birdies on number ten and number 16.

Overall, the Saxon team was 21st in a field of 24 teams competing Thursday.

Gull Lake took the day's championship with an overall score of 303. Otsego and Portage Central both shot a 319, with Otsego earning the runner-up spot on a tiebreaker. Hackett Catholic Pre was fourth with a score of 320 ahead of Vicksburg 325, Kalamazoo Christian 327, Charlotte 328, Byron Center 329, Zeeland West 330 and Mattawan 331.

Delton Kellogg and Thornapple Kellogg were also a part of the day's action. The DK boys were 12th with an overall score of 344 and Thornapple Kellogg was 20th with a 359.

Junior Tyler Howland was the Delton Kellogg leader with an 83 that put him 35th individually. Delton Kellogg also had sophomore Grady Matteson score an 85, freshman Jason Marshall an 87 and junior Carter Brickley an 89.

The Saxon team got an 87 from junior Bronson Elliott, a 94 from freshman Andrew Barton and a 101 from junior Cayden Cappon.

Sophomore Parker Dahley led the Thornapple Kellogg team with a score of 87. Senior Will Nathan scored an 88 and senior Ryan Skidmore a 90. The TK team had seniors Kylan Pratt and Tyler Voss tie for the team's fourth score with 94s.

The only guys better than Jensen on the day were Gull Lake senior Hank Livingston who shot a three-under 69, Loy Norrix senior Isaac Scavarda (74) and Vicksburg senior Rilley Briggs (75).

Gull Lake had three guys in the top ten. Sophomore Jaxon Chapdelaine shot a 76 to place fifth individually and senior Joseph Blondia was eighth with a 77. Rounding out the top four for the tournament champs was junior Luke Coffinger with an 81.

The Saxons return to action Friday hosting the Saxon Invite at the Legacy in Hastings. The Saxons head to the Laingsburg Wolfpack Open Saturday. On Monday, the Saxons head to Cedar Creek Golf Club for a contest with Battle Creek Lakeview.

Olivia Friddle returns to pole vault for Saxon girls

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

It took a long time to get back up that high.

Hastings junior Olivia Friddle cleared the bar at 9 feet 9 inches in the girls' pole vault at the Grand Valley State University Indoor Laker Challenge to start her freshman varsity track and field season in the spring of 2023. She closed that season clearing the bar at 9-9 in the pole vault at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Track and Field Finals.

A knee injury suffered in the winter of her sophomore season wiped out what was left of those varsity girls' basketball and wrestling campaigns, kept her off the volleyball court last fall, and wiped out her junior basketball and wrestling seasons.

She opened this junior track and field season taking a few turns in the shot put and the discus, winning the shot put in three of her four meets so far, and ran in a race for the first time last Friday, the Throwers 4x100-meter dash at the Saxon Co-ed Relays – another win.

Friddle competed in the pole vault again Tuesday at Pennfield for the first time since the 2023 State Finals, and cleared the bar at 8 feet 6 inches to win the event while the Saxon girls were scoring an 89-48 Interstate-8 Athletic Conference win over the host Panthers.

Friddle also won the shot put with a mark of 32 feet 3 inches, a season best so far. The Hastings girls had the five best performances in the shot put as a team and the five best performances in the discus. Friddle was third in that one with a throw of 77-7. Senior teammate Naomi Grummet won it with a throw of 100-4.

Olivia's younger sister Bella Friddle, the 2024 D2 state high jump champion, won that event by clearing the bar at 5-6 Tuesday and also won the long jump with a leap of 16-3.

Hastings also had PRs in a couple of runner-up finishes in those field events. Freshman Jayden Evans cleared 7-0 in the pole vault and sophomore Ember Twiss fired off a leap of 15-3 in the long jump.

Bella Friddle was a three-time champ on the day. She also won the 200-meter dash in a personal record time of 26.82 seconds. Somebody beat her in the 400-meter dash through, her freshman teammate Lilly Randall. Randall won the 400 in 1 minute 5.76 seconds and Friddle came in at 1:06.72 – both new PRs.

Sophomore distance star Caroline Randall was a part of four wins for the Saxons. She took the 1600-meter run in 5:51.78, the 800-meter run in 2:36.84 and the 3200-meter run in 12:12.47. Caroline also anchored the Saxon 4x800-meter relay team that won in 12:00.83. She was joined in that victory by sophomores Zikarra Warner, Lilianna Enyart and Chloe Pirtle.

Madelyn Hensel matched Caroline's four wins for the Panther team. She took the 100-meter hurdles in 18.64 seconds and the 300-meter low hurdles in 54.23. Pirtle was the runner-up in both of those races with a PR of 59.40 in the 300s, just ahead of teammate Warner who also set a PR to place third (59.67).

Hensel was also a part of winning 4x100-meter and 4x200-meter relay teams for the Pennfield girls.

As exciting as things were for the Saxon girls on the day, there was some excitement in the boys' meet too with the dual coming down to the final race. The Pennfield foursome of Aiden Bammer, Hunter jones, Connor Wood and Deondre Manalac manged to outrace the Saxon team of Logan Kimmel, Maverik Peake, Micah Johnson and Balian Marlett to win the 4x400-meter relay for their team and clinch a 69-68 victory overall.

The Hastings boys had another great day in the pole vault with junior Isaac Lilley clearing 12-3 and sophomore Liam Renner getting over the bar at 11-3. The placed 1-2 with their new PR leaps. Peake was third in that event at 10-6.

Junior Odin Twiss set a PR for the Saxon boys in winning the shot put with a mark of 45-1.5, and he was also the runner-up in the discus with a throw of 118-8. Saxon junior Balian Marlett won the long jump with a PR of 18-10 and he was the runner-up in the high jump with a season-best height of 5-6.

Marlette also teamed with senior Luca Di Bernardo, Marlett and Kimmel to win the 4x200-meter relay in 1:39.10. Kimmel had a fast day with a PR of 24.00 to win the 200-meter dash too.

The Saxons were solid in the distance races with senior Brandon Simmons winning the 800-meter run in 2:14.62 and senior teammate Micah Johnson second in 2:15.94. those two sent 1-2 in the 1600-meter run too with Simmons finishing in 4:48.53 and Johnson in 5:17.20. Simmons added a winning time of 10:21.48 in the 3200-meter run.

Saxon sophomore Caleb Kramer wont he 300-meter low hurdles in 47.85 seconds, and set his PR in the 110-meter high hurdles at 18.30 in a runner-up finish behind Pennfield senior Brevin Bailey who turned in a PR of his own of 17.88. Bailey was the runner-up to Kramer in the 300 hurdles.

Saxon softball has a couple tough days in the Interstate-8

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Aleena Stahlhood and Taegan Anderson each threw a three-inning no-hitter as Harper Creek took a pair of Interstate-8 Athletic Conference wins over Hastings Tuesday.

The Beaver varsity softball team beat the Hastings girls 15-0 in the opener with Stahlhood striking out seven and walking one to get the win in Battle Creek.

Anderson struck out five and walked two in her three innings in the circle in game two, another 15-0 Beaver victory.

The Saxons fall to 0-6 in the I-8 with the pair of defeats.

Coldwater took 16-1 and 14-0 wins over the Hastings girls last Thursday, April 24.

The Saxons' one run in the opener at Coldwater was a home run off the bat of third baseman Audrey Aicken. Kylee Bosworth and Meredith Ansorge had doubles in that 16-1 ballgame to start the afternoon for the Saxons and Kayden Brown also singled.

Coldwater pitcher Mackenzie Searing no-hit the Saxons in game two. She struck out five and walked one in the five-inning complete game.

In between those two conference doubleheaders, the Saxons put some runs together in a pair of losses against visiting Gull Lake Monday. The Blue Devils scored a 19-18 win in the opener and then took game two 9-4.

Bosworth had a huge game one at the plate. Leading off, she was 4-for-6 with a double and a triple. She scored thee runs and drove in two. Bennet was 3-for-5 with three runs and three RBIs. The Blue Devils stayed away from Lily Dingena who walked three times.

Hastings had 11 hits to 16 for the Blue Devils. Hastings built an 8-0 lead through two innings and things were back and forth from there. The Blue Devils pulled within 15-14 with three runs in the top of the sixth inning and then took an 18-15 lead with four runs in the top of the seventh.

The Saxons had an answer with three runs in the home half of the seventh, but the Blue Devils managed to push across a run in the top of the eighth on a two-out, RBI double from B Taylor.

Ansorge started on second base in the bottom of the eighth, but never got the chance to advance as a few pop outs ended the Saxons' chances.

In game two, it was the Blue Devils that built the early lead despite the Saxons outhitting them 10-6 for the game. The Saxons were hurt by four errors that led to a couple unearned runs.

Bennett led that Saxon offense with a single and a triple in three at-bats. She drove in one run and scored once. Bosworth was 2-for-2 with a single and a double. Aicken had two hits for the Saxons too.

Hastings is scheduled to visit Otsego for two this afternoon, May 1, and will return to Interstate-8 play on Tuesday, May 6, at home against Parma Western.

Harper Creek sweeps I-8 set with Saxon baseball

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Harper Creek swept its Interstate-8 Athletic Conference doubleheader with visiting Hastings Tuesday afternoon in Battle Creek.

The Saxons got a solid start from Colten Denton in game one as he allowed just two earned runs through five innings, but the Beavers benefitted from four unearned runs in a 6-1 win.

Harper Creek followed up with a 15-0, three-inning win in game two.

The two losses drop the Saxons to 0-6 in the Interstate-8 this spring.

Denton was charged with two earned runs on seven hits and three walks in the opener. He struck out one. Kyle Jousma closed things out with a perfect inning of relief for Hastings in which he struck out one.

Spencer Wilkins was 2-for-4 at the top of the Saxon line-up with a pair of singles. Denton, Isaiah Wilson and Grady Reed each had a single for the Saxons too.

Denton scored the team's lone run of the afternoon in the top of the first inning, but the Beavers struck for two runs in the home half of the inning. The game hung at 2-1 into the fourth when the Beavers struck for four runs.

Denton had the only Saxon hit in game two off of Beaver pitcher Tanner Alderson. He struck out three in three innings on the mound.

Connor Rosenburg got the win in game one for the Beavers going the full seven innings. He struck out four and walked four, and the only run against him was unearned.

Coldwater took two from the Saxons last Thursday, April 24, in the I-8. The Cardinals scored 11-4 and 11-1 wins.

The Cardinals managed a few unearned runs against Denton in game one that afternoon too. He allowed three earned runs (seven total) on seven hits and three walks in 4.1 innings. He struck out one.

At the plate in game one in Coldwater, Hastings had seven hits. Reed was 2-for-3 with a double and a run scored. Wilkins and Denton also had two hits each and Colton Baker and Wilson had one each. Baker and Jackson Hayes both earned RBIs.

In game two, the Saxons had six singles one each for Wilkins, Dustin Lampart, Reed, Wilson, Hunter Tomlinson and Jousma. Reed had his team's lone RBI.

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.

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, Michigan, starting promptly at One o'clock in the afternoon on 5th day of June, 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.

The mortgage was made by BENJAMIN WILLIAMS and ASHLEY WILLIAMS, husband and wife (collectively, "Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated June 23, 2022, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Barry County, Michigan on June 28, 2022, as Instrument No. 2022-007160 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.

As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of One Hundred Four Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Nine and 38/100 Dollars ($104,679.38). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.

The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Township of Woodland, County of Barry, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

Parcel 1: The Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 4 North, Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan.

Parcel 2: Beginning at the North 1/4 post of Section 8, Town 4 North, Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan; thence North 89 degrees 21 minutes 48 seconds East, 208.71 feet along the North line of said Section; thence South 0 degrees 11 minutes 19 seconds East 417.42 feet parallel with the North and South 1/4 line of said Section; thence South 89 degrees 21 minutes 48 seconds West 208.71 feet to said North and South 1/4 line; thence North 0 degrees 11 minutes 19 seconds West 417.42 feet along said 1/4 line to the place of beginning.

Parcel 3: That parcel of land lying and being South of the highway in the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 5, Town 4 North, Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan.

Together with all fixtures, tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances belonging or in any way appertaining to the premises.

Commonly known as: 6400 Brown Road, Lake Odessa, Michigan 48849
P.P. #08-15-005-300-05 (Parcel 1); 08-15-008-100-02 (Parcel 2); 08-15-008-200-07 (Parcel 3)

Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale, unless the premises are abandoned. If the premises are abandoned, the redemption period will be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of the sale or upon expiration of fifteen (15) days after the Mortgagor is given notice pursuant to MCLA §600.3241a(b) that the premises are considered abandoned and Mortgagor, Mortgagor's heirs, executor, or administrator, or a person lawfully claiming from or under one (1) of them has not given the written notice required by MCLA §600.3241a(c) stating that the premises are not abandoned.

If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises 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: May 1, 2025
GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA
Mortgagee

Timothy Hillegonds
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW
Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000

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.

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, Michigan, starting promptly at One o'clock in the afternoon on 5th day of June, 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.

The mortgage was made by BENJAMIN WILLIAMS and ASHLEY WILLIAMS, husband and wife (collectively, "Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated February 10, 2020, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Barry County, Michigan on February 14, 2020, as Instrument No. 2020-001607, as partially released by a partial release of mortgage dated February 12, 2021, recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Barry County, Michigan on February 19, 2021 as Instrument No. 2021-002163 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.

As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of Two Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fifteen and 17/100 Dollars ($238,915.17). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.

The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Township of Woodland, County of Barry, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

Parcel 1: That parcel of land lying and being South of the highway in the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 5, Town 4 North, Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan.

Parcel 2: The Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 4 North, Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan.

Parcel 3: Beginning at the North 1/4 post of Section 8, Town 4 North, Range 7 West, Woodland Township, Barry County, Michigan; thence North 89 degrees 21 minutes 48 seconds East, 208.71 feet along the North line of said Section; thence South 0 degrees 11 minutes 19 seconds East 417.42 feet parallel with the North and South 1/4 line of said Section; thence South 89 degrees 21 minutes 48 seconds West 208.71 feet to said North and South 1/4 line; thence North 0 degrees 11 minutes 19 seconds West 417.42 feet along said 1/4 line to the place of beginning.

Together with all fixtures, tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances belonging or in any way appertaining to the premises.

Commonly known as: 6400 Brown Road, Lake Odessa, Michigan 48849
P.P. #08-15-005-300-05 (parcel 1) 08-15-008-100-02 (Parcel 2); 08-15-008-200-07 (Parcel 3)

Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be one (1) year from the date of sale, unless the premises are abandoned. If the premises are abandoned, the redemption period will be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of the sale or upon expiration of fifteen (15) days after the Mortgagor is given notice pursuant to MCLA §600.3241a(b) that the premises are considered abandoned and Mortgagor, Mortgagor's heirs, executor, or administrator, or a person lawfully claiming from or under one (1) of them has not given the written notice required by MCLA §600.3241a(c) stating that the premises are not abandoned.

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Dated: May 1, 2025
GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA
Mortgagee

Timothy Hillegonds
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW
Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000

Beat up Saxon soccer squad chasing first conference victory

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Saxon team in the meat of the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference schedule isn't the one the Saxons were really expecting to have competing.

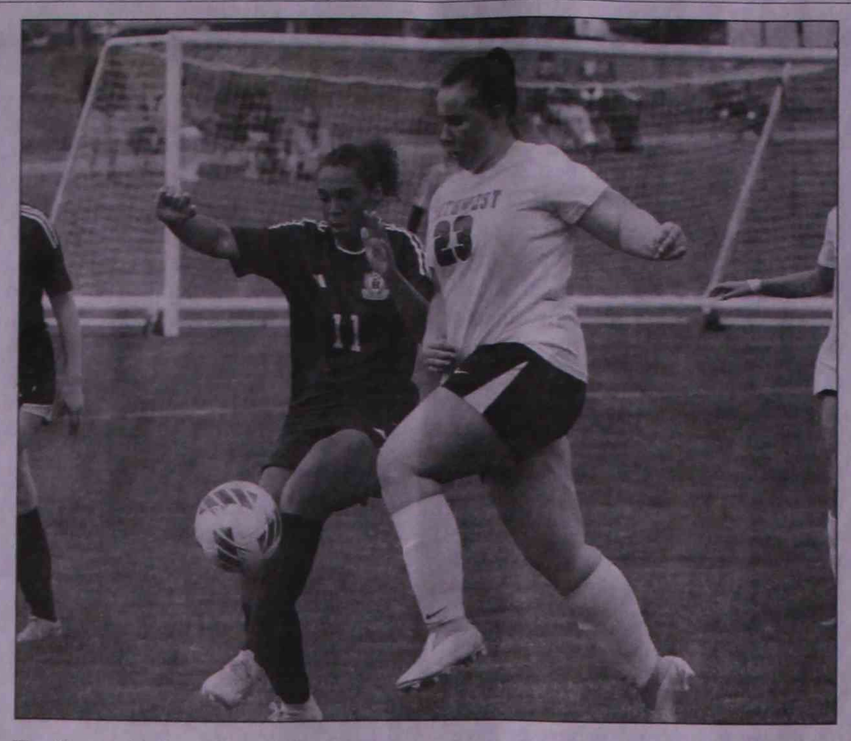
The Hastings varsity girls' soccer team fell to 0-2 in the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference this spring with a 2-1 loss to visiting Jackson Northwest Friday evening on Pierce Field in Hastings.

Northwest scored once in the first half, and then both teams found the net in the second half as the Mounties improved to 1-1 in conference play with the win.

The Saxons have shuffled players up from the JV throughout the spring. Returning starters Dez Mathis and Kalli Koning looked on from the sideline during the contest with the Mounties.

The Saxons are 4-7 overall this season and had a three match win streak going before opening the I-8 season last week Wednesday with an 8-0 loss at Harper Creek.

West Michigan Aviation Academy scored a 9-1 win over the Saxons in a non-conference match Monday in Hastings.



The Saxons' Lakaya Evans shoots in to get the ball away from Jackson Northwest's Maddy McCall during the second half of their Interstate-8 Athletic Conference match on Pierce Field in Hastings Friday. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

The Saxons will look to bounce back against a tough Parma Western team at home Friday evening and then will go on the road next Wednesday, May 7, to take on Pennfield.

Lilley undefeated for Saxons at Plainwell Quad

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Hastings closed things out with its most competitive dual of the day Saturday at the Plainwell Quad.

The Saxons were 0-3 on the day with a bit of a shorthanded line-up, but pushed the host Trojans to a 5-3 finish in the last of three duals.

Hastings picked up a point on the singles side with sophomore Alexa Lilley outscoring junior Anna Hall 6-3, 6-3 at third singles. Lilley was undefeated on the day.

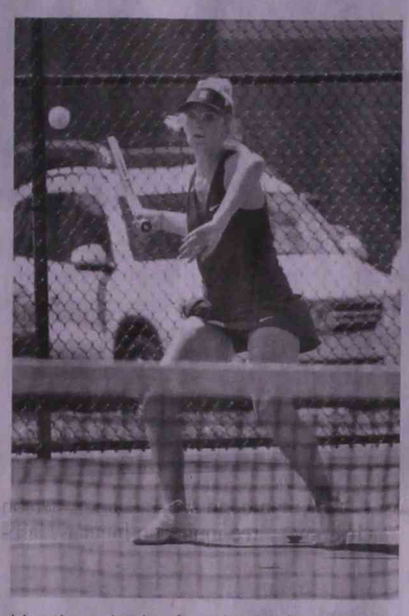
The Saxons pulled out a pair of doubles wins in that dual with Plainwell. The freshman duo of Lillian Edger and Lilly Randall outscored Plainwell seniors Alison VanDyke and Brynn Merica 10-6 in a super tiebreaker to close things out after the two teams split sets at third doubles. The Plainwell girls won the opening set 6-2, but the Saxon youngsters rallied for a 6-1 win in the second set.

Junior Alyssa Morton and senior Jordan Milanowski at fourth doubles for the Saxons took a 6-4, 6-1 win over Plainwell seniors Audrey Thom and Eliza Degeyter.

The Saxons were playing without a first singles player Saturday with senior Madison Deal out with an injury. The team also had Ava Herbert filling in for sophomore Sophia Haywood at second doubles with senior teammate Ella Fergusen and junior Ellie Cousins up to first doubles to team with Isabella Gee for the day with her regular partner Lauren Gee currently out of the line-up.

With Herbert up from the JV and the freshman third doubles duo performing well, Hastings head coach Andrew Haines is pleased with the way that the middle school program is really starting to be a feeder for the high school program.

Lilley picked up the lone win for the Saxons in a 7-1 loss to Otsego Saturday, outscoring Otsego sophomore Lydia Griffith 7-5, 6-4. The Bulldogs won the rest of the contested flights in straight sets.



Hastings junior fourth singles player Gracie Wilson hits a shot back at her foe from Plainwell during the Plainwell Quad Saturday afternoon at Otsego High School.

Wayland took a 5-2 win over the Saxons Saturday with Lilley scoring a default victory at number three and fourth singles player Gracie Wilson pulling out a super tiebreaker to win over Wayland senior Brynna Cain. Wilson won the opening set 6-2, but Cain battled back for a 7-5 win in the second set. Wilson closed out the win with a 12-10 victory in the super tiebreaker.

The Saxons and Wildcats also had a super tiebreaker decide things at second doubles where the Wayland duo of Teagan Robinson and Hayden Keena took a 6-7, 6-3, (10-8) win over Fergusen and Herbert.

The doubles matches were all hotly contested. Edger and Randall were narrowly beaten 6-4, 6-3 by the Wildcats' Ava Longstreet and Maizie Bollone. At fourth doubles, the Wildcat duo of Hannah Bogema and Isabella Bogema pulled off a 7-5, 6-4 win over Morton and Milanowski.

Lilley has been on a roll lately at third singles. She took a 6-1, 6-7(3), (10-5) win over Parma Western's Natalie Hyde in an Interstate-8 Athletic Conference dual Thursday for the Saxons' lone point in a 7-1 team loss.

That loss to the Panthers moved the Saxon record to 1-2 in the I-8 so far this spring.



Hastings senior Jordan Milanowski stretches to her forehand side to try and reach a volley during a fourth doubles match against Wayland Saturday at Otsego High School during the Plainwell Quad. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

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 May 15, 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): Juilene Chilton, a married woman, as her Sole and Separate Property

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

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC

Date of Mortgage: January 29, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 9, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $287,660.37

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Assyria, Barry County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 28, Town 1 North, Range 7 West described as follows: Beginning at the South 1/4 post of Section 28, Town 1 North, Range 7 West; thence North 00 degrees 12 minutes 48 seconds East, along the North and South 1/4 line of Section 28, a distance of 962.01 feet; thence South 89 degrees 47 minutes 12 seconds East, at right angles to said North and South 1/4 line, 594.42 feet; thence North 70 degrees 51 minutes 18 seconds East 113.00 feet; thence South 16 degrees 11 minutes 32 seconds East 84.15 feet; thence South 07 degrees 05 minutes 51 seconds West 129.11 feet; thence South 27 degrees 02 minutes 05 seconds West 176.43 feet; thence North 77 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds West 114.51 feet; thence South 30 degrees 09 minutes 59 seconds West 399.26 feet; thence South 16 degrees 06 minutes 37 seconds West 156.43 feet; thence South 20 degrees 44 minutes 37 seconds East 159.14 feet; thence South 21 degrees 45 minutes 25 seconds East 11.60 feet to the South line of said Section 28; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, along said line, 337.17 feet to the place of beginning. Subject to and together with a non-exclusive easement for ingress, egress and public utilities over a strip of land 66 feet width, the centerline of which is described as follows: Commencing at the South 1/4 post of Section 28, Town 1 North, Range 7 West; thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, along the South line of said Section 28, a distance of 337.17 feet; thence South 21 degrees 45 minutes 25 seconds East 208.40 feet; thence North 88 degrees 08 minutes 44 seconds East 35.10 feet to the true place of beginning of said centerline; thence North 21 degrees 45 minutes 25 seconds West 231.86 feet; thence North 20 degrees 44 minutes 25 seconds West 231.86 feet; thence North 20 degrees 44 minutes 32 seconds West 148.29 feet; thence North 16 degrees 06 minutes 37 seconds East 121.90 feet; thence North 30 degrees 09 minutes 59 seconds East 327.86 feet; thence North 86 degrees 10 minutes 49 seconds East 90.76 feet; thence North 27 degrees 02 minutes 05 seconds East 246.64 feet; thence North 07 degrees 05 minutes 51 seconds East 129.11 feet; thence North 16 degrees 11 minutes 32 seconds West 84.15 feet; thence South 70 degrees 51 minutes 18 seconds West 113.00 feet; thence North 21 degrees 20 minutes 31 seconds West 168.54 feet; thence North 40 degrees 14 minutes 40 seconds East 130.44 feet; thence North 82 degrees 52 minutes 52 seconds East 213.48 feet; thence South 76 degrees 55 minutes 51 seconds East 104.49 feet; thence North 68 degrees 45 minutes 24 seconds East 112.30 feet to the centerline of Day Road and the point of ending Barry County, Michigan

Common street address (if any): 14950 Loon Lake Dr, Bellevue, MI 49021-8228

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: April 17, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1558730
(04-17)(05-08)

SYNOPSIS
RUTLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 9, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Regular meeting called to order and Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Hawthorne, Greenfield, Watson, Bellmore, Mayack, Hall, James

Absent: None

Approved the Agenda as amended

Approved the Consent Agenda

Monthly Treasurer's Report

Monthly Clerk's Voucher/Payroll Report

Motion to add Township Board Liaison Report to the agenda Roll Call Vote – All Ayes, motion passes

Motion to approve the one year contract with Thornapple Township Emergency Services Roll Call Vote –

6-1, motion passes

Motion to reject Hastings City proposal for a feasibility study Roll Call Vote – All Ayes, motion passes

Motion to propose 425 Agreement with COH Roll Call Vote – 5-2, motion passes

Motion to approve a hold harmless agreement for fireworks display Roll Call Vote – All Ayes, motion passes

Motion to approve the contingent license for Pure Green Leaf Roll Call Vote – All Ayes, motion passes

Adjournment 9:13 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Hawthorne, Clerk
Attested to by,
Marti Mayack, Supervisor

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.

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, Michigan, starting promptly at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, May 15, 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.

The mortgage was made by JOHN HINKLE and PETRA HINKLE, husband and wife (collectively, "Mortgagor"), to HASTINGS CITY BANK, now known as HIGHPOINT COMMUNITY BANK, a Michigan banking corporation, having an office at 150 West Court Street, Hastings, Michigan 49058 (the "Mortgagee"), dated September 24, 2018, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Barry County, Michigan on October 1, 2018, as Instrument No. 2018-009466 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.

As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of Nineteen Thousand Two Hundred Seven and 83/100 Dollars ($19,207.83). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.

The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Township of Rutland, County of Barry, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

The South 300 feet of Lot 31, Algonquin North Shore Subdivision, Rutland Township, Barry County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 50.

Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the real estate, and all easements, appurtenances, and fixtures a part of the property, and all replacements and additions.

Commonly known as: 1615 Pleasant View Road, Hastings, Michigan 49058

P.P. #08-13-080-020-00

Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be one (1) year from the date of sale, unless the premises are abandoned. If the premises are abandoned, the redemption period will be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of the sale or upon expiration of fifteen (15) days after the Mortgagor is given notice pursuant to MCLA §600.3241a(b) that the premises are considered abandoned and Mortgagor, Mortgagor's heirs, executor, or administrator, or a person lawfully claiming from or under one (1) of them has not given the written notice required by MCLA §600.3241a(c) stating that the premises are not abandoned.

If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises 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: April 10, 2025

HASTINGS SAVINGS BANK, now known as HIGHPOINT COMMUNITY BANK
Mortgagee
Elisabeth M. Von Eitzen
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000
32274393

Lions can't quite chase down Bronson girls, fall 3-2

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Twice the Lions cut a two-goal Bronson lead in half, but they couldn't quite find an equalizer in a 3-2 loss to the visiting Vikings in Big 8 Conference action Monday at Maple Valley High School.

Bronson scored on a breakaway midway through the first half and then got behind the Lion defensive line again in the opening minutes of the second half to take a 2-0 lead.

Senior exchange student Ines Sanchez broke in on the right side of the Viking box and converted on a one-on-one chance against the Viking keeper with 17:07 to go to finally get the Lions on the scoreboard.

Both teams put a free kick into the net in the final 15 minutes to finish the scoring. First Bronson found the net with 14:12 to play to go up 3-1. The Lions cut the lead back to one with Claire Seume shooting a low, hard free kick from just outside the Viking box that glanced off a Viking defender and into the goal.

The Lions fall to 1-4 in the Big 8 Conference with the loss. They will be at home again Thursday to take on Comstock and then face Big 8 leading Quincy next week, May 5. The Lions do get another shot at Bronson on the road May 12.

Lion head coach Richard Seume was already looking forward to making some adjustments for the next meeting with the Vikings as his girls met following Monday's defeat. He was excited for his team to get the chance to get in its first practice in a week on Tuesday afternoon.

There are some things to work on. He'd like to see his defensive line mark up a bit better to prevent some of those breakaways the Vikings managed, and while the Lion offense worked the ball forward fairly well there is still some experience to gain in what to do in that final third of the offensive zone. The Lions were one or two touches away a number of times from getting the ball in the back of the net.

A couple of the Lions' best scoring chances came early in the contest with Sanchez and fellow seniors Isabel Emerick and Grace Widenhofer moving the ball well together on the attack. Those mostly started with the ball outside passed into the middle of the Viking defense.

It's something the Lions have been working on, and coach Seume would still like to see some more improvements on the attack.

"The last couple games have been that way. They keep that defensive line back. We only have a couple girls that can get the ball over it. If you can't get the ball over it, then you have to find a different way," coach Seume said. "Sometimes, maybe it's wrong or maybe it is right, but the game inside the game they have to be able to figure that out. It's the same way in life too. You can't beat your head against the wall three, four, five, six, seven times. I tell them that all the time. Sometimes, you have to figure out what to do."

Senior Makenna Barnum-Suttles continues her transition from a center back to goalie. Slowed by an injury early on in the season, she moved back into the goal and coach Seume said she is performing as well as any keeper in the conference. The Bronson girls had a few more breakaway attempts than the ones they scored on, and Barnum-Suttles did a good job of coming off her line to deflect a few shots away or take the ball away before the Vikings could get a shot off.

"She has been oustanding," coach Seume said. "She stepped in when her knee started bothering her in the second game, and she hasn't looked back … I think she has done phenomenal."

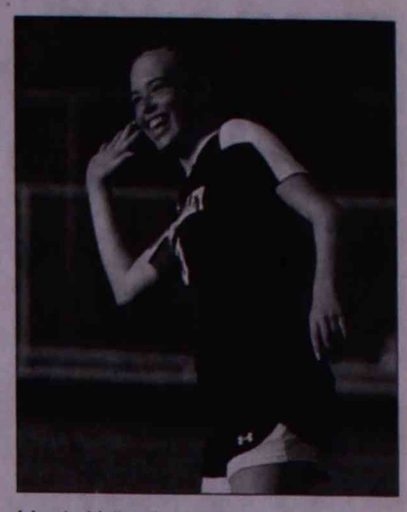
He's shuffled his line-up a bit to make sure there is some speed on the back line. He had freshman Lydia Emerick and Claire Seume in the back throughout the ballgame to deal with the Vikings' speed up top.

The loss dropped the Lions to 1-7 overall this season. Springport took a 5-0 conference win over the Lions last Thursday, April 23, and then the Lions were bested 3-0 at Barry County Christian Friday, April 25.

"I feel like we've improved all year long," Seume said.

Springport beat the Lions 8-1 in the conference opener in early April. Even though last week's loss was a shut out, he though his girls had a couple near misses that could have had the final score even closer than the five-goal difference it turned out to be. That was even with a bit of a short-handed line-up.

"They're playing hard. They're doing a great job. They're getting better and better," coach Seume said.



Maple Valley junior Claire Seume turns and waves to the crowd after scoring a goal on a free kick in the second half of her team's Big 8 Conference match against Bronson at Maple Valley High School Monday.



Maple Valley senior Isabel Emerick pushes forward with the ball as Bronson's Klensly Hernandez (20) and Amy Barajas Ruiz (4) give chase during the first half of their Big 8 Conference match at Maple Valley High School Monday.
Photos by Brett Bremer

Lion ladies beat Bronson at Big 8 track tri

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Maple Valley varsity girls' track and field team got its first victory of the Big 8 Conference season at a three-team meet hosted by Reading Wednesday afternoon.

The Lion ladies are now 1-3 in the conference after scoring a 59-48 win over Bronson while also falling 76-43 to the hosts from Reading.

The Lion boys were bested in both of their duals to fall to 0-4 in the conference so far this spring. They were downed 85-38 by Bronson and 87-39 by the Reading boys.

Maple Valley sophomore Audrey Burpee had two wins on the day to help her team earn a victory. She set her PR at 1 minute 5.58 seconds in the 400-meter dash to beat out her nearest competitor by over a second and she won by nearly five seconds in the 300-meter low hurdles with a time of 56.63. She also added a runner-up mark of 4 feet 6 inches in the high jump, a heigh matched by teammate Athena Morehouse who set her PR by clearing that height and placed fourth overall.

The Lion ladies also had freshman Noelle Clinkscales win the long jump with a mark of 12-7.25.

Lion juniors Ariel Kenyon and Izabelle Soper teamed with sophomores Kenzie Soper and Leannah Johnson to win the 4x800-meter relay in 11:36.56.

Izabelle Soper also had a third-place time of 1:01.91 in the 300 hurdles. Kenyon set her PR with a runner-up time of 3:20.25 in the 800-meter run. The Lion duo of Morehouse and Sienna Lowe placed 2-3 in the 100-meter dash and Lowe ran her fastest 200-meter dash of the season to place second in that race.

The Lion sprinters also had a 2-3 finish in the boys' 200-meter dash as senior Jeremiah Penny and freshman Gavin Swift finished in those spots, both setting a new PR. Penny hit the finish line in 24.95 and Swift in 25.27. Reading junior Brayden Wright was the only guy faster than them in the race. He clocked in at 23.75.

Wright also won the 100-meter dash in 11.54 and helped his team to wins in the 4x100-meter relay and the 4x400-meter relay.

Kelvin Nevins-Davis improved his PR in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles to 42.77 in a victory and he also placed third in the 110-meter high hurdles with a PR of 17.28. He added a winning jump of 5-4 in the high jump too.

Swift pushed his PR in the long jump to 17-9 in a third place finish for the Lions. In the field, the Lions also got a PR from junior Tyrese Robinson-El in the shot put. His mark of 36-0 earned him second place.

The Maple Valley teams were back in action Friday and the Lion boys were 13th and the girls 14th at the Webberville Spartan Invitational.

Burpee and Nevins-Davis had the top finishes for the Lion teams. Burpee was the runner-up in the 300-meter low hurdles with a new personal record time of 52.59. She also placed fourth in the high jump by clearing 4-8. Morehouse was eighth in the high jump at 4-6.

Nevins-Davis had a runner-up leap of 6-0 in the boys' high jump and he placed third in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 43.95 and fourth in the 110-meter high hurdles in 43.95.

The Lions also had the co-ed 4x400-meter relay team of Morehouse, Nevins-Davis, Burpee and Jeremiah Penny place fifth in 4:20.00 and the co-ed 4x800-meter relay team of junior Ben Mater, Kenyon, sophomore Quincy Page and Soper place sixth in 11:37.58.

Seniors have speedy day as LHS boys push Orioles

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Senior Riley Johnson ran his fastest 1600 of the season and senior Troy Acker ran his fastest 400 yet, but it wasn't quite enough to get the Lakewood varsity boys' track and field team its first conference win of the season Monday.

Charlotte scored a 75-62 win over the Lakewood boys to drop the Vikings to 0-6 in conference duals so far this spring.

Johnson won the 1600-meter run with a season-best time of 4 minutes 56.08 seconds that is less than three seconds off his personal record time from the end of his junior season.

Acker, a new varsity track and field athlete who made the move over from baseball this spring season, won the 400-meter dash in 53.14 seconds.

That duo also teamed with sophomore Michael Goodemoot and senior Donny Wells to win the 4x400-meter relay in 3:47.45 at the end of the meet.

Wells had another solid day for the Lakewood boys. He won the 100-meter dash in 11.98 seconds, the 200-meter dash in 23.64 and he was second to Acker in the 400-meter dash with a time of 53.31 – the first time all season anyone has beaten him in the 400. Acker was also the runner-up to Wells in the 200-meter dash with a PR of 24.38.

Johnson added a runner-up time of 2:18.05 in the 800-meter run, finishing behind Charlotte junior Nick Hoogstra (2:11.14).

Viking sophomore Kaden Rohrbacher was the 3200-meter winner with a time of 11:25.55.

The Viking team also had freshman Skyler Oberlin win the pole vault by clearing 10-6 and tallied a sweep of the three scoring spots in the discus. Junior Gavin McGarry won the discus with a throw of 126-5, ahead of sophomore Clayton Goethals at 98-11 and junior Joseph Pruitt with a PR of 96-11.

The Lakewood ladies are now 1-5 in conference duals this season. They were bested 119-17 by the Charlotte girls.

Freshman Heidi Carter was second in the 100-meter dash for Lakewood with a time of 14.31 and second in the 200-meter dash in 29.66. Charlotte senior Elina Byers took both of those races.

Junior pole vaulter Taylor Carpenter had the lone win for the Lakewood girls clearing the bar at 8-6.

Viking senior Kara Fedewa was the runner-up in the shot put with a mark of 28-0. Charlotte sophomore Sunny Sparks won the shot put and led an Oriole sweep of the discus scoring.

Baylee Moore was also a two-time individual event winner for Charlotte taking both the 100-meter hurdles and the 300-meter low hurdles.

Lakewood is set to go to the Stockbridge Invitational Friday and then will close out the season of CAAC White duals at Eaton Rapids Tuesday, May 6.

HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY
SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 1 – Movie Memories & Milestones watches the 1948 comedy "Mr. Blandings Builds his Dream House," starring Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Melvyn Douglas, 5 p.m.

Friday, May 2 – Friday Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 3 – Foraging walk at the Bliss Riverfront Park Food Forest with Pierce Cedar Creek Institute, 9 a.m.

Monday, May 5 – Crafting Passions, 10 a.m.; Vibrant Birding Adventures: Capturing the Colors of Chiapas, Mexico, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6 – Baby Cafe, 10 a.m.; Glitter Jars for Teens, 3:30 p.m.; mahjong, 5 p.m.; chess, 5 p.m.; Homestead Journey: Steps to a Self-Sufficient Life, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 7 – Community health workers, 10 a.m.; Itsy Bitsy Book Club, 10:30 a.m.; Digital Literacy workshop, 2 p.m..; Writers' Night, 6:30 p.m.

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

Lions get their first team score in Big 8 golf competition

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Maple Valley varsity boys' golf team grew enough to earn a team score for the first time this spring Monday.

The Lions placed seventh at the Big 8 Conference jamboree at Turtle Creek Golf Course with four golfers in the line-up for the first time this spring.

Freshman Bradley Cushing led the Lion team with a score of 59. Senior Filip Nowak scored a 63, junior Hayze Sifton a 64 and freshman Ezekiel Carney an 89.

Springport took the day's team victory with an overall score of 168 ahead of Quincy 170, Stockbridge 190, Concord 192, Bronson 205, Union City 240 and Maple Valley 275.

Springport had two of the day's top scorers. Junior Maximilian Argumedo was the individual champ with a score of 37. His sophomore teammate Brody Baum shot a 38.

Stockbridge junior Wyatt Loso and Quincy junior Braylon Estlow both shot 38s to tie Baum for second.

Springport also got a 44 from senior Rayna Salazar and a 49 from junior Stone Overweg.

TK ladies picking up wins here and there in the OK Gold

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Thornapple Kellogg varsity girls' tennis team is 1-2-1 in OK Gold Conference duals this spring after a 6-2 loss to visiting West Catholic on a blustery day in Middleville Tuesday.

TK varsity girls' tennis coach Philip Sylvestre said he sees his young team making progress.

There were close bouts throughout the line-up. The Trojans' lone singles victory was a 6-3, 7-5 third singles win from junior Natileigh Merchant over Falcon freshman Elyse Foster.

TK also picked up a point at fourth doubles where the team of Carli Ogle and Ava Zellmer outscored the West Catholic freshman duo of Mia Palachecki and Ashley Kurner 6-4, 7-6.

The Falcons won in two quick sets at first doubles, but the other two doubles wins for West Catholic were pretty tightly contested. The West Catholic freshman duo of Alana Ryan and Olivia Marti rallied for a 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over TK's sophomore duo of Molly Alden and Cayla Brouwer at second doubles. At number three, the West Catholic team of freshman Ava Eitniear and junior Jolie Mondroski won in two close sets, 6-4, 7-6(5) over TK senior Natalie Culber and sophomore Chloe Yates.

The TK ladies were set for another conference dual Wednesday, April 28, at Grand Rapids Union – marking the third one in three days.

TK and Wayland finished in a 4-4 tie Monday in Middleville.

Alden and Brouwer took a 7-5, 6-3 win over the Wayland team of Teagan Robinson and Hayden Keena at number two, and TK took three singles victories.

Trojan senior first singles player Isabelle Schilthroat outscored Wayland's Lauren Bultsma 6-4, 6-1. At second singles, TK's Jordan Pranger beat Wayland junior Emily Omness 6-4, 6-2.

Merchant and Wayland junior Charlotte Markowski split sets at third singles before Markowski retired from the match.

TK wasn't far from pulling out a win. Emilia Sandborn split sets with Wayland's Brynna Cain at fourth singles before Cain pulled out a 6-2 win in set number three to pick up a point.

The first doubles match between Wayland seniors Katie Harter and Nikol Yanakieva and TK's team of senior Elise DeBoer and the junior Zellmer and the fourth doubles match between Wayland's Hannah Bogeman and Isabella Bogeman and the TK team of Ogle and Jordan Price both ended in 7-5, 6-4 Wayland wins.

Last Thursday, the TK ladies were bested 7-1 in a non-conference dual by visiting Grandville. Merchant got TK's lone win with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Grandville freshman Alexis Dorazio at number three singles.

Again, there were a few really close doubles matches. DeBoer and senior Jalyn Grimes at first doubles were edged in the end in a super tiebreaker. Alden and Brouwer at number two doubles fell in two close sets including a tiebreaker at the end of the first set that the Bulldog team pulled out 13-11 before finishing the match with a 6-4 win in the second set.



Thornapple Kellogg junior Jordan Pranger fires a forehand back at her second singles opponent from West Catholic during their team's OK Gold Conference dual in Middleville Tuesday afternoon. **Photo by Brett Bremer**

Another split in SAC Central play for DK baseball team

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Delton Kellogg varsity baseball team scored its third split of a Southwestern Athletic Conference Central Division contest this spring against visiting Gobles Tuesday.

The Panthers took the opener 10-6 and then the Tigers bounced back to win game two 15-9.

The loss snapped a three-game win streak by the DK team, which won game two against Saugatuck last week and then knocked off Lawton 8-7 April 24.

Delton Kellogg snapped a 1-1 tie in game on Tuesday with a run in the fourth, three in the fifth and then another run in the sixth. The Panthers were helped out by five Gobles errors.

The Panthers also had ten hits int eh ballgame including a double from Tucker Tack. He scored two runs in the ballgame. Dylan Fichtner, Gauge Stampfler and Owen Rogers had two hits apiece. Fichtner scored four runs in the lead-off spot going 2-for-2 with a walks and three RBIs.

Keegan Hill, Elliot Rogers and Mitchell Swift had one hit each for Delton Kellogg. Swift drove in two runs and Rogers and Hill had one RBI each.

Rogers was the winning pitcher. He allowed five runs on six hits and two walks over six innings. He struck out six.

Stampfler closed things out in the seventh, allowing one run.

In game two, Gobles put up six runs in the third inning and seven in the fourth to wipe out what had been an 8-2 Delton lead after two innings. The Panthers made ten errors and the Tigers had ten hits. Of the 15 Tiger runs, only four were earned.

Delton Kellogg had seven hits in the loss. Stampfler was 2-for-2 with a tri0ple, a walk, a RBI and two runs scored. Swift tripled and drove in one run. Tack, Rogers and Fichtner had one hit apiece.

Delton Kellogg was the one coming from behind last week. Lawton built a 7-3 lead through four innings in Delton. The Panthers chipped away at that with three runs in the bottom of the fifth and then scored once in the bottom of the seventh to tie things up at 7-7.

The Panthers finally scored the walk-off win in the bottom of the ninth as Swift walked with one out, stole second, went to third on an error and eventually scored on a passed ball. Swift scored three runs in the ballgame. He was one of seven DK guys with one hit.

The Delton Kellogg guys are back at it in the SAC Central Tuesday, May 6, at Black River for two ballgames. They go to Watervliet for a couple contests Thursday, May 8.

Gobles takes a pair with a few big innings at Delton Kellogg

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Gobles broke things open with 13 runs in the top of the sixth inning of game one and went on to a sweep of its Southwestern Athletic Conference Central Division doubleheader in Delton Tuesday.

The Tigers bested the Panthers 25-9 in the opener with that big late outburst and then won game two16-0 in three innings.

Gobles pitcher Daisy Jackson tossed a short no-hitter in game two walking two and striking out five. She also had a home run and a triple in the second inning of game two in which the Tigers scored 15 runs. She finished the game with three runs scored and four RBIs and also walked once.

Delton Kellogg did have eight hits in the opener including a home run from Olivia Post. She was 2-for-3 with a run and three RBIs. Paige Davis doubled and drove in two runs.

The DK girls are scheduled to visit South Haven this afternoon, May 1. They go to Martin for a couple SAC Central ballgames Friday and then head to the Thornapple Kellogg Invitational Saturday in Middleville. SAC Central play continues Monday as the Panthers play host to Lawton.



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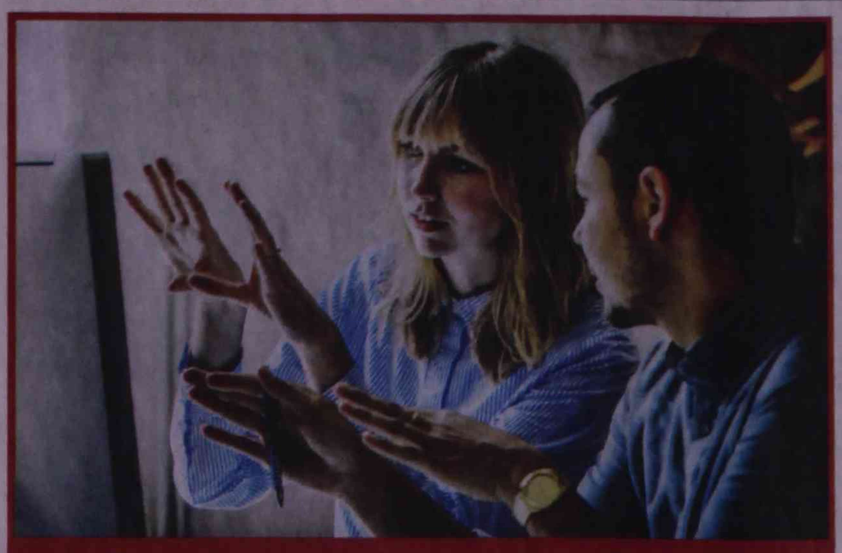
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- Battle Creek Shopper News
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Delton Kellogg/Martin varsity boys' golf team members Jason Marshall, Grady Matteson, coach Nick Haas, Jacob Smoczynski and Carter Brickley celebrate their Blue Division championship Saturday at the Lawton Blue Devil Invitational. **Photo provided**

Panthers win Blue Division title at Blue Devil Invitational

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Junior Tyler Howland and freshman Jason Marshall shot their way to top ten finishes and the Delton Kellogg/Martin varsity boys' golf team placed fourth a the Southwestern Athletic Conference jamboree at Milham Park Golf Course in Kalamazoo Friday.

Kalamazoo Christian took the day's victory with an overall score of 160 ahead of Hackett Catholic Prep 165, Schoolcraft 170, Delton Kellogg 179, Constantine 184, Parchment 209 and Lawton 216.

Howland led the Delton Kellogg/Martin team with a 41. Marshall shot a 42. Sophomore Grady Matteson scored a 45 for the Panthers and junior Carter Brickley scored a 51.

Kalamazoo Christian senior Isaac Riggs was the day's individual champion with a 37. Christian senior Ian Tuin and Hackett senior Chris Ogrin both scored 39s. Schoolcraft senior Lucas Wheeler scored a 40 to lead his team.

That was the second competition in a three-day span for the DK/Martin boys who were 12th at Gull Lake's Tom Collins Memorial tournament Thursday, April 24. They were back in action Saturday, April 26, placing fourth overall at the 13-team Lawton Blue Devil Invitational and finishing as the tournament's Blue Division champions with an overall score of 337 even with only four players.

Matteson was the day's individual champion with a one-under-71. He fired an eagle on the 441-yard, par-5 number 9 to close out his round. He was even through ten holes and had three other birdies on the day.

"He played very solid all day, grinding out putts," DK/Martin head coach Nick Haas said, adding that Matteson also had "a near eagle make from just off the green on a par 4 where he was short-sided and had to hit over a bunker."

Brickley finished a tournament in the 70s for the first time, scoring a 77.

"He played solid all day, playing smart from the tee and hitting greens. Although he wasn't getting putts to fall, he kept a great attitude which allowed him to finish strong," coach Haas said.

Brickley was third overall at the tournament and second in the Blue Division.

DK/Martin also got a 91 from Marshall and a 98 from junior Gabe Smoczynski.

FROM RAGS TO RAGNAROK ART STUDIO

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

May 1st Downtown Hastings

Hopes to see you
5-8pm

I thank you, My cousin Shawn and his wife Paige whose storefront The Wildwood Book & Music Store

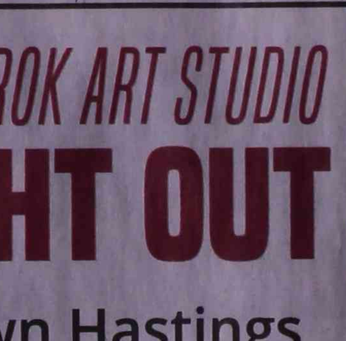
You'll find photography & my out of this world mixed media.

Dec 2024 My Kids became 1/2 orphans. Let me do art and provide for the buggers.

Mjolinar J. Forseti
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wooden Jerseys painted for cancer awarness ribbons are my soon passion pet projects. We are going to kick cancer in the teeth.





MAY 11TH 2-5PM
HAVE YOUR OWN
GIRLS DAY OUT!

Art Sale . Articles & Clothing that match the Color Awareness Cancer Ribbon Wooden Jersey

Sales benefit my since Dec 2024 1/2 orphans their Dad passing from cancer.

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