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HOEBEKE HOMER CLINCHES COUNTY TITLE FOR TK
PAGE 12



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KCSO arrests juvenile after threats to Gaines Twp. middle school

James Gemmell
Contributing Writer

A tip received by the Kent County Sheriff's Office on Sunday, April 20, about a threat made on the social media platform Snapchat has led to the arrest of a juvenile, according to KCSO reports.

The tip came via the Michigan student safety program "OK2SAY," which allows students to anonymously provide tips about potential harm or criminal activities. The threat was made to Pinewood Middle School, part of the Kentwood Public Schools, located on 60th Street in Gaines Township.

Tips may be submitted by phone, text, email or through the OK2SAY mobile app.

In a prepared statement, KCSO officials stated a 14-year-old student was taken into custody Monday morning, April 21. Deputies reportedly searched a home and found no firearms.

"This is a reminder that the Kent County Sheriff's Office takes all threats – especially those involving schools – very seriously," KCSO officials stated. "Threats, even those intended as 'jokes,' will not be tolerated. Our deputies, detectives and school partners work closely together to ensure the safety of students, staff and community."

Officials reported the juvenile suspect was being held in the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center.

"The post contained a specific threat to Pinewood Middle School," sheriff officials added. "A KCSO school resource officer assigned to Kentwood Public Schools and KCSO detectives immediately began an investigation, which led them to a suspect."

KCSO officials added they encourage parents to talk with their children about the responsible use of social media, the possible serious consequences of making threats and the importance of coming forward with information when it is seen.

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Yankee Springs officials reflect on journey to establish stand-alone fire station

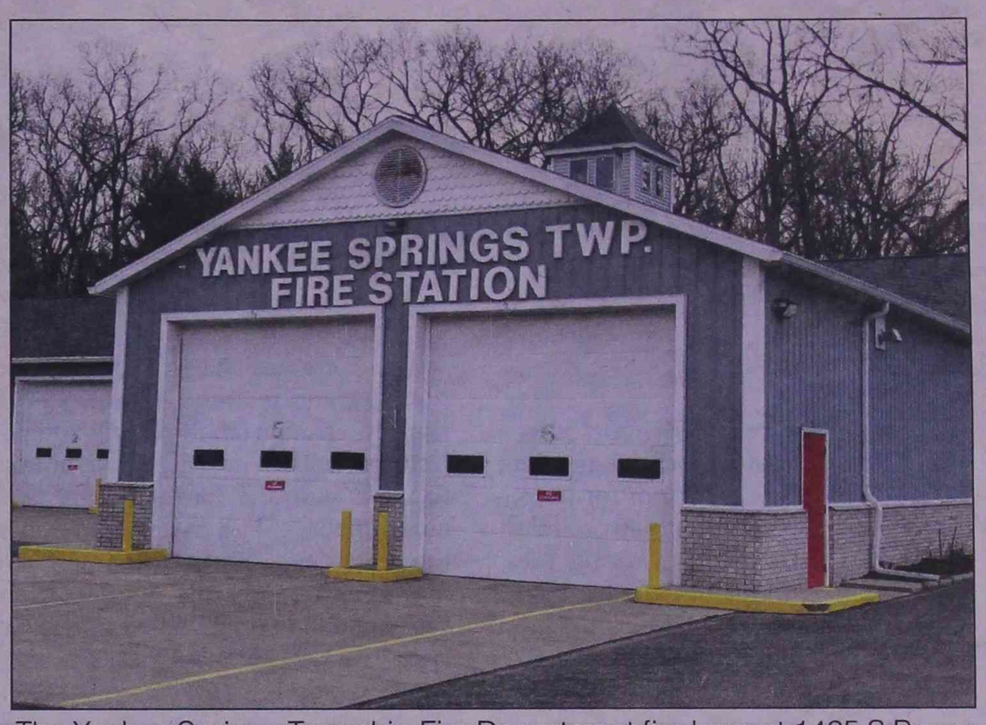
Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

Plenty of change, growth and evolution has happened at the Yankee Springs Township Fire Department, and Dan Miller has been there to witness most of it.

Miller came to the department in October 2015. At that time, he was a member of the Wayland Fire Department, which had just signed a contract to provide service at the Yankee Springs fire barn.

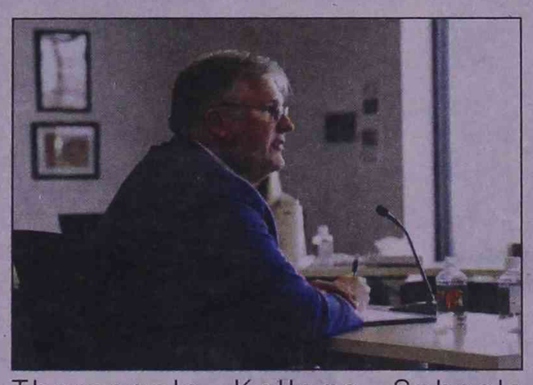
"I started with doing some inventory out there," recalled Miller, whose 50-plus-year career as a first responder includes stretches in both law enforcement and fire/EMS. "We knew the contract was going to go through so the township board had me out there doing inventory and whatnot."

See **STATION** on 5



The Yankee Springs Township Fire Department fire barn at 1425 S Payne Lake Road was formerly run by the Wayland Fire Department. In 2025, it became a stand-alone station operated by the township. **Photo by Jayson Bussa**

TK superintendent search narrows after candidate withdraws



Thornapple Kellogg Schools superintendent finalist Troy Reehl interviews for the position earlier this month. Reehl withdrew his name from consideration this week, leaving finalists Rob Pouch and Bill Crane still in contention. **File photo**

Hunter McLaren
Contributing Writer

The search for a new Thornapple Kellogg Schools superintendent is now down to two candidates.

Superintendent candidate Troy Reehl withdrew himself from consideration for the position Monday. TK Board of Education President David Smith read a statement regarding the search during Monday's board meeting.

"Earlier today, Mr. Troy Reehl withdrew from consideration to become our next superintendent, citing his desire to pursue other active opportunities that are a better fit for him and his talents," Smith said. "We wish Mr. Reehl the very best in his pro-

See **CANDIDATE** on 3

Caledonia Egg Hunt draws big crowd for Easter festivities



The Easter Bunny waves at a young visitor on Saturday morning at the Caledonia Egg Hunt, which was held at Community Green Park. Families lined up for a photo opportunity.



Kids rush into the grassy area of Community Green Park in Caledonia on Saturday morning to retrieve as many eggs as they can during the Caledonia Egg Hunt. **Photos by Jayson Bussa**

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

Community Green Park in Caledonia was littered with colorful eggs late Saturday morning – but not for long.

Organizers would eventually unleash an army of eager kids of varying ages, who quickly scooped up the eggs into their bags and baskets as part of the Caledonia Egg Hunt.

The community egg hunt overtook the park and featured a variety of activities – from a small petting zoo with bunnies, chickens and other animals to visits with the Easter Bunny at the amphitheater. The event centered on the Eater egg hunt, which sent kids home with candy and goodies. Some lucky egg hunters received gift baskets sponsored by local businesses.



On top of the traditional Easter animals, like bunnies and chicks, kids at the Caledonia Egg Hunt were able to get up close and personal with a variety of other farm animals.

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Phone: 269-945-9554
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CONTACT US
Editor: Molly Macleod
mmacleod@mihomepaper.com
Sports: Brett Bremer
bbremer@mihomepaper.com
Advertising Manager: Chris Silverman
csilverman@mihomepaper.com
Marketing and Community Engagement Specialist: Jennie Yonker
jyonker@mihomepaper.com

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Caledonia Twp. officials to create vision document for parks, trails

Hunter McLaren
Contributing Writer

Caledonia Township officials will be working to create a cohesive vision and strategy document for development of local parks and trails.

Members of the township board of trustees approved the first step of the process at their meeting Wednesday, April 16. The township could soon begin working with a third party to draft the document, according to Township Manager Alison Nugent.

The vision document reportedly will lay out park projects and utilize information from various local entities involved. When completed, it would serve as a vision document for township officials and the public, providing details on planned projects and estimated costs.

"With discussions of a potential millage in a couple of years, we feel it is really important to show the community what it really looks like and what Caledonia could look like," Nugent said.

The plan will compile information from the township's own Parks and Trails Committee, as well as from the township's collaborations on parks with Kent County and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

"All of these are different pieces," said Township Supervisor Bryan Harrison. "The idea here is to bring all of them together so we have a sort of one-stop document that melds all of these into one place."

"None of this is set in stone," he added. "I think it's always important to check back in with the community."

Also, Harrison said having the document with estimated scope and budget for planned parks projects would allow the township to more easily prioritize them, noting a millage for park projects had been sidelined for other, more urgent needs in the past.

"Certainly, this will be considered in context with all of the other things we are prioritizing funding with our general fund dollars and asking citizens to fund," Harrison said. "This will give us the information to make a go or no-go decision on moving forward with some of these projects."

CANDIDATE

Continued from Page 1

fessional pursuits and are looking forward to continuing the process with Mr. Bill Crane and Mr. Robert Pouch."

The board held first-round interviews with four candidates earlier this month: Troy Reehl, retired Hillsdale Intermediate School District superintendent; Robert Pouch, Morrice Area Schools superintendent; Dan Scoville, Director of Human Services and Elementary Academic Services at Cedar Springs Public Schools; and Bill Crane, Kent City Community Schools superintendent.

The four were chosen from 15 total applicants, with the board inviting Reehl, Pouch and Crane to attend a second round interview. The district plans to carry on the interview process with Pouch and Crane starting at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29 at TK Schools Early Childhood Center, 3316 Bender Road. The district said members of the public are strongly encouraged to attend. Pouch and Crane will tour the district and participate in a community meet and greet the day before from 4:30 to 5:30 on Monday, April 28. The location of the meet and greet remains to be determined.

TK Schools has been searching for its next superintendent since former superintendent Craig McCarthy retired at the end of last year. In the meantime, Tom Enslen has served as TK Schools' interim superintendent.

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Construction underway at Yankee Springs Twp. Park



Construction kicked off on Wednesday at Yankee Springs Township Park with a ceremonial groundbreaking for the park's new pickleball courts and basketball court reconfiguration. Bultsma Construction will build four new pickleball courts and will reconfigure the existing basketball court to be full size. Additionally, crews will install a hopscotch area and four square courts. Construction is projected to wrap up by June 2. Pictured here are (from left) Bultsma Construction's Mitch Dubba, parks committee members Kaye Evans and Deb Tomko, Yankee Springs Township Supervisor Rob Heethuis, Parks Chair Sandra Marcukaitis and Justin Bultsma of Bultsma Construction. Missing from the photo are parks committee members Chuck Shira, Diane Ullery and Catherine Getty.
Photo by Molly Macleod

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Gaines Township trustees met in the township hall board room on April 14. Township Supervisor Bob Terpstra has asked township board members to give their long-range visions on how to initiate and manage growth in the township at a special township board meeting slated for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 28. **Photo by James Gemmell**

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Gaines Twp. officials to discuss how to manage growth at April 28 meeting

James Gemmell
Contributing Writer

Gaines Township Supervisor Bob Terpstra has asked members of the township's board of trustees to give their long-range visions on how to initiate and manage growth in the township.

At the board's April 14 meeting, Terpstra asked the trustees to consider nine broad categories and be prepared to discuss their thoughts about each one at a special township board meeting slated for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 28, in the lower-level community room at the township hall. The meeting will be open to the public.

Categories to be discussed include synchronist housing, Division Avenue corridor improvement, Prairie Wolf Park, additional parks, connecting and expanding trails, brand marketing and outward-facing communications, library upgrades, the township's Department of Public Works Department and public safety.

Terpstra told trustees the April 28 meeting will entail discussion about their priorities on behalf of the township residents.

"The question to begin will be, 'In five years, 10 years, 15 years, what will Gaines Township be known for?'" Terpstra said. "Your term of service, what legacy will it have for this township?

"I'm going to try to feed you and give you some philosophy, and let you ask questions,"

Terpstra and executive assistant Kim Triplett have been working on posters for the upcoming meeting.

"We'll gain your input. Lots of things will come up," Terpstra added. "The (Gaines) chamber board is totally on board with helping us. The Parks and Trails (Committee) you heard a lot going on with that. I feel like it's moving in the right direction."

Parks and Trails Committee members were provided the opportunity to present their individual priorities at a recent committee meeting.

In February, the township board authorized spending up to $3,000 to have a 20-acre parcel of property appraised for potential park development. The property owner had approached township officials about the potential sale of the property.

Township staffer did not disclose the location of the heavily wooded parcel, but did say Plaster Creek runs through it.

Officials with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources have stated the land, if developed into a park, could potentially be eligible for a state grant. However, Township Manager Rod Weersing said in March that he was not optimistic because of the slow pace of negotiations with the property owner.

In addition to that, Gaines Community Development Director Dan Wells reportedly was approached a couple months ago about a possible purchase option for a second 20- to 30-acre parcel not far from the first one that might be for sale.

There has been no public update on those negotiations.

Also, Wisconsin-based Continental Properties is making progress in its effort to build 14 two-story apartment houses in the 6300 block of Hanna Lake Avenue, adjacent to M-6. If the developer gains township approval, it plans to buy that property in Dutton, which is currently being used as farmland by the Verduin family. Part of the proposal calls for a five-acre public park to be built, with dedicated parking space along Hanna Lake Avenue.

Terpstra met recently with department heads, township staff and elected officials to discuss the vision plan, including park development and which projects they may try to raise funds for in the township, according to reports.

"We'll develop some context and then we'll start to create what I call the 'pitch,'" He said. "These posters that we can invite our residents in to consider with us ways to make these things happen.

"By doing that, we can begin to build collaboration, information that we can write grants (with). We can talk to some of our influencers."

Terpstra said Kiosha Jeltema, the manager of the Kent District Library branch in Gaines Township, will also provide a poster to discuss.

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STATION

Continued from Page 1

Nearly 10 years later, Miller is still with the Yankee Springs department and even has the same title of deputy fire chief. However, the dynamic at the department is a lot different after a major milestone that came about earlier this year.

In March, the Yankee Springs Township Fire Department became its own, stand-alone fire department, no longer under contract with Wayland Fire Department. And, earlier this month, Yankee Springs severed its contract with Wayland for ambulance service, opting instead to use Thornapple Township Emergency Services.

The moves signify a new era in Yankee Springs Township emergency services, one where the township has full ownership over all elements of the related services.

Miller walked through the timeline of Yankee Springs becoming a standalone fire station, with conversations sparking nearly two years ago.

"We had a fire committee and we talked to the fire committee and it sounded pretty good that we could go on our own and sustain the (leadership) structure we had," Miller said.

Township officials started to take the necessary steps to become a stand-alone station. It was not quick or easy work and there's still more to do.

The department consists of 19 firefighters who are paid, on-call with one person serving on a duty shift. The department tapped Hastings Fire Chief Mark Jordan to serve as its interim fire chief, a temporary measure intended to leverage Jordan's credentials to obtain a fire department ID and other measures to establish the station.

Currently, Yankee Springs Township Fire has officers who have finished Fire Officer 1 training and are wrapping up Fire Officer 2 training.

Yankee Springs also tapped into the knowledge base of Bill Richardson, chief at Thornapple Township Emergency Services and the state fire marshal as they embarked on the process.

The township board drafted and passed a fire and emergency ordinance earlier this year, which was also essential to operating a station on its own. Once it's able, the board will seek to promote someone from within to the fire chief position.

"We just offer our sincere appreciation to the Yankee Springs Township board members for their vision and leadership in making the important decision to establish our own standalone fire department," Miller said. "Their support has laid the foundation for a safer, stronger community."

Rob Heethuis, township supervisor, said becoming a stand-alone station was a logical move for the growing township.

"Obviously we looked into it and there are a lot of concerns any time you deal with emergency aids of any kind," Heethuis said. "So it was looked at and there was no reason we couldn't. We had everything that it takes. We have an excellent fire barn, we have different types of fire trucks, we would do everything we needed."

"We looked at the financial side of it and what that would look like," he added. "We only have one millage in Yankee Springs for emergency services for fire and EMS, and we were worried about what it looked like financially. But what we discovered is that, while we have to do some things first, it will tuck under the millage much better anyway."

The homegrown department will take on the challenges that come with the unique demographics of the township which includes 5,000 acres of state land and numerous homes located on lakes.

Miller added he appreciated all those who are set to serve the township, now that it has established its own fire station.

"We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the dedicated firefighters who faithfully serve the citizens of Yankee Springs Township, as well as those passing through during time of need," he said. "Their commitment, courage and willingness to help at a moment's notice truly embody the spirit of service. We are here to help and we are proud to serve."

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Fate of Middleville's downtown trees discussed

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

Some trees planted in downtown Middleville during a streetscape overhaul nearly two decades ago are beginning to cause damage to sidewalks and officials recently discussed what should be done about them.

Alec Belson, Assistant Manager of the Village of Middleville who also heads up the Department of Public Works, provided his general department report to the village council this week. Part of his routine report launched a larger discussion amongst board members.

Belson pointed out that three downtown trees are causing the surrounding sidewalk to heave, which has created a tripping hazard. Belson wanted the council's opinion on what to do about them. Two of them — one in the parking lot of the village hall and the other in front of The Sandbar Esthetics & Spa — need to be addressed as soon as possible.

Those, and several other, trees were installed in 2006 when the downtown streetscape was completed. The project included new sidewalks, tree plantings, decorative lighting, irrigation and electrical outlets for seasonal lighting.



Officials in the Village of Middleville are finding that trees planted during 2006's streetscape installation are starting to overgrow their designated areas and causing damage to surrounding sidewalks. **Photo by Jayson Bussa**

But, now, 20 years later, the trees are beginning to outgrow their designated areas.

Belson and his department are left with two options: Repair the sidewalk and leave the trees in place, which is equivalent to putting a Band-Aid on it, or remove the problematic trees and repair the sidewalk.

Belson said removing the two trees and repairing the sidewalk would come with minimal cost, taking crews a matter of hours to complete the work.

Members of the council launched into discussions about the fate of the many other trees, wondering if those should eventually be removed, as well.

"We don't need the answer off-hand on what to do going forward. Right now, we have two issues we have to deal with. We can spend money and put a Band-Aid on it and let the (two) trees stay for now but be fully aware that the sidewalk issue will come back or the tree may die or we cut it off and fill the two spots."

While the two trees in question will likely be removed, members of the council floated various ideas on how to address the others if they begin to cause similar damage. One idea was to proactively remove them all, but members of the council agreed that the measure would be too radical at this time.

"I would say remove the troubled trees now but I would encourage staff to start considering this, especially because our Main Street Initiative is all-in on things like this," said Kevin Smith, Village of Middleville President. "It falls in line with our long-term strategy to transform what we have now to become a more walkable, usable space. If removing those trees is the right answer in the short term, I would say with the council's approval that would be the best bet."

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Middleville car dealer gets OK from council to hold anniversary event

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

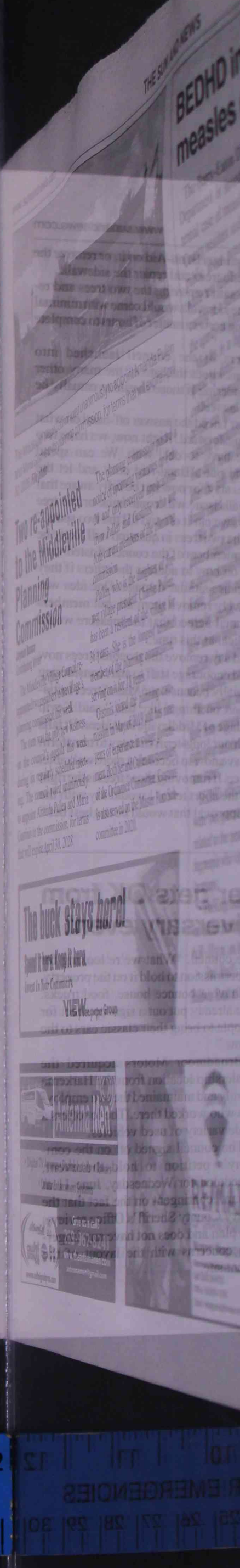
Broadmoor Motors Middleville is having a grand opening event – finally.

The automotive retailer, which also maintains locations in both Wayland and Hastings, established their foothold in Middleville at 4600 M-37 roughly five years ago. But, as company president pointed out to the Middleville Village Council at its regularly scheduled meeting this past week, it all happened during the COVID-19 pandemic so they never had the opportunity to celebrate in style.

"We really wanted to have an event, so we're calling it a five-year anniversary car show event," Koning said as he presented a petition for his event to the council. "What we're looking for is permission to hold it on the property, to have a bounce house, food trucks. We already put out a sign-up sheet for people to bring their classic cars to the show."

Broadmoor Motors acquired the dealership location from the Harkema family and maintained the two employees who worked there. The lot offers a wide variety of used vehicles.

The council signed off on the company's petition to hold the event, scheduled for Wednesday, June 11 at 4 p.m., contingent on the fact that the Barry County Sheriff's Office reviews the plan and does not have any lingering concerns with the layout of the event site.



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The Middleville Village Council voted unanimously to appoint Amanda Pullen and Maria Gustinis to the planning commission, for terms that will expire April 30, 2028. **File photo**

Two re-appointed to the Middleville Planning Commission

Jayson Bussa
Contributing Writer

The Middleville Village Council re-appointed two members to the village's planning commission this week.

The item was the only new business on the council's agenda this week during its regularly scheduled meeting. The council voted unanimously to appoint Amanda Pullen and Maria Gustinis to the commission, for terms that will expire April 30, 2028.

The planning commission posted a notice of upcoming vacancies on Feb. 20 and only received applications from Pullen and Gustinis, who are both current members of the planning commission.

Pullen, who is the daughter of former village president Charlie Pullen, has been a resident of the village for 36 years. She is the longest tenured member of the planning commission, serving on it for 18 years.

Gustinis joined the planning commission in May of 2019 and has nine years of experience in village government. Both her and Cullen are members of the Ordinance Committee. Gustinis is also served on the Master Plan Subcommittee in 2020.

BEDHD investigating possible measles case in Eaton

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department is investigating a potential case of measles in an Eaton County resident and is alerting the public about potential exposure while test results are pending, according to a statement released by the agency on April 18.

Measles is a highly contagious spread by direct person-to-person contact and through the air. Infected people can spread measles before noticing symptoms, including from four days before through four days after the rash appears, health officials stated.

"We are acting out of an abundance of caution to notify the public as quickly as possible," said Dr. Julie Kehdi, BEDHD medical director. "Measles spreads easily and can have serious health consequences, especially for children and people with weakened immune systems.

"We encourage anyone who may have been exposed to take action right away and check their vaccination status."

BEDHD officials stated there were two potential exposure sites related to the pending case, including people who visited the following locations:

- The King Ocean Crab restaurant on Miller Street in Lansing from 6:30 -10 p.m. on April 12; and
- Bad Brad's BBQ on South Baldwin Road in Orion Township 4:30-7:30 p.m. on April 13.

Anyone potentially exposed should monitor themselves for symptoms for 21 days from the date of exposure, according to the recent statement by the BEDHD.

Symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose or rash. Individuals are asked to call the local health department if they develop such symptoms or go to the nearest hospital emergency room if the symptoms are severe. If seeking treatment at a health care provider's office, urgent care or ER, persons should first call ahead to avoid exposing others.

If it's been less than six days since any potential exposure, persons may be able to receive post-exposure treatment that could prevent illness. They should contact their health care provider, pharmacy, or local health department for vaccination and guidance.

BEDHD officials added that individuals with two appropriately spaced doses of the measles vaccine are considered protected. And, adults born before 1957 or who have evidence of prior measles illness are also considered immune.

For more information about measles, including a link to download individual immunization records, persons may go online and visit the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services measles information page. — *DM*

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Sporting News

TK bats heat up to win Barry County championship

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Thornapple Kellogg got its bats heated up.

The Lakewood boys are still working to defrost their gloves.

The Thornapple Kellogg varsity baseball team snapped a 3-3 tie with three runs in the top of the fourth inning against Lakewood in the championship game of the Barry County Invitational in Middleville Saturday and went on to a 6-3 win.

Lakewood made a bid to cut into the Trojan lead in the bottom of the sixth inning, loading the bases on a Reily Teigeler single and a pair of walks. Trojan reliever Carsyn Redman got Lakewood's Ethan Guiles to ground into a 5-2-3 double play to stymie the rally. Third baseman Bradley Moreman scooped up a ground ball and fired to catcher Connor Dombkowski for an out at the plate, and then Dombkowski's throw to first beat Guiles up the line. Another ground ball to third got TK out of the inning unscathed.

"That was huge. That killed their momentum for sure," TK head coach Nick Iveson said. "It got us out of the inning with no runs. That was huge. That was probably the play of the game."

TK sophomore pitcher Micah Dock got the win on the mound allowing three runs (one earned) on five hits and three walks in five innings. He struck out five. It was his first start of the season.

"You can't ask for anymore out of a sophomore," Iveson said.

Redman got the save with two shut out innings of relief.

"My favorite part of the day is everybody got in. Everybody contributed," Iveson said.

The Trojans were helped out by six Viking errors in the win, but the Trojan offense did all right on its own too. Dock was 2-for-3 at the top of the line-up with a double, a walk and two runs scored. Jayce Brummel was 2-for-3 with three RBIs and a walk. Redman, Moreman and C Walters had one hit each for TK.

"We were seeing the ball really well today," Iveson said. "I think we kind of started to click a little bit. This past week was kind of tough, first conference game coming back from spring break. I think just, we were hitting the ball well. We finally started to find some gaps. So yeah, they're they're seeing the ball really well.

"We struggled a little bit Thursday [against West Catholic], so it was good to see the guys bounce back today and have some fun and play well."

Lakewood head coach Brad Tacey mostly liked his guys' performance. Some early season injuries have the Vikings shuffling their roster around a a bit.

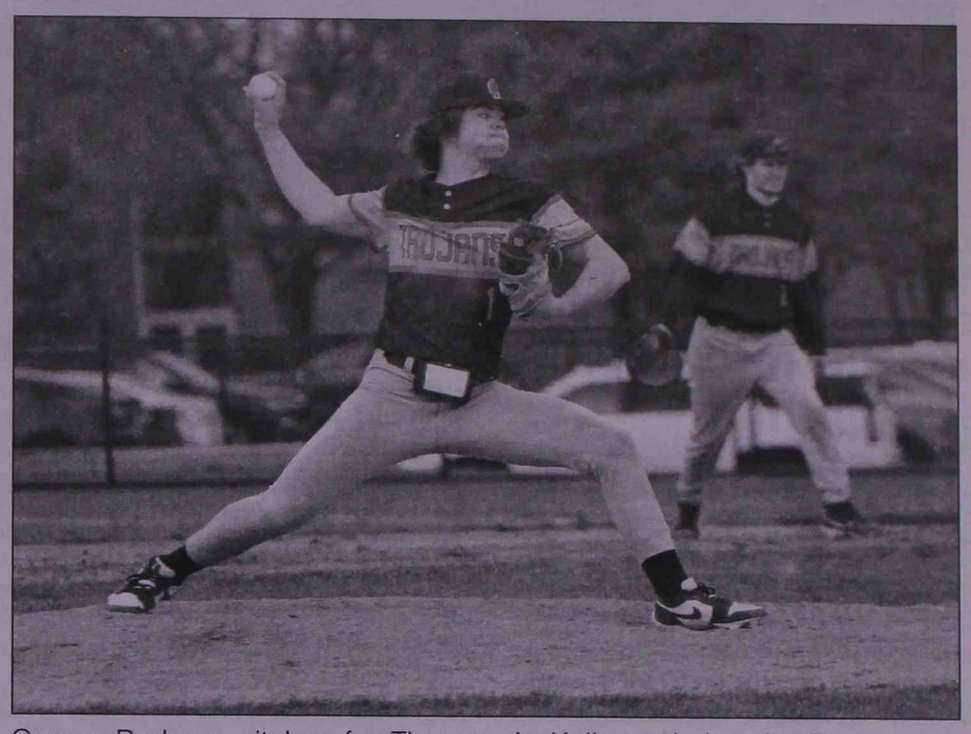
"I mean, we played well offensively all day. We pitched well all day long you know, and pitching has been something we've been struggling with," Tacey said. "So, I mean, we're making some strides. We have guys that keep going down. We had a kid break his hand last week, so we're losing him. We lost our number three pitcher at a torn labrum. We're trying to fit guys together and figure out who can, you know, work in there. It's early in the season, it is still cold, but we are definitely making progress. I'm not a moral victories guy in the slightest, but, you know, I was proud of the way that we hit the ball the way we pitched, but we have got to play better defense,."

Tanner Haight started on the mound and went six innings for the Vikings giving up six unearned runs on seven hits and four walks. He struck out three. Carter Stewart closed out the game by striking out the side in the seventh.

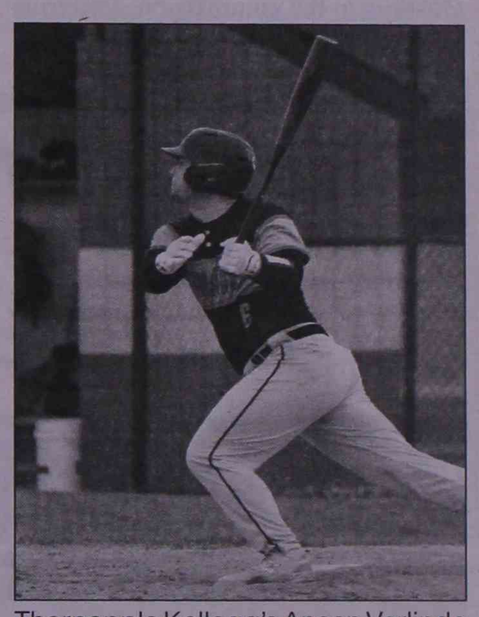
The Viking offense against TK consisted of five singles, one each by Seth Willette, Guiles, Stewart, Teigeler and Bryer Poll. Willette, Guiles and Poll each drove in one run. Willette also walked twice in the lead-off spot.

"Tanner going six innings, he stuck in there and he kept pounding the zone even though we weren't making plays behind him," Tacey said.

See ????? on 8



Carsyn Redman pitches for Thornapple Kellogg during the Trojans' win over Lakewood in the championship game of the Barry County Invitational in Middleville Saturday.



Thornapple Kellogg's Anson Verlinde watches the ball fly towards right field during the top of the sixth inning of the Trojans' 6-3 win over Lakewood in the finals of the Barry County Invitational in Middleville Saturday.

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Continued from Page 8

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The Thornapple Kellogg varsity baseball team celebrates its championship at the Barry County Invitational in Middleville Saturday after scoring wins over Delton Kellogg and Lakewood. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

Fighting Scots get their first wins of the spring

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Scots are finally playing some baseball.

The Caledonia varsity baseball team managed to get in just one ballgame before spring break, but are now off to a 5-2 start to the season after winning two of three at its own invitational Saturday and then sweeping an OK Green Conference doubleheader at Reeths-Puffer Tuesday.

The Caledonia boys took a 2-1 win in the conference opener with the Rockets and then outscored their hosts in Muskegon 12-8 in game two.

Garrett Johnson gave up just one unearned run on the mound in the 2-1 game to start the afternoon. He struck out seven, walked three and allowed three hits in six innings. AJ Roszkowski came on for a shut out inning of relief in which he struck out two and gave up one hit while earning the save.

The Scots took the lead with a run in the top of the third and then after the Rockets scored in the home half of the fifth took the lead right back in the top of the sixth.

Ty Lewandowski hit a leadoff double into center and Cam Myers followed with a bunt single that moved Lewandowski to third, then the two pulled off a double steal to get what proved to be the winning run across.

Despite being held to two runs, the Scots had seven hits. Roszkowski and Ethan Sova were both 2-for-4 at the top of the line-up. Ryne Wysocki also singled once and came in to score his team's first run.

Caledonia upped a 7-5 lead to 12-5 with five runs in the top of the seventh inning of game two, and then finally closed things out after the Rockets rallied for three runs in the bottom of the seventh.

The Scots' 14-hit attack in the 12-8 win included a 3-for-5 performance from Lewandowski. He drove in four runs and scored once. Trevor Walter had two hits for the Scots.

Myers was the winning pitcher with a complete game effort. Only three of the eight runs against him were earned. He struck out three, walked three and allowed seven hits.

The Scots and Rockets were set to meet for one in Caledonia Thursday.

Gull Lake took a 6-0 win over the Caledonia boys at the invitational in Caledonia Saturday, but the Scots rallied to beat Haslett 8-3 and then shut out West Michigan Aviation Academy 9-0.

The TK boys also won big over Delton Kellogg in the opening round of the Barry County Invitational. They knocked off the Panthers 19-4. An 11-hit TK attack in that one was powered in part by Dock who went 3-for-5 with two runs and two RBIs. Spencer Ybema, Brummel and Jayce Curtis had two hits apiece in that one, and Brummel drove in five runs himself.

Dombkowski was the winning pitcher. He allowed one unearned run over five innings in which he struck out six, walked two and gave up just one hit. The Panthers got to reliever Dominic McDonald a bit, but Anson Verlinde came on to throw two innings of relief striking out four and giving up one hit and no runs.

Elliott Rogers doubled, drove in a run and scored a run for Delton Kellogg in that opener. Owen Rogers was 2-for-3 at the plate with two RBIs.

Lakewood reached the championship game with a 16-4 win over Hastings on the TK freshman field at McFall Elementary. The Saxons closed out their day with a 14-4 win over Delton Kellogg in the consolation game back at McFall.

Hastings closed out the day with a 14-4, five-inning win over Delton Kellogg in the consolation game back at McFall.

The TK boys are off to a 1-5 start so far to the OK Gold Conference season. They were downed in the first two ballgames of their series with Wayland in Middleville Monday, but bounced back for a 12-0 win over the Wildcats in Wayland Wednesday afternoon.

Davis shut out the Wildcats through five innings on the mound Wednesday striking out six. He walked two and gave up two hits, both singles.

The Trojan offense knocked 13 hits and took advantage of eight walks. Zach Eldridge hit a lead-off home run in the top of the third inning to up the Trojan lead to 2-0 at the time. TK broke the game open with eight runs in the top of the fifth.

Dock was 3-for-4 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Verlinde was 3-for-3 with a double, three runs scored and three RBIs. Ybema had two hits an RBI and a run scored. Eldridge finished with two runs scored and two RBIs. He walked twice after that home run in his first at-bat. Cam Walters, Brummel, Redman and Dombkowski also had hits for TK.

Wayland won the series opener Monday 13-2 and then took game two 10-4.

The Trojans were slated to visit Hamilton Thursday, April 24, and will face Wyoming in the OK Gold in the week ahead with two in Wyoming Monday and one in Middleville Wednesday.

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Continued from page 8

TK ladies win at Lakewood Invite, and in OK Gold opener

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Thornapple Kellogg varsity girls' tennis team took the championship Saturday at the annual four-team Lakewood Invitational.

The Trojans took wins over the host Vikings, Pennfield and Ionia on the day.

That tournament came on the heels of the Trojans' OK Gold Conference opener. The TK ladies knocked off Wyoming last Thursday, April 17, 8-0.

TK won all eight flights in straight sets that day. Senior Isabelle Schilthroat took the first singles win, 6-2, 6-2, over the Wolves' Samantha Dang. Jordan Pranger took the second singles win for TK, Natileigh Merchant won at third singles and Emilia Sandborn took the fourth singles victory.

TK didn't give up more than one game in any doubles set. Molly Alden and Cayla Brouwer at number two took a 6-0, 6-0 win. TK also had Jalyn Grimes and Elise DeBeoer win at number one, Natalie Culver and Chloe Yates win at number three, and Carli Ogle and Violet Sanborn win at number four.



Thornapple Kellogg senior defender Emma Geukes fights to try and get the ball off the feet of South Christian's Meredith Helmus during the first half of their OK Gold Conference ballgame inside Bob White Stadium in Middleville Saturday. The two teams played to a 1-1 draw to remain tied atop the conference standings. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

Chivis has quick answer for TK in draw with Sailors

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Some ties feel more like wins than others.

The fifth-ranked South Christian varsity girls' soccer team struck first, but the Thornapple Kellogg girls didn't really have much time to hang their heads Saturday afternoon in Middleville. They answered right away to hold onto a tie atop the OK Gold Conference standings.

The Trojans and Sailors are both now 5-0-1 in conference action this spring. TK followed up the draw with a 2-0 win at Grand Rapids Northview Monday and then knocked off Grand Rapids Union 3-1 in Middleville Wednesday evening.

The Sailor goal Saturday came on a breakaway 11 minutes into the second half. It wasn't even two minutes later that TK's Tealy Cross chipped a free kick behind the South Christian line and teammate Madilyn Chivis was there to get a foot on it. Her first swing was deflected away from the net, but the ball returned right to her feet and she riffled a second attempt into the back of the net.

"It was really exciting, we really need that to give us confidence and keep us going through the game," Chivis said.

"I was a little worried when they first scored seeing our team, some heads went down and stuff, and then after my goal everyone was right back in it."

Things were back and forth the rest of the day. Chivis said junior teammate Cami Stahl had a good header that just missed finding the net and junior Paige Abshagen had another good attack on the Sailor net.

"I was excited to compete. I know a lot of my teammates were too. I was excited to have that good competition," Chivis said. "I was pretty glad we tied, especially because everyone was fighting pretty hard there at the end. It was close. I am glad we were able to hold them off. They had a few breakaways, but we were able to hold them off."

The Trojan defensive line and keeper McKenna Hoebeke came through in the end.

"I think we just came together as a team and worked hard together. If we didn't come together as a team we wouldn't have tied that game," Chivis said.

South Christian followed up the draw by scoring a 3-0 win over visiting West Catholic in conference play Monday evening and an 8-0 win over visiting Northview Wednesday. The Sailors are now 8-0-1 overall this season.

TK moved to 7-1-1 with the wins over Northview and Union this week.

The Trojans and Sailors are set to meet again in the regular season finale at South Christian High School May 19.



Thornapple Kellogg junior Charlie Manrose fires a pass ahead during the Trojans' 1-1 draw with visiting South Christian inside Bob White Stadium in Middleville Saturday.



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TK girls win big over Northview to stay perfect in Gold

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

The Thornapple Kellogg varsity girls' track and field team is now 3-0 in OK Gold duals after a 114-23 win at Northview Tuesday.

The TK boys are 1-2 in conference duals after falling to the Wildcats 83-53.

The TK ladies won 15 of the 17 events in the dual with the Wildcats, and had a pair of winners in the pole vault as sophomore Lydia Slagel and junior Mia Hilton tied for first, both clearing 8-0 in the same number of events. It was a sweep for the TK ladies in that event with sophomore Raylee Preston improving her pole vault PR to 7 feet 6 inches to place third.

Slagel also won the high jump clearing 4-8. TK had senior Emma Dykhouse win the shot put at 34-2 and senior Lilly McKeown win the discus with a personal record throw of 89-0.

Peyton Hardy took the 3200-meter run in 13 minutes 37.55 seconds for TK and was the runner-up in the 1600. TK senior Ava Crews won the 800-meter run in 2:31.83 and she was the runner-up in the 400. Junior Payton Gater wonthe 400-meter dash for the TK girls in 1:01.78.

Brooklyn Harmon won two individual races for the TK ladies. She won the 200-meter dash in a PR of 26.63 seconds with Hilton second and Amya Gater third in that one. In the 100-meter hurdles Harmon had a winning time of 15.34 with Hilton the runner-up.

Amya Gater won the 300-meter low hurdles for TK in a PR of 48.02 with fellow freshmen Kayla Price and Addison Rocco placing second and third in PR runs of their own.

Junior sprinter Jordyn Fitros won the 100-meter dash for the TK team in 13.18.

The Trojans also swept their way to wins in all four relay races.

The Northview boys piled up points in the sprints to get their win over TK.

Senior distance runner Jacob Draaisma led the TK team with a winning time of 2:00.25 in the 800-meter run and 4:36.47 in the 1600-meter run. He also improved his PR to 10:18.92 while winning the 3200-meter run.

Draaisma also teamed with senior Case Dykhouse, sophomore Elijah Frazer and sophomore Layne Schilthroat to win the 4x800-meter relay in 9:02.91, beating the Northview team by almost a minute in that race.

Freshman Brekin McWhinney took victories in both hurdlers races for the TK boys. He won the 110-meter high hurdles in 18.15 and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in a PR time of 45.62. Junior teammate Benjamin Postma was second in the 110s and third in the 300 hurdles.

In the field, TK was led by its throwers. Senior Kyle Porritt won the discus with a throw of 121-9 and senior Tanner Buxton was the runner-up with a personal record throw of 116-11. Junior Adam Lozada had a runner-up mark of 41-.75, a new PR, to place second in the shot put.

In the pole vault, TK junior Luke Archer cleared 11-0 for the first time to place third.

TK athletes took part in the Wayland Invitational last Friday, April 18. The TK ladies took the championship at the event outscoring Plainwell 852-707 at the top of the standings. The TK boys were fifth as the host Wildcats won the boys' meet by about 175 points over the second-place Plainwell guys.

Draaisma won the 800-meter run in 2:03.82 and the 1600-meter run in 4:44.17.

Emma Dykhouse improved her PR in the shot put for TK to 35-4 to win that event. The TK team of Harmon, Amya Gater, Payton Gater and Hilton won the 4x400-meter relay in 4:12.59, and Harmon improved her PR to 15.06 in winning the 100-meter hurdles.

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Hoebeke homer clinches county title for TK

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Grand Valley State University bound senior Kylee Hoebeke stepped into the batter's box with runners on first and second and two-out in the bottom of the seventh inning of the Barry County Invitational championship against Lakewood Saturday afternoon in Middleville.

She watched the first pitch from Lakewood's Peyton Federau sail by for a strike. That wasn't what she was expecting.

"I kind of thought I was going to get pitched around a little bit, but the first one was right down the middle," Hoebeke said, "and I was like okay. The next one was too."

Hoebeke drilled a two-out, three-run walk-off home run over the centerfield fence to give the Trojan varsity softball team a 5-3 win over Lakewood. She can't remember ever having hit a walk-off home run for the Trojan varsity or any of her club teams throughout the years. It is her first home run of this senior season for TK

"It's a good way to start," Hoebeke said.

Sophomore Adelaide Holderman got the pitching victory, coming on in relief of senior Jenna Robinett. Holderman was also the winning pitcher in game one of the day for the TK ladies - a 24-0, three-inning win over Delton Kellogg.

Lakewood took a 3-1 lead in the championship ballgame with two runs in the top of the fourth inning. TK got one back in the home half of the fourth. Federau got two groundouts to start the bottom of the seventh with her team still up 3-2. Anna Romph fought back from an 0-2 count to work a walk to get the rally started and then Aubree Stevens reached on a Viking error that could have ended the game, bringing Hoebeke to the plate.

Hoebeke was 4-for-4 in the ballgame with two runs and four RBIs. Besides those four hits from Hoebeke, an RBI triple in the bottom of the fourth off the bat of Holderman was the only other hit the TK ladies managed off of Federau. Overall though, Hoebeke likes where her team's offense stands at the moment.



Teammates greet Thornapple Kellogg senior Kylee Hoebeke at home plate as her three-run walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh inning powers the Trojans to a 5-3 win over Lakewood in the championship game of the Barry County Invitational in Middleville Saturday. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

"I like it. We're hitting good this year," Hoebeke said. "We didn't give up or anything, so that is awesome. This year, we started out really strong hitting-wise. That is encouraging."

"Part of it is, most of the team played together last year. We only have two new girls or whatever, so we're all getting along pretty good and we know the drill and everything. Everyone has been working."

Robinett went four innings in the championship game in the circle for TK. She struck out one, walked one and allowed four hits. Of the three runs against her, only one was earned. Holderman threw three perfect innings of relief striking out three.

The four Lakewood hits were all singles, one each for Galatea Archbold-Pyle, Madison Fenlong, Avery Farrell and Graysi Hillard. Matti Aldrich and Archbold-Pyle had one RBI apiece.

Federau's final line in the circle was 6.2 innings pitched, allowing two earned runs on four walks and five hits. She struck out eight.

TK smacked 14 hits and took advantage of 11 walks in the three-inning opener against Delton Kellogg. Romph was 4-for-4 at the top of the line-up with a double, a walk, four runs scored and two RBIs. Hoebeke, Holderman and Kenzie Bouma had four hits apiece. Hoebeke and Bouma both drove in four runs. Holderman, Robinett and Chloe Bossenberger had three RBIs each.

Holderman gave up one hit and one walk in two innings while striking out five in the circle for TK. Stevens threw a perfect inning to close things out, striking out one.

A single by Josie Lyons was the lone hit for Delton Kellogg in the loss.

Lakewood got to the championship game with a 14-0 win over Hastings in five innings to start the day.

Delton Kellogg took a 10-2 win over the Saxons in the consolation game to close out the day.

Those victories came on the heels of a pair of wins over Plainwell for the TK girls in Middleville last Thursday, April 17. The TK girls took 11-3 and 6-4 victories in the two games of the non-conference doubleheader.

Romph and Robinett both homered in the game one victory with Holderman getting the win in the circle. She struck out 12 in seven innings while walking one and giving up three hits. Stevens was 3-for-4 at the plate with two runs scored to help power the game-two win for TK, and she shared the pitching duties with Hoebeke and Robinett.



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Scots and Trojans in middle of pack at TK Invite

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Just one stroke separated Caledonia and Thornapple Kellogg as the Trojans hosted their annual TK Invitational on the Gold and White nines at Yankee Springs Golf Course Friday, April 18.

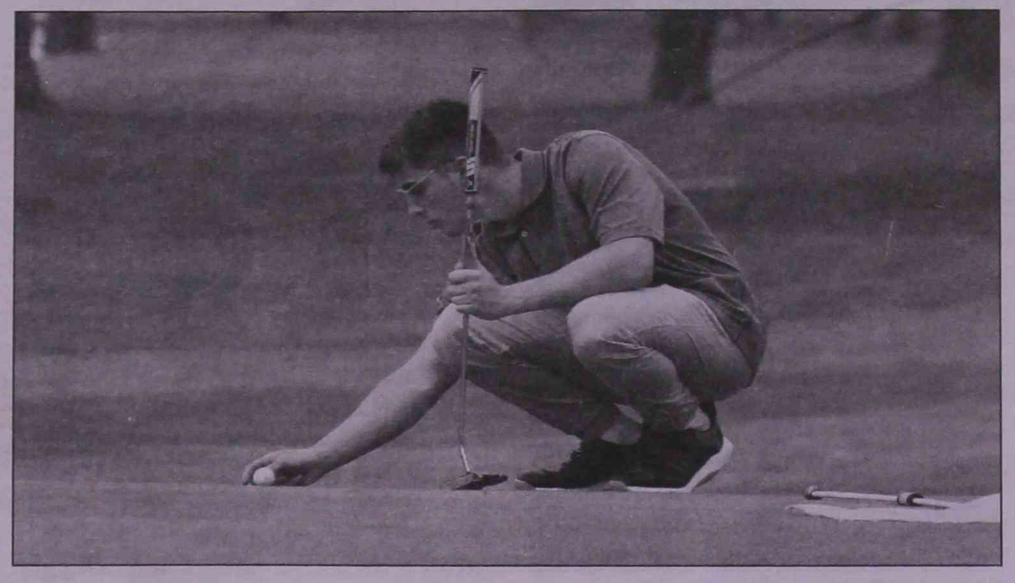
The Fighting Scots closed the day in 12th place and the Trojans were 13th overall.

A field of 22 teams was led in the end by the Greenville Yellow Jackets who put together an 18-hole score of 313 on the White and Gold nines at Yankee Springs. Hudsonville was second with a score of 314, followed by Jenison 315, Grandville 317 and St. Joseph 318 in the the top five.

The Scots had a score of 336 and the Trojans shot a 337.

Senior Parker Little was 32nd individually to lead the Caledonia team he shot an 82.

Caledonia senior Mason Kern scored an 84 and the Scots' top four also included 85s from junior Camden Quigley and senior Sam Miersen.



Thornapple Kellogg's Tyler Voss sets up a putt on Gold number two during the TK Invitational at Yankee Springs Golf Course Friday. **Photos by Brett Bremer**

Sophomore Parker Dahley led TK with an 84. The Trojans also got an 82 from senior Kylan Pratt and an 83 from senior Will Nathan. Seniors Ryan Skidmore and Tyler Voss both shot 88 for the Trojans.

Byron Center junior Gibson Hibma was the day's individual champion with a three-under-69. Greenville senior Sutton Schroeder was the runner-up with an even-par-72.

It was the start of a busy stretch for the Trojans who competed in three OK Gold Conference jamborees this week, one on Monday and two on Tuesday.

TK was beat out by Northview in a tiebreaker for fourth at the jamboree hosted by South Christian Monday

See **INVITE** on 14

Caledonia Community Schools
has posted an RFP for "2025 Pavement Program Kettle Lake Elementary School."
All RFP information can be found on the district website:
https://www.calschools.org/bond/

GAINES CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Gaines Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing to consider the following request:

Summary of Request: Request for a use variance to allow for a funeral home to operate in the Suburban Residential zoning district.
Property Address: 1095 68th Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49508
Parcel Number: 41-22-05-326-020
Applicant: Michael A. Vos
Date and Time of Hearing: May 14th, 2025, at 7:00 PM
Location of Hearing: Gaines Charter Township Offices, Board Room
8555 Kalamazoo Avenue SE, Caledonia, MI 49316

Any interested party may appear and be heard on said proposal. Information related to this request may be inspected during regular business hours Monday through Friday, at the Planning Department window located in the Gaines Charter Township Offices or contact Dan Wells at (616) 980-6188 or dan.wells@gainestownship.org. To be entered into the public record, signed written comments must be received by 5 PM on May 14th, 2025.

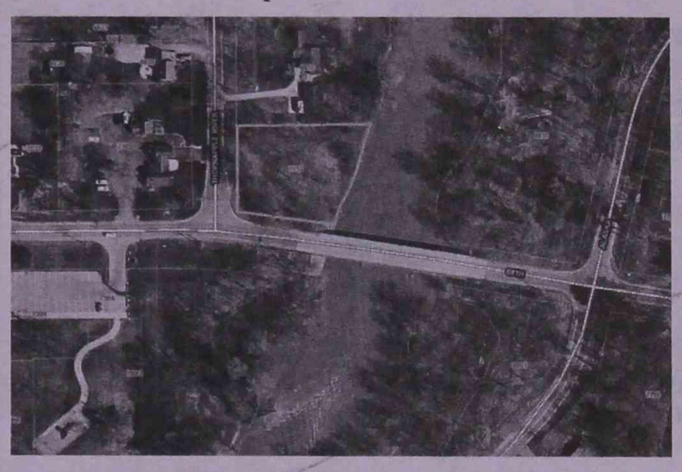
Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations should contact info@gainestownship.org or (616) 698-6640 one week prior to the meeting to request mobility, visual or any other assistance

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALEDONIA
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Caledonia will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Caledonia Township Hall, 8196 Broadmoor Avenue, SE, Caledonia Michigan, 49316.

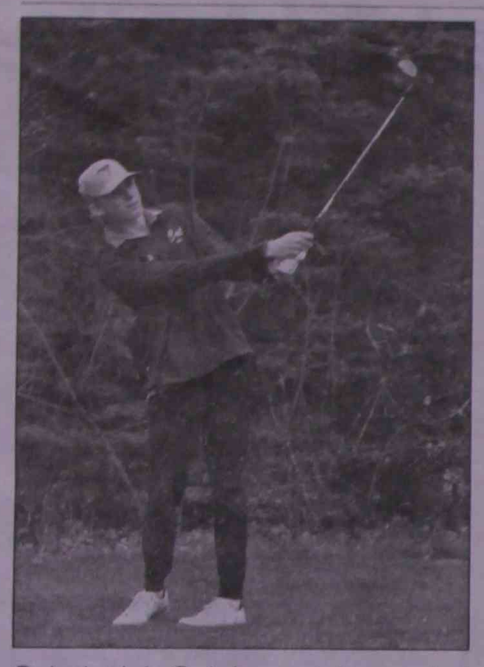


The request is for a rezoning of .7 acres from C-2 to R-2 to allow for residential 41-23-10-201-001 at 7611 68th in Alto, Michigan.

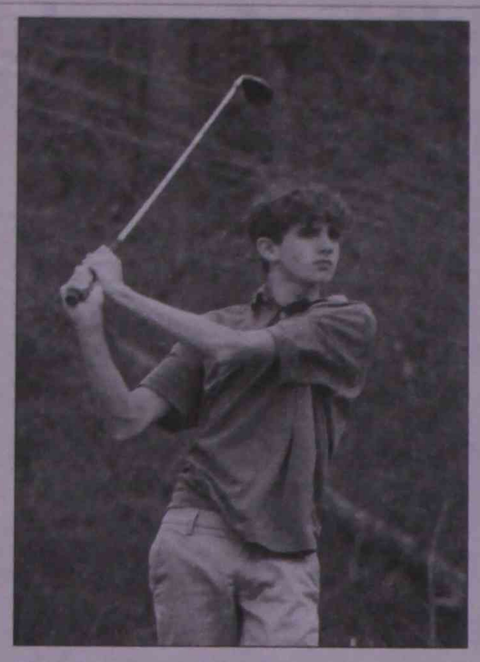
All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the proposed rezoning. Written comments concerning the requested rezoning may be submitted to the Township office, at the above-stated address, up to the time of the public hearing.

Dated: April 21, 2025

PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALEDONIA



Caledonia's Quigley watches a shot fly in the direction of the green on Gold number two during the TK Invite Friday at Yankee Springs Golf Course.



Thornapple Kellogg's Will Nathan watches his tee shot fly on Gold number two during the TK Invite at Yankee Springs Golf Course Friday, April 18.

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INVITE

Continued from Page 13

at Railside Golf Club, finished fourth at the jamboree it hosted at Yankee Springs Wednesday morning, and then finished back in sixth place at the conference jamboree hosted by Wayland Wednesday afternoon at Orchard Hills Golf Course.

Pratt had a pair of top ten finishes individually during the run. He shot a 41 at Railside to place eighth, and he was seventh at the jamboree at Orchard Hills with a 37.

South Christian won all three of those conference jamborees.

Caledonia bounced back from the invitational last week to place second at the OK Green Conference jamboree hosted by Mona Shores at Muskegon Country Club Wednesday.

Mona Shores took the day's victory with a score of 152. The Scots were second at 163 ahead of Byron Center 164, Jenison 164 and Reeths-Puffer 168.

Quigley tied for fourth individually with a 39 and Miersen shot a 40 to lead the Scots. Kern added a 41 and junior Garrett Fales contributed a 43 to round out the Scots' top four scorers.



The Fighting Scots' Parker Little shoots his ball towards the green on Gold number two during the TK Invite at Yankee Springs Golf Course Friday, April 18.

Mona Shores had two of the top three scorers on the day with senior Lincoln Harwood shooting a 36 and freshman Cruz Beckstrom scoring a 38. Jenison sophomore Cohen Chatfield scored a 38 to earn runner-up honors.

8196 Broadmoor Ave. SE
Caledonia, MI 49316

Phone: 616.891.0070
Fax: 616.891.0430

PUBLIC NOTICE
Charter Township of Caledonia
Kent County, Michigan

PRECINCT 1 POLLING LOCATION CHANGE NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Precinct 1 (Village) polling location has CHANGED for the upcoming Caledonia Community Schools Special Election to be held on May 6, 2025 in the Charter Township of Caledonia, Kent County, Michigan

For this election ONLY, Precinct 1 registered voters will vote at
Caledonia Christian Reformed Church
Located at 9957 Cherry Valley Avenue SE Ave, Caledonia MI 49316
(lower level)

This change is for the May 6, 2025 Special Election ONLY.
Precinct 1 voters will return to their prior polling location for all future elections.
Questions? Please contact:
Charter Township of Caledonia Clerk's Office
8196 Broadmoor Avenue SE
Caledonia MI, 49316
616-891-0070, ext. 215

8196 Broadmoor Ave. SE
Caledonia, MI 49316

Phone: 616.891.0070
Fax: 616.891.0430

PUBLIC NOTICE
Charter Township of Caledonia
Kent County, Michigan

PRECINCT 4 POLLING LOCATION CHANGE NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Precinct 4 polling location has **CHANGED** for the upcoming Caledonia Community Schools Special Election to be held on May 6, 2025 in the Charter Township of Caledonia, Kent County, Michigan

For this election ONLY, Precinct 4 Caledonia Community Schools registered voters will vote at
Lakeside Community Church
Located at 6201 Whitneyville Avenue, Alto MI 49302

This change is for the May 6, 2025 Special Election ONLY.
Precinct 4 voters will return to their prior polling location for all future elections.
Questions? Please contact:
Charter Township of Caledonia Clerk's Office
8196 Broadmoor Avenue SE
Caledonia MI, 49316
616-891-0070, ext. 215

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
WA CO. 9-1-1 CENTER
DIAL (800) 249-0911 NON - EMERGENCIES
"Kids Measure up at Ottawa Co. 9-1-1 Center"
OR 9-1-1 FOR EMERGENCIES
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Scots second to Hudsonville teams at Hastings Invite

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Of the few hundred student-athletes competing at the Hastings Team Invitational at Baum Stadium at Johnson Field, the new "EQ" policy really only mattered to someone like Saxon sophomore Bella Friddle.

The 2024 high jump champion at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 2 Girls' Track and Field Finals last spring earned a spot in the 2025 state finals with her second best day ever at the high jump pit. Friddle cleared the bar easily at 5 feet to rise above the only other five competitors left even attempting that height Friday. Alone in the event after that, she cleared 5 feet 2 inches, 5-4 and 5-6 on her first attempt at each height.

Friddle cleared 5-5 at the finals to win the state championship as a freshman after a 5-7 jump to set the school record at the Interstate-8 Athletic Conference Championship last season. She looked to improve her school record to 5-8 Friday, but couldn't quite clear the bar in three attempts.

"I was very nervous, even though I know I should be able to make these heights it still always gets me so nervous because every jump matters to me so much," Friddle said. "Qualifying for the state meet April 18, it is expected, and it is fun. It is kind of a relief you know, getting it out of the way I suppose."

The MHSAA this season for the first time is allowing Early Qualifier (EQ) events, like Friday's, which allow student athletes to qualify for the state finals by meeting predetermined standards. Those predetermined standards far exceed the regular state qualifying marks athletes would need to meet at regionals to qualify for the finals though, and only really apply to the elite of the elite across the state.

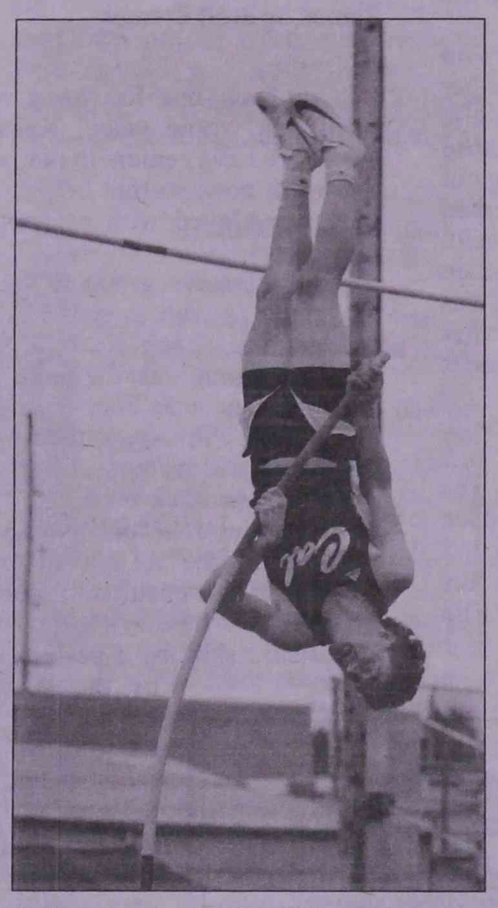
The second, third, fourth and fifth place girls in the high jump in Hastings cleared 4-9, but each failed in three tries to get over the bar at 5-0. The EQ height for the high jump in Division 2 is 5-2 this spring. At regionals a competitor would only need to clear 5-1 to qualify for the state finals. In other events there is what feels like a much larger gap.

Friddle was the only student-athlete from eight girls' teams and nine boys' teams competing Friday to meet an EQ standard. But everyone who finished an event scored for their team during the meet Friday.

The Division 1 EQ standards are even tougher than the D2 ones, and Caledonia varsity girls' coach Ben Howell said that a quick early season glance basically left the Scots with the impression that it'll basically take a school record performance to qualify for the state finals early.

New Hastings varsity girls' coach Erin Goggins lamented the fact that there are likely to be fewer meets that are more for fun with the new EQ op-

See **SCOTS** on 17



Caledonia junior Ben Moss attempts to get over the bar at 12 feet during the pole vault competition Friday, April 18, at the Hastings Team Invitational. Moss got over the bar in his third attempt to place third in the event and teammate David Potgeter also cleared 12-0 to win the event.

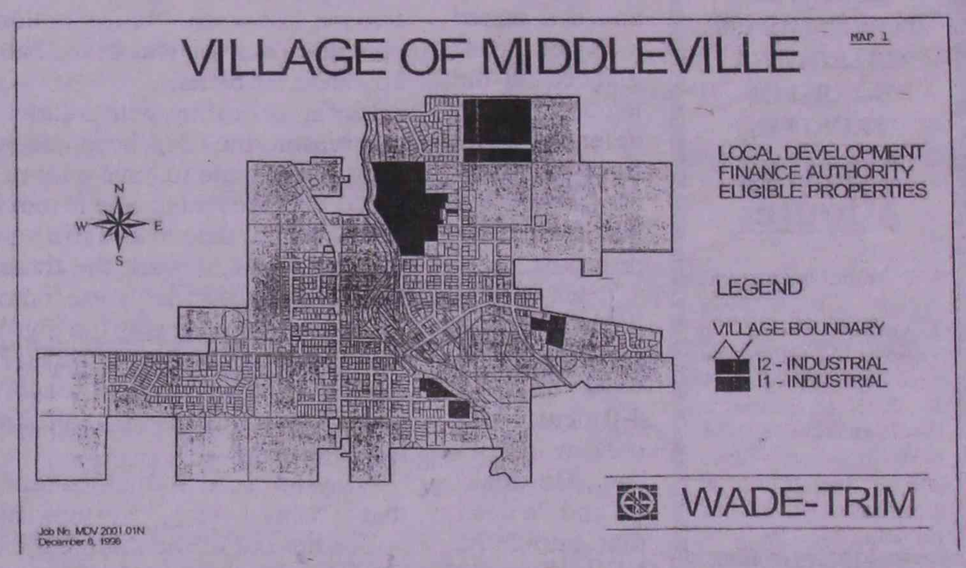
VILLAGE OF MIDDLEVILLE
BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO VILLAGE of MIDDLEVILLE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENT AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Village Council of the Village of Middleville will hold a public hearing on the proposed Amendment No. 5 to the Village of Middleville Local Development Finance Authority's Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan in accordance with the Michigan Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act (Act 57 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2018, as amended). The hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., local time (or shortly thereafter) at the Village Hall located at 100 East Main Street, within the Village.

The existing boundaries of the Authority's District are described as follows by map and general property description:

VILLAGE OF MIDDLEVILLE
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



The existing Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan (the "Plan"), as amended by Amendment Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 to the Plan, and the proposed Amendment No. 5 to the Plan, are available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk at the Village Hall located at 100 East Main Street, Middleville, Michigan.

All aspects of Amendment No. 5, the Plan, and any other information that the Village Council deems appropriate, are open for discussion at the public hearing. At the hearing, citizens, taxpayers and property owners may be heard with regard to Amendment No. 5 to the Plan. Written comments concerning Amendment No. 5 may be submitted to the Village office, located at 100 East Main Street, Middleville, Michigan, up to the time of the public hearing.

Authorized by the Village Council of the Village of Middleville on the 22nd day of April 2025.

Dated: April 22, 2025

Rhonda Van Polen, Clerk
Village of Middleville

Wilcox finds space outside as Scots shut out Jenison

Brett Bremer
Sports Editor

Fortuitous bounces made things a little easier on the Fighting Scots Thursday, April 17.

It only took about a minute for the Scots to put pressure on the Jenison net at the south end of Scotland yard in Caledonia. Joslynn Wilcox charged in for a shot and a Jenison defender's attempt to clear the ball was deflected by Wilcox right into the Jenison goal.

The Scots got a second goal before the end of the first half when junior Baylee Devries started a counter attack with a pass from the midfield out wide left to freshman teammate Myla Gortmaker. Gortmaker slid a pass back to the middle that was just out of the reach of Devries who kept her run going. The ball found its way to senior teammate Alaina Russell on the back side and she poked a shot that glanced off the leg of a Jenison defender, away from the Wildcat keeper and just inside the near post.

It was 2-0 at the half and the Fighting Scots went on to a 4-0 victory with stellar shots from Gortmaker and Wilcox that found the back of the net in the second half.

"We we're moving a lot of people around, which is good. We have a lot of injuries right now, so we're slowly getting back into it, but we're putting balls in the back of the net," first-year Caledonia head coach Taylor Kastens said. "That's what what I care about. We're finishing. We're finishing our opportunities. We did not do that at the beginning of the year, so it's nice to see that we're getting on the end of some of them now."

Caledonia moved to 2-0 in the OK Green Conference with the win and is now 3-0 in conference play after an 11-0 win at Muskegon Tuesday. Overall, the Scots were 5-4 heading into a big conference showdown in Byron Center Thursday night, April 24. The Scots and Bulldogs were the last two OK Green teams with undefeated conference records heading into the match.

"Well, we're finding that last piece into the final third. a lot better," Kastens said of the improved scoring opportunities against Jenison last week. "We're building better outside on our wingbacks and balls into the box are a lot better."

As far as dealing with injuries early on this season, the CHS head coach said her team is fortunate to have a lot of versatile players on the roster. She is moving those puzzle pieces around and still working out the best ways to work the three talented freshmen on the varsity roster onto the field.

Kastens liked the way having Wilcox on the outside against the Wildcats. There was the opportunity for Wilcox to score another goal or two Thursday had all the bounces gone her way.

"Anytime I can find her space on the field, that is what I want," Kastens said. "So, I pulled her out of the middle today. It was a little congested, and she found that space out wide and had a lot of shots on target."

The shut out was one of three so far this season for the Scots and senior keeper Ella DeRuyter.



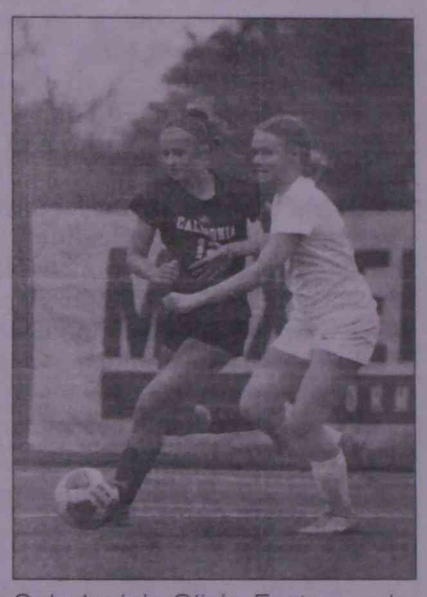
Caledonia sophomore Kelsey Roszkowski (6) pushes forward with the ball to get a shot off during her team's OK Green Conference win over visiting Jenison Thursday, April 17, as the Wildcats' Naomi Diekman (14) and Ella Meyering (11) give chase at Scotland Yard.
Photos by Brett Bremer

"Our back line has been very solid this whole year," Kastens said. "We have seniors in our back line right now, so that helps a lot that they played with each other last year. "

That defensive group is led by its keeper as well as senior Allye Risner, and coach Kastens said "she just commands the field. She anchors that back line. She talks to the girls. She keeps them very organized, and of course, Ella is just a wall in the back back. We love having her as a senior this year."

Foster shot the ball in to set up put Gortmaker in a position to score in the second half. From a tough angle Gortmaker skipped a perfect shot by the Wildcat keeper off the bottom of the crossbar and in. Wilcox scored her second goal creating a turnover at the top of the Wildcat box in the closing minutes and ripping a shot off the Wildcat keeper's fingertips into the top left corner of the goal.

The Scots are set to host Mattawan today, April 26, at 12:30 p.m. The conference season continues when the Scots host Mona Shores Tuesday. Reeths-Puffer comest to Scotland Yard for its second conference match with the Scots May 1.



Caledonia's Olivia Foster works to get around Jenison's Aliya Vugteveen (right) with the ball in the midfield during their OK Green Conference match at Scotland Yard in Caledonia Thursday, April 17.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CALEDONIA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the March 19, 2025 Township Board of Trustees Meeting that were approved on April 16, 2025, are posted at the Township Offices at 8196 Broadmoor Ave., and on the website at www.caledoniatownship.org.

Village of Middleville
COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the April 8, 2025 Regular Council Meeting, that were approved on April 22, 2025, are posted at the Village Hall at 100 E Main Street and on the website at www.villageofmiddleville.org.

Yankee Springs Township

is requesting bids to rework the walking path in the Township Park located on Parker Drive off from M-179. Work would include the milling and removal of existing asphalt , finish grade and needed gravel. Pave a new base coat of asphalt , apply tack coat and pave new topcoat of asphalt. The track is approx. ½ mile in length and 10 feet wide. Bids must be received by April 30, 2025 at noon at the township hall.

Yankee Springs Township
284 N. BRIGGS ROAD- MIDDLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 49333
269-795-9091 / FAX 269-795-2388

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OR 9-1-1 FOR EMERGENCIES
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SCOTS

Continued from Page 15

portunities. She said the Saxons had a tough time this spring finding teams to compete in their annual co-ed relays, an event with a myriad of different events that is not an EQ competition.

Hudsonville, Caledonia and Charlotte were 1-2-3 in both the boys' and girls' team competitions Friday. Hudsonville won the girls' meet with 919 points ahead of Caledonia 861.5, Charlotte 682.5, Hastings 620, Grand Rapids Track Club 460, Ravenna 413, Belding 392.5 and the Quad City Mustangs 17.5.

Just because it didn't happen Friday, doesn't mean the Scots won't have athletes pushing for spots in the state finals this season. The teams certainly had plenty of athletes pushing for victories in Hastings. Sophomore Olivia Hawkins took a pair of wins turning in a time of 16.14 in the 100-meter hurdles and 47.84 in the 300-meter low hurdles. She also teamed with sophomore Evie Huttenga, senior Avalynn Klapmust and sophomore Isla Sheely to win the 4x400-meter relay in 4 minutes 16.92 seconds.

Sheely had a win for the Scots too with a personal record time of 1:01.42 in the 400-meter dash, and she was third in the 200-meter dash with a PR of 27.63. Freshman teammate Brynn Ward was the runner-up in both the 100-meter dash (13.39) and the 200 (27.11).

The Scots had all kinds of PRs Friday. Maya Terryn set her PR at 2:33.94 in the 800-meter run to place third and senior Hannah Dupuis was second in the 3200-meter run with a PR of 11:51.36.

Caledonia girls' teams were second in the 4x800-meter relay and the 4x200-meter relay, and third in the 4x100-meter relay.

Junior Jolie King had a couple of the Caledonia girls' top finishes in the field. She was third in the shot put with a PR of 29-8 and fourth in the long jump with a mark of 14-2. Freshman teammate Lillian Ward was fourth in the pole vault with a PR of 8-0.

Hastings' Friddle won two of those events too, taking the pole vault at 9-6 and the long jump at 15-10.5. She was a state qualifier in both of those events last year as well as the high jump.

The distance runners has a great evening for the CHS boys. Eli Velting won the 800-meter run in 2:02.06. Junior Noah Johnston won the 1600-meter run in 4:30.03. Senior Kort Thompson set his PR in the 3200 at 9:52.93 with Johnston adding a PR of 10:00.14 to place second. Teammate Aidan Edgar, another senior, had a time of 10:18.43 which is a PR for him to place seventh in that 3200 too.

Velting teamed with sophomore Grant Feldpausch, senior Ethan Buer and Smith to win the 4x800-meter relay in 8:22.21.

Junior Jonas Howell scored runner-up finishes in the two hurdles races for the CHS boys. He dropped his PR in the 110-meter high hurdles to 16.38 and dropped his 300-meter hurdle PR to 41.33.

The CHS boys got two wins in the field. Senior Andrew Tava cleared 6-0 in the high jump to win it and there were three Scots in the top five with

See **SCOTS** on 20



Caledonia senior Keira Bommarito races with the pack at the start of the 1600-meter run during the Hastings Team Invitational Friday, April 18, inside Baum Stadium at Johnson Field in Hastings. **Photos by Brett Bremer**



Brooke Bender takes off with the baton as the second leg of the Fighting Scots' 4x200-meter relay team Friday at the Hastings Team Invitational. Bender teamed with Avery Seif, Avalynn Klapmust and Brynn Ward to place second in the event behind only Hudsonville.

IRVING TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
April 15, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm at 3425 Wing Rd. Hastings, Michigan 49058

Present: Lydy, Stout, Buehler, Brummel, and Nagel

Agenda approved as amended

Approved March 2024 Meeting Minutes

Approved to pay bills in the amount of $8694.27

Approved to hire Hickory Ridge Tree

Approved to purchase new Treasurer Laptop

Approved to extend AT&T contract

Upcoming Meeting dates: April 17, 2025- Barry County Road Commission Annual Roal Tour 8am,

May 20, 2025- Board meeting 7pm

Adjourn 6:54pm

Full minutes are available at Irvingtownship.org or at 3425 Wing Rd, Hastings, MI 49058. Prepared by Irving Township Clerk, Tessa Stout.

Attested to by Supervisor, Dan Lydy.

GAINES CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Gaines Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the following request:

Summary of Request: A site plan review and residential PUD Rezoning called Authentix featuring 336 multifamily units

Property Address: 6326, 6330, and 6338 Hanna Lake Avenue, Caledonia, MI 49316

Parcel Number: 41-22-02-100-051, 41-22-02-100-053, 41-22-02-100-055

Applicant: Jordan Teichen OBO Continental Properties

Date and Time of Hearing: May 22nd, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Location of Hearing: Gaines Charter Township Offices, Board Room 8555 Kalamazoo Avenue SE, Caledonia, MI 49316

Any information related to this request may be inspected, by appt., during regular business hours at the Planning Department window located in the Gaines Charter Township Offices. For information related to this request, contact Dan Wells at (616) 980-6188 or dan.wells@gainestownship.org. In order to be entered into the public record, signed written comments must be received by 5:00 PM on May 22nd, 2025.

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations should contact Kim Triplett at (616) 698-6640 one week prior to the meeting to request mobility, visual or any other assistance.

Obituaries

Jean M. (Baker) Gallup

Jean M. (Baker) Gallup, age 91, of Hastings, MI passed away on Friday, April 18, 2025.

Jean was born June 1, 1933, to Art and DeEtte Baker and grew up in Middleville. She graduated from Middleville Schools and worked various jobs before becoming a newspaper reporter and photographer where she worked for The Grand Rapids Press, J-ad Graphics, Penasse Globe, and WBCH Radio in Hastings.

A very strong woman, Jean excelled in her work as a reporter because of her love for people. She was married to Cecil Gallup for 58 years until his passing in 2012, and together they were blessed with five children.

Family was very important to Jean, and she cherished spending time with them. She loved cats and enjoyed fostering many of them.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband, Cecil; daughter, Teresa Hansen; granddaughter, Betsy Corson, and several siblings.

Lovingly remembering Jean are her children, Ron Gallup, Gary Gallup, Mike (Sharon) Gallup, Marilyn (Ed) Corson; son-in-law, Kris Hansen; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; several siblings, nieces and nephews.



The family greeted relatives and friends on Monday, April 21, at Stroo Funeral Home, 1095 68th St. SE, Grand Rapids, 49508. A graveside committal service was held at Mt. Hope Cemetery, in Middleville on Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

LOCAL CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALASKA BAPTIST CHURCH
Service Times
Sunday at 9:30 AM & 6:00 PM
www.alaskabaptist.org
7240 68th Street SE, Caledonia

Caledonia Vine Street Church
Rev. Christine M. Beaudoin
Join us for our traditional yet casual worship service, in person or online, at 9:00 am
250 Vine Street 616-891-8669

cornerstonechurch
Join us in person or online
Sundays 9:30 & 11am
1675 84th St. SE
Caledonia, MI 49316
cornerstonemi.org/weekend

FIRST BAPTIST Middleville
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Livestream: facebook.com/firstbaptistmiddleville
FBCMIDDLEVILLE.NET - 5215 M37 - 269-795-9726

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
908 W. Main Street, Middleville
(Missouri Synod)
Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: Rob Wurst
http://goodshepherdlcms.googlepages.com
Church: (269) 795-2391

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH
9669 Kraft Ave., Caledonia
Phone: 616-891-9259
www.holyfamilycaledonia.org
Saturday Evening Mass ..... 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses..... 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Considering becoming Catholic?
Call or see our website for information.

JOURNEY CHURCH
Caledonia Location -
9185 Cherry Valley Ave SE
9:15 am and 11:00 am
Middleville Location -
1664 M-37
9:30 am and 11:00 am

PEACE CHURCH
PEACECHURCH.CC
Sundays at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 AM
Lead Pastor: Pastor Ryan Kimmel
616.891.8119
6950 Cherry Valley Rd., Middleville, MI 49333
peacechurch.cc

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Fellowship 9:45 to 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10 to 10:45 a.m.
@ St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool
8436 Kraft Ave., Caledonia, MI 49316
Office 616-891-8688 • Preschool (616) 891-8688
www.stpaulcaledonia.org

THORNAPPLE VALLEY CHURCH MIDDLEVILLE
SERVICE TIMES:
Sunday at 9:30am & 11:00am
20 State Street, Middleville, MI / www.tvcweb.com



Yankee Springs Bible Church
8900 Duffy Road
Middleville, MI 49333
"Shining Forth God's Light"
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.
Community Group ..... 11:00 a.m.
James L. Collison, Pastor
www.yankeespringsbiblechurch.org

MIDDLEVILLE TOPS 546

The April 21 meeting opened with roll call and the secretary's report. There is one new fish in the fishbowl; one jumped out.

Virginia's program was from the May/June TOPS magazine "Breaking the Cycle. Five Strategies to Overcome Cravings." Why are cravings so hard to resist? Your brain is wired to seek pleasure and avoid pain and discomfort. Once the craving is satisfied, the stronger the pleasure and relief becomes – leading to the "cravings cycle."

Most cravings are food-related or emotional. Sometimes they overlap. To overcome, consider these strategies. First, pause and reflect. Question the reason for the craving. It isn't permanent and will pass. Then, align your actions with goals. What would this do to my goal? Will I be happy? After that, tune into your emotions. Why is this craving here? Our pledge says to control our emotions. Then, shift your choices. Stay away from trigger areas or situations. Finally, empower yourself with every decision. Allow yourself to make intentional choices.

Maryellen lost the Ha-Ha Box.

Linda was awarded $2 for staying in the fishbowl for six weeks in a row.

The meeting closed with marching in place as the group recited the TOPS pledge.

TOPS, a weight-loss support group, meets every Monday at Lincoln Meadows in Middleville. Weigh-in is from 3:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m., followed immediately by the meeting. Press the white buzzer for entry.

Anyone with questions may call Virginia, 269-908-8036, or Maryellen, 616-318-3545. The first meeting is free.

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WA CO. 9-1-1 CENTER DIAL (800) 249-0911 NON - EMERGENCIES "Kids Measure up at Ottawa Co. 9-1-1 Center" OR 9-1-1 FOR EMERGENCIES
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CHS hosts 2nd annual mock interview day

Caledonia High School hosted its second annual Practical Communications Mock Interview Day, an event designed to help prepare students for the professional world, on April 1.

Spearheaded by CHS educators Megan Cobb and Theresa Yonker, the event welcomed 39 community volunteers who conducted interviews with 125 juniors and seniors throughout the day.

In the weeks leading up to the event, students worked diligently to create professional resumes, write cover letters and practice interview techniques in class, according to a statement released by CHS officials. On the day of the event, students arrived dressed for success, ready to engage in 15-minute mock interviews with local professionals who asked standard interview questions and provided individualized feedback.

"This day is about more than just checking a box," said Cobb. "It's about giving students an authentic experience that boosts their confidence and helps them connect their classroom learning to real-world expectations."

Following the interviews, students reflected on their experience and documented their key takeaways as part of their Professional Portfolio final project.

"We are incredibly proud of our students," added Yonker. "They took this opportunity seriously and represented Caledonia with professionalism and maturity. We are also so grateful for our community volunteers who gave their time to make this event such a success."

For more information about CHS's Practical Communications program or to get involved in future events, persons are urged to contact the school's main office. — *DM*



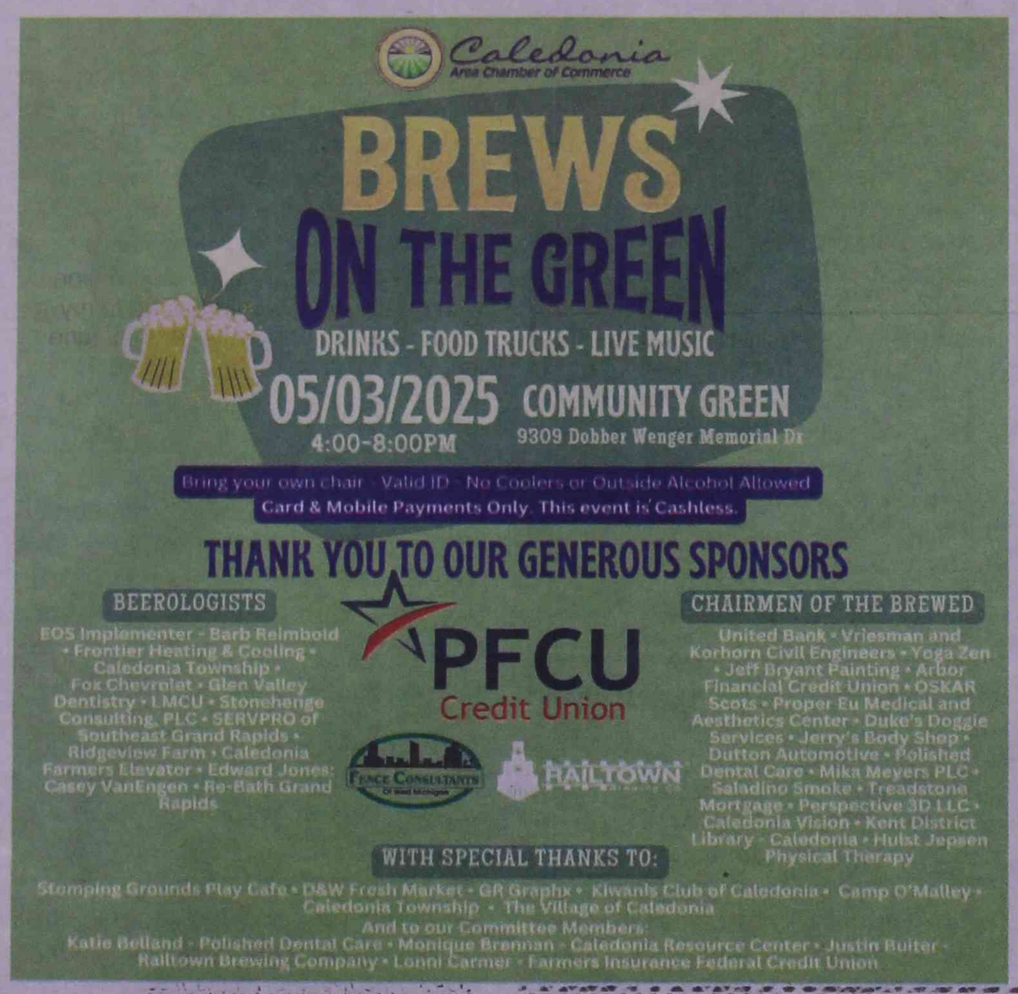
Caledonia High School hosted its second annual Practical Communications Mock Interview Day, an event designed to help prepare students for the professional world, on April 1. **Courtesy photo**

Legal advice offered at no cost to Barry County seniors

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

Those who wish to speak with an attorney should visit the Barry County Commission on Aging, 320 W. Woodlawn Ave. in Hastings, between 10 a.m. and noon on Wednesday, May 7.

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



MARGERY MARTIN ELEMENTARY TREE FUND





DELTON KELLOGG EDUCATION FOUNDATION

How to Plant a Forest

Arbor Day is a special day at Delton Kellogg Elementary thanks to beloved educator, Mrs. Martin. Her legacy provides white pine saplings to every student to plant and enjoy. Started in 2010, this fund now boasts thousands of trees, some of which could be over 30 feet tall by now.

If you want to learn more on leaving a legacy, please call Bonnie Gettys or Annie Halle at 269-945-0526, to help ensure that your gifts can support your hopes and dreams.

30 YEARS OF IMPROVING LIVES
THE BARRY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
231 S. BROADWAY ST, HASTINGS MI
WWW.BARRYCF.ORG

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Are you creative?

— NOW HIRING —

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

View Newspaper Group is seeking a full-time graphic artist for our Greenville location.

— MONDAY THRU FRIDAY • IN OFFICE • NO WEEKENDS —

This role is ideal for individuals who are passionate about graphic design with a keen eye for quality graphics. Must have working knowledge of Adobe InDesign and PhotoShop (PC) - Illustrator a plus!

Responsibilities include:

- Newspaper advertising design
- Newspaper composition/layout

We love what we do and we know you will too!

Are you the person we need?
Send your resume to General Manager Amber Rood at arood@thedailynews.cc and let's find out!

VIEW Newspaper Group

- The County Press
- Lapeer Area View
- Genesee County View
- Huron County View
- Sanilac County News
- Your Buyer's Guide
- Jeffersonian
- Tri-County Times
- Daily News
- Tri-County Citizen
- Oxford Leader
- Lake Orion Review
- Clarkston News
- The Citizen
- The Lowell Ledger
- The Hastings Banner
- Buyer's Guide & News
- The Sun and News
- Ad-Visor & Chronicle
- Battle Creek Shopper News
- The Reminder

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Caledonia junior Cody Meyers takes a turn in the shot put during the Hastings Team Invitational Friday, April 18, at Hastings High School. Myers set his PR at 41 feet 1.5 inches to place fifth in the event.

SCOTS

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junior Rydik Wrubel third at 5-9 and junior Parker Lipsman fifth at 5-6.

Scot senior David Potgeter cleared 12-0 to win the pole vault and junior teammate Benjamin Moss was third in the event also clearing 12-0.

Juniors Liam Moore and Cody Meyers had big days in the throws for the Caledonia boys. Moore was second in the discus at 137-0 and third in the shot put with a mark of 43-3.5. Meyers set his PR at 41-1.5 to place fifth in the shot put and was fourth in the discus at 133-0.

Senior Aaron Collins led the Scots in the 400-meter dash with a time of 51.11, and Levi Dorband, a sophomore, was the Scots' top guy in the sprints. He set his PR at 11.70 to place fifth in the 100-meter dash and at 23.61 in the 200-meter dash to place fourth in that one. Collins added a PR run of 23.62 to place fifth in that 200.

The Caledonia teams both took OK Green Conference wins at Reeths-Puffer Tuesday evening. The CHS boys moved to 2-1 in the conference with a 90-47 win over the Rockets.

The Scots got wins from Moore in the shot put and discus, Wrubel in the high jump, Kaleb Huyser in the long jump, Potgeter in the pole vault, Edgar in the 3200, Thompson in the 1600, Johnston in the 800 and Collins in the 400 as well as victories from the 4x400-meter relay and 4x800-meter relay teams. The victory included sweeps of the scoring spots in the discus, pole vault, 800, 1600 and 3200.

The CHS girls are 3-0 in conference duals thanks to a 116-21 win over the Rockets. The Caledonia girls won 16 of the 17 events. King took the shot put, discus and long jump, Lakely Bottum wont he high jump, and Anna VanderWal the pole vault in the field. The Scots won the 4x200-meter relay, the 4x400-meter relay and the 4x800-meter relay. Hawkins took the 100-meter hurdles and the 300-meter hurdles. Brynn Ward was the champ for the Scots in the 100-meter dash and the 200-meter dash. Sheely won the 400-meter run and Terryn the 800-meter run. Dupuis took the 1600-meter run and the 3200-meter run.

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