

Laingsburg Area Recycling May End Beginning with February Drive

submitted by Ellen Link



Laingsburg Area Recycling May End After 30 years in operation, the Greater Laingsburg Recyclers may finally have to close up shop and leave the community without this service. The City of Laingsburg will be tearing down the outbuilding we use for storage, shelter, etc. and without it we cannot operate.

This is not a choice easily made. We want recycling to remain a mainstay in our community in an effort to reduce waste and slow and prevent environmental damage. While many can avail themselves of other recycling options in the Lansing area, like MSU, there are those for whom that is not practical and who count on our assistance. We collect a wider variety of materials than most other recycling centers. We also have continued to pick up materials from Laingsburg schools

and from time to time reach out to them in the hopes of encouraging environmental awareness in the students; this, too, we want to see grow rather than die out.

Two things must happen in order for recycling to continue here: First, a site must be found which offers storage space, shelter from the elements, and preferably bathroom facilities. Second, younger people—which include most of the population—must step up and become involved, thereby creating the possibility of a gradual transition of personnel. Most of our dwindling crew of volunteers are over 60 years of age—some well over 70—so without new volunteers, recycling drives here have no plausible future. If our community cannot even support recycling how will it ever find the strength to deal with climate change? And what does it say about a community, what values does it communicate to its children, if it cannot create and sustain a willingness to care about and protect the environment?

A possible way forward requires a community-wide discussion. We invite everyone who cares about reducing waste and maintaining recycling services here, be they residents of Laingsburg, Owosso, Perry, Bath, Ovid or elsewhere, to attend a community forum to discuss the future of waste reduction and recycling in the greater Laingsburg area. Bring your friends and neighbors, and plan to share your ideas, insights, questions and concerns. Working together, we can come up with a plan—perhaps an improved version of what now exists. The forum will be held:

Wednesday, Jan 22 at 7:00pm

Laingsburg High School, large meeting room

For questions or comments, contact

Terry or Ellen Link at (517) 651-2005 or Beth Lange at 651-6437.

Elsie Village Council

submitted by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE - The Elsie Village Council held the first meeting of 2020 Tuesday, January 14, 2020. It was an evening of reports and

Mr. Paul Segert, representative of Michigan Rural Water Association, presented a proactive approach to protect the village water supply, noting this is a voluntary plan. Segert presented a Michigan Rural Water Wellhead-Protection plan fashioned for the Village of Elsie. The presentation outlined sights of potential contamination. Some parts of the program are grant eligible for example the creation of signs to inform the public, "Protect Your Drinking". The first steps would be educating the public starting with the school system. The goal is to be proactive and to protect the current water system.

Officials again addressed the sale of 216 E. Elm Street, a parcel that continues to be an issue for the Village of Elsie. The offer is \$2,600 with the Village of Elsie walking away with approximately \$1714 after fees. It was noted that the Village had \$2500 invested in the property, the consensus was to get the property back on the tax rolls.

Clinton County Commissioner Kam Washburn, now chair of the commission, presented information on the 911 millage proposal. The current 911 system has been active since 1991 and is in need of updating. The system is funded by a voter approved surcharge of \$2.75 per device capable of dialing 911. The goal is to join the State system, an 8-million-dollar investment. The millage proposal is .85 millage which would generate approximately \$2.5 million annually. In addition, the device surcharge will be reduced to \$1.50 per device. The additional cost on an \$85,000 home would be an average increase of \$27. The initiative will be on the ballot Tuesday, March 10, 2020 the presidential primary. The end result is better 911 service.

Action was taken to set the 2020-2021 budget committee meeting, the members of the committee are James Hyland, Dorothy Ornelas, and Joe Ondrusek. The meeting was set for February 6, 6pm, Village business office conference room.

One-year lawn maintenance agreement bids for Riverside Cemetery were received, three bids were resubmitted. Bids from: Katie Goodrich \$16,000; G & W Family Lawn Care \$13,500, DZ Lawn Service \$17,239.42. Last year the cost of service \$14,000 provided by Searle's Lawn Care, they did not submit a bid. It was noted that all bidders were within the Ovid and Elsie area. The bid was awarded to G & W Family Lawn for \$13,500 for the one-year contract.

Officials once again discussed the options for decorative light poles. Individual light poles for \$1730 which includes globes, at this time two poles need to be replaced. It was recommended that two poles be purchased then officials can evaluate the quality. If they meet expectations then begin annual replacement of poles, and budgeting for the purchases. After brief discussion officials took action to purchase two light poles.

Public comment focused on the lack of skill and the poor removal of snow after the weekend storm. Many complaints were received about the snow removal. It was recommended that additional training be provided for the village employees.

Monthly action was taken to approve the agenda with the additional of Kam Washburn, County Commissioner and the 911 ballot initiative; the minutes of the December 10, 2019 meeting; and financial reports. Officials took action to approve expenditures totaling \$58,935.48.

Meridian Weekly

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Ovid, MI

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Heller Honored as Numismatic Ambassador

At the Florida United Numismatist convention in Orlando, Florida on January 10, 2020, Liberty Coin Service Communications Officer Patrick A. Heller was honored as one of five new "Numismatic Ambassadors." He is now one of just over 200 people so honored by the hobby and industry since 1974.

Said LCS CEO and owner Tom Coulson, "There are only a handful of Michigan residents who have received this honor, which is akin to a lifetime achievement award. Pat was not only an owner of Liberty Coin Service for 33 years, he also devoted a significant time as a volunteer to further the numismatic hobby and industry. He has worked with Scouts and 4-H, made presentations in more than 100 school classrooms, served as an officer or on committees for multiple numismatic organizations, served as a numismatic exhibit judge, has given speeches to senior citizens, service organizations, churches, coin clubs, and investment conferences across the country, authored more than one thousand articles and newsletters, produced almost one thousand radio commentaries, and has helped gained sales tax exemptions on retail sales of rare coins and precious metals in Michigan and sixteen other states. On top of that, he also calls himself the 'unofficial artist' of the 2004 Michigan Statehood Quarter where he was the primary author of the written instructions supplied to the US Mint's engraver to create the coin's design."

When asked about his wide range of volunteer activities, Heller noted, "It would not have been possible for me to have done all of this except that Liberty Coins has a phenomenal staff. It was only with their support that I had the time to perform this volunteer work. I am humbled and grateful at receiving this elite award, which was effectively earned by the entire Liberty staff."

Frequently-honored Liberty Coin Service, founded in 1971, is Michigan's largest rare coin and precious metals dealership. Liberty Coins, as it is known locally, has been located in Lansing's Frandor Shopping Center since 1975.

The Numismatic Ambassador award was established in 1974 by Krause Publications to recognize up to five individuals annually for their contributions to numismatics. The Florida United Numismatists, one of the largest statewide numismatic organizations, continued this award beginning in 2014.



Patrick A. Heller

Attention Greenbush Residents

submitted by Ramona Smith

Greenbush Residents, an agenda item has been added to our January 27th 2020 Meeting that your Board members would appreciate your input on.

We are in the planning stages of asking for a road mileage for our Township. This would be on the August 2020 Primary Ballot. But not until we have feed back from you the residents and the Board has all there monetary amounts in order.

We will have a representative from the Clinton County Road Commission to help answer any questions .

Please join us Monday January 27th 7pm. at 1883 E. French Rd. St. Johns.

Public Welcome...

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8am-11am

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RESOLUTION #2020-01

CITY OF OVID

SCHEDULE MEETING DATES

WHEREAS: at a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Ovid, held on the 13th, day of January, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., with the following Council Members present:
PRESENT: **Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Lasher, Miss. Hibbard, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Williams**
ABSENT: Mr. Zwick

A motion was made by **Mr. Brown**, seconded by **Mr. Ordiway**, to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS; the City of Ovid's Council hereby adopts resolution #2020-01, to set the dates and location(s) for its regular meetings for the year 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meetings of the City Council will be held on every **2nd, Monday** of each month at **7:00 pm.** and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the location of the meetings will be held at the City Hall located at **114 E. Front Street, Ovid**

All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are and the same are hereby rescinded.

AYES: Ms. Perrien, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brown, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway and Mr. Lasher.
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Mr. Zwick

Resolution declared adopted this 13th, day of January, 2020, by the City Council, governing body of the City of Ovid.

Josefina Medina, City Clerk
STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF CLINTON

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Clerk of the City of Ovid, Clinton and Shiawassee Counties, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the proceedings taken by the City Council at a regular meeting held on the 13th, day of January, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereby affixed my official signature this 13th day of January, 2020.

Josefina Medina, City Clerk
City of Ovid

Caleb James Mead

Anthony and Brittany Mead of Chapin are proud to announce the birth of their son, Caleb James Mead on December 26, 2019.

Caleb weighed 7lbs, 12oz and was 21 1/4" long.

Caleb is joined at home by one sister Jami-Lee Mead.

Grandparents are Deborah Zelensky, Kevin Middleton and Jim Mead. Great-grandparents are Myrtle Zelensky and Myron Mead.

FREE Spaghetti Dinner

Dine with Your Laingsburg Lions Club on January 21, 2020 from 5-7pm at the Laingsburg United Methodist Church.

You are invited to a FREE Spaghetti dinner with your Laingsburg Lions.

Serving Spaghetti, Salad and Bread sticks.

All are welcome, bring the family and hungry tummies!

No tickets or RSVP needed, just come and enjoy. We hope to see you Tuesday January 21st. Carry out available.

January Events at Elsie United Methodist Church

submitted by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE - Elsie United Methodist Church has rescheduled a number of the January 2020 events. First, the monthly Youth Game Night will be held Saturday, January 25, 5 pm., at Foo G's Pizza, 113 E. Main, Elsie. Games, food and fun for all.

EUMC, will hold the first of the winter movie series, Saturday, January 25, 7 pm, at 160 W. Main Str, popcorn and refreshments are included at this free event. The film, a young woman has carried around the unwanted memory of her father abandoning her on Christmas Eve.

EUMC, will hold the first of three Saturday movie nights, Saturday, January 25, 7 pm, at 160 W. Main Str., popcorn and refreshments at this free event. The film - Kathleen has carried around the unwanted memory of her father abandoning her and her mother on Christmas Eve. For the past 30 years, she refuses to celebrate Christmas in any fashion. But a snow storm brings her face to face with the hurts of her past, she will have to choose; letting go and grabbing hold of a life changing forgiveness or continuing to carry her pain and bitterness with her.

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CITY OF LAINGSBURG

The City of Laingsburg City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, February 3, 2020 at a regular meeting of the City Council starting at 7 P.M. to consider amendments to Ordinances 01-2019 and 02-2019, both of which concern licensing for marihuana facilities, to include microbusinesses as permitted marihuana establishments pursuant to the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law I of 2018, and to make minor corrections in fee and operational requirements.

Any persons wishing to address these issues should attend the meeting in person, by counsel, by personal representative, or they may submit their concerns in writing no later than January 31, 2020:

City of Laingsburg
Attn: City Clerk
PO Box 178
114 N. Woodhull Street
Laingsburg MI 48848
City Hall is barrier-free. If you need assistance contact City Offices at 517-651-5374 prior to the meeting.

Paula Willoughby
City Clerk

Pompeii Baby & Youth Pantry

submitted by Glenda Braman

The Pompeii Baby and Youth Pantry is located at the Pompeii United Methodist Church, 135 Burton Street in Pompeii. It is open the first and third Thursday of every month from 10am to 5pm. Holidays and inclement weather causing school in our aret to close the pantry will also be closed.

You are not required to live in Gratiot County to receive items from the pantry.

This program provides diapers size newborn through size 6, pull-ups, baby wipes, formula, baby cereal and baby food. It also offers clothing for winter and summer wear size new born through 12 years of age, shoes, baby beds, high chairs, blankets, toys children's books, toys and other items that are needed for children. Some are new and others are gently used.

We depend on the generosity of our community to help keep the shelves of the pantry stocked. We accept donation of any items that children need.

We understand that raising children can be difficult financially at times, and we are here to help ease the expense by lending a hand.

If in need and the pantry is closed, just give us a call: Glenda Braman 989-838-2249 or Mary Toth 989-838-2210.

O-E Youth Baseball/Softball Registration

submitted by Sue Kadlek

Registration for Ovid-Elsie youth baseball and softball players of all ages will be at Ovid-Elsie Middle School Cafeteria on Wednesday, January 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 9th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. All players must be registered by February 15th. There will be a \$20 late fee for players added after February 15th and registrations cannot be accepted after March 1st due to the uniform order deadline.

Again in 2020, the OEYBS Board is pleased to announce a family discount for multiple children playing in the league. Young players will remain at \$45.00, but the older age groups receive the following price break: \$90.00 for 1st child, \$80.00 for 2nd child and \$70.00 for 3rd child.

Parents that cannot attend either of the remaining registration dates may request a sign up form by email: oeys-league@gmail.com. The registration form is also available on the OEYBS FaceBook page. For important information about the upcoming 2020 OEYBS season, connect with the league FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/oeysbs.

Paid umpire positions are also available for all levels of baseball and softball. This is a great opportunity for a student or anyone looking to work part time for a few months in the summer. Persons interested in umpiring should contact league president Rodney Palatka at 989-529-3819 for more information.

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submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso – **HIRING EVENT!** Memorial Healthcare invites you to attend our Career Fair on Wednesday, January 29 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm in our Auditorium, at 826 W. King Street, Owosso. Refreshments will be served and five - \$100 gift cards will be given away.

Discover why choosing a career at Memorial Healthcare is the best decision you will make in 2020. Bring your resume, dress professionally and interview on-site with one of our hiring managers.

We have nearly 100 positions available:

- Custodians
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- Cooks
- Medical Receptionists
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- Social Worker
- Medical Assistants
- Patient Care Techs
- And more. . .

It's time to celebrate the New Year with a new career. Whether you are hoping to find a fresh start, a better job, or a new career direction, Memorial Healthcare has a wealth of exciting career opportunities for you.

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9. Largest Employer in Shiawassee County
10. Progressive Hospital

For additional information, email MChrzan@memorial-healthcare.org or call (989) 729-4327.



Meeting Dates and Times

Ashley School Board - Meets the third Monday of the month. The next meeting will be Monday, January 20th at 7pm. at 104 N. New St., Ashley.

Ovid-Elsie School Board - Meets the third Monday of each month. The next meeting will be Monday, January 20th at 6:30 p.m. in the Information Center at the high school 8989 E. Colony Rd., Elsie.

Laingsburg Lions Club - Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 6-7pm and the 3rd Wednesday from 8:30-9:00am each month, at Twilliger's Tavern in downtown Laingsburg. The next meeting will be held on January 22nd.

Greenbush Township - Meets the fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting will be held, Monday, January 27th at 7p.m. at the Township Hall, 1993 E. French Rd., St. Johns.

Secretary of State Offices Close for MLK Jr. Holiday

submitted by Mike Doyle

LANSING – Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson reminds residents that all Secretary of State offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Most license plate types can be ordered or renewed online at ExpressSOS.com. Registrations for vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles or boats may be printed when renewing online, allowing motorists to drive legally until they get their plate and tab in the mail. Most driver's licenses and state ID cards also may be renewed online unless a trip to a branch office is required, as is the case to upgrade to a REAL ID license or state ID.

The Department of State mails notices to motorists 45 days before their driver's license or license plates expire to give them ample time to renew.

License plate tabs also can be renewed at self-service stations, many of which are available around the clock. Visit the Branch Office Locator to find a Secretary of State kiosk near you.

With the exception of holidays, offices are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Smaller offices may close for the lunch hour. On Wednesdays, offices are open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. A few branch offices offer Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to noon. Check the Branch Office Locator at Michigan.gov/SOS for complete hours and services.

Phone Scam ALERT

submitted by Larry Johnson

The Shiawassee County Health Department (SCHD) has become aware of a phone scam using SCHD's phone numbers to make calls. The caller claims to be with SCHD or from Medicare/Medicaid. In both instances, the caller is asking for personal and confidential information. SCHD's phone number shows up on the caller ID, but the call is actually from a scammer, not SCHD. If you receive a call and the person asks for confidential information hang up!

We believe this is a scam targeting the elderly to obtain sensitive information. Due to privacy reasons, the Health Department would NOT call and leave a message asking for personal information.

NEVER give out confidential information, such as account numbers, social security numbers or passwords to an unsolicited caller.

You can also call the main number at Shiawassee County Health Department if you are unsure or would like more information: 989-743-2318

1099-G Forms Being Sent to Some Taxpayers

submitted by Ron Leix

LANSING – Michigan taxpayers who received a state income tax refund and filed an itemized federal return last year will be receiving their Substitute Form 1099-G through the U.S. Postal Service, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Simply known as a "1099-G," the information on the postcard reports the state income tax refund amount a taxpayer received last year. Taxpayers who claim itemized deductions on their federal income tax returns will need to report the Michigan refund as income.

"Some taxpayers mistakenly believe the 1099-G is a bill," said Deputy State Treasurer Glenn White, who oversees Treasury's Tax Administration programs. "The 1099-G is not a bill. This is an information statement regarding the state income tax refund you received last year. You may need to use this form when filing your federal income taxes."

For the 2019 tax year, more than 413,000 taxpayers will receive a 1099-G.

To learn more about state income taxes, go to www.michigan.gov/incometax. For more information about federal income taxes, go to www.irs.gov.

OVID-ELSIE
Marauders

YOUTH T-BALL BASEBALL SOFTBALL

Registration Dates:

Wednesday, January 29th
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Sunday, February 9th
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

O-E Middle School Cafeteria

League Ages

Co-Ed T-Ball: 4-6 yrs old
Boys Rookie: 7-8 yrs old
Girls Rookie: 7-8 yrs old
Boys Minor: 9-10 yrs old
Girls Minor: 9-10 yrs old
Boys Major: 11-12 yrs old
Girls Major: 11-12 yrs old
Boys Pony: 13-14 yrs old
Girls Pony: 13-14 yrs old

Find us on **facebook**

www.facebook.com/OEYBS

Can't make registration?
Contact oeysb@gmail.com
to receive a form by email.

All players must be registered by March 1st to play the 2020 season.

Looking for Summer Work?
We are hiring baseball & softball umpires for the **2020 season.**
This is a great job for high school & college students!
Contact Rod Palatka at 989-529-3819

Ovid-Elsie Sports Booster
in collaboration with Marauder Wrestling Presents

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Saturday, March 14, 2020
5:00 p.m. *(doors open at 4)*
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Home Improvement

7 Things to Consider When Buying a Shed

Backyard sheds can be useful assets. Sheds can create storage space in the garage, basement or other areas of the house that have become gathering spots for gear typically used outdoors. Sheds are ideal for housing mowers, tools and even pool-care equipment. But they can be put to other uses as well, such as being key spots to engage in hobbies or even as a child's clubhouse.

Various factors should be considered before building or buying a shed. A storage shed can be a significant investment. Once placed, sheds may remain in their dedicated spots for years to come. That means careful thought should go into the planning process.

1. Check your local building codes first. Before you accumulate building materials or order a shed, be sure to know the ins and outs of shed codes. The codes may impact the shed's placement, construction, the materials used, size, and numerous other factors. It's much easier to amend plans beforehand than to face the hassle and expense after learning you did things incorrectly.

2. Choose placement wisely. Spend several days assessing the yard and thinking about the uses for the shed. If you plan to store pool floats and chemicals inside of the shed, it should be located close enough to the pool to be convenient. Look at the lay of the land. If there is a soggy patch of land that can turn swampy under the shed's foundation, that is a poor location choice. If you need access to electricity, placing it far away from the house could necessitate running expensive wiring.

3. Consider the design. Just because a shed is for storage doesn't mean aesthetics should be overlooked. Choose a shed style that complements your home. You may also want to match certain architectural features, like arched doorways or dormers. Design also may relate to practicality. For instance, storing a riding mower inside may necessitate dual doors that open widely.

4. Invest in quality materials. Spending a little more and using quality materials can ensure it lasts long enough to be cost-effective. The right materials will be resistant to splitting, cracking, decay, and insect damage.

5. Prepare the site well. A proper foundation for the shed is almost as important as the shed itself. You cannot just drop the shed on the lawn and leave it, as the shed can sink or structural issues may arise if it is placed on a weak base.

6. Blend into the environment. Surround the shed with shrubs or plants so that it blends into the yard and complements the space.

7. Deck out the interior. Use every storage tool at your disposal to maximize floor, wall and even rafter space for storage. Plan where items will be kept and customize the storage options around those locations.

Sheds can be an asset and improve storage capability in the backyard.



Essentials for a Bathroom Remodel

What began as a utilitarian space for personal sanitation has, in modern times, transformed into one of the most coveted rooms in the house. Bathrooms have become a place to relax and unwind, and new bathrooms are on the tops of many homeowners' wishlists.

Bathrooms can be as lavish as budgets allow. Wish lists can include everything from luxurious soaking tubs to rainfall showerheads to chaise lounges to televisions or home entertainment systems contained in the space. Those contemplating their own bathroom renovations may draw inspiration from the following features.

- Hot water recirculation system: Few things can be as disappointing as desiring a hot bath or shower only to find that the hot water tank has been drained. The home remodeling company Normandy Remodeling says that water recirculation systems provide on-demand hot water. In such systems, hot water may continuously run through the pipes or there may be a pump underneath a sink. Either way, one needn't wait for the water to warm up any longer.

- Double undermount sinks: Bathroom time is at a premium, especially when people must prepare and leave the house together. Rather than jockeying for position around a single sink, dual sinks enable more breathing room and time efficiency. Undermount sinks are easy to clean because there is no lip around where the sink meets the vanity, preventing the accumulation of grime and gunk.

- Glass-free shower: Soap scum and water deposits can form on shower doors, even for homeowners who are diligent with cleaning. A sizable shower prevents water spray and affords the ability to forgo glass doors or curtains, thereby cutting down on cleaning and making the room feel more modern.

- Multihead shower: When redoing the shower, account for various shower heads so that the water can cascade across the body more completely. This provides a spa experience at home.

- Touchless faucets and soap dispensers: These aren't just for public bathrooms anymore. Touchless faucets and dispensers are more sanitary and convenient.

- Separate toilet room: A shared bath almost necessitates this type of set-up. The toilet is housed inside its own small space and closed away from the rest of the bathroom. It's more private and convenient this way.

- Heated flooring: You need not worry about stepping out of a warm shower onto a cold floor when heated flooring is part of the equation. This option is available in various flooring materials as well.

Remodeling a bathroom boils down to certain coveted features that can really set a space apart.



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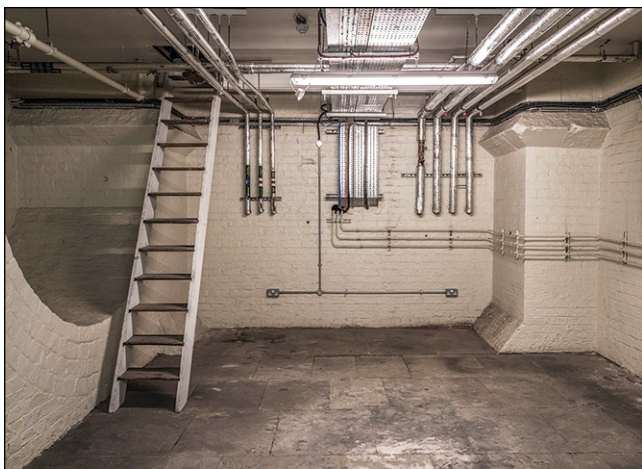
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Home Improvement



Tips for Waterproofing a Basement or Crawl Space

Water can be a homeowner's worst nightmare. Few things have the potential to damage a home as much as water. From leaks to flooding to moisture problems like mold, water can wreak havoc on a home.

Basements or crawl spaces are areas of a home where water can do the most damage. Basements and crawl spaces tend to be the lowest-lying spots in a home, and therefore prime spots for water to enter. Water problems in these areas can contribute to the demise of the structural integrity of the foundation.

According to Olshan, a foundation solutions company, water can enter homes in numerous ways. Many building materials, including concrete, that seem solid at first glance actually are quite porous. As ground water collects around these materials, the weight of the accumulated water, called hydrostatic pressure, can weaken the materials, causing cracks where water can seep through. Water also can enter subterranean spaces through basement windows and gaps between footings and concrete slabs, or push up through foundation floors when homes are in areas with high water tables.

Remediating water issues in a home generally breaks down into two methodologies: exterior waterproofing and interior waterproofing. Depending on the cause and severity of the water issue, one or the other, or even both, may be recommended.

Exterior waterproofing

Exterior waterproofing aims to keep water away from and out of the home. The home improvement information resource DoItYourself.com says that exterior waterproofing generally includes the application of a waterproofing agent to the concrete foundation. In addition, exterior waterproofing also could include excavation so a drainage system can be installed around the entire footing of the home. Regrading a property and properly relocating gutters and downspouts can help with many water issues.

Interior waterproofing

When water in a basement or crawl space needs to be remediated indoors, a system to collect, drain and remove water may be necessary. This can include sump pumps, drains, gravity discharge systems, and more. Moisture barriers, which can include special paints or products applied to the foundation walls and floor, also can help keep water from entering the space.

Moisture solutions

Keeping water out is only one part of the equation. Homeowners also need to manage moisture, like excessive humidity. A marriage of HVAC and waterproofing techniques may be necessary to improve air flow and remove humidity in the air.

While many homeowners have attempted to address water issues on their own, many times it is a job best left to the professionals. Because water penetration can have multifaceted causes, a professional can best assess the situation and create solutions that fit with homeowners' budgets and needs. The review and advice site Angie's List suggests finding at least three waterproofing companies that offer both interior and exterior waterproofing services that can provide the best ideas for fixing the issue.

Improve Storage at Home

Homes are getting bigger, but it seems like people are still lamenting a lack of storage space.

National Public Radio says the average American home has nearly tripled in size during the last 50 years. Despite that, 10 percent of Americans still need to rent off-site storage, according to a report in the New York Times Magazine. Self-storage facilities are one of the fastest-growing commercial real estate segments, and the Self Storage Association says there are more than 50,000 storage facilities in the U.S. alone. The commercial real estate company CBRE, Ltd., says there are roughly 3,000 self-storage facilities across Canada, and 65 to 85 percent of self-storage tenants are residential users.

Improving storage at home can be a cost-effective alternative to renting storage space. With these easy tips, homeowners can maximize space immediately.

Utilize track storage systems

Closets may be plentiful, but if not efficiently utilized, space may still seem lacking. Track closet storage systems often make greater use of closet space than traditional shelf and hanging rod systems. Customizing closets using track systems or other modifications can improve utility of all closets in the house.

Invest in storage beds

Storage beds typically feature cubbies or drawers within a platform-style bed frame. It's a practical home storage solution, and does not require any building.

Think vertically

Maximize spaces by looking up and down for storage possibilities. Items that are not used frequently, such as seasonal decorations or travel suitcases, can be stored in high spaces. Shelving on walls can go as high as necessary and be put to use in awkward wall areas, such as in corners or under eaves.

Invest in storage benches/ottomans

A stopping area inside the front door replete with a storage bench can house shoes, umbrellas, hats, backpacks, and other items, keeping them tidy and out of sight. In living rooms, look for chests or ottomans that are decorative and functional. Store throw blankets or board games inside.

Recess drawers or shelves

Gain more storage by recessing a chest of drawers into what is called the "knee wall" of homes that have sloped ceilings in attics and upstairs bedrooms. Utilize these short walls in an efficient manner by sinking drawers or shelves into them, without taking up floor space.

Rafter shelving

While in the attic (or a garage), add hanging shelves to rafters or exposed beams to create off-the-floor storage as well.

These are just a few of the handy ways to improve the interior storage space in a home.



Did You Know?

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, controlling moisture in a home can make the home more energy-efficient. Controlling moisture improves the effectiveness of air sealing and insulation, decreasing heating and cooling costs and helping to conserve energy as a result. The DOE notes that moisture problems can exist anywhere building components are below grade. This can include basements, crawlspaces and slab-on-grade foundations. Basements are notorious for moisture issues, but such problems can be prevented. Basement water leakage is most often the byproduct of water flowing through holes or cracks in the basement walls. Water also may wick into the cracks and pores of building materials such as masonry blocks, concrete or wood.



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National Diabetes Prevention Program Offered at Memorial

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus
Owosso – The Memorial Healthcare Community Wellness, Nutrition and Diabetes Center and the MSU Extension will be presenting the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) on Tuesdays, beginning January 28, 2020 (January 28 is a FREE information session). Groups meet for 16 weekly sessions and six monthly follow-up sessions with a trained Lifestyle Coach from 5:30 – 6:30 pm.
The NDPP is a program proven to motivate and support people at risk for developing diabetes and those with prediabetes to make practical, real-life changes and cut their risk for developing type 2 Diabetes by more than half. The program can show you how to make better food choices, be more physically active and find helpful ways to cope with problems and stress.
This Pre-Diabetes Class will be held at the Memorial Healthcare Community Wellness, Nutrition and Diabetes Center at 317 S. Elm Street, Suite 202, Owosso. The actual cost of the class is \$650, but with the support of Michigan State University Extension and Memorial Healthcare, the cost of this class is reduced to \$50 per person. Financial assistance may be available upon request.

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For more information, please call the Memorial Diabetes & Nutritional Counseling Center at: (989) 729-4700 or Sean Knurek, MSU Extension Educator at: (989) 743-2254.

Every moment is a fresh beginning. – T.S Eliot

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Rev. Melanie Young

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Pastor: Ava Williams

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Bannister

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Word & Communion Every 3rd Friday at 9am

Confession: Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...

Obituaries

Donald Frederick Casaday

Donald Frederick Casaday, age 79, of Ovid, MI, passed away Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at Sparrow Health Systems Sparrow, Lansing, MI.
Donald was born in Lansing, MI on May 15, 1940, the son of Harry Thomas and Alleen Marie (Shirey) Casaday. He graduated from Lansing Eastern High School. Don married Martha Marie Irene Beyer on August 18, 1962, in Lansing, MI. They celebrated 57 years of marriage. Martha passed away on August 4, 2019.
Don had previously owned and operated a Marathon Gas Station in Okemos, MI. He went on to work at Motorwheel and helped out working on a farm in Perry, MI before retirement. He loved trapping, hunting, and fishing. He enjoyed working on computers. Don and Martha enjoyed dancing together and going out with friends; they were inseparable. Family and friends were very important to Don. He especially loved time spent with his grandchildren.
He is survived by 2 sons: Charles Casaday of Owosso MI; and Ronald and Melissa Casaday of Ovid, MI; 4 granddaughters: Shelby and Corey Ross, Casandra Casaday, Macie Casaday, and Sadie Casaday; 4 great-grandchildren: Zoey, Calum, Rachel, and Ylette; and brothers Robert and Michele Casaday of Eaton Rapids, MI; and Tom Casaday of Las Vegas, NV. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and son Donald Frederick Casaday Jr.
Cremation has taken place and a memorial will be held at a later date.
Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI

Owen Neal Baese

Owen Neal Baese, age 81, passed away peacefully at his home on January 11, 2020 in Maple Rapids, Michigan.
Owen was born October 7, 1938 in Elsie, Michigan. He was one of twelve children born to Onas and Thelma Baese.
A memorial will take place at a later date. Burial will be held at Riverside Cemetery in Elsie, Michigan.
Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie Chapel.

It's Time to Get REAL

submitted by Cathleen P. Simlar
Your Michigan driver's license or identification card may not get you through airport security later this year.
Oct. 1 is when the federal government will fully enforce the post-9/11 REAL ID Act, and standard state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards will no longer be accepted to board domestic flights within the United States, or when entering certain federal facilities, such as military bases or nuclear power plants.
Many people already have a REAL ID document, such as a valid U.S. passport, a DHS Trusted Traveler Card or an Enhanced Driver's License. A full list of acceptable REAL ID documents is available at TSA.gov. Those who don't can make their Michigan license or identification REAL ID-compliant by visiting a Secretary of State branch office and presenting the required documents. And, if you make an appointment, you'll be in and out in 30 minutes or less.
Here's what you need to do to get a REAL ID:
•To schedule an appointment at one of our branch offices visit Michigan.gov/SOSAppointments or calling 888-SOS-MICH. You can make your appointment at any branch in the state, and you don't need to have a renewal mailer to do so. Some branches fill up fast, so book your appointment a few weeks in advance of when plan to travel. Your REAL ID license or state ID card will be mailed to you.
•Bring your driver's license or state identification card.
•Bring your certified birth certificate, with a raised seal or stamp issued by a governmental agency; your valid, unexpired U.S. passport; or an approved citizenship or legal presence document. (Faxes and photocopies won't be accepted.)
•If your name differs from what is on your birth certificate, bring certified documents for every time your name has changed, such as marriage licenses or court orders.
There's no additional fee to turn a license or state ID card into a standard REAL ID if it's done during your normal renewal time; otherwise a duplicate card fee of \$9 or \$10 will be charged.
For more information, visit Michigan.gov/RealID.

Editorial



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
tohearns@yahoo.com
www.letsmeetgod.com

Sometimes it is said that Christians have faith, while non-believers have intellect and knowledge (which they believe is superior).

From the Bible's point of view, this is untrue, as God calls for all believers in Him to love Him with all of our minds (Mark 12:30), along with having faith in Him (Hebrews 11:6).

We should not let anyone disparage our having faith as believers. To say that intellect is more important than faith is not true. For one, love is above both of them. Next on the list of importance is faith and hope, not intellect or knowledge.

It doesn't mean that intellect or using our minds is unimportant. God have us our minds to use and we are to do so for His glory.

But faith is of even greater importance.

Let's consider the following:

-Faith is the means by which we receive salvation or a personal relationship with God. There is nothing more important in life than this and it can only be received by faith.

-Yes, God does use the mind to bring us to faith, but with only knowledge about God and without faith in Him, we are no better than the demons who know that God exists, but do not believe in Him unto salvation. They only have intellectual knowledge of Him.

- There is a whole chapter in the Bible dedicated to people who had great faith in God (Hebrews chapter 11).

When we don't have an answer to some question about Christianity, keep the faith. Don't be embarrassed to say, "I don't know. Let me check that out." while you keep believing in God.

We also need to acknowledge that there are mysteries in life and things that we will never be able to answer fully. That's okay. Keep the faith. Keep believing in God and trusting in Him and His Word, the Bible.



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

This week has started with a gust of wind and a blast of ice....some folks are without power and some of us just had power flickers. Now the roads in my area are mushy mashed messes but the main road has been plowed and salted. I had spent Friday making from scratch and baking bread, sixty loaves to be exact. The Michigan weather managed to trip up the delivering of them. My small church was starting the New Year with a "bread and bells" initiative. The bread was made, baked, bagged, and belled for delivery.....but we didn't get to ring in the New Year as expected. I did manage to deliver a few loaves but decided that I didn't want to flip and land on my hip or back or bang my head.....self-preservation.

So.....I contacted my neighbors and found some freezer space, removed the bells, and froze the bread.....the bread will be used during our soup and sandwich suppers that started on the fourteenth of January from 5 PM to 6:30 PM on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The Bannister United Methodist Church will be opening their doors again and challenging our cooks to make divine soups and toasted ham and cheese sandwiches. Same days and times are scheduled through February and March. Yes, there are desserts.

Since I'm being very open about what I do and support, I was wondering if anyone out there has a used crib or baby furniture. If you would like to help others, why not donate them to one of our local baby pantries. There is one in Pompeii and one in Elsie...and I believe that both of them can give you a receipt so that you can use the tax deductible donation on your taxes.....of course you will need to hold your receipt for your 2020 tax returns. There is nothing wrong about looking to the future and planning ahead.

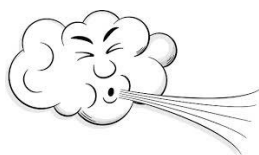
I have been doing an inventory on what needs to be done to finish my downstairs.....so of course I also got an estimate. Now I'm sorting through what I could do that would be a bit different but still would satisfy my expectations. Fortunately I already have the matching flooring, plus the two by fours, dry-wall and paint. I still need to do a bit of measuring and check out the pricing on subway tile. Oops, I almost forgot about the three quarter inch cove for an exterior corner which will work well with the rustic eclectic visualization that has been my focus. I think that I will visit a few lumberyards tomorrow afternoon.

We had three awesome soups at the dinner Tuesday evening plus Edna brought in three huge flaky crusted pies....apple, blueberry, and mincemeat. Then there were two different kinds of brownies, open faced cream puffs and pecan filled decadence. Ralph and Carol kept the griddle filled while toasting cheesy ham sandwiches. The coffee was hot and fresh, carafes of ice water graced the tables and red punch and lemonade were ready to be poured. Those that came walked away with smiles on their faces.....good company, good food, and good time. So come and join us on the 28th and make the connection.

I've been watching Prudence and Robert interact with each other. Robert is a confused young cat that we mislabeled as Roberta.....so he may have gender issues. This tabby has an affinity with buttons.....he is fascinated with them especially those on my son's shirts. As to his confusion he loves playing with the outside cats but spends a great deal of time trying to figure out what Prudence islike him she plays with the outside cats but she doesn't talk like them. Consistently she takes turns chasing or being chased by the pride of felines that keep varmints out of the yard. Prudence just barks and growls as needed while she plays with her friends.

It has been another entertaining week for me filled with a bit of whimsy and a good dose of common sense. May God bless you with a bit of whimsy and a great deal of foresight.

Crystal Mitchell ©2020



Thank You

Letter to the Editor:

The Shephardsville United Methodist Womens woul like to thank Walmart in St. Johns for their generous support with our Christmas Program.

Thank you and God Bless You.

Joyce Davis

President of Shephardsville UMW

CITY OF OVID SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 13, 2020

The Full set of the Minutes for the Regular meeting may be viewed or acquired at the Municipal Building located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid.

Mayor Lasher opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Lasher, Miss. Hibbard, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Williams.

ABSENT: Mr. Zwick

EX OFFICIOS: Rick Hogle — Sgt. of Police, Rich Simpson — DPW Superintendent, Patti Kieffer- Deputy Treasurer and Josefina Medina — Clerk.

VISITORS: Mark Holley and Doug Scott from ROWE Professional.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to approve the agenda printed.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: A motion was made by Ms. Perrien, second by Mr. Williams to approve minutes of December, 3rd, Special Meeting with the correction discussed and the December 9, 2019 Regular Meeting as printed.

MOTION CARRIED

CHECK REGISTRY: A motion was made by Miss Hibbard, second by Mr. Williams to accept the check registry from December 7, 2019 thru January 10, 2020 as printed.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Brown to accept the Treasurer, Police & DPW reports as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

1. a motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Ordiway to adopt resolution #2020-01 titled Schedule meeting dates.

The Clerk took roll call as follows: YEAS: Ms. Perrien, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brown, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway and Mr. Lasher. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The resolution will be published in its entirety in the Weekly.

2. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to reappoint Mr. Wells Monroe, Dr. Michael O'Bryant, Mrs. Deb Price as members of the BOR and Mr. Raymond Medina as alternate to the BOR.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion was held on the newly proposed changes to the City's Drug & Alcohol policy. No action taken.

4. A motion was held by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Ordiway to offer the DPW job to Mr. Randy Risdon and if he declines that we offer it to Mr. David Norris as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion was held on the EMS millage. No action taken.

6. Mr. Williams moved to name Mr. Richard Simpson as the new Street Administrator and Mr. Brown supported the motion. The Clerk took roll call as follows: YEAS: Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brown and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The resolution will be published in its entirety in the Weekly.

7. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to keep the committee member the same as 2019 for 2020.

MOTION CARRIED

BOARD OF REVIEW: A motion was made by Ms. Perrien, second by Mr. Brown to accept the dates for the Board of Review which will be March 9th from 3 to 9 and March 10th from 9 to 3.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to move the regular Council meeting from march 9th to Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 7 pm.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Lasher closed the meeting at 8:40 pm. Josefina Medina, Clerk

City of Ovid

Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

You can also mail or drop questions off to: Meridian Weekly
P.O. Box 11, Ovid, MI 48866

Stop the Robo-Calls

Dear Andy,

My cell phone receives no less than 10 Robo calls a day and now I am getting dozens on my emails. It is getting worse. What is going on? I am ready to chuck my phone. What can I do? Annoyed

Dear Annoyed,

I understand. After a year of the same problem, I decided to figure it out. I used to shout, hang up, talk to them, when they were polite to answer back after a hello. Now I get very few calls and I love it. When it is an email you will need to scroll to the bottom and unsubscribe. It takes extra time, but well worth it and easier then changing your email address.

As for the phone, simply Type the letter: STOP and send. Robo call are just that - a computerized robot call that only knows the word STOP in capitol letters. To get rid of cold callers with unsolicited and unwelcome calls you block them. As soon as you hang up from the call, the number will still be visible, press on the number and then press the 3 top dots on the top right side of your phone on the screen. You will get an option to BLOCK the caller. As I have been blocking these calls for months and am now getting only one or two a week. It's easy to block and has limited my unwanted calls.

Be persistent and tenacious in your BLOCKING and STOPPING. Thanks for asking Andy. Ask me anything at ask_andy@aol.com. If I don't know I will find out for you from another expert with advice and information.

Winter Car Care

Exercise Caution Around Brake Dust

As cars age, certain wear and tear is to be expected. One of the realities of frequent driving, particularly for drivers who routinely drive in stop-and-go traffic, is the gradual deterioration of brake pads. Do-it-yourselfers can replace brake pads on their own, but those that do should be aware of a potential hazard when doing so.

The Mesothelioma Center says that brakes sometimes contain asbestos due to that material's heat-resistant qualities. As brakes start to wear down over time, the asbestos can escape. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) says that, while many new automotive components are asbestos-free, asbestos hasn't been eliminated entirely from the industry. That is why mechanics and do-it-yourselfers need to exercise caution when repairing or replacing brakes.

Brake dust may inadvertently expose individuals to cancer-causing asbestos through inhalation or ingestion. OSHA says that exposure to asbestos, if not properly controlled, can cause mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis. Symptoms may not appear for years or even decades after contact with asbestos fibers.

The Mesothelioma Center estimates that asbestos is present in 30 to 80 percent of brakes and other components. The routine task of "blowing out" brake surfaces, which involves using an air hose to clean the surfaces of brakes and rotors, is one of the most common ways people are exposed to asbestos through brake dust.

Gray-black brake dust is made up of iron particles formed by the grinding of the brake rotor by the brake pads. However, brake dust also can contain some metallic elements and other components housed in the brake pad — including asbestos.

The automotive resource YourMechanic says that, while brake dust is not indicative of a poor braking system, over time brake dust can corrode the clear coat on a car and may eat into the aluminum alloy surface of the wheel. That is why so many drivers try to clean away brake dust, potentially exposing them to dangerous materials.

DIYers may be better off visiting professional service centers to have brakes addressed rather than doing the job on their own. OSHA says all automotive brake and clutch repair facilities in the United States must comply with the OSHA asbestos standard. These include using negative pressure enclosure/HEPA vacuum systems and low pressure/wet cleaning methods.

While asbestos is being phased out of many automotive components, it is always best to treat brakes, clutches and more with extra caution in the event that asbestos is present.



How to Fix Leaky Vehicles Without Breaking the Bank

Drivers expect to experience a few bumps in the road as their vehicles age. While certain issues, such as worn shocks or engine troubles, are best left to the professionals, drivers can address many other issues that commonly affect aging vehicles on their own.

Fluid leaks are one of the more routine problems that plague older vehicles. While leaks are not necessarily a sign of doom and gloom, they tend to distress vehicle owners and can affect drivability.

In addition, automotive fluids that seep out of vehicles can prove harmful to the environment.

Leaks may not be a concern for drivers of new vehicles, but studies show that drivers are keeping their vehicles for longer than ever before, suggesting that leaks are becoming a greater issue for more and more motorists. A 2016 study from the Institute for Highway Safety found that the average age of vehicles on the road in the United States is nearly 12 years. By 2021, the IHS expects a 30 percent increase in vehicles that are 16 years or older.

So how can drivers address leaky vehicles before they contribute to potentially larger, more costly problems? Fortunately, leaks can be a relatively simple fix, which should assuage any fears drivers may have as the numbers on their odometers continue to rise.

Identifying leaks

Identifying leaks is the first step toward fixing them. According to CRC Industries, a global leader in specialty maintenance and repair chemicals, including K&W brand Stop Leak products, the simplest way to identify which fluid is leaking is to determine its color. CRC notes that red fluid suggests a leak in the power steering system or transmission, while black fluid typically indicates old oil or transmission fluid that has gone bad. If the leaky fluid is green or yellow, then it's likely engine coolant.

Fixing leaks

Once drivers have identified which fluid is leaking, they can then take steps to fix the leak. Unlike other problems that plague older vehicles, leaks can typically be fixed quickly and affordably.

"Stop leak products can really save the day, especially if the leak means that you have to stop driving the vehicle," says CRC Technical Service Manager Scott Brownstein. "Our K&W Stop Leak solutions are designed to provide faster, less expensive alternatives for drivers who may be facing costly mechanical repairs."

Stop leak products can be especially valuable to drivers of older vehicles, who may not want to pay for repairs that could very well exceed the value of their cars and trucks. In addition, replacement parts for older vehicles are oftentimes not readily available. In such instances, stop leak products can help drivers keep their cars on the road until replacement parts are found. Stop leak products also can be valuable in the face of emergencies, giving drivers time to get their vehicles to their mechanics.

K&W Stop Leak products are available to address any type of leak drivers may encounter, and drivers need not be car savvy or mechanically inclined to use the products without professional assistance. For example, K&W's Super Turbo™ Engine Oil Stop Leak and Steer-XTM Power Steering Stop Leak employ a "Pour & Go" formula that can get drivers and their vehicles back on the road in 10 minutes.

As more and more drivers look to extend the life of their vehicles, leaks figure to factor more heavily in the lives of motorists. Addressing such leaks can be easy, quick and affordable. Learn more about fixing leaks at www.stopautoleaks.com/metro.



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Winter Car Care

Your Vehicle Has a Recall..Now What?

Vehicles are expensive. When motorists drive their vehicles away from a dealership, they hope to travel many miles before they need to come back for maintenance. But manufacturers sometimes issue recalls that can affect drivers of both new and old vehicles.

Recalls are safety precautions taken should a portion of a vehicle or the entire car or truck not operate in the manner it was intended. In many instances, auto manufacturers will directly contact customers who are affected by a recall via a letter, email or both. Individuals also can stay current on recalls by visiting the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's website (www.NHTSA.gov).

According to AutoTrader, recalls are becoming more common because of the complexity of modern vehicles. NHTSA flagged nearly 22 million vehicles for safety issues in 2013, and that number is on the rise. Drivers can follow these important steps if they learn of a recall.

- Don't panic, but don't ignore recalls. The experts at Kelley Blue Book say recalls often occur due to a problem in the manufacturing process in similar models, and this issue may surface in other vehicles. Recalls do not guarantee vehicles will malfunction or break down. However, consumers are urged to take recalls seriously, adopting a "better safe than sorry" approach when recalls are announced.

- Follow the instructions. A recall notice should come with instructions. Instructions often advise drivers to take their vehicles to the dealership where the cars were purchased. Notices may provide information regarding nearby dealerships for drivers who have moved since buying their cars or trucks.

- No payment should be necessary. The cost of repairing the recalled part should not fall on your shoulders. Such repairs are paid by the manufacturer. The financial resource Bankrate.com notes that, "if you had the repair made before the recall was issued (up to a full year), the automaker is legally obligated to reimburse you, as long as you had the work done at one of its franchised dealers." Save all receipts for the work. If work was done by a private mechanic, drivers still may be eligible for reimbursement.

- Be patient. Dealerships are not responsible for making repairs until the date indicated on the recall notice, so motorists may need to wait before having their vehicles repaired.

- Request a loaner vehicle. In some instances, recalls may take a few days to fix. Although not every dealership may make loaner vehicles available, it's still worth requesting one so you are not inconvenienced.

Anyone having difficulty with a recall can contact the NHTSA online, by phone or by mail. Those who suspect a safety problem also can contact the agency and report their concerns.



Did You Know?

Cars and trucks can benefit greatly from clean air filters. Many drivers are aware of the need to change the oil in their vehicles according to the intervals designated in their owners' manuals, but few may be aware of the many benefits of changing air filters. One such benefit pertains to fuel efficiency. The automotive website CarsDirect.com notes that studies have shown that changing clogged air filters can improve fuel efficiency by as much as 10 percent and save drivers as much as 15 cents per gallon of fuel. Clean air filters also can benefit the environment. When vehicle air filters are clogged, air flow to the engine is reduced, adversely affecting vehicle emissions. Clean filters increase air flow to the engine, reducing vehicle emissions as a result. Clean air filters also can help drivers get more out of their vehicle investments. Designed to trap dirt and debris, clean air filters prolong engine life by preventing such particles from damaging engine components. Drivers can check their owners' manuals for air filter replacement guidelines, but manufacturers generally advise drivers change their air filters every 12,000 to 15,000 miles. Such a repair is inexpensive but can go a long way toward ensuring vehicles operate as efficiently as possible.



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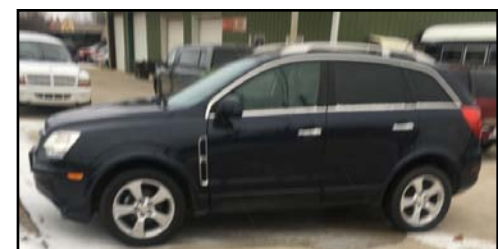


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Winter Car Care

Develop a Vehicle Maintenance Schedule

The oft-sudden expense of vehicle repairs can throw monthly budgets into disarray. Maintaining a routine service schedule is one way for drivers to keep repair costs down.

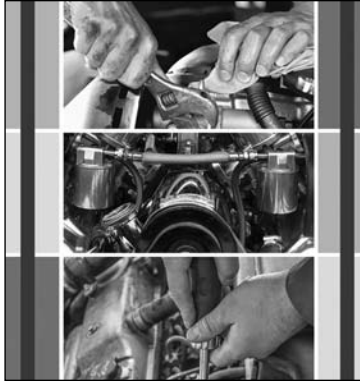
The online automotive resources Edmunds.com says many car owners do not adequately prepare for scheduled maintenance, and may not give maintenance a thought until it's too late. The first step drivers take upon purchasing a new or preowned vehicle should be to familiarize themselves with the vehicle's owner's manual, which is filled with valuable information and likely includes maintenance interval recommendations.

Next, drivers should learn about their vehicle, which is particularly relevant when buying a preowned vehicle. Getting to know how the car or truck rides, as well as any sounds it may make, can provide drivers with a solid foundation they can then use to keep their cars running strong.

Routine service typically includes tire rotation, oil changes and topping off of fluids. So just how long between service appointments can a car go? Here are some generalized estimates.

- **Oil change:** Oil chemistry and engine technology have improved so much that most cars can go well beyond the once-recommended 3,000 mile interval between oil changes. Now many vehicle manufacturers recommend between 5,000 and 10,000 miles between changes, advises Edmunds. Drivers should err on the side of caution if they do a lot of stop-and-go driving and short trips. Other drivers may want to invest in vehicles that have oil change maintenance minders built in. A light or countdown will come on the dashboard, indicating when the oil has reached the end of its usefulness.

- **Tire rotation:** Rotating tires helps prolong the life of the tires and alleviates uneven tread and wear. During the rotation, each tire is removed and relocated to a different position to ensure that all the tires will wear evenly. Michelin Tires states that tires should be rotated around every six months, or between 6,000 and 8,000 miles.



- **Vehicle fluids:** Your best bet is to see what the manufacturer recommends in regard to fluids such as transmission fluid, differential oil, brake fluids, coolant, etc. Some transmissions need regular maintenance, while others can go 150,000 miles between changes, according to the vehicle information site The Drive. Coolant typically can last 100,000 miles. For these types of changes, it may be best to go to a mechanic or service center familiar with your make and model rather than a quick-lube center, as knowing when to drain and refill can be more complicated.

Service schedules can be designed to adhere to manufacturers' recommendations and drivers' personal preferences.

Consumers Energy Approves Nearly 400 Rebates for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

submitted by Brian M. Wheeler
JACKSON

Consumers Energy announced today it has approved nearly 400 rebates for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at homes and in public locations across Michigan -- building the backbone of the state's infrastructure for drivers of emissions-free vehicles.

"We're confident that 2020 will be a milestone year for electric vehicles in Michigan as businesses and residents install charging stations with help from Consumers Energy's PowerMIDrive program," said Brian Rich, Consumers Energy's senior vice president for customer experience. "It will be important to see EV charging kick into high gear, making it easy for owners to power their electric vehicles quickly and reliably."

Consumers Energy started PowerMIDrive last year to promote electric vehicle ownership for the good of the planet and Michigan's economy. About 1.5 million electric vehicles were sold in the U.S. in the last decade, and the Edison Electric Institute forecasts over 18 million electric vehicles will be on U.S. roads by 2030.

Consumers Energy has approved a total of 387 rebates for EV charging stations for homes, businesses, municipalities and multi-unit dwellings. Recipients receive payments after they install charging stations, and PowerMIDrive is still accepting rebate applications.

Rebates include 200 stations in public locations and another 24 "fast charging" stations that can power up most of a vehicle's battery in 30 minutes. The fast charging stations will be located throughout the Lower Peninsula and should be operating by the end of the year.

Counties that have received the most rebates for public locations are Kent (47 rebates), Kalamazoo (19), Genesee (14), Jackson (12) and Muskegon (11).

"The City of Gaylord is excited about its partnership with Consumers Energy to bring electric vehicle charging stations to our downtown," said Kim Awrey, Gaylord's assistant city manager. The city expects to install a fast charging station and a second public charging station by this spring.

"Without the support of Consumers Energy's PowerMIDrive Program and the State of Michigan, this valuable addition to our community would not be possible," Awrey said.

PowerMIDrive offers the following rebates:

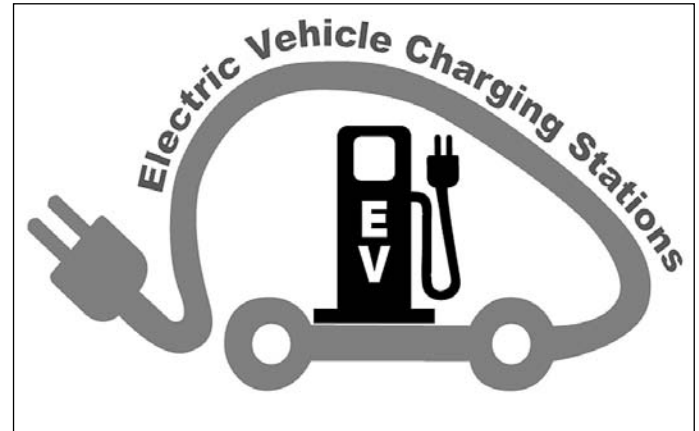
RESIDENTIAL – Rebates worth \$500 for installing eligible 240-volt chargers at homes.

PUBLIC – Rebates for 200 Level 2 vehicle chargers in public places and at workplaces, with a rebate of up to \$5,000 per charger.

FAST CHARGERS – Rebates of up to \$70,000 for 24 fast charging stations along highways and travel routes.

Consumers Energy also offers a website, ConsumersEnergy.com/carcompare, to help people compare the cost of a traditional gasoline engine to an electric version. The website offers comparisons with traditional gasoline and electric cars on the market today.

Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider, is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: CMS), providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.7 million of the state's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.



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Sports



My Turn At Bat

by Tom Turek

My Turn at Bat

by Tom Turek

Imagine you're watching your next favorite sporting event -- it could be anything really, youth soccer, the local varsity game, your favorite college -- and a little over halfway through the contest, the Home Team score suddenly, without explanation, is boosted by X amount of points.

Imagine, with no recourse, you've forced to live with it. Even though you know it's wrong. It doesn't matter if you're rooting for the home team, or the visitors.

It's not just unfair. It's incorrect. It's not a fact. It's a lie.

Imagine that.

Not a judgement call by some referee or umpire, but plain-as-day a total mistake, in scoring the game, a fallacy, as backed up by video evidence.

Somebody messed up, big time, and they're not willing to fess up.

Imagine that.

This happened January 7 in game between the host Pottersville Vikings and the visiting Laingsburg Wolfpack. The outcome -- initially disputed and still under dispute -- is garnering Michigan-wide attention.

The stakes, superficially to the naked eye, were this: both teams undefeated, fighting early in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) season for the upper-hand, struggling for league standing and post-season tournament seeding.

The stakes, however, are much higher than that.

Five years, ten years, twenty years from now no one will remember the incidentals of a home team victory on a chilly night in early January. They will remember, though, when you play at "that place," things aren't always on the up-and-up.

Before each high school contest, it is customary the home team announcer reads a statement about the high principles of the MHSAA, the value of sportsmanship, the higher calling of the sporting event about to be played.

The January 7 incident at Pottersville -- and the aftermath, which continues today -- is a golden opportunity for everyone involved to take the high road, to meet in consensus and review the evidence, determine the proper outcome, not from a judgement call, but from the empirical evidence readily available -- to everyone involved.

To show us all a shining example of sportsmanship.

Imagine that.

The days after the disputed score have been filled with much conjecture. Certainly, the MHSAA doesn't want to be called in for ruling on this game, instead hoping it will be resolved by the two opponent schools. Having to watch videotape to determine the score of a prep athletic contest? This isn't the NFL! What kind of "pandora's box" would that open?

Consider the other side, however, the precedent set when the home team -- the official rendering of the game -- can determine any score it so chooses. The visiting team is left with few choices, other than to protest. Pull your team off the floor? That results in an automatic forfeit. What recourse does the visiting team really have?

Pottersville has a date to play at Laingsburg on February 14.

Imagine this: in a flurry of activity in the opening quarter, the visitors suddenly look up and see that 2 points have somehow been added to the home team score. No baskets have been scored, but 2 points mysteriously go up?

Imagine how the visitors would feel. Would they feel cheated? You can bet on it.

But, perhaps more importantly, how would the home team feel? Knowing they cheated and got away with it?

That notion should incite all parties involved, including the CMAC, and yes the MHSAA, to quick and decisive action. It should be a simple process, really. Just review the videotape.

Imagine that.

Laingsburg Boys Send Bath Packing 75-63

LAINGSBURG — The Wolfpack boys basketball team defeated neighboring rival Bath, 75-63, last Monday night to remain undefeated at home.

Zach Hawes scored for 26 points and nabbed three steals, and Gabe Hawes had 19 points and eight assists to lead coach Dan Morrill's Wolfpack, 3-1 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference, 5-1 overall. Aidan Soeltner added 9 markers, Austin Randall 9, Lucas Woodruff 5, Jesse Gugel 3 and Colt Wurm one.

Sam Omen led Bath with 14 points, and Isaiah Cender scored 10 for the Bees.

Wolfpack runs record to 6-1 with 61-43 blowout of St. Pats

LAINGSBURG -- After a short hiatus, that one critical element that coaches love -- team defense -- made a reappearance Thursday night at LHS.

Limiting Portland St. Patrick to 43 points, the Wolfpack boys won for the 6th time in 7 games and moved to 4-1 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) with an 18-point win.

The 61-43 victory was the second of the week for coach Dan Morrill's Wolves on their home floor. They ran out to a 15-4 lead in the opening quarter, and never took their foot off the gas.

The red-and-white led 31-12 at halftime, led by a balanced scoring attack with six players tallied in the scorebook.

For the game, Connor Thomas led the 'Pack with 11 points. Colt Wurm added 10, Zach Hawes 10, Gabe Hawes 7, Lucas Woodruff 6, Jesse Gugel 6, Zach Fortino 5, Austin Randall 4 and Josh Baker a pair.

Ryan Lay led the Shamrocks with 11 tallies.

Laingsburg tries to keep pace with the CMAC leaders Wednesday night, at Fowler HS.



Witt Stars for LCC Stars

LANSING — Ovid-Elsie grad Erin Witt scored two points and had four boards, three steals, two assists and a block in Lansing Community College's tough 58-56 loss to Kellogg Community College.

Witt hit the court again for the Stars in a 76-39 loss to Muskegon Community College, totaling seven points, three rebounds and two steals.

Erin is a 5'5" freshman point guard for LCC.



Wolfpack junior Zach Fortino scores over a pair of Bath defenders in the Wolves' 75-63 CMAC victory over the Fighting Bees.

Michigan Department
of Transportation
2012 (08/19)

RESOLUTION FOR DESIGNATION OF STREET ADMINISTRATOR

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NOTE: Indicate, if possible, where Street Administrator can usually be reached during normal working hours, if different than City or Village Office. List any other office held by the Administrator.

Councilperson or Commissioner _____ Mr. Williams
offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Whereas, Section 13(9) of Act 51, Public Acts of 1951 provided that each incorporated city and village to which funds are returned under the provisions of this section, that, "the responsibility for street improvements, maintenance, and traffic operations work, and the development, construction, or repair of off-street parking facilities and construction or repair of street lighting shall be coordinated by a single administrator to be designated by the governing body who shall be responsible for and shall represent the municipality in transactions with the State Transportation Department pursuant to this act."

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Honorable Body designate _____ Mr. Richard Simpson
_____ as the single Street Administrator for the City or Village of _____

City of Ovid _____ in all transactions with the State Transportation Department
as provided in Section 13 of the Act.

Supported by the Councilperson or Commissioner _____ Mr. Brown

Yeas Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordway, Ms. Perien, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brown and Mr. Lasher

Nays None ABSENT: Mr. Zwick

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution made and adopted at a regular meeting

of the governing body of this municipality on the 13th, _____ day of

January, 2020

CITY OR VILLAGE CLERK (SIGNATURE) <i>Josephina Medina</i>	E-MAIL ADDRESS clerk@ovidmi.org	DATE 01/13/20
STREET ADMINISTRATOR (SIGNATURE) <i>[Signature]</i>	E-MAIL ADDRESS supt@ovidmi.org	DATE 01/13/20
ADDRESS OF CITY OR VILLAGE OFFICE 114 E. Front Street		P.O. BOX 138
CITY OR VILLAGE Ovid, MI	ZIP CODE 48866	PHONE NUMBER (989) 834-5550

Sports

Wolfpack Gals Score 15-Point Victory Over Saranac

LAINGSBURG -- Grace Graham scored a career-high 20 points with 11 steals, nine rebounds and four assists to lead Laingsburg past Saranac 49-34 Friday.

Kara Mahoney scored 13 points with seven rebounds, five assists and five steals for the Wolfpack (7-2, 4-1 Central Michigan Athletic Conference). Hayleigh Mertens also added a career-high 10 points. Gabby Paquet, Bree Schlaack and Sage Wurm each scored 2 points.

Saranac fell to 4-4 overall and 1-4 in the CMAC.

The Lady Wolves will try to keep pace with the CMAC leaders, hosting Fowler on Tuesday, January 21.



Wolfpack junior guard Grace Graham splits a pair of Redskin defenders to score vs. Saranac in the Wolves' CMAC victory.

Photo by Keith Kingsbury

O-E Boys Basketball Rolls Montrose 65-36



Justin Moore



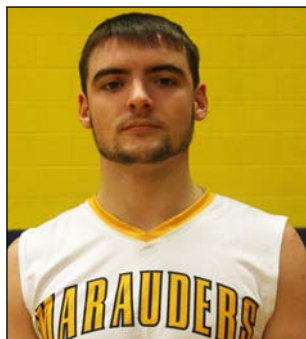
Shayne Loynes



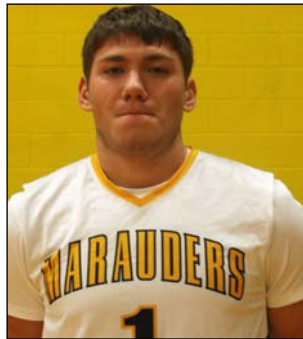
Cal Byrnes



Jackson Thornton



Dylan Carman



Aaron Hurst

by Tim Zwick

ELSIE – The Ovid-Elsie boys basketball squad kept their record unblemished with a dominating 65-36 win over Mid-Michigan Activities Conference opponent Montrose in a contest played here January 10th. Ovid-Elsie now moves to 6-0 overall and sits tied on top of the MMAC with New Lothrop as both fashion 5-0 records.

The Marauders came out scorching the visiting Rams for an 18-1 first quarter lead before cruising to a hefty 33-14 halftime lead. The hosts expanded the lead thanks to a 32-20 second-half advantage while putting the finishing touches on the lopsided win.

“We played an excellent all around game for a full four quarters tonight and our fans were excellent in supporting us,” said Ovid-Elsie head coach Josh Latz. “Justin really dominated the block, and we had a ton of guys chip in.”

Justin Moore led the way for the home team, posting a double-double with 24 points and

11 rebounds. Classmate Shayne Loynes tossed in 19 points including three from beyond the arc. Cal Byrnes had a great floor game and stuffed the stat sheet with six steals, six rebounds and five assists.

Jackson Thornton chipped in with eight points while Dylan Carman added seven points and four assists. Senior Aaron Hurst registered five points and eight rebounds for the night. Ty Sweet led Montrose with six points.



Unbeaten Marauder Boys Turn Back Mt. Morris 56-46

MT. MORRIS – The Marauders kept their perfect season intact with a 56-46 victory over Mt. Morris in a game that took place here on January 14th. With the win, O-E stays tied on top of the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference standings along with New Lothrop at 6-0. The Blue & Gold now stand 7-0 overall.

Justin Moore notched his second straight double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds to lead Ovid-Elsie. Aaron Hurst also scored 15 points, grabbed seven caroms and blocked two shots while Kyren Henning chipped in with eight points and five boards.

Jackson Thornton and Shayne Loynes both ended up with six points each. Loynes added seven assists while Thornton had a pair of blocks. Sam Tagg finished with 11 points for Mt. Morris (3-5 overall, 3-3 MMAC).

“We had to battle through some adversity tonight as we finally played a game on the road,” noted Marauders mentor Josh Latz. “Mt. Morris was well prepared to play us, and we struggled to make some shots early in the game. We were proud of the way we battled and hung around as we struggled a bit to take care of the ball.”

Next up this week for Ovid-Elsie are a pair of MMAC league clashes on the road, starting with a trip to Byron on Tuesday, January 21st. They follow that with a match-up at Chesaning on Friday the 24th. Tip-off is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. both nights.



Kyren Henning

Ovid-Elsie Bowling

submitted by Matt Fabus

On Sunday, January 12th the OE Keglers participated in the Battle of the Bakers at the M-66 Bowl in Battle Creek.

Tournament format was bowling 12 baker games followed by a cut to top 8 teams.

The OE girls qualified 2nd and went up against Jonesville scores OE 156-158 and Jonesville 176-174. The girls would settle for 3rd place and received medals.

The OE boys qualified 5th and went up against St. Charles. The teams tied the first game with 158 and had a 5 frame roll off OE 54 - St. Charles 65. The second game St. Charles came out on top 170 - 151. The boys settled for 5th place.

Next up teams will meet Bendle at Riverbend Bowl in Corunna on January 18th at 9am. January 25th the teams will be at Capitol Bowl in Owosso against Mt. Morris.

O-E Youth Baseball/Softball Registration

Registration for Ovid-Elsie youth baseball and softball players of all ages will be at Ovid-Elsie Middle School Cafeteria on Wednesday, January 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 9th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. All players must be registered by February 15th. There will be a \$20 late fee for players added after February 15th and registrations cannot be accepted after March 1st due to the uniform order deadline.

Again in 2020, the OEYBS Board is pleased to announce a family discount for multiple children playing in the league. Young players will remain at \$45.00, but the older age groups receive the following price break: \$90.00 for 1st child, \$80.00 for 2nd child and \$70.00 for 3rd child.

Parents that cannot attend either of the remaining registration dates may request a sign up form by email: oeyb-league@gmail.com. The registration form is also available on the OEYBS FaceBook page. For important information about the upcoming 2020 OEYBS season, connect with the league FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/oeybs.

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Happy Little Trees



The Weekly Sportsman has been meaning to write a column for quite some time about Bob Ross and his paintings of happy little trees and other wildlife scenery. This subject matter has been slammed to the forefront because of a project between Bob Ross Inc. and the Michigan DNR. Readers have a chance to act now and sign up for a catchy and creative, yet very worthwhile, event to be held in April.

Although there has been a lot written about Bob Ross and his painting techniques there is very little documentation about his connection to nature and the wildlife scenes he created on canvass. Most scenes always contain trees and beautiful scenes with mountains and lakes often accented with snow. It should come as no surprise that most paintings were inspired by his time spent stationed in Alaska while serving in the U.S. Air Force. Once in awhile an empty cabin or delaptated wood shed or barn would appear but there was never a sign of human occupance like a glow of light in a window or smoke from a chimney. Animals were often sparse unless of course it was a squirrel or some other small creature. Ross had a real fondness for squirrels and often kept them as pets and sometimes even as pocket pets. It is hard to even guess how many budding artists he inspired to become involved with the outdoors and putting nature scenes on canvas. As a matter of fact his instructional shows are so timeless that he is probably more popular today on youtube than when his shows aired on PBS.

It is possible that his legacy is still being created everyday as young people discover the magic of Bob Ross.

Using funds awarded by the U.S. Forest Service Great Lakes Initiative, the DNR and Bob Ross Inc. have entered into a joint fundraising project to help replant state parks and other public land with trees, shrubs, grasses, and plants that have been killed due to disease and invasive pests. Working with the Michigan Department of Corrections, seeds are planted and grown by inmates in the Michigan Prison Re-entry Initiative. This opportunity to learn horticultural skills serves as a form of job training which could lead to future employment when released.

The public has been invited to participate in this program by helping raise funds by joining in a virtual Happy Little 5K/Run for the Trees anytime from April 17-26 (Earth Day and Arbor Day fall within this timeframe). While there are designated runs on certain dates in many state parks this is really designed as an "on your own" event. For only \$34, participants will get a t-shirt, race medal, and race number bib mailed to them and proceeds (approximately \$10 per participant) will help fund the Happy Little Trees program. There is a registration cap of 25,000 so make sure you sign up soon at <https://www.thepayplace.com/mi/dnr/gift/billpreview.aspx>

-WS

LHS Grad Hill Hits the Hardcourt for LCC Stars

LANSING — Laingsburg HS grad Georgia Hiill started and scored four points with three rebounds, two assists, a steal and a block in Lansing Community College's 58-56 loss to Kellogg Community College.

Hiill got another start vs. Muskegon Community College, grabbing four rebounds with two points and two steals in a 76-39 loss to MCC.

Hiill is a 5'9" freshman guard for the Stars.



Marauder Girls Sidestep Montrose Trap 41-14

by Tim Zwick



Kiah Longoria



Caitlyn Walter



Lauren Barton



Madison Cunningham



Kaylee Hall



Tristan Ziola



Braylon Byrnes

ELSIE – The Ovid-Elsie girls basketball team continues to move in the right direction with it's 41-14 victory over Montrose here on January 10th. The MMAC league win moves O-E to 3-2 in conference action and 6-3 overall.

The Marauders baffled the 1-3-1 press Montrose employed en route to the win. The Blue & Gold also were stout on the defensive end, holding the Rams to just 4/28 from the field. Meanwhile the hosts had 11 assists on 15 made baskets while also gaining a slight 26-23 advantage on the glass.

"We struggled a bit finishing and from the line, but defensively we keep stepping in the right direction," said O-E head coach Ryan Cunningham. "As long as we focus on our defense the offense will come. It was nice to have several kids step up and contribute offensively."

Kiah Longoria, Caitlyn Walter and Lauren Barton all scored seven points each to lead the Marauders in scoring. Barton also grabbed eight rebounds while Madison Cunningham chipped in with six points and five boards. Kaylee Hall and Tristan Ziola scored six and five points respectively. Braylon Byrnes added three points to round out the scoring for the winners.

Lady Marauders Knock Off Mt. Morris 63-24



Allison Reppenhagen



Kalista Bancroft



Kalista Bancroft

MT. MORRIS – Ovid-Elsie hit the road for the first time in 2020 and came home with an impressive 63-24 win over the Panthers in a game played here January 14th. O-E improves their overall record to 7-3 and now stands 4-2 in MMAC league play.

Lauren Barton paced the Lady Marauders with 25 points and 11 rebounds. She dropped in 11 of her 13 shots from the field. Caitlyn Walter added 10 points and three steals as all ten players scored for Ovid-Elsie. Kiah Longoria chipped in with six points, six rebounds and three assists.

Allison Reppenhagen also added six points. Tristin Ziola grabbed eight rebounds to go along with a bucket while Kalista Bancroft added three points and four steals. Madison Cunningham had two points plus eight rebounds and Alexis Kusnier added a free throw to round out the Marauders scoring.

The Lady Marauders will play host to MMAC foe Byron on January 21st at 7:00 p.m. Next O-E hits the road for another league match-up with Chesaning on Friday the 24th. Tip-off is set for 5:30 p.m.

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--Marcus Aurelius



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Laingsburg Library

submitted by Karen Anderson

LAINGSBURG – The Friends of the Laingsburg Library will be meeting at the United Methodist Church on Tuesday, January 26, 2020 at 6:00pm joining and supporting the Lions Club FREE Spaghetti Dinner. All are welcome. Join your friends and neighbors by connecting with community supporters. See you there! Any questions, call Dean Veith, President of the Friends 517-651-6306 or Ed Arthur, Lions Club President at 517-896-5338. Thank you, to all of our community organizations that support the quality of life in the City and Rural areas of Laingsburg.

Laingsburg Board of Ed

submitted by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

LAINGSBURG - On Wednesday, January 15, 2020 the Laingsburg Board of Education convened for their annual organizational meeting for nominations of new officers and changes in administrative staff. The new elected Board President is Mary Angst; Natalie Elkins, Vice President, Patrick Dolan, reelected for Secretary and Andy Hagerty remains the Treasurer; Trustee stayed on in their current positions are James Cherry, Jason Michels and Chris Wilson. Also, in attendance were Principals Shelia Freeman, Elementary, Julie Nosek, Middle School and Brandon Woodworth, High School with positive reports with plans to ensure a successful new year of educational challenges.

General Business and routine matters were addressed as well as last month finances reconciled and approved. One motion was made for all committee representatives to remain the same and votes were cast with a unanimous agreement. Next, recommendation to approve the position for Kristy Pratt as the new accounting officer/administration position was announced. Recommendation were made to hire Rhonda Ocenasek as O & M support and it was approved.

LEAF representatives, Katie Barley and Emily Baynes presented the board with a check for over \$31,000 to start off the year with a generous financial cushion. The monetary gift is used as grants which are directly offered for students' endeavors. On the same night Signature Ford of Perry, Vice President, Angie Falzon, presented a check for \$3,700 to the school board dedicated to the Band Boosters. The Board of Education graciously appreciate the generous support from the community.

Future topics for the upcoming monthly agendas will include Legislative updates from Superintendent Matthew Shastal. The next agenda will include approval for the 2019-20 amended general fund budget and projections for 2020-21 recommendations for a preliminary budget.

Shastal and the committees are working closely with the anticipated building upgrades and remodeling. They will keep the board and the community apprised of the projected progress.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2020. Public Welcome. The Shiawassee-wide county board meeting is scheduled March 11, 2019. Location TBA.

Laingsburg OK's Marihuana

submitted by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

LAINGSBURG - After several public hearings, staff training and research by the City of Laingsburg Planning Commission the City Council has approved Ordinance #01-2019 to authorize and permit a commercial medical marihuana facility. Ordinance #02-2019 authorized and permits a recreational (non-medical) establishment in the City. It is the City Council and the Planning Commission objective to generate revenue and offer the convenience for local customers.

At the first regular meeting in 2020, the City approved an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to allow regulations for the facilities. The amendment permits will allow 2 facilities in the downtown business district without signage visible to pedestrians or vehicle traffic. The facility is required by State of Michigan to be at least 500 feet from a school or licensed child care facility.

It was noted according to officials of the City that approximately 64% of voters in Laingsburg supported the legalizing of recreational marijuana for individuals over the age of 21 to purchase or use without medical prescriptions. There will be no growing or use of the products on or around the new facilities.

Applicants must be vetted with a thorough background check and licensed by the State of Michigan prior to requesting an application to open a medical or recreational facility within the City of Laingsburg. The maximum number of issued permits at any given time will be 4 Processor permits (two medical and two recreational), 4 Safety Compliance Facility permits (two medical and two recreational), 4 secure Transporter permits (two medical and two recreational); 2 Provisioning Center permits and 2 Retailer permits. All renewals of permits must go before the City Council for approval annually.

At this time, the City is not accepting applications or considering a location. The City Community Planner and Assessor Peter Preston, PC is in the process of developing the application in compliance with the State of Michigan. For additional information regarding permit cost or business opportunity a copy of the memorandum is available at the Laingsburg City Hall located at 114 South Woodhull St. during regular business hours.

Backyard Beekeeping Workshop February 8

submitted by Donna Kanan

Interested in beekeeping, but unsure how to start? The Shiawassee Conservation District is hosting a beekeeping workshop aimed at beginning beekeepers and those who are considering beekeeping.

Featured speakers Dave Anthony, owner of Anthony Bee Farms, and Leo Stevens, owner of S&L Honey Farm, are local beekeepers with over 60 years combined beekeeping experience. Topics they will cover include bee biology and behavior, apiary equipment, types of bees and honey, colony management, and honey production using common kitchen utensils.

The Backyard Beekeeping workshop will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Shiawassee County Fairground Community Center, 2900 E. Hibbard Rd., Corunna. The cost to attend is \$5.00 and is payable at the door. Call the Shiawassee Conservation District at 989-723-8263 ext. 3 by Monday, February 3 to RSVP.

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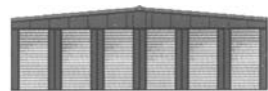
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Laingsburg Girl Scouts Donate to the Laingsburg Food Bank

submitted by Jody Frank

The Laingsburg Girl Scouts, Area 321 recently celebrated their founder Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday, October 31, by holding their Investiture/Rededication Ceremony with a birthday party in her memory. Over 70 girls were in attendance to show their commitment and dedication to the Girl Scout program.

Again, our community service project was “Birthday in a Bag”. The girls donated pizza kits, cake mixes, frosting and other fun birthday items. Each bag created had at least a cake mix and frosting. Over 70 bags, which accounted for 164 lbs of food that were then donated to the Laingsburg Food bank to be given to patrons during their birthday month to help them celebrate their special day.

Pictured are Allison Frank from Troop 30336 and Tricia Butch from the Laingsburg Food Bank. The Girl Scouts are honored to be able to support our Food Bank and all they do for our community.



Shiawassee County Health Department Receives Perfect Score During Accreditation Review

submitted by Larry Johnson

Shiawassee County Health Department (SCHD) announced that a perfect accreditation score was achieved. This makes back to back perfect scores for the Health Department as they achieved this distinction during the 2016 cycle. In honor of this Laura 'de la Rambelje, Director of Local Health Services with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services awarded full accreditation with special recognition to Shiawassee County Health Department at the monthly Board of Commissioners meeting on Wednesday, January 15th. Ms. 'de la Rambelje stated that "the Shiawassee County Health Department is one of the top performing Health Departments in the state and their commitment to improving the health of their residents is to be commended."

The accreditation process provides valuable feedback to inform SCHD of our strengths and areas for improvement, so that we can better protect and promote the health of the people we serve in our community.

To receive this accreditation, Shiawassee County Health Department is required to undergo a week long rigorous, multi-faceted, on site review by a team of state reviewers and program auditors, to ensure all programs meets or exceeds State standards that promote continuous quality improvement for public health. Twelve (12) core health programs and one hundred thirteen (113) program indicators were reviewed and all were met achieving the perfect score. Numerous programs received special recognition status by the state reviewers. Accreditation occurs on a 3-year cycle.

Accreditation is important as public health plays a critical role in protecting and improving the health of people and communities. SCHD provides a range of services aimed at promoting health behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

"We are honored to receive such high accreditation status. This achievement validates the dedication and hard work of our staff, the extraordinary support of our community partners, and the commitment of our Board of Health and Board of Commissioners to improving the health and quality of life in Shiawassee County," said Larry Johnson, Director of the Shiawassee County Health Department.



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