



Masked-Up and ready to serve: Country Kitchen staff (l-r) Chelsae Brush, Randy Elwood, Suzanne Grubaugh and Chara Johnson.
Photos by Deb Price

Serving Others in the Time of COVID-19

On Easter Sunday, April 12th, 460 free Easter dinners were distributed as take-out from Country Kitchen restaurant in Ovid. The joint effort between DuPlain Church of Christ and the restaurant was a huge success. For over 3 1/2 hours, meals were handed out to those who pre-ordered by telephone leading up to Easter Sunday. Every five minutes vehicles pulled up and picked-up their meals at their scheduled time. "We are so thrilled that so many were able to enjoy the Easter dinner that was prepared. Teaming up with DuPlain Church of Christ to offer this dinner was great, everything went very well," said Country Kitchen owner, Suzanne Grubaugh.



Chelsea Brush delivering meals to vehicles on Easter Sunday.

Shopping For Seniors

by Deb Price

Village Food Pride in Ovid is shopping for Senior Citizens and others with under-lying health conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort for individuals to stay safe, secure and avoid crowds, store employees are doing the shopping for those individuals.

On Wednesday, April 15th, people lined up at Village Food Pride. They submitted their grocery list to store employees who filled those orders, then returned the groceries to the individuals waiting in their vehicles who then paid for their order.

This service will continue every Wednesday, beginning at 8am until 11am until the stay-at-home order is lifted by our Governor.



Pictured is Robin Dingy delivering groceries to a customer while others wait in line to submit their order.



*Photos by
Deb Price*

Village of Elsie Holds First Virtual Meeting

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – The Village of Elsie held its first regular meeting via conference call Tuesday, April 14, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Village President Tom Frink with the following members physically present Ann Trierweiler, village clerk, and ex-officio member Shane Grinnell, village manager the remainder of the officials attended through a conference call.

Like many municipal offices the Village of Elsie is being impacted by the "Stay at Home, Stay Safe" orders due to COVID 19. The business office is closed with minimum work completed in the office, the drop box and messages are checked daily. In addition, the Department of Public Works hours have been reduced, but they are getting a number of projects caught up. On a related topic the Rural Development police car grant process is on hold due to the COVID 19.

A letter of resignation was received from trustee Spencer Frink due to moving outside of the village limits, effective immediately. Officials accepted the resignation with regrets and thanked Spencer for his service. Officials approved the recommendation to have Cory Witt fill the seat term ending November 2022.

Ann Trierweiler, village clerk, presented the Clinton County Recycling update. The April event was cancelled and the next opportunity is October 3, 2020.

Grinnell reported that Brad Sutliff, Justin Watkins and Collin Freeman, have been hired to be part of the DPW team. The department went from one full-time employee to two- full time, one permanent part-time, and one seasonal employee.

In addition, the new decorative light poles purchased from the 2019-2020 budget year have been installed and are working. It was noted that a new pole was installed at the Village office, and then the second west of the township hall. It was recommended that officials consider purchasing 2 or 3 annually until all are replaced.

Grinnell updated the status of the newly purchased dump truck. The truck arrived and is very well equipped and is in service.

Grinnell noted that he has been reviewing the code/zoning book and concluded that it is time to review the entire manual to make updates and eliminate inconsistencies. It was recommended that the matter be passed on to the Ordinance Committee for review with reports to be made to the Elsie Village Council.

Grinnell also addressed a complaint that was voiced on the Village Facebook page regarding the safety of the water. The public was assured that the water is safe and is tested daily with reports sent to the State of Michigan. Reports are available for public review however; the reports are 1 to 1.5 years behind. It was noted that the report is available on the website and at the business office. Mike Townsend, village water department, was in attendance to address the concerns voiced and again, residents the water is safe.

Williams Asphalt gave estimates for the following: resurfacing Elm Street between First and Ovid Street \$21,150 or Maple Street \$19,980 between First and Ovid Street. The recommendation was do the work on Elm Street which was approved. Pot hole fills will be completed in house.

Finally, Grinnell updated officials on COVID 19 as it related to the Village employees and Elsie Area Fire Rescue. All meetings and trainings have been cancelled, personal protective equipment is utilized, and social distancing orders are being followed.

Gene Nethaway, Elsie American Legion, reported that the Memorial Day remembrance is slated for May 25, 2020, with the 9:45 start time.

Monthly action was taken to adopt the agenda as amended including the addition of COVID 19 update and a saw purchase; the minutes of the March 10 public hearing and regular meeting were approved as were the financial reports, and the police report. Officials took action to approve expenditures totaling \$73,002.50.

Blessing of the Bikers Event Cancelled

The 21st Annual Blessing of the Bikers event, hosted by the Church of the Living Word in Ovid, scheduled for May 3rd has been cancelled. According to Pastor Audie the planning of the event started in January. "It was difficult having to pull the plug on this event. We will GO Fresh in 2021," he said. The Blessing of the Bikers event draws thousands of bikers who enjoy coming to Ovid for this annual event which features a Biker Service, live music, hog roast and charity ride. The community also looks forward to the rumbling sounds of those motorcycles as they pull into town on the first Sunday in May. We will just have to wait until next year!!



Social

Stepping Up to Help

With many of the lives in our community affected by the Corona virus, the Ovid Lions Club has stepped up to help by donating \$1,000 to the Elsie Food Bank. The food bank in Elsie is located at 225 S. Ovid Street in Elsie and is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8am-9:30am for curbside pick-up only at this time. When you come to the food bank, workers are asking that you not get out of your car, they will bring a pre-filled box to your vehicle.

Due to the Covid-19 epidemic, the Greater Lansing Food Bank has advised that only monetary donations be made to the Elsie Food Bank at this time. Persons able to make a donation may do so by sending to Elsie Food Bank, PO Box 311, Elsie, MI 48831.

The Ovid Lions Club also has volunteers available to grocery shop or pick-up needed prescriptions for shut-in Senior Citizens or high-risk individuals who should not go out in public due to COVID-19. If you are an individual that could use this service, please call Judy Perrien at (989)834-5225 or email Mary Perrien at perrien41@msn.com. to schedule for this service.

You will need to provide a grocery list. Lions volunteers will shop at Village Food Pride or Dollar General in Ovid then bring to your door. Payment can be made by check once the groceries have been delivered. Lions volunteers will not enter your home and will practice safe social distancing and or wear person protection equipment.



Attention O-E Seniors and Parents

With the class of 2020 missing out on some of the best months of their senior year we find it important to give them a little extra recognition and support.

Sandy Litomisky of Racer Girl Graphics, along with the help of the Ovid Carriage days, and Elsie Dairy Festival would like to do just that. Now thru April 21, 2020 any O-E senior that submits a photo to us will receive one per student 24x18, 1 sided yard sign free of charge.

Please submit your photo and students name to racergirlgraphics@yahoo.com. Please note these must be high resolution original digital image in jpeg format. The quality of the photo sent will be the quality of the photo. No compressed image from social media or photos of a photo. We must be able to enlarge the photo to 24x18.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Sandy at 517-719-4733.

Special Thanks

Time to say good-bye; and special thanks to All the wonderful people that we met through the years at the Ovid-Cafe who made our business a place of enjoyment.

Thanks to All the workers who made this possible.

Say Hello to the New Owners Heath & Erika Arnett!

Forever Thankful!

Marie

Laingsburg Lions Raffle Tickets

Please contact a Laingsburg Lions Member or while you pick up some food at Twilliger's Tavern or essentials at Sage Market, Leonard's Hardware or at the Meridian Weekly, please purchase your Laingsburg Lions Springtime Raffle Tickets while you are there. \$10 each or 3 for \$20.

Thank you for supporting these local businesses at a time that they need your community support and patronage. The Lions are assisted by these businesses every year and while we rely on them in this endeavor.

Mobile Food Pantry for Shiawassee County Residents

submitted by Emily Marrah

Greater Lansing Food Bank and the First UMC Church in Owosso are partnering to provide FREE fresh & non-perishable food items at a Mobile Food Pantry for Shiawassee County Residents.

If you or someone you know must choose between buying food, filling prescriptions or having a tough time putting food on their table, please tell them about this important program.

The event will take place on Saturday, April 25th, registration at 8:30 am. Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11 am or until all the food is distributed

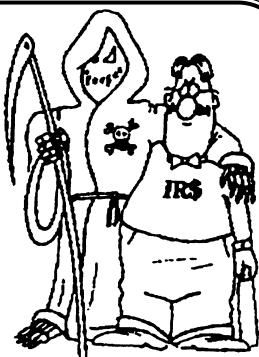
First UMC Church, 1500 N Water St, Owosso.

Those who can participate are: Senior citizens on fixed incomes. Families/individuals with limited or low income jobs. Only open to residents in Shiawassee

Bring: Proof of residency in Shiawassee County – valid driver's license or Michigan ID. Restrooms will NOT be available. Stay in your vehicle – Registration will be curbside. Please have space available in your trunk/hatchback for the entire donation

For more information about the mobile pantry, call Greater Lansing Food Bank at (517) 908-3680.

B and B TAX



AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

NOTICE

Due to the STATE SHUT DOWN we cannot see any clients until April 30, 2020.

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If you were scheduled for an appointment from 3/24 thru 4/13 please drop off your tax information. We hope to resume after the shut-down is lifted.

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Home Improvement



Turn Your New House into a Home

Historically low mortgage interest rates are helping to drive a new wave of home sales. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicates roughly 14 percent of the population, or around 40 million people, move every year for various reasons. Statistics Canada's Canadian Housing Survey found about half of Canadian households have either moved within the past five years or intend to do so within the next five.

While people may be inclined to move far from their current residences, the moving resource Move.org notes that some U.S. states are seeing an influx in people leaving while others are absorbing new residents. Illinois, Alaska, New Jersey, New York, and West Virginia are the top five states Americans are leaving, while Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, and Montana are gaining residents.

People relocate for various reasons. After moving into a new house, it can take some effort to turn that house into a true home and feel comfortable in your new environs. These steps can help that process along.

- Create at least one complete and serene space. Focus on setting up the bedroom so you can retreat at the end of the day. Invest in new furniture or get new bedding to give the room this comforting feeling.

- Create an organizational plan. It can be tempting to want to throw everything in closets and unpack quickly, but give yourself time to fully analyze where you want to store items, where you may need to paint or reconfigure spaces, as well as any home improvements you want to make before taking out all of your stuff. When you fully unpack, you can immediately enjoy your hard work.

- Hang artwork. Hang a few select pieces of artwork or family photos shortly after moving in. Surround yourself with things that make you feel good.

- Bring mementos. Your first home may bring about warm feelings. While you can't recreate it entirely, you can use a piece of furniture or a few family heirlooms to make your new space feel homey.

- Rely on familiar scents. Break in the new space with familiar aromas, whether it's preferential air fresheners, scented candles or baking your favorite chocolate chip cookie recipe.

Moving into a new home can be exciting. Certain touches can help make the new space feel more like home.

Repair Bare Spots in the Lawn

Caring for a lawn to keep it lush and green can require equal measures of patience and hard work. Various invaders can attack grass or contribute to its demise. One problem many homeowners face is bare spots.

Bare spots can occur for various reasons. Heavy foot traffic, grubs or other pests, fungi, pet urine, or too much or too little water can contribute to bare spots. The how-to resource The Spruce says that correcting the source of bare spots can prevent new issues, particularly if grubs or other pests are damaging the grass.

Then homeowners can address existing bare areas.

It is unlikely that bare spots will just fill back in on their own. Reseeding spots or using sod to fill in bare areas can help lawns look lush.

- Begin by raking and removing any dead grass and other debris from the lawn. Check to make sure that grubs or insects are not attacking the lawn. If they are, use targeted treatment options for those pests.

- Break up and aerate any soil that is compacted in the bare spot.

- Amend the soil in the bare area with loamy soil or compost to improve on the nutritional makeup and texture so that it is amenable to grass-growing. If you notice that the entire lawn is looking a little sparse, top-dressing the rest of the lawn at this point also can help improve its vitality.

- Sprinkle seeds in the bare spot (disperse seeds over the rest of the lawn if you want to over-seed and improve the thickness of the lawn). If you prefer sod, cut a portion of the sod to fit the bare area and place on the amended soil.

- The Scotts company says to lightly water newly seeded or sodded areas daily for at least two weeks to keep the top inch of soil consistently moist but not soggy. Gradually water more as the seedlings develop and the grass begins to fill in. Deep water at least once or twice a week after the new grass reaches mowing height.

- The grass should grow slightly longer than the rest of the lawn, and wait until the color of the patched area begins to blend in with the rest of the lawn before mowing. This could take a few weeks, and the area should be avoided until then.

Eventually, and with treatment, bare spots can be remedied and become indistinguishable from other areas of the lawn.



Did You Know?

When planning spring landscapes, homeowners should always group plants with similar water needs together. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, grouping plants with similar water needs together helps to conserve water, which can be an especially useful strategy if or when drought restrictions go into effect in summer. Homeowners also can embrace additional strategies to landscape with water conservation in mind. For example, aerating soil helps to improve water flow to plants' roots and reduces water runoff, helping to ensure that plants get all of the water they need while reducing the likelihood that homeowners will have to use excessive amounts of water to keep plants healthy.

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Elsie Post 502 News

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Post Home is currently closed. State and District meeting have been cancelled until fall. Current Post 502 officers will remain for now. Post members will continue to participate in funerals as requested and by following rules established for social distancing.

Post 502 has started a new "Buddy Check" system. Members will be helping people in the Ovid-Elsie area by picking up groceries, picking up medications and other needed errands. Post members will also reach out to veterans to see how they are doing. Staying in our homes can become very depressing, hearing a friendly voice on the telephone could help during these trying times.

For information or questions about Post 502 programs, Service Officer, Buddy Check or community assistance call Commander Nethaway at 989-834-2438 or Richard Black at 989-277-8740.



Moolenaar Files for Re-election

submitted by Luke Derheim

Congressman John Moolenaar filed for re-election.

Petitions were delivered by the campaign team during a specified appointment with the Secretary of State in Lansing on Thursday afternoon ahead of the state's April 21 deadline.

"I am thankful for the support of residents in all 15 counties of the Fourth District and I look forward to safely meeting people on the campaign trail when we can gather again with our friends and neighbors," said Congressman Moolenaar. "This is a challenging time for our nation and I will be working hard in the months ahead to protect public safety, rebuild the economy, and support Michigan residents as we deal with the COVID-19 crisis. In my next term, I will continue working on these priorities, as well as building upon my strong record of support for the Great Lakes, the Second Amendment, and the Right to Life."

O-E Reverse Raffle Re-Scheduled

Attention all ticket holders of the OE 6th Annual Reverse Raffle. The re-scheduled date is set for Saturday, October 24th. All 250 tickets have been sold however dinner tickets and side boards will be offered that evening. Watch for further details.

Obituaries

Robert Dean "Bob" Harden

Robert Dean "Bob" Harden, age 75, of Ovid, Michigan passed away Saturday, April 11, 2020.

Bob was born in Hudson, Michigan on January 25, 1945, the son Harry J. and Thelma (Flint) Harden. He graduated from Elsie High School with the class of 1963. On September 11, 1965 he married Julie Ann George in Chapin, Michigan. Bob served country in the U.S. Army Reserves.

He owned Harden Trucking with his sons and enjoyed stock car dirt racing, trucks, farming, riding his motorcycle. He also liked deer hunting, fishing and being in Florida. His family was very special to him especially his sons and his grandchildren. He was a great story teller, enjoyed going to visit people and liked to make people laugh. Bob was a regular at Mary's Country Kitchen and he liked catching up on all the local news and he was a MSU Fan. He was a member of Duplain Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife Julie Harden; 3 sons: Rob, and Melissa Harden; Brad and Mandi Harden; Matt and Katrina Harden; 9 grandchildren: Sam, Jake, Sarah, Lucas, Joey, Katie, Lauren, Alysse and Chris; sister Roberta and Jay Wiseman; brother Bruce and Patsy Harden; sister Brenda and Mark Masarik; brother Charles and Rosanne Harden. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Bob was predeceased by his parents, daughter Lindsey Harden, his brother William Harden, and brother-in-laws: Floyd George, Roger McFall; his cousin Jim Harden, and sister-in-law Judy Harden.

In light of current events, private funeral services were held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie Chapel, Elsie, MI, with Mr. Chuck Emmert officiating. We will be broadcasting, Bob's funeral, via Facebook Live on Smith Family Funeral Homes Facebook page, you're welcome to join there.

Memorials may be made to Duplain Church of Christ 5565 East Colony Road St. Johns, Michigan 48879. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.



Gary Frank Noble

Gary Frank Noble, age 70 of New Lothrop, formerly of Ovid passed away Sunday, April 12, 2020.

Gary was born March 6, 1950 in Ionia, the son of Seth and Iva (Townsend) Noble.

He graduated from Owosso High School, class of 1968, attended Lansing Community College and proudly served in the United States Army.

Gary had a love for antique cars.

He married Suzanne Florene Lukas in Owosso on June 25, 1971; she predeceased him in 2012.

Gary was employed with Motor Wheel in Lansing for 20 years and as a welder with Simplicity in Durand for the past 22 years.

He is survived by his son Scott (Jennifer) Noble; grandson Seth Noble; fiancé Karen Santerre; siblings Barbara (Ralph) Soliz, Harold (Joyce) Noble and Larry (Sandy) Noble; other loving family members and friends.

Gary was predeceased by his wife, daughter Jamie Watson and his parents.

Private graveside services will be held at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens. Due to the Governor of Michigan's current ban on gatherings, the family will hold a public celebration with military honors at a later date.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the family.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at Nelson-House.com.



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Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

You know that it is going to be a difficult day when you pull up to the ATM at your bank and it is broken.....then to add insult to injury the drive-in teller doesn't open on time and you drive away because you have a schedule to keep. So you make a quick stop at Wally World to get some cat food which I believe is still considered to be essential. All entrances have yellow and black caution tape wound around them.....the grocery doors are exit only.....so I move on to the middle doors.....almost got to them and decided that I could do just as well at Farm and Home. Did I mention that it was snowing and I hadn't worn a coat.....the winter one was too heavy and the in between was in the washer.

So I headed back towards town and stopped at Farm and Home and enjoyed my shopping experience, though I was a bit traumatized when I saw the frozen tomato plants. It hurt my gardening heart. My spirits were greatly lifted when I entered the store and could see a few other folks and hear the peeps of the chicks. I amused myself looking over the variety that was offered and missed seeing any ducklings, their pens were empty but the lights were still on. I picked up the kitty litter for Robert and Nurture dog food for Prudence.

When I got back home I was ready to strangle Robert.....he had used my grow box filled with young cabbage plants as a litter box. The cat's litter box was clean but he had seen Yellow River use the grow box, and she had only been thrown outside. I don't believe that Robert understands that being inside is a privilege and that Yellow River is in trouble the second that she sneaks into the house. I will be sitting on the deck with a spray bottle of water set on stream to remind Ralph, Scamp, and Yellow River that the house is off limits.

I am pleased that I have a healthy group of cats, they are well fed, they have shelter with fluffy straw beds, and I even have a heated water bowl so that they can drink water throughout the winter without needing to eat snow to quench their thirst. At times it seems as if I'm in the process of taming down some drop offs so that I can have them neutered. Right now I have the twins, Ralph, Black Beauty, Yellow River, Robert, Gorgeous George, Scamp and Robert. Gorgeous George is finally getting used to us and I hope to have him gentled shortly, then I can take Robert and him into be fixed. Of course every time that I have the crew up to specs someone drops off another couple of cats or one of them gets hit by a car. Sometimes I'm lucky and have them new homes once they become hospitable. I feel like I have an empty nest at times.

"Security without liberty is prison" was a bit of Ben Franklin wisdom that was posted on the lawn of the capitol building in Lansing April 15th, 2020. I find the sentiment to be true and like many am feeling trapped in my home. I do pray for those out of work and hope that soon this orchestration of fear will be lifted. May God bless and keep you.

Crystal Mitchell ©2020

Thank You Laingsburg Girl Scout Leaders!

Letter to the Editor:

Within our small community we have many people that make the world a better place. But we are lucky enough also to have 25 women that go above and beyond to make a difference in 97 girls lives by being Girl Scout Leaders. These leaders help our girls to find their place in the world by exploring new things and by building their courage, confidence and character. April 22 is Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day. Take a moment to thank a Girl Scout Leader, past or present for the difference they have made in your life or within your community. Also, remember the volunteers that assist us during our meetings and field trips and the numerous other ways they help.

Please take a moment to thank the following Laingsburg leaders for helping our girls become all that they can be: Katie Brewer, Adrienne Mertens; Amanda Conklin; Mikaela Steffens; Linda Wright; Jessica Sebenick; Jamie Boyle, Jamie

Nixon, Monica Erickson; Nicole Fickes; Mindy Merrill; Nicole Justice, Ashley Foster; Gretchen Highfield; Amanda Aldrich; Mary Lefevre; Leslie Sandin-Brink; Melissa Austin; Stephanie Sanford; Kristyna Baynes; Krista Story & Bekah Allen. We would also like to give a shout out to Cory Highfield for his assistance as our Area Treasurer. We couldn't do it without him.

With your leadership you make our community better by guiding our girls along the path of making a difference in the world.

Thank you all for the great job you do,

Jody Frank

Laingsburg Girl Scout Service Unit 321 Manager

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan

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

Remember Arbot Day - April 21 & Earth Day - April 22

Dear Andy,

We have been so focused on COVID 19 Coronavirus pandemic, I feel like every article I read lately, and all the news stations are covering "daily updates." We have missed out on promotional segments for "March is Reading Month." "Easter and Spring" came and went and now... "Earth Day" is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22. We usually attend a big event at the Capitol and learn so much. One more thing my kids are going to miss out on. Since this virus has affected every country, every state all over the world and most every person one way or the other, what can we give back to the earth to make a difference? Is it too late? Have we doomed ourselves? Dave (Dad of five)

Dear Dave,

No, we are not doomed, and we need the "daily updates" to be informed citizens. In a recent program I heard a researcher say... "this may be our new normal, until 2022." I believe he was talking about taking precautions, such as facemasks, gloves and disinfectants and following CDC and State leaders' recommendations to keep our communities' virus-free and safe.

And, YES...let's not forget EARTH DAY. This is the 50th year anniversary. Kind of ironic, we need to continue to work on our environment and keep our communities safe from the pandemic spread. Since the first Earth Day celebration in 1970, clean Air Amendments and Clean Water Acts and Safe drinking water has improved, however as we know in many nearby towns and cities it is a problem again. Fortunately, 100's of environmental policies have been approved over the last 50 years; health in general has significantly improved. However, we all still have responsibilities to protect our environment.

States have Environmentalist testing daily for the quality of air and water, fish and wildlife. Still an "essential" job. These State workers are not on furlough. They are working through the pandemic, along with many other necessary positions.

Since the State is unable to hold a local event this year, perhaps when we have restrictions lifted, we can plan an Earth Day celebration, even if it is in your own local park or back yard. In the meantime, find information to educate yourself and your family. Join a Blog on Climate change, check out books from the online library services to gain information and involve your family in a project...such as trash pickup, planting trees, and understanding our place in the environment.

Have you wondered what the difference between Arbor Day and Earth Day? Arbor Day is to plant more trees in our communities. Earth day is to create self-awareness for the condition of our environment and find ways to help. Planting gardens, recycling, using no lead gas, eliminating harmful chemicals in our environment. Supporting renewable energy, clean water and clean air legislation. Know the products you are using; limiting the use of aerosols, scientists have already documented closures in the O-zone.

Celebrate Earth Day with the founder Denis Hayes who organized the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970 when he was a 25-year-old college student. Hayes continues to manage and support the efforts and purpose of Earth Day. His efforts and the contributions from our states and individuals who have planned events, developed educational information are making a difference on the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. This celebration can last all year. In one of Hayes famous quotes he said, "I feel more confident than ever that the power to save the planet rests with the individual consumer..."

Let's not forget this important day to celebrate our earth and be a part of the positive direction for safe environmental growth. Arbor Day is April 21th in our area. Other countries have an Arbor celebration at the beginning of their planting season. For 10 free trees join the Arbor Foundation www.arborday.org/10freetrees. Thanks for reading ask_andy@aol.com.

P.S. Every month is Reading Month this year since the kids are out of school. Read a book to your children. Read a Chapter book together and see what happens when you finish.

Victor Township, Clinton County, MI 6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI Proposed Board Minutes from April 13, 2020 Meeting

The electronic regular meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Warren Malkin at 7:03 pm.

Roll Call Attendance: Warren Malkin, Amanda Conklin, Paula Willoughby, Julie Townsend and Mike Wall

Agenda: Motion by Wall to add Assessor Contract to new business, to remove water heater, security system, website and policy and procedures from unfinished business. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to move Electronic Meetings Resolution to the first matter of business. Supported by Wall. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Electronic Meetings Resolution: Motion by Willoughby to adopt Resolution 2020-2. Supported by Wall. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Minutes: Motion by Willoughby to approve the minutes from March 09, 2020 Board Meeting. Supported by Conklin. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion by Wall to approved the minutes from the March 22, 2020 Special Meeting. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Conklin to accept the treasurer's report. Supported by Wall. Roll call vote. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments: Motion by Willoughby to approve the budget amendments. Supported by Wall. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

General Appropriations Act for FY 2020-21: Motion by Wall to adopt Resolution 2020-1. Supported by Conklin. Role call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of bills: Motion by Willoughby to pay the March 2020 bills in the amount of \$150,308.07 using checks #27858-27894 and e-checks #464-476. Supported by Conklin. Roll call vote. Malkin opposed. Motion carried.

Motion by Willoughby to disburse payroll and related payroll expenses for March 2020 in the amount of \$6,759.81 using checks #12089-12097 and EFT 124. Supported by Conklin. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports:

Commissioner Stacey reported on county revenue issues, telework and looking into next year.

The Planning Commission's next meeting will be held on May 4, 2020 at 7:15. Details regarding participation in this meeting will be posted at Victortwp.org.

Unfinished Business:

1. Ordinance 19.3 Fire, Ambulance & Inhalator Service Charges Ordinance - Willoughby worked with the attorney at length and he should be drafting new ordinance when he is back to work.

New Business:

1. Insurance - Motion by Willoughby to approved the insurance renewal. Supported by Townsend. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Road Millage Resolution- Motion by Willoughby to adopt the Road Millage Resolution 2020-3. Supported by Wall. Malkin opposed. Motion carried.

3. Greater Laingsburg Recyclers- Motion by Wall to support \$2,000 grant match and to commit an additional \$2,000 in support of recycling operations when they reestablish. Supported by Conklin. Roll call vote. Malkin opposed. Motion carried.

4. Assessor Contract- The assessor will provide the entire Board a copy of her contract in January, or earlier, each year for budget purposes.

Extended Public/Board Comment: Progress on the cemetery maintenance issue is coming together. Motion by Willoughby to approve the purchase of new signage for all 3 cemeteries and to appoint Mel McIntosh to work with contractors on maintenance issues. Supported by Conklin. Roll call vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Wall to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Supported by Malkin. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

Back In The Day

Fred Hay, Arsonist by Wayne Summers

by Wayne Summers

So, who was Fred Hay? A 48 year-old Fred Hay claimed in a court deposition in 1936 he had spent most of his life in the Ovid area.

That he had obtained a 4th grade education and had no living relatives. Yet, the name Fred Hay is missing from any available record until 1930 when the census lists him as a farm hand for Orson and Alma Devereaux in Ovid. While there were Hay families in the area, none had a son named Fred. If he lived in Clinton County prior to 1930, it may have been under a different name. While his background is uncertain, his fascination with fire is not. As Fred moved around working various manual labor jobs in the Ovid area, mysterious fires seemed to follow. While some suspected him of setting them, there wasn't enough proof to turn him over to the authorities. Their suspicions, however, proved to be correct, and he later confessed in

1936 to setting Elfrus Dulock's barn on fire a year or so earlier. (Elfrus rebuilt the barn only to have it destroyed by fire once again in 1937. This time, however, the culprit was lightening.)

By April of 1967 Fred Hay had taken a room in the Farmer's Hotel in St. Johns where he had arrived a couple of months earlier to work on a ditch job north of town. Built in 1876, the hotel had originally been called the Hotel American. It had been renamed the Farmer's Hotel when it was purchased by Jacob L. Ring, who ran it as a successful business until selling it in the 1890's. The Farmer's Hotel had then been owned by Charles S. Pate and most recently by James Rule of Lansing. Over the years the place had fallen into disrepair and was mostly unoccupied.

On the fateful Holy Saturday of April 11, 1936, Fred Hay began drinking beer and hard cider that morning and continued well into the afternoon. After being filled with the spirits he decided to celebrate the day after Good Friday with a good fire. At about a quarter to six he gathered some papers in a room on the first floor and lit them on fire. Fred then rushed across the street to the Roosevelt Gas Station and reported there was a fire in the hotel. The fire department was notified and Fred along with Ira Harper, a fellow roomer at the hotel, went over and worked to contain the fire until the fire department arrived and quickly extinguished it. Since there was little damage, no one chose to investigate its cause or suspect it may have been deliberately started. After all, they all wanted to get home to prepare for Easter the next morning.

With the fire out, Fred had supper in a nearby restaurant and then returned to the hotel a little after 7 determined to start a new, bigger fire. He gathered some newspapers, soaked them in kerosene, and lit them near the top of the second-floor stairway. He then returned to the restaurant and waited. Hearing the fire alarm, Fred rushed over and attempted to help extinguish the fire. This new second fire, propelled by the kerosene, quickly spread engulfing the building. When the fire department arrived about 7:20 p.m. Fred Hay came out of the hotel and said, "There's an old man in there."

As Elmer Comer stumbled out after trying to save some of



his belongings, the firefighters assumed he was the man Fred had been referring to and made no attempt to search for anyone else. But, even if they had known there was another person in the building, they would have had no way to reach him. The stairway was the only way to get to the second floor and it was engulfed in flames.

Upstairs asleep in his room in the stucco wing when the fire started was 65-year-old Charles L. Wilson. Wilson was a traveling craftsman who made his living by sharpening knives and shears. Trapped in the upper hall by smoke and flames, Charles had no means of escape and died of smoke inhalation. His body was later found slumped on a settee at the end of a blind hall still holding his shoes in one hand. Having no family other than three brothers living in Perry, Charles Wilson's funeral took place in St. Johns and he was buried in Mt. Rest Cemetery.

Fred Hay quickly became the prime suspect and he was arrested and questioned shortly thereafter. The following Tuesday he made a full confession of the crime in which he blamed alcohol as the cause of his misdeeds.

Justice moved quickly in the 1930's. On Thursday Fred waived examination and was tried Saturday morning April 18th before Judge Kelly S. Searl where he plead guilty. He was then immediately sentenced to 10-20 years in prison. In less than a week Fred Hay had been arrested, convicted, sentenced, and placed behind bars.

The site of the old hotel was cleared and a bowling alley built on the site.

As for Fred Hay, the 1940 census shows him as an inmate in the Jackson State Prison. After that, well like before 1930, no record for someone with that name has been found.

The Meridian Weekly will be publishing various stories from "Back in the Day". This first story is reprinted from Clinton County Trails, a publication which comes out quarterly in St. Johns. It is comprised by the Historical Society and Clinton County Historical Museum Board. This first submission, written by Wayne Summers is about Fred Hay who worked for Orson and Alma Devereaux in Ovid.

We would like to consider your submission from "Back in the Day". Send your submission, photos are also welcome to news@meridianweekly.com or to me directly deb.price@meridianweekly.com

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To my constituents,

I know this is a difficult time right now and I am working hard to help during this crisis. I recently voted for legislation that provides more funding for our health care professionals to have the supplies they need to fight COVID-19 and save lives.

I also know many Michigan residents have lost their jobs and have unpaid bills at home. That's why I voted for expanded unemployment benefits and supported direct payments to individuals, married couples, and families. Working families of four can expect to receive a direct payment of \$3,400. Social Security recipients will also receive a payment and they do not have to file a tax return to receive it.

As this situation changes in the weeks ahead, I will be providing updates through my website, my Facebook page, messages to the local media, and my emails to constituents.

We are all in this together and we must remain united, even while we stay apart to limit the spread of the virus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of John Moolenaar in blue ink.

JOHN MOOLENAAR
Member of Congress

Sports

Wolfpack's Hawes Named to Division 3 Boys All-State Team

LAINGSBURG -- The post-season accolades continue to roll in for Wolfpack guard Gabe Hawes.

The senior playmaker / scorer was one of four area players honored in voting announced last week. Hawes was selected in Division 3, while Perry's Caleb Leykauf made the Division 2 team. Also making the Division 2 honorable mention list were Ovid-Elsie's Justin Moore and Shayne Loynes. All four were also All-Area picks this season.

Hawes led the Wolves at 18.7 ppg, 4.2 assists, 4 rebounds and 2.1 steals per game, in 24 minutes on average.

"In addition to his glowing statistics, it should be noted that his shooting percentages were extremely high. Gabe shot 47% from the 3-point line and 83% from the free throw line," said LHS coach Daniel Morrill.

Ovid-Elsie's Loynes, Moore on Division 2 Boys All-State Team

OVID-ELSIE -- It's notable when a Michigan boys basketball team can boast an All-State player on its roster.

It's truly remarkable when they can boast about two.

Ovid-Elsie's stellar 2019-20 cage season has concluded with two seniors -- Shayne Loynes and Justin Moore -- named to the Division 2 All-State contingent.

The Marauder duo were one of four area players honored in voting announced last week. Laingsburg's Gabe Hawes was selected in Division 3, while Perry's Caleb Leykauf made the Division 2 team.

Loynes, a senior point guard, averaged 17.7 points and 5.5 assists and also made 54 3-pointers, shooting 39% from beyond the arc. Loynes added 2.5 steals and 3.1 rebounds per game. Loynes helped lend a hand in 56 varsity wins, a school record.

Moore, a senior 6-foot-3 center, scored 16.6 points and grabbed 10.9 rebounds. A strong inside presence, Moore shot 59 percent from the floor (139 of 236), adding 2.0 steals and 2.2 assists per game.

Moore and Loynes both made a big leap this year to first-team All-Area status after earning honorable mentions last season.

All four local players were still alive in the postseason when the MHSAA suspended all sports activity March 13. The state tournament was canceled completely earlier this month.



Gabe Hawes
All-State Team



Shayne Loynes
All-State Team



Justin Moore
All-State Team

All-Shiawassee Area Girls Basketball Team

OWOSSO — Five area standouts have been named to the All-Shiawassee Area girls basketball team.

Laura Barton and Caitlin Walter, and Laingsburg's Kara Mahoney, Grace Graham and Lorna Strieff were all honored on the team at the end of the 2019-2020 season, as named by the Owosso Argus-Press.

Sarah Marvin of the District champion Byron Eagles was feted as the All-Area Player of the Year.

Barton averaged 13.0 points per game and grabbed 8.0 rebounds per contest. She was also a first-team All-Area selection. She led the Marauders in four other categories including steals (2.2), assists (2.0), blocked shots (1.0) and field goal percentage (48.9 percent). Barton finished with 288 points and 175 rebounds.

Walter was also a standout for coach Ryan Cunningham's Ovid-Elsie contingent, which completed a 15-7 campaign, including a third place (9-6) finish in the MMAC, before losing the District Finals to the 19-4 Chesaning Indians.

Mahoney also earned Honorable Mention All-State honors, Kara averaged 13 ppg, 5 rebounds, 3 assists and 3 steals. She also had 17 blocks on the season and led LHS with 37 three-point shots.

Graham averaged 12 ppg, 6 rebounds, 2 assists and 6 steals per game. She nabbed 136 steals for the season, shattering the former Wolfpack record, which was 115.

Strieff contributed 7 ppg, 6 rebounds, 1.3 assists and 2 steals per contest.

Said Wolfpack coach Doug Hurst, "I'm proud of all our girls finishing 15-8 and getting to the District championship. Every one of our losses was to a ranked team or Honorable Mention ranked."

2019-20 ALL-AREA GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM
Player of the Year: Sarah Marvin, Byron

The 5-foot-9 junior guard/forward repeated as All-Area Player of the Year by leading Byron to its first district title and its first outright league title in 30 years. Marvin topped the Eagles in seven statistical categories and averaged a double-double (18.3 points, 13.1 rebounds). She had 17 double-doubles overall and two triple-doubles. She had 438 points and 314 boards.

Marvin is fifth person to win Player of the Year more than once, following Durand's Cierra Cole (2017, 2018); Corunna's Payton Birchmeier (2012, 2013, 2014); New Lothrop's Ashley Wending (2004, 2005); and Owosso's Valerie Smith (1999, 2001). She has the rare opportunity as a senior to be a four-time first-team All-Area pick.

FIRST TEAM

Alyssa Welsh, Perry: The senior guard scored 410 points (19.5 average) and led the area in 3-pointers with 65. She finished her career with 1,251 points and 199 career 3-pointers. Welsh also averaged 5.1 rebounds per game for the 10-11 Ramblers. Welsh crossed the 1,000-point plateau Jan. 10 against Vermontville Maple Valley and finished as the area's seventh all-time leading scorer. She is a four-time All-Area player, earning three first-team selections and one second team.

Brooke Wenzlick, New Lothrop: Wenzlick, a junior guard, carried the Hornets' scoring load by averaging 18.7 points —



Laura Barton
All Area 1st Team



Kara Mahoney
All Area 2nd Team



Grace Graham
All Area 2nd Team

including 21.6 points per game in MMAC play. She added 5.0 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 3.5 steals. Wenzlick shot 74 percent from the free-throw line (112 of 150) and is 98 points away from 1,000 for her career. It's her third All-Area selection and second first-team honor.

Makayla Clement, Byron: The junior guard/forward led Byron in field goal percentage (54.3%, 144-for-265). Clement averaged 15.0 points, 4.0 rebounds, 2.9 assists and 2.7 steals. Clement also drained 31 3-pointers and was a unanimous first-team all-MMAC player. Clement finished with 360 points this season and is 201 shy of 1,000 for her career. Clement earned her third All-Area selection, previously placing on the second team and honorable mention.

Lauren Barton, Ovid-Elsie: Barton, a 6-foot senior center, averaged 13.0 points and 8.0 rebounds for the 15-7 Marauders. She led the team in four other categories including steals (2.2), assists (2.0), blocked shots (1.0) and field goal percentage (48.9 percent). Barton finished with 288 points and 175 rebounds. She earned first-team honors after second-team selections in 2018 and 2019.

Ellie Toney, Corunna: The 6-foot sophomore forward led Corunna in points (357) rebounds (179), blocks (27) free throws made (75) and free throw percentage (72.8 percent). Toney averaged 17.9 points and 9.0 rebounds per game, adding 2.6 assists, 2.0 steals and 1.4 blocks. A first-team all-Flint Metro League all-star, Toney ended the season 401 points shy of 1,000 for her career.

SECOND TEAM

Kara Mahoney, Laingsburg: The senior guard/forward scored a team-high 13 points per game while sinking 37 3-pointers. Mahoney also grabbed five rebounds per game, adding 3.0 assists and 3.0 steals.

Sidnee Struck, Chesaning: The 6-foot senior center helped Chesaning to a 19-5 record and its first district title in 11 years. Struck led the Indians in points (7.8), rebounds (7.8) and assists (3.5). A first-team all-MMAC selection, she added 1.5 blocks and 2.0 steals a game.

Gracie Nowak, Morrice: Nowak, a senior point guard, had 140 steals (7.0 per game) to lead the area. She scored 8.0 points per game adding 5.0 rebounds, 4.3 assists and shooting 47.2% from the floor. Nowak was named a first-team selection in the Genesee Area Conference. Nowak helped the Orioles post a 14-6 overall record and a 12-2 GAC mark.

Sydney Gillett, Corunna: As a freshman, Gillett was a first-team all-Flint Metro selection after averaging 10.5 points per game with 38 3-pointers. The point guard led the Cavaliers in 3-pointers, assists (2.9) and steals (2.2). She shot 71.4 percent from the free-throw line (40 of 56).

Grace Graham, Laingsburg: The junior guard recorded 136 steals (5.9 per game). Graham averaged 12 points, six rebounds and two assists for the 15-8 Wolfpack.

HONORABLE MENTION

Caitlyn Walter, Ovid-Elsie; Olivia Riley, Morrice; Jenna Smith, Morrice; Haylei Drope, Chesaning; Karissa Ferry, Chesaning; Jordyn Lawrence, Durand; Reyn Tuttle, Owosso; Lorna Strieff, Laingsburg; Raegan Forgie, Byron; Katie Kiger, Perry.



(L): Caitlin Walter
Honorable Mention



(R): Lorna Strieff
Honorable Mention

NOTICE CITY OF LAINGSBURG RESIDENTS PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET

The City of Laingsburg will hold a Public Hearing during the regular City Council Meeting in May to address the 2020-2021 Proposed Budget. The Council Meeting will be held on Monday, May 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall in Laingsburg. In the event that the Stay Home Stay Safe is still in effect please watch the City of Laingsburg website at www.laingsburg.us or check the posting on the doors at City Hall for information on how to attend the meeting remotely.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the hearing or send a representative. You may also email your questions to treasurer@laingsburg.us or send your questions in writing. The website will have the proposed budget, if you would like a copy please contact City Hall at the email or phone numbers listed here. Laingsburg City Hall is barrier free. Any person requiring special assistance should call 517-651-5374 within 24 hours of the meeting.

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Sports

Ovid-Elsie, Laingsburg Players Dot Boys All-Area Team

OWOSSO -- Laingsburg senior point guard Gabe Hawes and Perry senior forward Caleb Leykauf have been selected as The Shiawassee All-Area Boys Basketball Co-Players of the Year for the 2019-20 season, as named by the Owosso Argus-Press.

Ovid-Elsie's Shayne Loynes was honored on the All-Area First Team, as was fellow Marauder standout Justin Moore. O-E alumnus Carson Vincent was most recently the Shiawassee POV in 2017 and 2018.

Laingsburg's Zach Hawes was selected to the Second Team, while O-E's Aaron Hurst was an Honorable Mention selection.

Typically, The Argus-Press waits until the season has fully concluded to select its All-Area team. But the season was suspended March 12 due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and it is unclear when — or if — it will resume.

In any case, Hawes and Leykauf were equally stellar this winter.

Laingsburg coach Daniel Morrill said he felt Hawes deserved the honor. He joins former Wolfpack standouts Kurt Brown (1991), Brandon Woodworth (1997) and Jake Zielinski (2013) as past All-Area Players of the Year.

Hawes was deadly from 3-point territory. He led the Wolves to a league championships and a berth in the district finals — a game that, unfortunately, may never be played due to the COVID-19 threat.

Hawes had 393 points (18.7 ppg). Hawes scored 64 three-balls — and shot from the arc a stellar 47 percent.

Gabe averaged 4.2 rebounds per outing, and while point also averaged 4.2 assists and 2.1 steals per contest.

Morrill felt Hawes — with his shooting numbers and work ethic — was the best player in the area. “Gabe ran the point for us all year and that’s really not a natural position for him,” Morrill said. “He’s 6-foot tall, maybe 6-foot-1, about 195 pounds and has always played a two-guard, three-guard, shooting guard spot. He tinkered with the point just a little bit last year, but became our full-time point guard this year. The most impressive thing about Gabe this year, to me, was his field goal percentage. His overall field goal percentage was 56 percent — that includes everything. And after 19 games, even from the 3-point line (60-for-120), he was averaging 50 percent, which is unheard of.”

Hawes said even if the season doesn’t resume there are a lot of special memories he’ll never forget.

“Some of my favorite memories would probably start in the summer — just when we’d get the whole team together and have an open gym or when we’d go to team camps, stuff like that. Just, kind of the build up to the season was one of my favorite parts and then, winning the league obviously, was another fun part, and when we beat P-W for the first time at home.”

Hawes said he improved his passing and ball-handling the most this season.

“This year probably what I focused on, because I’m playing a little more point guard this year, so I really worked on my passing and kind of getting my teammates involved and getting them shots first and then working on myself.”

Leykauf said the Ramblers could have perhaps also won a district title if they had gotten past Ovid-Elsie a second time this season. When asked about his biggest improvement as a basketball player, Leykauf said there were a few areas that came to mind.

“I think I improved on my defense and learning how to not just be a shooter but a scorer, too.”

2019-20 ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM
Co-Players of the Year

Gabe Hawes, Laingsburg: This is the first All-Area selection for the 6-foot-1 senior guard. He moved to point guard from shooting guard and averaged 18.7 points per game. He helped Laingsburg share the Central Michigan Athletic Conference championship and earn a berth in the Division 3 district championship game. That game, against Bath, is currently on hold due to coronavirus concerns. Hawes is Laingsburg’s first Player of the Year since Jake Zielinski in



*Gabe Hawes
Co-Player of the Year*

2013 and the school’s record-tying fifth overall (Corunna).

Caleb Leykauf, Perry: The senior forward led the area in scoring at 19.2 points per game. He shot 51 percent from the field (99 of 194) and 40 percent from 3-point territory, adding 1.3 blocks per game. The 6-foot-4 forward also was a force on the boards, pulling down 8.3 rebounds per game. His 61 3-pointers were a school record. Leykauf was named an All-Area first-teamer for the second straight season. He’s the first Player of the Year from Perry since Jordan Sipkovsky in 2006.

Leykauf, who has 1,011 career points, led Perry to a Greater Lansing Activities Conference co-title with Leslie and Stockbridge. Perry was set to play Ovid-Elsie in the district finals before the suspension of the postseason.

FIRST TEAM

Shayne Loynes, Ovid-Elsie: The senior point guard averaged 17.7 points and 5.5 assists and also made 54 3-pointers, shooting 39% from beyond the arc. Loynes added 2.5 steals and 3.1 rebounds per game. Loynes helped lead the Marauders to the outright Mid-Michigan Activities Conference championship and a berth in the district finals. He and teammate Justin Moore had a hand in 56 varsity wins, a school record.

Justin Moore, Ovid-Elsie: The senior 6-foot-3 center scored 16.6 points and grabbed 10.9 rebounds. A strong inside presence, Moore shot 59 percent from the floor (139 of 236), adding 2.0 steals and 2.2 assists per game. Moore and Loynes both made a big leap this year to first-team status after earning honorable mentions last season.

C.J. King, Perry: The senior point guard handed out 6.6 assists per game, adding 9.0 points, 6.2 rebounds and 3.5 steals. He ranked second on the Perry team in rebounding despite being only 5-foot-9. King finished second all-time in assists at Perry and owns the school record for steals in a game with nine. It’s his third All-Area selection after earning second-team and honorable mention the previous two seasons.

Avery Moore, New Lothrop: The senior guard-forward played all five positions on the floor at some point, but anchored New Lothrop’s defensive zone in the middle. Moore led the team in points (10.3 points per game), rebounds (6.9 per game), assists (4.3 per game) and blocks (3.0 per game). He helped New Lothrop finish 18-4 and, according to head coach Brady Simons, was the best defender in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference, where he was a first-team all-league pick. Moore made All-Area for the third time, previously earning second-team and honorable mention status.

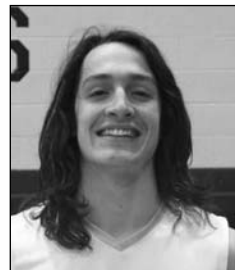
Josh Green, Byron: Green, a senior guard, averaged 17.3 points per game for the Eagles. He totaled 362 points, adding 4.0 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 2.5 steals. He made 43 3-pointers. Green was a unanimous first-team all-MMAC selection. This is Green’s first All-Area selection.

SECOND TEAM

Zach Hawes, Laingsburg: The 6-foot-3 junior guard averaged 12.4 points, 4.4 rebounds and 3.2 assists per game. He sank 44 3-pointers while shooting 37 percent from beyond the arc. Hawes, like his older brother Gabe, was a first-team all-CMAC selection and a first-time All-Area pick.

Cole Mieske, Corunna: The 5-foot-10 junior point guard averaged 14.3 points per game with 3.9 assists, 2.8 steals and 3.0 rebounds. He led Corunna with 37 3-pointers while shooting 37 percent from beyond the arc. He played nearly 32 minutes per game and was also at the front of Corunna’s press, the most demanding position. Mieske, an All-Area honorable mention last season, was a second-team Flint Metro League Stars pick.

Jaylen Jones, Durand: The senior point guard averaged 11.9 points, 5.3 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 2.8 steals. Shooting 49 percent from the floor, he also shot 46 percent from 3-point



*Shayne Loynes
All Area 1st Team*



*Justin Moore
All Area 1st Team*



*Zach Hawes
All Area 2nd Team*

territory. He was a second-teamer in the MMAC.

Rae’Quonn Parham, Chesaning: The senior forward averaged 12.0 points and 4.0 rebounds per game. Parham added 2.0 steals and was a first-team MMAC pick.

Hunter McGowan, Morrice: The Morrice senior averaged 14.3 points per game and shot 75 percent from the free throw line. He added 52 3-pointers on the season, a school record, along with 4.0 rebounds and 1.4 steals.

HONORABLE MENTION

Eddie Mishler, Owosso; Peyton Smith, Morrice; Carson Socia, Corunna; Luke Birchmeier, New Lothrop; Ty Kohlmann, New Lothrop; Brodie Crim, Perry; Aaron Hurst, Ovid-Elsie; Chandler Cleveland, Durand; Imari Hall, Chesaning; Braden Hoffman, Byron

*Aaron Hurst
All Area Honorable Mention*



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Capital Region Airport and MBS Receive Federal Grants

submitted by David Russell

The FAA has announced new grants for Capital Region International Airport and MBS International Airport. The grants are \$10,321,307 for Capital Region International Airport in Clinton County and \$1,968,790 for MBS International Airport in Saginaw County.

The funding will be used by the airports to do upkeep and make improvements on their facilities as many airports face shortfalls from the loss of revenue caused by the Coronavirus pandemic.

"While the focus is on staying home and staying safe, we know that whenever we can get back to normal, Michigan families will want a convenient way to visit friends and family," said Congressman John Moolenaar. "This funding will help these airports be safe, clean, and ready to serve passengers when the public health crisis has subsided."

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Editorial

Michigan Masks

There are many local shops and businesses in mid-Michigan making masks and other personal protection equipment (PPE) to help medical personnel, first responders, and of course the public. In Owosso, Woodard Furniture has put their employees to work and are cranking out over 1,000 masks a day. While these aren't medical or N95 masks they are the next best thing and are being donated just as fast as they can make them. Thank you Woodard Furniture! The Weekly Sportsman would also like to acknowledge two other Michigan based companies and another with ties to Michigan; Stormy Kromer, Carhartt, and Ball and Buck.



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster

theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com



Stormy Kromer factory in Ironwood, Michigan.

Our friends up at Stormy Kromer in Ironwood announced on March 16th that factory tours would be suspended for the safety of both employees and visitors. A week later came another email announcement that production of regularly made products had also been suspended. But literally within days some workers were called back and donned masks to start producing masks, gowns, booties, along with other PPE for medical personnel. Their simple and clear statement to customers couldn't be any more accurate. "The only way we will get through this crisis is together."

Down in Dearborn at Carhartt Corporate headquarters a lot has been done to ensure safety and economic security for employees and our country. Stating that this kind of fight is in their heritage, as they produced for the frontline during both World Wars, the company has switched from making triple stitched duck wear clothing to masks and gowns. The task of producing 50,000 gowns and 2.5 million masks is currently being undertaken by proud Carhartt employees. On their website is a simple daily to do list: make masks, make gowns, thank doctors and nurses.

Most readers of this column have probably never heard of Ball and Buck which is an outdoor outfitter with the mission to build American made products and experiences that set the benchmark for quality and become more valuable with age. Started in 2008 by founder Mark Bollman, his Michigan heritage can be traced to annual duck hunts with his grandfather who lived in the Flint area. The Massachusetts company has their own signature camo pattern that is very reminiscent of WWII patterns and a signature plaid with earth tones paired with blaze orange and navy blue. They are currently offering washable masks made with their camo pattern for only \$20 and for every mask purchased one will be donated to hospitals in need. Of course, there will be a several week delay as their priority is to outfit medical personnel.



Dearborn based Carhartt has switched production from triple stitched duck wear to 50,000 gowns and 2.5 million masks.



Fashionable camo masks produced by Ball and Buck

Several weeks ago the Weekly Sportsman wrote that Americans are resilient by nature and are known to come together in times of need to overcome what at times may seem impossible. It is clear, both locally and across the country, the American spirit is alive and well. When our nation recovers by becoming physically, emotionally, economically healthy once again please remember these businesses.

-WS

Moolenaar Co-Sponsors HEROES Act

submitted by David Russell

Congressman John Moolenaar has co-sponsored the HEROES Act, a bill which will give a four-month federal tax holiday to health care professionals in counties that have had cases of the Coronavirus.

"This legislation is just one of the many ways we can support the health care professionals who have done incredible work to serve others and save lives during this pandemic," said Congressman John Moolenaar. "This legislation recognizes their sacrifices for public safety and helps their families."

The legislation was introduced last week by Congressman Bill Huizenga (R-MI). According to his office, it would apply to "law enforcement officers, corrections officers, firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, pharmacists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, hospital and licensed medical facility support staff, and senior care facility staff." These individuals would pay no income tax on the wages they earn between February 15, 2020 and June 15, 2020. The Treasury Secretary would also have the option to extend the tax holiday an additional three months, through September 15, 2020.

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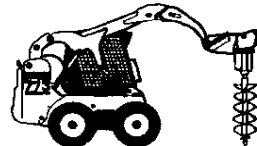
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