Meridian Weekly

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VOLUME 28 • ISSUE 1538 12 PAGES **August 16, 2020**



Laingsburg Graduation
On Friday, August 7, 2020, the Laingsburg Class of 2020 held its Graduation Ceremony. Due to COVID-19, the ceremony was held outside and spread out over a three hour time period between 7 and 9 pm. Students were assigned a time to receive their diplomas and have family present to witness the accomplishment of their loved one. Now that all three school districts in the Meridian Weekly coverage area have completed graduation ceremonies, the graduates will head to college, a trade school or to a job to start their next step in life. As for the Class of 2021 and the rest of students in the districts, a non-traditional way of receiving an education is before them. Weather it be in-person, online or home-schooled, our future students will come thru this unprecedented time successfully. The parents, administrators, educators and others who love our children will see to it that we come out the other side of this Pandemic together and strong





In the August 9, 2020 paper there was an error in the reporting of the Primary Election Results. On Page 2, it was reported that Tony Spagnuolo would be the new Prosecuting Clinton Attorney in County. Republican Spagnuolo defeated his opponent, Sarah Huyser, 6279-4621 in the Primary Election on August 4, 2020. He will face Democrat, Brian Ameche who received 6,911 votes in the Primary. We apologize for the error in reporting.



Tony Spagnuolo

Ovid-Elsie Board of Action Decides the **Tentative 2020-2021 School Year Opening**

ELSIE - The Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education held a special meeting Monday, August 10, 2020 to approve "Return to Learn Plan" for the fall of 2020, noting that the guidelines and parameters are ever changing.

Officials were presented and reviewed the Ovid-Elsie "Return to Learn" plan. The plan reflected two plans, Plan I face-to-face hybrid model and Plan II totally online education program, Marauder Virtual Program. The new online programing will be very robust and far more vigorous than the emergency learning plan put into action the spring of 2020. It was noted that administration and staff were active in the development of the plans presented and with the end goal to meet the needs of the parents and students of the district

Prior to development of the plan a number of surveys were sent to parents. The Clinton County survey reflected 60% wanted to return to the classroom and 40% a different option. A second survey was developed and sent out by O-E with 822 or 60% students who would attend face-to-face and 33% or 459 students preferring online and 7% undecided, 130 families. A town hall meeting was held August 3, with 195 people participating, it was a very productive meeting. It was noted that the plans must be submitted to the Clinton county RESA by August 14, 2020.

The face-to-face plan developed is a hybrid plan with students attending Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday with Wednesday online and buildings deep-cleaned, this will run until September 30, the date the seat-time waiver expires. This will also give the administration an opportunity to evaluate the plan and what is happening at the State level. The priority is the health and safety of students and staff, ppe will be provided. The plan also reflects the implementation of social distancing and the wearing of masks 3-12 and staff. In addition, each student will be provided an electronic device for instruction.

Plan II is totally online instruction; there will consistent contact with educators, attendance and participation mandatory, and assignments will be graded.

At any point if a students would like to change plans steps are in place to make that change. Dr. Cunningham, superintendent, noted that if the State of Michigan goes back to Phase 3 all content will be online and our staff will be prepared.

First action on the agenda was approval of the amended calendars for the district that included Ovid-Elsie High and Middle schools, E.E. Knight and Leonard elementary schools. In addition approval of the Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School calendar. All calendars reflecting a September 8, 2020 start date. The request was approved.

Action was taken to approve the Return to Learn Plans as presented by Dr. Ryan Cunningham, approved unanimously.

Next, a number of employee resignations were received, the following teachers opted to retire or take positions in other districts: Ms. Bonnie Ott business educator retired, Ms. Kaitlyn Malachowski, special education, and Ms. Ashley Frechen middle school language arts. All were individually accepted with regrets.

Board members once again approved the offering of a Voluntary Severance Package to teachers, three teachers must participate, the package is graduated with the most a teacher could receive is \$30,000 (\$10,000 each year for 3 years) requests due by August 26, 3:30 pm. The timely date will allow for the posting of vacant positions.

In addition, monthly action was taken to approve the consent agenda that included the meeting agenda, minutes of the previous meeting and payment of expenditures.

There was an opportunity for public comment, the comments were read to officials by Randy Barton, assistant superintendent. Questions were asked with a focus on health and safety of students and staff. Also, the taking of temperatures was asked repeatedly. Mr. Josh Miller, board president, noted that the prepared plan addresses many of the concerns presented.

Laingsburg Schools will Return with Half-Day and Online Formats

LAINGSBURG -- The Laingsburg Community Schools will return with a half-day classroom format as well as a fully online model of instruction this fall, offerings Superintendent Matt Shastal believes will ensure the safety of students while also providing them with robust learn-

Both instructional formats were unanimously approved by the district's board of education during a special meeting Thursday. District families are now in the process of selecting a learning format for their children prior to the first day of school Aug. 20. Families are asked to commit to a plan through at least Sept. 30.

Laingsburg settled on its face-to-face and virtual offerings after surveying district families in mid-July, according to Shastal. At the time, approximately 62 percent of Laingsburg families expressed a desire for a face-to-face learning option while 38 percent preferred moving instruction entirely online, he said.

The models of instruction the district is ultimately allowed to implement at the beginning of the school year will depend upon what phase Shiawassee County is in with regard to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's MI Safe Start Plan.

continued on page 8

Social

Online Drawing Class through the Shiawassee Arts Center

submitted by Linda Ruehle

The Shiawassee Arts Center will offer another virtual drawing class and the theme will be Landscape & Wildlife Drawing. Philip Ruehle, MFA, Artist/Instructor August 26 - September 23 (video sent to you on 5 Wednesdays).

Learn to draw the landscape and various forms of wildlife at your convenience through this online five-week course. Each week a tutorial video and other learning materials will be sent directly to you. Students can work on their drawings at the time of their choosing and correspond with the instructor via email or text to receive assistance with it.

Call the Arts Center at (989) 723-8354 for more information or to register. A short supply list follows.

Materials: Drawing Pad approx. (11"x14"), Graphite Pencils: 4H, 2H, HB, 2B, 3B, Kneaded Eraser, Pink Pearl Eraser or Plastic Eraser.

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DuPlain Township Voters Approve Millage Requests

DUPLAIN - The regular meeting of DuPlain Township was held Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 7:30 pm. Once again to adhere to the Executive Order and to ensure that the ten-person limit for inside in person public gatherings was met, a conference call venue was utilized. Officials thanked voters for supporting the Emergency Services and Road millage requests.

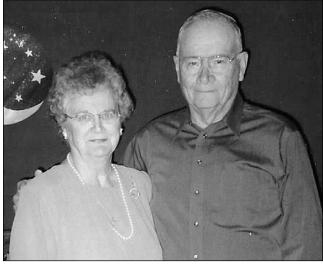
The three ballot proposals that were on the August 4, 2020 primary ballot were passed by DuPlain Township voters. The renewal of the Emergency Services millage passed with 404 yes votes and 95 no. The new request for Road Millage also passed, 323 yes, and 177 no. And finally, the Clinton County Transit passed in DuPlain Township as well, 324 yes and 156 no votes.

The August 4, 2020 primary voter participation results are as follows: a total of 518 ballots were cast. It was reported that 375 vote-by-mail were issue with 292 were returned, reflecting 77.87% participation. In addition, there were 226 walk-in voters totaling 518 total ballots cast or 29.3% out of 1767 voters participating in the process.

On a related issue official took action to move the DuPlain township polling site for the November 3, 2020 general election if needed. Richard Bates, township clerk, requested that the polling site be moved from DuPlain Township Hall to the Elsie American Legion located at N. Ovid Street, Elsie, Michigan. The move will be implemented if the State remains in the current phase due to COVID. If moved all voters will be

Bruce Levey, supervisor, shared two road complaints with officials. First, French Road off Shepardsville Road a few drivers are using it like a race track. Levey reported that the County Road Commission has been notified and signs will be installed indicating that children are in the area and signs and the area may be patrolled more regularly. The second, the shoulder on Island or the lack of a shoulder. Since the road was widened there is no shoulder and there have been three serious accidents. The Clinton County Road Commission has been notified and there will be changes made after the crops are harvested.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, the minutes of the July 8, 2020 meeting, and financial reports. Richard Bates, clerk, requested that the expenditures be amended for the July 2020 meeting because of bills received after the meeting. There was an increase of \$8,102.97 with a final total of \$29,937.92. The August expenditures were approved totaling \$38,332.51.



Longs Celebrating 70 Years

Gaylord and Shirley (Seelhoff) Long of Elsie will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on August 19th, 2020. They were married at the Salem Lutheran Church in Owosso on August 19th, 1950.

Gaylord spent a lifetime as a dedicated dairy farmer and Shirley as a devoted homemaker for the family. The couple spent their winter months in their retirement years in Źephyrhills, Florida.

The couple have four children, David (Sally), Dennis (Carloyn), Doug and Debra. They have 6 grandchildren, Mike (Val), Amy (Brad), Christi, Brad (Kerri), Travis (Sandy) and Heidi (Randy). They also have 12 great grandchildren, Cayleb, Dylan, Braxton, Nickolas, Ellyanna, Hunter, Owen, Oliver, Emmylou, Griffin, Mitchell and Grace. There will be a family get together at the couple's home to celebrate.

Drive-thru Food Distribution Announced

OWOSSO -- The Greater Lansing Food Bank is distributing fresh and non-perishable food items at a drive-thru mobile food pantry from 9 to 11 a.m. Aug. 22 at the Shiawassee Family YMCA in Owosso

Shiawassee County residents should stay in their cars to register and bring proof of residency. Food will be placed in vehicle trunks or hatchbacks.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. at the YMCA, 515 W. Main St. For more information, call the Greater Lansing Food Bank at (517) 908-3680.

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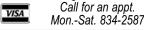
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Elsie Village Council Holds Virtual Meeting

ELSIE – In compliance with the recent executive order limiting attendance at public meetings to ten the Elsie Village held its regular meeting, Tuesday, August 11, 2020, utilizing a teleconference format. During the meeting officials addressed a wide variety of topics.

A proposal to update village ordinances was presented to officials. The cost quoted by Municode to review and update all Village ordinances is \$8,950 to be paid over two budget years, plus \$375 to make ordinances gender neutral, and \$450 per year to maintain the ordinances online. The entire process will take approximately two to three months.

A zoning appeal request was received regarding the variance issued to 321 W Second Street. The appeal was submitted by Dave Witter an adjoining property owner. The process includes a public hearing prior to the next regular council meeting. No action will be taken at the public hearing; action will be taken during the regular meeting. It was noted that letters will be sent to all adjoining property owners prior to the public hearing. The public hearing is slated for 6:30 pm, September 8, 2020.

Officials accepted the resignation of Officer Travis Ross from the Elsie Police Department. The resignation was accepted with regrets.

Shane Grinnell, village manager, reported that the auditors will be in Monday, 17. In addition, the Department of Public Works found and repaired a chronic water main leak at the corner of Church and Pine Street.

The grant for the Village of Elsie Police Department was approved. The 2021 SUV will cost \$57,053, 73% covered by the USDA grant with the Village responsible for approximately \$15,073. The vehicle should be in service by the end of November.

Grinnell is seeking prices for a digital information sign from Agnew Graphics, Owosso. It was indicated that Ovid-Elsie Area Schools and the Elsie Lions Club may be interested in contributing towards this project. The site will be determined at a later date.

Next Grinnell reported that the stop signs have been installed and have been received with mixed reviews. There are residents that are happy with the four-way stops and there are those that are very angry.

The Elsie Lions Club was granted permission to utilize the Village parking lot September 17 and 18 for their food trailer during the Warrior Appreciation event. The annual event is sponsored by the Elsie American Legion.

Once again officials discussed the proposed ordinance addressing rentals within the Village of Elsie. It was noted that Village counsel had a number of recommendations. The first of two public hearings will be held immediately following the September 8, 2020 regular meeting and the second prior to the October meeting.

Monthly action was taken to approve the agenda with multiple additions, the minutes of the July 10 and 27, 2020 meeting, financial and department reports. In addition, officials approved expenditures totaling \$63,909.38.

Rep. Frederick Issues Statement After Governor Vetoes Legislation

submitted by Christina Guenthner

State Rep. Ben Frederick issued the following statement after the Governor's veto of legislation providing protection from excessive lawsuits for healthcare and frontline workers battling the pandemic.

"I am deeply disappointed in the governor's decision to veto a measure that would have provided critical legal protections for health care workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic in Michigan.

Doctors and other health care professionals have been forced to make incredibly difficult decisions while caring for patients under strained circumstances due to the coronavirus. The plan vetoed by the governor this week would have protected them from unwarranted COVID-19 lawsuits, ensuring they can focus their time and energy on providing the best care possible to patients.

'The measure also protected patients by ensuring that medical personnel would continue to be held liable in cases of willful misconduct, gross negligence or intentional infliction of harm.

"This legislation closely reflected the medical liability protections the governor previously included in her executive orders, which she rescinded on July 13, while also extending those protections to the beginning of this unfolding situation and throughout the pandemic.

"This veto is completely unwarranted as we look to show support for our frontline heroes.

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

– Michael Jordan

Concealed Pistol License Class

submitted by Norm Martin

The Shiawassee Conservation Association, 4247 N. M-52, Owosso, is hosting concealed pistol license classes on Saturday, Saturday, August 29. Class hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All firearms, ammunition and classroom materials furnished.

N.R.A. Certified Instructors.

Class fee is \$100.00 (15% to support SCA).

Pre-register by calling Norman Martin at 989-834-5628 (home) or 989-277-1002 (cell).

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Obituaries

Richard Lewis "Dick" Loynes

Richard Lewis "Dick" Loynes, age 71, of Elsie, MI, passed away Friday, August 7, 2020, at Hospice House of Mid Michigan, Lansing, MI.

Richard was born on June 3, 1949, the son of Billy Loynes and Bertha (Bearup) Acre-Whitaker. He graduated from Ovid Elsie High School with the class of 1967. Dick married Rosemary Ann Barrett on June 15, 1968, at Duplain Church of Christ. Rosemary passed away on July 1, 2000.

Dick retired from Lear Corporation in Elsie after many years of service. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. He enjoyed watching all sports especially the ones his grandkids played in. If you ever wanted to find him, he could be found at a field or court supporting his grandchildren. He was an avid Michigan State fan and was proud that his granddaughter was an MSU cheerleader. Most of all Dick loved spending time with his family.

He is survived by his sons: James and Sherry Loynes of Rainbow Lake; Mike and Heidi Loynes of St. Johns; grandchildren: Austin, Courtney, Jakob, Shayne, and

Isabella Loynes; sister Martha Kadolph of Drummond Island; and several step siblings. He is also survived by many brothers and sisters-in-law. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Rosemary, and brother Kelly Loynes.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI on Monday, August 10, 2020. Burial has taken place at Riverside Cemetery, Elsie, MI.

Memorials may be made to Ovid Elsie Sports Boosters. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Eureka Christian Church

2619 E. Maple Rapids Rd., Eureka Sundays: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service and

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and 11:45am Worship: 10am Pastor Brian West laingsburgumc@gmail.com

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Sun 11:30am

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Joseph Charles "Joe" Malek

Joseph Charles "Joe" Malek, age 80, of Ashley, MI, passed away Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at his

Joseph was born in their family home in Washington Township, MI on March 19, 1940, the son of Charles and Anna (Havelka) Malek. Joe graduated from Ashley Schools in 1958. Joe married his high school sweetheart Ruth Kimmel on November 22. 1958. Together, side by side, they farmed for 48 years when Joe retired due to his health.

Joe farmed all his life in Gratiot County only moving 3 miles from the family farm to set up his own homestead. Joe and Ruth took great pride in their home and farm on M-57 near Ashley. Joe worked at GM for 31 years retiring in 1989.

Joe and Ruth enjoyed traveling and spending time with family and friends. They enjoyed the farm tours that were offered to farmers, and went to Hawaii and various states to see production on farms.

Joe was an avid toy tractor collector. He loved hosting groups into his home to view his collection. He

spent many Saturdays attending toy shows with Ruth and his grandson Ben and in later years his great grandson Deacon. He enjoyed this hobby with his neighbors Larry Whitford and Jose Whitford. He took a lot of pride in the collection of larger riding toys given to each of his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Joe took pride in starting the Ashley Sportsman's Club in 1967 with 13 other members. He held many offices, but the Treasurer's position was his for 20 years. Joe enjoyed skeet shooting and playing cards with the guys at the club. He was an important facilitator when the club held Bingo every week. He retired as Treasurer in 2018. He is a lifetime member of the Ashley Sportsman's Club.

Joe worked at the Gratiot County Commission on Aging helping with the Home Chore/Repair Program. He enjoyed helping seniors to repair their homes. He and Ruth would do window washing for a few special friends. Joe & Ruth along with his sister Sally and husband John delivered Christmas Baskets to seniors for many years provided by the Commission on Again.

Joe and Ruth have been very involved with the ZCBJ Lodge #225 as was Joe's family from the time of his parents and grandmother's involvement with volunteering for various activities. Joe has held many offices with the Lodge and retired as Treasurer in 2018. He is a lifetime member of the Lodge #225. Joe and Ruth have worked at the Ashley Country Christmas since its beginning in 2012, selling cookbooks and working at the Czech Bakery for the Polar Express Train. He enjoyed volunteering and cooking for the large dinners that the Lodge held in August and October, and with the Chicken BBQ at the Ashley Fire Department every summer.

Joe and Ruth toured many countries in Europe when their son Monte was stationed in Germany in the Air Force. Many fun filled trips were taken with Joe's brother Bob and Kendy Malek, and sister Sally and John Stoll around Michigan. Joe and Ruth also enjoyed traveling with Ruth's sister Waneta and Alton Bigelow to Alaska. Many casino bus trips were taken to the UP and various casinos around Michigan with Joe's sister Sally and the ZCBJ Lodge members.

Hunting was a major part of his life until 2018. Many trips up north to hunt with his dad and brothers provided meat for many families. Many deer were harvested from his own farm. His nephew JC Stoll was his hunting companion for the last 10 years.

Joe and Ruth attended as many sporting, church, and family events as possible. Their grandchildren and great grandchildren were such blessings to them.

Joe was very proud of and loved his wife Ruth of 61 years, and his children: Tamey (Dave) Skinner, and Monte (Tara) Malek. They were blessed with 8 grandchildren: Benjamin (Lindsay) Skinner, Amber (Troy) Bovee, Jared (Abby) Malek, Amanda, Dylan, Lucas, Mengsi, and Luci Malek, and special cat Babe. They especially enjoyed their 5 great grandchildren: Easton and Ebby Bovee, and Deacon, Bentlee, and Sawyer Skinner. Other family surviving are; sister Sally (John) Stoll, brother Bob (Kendy) Malek, sisters in law: Waneta (Alton) Bigelow, Sharilyn (Jim) Chilcoat, Judy Kimmel, Rosemary Bancroft, Sandra Kimmel, and Judy Cramer. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Joe was preceded in death by his grandparents, parents Charles & Anna Malek, in laws Clinton & Hazel Kimmel, brothers Jerry and Charles, and sister Mary Ann, brothers in law: Duane, Lester, Ivan and James Kimmel, and Russell Nieman.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Ithaca, MI, on Friday, August 14, 2020 at 10:00 A.M., with Mr. Thomas Bradley officiating. Burial hasl taken place at Collier Cemetery, Ashley, MI.

Memorials may be made to the ZCBJ Lodge #225 Bannister or Gratiot County Commission on Aging. Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Ithaca, MI.



phone: 989-834-2264 • fax: 989-834-2066 ads@meridianweekly.com



Obituaries

Editorial...cont'd on page 9

Gary M. Rehm

Gary M. Rehm, 65, of Ashley, MI, passed away Sunday, August 9, 2020, at Butterworth Hospital, Grand Rapids, MI.

Gary was born in St. Johns, MI on September 21, 1954, the son of Jerold and Alberta (Cook) Rehm. He graduated from Fulton High School with class of 1973. Gary proudly served his country in the United States Army. On May 3, 1999, Gary married Sheryl Dringenberg Kostal in Ithaca, MI. They recently cel-



ebrated 21 years of marriage. Gary enjoyed working on and maintaining vehicles for himself and others. He always took great pride in a job well done.

Gary is survived by his wife Sheryl; his mother Alberta Diehl of Lansing; sister Nelda Rehm of Lansing; step-son Jason (Nikki) Kostal and their children Jena and Tatem of Bannister; and several nieces and nephews. Gary was preceded in death by his father, brothers: Duane and David Rehm, and step-son Jimmie Lee Kostal.

Cremation has taken place and no services will be held at

Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family. To leave an online condolence, please visit Gary's obituary at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Ithaca, MI.

Ovid Public Library

In light of the recent library closings because of the COVID 19 virus, Ovid Public Library will still be offering curbside service only. The staff have been ordering new books and these titles are now ready for sharing. If you would like your name added to the list of any or all of these titles, please call the



Ovid Public Library at 989-834-5800 and leave a message or call Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 – 5:00 to speak to a staff member. Feel free to clip this article for future reference.

The Book of Longings, by Sue Monk Kidd

Too Much and Never Enough, by Mary Trump (yes, they printed over 1,000,000 copies of this title)

If It Bleeds, by Stephen King

The Lions of Fifth Avenue, by Fiona Davis (these are the New York Public Library lions)

Outsider, by Linda Castillo

Deadlock, by Catherine Coulter

Half Moon Bay, by Jonathan Kellerman

Daddy's Girl, by Danielle Steel The Summer House, by James Patterson Deadly Touch, by Heather Graham



FOR YOUR VOTES

I look forward to THIS CHARGE IN NOVEMBER 2020. PATRICIA HIBBARD

Religious Thoughts

by Matt Nagel, Associate Pastor Graham Community Church

Keep Calling, Mom

'To the unknown god" (Acts 17:23)

"I just don't know", her voice soft, shaky, and perhaps a little exasperated. In that moment my respect for her only grew. "I just don't know", she repeated. A conversation with Mom about God is difficult when she believes nothing is known or can be known about eternal realities, especially about the person of God. This is an agnostic position, that has a measure of humility - and I appreciate that. She didn't know and she wasn't going to pretend she did, although in her most honest moments, she wished she had this question nailed down.

It's the same spot the Athenians found themselves in nearly 2000 years ago. The Apostle Paul is giving a TED talk in the midst of a crowd with an appetite to wrestle with deep questions, the nature of God certainly included. There were lots of novel ideas and options to choose from in the culture. The traditionalism of the Jews, the moral earnestness of the Stoics, and the pleasure seeking of the Epicureans were all on the table. As Paul walked through a city full of people wanting clarity on the question of God, he came across an altar with some refreshing honesty. The inscription on the altar read, "To the unknown

"I just don't know" is the backdrop of an inscription that has an interest in the supernatural. Perhaps they are 'spiritual' or traditionally 'religious' in some way, but there is an unsettledness in their mind and heart that pens an inscription to an unknown god. "I just don't know." The Apostle Paul is provoked by a deep concern for these fellow humans to speak into their lives an answer... you can know.

This is the great promise and good news of the Gospel of Jesus. God has revealed Himself in the creation of Heaven and Earth. Even now he sustains all things, despite many having a lack of knowledge or belief in Him. What was once unknown about His character is changed into heavenly realities: good standing, forgiveness, joy, and certainty, all activated through faith in Jesus.

Quoting the Bruce Springsteen and Katy Perry of their time, Paul points to the poets and artists of their culture to show them that their personal stories and lives are wrapped up in a much bigger story at play. We have Bruce telling us "every-body's got a hungry heart" and Katy is teaching on the human condition "You're gonna hear me roar". They point to larger realities, that we are people feeling our way toward God, to find Him and know Him. We were made by Him, for Him, to be

"I just don't know." She still calls, she still wonders, she's still unconvinced. However, I see her wandering toward Him and "he is actually not far from each one of us." (Acts 17:27) Keep calling, Mom.

Misinformation

Letter to the Editor:

I am incredibly disappointed by the misinformation at the end of Crystal Mitchell's column, A Little Common Sense. Saying that a mask won't stop a a virus that is clearly carried by respiratory droplets is dangerous to the health of our community. If people want to be ignorant on their own time fine, but any publication with integrity should not print such nonsense. This anti-mask crap is why we as a country are not able to control the coronavirus like other countries do and why we cannot get back to living our lives. The Weekly should print a condemnation of the column and print an article on the benefits of wearing a mask.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Antes Ovid



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THANK-YOU VOTERS...

The Greenbush Township Board would like to thank our residents for the passing of the road milage at the August Primary. We feel your confidence in your Board and how we anticipate to keep the roads up to a good standard will benefit us all! We also are looking forward

another 4 years of serving our township with responsibility and trust to our residents.

Supervisor Lee Thelen; Clerk Ramona Smith; **Treasurer Denise Roof;** Trustee's Larry Kindel and Kyle Graham.

THANK YOU

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Home Improvement

The Value of Mulched Leaves

Homeowners who don't look forward to dusting off their rakes each fall might be happy to learn that mulching fallen leaves with a mower may be a healthier and less labor intensive way to confront a yard covered in leaves. For 20 years, turfgrass specialists at Michigan State University studied how lawns reacted to having ground up leaves left on the lawn and the results were overwhelmingly positive. Researchers found that tiny pieces of mulched leaves eventually sifted down through the turf and provided the lawn with essential nutrients. Mulched leaves also served to control future weed growth by covering up bare spots between turf plants. Such spots typically provided openings for weed seeds to germinate and ultimately infect lawns. In fact, researchers found that mulching leaves for just three years could produce a nearly 100 percent decrease in dandelion and crabgrass growth. Homeowners with mulching mowers that also have bags can even help their gardens by alternating using the mower with and without the bag on once leaves begin to fall. When mowing with the bag on, mulched leaves can then be used as mulch in landscape beds and vegetable gardens.



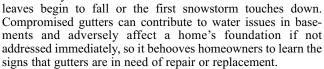


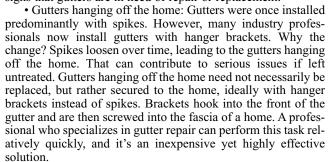


Signs Your Gutters are in **Need of Repair**

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before





· Gutter separation: Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive

• Peeling exterior paint: Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.

• Basement flooding: Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding.

Fall is an ideal time to inspect gutters and have any issues fixed before leaves begin to fall or harsh winter weather arrives.

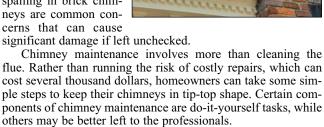


Get Ahead of Chimney Repair this Season

Woodburning fireplaces or fuel stoves can add warmth and ambiance to a home. These appliances are particularly coveted in the cooler months when people spend more time indoors. Maintenance is necessary in order for fireplaces and stoves to function safely, and that upkeep must include paying close attention to the functionality of the chimney.

Chimneys designed to last for decades. Cracks and spalling in brick chimneys are common concerns that can cause

significant damage if left unchecked.



• Start from the inside and ensure that dampers are working properly. When using fireplaces and other appliances, dampers need to be open to allow smoke to vent outside; otherwise, smoke will be trapped in the home and could lead to carbon monoxide buildup. Dampers need to be fixed or replaced if they are not operational. Replacement fireplace dampers should be snug and not have any gaps, states Vertical Chimney Care.

Conduct a visual inspection of the chimney to check for any cracks or spalling. Spalling is the wearing away of masonry due to water, weather and time. If enough of the material erodes, that erosion can adversely affect the structural integrity of the chimney. Some repairs can be made by patching up cracks or replacing missing bricks. Chimney tuckpointing is the process of repairing mortar.

• Think about waterproofing the chimney to prevent damage. A water sealant applied to the outside of the chimney can prevent moisture from breaking down the masonry.

• Inspect and replace the chimney cap if it is worn out. A chimney cap is a contraption that sits atop the chimney to allow the smoke to vent while also preventing critters and water from going inside the flue, helping to extend the flue life. The chimney cap attaches to the flue liner, so outside dimensions should be taken to ensure the cap is the right size for the chimney.

• Have the chimney swept. Sweeping helps remove the soot and debris that clings to the inside of the flue, known as creosote. The amount of time the fireplace is used will determine how often the chimney must be cleaned. Generally speaking, the chimney liner needs to be cleaned if it has 1/8-inch or more

Regular inspection and maintenance can help keep a chimney working safely for decades. For those who do not like working at such an elevation, leave exterior chimney repair to a certified professional.



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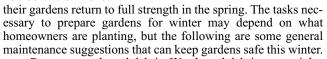
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Home Improvement

What to do to Prepare Your Garden for Winter

Gardens provide an idyllic escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In fact, many gardening enthusiasts typically cannot wait for the spring thaw so they can spend the next several months tending to their plants under the warm sun. But a gardener's work is never truly done, and the work to make gardens stun in the spring actually begins during the preceding fall.

Preparing gardens for winter is an important step that can help homeowners ensure



- Remove weeds and debris. Weeds and debris are unsightly and detrimental to plant life in spring, but they also can be harmful in the winter. Weeds and debris left to linger in gardens through the winter provide overwintering spots for insects and can contribute to disease. So it's imperative that weeds and debris are removed before the ground hardens in winter. Don't wait until the ground hardens, as that can make it hard to remove the roots of weeds, adversely affecting the garden as a
- Prepare the soil. The Farmer's Almanac advises homeowners to gently till the soil in their gardens so they can expose any insects before they settle in for the winter. Once garden soil is exposed, add a layer of compost, leaves, aged manure, and, if necessary, lime, gently tilling it into the soil. According to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the only accurate way to determine if lawn or garden soil needs lime is to test it. Lime makes soil less acidic and reduces soil pH. Low soil pH makes it hard for certain plants to grow, but acidic soil is ideal when growing blueberries. Test the soil for lime and amend it depending on what you hope to grow in the spring so it's ready to thrive when winter ends.
- Remove dead or diseased plants. Dead or diseased plants should not be left in the garden through the winter. These plants can attract insects and are vulnerable to disease, which can make it hard for the garden to thrive in the spring.

 • Protect fruit trees. If you have fruit trees, install mouse
- guards around the base to prevent mice and voles from killing the trees over the winter. If left to their own devices over the winter, mice and voles may eat the bark of fruit trees, killing the trees as a result. The Farmer's Almanac notes that mouse guards made of fine mesh hardware cloth can effectively protect fruit trees from hungry mice and voles over the winter.

A gardener's work is never done, and the work to create beautiful spring gardens begins in the fall.



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Outdoor Living

Outdoor living is wildly popular, as more and more homeowners are bringing elements once reserved for home interiors into their backyards. When designing outdoor living spaces, homeowners may learn about biophilic design, an architectural concept that aims to incorporate natural elements into outdoor living spaces. Proponents of biophilic design say it satisfies an innate human need to affiliate with nature, thereby helping to reduce stress that people may experience after being stuck indoors for much of their days. Biophilic design is often part of a home interior design, but many homeowners also embrace it when designing their outdoor living spaces. For example, surrounding outdoor living areas with noninvasive plants, flowers and trees and using natural materials like wood and stone when building such spaces are great ways to embrace biophilic design and create a tension-free ambiance in outdoor living

Did You Know?

Just like certain exercises, home improvement projects may involve heavy lifting, bending, moving, and stretching. After spending much of the winter indoors and largely sedentary, some homeowners may be tempted to jump into projects with gusto when the warm weather returns. But that can be a recipe for injury that can sideline DIYers for a while. Instead, homewners can start slowly and then gradually work longer hours, just as they might do when returning to exercise after some ime off. Homeowners can see how their muscles feel after an hour or two while not concentrating on one task for too long. Homeowners who vary the tasks they tackle will use different muscle groups, which can reduce strain and limit injury risk. Whenever possible, opt for ergonomic tools that can reduce users' risk of repetitive stress injuries.



4all Well Drilling

Did You Know?

Dog owners often find that having a fenced-in space gives pets an opportunity to run around off-leash and enjoy time outdoors and can make it easier for pets to go out on bathroom breaks. Still, pet owners must recognize that inquisitive dogs can get into trouble even in seemingly safe yards. One potential danger is ingestion of potentially toxic mushrooms. It is essential for homeowners to check their yards for mushrooms all year long, but especially during wet springs and in the fall. Mushrooms can pop up overnight. Depending on the type of mushroom and the size of the dog, ingesting even a small amount can result in gastrointestinal distress or more dire circumstances, like liver failure. Certain mushrooms give off a fishy smell and they may entice dogs who are prone to indiscriminate eating. According to the animal care resource Preventative Vet, signs of mushroom toxicity include vomiting, salivating, yellowing of the skin and "whites of eyes," coma, seizures, and loss of balance. Other dogs may experience diarrhea or refuse to eat. Any pet owner who has suspected a dog has eaten wild mushrooms should consult a veterinarian. Early treatment can help and prevent more serious organ damage or death. Pet owners who cannot trust their dogs unattended in the yard should bring their pups out on leashes or keep careful watch on them while they're outdoors.

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LBG Schools... cont'd from Front

The MI Safe Start Plan encompasses six phases, ranging from uncontrolled growth of the virus — Phase 1 — to post pandemic — Phase 6. Shiawassee County is currently in Phase 4. Within Phase 4, Laingsburg is able move forward with both its learning formats, though with several precautions in place for those learning face-to-face, including a mask requirement for all staff and students, K-12.

The mask requirements stem from Gov. Whitmer's Return to School Roadmap, announced June 30, that sets specific requirements and guidelines schools must adhere to in order to reopen. All students would be required to wear masks throughout the school day unless they are deemed medically exempt, which would require a doctor's note, Shastal said.

The district would provide face shields to medically exempt students for the duration of each school day, he added.

According to the district's half-day plan, K-12 students enrolled in face-to-face learning would attend school in the mornings, five days a week, for approximately three hours per day. The district is still working out a precise schedule in terms of how classes would be divided up, Shastal said, with options ranging from a six-class, 28-minute period schedule each day to a three-class, hour-long period schedule. To accommodate social distancing, end-of-day dismissal times among the elementary, middle and high schools would be staggered, Shastal continued. The district is also currently exploring a "grab-andgo" lunch option for students, as well as potentially offering affordable daycare for working families, with parents having the option to either pick their students up at 3 p.m. each day or have their students transported home by a district-provided bus. Shastal indicated the district is awaiting further guidance from the Michigan Department of Education before rolling out those plans.

A fully online option will also be available to Laingsburg students under Phase 4, and would be mandated for all students if Shiawassee County transitions back to Phase 3 of Gov. Whitmer's MI Safe Start Plan during any point during the school year, according to Shastal. The online curriculum will be led by Laingsburg teachers, with students having the opportunity to access and complete work throughout the day rather than at a certain, designated time. Teaching staff will dedicate time in the afternoons to work on the digital curriculum and answer any questions online students may have regarding assignments.

To facilitate online learning, the district has invested nearly \$40,000 in technological upgrades, according to Shastal, which include a new learning management system as well as access to digital content and curriculum. The district will also have devices available — Chromebooks, iPads — for students who need one, though students are welcome to use their own devices if they choose, Shastal said.

2020 Oktoberfest in Owosso Cancelled

submitted by Sue Kadlek

Due to the recent Executive Order affecting outdoor gatherings, the Oktoberfest planning committee has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's event. Oktoberfest requires several months of advance preparation, therefore the decision to cancel the "Biergarten" and polka dance had to be made now. The committee is working hard to coordinate a few fun events for Saturday, October 10th, so stay tuned to the Oktoberfest in Owosso Facebook page for event listings.

"We are saddened to announce the cancellation of Se Oktoberfest 2020. Eighty percent of the event's budget is spent locally and hundreds of out-of-town visitors also add revenue to our local economy. Local festivals, fairs and events have far more economic impact than many may realize," said Chamber expression to the cancellation of Se Oktoberfest 2020. Eighty percent of the event's budget is spent beginning to our local economy. Local festivals, fairs and events have far more economic impact than many may realize," said Chamber expression to the cancellation of Se Oktoberfest 2020. Eighty percent of the event's budget is spent beginning to our local economy. Local festivals, fairs and events have far more economic impact than many may realize," said Chamber expression to our local economic impact than many may realize, and the cancellation of the event's budget is spent beginning to our local economy. Local festivals, fairs and events have far more economic impact than many may realize, and the expression of the event of the eve

He continued, "We were hopeful that we could celebrate with everyone in October but our current situation makes that impossible. We thank all of you, whether you're one of our many sponsors, local business vendors, volunteers or patrons and we look forward to celebrating Oktoberfest with you once again on October 8-9, 2021. Stay Safe and Ein Prosit!"

Laingsburg Graduates Finally Get Their Day to Shine



No EMU, CMU, WMU Football in 2020: MAC is first FBS Conference to Cancel Fall Sports

By going last, the Mid-American Conference actually went first, the Detroit News is reporting.

The MAC on August 8 became the first FBS conference to officially cancel all of its fall sports, including football, citing player and health and safety, though the member schools' financial outlook was a strong consideration as well.

The MAC, with athletic directors and presidents meeting twice a week for months and four times over the past week, has sat back and watched as all the other FBS conferences have announced some plan for college football, many of them hoping for conference-only schedules or something similar.

Finally, on August 8, a unanimous decision was reached by the MAC presidents. The MAC has 12 football teams, including Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan and Western Michigan.

"If you told me in March we would be here today, I would never have believed it," MAC commissioner Jon Steinbrecher said. "I'm crushed by this decision. I'm so disappointed. "We're making decisions for the right reasons. That's the bottom line."

The cancellation of fall sports, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, also affects men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, field hockey and women's volleyball.

The decision impacts about 2,500 student athletes, many of whom will seek an extra year of eligibility from the NCAA. The NCAA and schools' continue to work through the eligibility issues, which are mighty complex.

One notable casualty of the announcement: Rivals Central Michigan and Western Michigan were to play their annual football game at Ford Field on Oct. 17. It's unclear if that downtown Detroit game is rescheduled for a future year.

Lansing School District Cancels Fall Sports

LANSING — The Lansing School District Board of Education announced Thursday it is canceling all fall extracurricular activities, including sports, "until further notice" due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The Lansing School District operates Eastern, Everett and Sexton high schools. LSD had announced last month it would begin the school year with online-only instruction starting Aug. 31.

"I know how disappointing the cancellation of sports and extra-curricular activities may be for students, coaches and parents, but the school district must make decisions moving forward that makes safety our top-priority," LSD superintendent Sam Sinicropi said in a statement.

Multiple area schools had games scheduled against Lansing School District teams this fall, including Owosso, which was scheduled to play Lansing Eastern in the first game of the football season. The two teams played last year, a 35-0 victory by the Quakers that broke a 38-game losing streak.

Laingsburg School Board Meeting

submitted by Krissy Pratt

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct a regular board meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2020. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm Virtually via Zoom, please see our website at www.laingsburg.k12.mi.us/ for log-in information.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: legislative update, district staffing, 2020/21 budget, personnel, bond design and finance update, annual loan repayment resolution, board bylaw and policy update and any other business that may properly come before the board.

Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.

Rep. Frederick: Plan Makes Personal Protective Equipment More Affordable for Michigan Job Providers

submitted by Tim Martin

Rep. Ben Frederick of Owosso is co-sponsoring a plan to make personal protective equipment and disinfecting products more affordable and widely distributed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The legislation recently introduced in the state House would exempt these purchases from Michigan's 6 percent sales and use tax for employers with COVID-19 safety protocol plans. The bipartisan package also would allow qualified job providers to offset a portion of their PPE purchases with a corporate income tax credit for 2020.

"These proactive measures would help Michigan continue to reopen its economy safely and sensibly," Frederick said of House Bills 6033-35. "Helping job providers obtain the personal protective equipment their employees need and deserve is simply the right thing to do. These measures make PPE and related COVID-19 supplies more affordable, which means job providers can buy more of it to protect their workers and customers."

Frederick noted that a sales and use tax exemption is a good way to prompt more purchases overall, which would help Michigan's economy bounce back from the pandemic. He also helps sponsor House Bills 5680-81, which would provide a 'sales tax holiday' in the state — waiving Michigan's 6 percent sales and use tax on a variety of purchases made at physical locations. Dates and other specifics for the sales tax holiday would be determined at a later time.

The sales tax exemption bills are pending in the House Tax olicy Committee.

Editorial...cont'd from page 5



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Well, I just finished mowing the yard.....and it is still a bit on the dry side. It does have a decent amount of green but it is still shadowed by spots of dried vegetation. It has a minute set of green, yellow and brown stripes. It looks rather interesting and is bordered with Queen Anne's lace and Chicory. The lawn has its share of rolling that was caused by the settling of ground where the old barn sat. I even have been told that it looked like a marvelous meadow. I can live with that! I don't know what I would do with a well-manicured lawn and perfectly trimmed shrubs, I'm more of a 'work with what you got' person.

Finally I finished transplanting the apple trees, now I need to work three more trees into my yard. I've got to call Marsha to see when I can drop by to get the three White Pines that she offered me. I'm excited to get them and will know where I can plant them once I have seen them. Of course I do need to dig and move them out of Marsha's yard and then fill in the holes with some good top soil. I have been visualizing them in all areas of my yard which is fairly open and ready for new addi-

Today is also coop day and I had placed a rather weighty order. I have a fifty pound bag of unbrominated flour and a fifty pound bag of bread flour coming, plus twenty pounds of blue berries and about twenty pounds of dehydrated onions. Oh.....and a fifteen pound carton of bacon to be used on those heavenly BLT's. It's the season to enjoy the fresh tomatoes anyway that I can. I have several varieties that are ripening; some heritage tomatoes look almost purple and have a rosy pink flesh that is delicious. Also have a lemon yellow variety that is bright and appealing and Early Girls that are small but delectable. The Marglobes are turning nicely and have a wonderful appeal, the Zebras are small but tangy and the Rutgers are filling out and up.....late but bountiful.

Kitten rescues run in the family.....a couple of weeks ago it was me and now this week it is my daughter and family that rescued one known as 'The Traveler'. That cute young kitten is white and blue gray and also has a large scab that covers its cheek. Looks like a burn, seems like the recent drop offs will bear scars for a life time. The Traveler is friendly and purrs up a storm of contentment now that someone is caring.

Thank you for voting. I didn't win the primary.....such is life. I understand that it was a straight ticket voting and there was a choice of candidates. I was pleased with the support that I received and undaunted with the results. I'm relearning how our government works and will do what I need to do. I'm made up my mind about becoming a write in candidate in November...then it won't matter which side of the ballot I'm on, just need folks to put me in the slot for Elba township treasurer and spell my name correctly. Life is interesting and I will pursue my expectations. I hope that all of you will be ready to vote in November, keep and use your privilege. Thank you.

I would like to thank my readers for taking the time to chit chat with me. I'm please to meet you and find out what is important. Through the years I have found the needed mixer, canning jars, and a great deal of laughter because of you. You are a great blessing to me and add a bit of spice to my life. May you all be blessed daily by God. Sometimes we don't get to connect through no fault of ours......these pesky techno things don't always work as expected. So try to spend time enjoying the little things that bring smiles to your faces. God

Crystal Mitchell©2020





The Weekly **Sportsman**

by Dan McMaster theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Durand Manufacturing

This past week the Weekly Sportsman was given the opportunity to speak to the Durand Rotarians about pheasants and their history in Michigan. After introductions, and before pheasant talk, the Weekly Sportsman surprised attendees with a quick lesson on Durand Manufacturing and .22 rifles produced in the late 1800's just across the train tracks from Durand Union Station where the lunch meeting was being held.

The Weekly Sportsman first ran across a fine specimen allegedly made in Durand for sale in a Lansing gun shop about fifteen years ago. After a very small sum was placed on the counter to hold the firearm research began immediately. According to a page in Jim Perkins book American Boy's Rifles just such a rifle was made at the turn of the century. Primitive in nature, small BB or CB cap rimfire shells were loaded in a chamber about six inches from the muzzle. Small in size and with wood of low quality it resembles more of a toy cork gun or a third world zip gun made underground in a dark tunnel factory. The book states that modern ammunition may be too powerful and these rifles should not be fired. The rifles are covered with patent applied for stampings and Durand Manufacturing in the varying metal components as well as the ooden stock

Examples come up for sale from time to time and are mostly incomplete and of poor quality. The Weekly Sportsman has found three different models that bring anywhere from \$50-\$200. Clearly, local historic significance far exceeds the financial value these little rifles bring on the gun market. Research has indicated very little other than the company was once under the leadership of A. B. Upton, T. R. Chapin, and C. C. DeCamp. The company may have been purchased and or relocated in the 1900's to Plymouth which is not surprising as this area produced early versions of Daisy BB guns and Hamilton .22 rifles which look very similar to the Durand Manufacturing models.

If you happen to know any information about Durand Manufacturing or have one of these locally produced rifles stashed away please contact the Weekly Sportsman to help create additional written documentation about this locally produced firearm.

-WS



Religious **Thoughts**

by Chris Hearn www.letsmeetgod.com

Sharing our faith in God with others can be a scary thing. When I was a new Christian, I thought that there was only one way to tell others about Christ. I felt that there were no other options and I had to force myself to be that type of person. Of course, that meant that I was frustrated with myself and rarely shared my faith with others.

Thankfully, this is not true. God uses you, just as you are, to tell others about Him. God has given you your personality and character so you can tell others about Christ. You can tell certain people about God where others can't, because you are more comfortable in sharing specifically with them.

In the book, "Becoming a Contagious Christian," by Bill Hybels and Mark Mittleberg, they list 6 different types of evangelistic styles or approaches. There can certainly be more than these, but they list six which get the ball rolling-

1.Direct. You are confrontational and can say the tough things that people may not like to hear, but need to hear.

2.Example- Peter.

1.Intellectual. You are great at answering objections to the gospel and reasoning with people.

2. Example-Paul.

- 1.Testimonial. You have a great story about how God has saved you and changed your life.
- 2.Example- The blind man in the Gospel of John, chapter
- 1.Interpersonal. Relationships are important to you and you know and get along with a wide-variety of people.
 - 2.Example- Matthew the tax collector.
- 1. Invitational. You are great at inviting people to events or to church activities, etc.
- 2. Example- The Samaritan Woman or the woman Jesus talked to at the well in John, chapter 4.

- 4. Service. You love to meet the needs of others, even if you don't get a lot of credit for it.
 - 5. Example- Tabbatha or Dorcas from Acts, chapter 9.
- God has gifted you in at least one of these areas and quite possibly more than one. Or one that they haven't listed

Let the Lord use that gifting, along with the personality that He has given you, to tell others about Him today.



Have a Question for Andy? Submit them to: ask_andy@aol.com

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

Can't sleep At Night...

Andy, I cannot sleep at night. I am getting out of bed at least 10 times a night. I walk, make lists, clean, fold clothes and try drinking warm milk. I am at a loss counting sheep until 3:00am and then I get up at 7:00am to start my day. I am groggy until lunch time and require a lot of caffeine every morning. Any peaceful thoughts? Sleepless in Clinton County

Dear Sleepless.

A good night's sleep is imperative to a productive day. According to Neuroscientist Tara Swart, MD, adults need to seven - ten hours of deep sleep and children need ten - twelve hours every night on a schedule. Some of her suggestions include: No television, no night caps, no late night snacks and no binge watching Netflix's.

Alcohol before bedtime impairs the quality of sleep necessary to function throughout the day. A glass or two of wine with or after dinner but no drinking after dinner or into the evening. Also, many people think watching a movie or television is relaxing but after a long work day, using electronics, reading a book, being on the computer and texting should stop an hour before bed time. (Regardless, of your age.) Reducing electronics will calm your mind to get into a comfortable state of mind so your brain can power down. No late night snacks. Food stimulates brain activity. Stop eating at 6:00 pm to lose weight. Caffeine can be a significant stimulate that can lasts up to 16 hours for some people. You may need to drink more water and cut out the coffee and colas.

Some great ideas to get some sleep without a prescription or an expensive otc supplement: Smell lavender before bedtime. I put some oil on my wrists so I can peacefully nod off quickly. Lavender oil and floral is a powerful neuromodulator. It relaxes you and lowers your blood pressure. If you are going to drink milk, drink a nut milk with a pinch of turmeric which is full of magnesium that helps reduce your stress hormones and calms the nervous system.

A good night's sleep can regulate your circadian rhythms and contribute to a healthier immune system. Use honey to boost your immunity and sweeten your fruit and drinks. All good sleep needs to be in a quiet dark room without stimuli. Having a nightly routine include a hot bath or shower an hour before bedtime can also contribute to a better night's sleep. If these suggestions do not work, see your family physician to determine if there is something more serious than over-activity contributing to your sleepless nights.

If you continue to have difficulties, you may have some caffeine in some of your night time prescriptions. Check with your doctor, if you continue to have sleepless nights. Recently, I found I need an antacid to keep from having reflux or problems with my supplements causing restlessness. On my way to spray some lavender mist on my pillow. Good Night, Good Luck and Sweet Dreams. Andy ask_andy@aol.com

OE Sports Booster Golf Outing

The 27th Annual OE Sports Booster Golf Outing will be held on Sunday, August 13th at The Emerald in St Johns. The cost is \$260 per four person team. If you can't be part of a foursome, donations are being accepted for raffle prizes, golfer prizes and hole sponsors(\$50). For more information Mike Loynes at (989)640-4298 or Felicia Gingrich at (517) 652-3662. Mark your calendars now and make plans to take part in this fund raising event.

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LIVE AUCTION: Saturday August 29, 2020, 10:00a.,. 7556 North Mason Rd., Merrill, MI. 1950 Ford Street Truck; Polaris 500 ATV w/plow; Firearms; Equipment. Complete details and photos at:

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Pictured are 1st Place: Kevin O'Reilly, Bill O'Reilly, Bob Brown, Art Brown



Pictured are 3rd Place: Eric Rasch, Leah Rasch, Jason McCreery, Lora McCreery

Lions Club Golf Outing Winners

The Laingsburg and Ovid Lions Clubs hosted their annual golf outing at Pine Hills Golf Course on Saturday, August 8th.

Fifteen four person teams played in the 18 hole scramble and enjoyed a steak dinner after golf. Proceeds from the fundraising event will be going to the Lions of Michigan Foundation and Bear Lake Camp.

Taking first place honors were Kevin O'Reilly, Bill O'Rielly, Bob Brown and Art Brown. Second place winners were Don Plotner, John Saller, Jeff Hendley and Matt Farr. Coming in third was Eric Rasch, Leah Rasch, Jason McCrerry and Lora McCrerry.

Winners of the hole contests were: Wesley Schultheis, longest putt, Chris Newman, longest drive, Jim Walters, Closest to the pin in one shot and Jason McCrerry, closest to the pin in one

The Lions Clubs in both Laingsburg and Ovid would like to thank all who participated and donated prizes.

Jeff Daniels Online and Unplugged

EAST LANSING, MI — Join Emmy award-winning and Tony® nominated actor, director, singer/song-writer Jeff Daniels on Friday, August 28, 2020, at 8:00pm, for an intimate concert experience full of original songs, personal stories from his stage and movie career that only he can tell - and plenty of smiles. Following the concert Jeff will do a short Q & A.

Tickets to the virtual concert are on sale now and will be processed through Crowdcast.com.

Ticket purchasers will receive a private link to the event via an email. To purchase tickets, visit www.crowdcast.io/e/jeffdanielswhartonaug28/register or visit the Wharton Center website at www.whartoncenter.com for the Crowdcast link.

Jeff Daniels is probably best known to audiences as a film, television, and stage actor, from his Emmy-winning roles in Netflix's Godless and the HBO series The Newsroom to the popular film series Dumb and Dumber. He also received a Tony® nominee for his recent year-long role on Broadway as Atticus Finch in To Kill A Mockingbird.

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