

City of Ovid

by Deb Price

The Water Utility Assistance Program, Halloween and the Paving Project were some of the agenda items for the September 14th Ovid City Council monthly meeting. The agenda, minutes, check registry and reports were accepted and approved.

Treasurer, Lisa Kusnier reported that 91 (sewer/water) accounts were in delinquent status, totaling \$8,100. The council voted to have Mayor Lasher enter into an agreement for the Water/Utility Assistance Program. The program would reimburse the City for those who would qualify under the program. Kusnier also reported that this was the last day to pay property taxes without penalty.

Per the contract with Mike & Son, the paving project is to be completed by September 18th. There was discussion about the amount of time the streets have been blocked off and how people were not obeying the "Local Traffic Only" signs. Council person, Perrien, asked who was responsible for traffic control during the street work? She had noticed Chief Goodrich was spending many hours helping with traffic during the paving process of the streets. Mayor Lasher said it was in the contract that Mike & Son was to be in charge of traffic control.

The next order of business was a discussion about Halloween. It was decided that the Annual Halloween party held at the Lions/VFW Hall (traditionally held after trick-er-treating) would be cancelled for this year due to the COVID pandemic. As to door-to-door Trick-Er-Treat, it will be up to the residents. Should you choose to take part, it is suggested that you turn on your porch light and hand out candy from 5:30pm-7:00pm on Saturday, October 31st.

Lastly, a discussion regarding recycling was held. The cost to provide recycling is \$5,335 per year. Currently residents within a 5-10 mile radius of the City of Ovid utilize the service and the City of Ovid foots the entire bill.

The City of Ovid Council meets the second Monday of each month at 7 pm. at City Hall.

Spectator Limits at Sporting Events Per Executive Orders

Phase 4: Two (2) guests per participant for both indoor and outdoor events.

Spectators are required to wear face coverings and be physically distant from those not in the same household.

Each school will determine participants for games. When determining limits, consider the following:

Participants who are permitted two (2) guests include players, managers, administrators, coaches, officials and cheerleaders in uniform.

Essential Personnel are defined as media and event staff. All essential personnel must wear facial coverings and physically distance, and are not permitted guests.

A school may prohibit spectators entirely. However, if spectators are allowed, they must be permitted for BOTH participating schools with physical distancing in the stands required for those not from the same household.

Concessions are prohibited for indoor events in Phase 4.

Outdoor concessions are permitted, with physical distancing requirements in place.

FACE COVERINGS

Athletes in cross country, golf, girls swimming & diving and tennis are not required to wear facial coverings while in active participation. Athletes in football, soccer and volleyball are required to wear facial coverings while in active and non-active participation. Athletes not in active participation and all other individuals are to wear facial coverings at all other times. Contests may not be played unless all participants adhere to face covering requirements.

Saturday Night Plans

by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

Laingsburg - Barn Dance and Music every Saturday Night from September through November, 2020 (weather permitting)

Jack and Tess Clarkson have invited musicians to entertain the community from 6:00 pm-

9:00pm Saturday nights. Plenty of space to social distance and still have a good time. Bring your own chair and refreshments and the whole family. Donations \$7.00 per adult to cover the guest entertainer's expenses.

The Barn is 1.5 miles south of Round Lake on Hollister Rd. Last red barn on the left.

Join us for some old fashion country and bluegrass music and fun during this time of limited outdoor activities.



Michigan Renaissance Festival Launches a Drive-Thru Event

submitted by Kim Heidger

There is now an additional weekend for Fans to get their Festival Fix. Tickets are now available for September 26th and 27th, 2020.

Drive through the streets of Hollygrove (that's right, drive right on the Festival Grounds) and Purchase goods from some of your Favorite Festival Artisans including Lounies Soap Company, Autumn Moon, Swords & Shields and more. There will be 15-20 Festival Artisans each weekend and most are taking pre-sales for the event as well. For a full list of Artisans check out Michrenfest.com

Patrons will also enjoy street entertainment throughout the Parade Route, in vehicle games like Festival Trivia and Scavenger Hunts. Some of the entertainment will include Jousters, Faries, Comedian and Juggler Pumpernickel the Fool, the Enchanted Pegasus, Shannon Irish Dance Group, The Dutchmen, Pirate Magic and more.

In Coordination with Townsquare Media, Parade Goers will also have the opportunity to listen to a Festival themed Playlist during their Cruise.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to see the Michigan Renaissance Festival like you have never seen before. Tickets are limited for each day and are selling quickly. Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of the Never Before and Never Again Event. Tickets are available for \$20 per Vehicle and includes a Commemorative Insulated Lunch Bag. Tickets are available now at MichRenFest.com



Laingsburg
Wolfpack



Meet the Varsity Football Teams for Ashley,
Laingsburg and Ovid-Elsie on pages 6-7-8.
Watch next week for more Fall Sports Team photos.

Social

Clark Celebrating 90th Birthday

Clifford Clark will be 90 years old on September 26th. Please send him a card wishing happy birthday to: 245 Caledonia Drive, Owosso, MI to help him celebrate!



The second Saturday in September is set aside for the annual ALS walk in Grand Rapids. This year due to the COVID pandemic, teams that would part in the walk in Grand Rapids held walks in their own towns. The Martin family (and their fur babies) met in Ovid at the home of Allen Martin on Saturday, September 12th at noon and walked the trail to Hollister Road and back in honor of their Father, Grand-Father, Great-Grand Father and friend, Larry Martin. Larry passed on June 23, 2019 after a courageous battle with ALS. Grand-daughter Alaina was the team captain and reported a total of \$2,400 raised to date for Team Martin. "We raise funds to find a cure and to support others for all of those with ALS and the families who support them," she explained.

Photo by Deb Price

Congratulations Connor Fitzpatrick



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Laingsburg Girl Scout Registration

submitted by Jody Frank

Laingsburg Girl Scouts offers programs for girls from K-12 grades, with over 100 girls registered in the Laingsburg Community. Our leaders are excited to get started with programming both virtually and potentially face to face following all the guidelines.

Girl Scouts build girls of courage, character and confidence. If you have any questions feel free to contact Jody Frank, Laingsburg Service Unit 321 Manager at 517-648-1103 or for additional information on Girl Scouting visit www.gshom.org.



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Seventh-day Adventist Church Community Services Center Open

submitted by Patsy Towar

The Seventh-day Adventist Church Community Services Center at 1402A S. Oakland Street in St. Johns reopened August 5.

Each Wednesday, 1-4 pm the doors are open to give away nice used clothing and other needed household items.

Any questions call 989-224-3530 during open hours.

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Noon-6 pm Sun.

Editorial...continue on page 9

There goes another week screaming by and I still haven't finished mowing the yard which resembles an unmowed hay field. Shortly I will need to hire someone to come in and bale it. I have to take Prudence up to St Louis to get her groomed which gives me a bit of time to go out for breakfast. It is nice to be able to treat myself once in a while even though I failed this time to do so. Prudence will get antsy as we near the grooming salon because she knows that I will be abandoning her to someone else's care for an hour. Maybe I should take classes on grooming dogs so that I could do the deed and know how to do all that is needed. Winter project?

I need to clear out the upstairs shelves. Remove any old canned goods and keep one set clear for empty jars. I believe that all that is left for me to can is applesauce and venison when it comes into season. My kitchen counters are full of stewed tomatoes and corn relish. As soon as they are cool to the touch they will be ready to be moved to their respective shelves. The corn relish will travel down the road to Barb's pantry and the pints of stewed tomatoes will move to Clio. I will be finishing the string beans this weekend.....so I need to get the freezers rearranged.

The zucchini plants are filling up with blossoms and I've had my first zucchini from those seeds that went through the washer and dryer. The egg plants are ripe and now my son plans on making ratatouille. The winter squash are looking yummy so shortly I should be able to pull most of the vines and start putting the garden to rest. I'm also kicking myself for not growing pie pumpkins that I need for specialty breads and of course pies and custards. Note to self: I plan on planting a much smaller garden next spring. I'm still waiting on the peppers and cabbages to fill out and be ready for harvesting.....hopefully before the first hard frost.

I had to make a trip to the doctor's office to have my blood tested for A1C numbers and for thyroid. Much to my doctor's chagrin my A1C levels are still in the pre-diabetic range just as they have been for the last forty years. Granted I have only had him as my physician for the last five. My thyroid range had dipped down to a 1.5 which is too low and explained my being tired and taking two hour naps on a daily basis. Any who, my script has been changed and I need to "understand that I will be taking two 125mm pills daily"..... The nurse was adamant about that.....as if I'm incapable of reading the directions on the pill bottle. Such is life. Doc told me to avoid anything that a horse would eat.....any grains, carrots and apples? My horse also liked green tomatoes and peppers.....until he got a hot one. I like my rye bread, my homemade bread, and apples, carrots, tomatoes and peppers.....so I will probably continue to eat them.

Today I have to go to the office and hopefully the inbox will be full of what I need to get my job done and deliveries made. Oops, I failed to charge my cell phone last night before I went to bed.....it shut itself off and had an energy level of zero per cent. I can identify with it....I plugged it in now and wonder how long it will take to get its mojo working. Oh well, I still have much to do and I'm looking through my kitchen pass thru and can see out my kitchen window. Yes, it is installed finally.....however it isn't what I ordered and paid for.....the lumberyard in Owosso said that Andersen windows made the mistake and that Valley Lumber wasn't responsible for the errors of their suppliers. Jason (at the yard) is checking to see if the screen is there at the lumber yard. That conversation was on Monday and I haven't heard a thing yet.

May your conversations be fruitful and hopefully each of us will be responsive to whatever occasion arises. The sun is shining and today is a new day. God bless you and please use your common sense daily.

Crystal Mitchell©2020



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Grammar God

"It is finished (John 19:30)."

I have a confession. Without Donna Keller, I would not have gotten through my Seventh Grade English class. She reluctantly helped me, and many more times I looked over her shoulder to copy her answers. Wherever you are, thanks Donna! I'm in your debt.

As a writer, this is a humbling admission. I still don't get nominative or objective personal pronouns. Grammar is not my strength, but those rules do matter. Why? Our home serves as a perfect example of why rules are so important (and debt has a penalty).

On Tuesday, we paid off our mortgage early. It's a great feeling to be debt-free! When I spoke with the woman at the bank she said we'd get a satisfaction letter confirming that "it is finished." I immediately thought of Jesus' last words on the cross. Tetelestai.

In Greek, the New Testament's language, tetelestai means, "It is finished." But this verb is in the "perfect tense," which means not only is it done in the past, but also that the result is still ongoing. This past action is continuous. A "past tense" verb is over and done, but the perfect tense continues...like our home is paid off now, and tomorrow too.

But His dying words seem off, maybe even bad grammar. "I am finished" makes more sense, unless...He's paid off a debt too, and that's precisely what Jesus did. In New Testament times, tetelestai was used on documents to show that a bill had been paid in full. So what did God-in-the-flesh pay off if He's holy and has no sin? He paid our debt.

Nobody's perfect (Romans 3:23). We've all sinned, but this sin-debt is lethal; it makes all of us spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1), separates us from a holy God (Isaiah 59:2), and results in physical death (Ezekiel 18:20). We don't like death talk, but it's inescapable. My brother died a few weeks ago and it was so very final. The key, however, is not to die with your sin-debt outstanding or the penalty is eternal death (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9).

But is God fair to judge us with His holy standards if nobody's perfect? Yes, a good judge punishes lawbreakers, but a loving judge would be heartbroken. God solved this problem when He said, "It is finished." Debt paid in full, in love. Done deal? Not quite.

God's gift will erase your past, present, and future sin-debts, but like a Christmas gift under the tree it can only be opened if you receive it (John 1:12). Since it's a gift you can't earn it (Ephesians 2:4-9). It's free, but knowing it's there is not receiving it. It's not yours until you take it out from under the Christmas tree and open it. That's the rule.

Grammar also functions on rules, and so does God. If you break His Law, He must be righteous and deal with it. Thankfully, He loved us enough to take our penalty Himself (2 Corinthians 5:21). He acted on His love (Romans 5:8). Now you must act too. Just confess, a humble "Donna Keller" admission, and the free gift is yours (Romans 10:9).



Religious Thoughts

by Phil Hoppersberger
Graham Community Church



YOUR NEWSPAPER:
TEXTBOOK TO THE WORLD

CITY OF LAINGSBURG
NOTICE OF ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING
FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION
TO BE HELD TUESDAY, September 29, 2020

An Election Commission Meeting for the General Election to be held Tuesday, November 3, 2020, will be conducted on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 114 N. Woodhull Street, Laingsburg, Michigan.

Paula Willoughby
Laingsburg City Clerk

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Obituaries

Michgian DNR Shares It's 2020 Deer Season Preview

LANSING Michigan's Department of Natural Resources has released their 2020 Deer Season Preview, and they are saying that "Overall, conditions are looking excellent for the upcoming seasons".

The preview highlights the conditions in the Upper Peninsula, the Northern Lower Peninsula, and the Southern Lower Peninsula, as well as regulation changes in 2020 and tips on how to prepare for the season.

The DNR's field staff is predicting a slightly better season than 2019 in the Upper Peninsula region due to good weather this spring and summer and above average deer sightings.

As for the Northern Lower Peninsula, field staff says "antler development and body size look exceptionally good this year" and that hunters should also expect this season to be better than 2019.

And finally, the Southern Lower Peninsula is also seeing higher numbers of deer this season and field staff expects hunters to see more success than in 2019.

Artie Martin "Wayne" Brown

Artie Martin "Wayne" Brown, age 76, of Ashley, MI, passed away on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at Sparrow Hospital after battling a short term illness.

Wayne was born in Manila, Arkansas on October 8, 1943, son of Sylver and Maxine (Miley) Brown. His family moved to Michigan when he was seven years old.

Wayne graduated from Ashley Schools in 1962. On June 20, 1964, he married Shirley Elaine Evans in Ashley, MI. They first met in grade school when they would play checkers with each other. Years later, on their senior trip, love started to blossom, and the rest was history. They were married for 56 years.

He was drafted into the army from October 1966 until October 1969. He spent one of those years in Vietnam as an Airframe Repairman, repairing sheet metal on helicopters. His rank was a Specialist 5.

Wayne worked for GM for 31 years. He worked initially at Fisher-Body and in the last few years, was a supervisor at Oldsmobile. He retired in 1993 at age 50. After retiring from GM, he worked on his own installing furnaces and air-conditioners. He also helped installing wood stoves.

One of the many things he enjoyed was camping. He, Shirley and their two children have camped several different places throughout the years. There were many happy camping trips spent at Jellystone Parks. Wayne especially liked camping at Sault Ste. Marie watching the big freighters at the Soo Locks.

One of his favorite hobbies was tractor pulling. He built several pulling tractors with car engines, motorcycle engines and lawn & garden tractors. His top three were "Blu By U", "Tasmanian Devil" and "Wildhorse." He won several blue ribbons and trophies. He really enjoyed it even more when his son, Lonnie, and his grandchildren, Faith and Conner also pulled tractors. They formed the Brown Pulling Team.

Wayne enjoyed music and liked to sing and play his bass guitar. He sang with different singing groups over the years that performed at churches, festivals and nursing homes. Wayne also took pleasure in working on his puzzle books, watching Perry Mason, Gunsmoke and laughed heartily at Bugs Bunny and Tom and Jerry. He enjoyed attending his grandkids' band concerts, soccer games and dance recitals. He loved all animals but was especially fond of his daughter's rabbits and labrador retriever.

Wayne is survived by his wife Shirley of Ashley, MI; his children: Lonnie (Lisa) Brown of St. Johns, MI, and Lori Brown of Ashley, MI; his grandchildren: Faith Brown and Conner Brown of St. Johns, MI and his special granddog Lily. Other surviving family members are his siblings: Loyd Brown, Floyd (Carla) Brown, and Ron (Carol) Brown; his extended family: Alyce (Maynard) Moon, Ron (Joanne) Evans, Roger (Cara) Evans and Dee (Don) Nelson. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, cousins and close friends. Wayne was preceded in death by his grandparents, parents Sylver & Maxine Brown, sisters: Kathy Edel and Joyce Polash, brother Troy Brown, nephews: David Brown and Scott Bashore, in-laws William and Helen Evans, sister-in-law Beverly Brown, and brother-in-law Larry Howland.

Memorial Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI, on Friday, September 18, 2020 with Pastor Jeff Reser officiating. Interment of ashes has taken place at Ford Cemetery, Gratiot County, MI.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.

David Milton Fogarty

David Milton Fogarty died peacefully with his family by his side on September 14, 2020. He is greeted in Heaven by his Lord Jesus and his brother and sisters.

David was born in Wyandotte, Michigan in 1937 and was lovingly raised by Leo and Mary Byrnes of Ovid. He married JoAnn (Bartek) in 1962. They enjoyed living in the great community of Ovid-Elsie for all of their years.

David was a very proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps and was quick to remind all he knew that the "Marines rule." He enjoyed his family, playing cards, woodworking, and was always quick with a spirited discussion at family gatherings. He could be found puttering in his work shop with a hammer, paintbrush and saw. He would give the shirt off his back to someone in need; however, could not give a "high 5" as his table saw was the winner of more than one altercation. Apparently, working with 10 fingers wasn't a big enough challenge, so he did it with 8.5. He also enjoyed his morning coffee social with the guys.

Along with JoAnn, they both enjoyed their travels via plane, train, and car to New York, Montana, and North Dakota to visit David's birth family. However, they were always glad to return home.

David was an active member of St. Cyril's Catholic Church in Bannister, a parish council member, participated in the Knights of Columbus and enjoyed singing in the choir.

Surviving him are his wife JoAnn, children Angelo, Jerome (Nancy), Gloria (Jim), Marcia and Julie. Grandchildren Kristy, Stacey, Becky, Brandon, Mitchell, Nick, Kari, Jake, Cody, Cayden, Todd and Zack. He also had 8 great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please pay it forward with an act of kindness.

Granting his wishes, there will be no services. Arrangements by Keck-Coleman Funeral Home



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989-763-9675 (cell)
Office: 989-224-7709

Middlebury United Methodist Church
8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573



Worship Service
9:30 a.m.
Rev. Melanie Young

Bannister United Methodist Church
103 Hanvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:00am

Duplain Church of Christ
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(3 mi. W. of O-E H.S.)
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10:00 a.m.
Worship Service
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
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www.duplainchurch.org

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Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: JD Paik

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Sports

Ovid-Elsie Soccer Boys Down Durand, 5-2, Move to 1-1

OVID-ELSIE -- Jackson Thornton pounded out a trio of goals and led Ovid-Elsie to a three-goal win over Durand.

After a 2-0 loss to Sheppard in the season opener, the Marauders jumped to an early lead with a long pass from defenseman Colin Fluharty, connecting with Thornton who found the back of the net and got O-E off and running.

The Marauders added goals by Camren Cuthbert (assisted by Thornton), Thornton with his 2nd (assisted by Josh Swender), Chandler Barber (assisted by Ian Hehrer) and Thornton with his hat trick (assisted by Hehrer).

The Barber goal came off a beautiful header goal, with a perfectly placed cross from Hehrer.

The O-E coaching staff explained, "We improved greatly from our first game of the season. It was hard to play our first game without being able to scrimmage and work the kinks out. We will be getting better every game moving forward."

Durand Railroaders scores came from Adam Pruett and Lilly Scripser.

Top: OE Goalie Nate Reser stops Durand from making a goal.

(L): #25 Jackson Thornton and #23 Adam Barton on offense for the Marauders.

Photos by Jody Thornton



Strong Runs for Marauder Boy, Girl Harriers in 1st MMAC Jamboree of 2020

BYRON -- Alexis Spitzley clocked 3rd place in 21:42, and Ryan Gavenda finished 16th in 20:22, pacing the Ovid-Elsie cross-country teams at the first MMAC Jamboree of the 2020 campaign.

With hazy skies above, the Marauder Boys ran their first of three conference meets of the season. "Our team came in ranked fifth and over-performed on a twisty, technical course," said coach David Pastula.

Led by strong runs from the seniors of Gavyn Leavitt, Coleten Towsley, Corbin Kelley and Luke Spitzley, the O-E boys took a solid fourth place in the conference. "Special congrats to Dalton Love, Kaden West, and Cole Workman who achieved their personal records," said coach Pastula, "After two strong meets, they team will have a week and a half to train up before they host a quad meet on the 26th."

Final team scores were 1. New Lothrop -- 28, 2. Chesaning -- 54, 3. Montrose -- 62, 4. Ovid-Elsie -- 95, 5. Byron -- 143, 6. Mt. Morris -- 150 and 7. Otisville Lakeville -- 184

New Lothrop's Carson Hersch was the top finisher of the day, in 16:02.

Turning in strong runs for O-E were Cole Workman in 20:49, Justin Prewitt in 21:42, Kaden West in 22:29, Andrew Hall in 22:41, Christian Schmidtfranz in 23:55, Gage Kvalevog in 24:44, Joe Humrich in 25:01 and Dalton Love in 25:21.

Coming into the day, the Lady Marauders were ranked fourth in the conference and overperformed on a twisty, technical course. "Added into the tough course, our girls had to wait in the heat since they were the second run of the day. While most times were not as fast as hoped, each athlete gave it their all and it shows with their places," said coach Pastula.

The Marauder girls tied for second place but lost a tie-breaker. Girls team scores were 1. New Lothrop -- 39, 2. Byron -- 74*, 3. Ovid-Elsie -- 74, 4. Montrose -- 79, 5. Chesaning -- 95, 6. Otisville Lakeville -- NS, 6. Durand -- NS.

"Congrats to Alexis on her 3rd place overall finish as well as achieving her personal record. Joining her with a personal best today was Kaia Spiess," explained coach Pastula.

Other Lady Marauder finishers were Samantha Grubaugh in 25:41, Rachel Spitzley in 26:12 and Abigail Prewitt in 27:05.

The Lady Marauders will have a week and a half to train before they host a quad meet at home on the 26th

Watch for Continuing Fall Sports Team Photos

Attention Ashley, Laingsburg and OE Sports Fans...Over the next couple weeks watch for continuing Fall Sports team photos, schedules and event results. We are also looking to bring you information on the streaming of events. This has been a challenging year to say the least. Stay tuned!!



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Colin Fluharty	Noah Gonyea	Kaylee Hall	Billy Harris	Kevin Ley	Seth Merry	Rudy Morales
						
Michael Olger	Keigan Ormes	Brayden Phillips	Justin Poli	Dillon Renfroe	Jacob Schaub	Logan Sempsrott
						
Maxwell Spiess	Landon Stoneman	Dylan Taylor	Logan Thompson	Jackson Thornton	Jacob Tomasek	Clay Wittenberg



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Photos by Jody Thornton

Head Coach: Travis Long
Asst. Coaches: DJ Chapko, Allen Martin, Doug Meisel, Joel Longstreth, Nick Hufnagel, Austin Loynes and Jason Bowen

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2020 LAINGSBURG VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

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 Zach Hawes	 Jacob Welch	 Miguel Fajardo	 Michael Brooks	 Addison Goff	 Thomas Cecil	 Michael Rutia
 Josh Roosa	 Taylor Zdenahlik	 Andrew Kingsbury	 Tabitha McDowell	 James Nixon	 Tyler Flynn-Lacey	 Head Coach Brian Borgman. Asst. Coaches Dan Blemaster and Jon Cecil

Elfring Tops the Leader Board Again, Lady Wolfpack 2nd at GLAC Jamboree

LAINGSBURG -- Yellow school buses dotted the parking lot at Pine Hills Golf Course on a clear, sunny, cool day, as Pine Hills Golf Course hosted a GLAC Girls Golf Jamboree here September 18.

Wolfpack standout Grace Elfring topped the leader board once again, firing 45 and outdistancing the runnerup, Morgan Stahl of Lakewood, by seven strokes.

Lakewood got the upper in the team scoring, however, winning the four-team event with 229 strokes. Coach Greg Beavers Wolves were 2nd at 239, Olivet 3rd at 247 and Perry 4th at 249.

Joining Elfring in the Top Ten was Laingsburg's Alyse Rowley, 5th with 57.



Photos by Keith Kingsbury

Laingsburgs Grace Elfring tops leaderboard at GLAC Jamboree on Sept. 18th. Photo from Burg Sports



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2020 ASHLEY VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM



Front Row (l-r): Coach Devon Bartholomew, Bailey Long, Caden Passmore, Jordan Huntoon, Holden Wirt, Logan Drummond, Manager Todd Fox, Coach Dustin Clark. Back Row (l-r): Coach Jim Fabus, Coach Kevin Saylor, Tim Nierescher, Aaron Drummond, Jimmy Fabus, Dillan Beebe, Heath Powelson, Logan Hardman, Coach Todd Fox, Coach Jacob Schmidt.
Photo by DS Events

Elsie Lions Beef Raffle

The Elsie Lions Club is hosting their Beef Raffle again this year. Tickets are \$5.00 each and are available from Lions Club members and at the Meridian Weekly office in Ovid. The Drawing will be held on Saturday, October 3rd at 4pm in downtown Elsie.

Prizes for the raffle include# 1st Prize, 1/2 beef, 2nd & 3rd Prize, 1/4 beef, 4th Prize, \$100 Gift Card. Get your tickets today and help support the Elsie Lions Club.



Sunday Breakfast to be Served at Laingsburg Legion

American Legion Post 248 - Laingsburg will be re-opening to the public for breakfast on Sunday, September 20, 2020. Breakfast hours: 8am-11am. Masks will be required to enter until you are eating or if you are moving around the dining hall. There will be social distancing in place with seating arrangements and reduced capacity. American Legion volunteers will be following the safety guidelines outlined in the Governors executive order for safe opening of eating establishments.

We are looking forward to seeing you again! Please be patient and understanding as we try to find the best ways to keep you and our volunteers safe.

Take out available. 1240 W. Grand River, Laingsburg. Phone: 517-651-6050. The Legion can only accept cash at this time, NO credit/debit cards.

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Tune in Friday, September 25th for the OE-Lakeville game. Broadcasters: Randy Barton and Ryan Bancroft.

Ashley Volleyball Opens Season

by Ashleigh Shaw

Madison Howe, an Ashley alumnus, has taken over the coaching position for the Bears. Howe graduated from Ashley in 2016 and was a member of the Ashley Varsity Volleyball team from 2014-2016, with the team sharing a league championship with Mount Pleasant Scared Heart in 2014.

Howe and the Bears opened their season welcoming the Vestaburg Wolverines. Ashley struggled in game one losing 25-15, came back in game two making it close, but fell short losing 25-22 and also falling 25-17 in game three.

"It was great to finally see the girls on a volleyball court playing. As we have been outside practicing for so long. We had good moments, but we have some work to do. Given the current circumstances and new protocols, our girls are still adjusting. We will take this loss as a learning opportunity and keep moving forward" commented Howe.

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The Weekly Sportsman
by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

First Blood with Crossbow

Last weekend was Michigan's youth deer hunt and the Weekly Sportsman was fortunate enough to learn of Gracie Perkins hunting experience she shared with her grandpa. Gracie is from Henderson and is an 8th grader at Ovid-Elsie Junior High School. Although a picture is worth a thousand words, and the pics I received from her mom clearly illustrate that, however, the event's excitement has been captured in her own writing of the experience.

"My granpa took me out hunting and we sat on a fencerow in a homemade ground blind. We were overlooking the edge of the woods near a cornfield. It seemed like it happened so fast but it really didn't. A buck came from the east out of nowhere and worked its way toward us.

Patiently I waited and the buck walked out in front of me at about eight yards and looked right at me. I took my time and slowly squeezed the trigger on my crossbow to make a great shot. The arrow hit my buck right behind the front shoulder and he ran off into the woods. After waiting for a very long hour me and granpa went to recover my first buck shot with a crossbow."

Congratulations to Gracie on her first crossbow buck and a big thank you to her mother, Sarah Perkins, for submitting the story and pictures.

-WS



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

Special Needs Son, Blessing in Disguise

Dear Andy,

My son has lived in a group home since he turned 21 years of age. He has been moved several times for various reasons. He has been in this last group home for 3 years. He has never adjusted. He is now 37 years old with the IQ and mental abilities of a 9-year old. His biological father takes him to lunch once a week and every other Saturday, but not overnight. Our son is personable and very talkative but needs guidance and daily reminders.

His 2 roommates are non-verbal and function at lower levels of abilities which makes interaction with his roommates impossible. They wake him nightly and then his bladder relaxes and ends up wetting the bed. They are violent, angry residents and strike out and steal things from our son. I do not believe it is a safe place or the best situation for him. The house staff speak another first language and are difficult to understand when they speak English. The place is dirty. I have detailed and cleaned his room at least 2 or 3 times every year. The meals are not balanced and are mostly made up of frozen pizza and chicken rice dishes and cereal.

My son complains every day about loud inappropriate TV and the conflicts with the other residents. At my home he is rarely stressed, he sleeps 12 hours at a time, and never wets the bed. He is happier and we would like to spend our life together in the same household. He wants to join activities and special Olympic opportunities, which I can make happen. We are active and love shopping, garage sales, movies, camping, biking, and bocce ball, swimming, music, play, art, cooking and visiting family.

When my son has needed care after medical procedures at the hospital, over the last 17 years, I have taken him for up to six weeks at a time during his recuperation: administered meds, bathing him when he was unable, staying in my care, including emptying his Foley. I have changed my entire life for him and love him with all my heart. He spends several days

and many nights each week in my home. His Dad is angry that I have him so much and says he is "the legal guardian" and that the group home will lose funding if I take him too often. I have never been compensated for the money I spend on him and his Dad only gives him a few dollars every week. It is not about the money, my concern is the daily environment he is in, especially since the State cut out of their budget for daily Adult Transition Work and Education Centers for special needs adults over the age of 24.

It is important to me that he learns life skills to be prepared when he must take care of himself when I am gone. My heart aches to leave him there. His caseworker is aware of the challenges we have had to work through and agree it is not the best place for him. Since the COVID-19 we have spent nearly every day together. His Dad tested Positive and could not take him for several months. He has recuperated but calls to swear at me and remind me that he is the guardian and that I am to not make any promises or listen to what our son wants.

Andy, I am fed up with the helpless situation I feel I am in. Can you give me any direction or ideas? Thank you. Frustrated Mom of a very "Special" young man.

Dear Frustrated Mom,

I needed to paraphrase your heartfelt letter. Thank you for writing. I can hear in your details that it has been difficult for you and how you feel powerless. What you have shared certainly are valid concerns and in need of resolution. Most importantly, it sounds like your entire life has been a blessed with a challenge in disguised for you and your "special" needs adult son. In answer to your questions: The group home will not lose funding if you take him out each day with the knowledge of staffing. Communication is the key. Keep track of visits and monitor all meds diligently. Keep them informed. Do not interfere with his Dad's visitation schedule and be flexible if Dad needs to move around visitation times. But, if he calls to swear at you...hang up, you do not need to be subjected to his negative behavior. And..., send letters to your congressmen regarding closing of the daytime adult transition centers. It needs to be put back into the budget. You and your son are in the same boat as much as 60,000 other Michigan Adults with special needs, that are staying home with family or in their group home all day, everyday.

The Bureau of Community and Health Services are responsible to follow up on any complaints. There are over 200 home that are licensed in the Mid-Michigan area. Last report I reviewed had a 40% rate of complaints. Most complaints were minor and often regarding Staff protocol. It is a thankless job with low wages. There is often a large turnover of personnel which can contribute to concerns and violations.

To address an immediate concern or have an emergency, you can call the BCHS at Complaint HOT LINE 1-800-882-6006 to speak to someone. The proper process is detailed online at Michigan.gov/lara/ form BCHS-361. After completing the form, it can be mailed, faxed, or sent via US postal services. It can take up to 15 days to get a response from an investigator, who will be asking for additional information. By law they must complete the investigation in 60 days.

Most complaints include missing medications, unsanitary conditions, not providing one-on-one staffing for residents who need it or not providing proper supervision and sleeping on the job. Rarely are home closed. It is the goal to keep the homes compliant so there are facilities or houses for adults with special needs to have a safe place to call home. The goal is to fix problems and educate the group home staff or owners responsible to follow the state group home guidelines.

You are a rare mom who still takes on more responsibilities than many who lack the patience and skills you possess. My first suggestion to you is to file for co-guardianship and to use a mediator to solve major issues. File at your county probate court where the guardianship is filed. Find out what your rights are and make sure you are making the best decisions in the best interest of your son. Do not act out of guilt, make you and your son's wishes clearly known. Be your own advocate. In many cases it is better to have co-guardianship for medical emergencies and for the flexibility of not "reporting" every move to your X.

The finances and spend-down is a lot of responsibility. From what you have shared with me, I suggest you let your X keep control of that part of the guardianship jobs. It will continue to empower him. Good for you for seeking licensing your home and becoming a licensed care giver. Good luck in your endeavor. Email me anytime if you need an uplift or just to vent. Taking care of yourself is an important part of taking care of others. ask_andy@aol.com



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CITY OF OVID SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

The Full set of the Minutes for the Regular meeting may be viewed or acquired at the Municipal Building located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid. Mayor Lasher, explained that due to the pandemic and the Stay Safe order by the Governor we once again will be conducting our Council meeting in person and via teleconference.

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

Mayor Lasher asked that the Clerk take roll call.

PRESENT: Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. William, Miss. Hibbard and Mr. Ordiway

ABSENT: Mr. Zwick,

EXOFFICIO: Rich Simpson – DPW Superintendent, Chief Goodrich-Police, Liza Kusnier- Treasurer and Josefina Medina–Clerk.

VISITORS: Deb Price and Arlene Pesik.

AGENDA: Mayor Lasher requested that we add Item #8 titled Water Utility Assistance Program agreement to agenda. A motion was made by Mr.

Brown, second by Mr. Williams to the agenda as amended. Roll call was taken as followed: YEAS: Mr. Lasher, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr.

Williams, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Ordiway. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr.

Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Miss Hibbard to accept the minutes of August 10, 2020 as printed. Roll call was taken as followed: YEAS: Mr. Brown, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, Ms. Perrien and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

CHECK REGISTRY: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to accept the check registry for period of August 13th, thru September 15, 2020 as printed. Roll call was taken as followed: YEAS: Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Brown, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS FROM TREASURER, POLICE & DPW may be viewed in their entirety in the full set of minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Ordiway to accept the Treasurer, Police & DPW reports as presented. Roll call was taken as follows: YEAS: Mr. Ordiway, Ms. Perrien, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Brown, Mr. Williams and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

1.Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Ordiway, second by Mr. Williams to approve the additional work for the well #2 project in the amount of \$900 and to authorize the Mayor to sign. Roll call was taken as follows: YEAS: Mr. Brown, Mr. Ordiway, Ms. Perrien, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

2.Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to approve the pre-approved list of vendors as presented. Roll call was taken as follows: YEAS: Miss Hibbard, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

3.Discussion was held on Halloween activities.

4.Discussion was held earlier on the lighting strike.

5.Discussion on 2021 budget process.

6.Discussion was held on the activity room rental.

7.Discussion on who should be able to use the recycling center.

8.Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to enter into the agreement for the Water Utility Assistance Program and to authorize the Mayor to sign. Roll call was taken as follows: YEAS: Mr. Brown, Mr. Williams, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Lasher. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Zwick.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Lasher closed the meeting at 8:17 pm.

Josefina Medina, Clerk
City of Ovid

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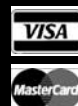
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LIVE ESTATE AUCTION SUN., SEPT. 27, 2020, 12:00 NOON. 1615 Hadley Rd., Lapeer, MI. Furniture; Household & Appliances; Tools & Outdoor; Lawn & Garden; Misc. Details at AuctionZip.com Auctioneer ID#5683. Marsa Auctioneering. 989-269-7227. CPM

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ESTATE SALE

TREASURE ESTATE SALES: Estate sale of Violet Splan. 1040 Pearce St., Owosso, St. 48867. Wed. Sept. 23 - Fri. Sept. 25. 9am-5pm. Sat. Sept. 26 9am-2pm. Oak Furniture, Leather Recliner, Cameras, Vintage Heritage & Effanbe Dolls, Electric Keyboard, Fishing Items, Foosball Table, Records, CDs, VCR Tapes, Tools, Chain Saw, Table Saw and more...
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Local Groups Partner on Regional Electronics Recycling Day Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

submitted by Katherine Neese

The Regional Electronics Recycling Day is a great way for all residents in the Capital Area to take care of unwanted items from their attics, garages, basements or storage units. The event will be held at Chippewa Middle School (4000 Okemos Road, Okemos) on Saturday, September 26th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Social distancing and mask requirements will be adhered to during the event.

Safely recycle a variety of unwanted items such as:

- TVs*
- Monitors*
- Computers
- Printers
- Cords
- Cables
- Phones
- VCRs
- Stereo Equipment & More

* A \$20 donation is requested for each television or monitor, payable at the event or in advance by visiting www.meridian.mi.us/recycle.

The event is generously supported by the Regional Recycling Coordinating Committee; The City of East Lansing; Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; The City of Lansing; Clinton County; Eaton County; Ingham County Health Department; Meridian Township; Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council; Hammond Farms; Delta Dental; Vision Collision; Granger Waste Services and the Clerical Technical Union of MSU.

For additional information about the event, including non-accepted items please see the flyer at www.meridian.mi.us/recycle or contact LeRoy Harvey, Environmental Programs Coordinator at harvey@meridian.mi.us or call 517.853.4466

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