

Local Lions Clubs Supporting Their Communities

by Deb Price

Taking care of each other has never been more important that right now. It's exactly why we live where we do. Thinking of others before ones self is the blessing of being part of a small town community.

At their October monthly meeting, the Ovid Lions Club discussed the possibility of getting internet at the Lions/VFW Hall. With school districts in our area going to virtual learning due to the pandemic, the hall could be opened up for students to study and do homework. DayStarr, a provider in Owosso, installed fiber-optic, high speed internet on November 13th. The hall was made available to students on November 23rd. The hall will be open from 2pm-4pm and 5pm-7pm Monday thru Friday. Lions members will be present to monitor.

Masks must be worn and Health Department guideline will be followed. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Participants are asked to use the North entrance (side parking lot). The Password is "weserve2020".

On Thanksgiving day, in both Laingsburg and Ovid, Thanksgiving dinners were provided free of charge. In Laingsburg, 200 dinners were served "drive-thru style" at the American Legion. "Our dedicated Legion and Lions Club members worked together to make the event a successful one. Special thanks to Coach Brian Borgman and his family for their help, together, we were able to provide a Thanksgiving meal to many who spent the holiday alone or with fewer family members around the table, said Lions Member Ed Arthur.

The drawing for the Beef raffle was drawn at the end of the day. The following were winners of a quarter of beef: Gail Woodruff, Joel Cunningham, Pat Szenak and Heather Cornwall. Denny Perdue, won a \$200 gift certificate.

In Ovid, community members lined up to pick up Thanksgiving meals "drive-thru style" at the Lions Hall. They had 230 pre-ordered meals and ended up packing up nearly 300 dinners to go. "We had a successful day due to the help of Suzanne, Character and Randy, who prepared the wonderful food, members of Scout Troop 585 and their families and our Lions members. The people were very generous with the donations, we collected \$1,800 from those who appreciated the effort," said Lions member, Mary Perrien.

Yes, we are blessed to live where we do...



OE Freshman Cole Workman and Sophomore Kevin Torrey II doing homework at the Lions/VFW Hall using the free wifi made available to all students.



Bannister ZCBJ Accepting Toys for Tots

submitted by Joanne Fornusek

Bannister ZCBJ Lodge #225 will be supporting Toys for Tots again this year. Because these are difficult economic times the needs are even greater than in previous years. The lodge hall will be open on Sunday, December 6th, from 1-2 pm to accept your donations of new items. If this is not convenient, please call Ed (989-862-5591) to set up a better time. Toys for Tots serve youth from newborn to 17 yrs. old. Members and non members are invited to contribute to a brighter holiday season for local children.

Local Blood Drives Announced for December

The American Red Cross and country music star Martina McBride have joined together this holiday season to remind people to take care of one another, sharing comfort and joy with hospital patients through the gift of blood donation.

As the U.S. experiences a new surge in COVID-19 cases, the Red Cross is becoming increasingly concerned about the nation's blood supply — including convalescent plasma. A convalescent plasma donation collects plasma from COVID-19 survivors because antibodies to the disease in their blood may help patients who are currently fighting the virus.

As a thank-you for helping meet the need for blood donations now through Dec. 15, Suburban Propane is offering blood, platelet and plasma donors a chance to win an Outdoor Living Experience, powered by Propane, to enable a lucky winner to enjoy socially distanced celebrations with family and friends this holiday season. The prize includes a propane-powered pizza oven, fire pit, outdoor heater and stipend toward propane.

Eligible individuals are urged to make an appointment to donate blood now to help patients in need. Find a donation opportunity using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling (800) 733-2767.

Local blood drives include:

- From 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Owosso Knights of Columbus, 1259 E. Main St.
- From noon to 5:45 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Owosso VFW, 519 S. Chipman St.
- From 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Dec. 9 at Perry High School, 2555 W. Britton Road.



It's time to get your Christmas Tree and support Ovid Boy Scout Troop 585 & 114!

We are offering a variety of Christmas trees at
The Modern Woodman on the corner of M-21 and Main St.
starting Friday, November 27 from 11am-8pm.
Saturday, November 28 from 11am - 8pm, and Sunday
November 29 from 11 - 5pm. Sales will continue
throughout December on Fridays from 5 - 8pm;
Saturdays from 11am - 8pm, and Sundays from Noon - 5pm.
FREE delivery on trees Dec. 4 from 5-7pm. Dec. 5 from 5-7pm, Dec. 11 from 5-7pm,
Dec. 12 from Noon-4pm. Max distance 10 miles from Ovid, please.
Call Steve Dennis at 989-862-4868 with any questions.
GET YOURS BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!





- Tree Trimming
- Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Fall Clean-ups
- Leaf Removal and More!
- Free Estimates
- Book Today

989-627-7094
YORDYENTERPRISES@GMAIL.COM
Look for us on Facebook!
Insured

THANK YOU THANK YOU
To My Family and Everyone that Sent
Me Happy Birthday Wishes
on My 87th Birthday
It was Greatly Appreciated.
May You All Have a Safe and Healthy
Happy Thanksgiving!

Love The Queen? of the Hill of Ovid,
Mary Lou
(It's a Hebeler Thing)



Social

Great Gobbler Turkey Winners

Ashley Party Store: Tammy Ritenburg-Elsie
Piggy Tails: Joanne Fogarty-Elsie
Kevin's Body Shop & Towing: Emilie Schoch-Elsie
Green Meadow Farms: Amy Bywater-Ovid
Country Styles Salon: Traci Prewitt-Ovid
OE Animal Clinic: Sarah Rittenburg-Ashley
Foo G's Pizza: Laurie Mead-Elsie
Ovid Outdoor Power: Eddie Dennis-Ovid
Buk's Party Store: Don Dennis-Ovid
Ovid Service Agency: Ken Monks-Ovid
Corner Carousel: Roger Skaryd-St Johns
Main Street Pizza: Mike DeFrenn-Ovid
Shear's Salon: Sharon Zell-Ovid
Michigan Livestock: Christina Lehman-Elsie
Bud's Barber Shop: Connie Underhill-Ovid
Journey Credit Union: Connie Thornton-Ovid
Ovid Elevator Co: John Anderson-Elsie
Village Food Pride: Dixie Nethaway-Ovid
Applebee Oil: Shawn Pardee-Elsie
Simpson Greenhouse: Gary Hrncharik-Ovid
The Weekly: Brandt Lazarus-Ovid
Laingsburg Eye: Donald Wagner-Laingsburg
Cebyral Pharmacy: Linda Johnson-Ovid
Leonard Hardware: Phillip Miller-Laingsburg
Twilliger's Tavern: Roger Waltz-Laingsburg
Tammy's Bakery: Chris Phillips
Sage Market: Laura Jones-Laimngsburg
All Tech Automotive: Mary Harris-Laingsburg

Ovid Historical Society

submitted by Roger Matthies

Christmas at the Museum will take place at the Mary Myers Museum on Sunday, December 13TH starting at 2pm. There will be music and holiday refreshments. Please join us. The museum is located at 131 East Williams Street in Ovid.

Letters to Santa

A Letters to Santa promotion has begun in Ovid. Kids can pick up their letter form at the Ovid Public Library. Once you have filled out your letter, return it to the library and they will scan it and forward to Santa at the North Pole. The letters will then be placed on display in the windows next to the Ovid Post Office thru the month of December. Gayla and Bonnie Ehlert will be at it again, creating window displays for the community to enjoy this Holiday season.

Dear Santa

My name is: _____

This year I have been: ☐ very good ☐ quite good ☐ a bit naughty

What I would MOST like for Christmas this year is:

because: _____

If your elves can't find what I would also like:

I promise to leave you some:

on Christmas Eve

★ Merry Christmas! XXX





**The children of Frank Bernath wish him a very
Happy 95th Birthday on December 13th.**

Frank spent all his life in the Clinton County area, 90 years in the Elsie area and the last few years in St Johns, close to his doctors. Married to the love of his life Mary for 68 years. Raised 6 children, Jerry's, Sherry, Terry, Larry, Garry and Barry. Served 3 years in the Marine Corp and spent time in the South Pacific. After his service he came back to the Elsie area and completed his senior year of school. Frank worked for General Motors, 12 years, Consumers Power, 13 years and then sold State Farm Insurance for 34 years until his retirement.

Those wishing to send birthday wishes to Frank, may mail him a card at
412 Meadowview Drive, St Johns, MI 48879.



Happy Birthday Dad/Frank!!

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Drop off hours will be 8 am to 5 pm
Other hours by appointment
Mailing address is P.O. Box 376, Ovid, MI 48866

DANIEL BUKOVCIK
101 N. MAIN ST., OVID
Phone (989)834-2270
Fax (989)834-2279

Strouse Deer

Harper Strouse, age 12, shot a 7point buck in Clinton County on November 15, 2020 at 8:00am. She was using a 350 Legend while hunting with her PaPa Strouse and her dad.

She is the daughter of Steve and Crystal Strouse.



Clinton County Adopt a Family For Christmas

submitted by Marie Barks

Caring and Sharing Family Life Services, Inc. and the Clinton County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect in St. Johns are teaming up to support families this Christmas through the Adopt A Family For Christmas program. This year more families than ever have applied for Christmas help. Families or seniors applying for help are screened to make sure there is no duplication with other agencies or community Christmas programs across the county such as the Salvation Army (serving families in the southern part of the county), Ovid and Elsie community (serving Ovid-Elsie residents), Toys for Tots through the Clinton County Chamber of Commerce, and other churches and agencies.

There are many families that still need adopting for the holidays. We have families of all sizes with younger or older children and seniors. If your agency, business, group, church or family would like to adopt a family please contact us. Adopters have the choice of being anonymous, delivering to the family directly or having us deliver (all contactless and social distancing practices).

Some families have simple things on their Christmas list that most of us take for granted will be on the cupboard shelf at home when we need it, such as toilet paper, shampoo, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items. If anyone out there finds it in their heart to give a little extra this year, this is truly a rewarding project. Please call the Caring & Sharing and CAN Council office at 989-224-1010 or call Amanda at 989-682-0319 and ask about adopting a family.

“Win A Turkey”

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

Through the month of November until December 12, 2020 all patrons of the Elsie Public Library who update their patron information, or any NEW PATRONS applying for a card, are eligible to sign-up to win a turkey.

There is one sign-up per person. The drawing will be held on December 14th

Please remember to check Facebook for special library virtual programs.



ELBA TOWNSHIP Gratiot County

The December Board of Review will meet Tuesday, December 15th, 2020 at the Elba Township office at 109 Oak St., Ashley, at 6:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 Restrictions, Elba Township is moving the December meeting to December 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Madalin C. Morris
Elba Township Clerk

Happy 50th Anniversary

Greg & Bev Geisenhaver
December 5, 1970

We Love You!

LaNiece, Brent & Family
Becky, Chris & Brena

Hollenbeck Living Estate ONLINE ONLY AUCTION



Bid NOW through Tuesday December 1st at 8:00 p.m. This is a very clean auction you will not want to miss out on! Case W7 Loader, John Deere 425 Lawn Tractor With Broom, 3pt Woods Dixie Cutter Brushhog, 3pt John Deer 620 Disc, International 5100 Grain Drill, 3pt S-Shank Field Cultivator, Utility Trailer, AFF Upright Drill Press, Husqvarna 365 Chainsaw, Craftsman Push Mower, Cub Cadet Rear Tine Tiller, Tempurpedic King Size Mattress, Lazboy Lift Chair, Floor Lamps, 8 Drawer Dresser with Mirror, Oak Glider Rocker, Couch & Chair Set, Dining Table & Chairs, NordicTrack Treadmill, Homepointe Dehumidifier, Hoover Wind Tunnel Vacuum, Expert Gas Grill & MUCH MORE! Items will be picked up at 4940 Union Rd. Alma, MI.

For Photos, Details and Register to Bid, Visit:
www.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com



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Joe Sherwood, Owner/Auctioneer
Call: 1-800-835-0495

Roy & DeLoris Harger Online Estate Auction



Auction will have a soft Close on Wednesday December 2nd at 8:00 pm 2011 Chevy Equinox, 1996 Chevy 1500 Van, Generac 7500 Generator, Huskee Air Compressor, John Deere LA15 Lawn Mower, Shop Vac 5 gallon, Dining Table 60", Diamond I/C push weed whip, Glider Rocker, Antique Dresser, Little Giant Extension Ladder, Antique Airline Entertainment Center, Crosley Washing Machine, GE Electric Dryer, New Wall Heater, Working 14" Band Saw, Fire Proof Locking File Cabinet, Correlle Dishware, Retro Wash Stand, Tupperware Pieces, Odyssey Game Council +17 games, Atari Games, International H Loader, Cement Mixer, Buzz Saw on Stand, Antique Mower, Yard Roller, Two Bottom Plow, Cinder Blocks, Running gear for a wagon, 8' Field Disc, 9' Drag, Wood Furnace, Hand Tools & Much More! ITEMS LOCATED AT 7797 NORTH STREET in EUREKA, MI

For Photos, Details and Register to Bid, Visit:
www.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com



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Clinton County Christmas Applications and Adopt a Family

submitted by Marie Barks
Caring and Sharing Family Life Services, Inc. and the Clinton County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect in St. Johns is now taking Christmas applications for families and seniors who may need help this holiday season. The link for the application is on the Caring & Sharing Family Life Services FACEBOOK page or the family may apply by calling us. Applications are available at collaborative partner agencies including, Clinton County RESA Education Center and Head Start. All applicants will be screened and must provide proof of residency and a Medicaid/insurance card or medical bill/receipt for other family members in the household. Deadline for applications is DECEMBER 1st, 2020.

Caring & Sharing FLS and the CAN Council works closely with other agencies and programs to make sure that there is no duplication of applications and that all families/seniors are served. Families in the Ovid-Elsie school district must apply at the Ovid City Hall or Elsie Village Hall or the elementary schools. If you live south of Clark Road in Clinton County, you must apply at the Salvation Army in Lansing. Toys for Tots serve all of Clinton County.

Anyone who has questions may call the Caring & Sharing and CAN Council office at 989-224-1010 or call Amanda at 989-682-0319 for help to apply.

All families and seniors whom apply for Christmas help are matched with donor churches, businesses, agencies and families who have the desire to help others in their community. Those wishing to adopt a family/senior should call or email us at caringandsharingfls@gmail.com



In Loving Memory of Lyle Splan

12/06/1920-12/02/2019

Oh how we have missed you this past year.
You were the BEST husband, brother, father,
step-dad, grandpa, great grandpa, uncle and
friend anyone could ask for.

Happy Heavenly 100th Birthday on December 6th

Love, Your Family

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Advertise In Our Church Directory!

Call (989) 834-2264

Middlebury United Methodist Church

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573

Worship Service
9:30 a.m.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns
Pastor: John Jakus
Sunday School: 9:00am
Worship Service 10:00am
517-651-6210

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

163 W. Main St., Elsie
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Roger Numerich

United Church of Ovid

Office Hours: 9-Noon Mon - Fri
Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing
11:00 - Worship
131 West Front Street
Ovid, MI 48866 • (989) 834-5958
www.unitedchurchofovid.org
or on Facebook
Rev. Melanie Young

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:00am

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

160 W. Main St., Elsie (989) 862-5239
Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: JD Paik

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

Mass: Sun 10:30am,
Wed. 9:00am
Confession:
Sun 11:30am
We Welcome You to Come...

LAINGSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

210 CRUM ST.
517-651-5531
Children's Sunday school: 9am
Adult Sunday school: 9am and 11:45am
Worship: 10am
Pastor Brian West
laingsburgumc@gmail.com

Duplain Church of Christ

5565 E. Colony Rd.
(3 mi. W. of O-E H.S.)
Sunday School
10:00 a.m.
Worship Service
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Senior Minister: Chuck Emmert
Associate Minister: Andrew Goodrich
www.duplainchurch.org

Obituaries

Charles Lee Spiess

Charles Lee Spiess, age 68, of Ovid, MI passed away Monday, November 23, 2020 at Owosso Memorial Hospital.

Chuck was born June 20, 1952 in Owosso, the son of Claude and Flora (Root) Spiess.

He graduated from Owosso High School in 1971 and married Karen (Kendall) Spiess July 29, 1972 in Owosso, MI.

Chuck was born and raised on a dairy farm. He helped run the family farm the first 25 years of his life. He was also employed by Glen Williams Farm for five years. Chuck then went on to work for Michigan Milk Producers Association for 35 years, while also working a second job driving a milk truck for Floyd Glowney for 30 of those years.

Chuck was the patriarch of the Spiess family. He was always proud of his family's closeness and willingness to be there for each other. His weekends were full of hunting, dog shows, tractor pulling, and watching his grandkids wrestle and participate in other activities. He made sure each member of his family knew how lucky they were to have each other and the opportunities before them.

The holidays were a particularly favorite and busy time for Chuck. His beard was real and his belly really did shake like a bowl full of jelly. He never turned down a pumpkin pie and always showed up with gifts for everyone. He proudly brought the Christmas spirit to hundreds of children and adults every season.

Chuck's passions centered around tractors, hunting, dogs, and sports. Chuck had a love for all things tractor related. He was a member of the A-Tractive Tractor Club, County Line Antique Tractor Club, and a strong supporter of Mid Michigan Old Gas Tractor Association. As the founding father of Spiess Pulling Team, he participated in countless tractor pulls each year. Chuck could fabricate just about anything out of metal. His creations could be seen in many front yards, tractor pulls, and charity auctions. Chuck also spent a lot of his time hunting. He was a proud member of the Houghton Lake Layout Boys and participated in annual hunts each fall. Chuck was an avid deer, elk, waterfowl and upland game hunter. He traveled to Colorado several times on hunting trips with his family. Chuck was a proud member of the American WireHaired Pointing Griffon Association. He was also an owner, breeder, and handler of ChuKar Kennels since 1980. Finally, Chuck was a wrestling Coach to countless youth. He was a true Ovid-Elsie sports enthusiast, and took pride in having a son on the Ovid-Elsie wrestling team for 10 straight years.

Chuck is survived by his Wife, Karen Sue Spiess; four Sons, Jason (April) Spiess, Kyle (Marie) Spiess, Tim (Sara) Spiess, and Kevin (Stacey) Spiess; grandchildren; William, Jacob, Nicholas, Grace, Mason, Max, Kaia, Miley, Jack, Ella, and Peyton; Sister Carol Hunt and Brother Jerry (Mary) Spiess.

He was predeceased by his father, Claude Spiess, mother, Flora Spiess, granddaughter, Emerson Spiess, father-in-law, Charles Kendall, mother-in-law, Dorothy Kendall, and brother-in-law, Wayne Hunt.

Memorial contributions are suggested to The American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Rescue, Ovid-Elsie Sports Boosters, and Smile Train.

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



In Loving Memory

Memorialize your loved one in the Weekly 989-834-2264

ads@meridianweekly.com

Keck-Coleman Funeral Home Inc.

"Familiar faces and trusted friends"

1500 Waterford Parkway,
St. Johns

989-224-4422

www.keck-colemanfuneralhome.com

Pre-Arrangements have you wondering?
Please call us for answers.

Curtis Keck

Joe Coleman

Editorial

Study Break

Prior to the start of firearms deer season the planets aligned for an afternoon and the Weekly Sportsman and oldest son Aidan were able to slip off to northeastern Lapeer county for some pheasant hunting.

This was somewhat of a last minute hunting trip that wasn't really planned but worked out as Aidan was able to take a study break on an absolutely beautiful early November afternoon. The Weekly Sportsman grabbed some orange upland vests, shotguns, shells, and boots and headed to Kettering's Sigma Chi frat house located in Flushing to pick up Aidan.



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com



The drive to NW Lapeer County went all too fast as we were soon on Mowatt Road meeting Scott Johnson and following him into a field with 20 planted pheasants. Scott, owner of Great Lakes Gun Dogs, is usually known for his black melanistic mutant pheasants but today it was all about ringnecks. As usual the cover, birds, and pointing labs were great, however, just a little bit of breeze probably would have made it as close to perfect as possible. For those readers who think planted birds on game farms is like shootin' fish in a barrel then you clearly

haven't hunted many days on a game farm. The Weekly Sportsman will never forget the time a few years ago in Winner, SD while hunting wild pheasants when Aidan whispered, "Dad, come over here... is it me or is it harder to hunt planted birds back home in Michigan?"

In a couple of hours 16 birds had been flushed and 13 were sitting on the tailgate. Not bad for an afternoon's walk in nice weather. This hunt allowed Aidan to clear his mind from Calculus III and Physics II and other courses being undertaken in his quest to become an engineer. We were able to catch up and talk about his studies, the recent election and aftermath, along with the second wave of COVID. I'm not sure who benefited the most from the time spent together as the Weekly Sportsman was also able to clear the mind.

A few days later the Weekly Sportsman's father asked how the hunt went. Near perfect was the response and that wasn't just an answer about the cover, dogs, birds, and weather. It was more about the time spent together as father and son. But it seemed to be even more than that, it was almost magical to watch how little communication was ever needed during the hunt about whose shot it was, or safety concerns, or coaching before or after shots were taken. Ten years of father and son side by side target shooting and learning about ringneck fieldcraft made it all look too simple as father and son took turns downing birds and backing each other up in case of a missed shot. The Weekly Sportsman is very lucky and fortunate to continue sharing and enjoying time with Aidan in the field as he has grown from a very young little boy into manhood.

-WS

Elsie Dairy Dash Thank You

Letter to the Editor:

It is with great appreciation that we recognize the sponsors for the 2020 Elsie Dairy Dash. Due to safety and health concerns, the Elsie Dairy Festival did not take place and we were unable to hold the event as planned. However, these gracious businesses and community members continued their sponsorship to the Ovid-Elsie Music Program. Our learning musicians and the Music Boosters would like to thank:

Blue Moon Ice Cream Shop
Journey Federal Credit Union – Ovid Branch
Williams Heating & Cooling, Inc.
Country Styles Hair Studio
Wakefield Horseshoeing – Doreen Wakefield
Applebee Oil & Propane
Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial – Ed Arthur

Homeless Awareness Month

Letter to the Editor:

The members of the Shiawassee County Homeless Coalition would like to extend their "THANK YOU" to all of the churches, organizations, groups and individuals who have assisted or supported this Coalition in providing assistance to those families and individuals who have been homeless in the past and any assistance you may provide in the future.

Thank you.

This is Thanksgiving week and I'm still canning....guess that it is not a good thing to have empty jars. Apparently my psyche is taking that as a challenge. I keep lining the filled jars up on the stairs and I keep moving them to the top and into their shelves. Right now I only have about a dozen pints of venison and seven pints of turkey breast to move to the top and into their respective shelves. But I still have about ten pounds of venison to grind up, add garlic and onions to and go through the canning process again.

Miss Isabella also spent the night, and how such a small child can not only grab all the covers but do an equally good job of conquering the bed space....just boggles my mind. This morning we will be making cinnamon rolls....from scratch. She is very good at kneading the dough and is learning the feel....by the time that she is eight I believe that I can just give her the ingredients and she will be able to make a batch of dough by herself.

Oops, hang in there for just a couple of minutes...I need to run out to the freezer to grab a pound of sausage for breakfast. Izzy wants pancakes and sausage to break her fast. I believe that she is in another growth spurt because she can devour four or five adult sized pancakes and a half a pound of sausage with an eight ounce glass of milk in one setting. Did I mention that she is a size seven slim in girls? I wish that I had more of her fat burning genes....especially this time of year.

I have been going over my blessings on a daily basis of late. I believe that it keeps me from getting snarky. I am blessed in many ways; I'm healthy and can enjoy the visits of my five year old great granddaughter. Of course this means that though I can't always keep up with all of her antics....I can enjoy her company. And I survive her encouragements...even those that need attention sooner than I had anticipated. Like cleaning up the mess that the Tiny Terror inflicted upon two big pots of house plants while I was folding clothes. I had just watered the plants and the Terror had flung gobs of muddy dirt all around the pots in the dining room. This morning it is number one on my to do list. Dry dirt is easier to clean up than mud smears.

I also have a supportive family which extends beyond my children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, sister, nephews, and great nephew and great niece....I also have first and second cousins that are very good to me. Yup, it is rather obvious....I am quite spoiled. I value my family greatly even when we disagree. We all have different views, different life styles, and yet we can still come together and celebrate life's challenges and accomplishments.

I wish you all a family filled celebration of Thanksgiving. If you can't connect in person then I hope that you can speak with each other. Be safe, stay healthy, and be happy.....truly count your blessings and appreciate what you have. Set goals and may God bless you daily.

Crystal Mitchell ©2020



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell



Ovid Carriage Days
Drive-ThroughChristmas

W a v e t o
S a n t a

Saturday, December
12, 2020
at 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Must Remain in your
Car!

Gift for 12 years
and younger
Bring a letter to give to Santa

Children must be
present to receive a
gift

In front of City Hall off
of Main Street. Cars will
exit towards the East
of Town

Health

It's not always an easy task to stay in a positive state, especially during these times.

This year has been harder than any other with the pandemic we're all going through, not to mention the lost loved ones that puts one in a downward spiral.

Let's face it, we've been in a whirlwind of negativity for almost a year now and the light at the end of that tunnel seems to fade by the day. It's times like this that we need to put effort into being positive.

Instead of putting the negative twist on every little thing, try turning towards the brighter side of it. Unfortunately, it's just too easy to give in to the dark, gloomy, doomsday scenarios and for what? To feel completely miserable and bring those around you down right along with you? No. Stop thinking that way and things will look better, become brighter and begin to feel calmer.

Now, I know it's easy to tell someone to "just be positive" but to actually do it, is something completely different. Some people don't even know how to look at the bright side and be positive about things. And during these times, it's understandable.

I found that the easiest way to be positive is to feel better and the positive feeling begins to grow. So, how do you feel better? You can start by just taking care of yourself. That can be as simple as taking a soak in an epsom salt bath, utilizing a nap time, enjoying a fire, going on a bike ride or kayaking yourself around a river or lake. Maybe start to practice yoga or meditation, or even go get a massage or Reiki session. Things like that will make a person feel better which changes their endorphins and begins to create a positive mood. Then the domino effect kicks in. Soon the person actually becomes positive and feels as if the heavy weight of life is lifted off them and they can see things clearer with a better mindset.

Now, there's a lot of other things too, so just pick something that resonates with you and get moving. You'll be glad you did!

~Best of Health & Positive Energy, Healing Feather Wellness Saint John's, MI.
(810)339-0260



Positivity

by **LeeAnna Woods**
*Licensed Therapist, Reiki Master and Owner
of Healing Feather Wellness*
www.HealingFeatherWellness.com
(810) 339-0260



Health Department to Host a COVID-19 Testing and Flu Vaccination Clinic

submitted by Leslie Kinnee
Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- The Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) is hosting a drive-through COVID-19 testing and flu vaccination clinic on December 1 from noon to 5:00 p.m. at Dewitt Sports Park, located at 200 W. Herbison Road in DeWitt.

- Important information to be aware of regarding the COVID-19 test:
- The test is available to anyone, even if they have no symptoms.
 - Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
 - The test is free-of-charge.
 - No appointment is needed.
 - No screening is needed.
 - A doctor's order is not needed.
 - Please bring a form of ID (a state or country issued ID or paperwork with your name and address (bill, mail, or paystub).
 - This is a drive-through clinic. Everyone will stay in their cars.
 - Antibody testing is not available.
 - People in high-risk roles are encouraged to attend.

The influenza vaccine (standard flu shot, the high-dose flu shot for those 65 and older, and preservative-free options) will also be available. The health department bills many insurances and participates with the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program and Medicare Part B, which will cover the entire cost for seniors. Those without insurance will be billed a small administrative fee, based on income, but no one will be turned away because of an inability to pay.



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Puzzles Wanted

submitted by Brenda Terpening

With the winter looming, many senior citizens are looking for puzzles to work on throughout the long days. The Clinton County Senior Center will accept any new or used puzzles they can pass along to seniors. You can drop off new or used puzzles to the Senior Center on Mondays between 9 am and Noon. Please leave them outside on the black bench in a bag or box and they will be picked up as quickly as possible. The Senior Center is located at 201 E Walker Street in St. Johns.

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Health

MDHHS Adds Testing Requirements for Homes for Aged and Large Foster Care Facilities

submitted by Lynn Sutfin

LANSING - The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued an epidemic order adding requirements for COVID-19 diagnostic testing in homes for the aged (HFAs) and larger adult foster care facilities, and modifying requirements for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs).

The state has already provided direct support that has resulted in nearly 70,000 samples that have been tested from patients and staff in nursing homes and other long-term care settings, and given the significant risk of outbreaks in long-term care facilities and the higher likelihood of severe health outcomes from COVID-19 among the elderly, it is imperative that routine testing be provided to identify infections quickly and contain spread. As of this week, more than 100 new or ongoing outbreaks were reported in long-term care facilities.

The order makes modest updates to testing requirements that have been in place for skilled nursing facilities since June 15, with new requirements that homes for the aged and large adult foster care facilities conduct the same testing. Testing is part of a comprehensive prevention and infection control plan for congregate care settings. MDHHS has provided financial support to facilities for PPE, provided technical assistance and support on infection prevention measures, and put in place preventative measures like safety protocols for visitation to prevent COVID-19 spread in long-term care facilities.

"COVID targets individuals who live in group care, and it's our job as Michiganders to protect them," said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. "Less COVID in the community means less COVID in group homes, so each of us helps when we wear masks, watch our distance, and wash hands. But these homes also need a second line of defense, and that defense is regular testing for residents, staff, and visitors."

The testing order requires that all SNFs, all HFAs, and AFCs licensed to serve 13 or more individuals provide for the following:

Initial testing of all residents and staff;

Testing any resident or staff member with symptoms of COVID-19 or suspected exposure;

Weekly testing of all residents and staff in facilities with any positive cases among residents or staff, until 14 days after the last new positive;

Weekly testing of all staff in counties of risk levels A through E on the MI Safe Start Map;

Testing of all new or returning residents during intake unless tested in the 72 hours prior to intake;

Testing of all newly hired staff on their start date or in the 72 hours prior to start date.

MDHHS's Epidemic Order "Requirements in residential care facilities" also requires testing of visitors to residential care facilities that have an MDHHS-required resident and staff testing regimen. This will include HFAs and AFCs serving 13 or more individuals, as well as SNFs, after today's testing order takes effect.

To help implement these testing requirements, the state will provide antigen testing supplies for all facilities affected by this order, and MDHHS has established a system for refilling antigen supplies provided directly by the federal government. Facilities may alternatively develop their own testing program and seek reimbursement; MDHHS will reimburse testing expenses not covered by insurance.

Hospice facilities licensed by the state as a nursing home must test all staff at the same intervals of nursing home staff, and may test a hospice patient with consent of the individual or other person legally authorized to make medical care decisions for the individual.

Nursing homes have been testing under a prior order and must continue it under the new order. HFAs must begin as soon as practicable and not later than Nov. 18.

AFCs serving 13 individuals or more must begin testing as soon as practicable and no later than Nov. 24 for testing individuals with symptoms or exposure, weekly testing in facilities with positives, and testing of new residents or staff. AFCs must begin initial testing of all residents and staff, as well as weekly staff testing, by December 2. However, AFCs must test any resident leaving the facility to spend the Thanksgiving holiday in a residential home or for an overnight stay in the community prior to that resident's departure and upon return to the facility.

Consistent with MCL 333.2261, violation of this order is punishable by a civil fine of up to \$1,000, and may also be treated as a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six months, or a fine of not more than \$200, or both.

This order is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded. Persons with suggestions and concerns are invited to submit their comments via email to COVID19@michigan.gov. An infographic that explains visitation requirements in long-term care facilities can be found on the MDHHS website.

Information around the COVID-19 outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

Diabetes Awareness Month

submitted by Lynn Sutfin

LANSING - Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S. and Michigan, and to highlight the importance of preventing and managing diabetes, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has proclaimed November 2020 as Diabetes Awareness Month in Michigan.


This month is dedicated to people across the state living with diabetes, prediabetes and people taking care of loved ones managing these conditions. Managing and preventing diabetes is more important than ever during the COVID-19 pandemic, since people living with diabetes are at a greater risk for COVID-19 complications.

Approximately 870,000 Michigan adults have been diagnosed with diabetes and more than 2.7 million adults across the state are estimated to have prediabetes.

People of color, people living in poverty and people with a disability are at higher risk for type 2 diabetes, largely due to less access to health care and other programs and services. Specifically, non-Hispanic Black adults have 1.4 times the prevalence of diabetes when compared with non-Hispanic White adults. Adults with a disability have two times the prevalence of diabetes when compared to those without a disability.

In addition to being at increased risk for illnesses such as COVID-19 and the flu, uncontrolled diabetes also puts people at risk for serious complications like cardiovascular disease, blindness, kidney disease and dialysis and nerve damage and amputation.

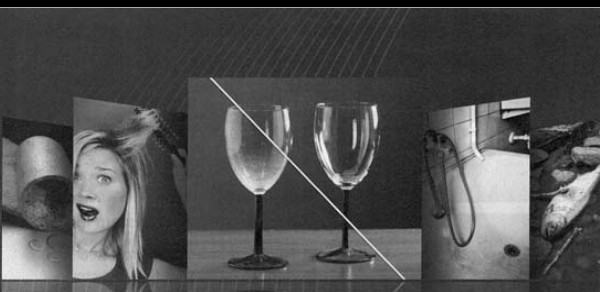
Michiganders are encouraged to learn more about managing and preventing diabetes at Michigan.gov/Diabetes.



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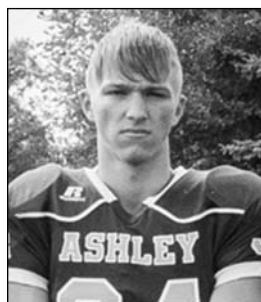
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Sports

Jimmy Fabus Turns in Solid Season for Ashley Football Team

ASHLEY -- When the Bears' 2020 gridiron season ended with a 30-0 playoff loss to the Peck Pirates, it was the end of a notable career in the annals of AHS football.

Ashley senior Jimmy Fabus was a four-year starter for the bruins. He started his senior season averaging 136 yards rushing through the first three games, including 8 touchdowns, while also averaging 10 tackles on defense.



Jimmy Fabus

He kept those glittering statistics going throughout his senior season, as coach Kevin Saylor's Bears finished 3-3 in the regular season with victories over Akron-Fairgrove (46-6), Carsonville-Port Sanilac (50-8) and Peck (30-22) in the NCTL 8-man football league.

The do-everything senior was also a top-notch kick returner for the blue-and-gold. His outstanding Ashley career landed him feature page status in Michigan's High School Sports Scene magazine.

"It's his work ethic, plus he's willing to listen and learn, and has stepped up to a leadership role this year," coach Saylor said. "Jimmy ran really good at the end of 2019 but he came out of the gate running hard this year and I think defensively, he believes in our scheme and doesn't rely strictly on his own talent."

This is what else John Rafell, Sports Scene writer, had to say about Fabus and coach Saylor:

"Saylor credits Fabus for his hard work during the off-season.

Before Covid, Jimmy was in the weight room all the time," Saylor said. "He pulls a drag bag every practice and he always wants to improve. They talked him into playing basketball this past season, he says he's not a basketball player but I have no doubt the coach was glad he played. He also plays baseball.

"Jimmy is the type of kid that you dream to get as a coach. He's always wanting to get better, his work ethic is unmatched, and he's developed into a good leader.

As for the season, Saylor said, "These young gentlemen have a ton of heart; we finished the last contest with just 8 and we started with 9 (players). We fell like we let the first game slip (a 26-6 loss to Bear Lake) as we didn't play particularly well, but we rebounded nicely and hope to gain ground on the good things we've done.

Coach Saylor continued, "Win or lose I'm beyond proud of these young men that were on this team. We continued to see teams with 18- to 25-players on their side and we were lucky to look and see one sub on our sideline. The heart of this team and all the teams that I've been part of at this school is a testament to this community and the players themselves.

"I hope to get more numbers to work with in the future, but for now, I was glad to go to battle with these young men."

Wolfpack's Elfring, Rowley Honored on All-Shiawassee Area Girls Golf Team

L A I N G S - B U R G -- Stand out Wolfpack female golfers Grace Elfring and Alysee Rowley have been honored on the 2020 All-Shiawassee Area Girls Golf Team, as named by the Owosso Argus-Press.



Grace Elfring



Alysee Rowley

Record-setting senior Emme Lantis of Durand was selected the 2020 Argus-Press All-Area Girls Golfer of the Year, after finishing fourth at the MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 4 state finals, shooting 80 at Forest Akers West in East Lansing. Lantis also broke her own school record several times. She is a three-time MMAC individual champion, a two-time Dicks Sporting Goods champion and two-time All-Stater. She holds Durand's 18-hole and nine-hole school record (37) and finished as a regional runner-up in 2020.

Elfring was named to the All-Area 1st Team after an outstanding season for coach Greg Beavers' Wolfpack. Grace, who placed first individually in the Greater Lansing Athletic Conference (GLAC), boasted a nine-hole average of 48.5. She was 15th at the Division 4 regionals with a 104 and missed qualifying for the state finals by five strokes.

Rowley was an Honorable Mention selection for Beavers' Lady Wolves.

The complete All-Area Team shaped up like this:

FIRST TEAM: Emme Lantis, Durand; MaryAnn Montgomery, Byron; Jana L'Esperance, Byron; Grace Elfring, Laingsburg; Madison Raley, Durand; Kennedy Pawloski, Durand

SECOND TEAM: Ellie Feldpausch, Owosso; Jackie Mattison, Perry; Olivia Holek, Durand; KellyAnn Rodriguez, Chesaning; Lila Carlson, Durand

HONORABLE MENTION: Brooklyn Durand, Byron; Jillian Bagwell, Owosso; Kennedy Peplinski, Owosso; Alyse Rowley, Laingsburg; Zoey Curtis, Byron; Sydne Owens, Corunna

OMESA Regular Meeting October 27, 2020 7:00 pm

Meeting Called to order --Chairperson Herendeen called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Board Members Present: William Lasher, Kim Williams, Michael Herendeen, Greg Palen, Jennings West- arrived at 7:06 pm and Carolyn Stevens.

People in Attendance: There were seven guests; Greg Atwood, Arlene Pesik, Ken Monks; Others in attendance for meeting: Deputy Treasurer, Zane Zwick, Chief Pease, Chief Stevens and recording secretary Susan Swan.

Approval of Agenda:

Trustee Stevens made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Trustee Williams seconded the motion. Aye: All Nay: None Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Trustee Williams made a motion to approve September 22, 2020 minutes as presented. Vice Chairperson Palen seconded the motion.

Aye: All, Nay: None Carried

Financial Report and Approval of Payment of the Bills:

Deputy Treasurer Zane Zwick reviewed the financial reports to the board.

Trustee Lasher made a motion to adjust the budget by moving \$1000.00 from Salary-Fire Crew to Repair line item to Repair and Maintenance.

Trustee Williams seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Williams, Lasher, Herendeen, Palen, Stevens, West Nay: None Carried

Trustee Stevens made the motion to accept the payment of checks 11075-11103 for payroll and vendors in a total amount \$7,931.69 of with \$3902.96 for vendors and \$4028.73 for payroll. Motion was supported by Trustee Williams.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Palen, West, Herendeen, Stevens, Lasher, Williams Nays: None Carried

Public Comment: Opened 7:10 Closed 7:10 None

Fire Chief Report:

Total Runs for September 23rd-October 27th Month -35

Total Runs for 2020 year - 217

Chief Stevens reviewed the different runs from the past month. He continued by presenting a rough draft of the 2021 Fiscal year budget. Chief Pease briefed the board on new lockers.

Communications: None

General Business:

1.Equipment Status- No new equipment needs. Chief Stevens asked Vice Chairperson Palen about a fire alert flasher sign for M21.

2.Other Business Items- Chairperson Herendeen asked about the different hourly pay level for the fire crew.

Final Comments: Opened 7:16 pm Closed 7:16 pm- none

Motion to Adjourn Meeting:

Trustee Stevens made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Trustee Williams seconded the motion. Ayes: All Nays: None Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm

Next OMEGA meeting November 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Susan Tomasek Swan,
Recording Secretary

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Car Care Checklist



Oil Change Many motorists believe their cars' oil should be changed every 3,000 miles, however most late-model vehicles now can go 5,000 to 7,000 miles between oil changes. Check your owner's manual and get on a routine to good car care.



Tires Check tire pressures and tread depth. Check the pressure on all the tires—including the spare—with a quality gauge when the tires are cold. Be sure to look for recommended pressure on the driver's door jamb and NOT the tire wall!



Battery Ensure the battery cable connections are tight, and the terminals are free from corrosion. If the battery is more than three years old, it's a good idea to have it tested to determine how much life it has left.



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The 2020 Holiday Season Is Upon Us In Elsie!

submitted by Brooke Wooley

The holidays are a wonderful time of the year that allow us to be thankful for what we have and embrace those around us! The Elsie Community Christmas Project supports families and people in need during the holiday season in the Elsie/Bannister area.

We are seeking out support from local community businesses, organizations, local churches and any individuals wishing to donate monetarily to give families in our area an extra special Christmas. Health and safety considerations are being taken seriously due to the pandemic, and this year, we will not be able to collect food or personal items. All donations will be used to purchase gift cards and food certificates. If you would like to donate to the Elsie Community Christmas Project, please contact Brooke Wooley at (517) 819-8459 and leave a message. Donations are also accepted at the Elsie Village Office and the Elsie United Methodist Church.

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(How the Grinch Stole)
Winterfest!

November 30th - December 6th
Laingsburg, MI



The Annual Winterfest holiday event in Laingsburg has a new format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Rather than the one day event it will feature a week of special events November 30th thru December 5th.

A business and home decorating contest has begun. Two winners will be named in the business division, one by a panel of judges and the other by popular vote. Trophies will be awarded for each winner along with bragging rights. The home decorating contest will award a 1st and 2nd place winner with a gift card.

Thoughtful Trees will be set up at Sage Market, Subway and downtown Laingsburg beginning Wednesday, December 2nd thru Sat, December 5th. Six donated trees will be available for local organizations to sponsor and decorate. Photos of the decorated trees will be placed on facebook for online voting.

Stuff the Bus, Saturday, Dec 5th., staged at Sage Market. Volunteers will collect items, they will be wearing masks and hand sanitizer will be available for both volunteers and participants. The donations will be for the Laingsburg Food Bank.

A parade with Santa will take place on Saturday, Dec. 5th, at 6pm. Participants must pre-register with the LCBA. The parade will feature vehicles only, no walkers.

Letter to Santa, each year, the post office puts out a mailbox for the North Pole mail. Children are welcome to drop off their letters at the special mailbox for delivery to the North Pole.





JASON CORDS
General Manager
jcords@shaheenchevrolet.com

Enjoy The Winterfest



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