



Christmas Blessings for Laingsburg Area Food Bank

submitted by Linda Culpepper

Out at Lake Victoria during the holiday season, Dave Pursel works hard putting up an awesome light display that is synchronized on a radio channel.

People from all over come to see the display and make donations for the spectacular light show.

In his kind and generous nature Pursel gives the donations to the Laingsburg Area Food Bank.

This year, Pursel blessed LAFB with checks worth \$3,500!!!

Thank you so much Pursel family, I know you work hard so to entertain so many people!!!



Dave Pursel, left, presents Linda Culpepper, LAFB PR manager, checks worth \$3,500 for the LAFB.

St. Johns Lions Club Recycling Center

submitted by Roger Dershem

The St. Johns Lions Club Recycling Center has 24 hour service five days a week only. It is open 7am on Monday thru Friday until 5pm.

The center is closed after 5pm on Friday and closed all day Saturday and Sunday.

Please do not leave recycling on the property on the weekends.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Elsie Village Council Proceedings

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – The regular meeting of the Elsie Village Council was held Tuesday, January 12, 2021. Officials addressed two issues the building that houses the Elsie Area Food Pantry and recycling and garbage pick-up.

Shane Grinnell, village manager, updated officials on discussion at last Elsie Area Food Pantry meeting. The EAFP proposed that the organization purchase the building for one dollar and requested that the Village of Elsie care for the lawn and plow the parking lot. It was noted that the organization is in a financial position to maintain the building.

Grinnell commented that if the Village provides the lawn care and maintaining the parking lot the village insurance risk would increase which prompted debate and concern. In addition, Grinnell noted that there was a possibility the Village of Elsie could be a second lien holder on the property and if something were to happen to the Elsie Area Food Pantry or it ceased to exist the property would revert back to the Village.

Sue Peterson, Elsie Food Pantry Treasurer, noted that if the organization ceased to exist the property would be given to another non-profit organization. Again, discussion continued.

Peterson, explained that this is the next step to the growth of the Elsie Area Food Pantry which is currently in a financial position to continue this service, and to expand the scope of this service by maintaining the building.

Thomas Fink, village president, commented, “How about that we sell the building for \$1 and not provide any form of maintenance.” Officials approved the proposal.

Next officials took action to establish the budget committee meeting. Members of the committee are Dorothy Ornelas, Joe Ondrusek, and Sam Frink – Thursday, January 21, 7 pm, in-person at the Elsie Village office with access available to the general public. The public platform details will be available on the Village website.

Refuse bids are up this year, information was given to members of the council for informational purposes, officials do have the ability to extend the current contract. A representative from Granger, Scott Truman introduced Charles Hauser to speak about recycling. He discussed curb side recycling and the advantages. It was further noted that recycling has a very positive impact on landfills however, because recycling is not being purchased overseas but handled within the USA causing a reduction in the monetary value.

There will be a rate increase for garbage pickup, currently the cost per resident per month is \$7.37, the 2021-2022 fee \$8.84, or with curbside recycling \$15.00 and the roll-off recycling would be eliminated., Truman reported that refuse carts will be provided for all residents for safety reasons and care of Granger’s staff. Granger will prepare informational pieces for the residents in preparation for the change, a community forum is a possibility to answer questions about curb side recycling.

Officials are considering extending the contract with Granger for trash pick-up and to wait regarding the curb side recycling until a forum can be held. The proposed contract will be based per household not a lump sum, and a 7-year contract with 2.75 percent increase annually. Residents will be surveyed regarding curbside recycling.

MDARD Announces Jamie Zmitko-Somers as New Agriculture Development Division Director

submitted by Jennifer Holton

LANSING - Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Director Gary McDowell announced the selection of Jamie Zmitko-Somers as the department’s new Agriculture Development Division Director effective Monday, January 25, 2021.

“Anybody who has had the pleasure of working with Jamie understands why she was an obvious choice for this role,” said McDowell. “In addition to the wealth of knowledge and experience she brings to the table, the relationships she has cultivated with leaders, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders is invaluable to the division and the department. During these challenging times, we are very fortunate to have somebody like Jamie, who can immediately take the reins, keep the division charging ahead, and offer her own unique vision for the future.”

Zmitko-Somers has been with the department for 23 years in various capacities.

In 2001, she began working in the International Marketing Program, and was a leader in that program for several years. Zmitko-Somers was named Deputy Director of MDARD’s Agriculture Development Division in March 2019 and has been Acting Deputy Director for the department since May of this year.

“MDARD’s Agriculture Development Division is well-known and highly respected



Jamie Zmitko-Somers

statewide, nationally, and even in certain corners of the globe,” said Zmitko-Somers. “Having been a part of this team for several years, I have seen the impact it has on rural communities and businesses, as well as the workers they employ and the communities they support. I am honored to have this opportunity, and I’m excited to help lead this amazing team and keep Michigan’s food and agriculture industry one of the most diverse, innovative, and successful in the country.”

Zmitko-Somers graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration/Pre-Law. Jamie and her husband Don own and operate a farm in Henderson growing corn and soybeans, where they live with their three young children: Mason, Breann, and Hannah.

MDARD’s Agriculture Development Division helps businesses navigate the licensing process and offers exporting assistance, regional business development information, grant funding support and research, and educational materials. The team is personally invested in the success of food, agriculture, and forest product businesses and are committed to supporting the unique solutions that will help food and ag-based businesses grow and thrive.

For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/mdard.

Meridian Weekly

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Rep. Filler Announces Tele-town Hall to Answer Questions About COVID-19 Vaccine

submitted by Christina Guenther

State Rep. Graham Filler will hold a tele-town hall Thursday, Jan. 21, to inform residents about distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine in Michigan.

"The COVID-19 vaccine is extremely important to finally bringing an end to the pandemic and helping individuals protect their health. Many residents have questions about the vaccine and what they need to do to receive it," Filler said. "This town hall will provide answers and information on the vaccine, and provide a forum for residents to share their questions."

Filler will be joined by guests, Marcus Cheatham, health officer with the Mid-Michigan District Health Department, and a health professional from Sparrow Health System.

The event will start at 7 p.m. Those wishing to join may call toll free at (877) 820-7831 and enter 298738# when prompted.

For anyone with questions who is unable to participate, Filler's office can be reached at (517) 373-1778 or GrahamFiller@house.mi.gov.

Health Department Waiting for More COVID-19 Vaccine

submitted by Leslie Kinnee

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- The two approved vaccines for COVID-19, Moderna and Pfizer, continue to arrive slowly in Michigan. The main problem is that the manufacturers have not been able to produce vaccine quickly enough.

Last week the health department did begin vaccinating essential workers in group 1B. However, no new shipments of vaccine were received in our District—Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm counties. As a reminder, 8,900 doses came into the District, of which 1,600 came to the health department. By the end of this week the health department will have administered all but 400 of its doses, and the remaining doses are all assigned to someone for clinics next week. When more vaccine is available new clinics will be found on our website here.

People in our jurisdiction have a number of options for getting vaccinated:

- Patients of Spectrum Hospital providers can schedule a vaccination through their Spectrum MyChart here. Please understand there is very little vaccine, and most people will have to wait for a vaccination.

- MidMichigan hospital has begun calling their own patients to schedule vaccinations. MidMichigan patients can get information here. Until more vaccine is available only a small number of people should expect to be called.

- Sparrow hospital finished vaccinating their health care providers and did vaccinate a small number of school personnel (1B). Sparrow is now out of vaccine and will resume when more comes in.

Please do not call the health department or hospitals requesting vaccine. There is no new vaccine at this time and phone lines are overloaded. Please sign up for our newsletter to ensure you hear about new clinics. Sign up here.

The health department has placed a sizeable order of vaccine. Hospitals also expect to receive vaccine. We will not know until next week if we will receive any. If we get vaccine, we will be partnering with a pharmacy to do new clinics in our jurisdiction immediately.

We want to thank all our community partners at our three community collaboratives and emergency operations centers for helping us plan these upcoming clinics.



Celebrating 70th Anniversary

Darrell and Nancy Smith of Ovid, will be celebrating their 70th Wedding Anniversary on Friday, January 22, 2021. Darrell retired from GM with 38 years of service. Nancy did interior decorating along with many other jobs while also helping to raise six children of her own and at times the children of neighbors.

Congratulations may be directed to the honored couple at 319 Prospect Street, Ovid, MI 48866. A celebratory dinner with family will be held at Frankenmuth once it is deemed safe.

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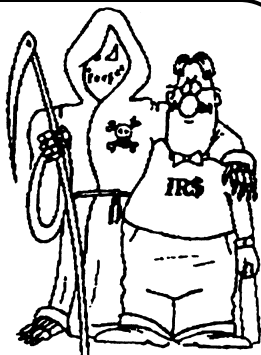
Happy 61st Anniversary Robert & Patricia Coleman

We are Blessed everyday that you are in our lives. Thank-You for your unconditional love and constant support. We love you so very much!



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And Families

B
and
B
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Other hours by appointment

Mailing address is P.O. Box 376, Ovid, MI 48866

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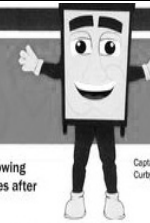
ATTENTION CITY OF OVID RESIDENTS:

Granger recently went to automated side load trucks for trash collection in the City of Ovid. Information as to correct placement of your trash container is shown here. It is important that you place your container with the wheels and handle placed back towards your house and not towards the roadway.

COLLECTION DAY INFORMATION

CART PLACEMENT

Captain Curby™ has a few tips for properly placing your cart on collection day. Following these instructions will help ensure your cart is emptied completely and the lid closes after dumping.



PARK IT.

- Carts should be in place by 7 a.m. on your collection day. (6 a.m. in some areas)
- Carts should be placed within 3 feet of the street.



POINT IT.

- Carts should face forward.
- Wheels and handles should be placed away from the street.

SPACE IT.

- Cart should have a minimum of 2 feet of clearance on both sides. Please do not place any closer than 2 feet to poles, mailboxes or recycling containers.
- Cart should be unobstructed (no vehicles parked in front of the cart).



Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – The regular monthly meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, January 11, 2021. The highlight of the evening was recognizing that January 11, 2021 was the first day of in person instruction and up dates to the “Return to Learn” plan.

Dr. Ryan Cunningham, superintendent, and Mr. Randy Barton, assistant superintendent, presented the monthly “Return to Learn Plan” updates. The current district COVID numbers were reviewed and it was determined, overall, the District is doing okay. The trending of positive virus cases is on the decline. Students and staff will continue to mask, and social distance (6ft for middle and high school and 3ft for younger students) and hand washing, a continual sanitizing schedule will be maintained as well. Winter sports will resume soon. The Michigan Department of Education and Governor Whitmer are encouraging students to return to in-person instruction. A number of changes will be rolled out second semester, slated to begin January 25, 2021. EdMentur will be offered to high school students for virtual learning and k-8 will continue with Ovid-Elsie staff providing instruction for both in-person and virtual students. “We are going to encourage all students to return to in-person instruction second semester,” stated Dr. Cunningham. There will be no significant changes to the District Calendar.

And on a related topic Cunningham reported that vaccinations are rolling out this week for staff members, 24 staff members will begin; 62% of staff have opted for the vaccination.

Mr. Randy Barton, assistant superintendent, reported that in-person instruction began, today, January 11, 2021 with the virtual programing remaining the same. Next, K-8 administrators highlighted areas to change second semester. K-8 will continue to provide in class and online instruction, online students will be encouraged to participate through Google Classroom and live steaming. Elementary buildings have about 80% students returning. In the middle school 75% students attending in-person. The high school program decided to utilize EdMentur to assist with online learning, block scheduling will continue to maintain safety protocols. Virtual Wednesdays will also continue, online students will check-in every Wednesday and progress will be checked by Ovid-Elsie staff. Students may use the media centers from 8:15-11:30 am each Wednesday too. Students who are at risk of failing will have an opportunity to participate in Graduation Alliance which will provide a mentor for students. Finally, students participating online will be eligible for participating in the sports program, providing they are academically eligible.

Officials took formal action to reconfirm the Ovid-Elsie “Return to Learn Plan.” The action was passed unanimously.

Mr. Jesse Johnson, athletic director, reported that athletic practices begin January 16th, and the athletic schedules have been set. Johnson is concerned about the expected antigen testing of athletes they may have to be tested up to three times per week. Ovid-Elsie has roughly 200 athletes that may have to be tested. It was noted that it takes 3 hours to test 40 athletes. Currently in the process of checking eligibility is in progress. And finally, the spectator issue has not been resolved.

Officials approved the extension of the EPSLA and EFMLEA, if a staff member has COVID or a child does or is quarantined the paid leave was extended until March 31, 2021.

Annual action was taken to elect board officers: president, Josh Miller; vice president, Eric Jones; secretary, Brook Wooley; and treasurer, Erin Bancroft.

Next, officials took formal action to approve the scheduled board meeting for the 2021 calendar year – most of the meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month, Wednesday, February 17, due to President’s Day.

Action was taken to approve the consent agenda which include the following items. The approval of the meeting agenda, minutes of the December 14, 2020 regular meeting, financial reports and payment of the expenditures. In addition, officials took annual action to approve the designation of depositories and signatures for the 2021 calendar year, the Superintendent’s administrative assistant will post board meetings for the 2021 calendar year. Finally, the designation of Thrun Law firm as the Ovid-Elsie retainer firm for the 2021 calendar year.

Dr. Ryan Cunningham, superintendent of schools, noted that January is School Board Appreciation Month, a huge thank-you to board members for addressing the current challenges.

Rep. Frederick Issues Statement on Violence

submitted by Christina Guenthner

State Rep. Ben Frederick released the following statement about today’s threats to the U.S. Capitol: “I am utterly sickened by the events that transpired at the U.S. Capitol. The violent actions exhibited by those who stormed the Capitol must not be passed off as a patriotic protest. It is criminal behavior that must be condemned. Any who have contributed through dangerous rhetoric encouraging violence and armed resistance must also be repudiated.

“Violence should never be considered ‘Plan B’ when political goals are not met through the electoral process. The disrespect for our norms, traditions and institutions must end now.”

VILLAGE OF ELSIE RESIDENTS: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Ordinance # 174

THE VILLAGE OF ELSIE IS HOLDING PUBLIC HEARINGS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 AT 6:30 AND ALSO ON TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 AT 6:30 PM THE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE ELSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATED AT 145 W. MAIN ST. (If unable to do in person public meetings due to emergency mandates, ZOOM meetings will be held. Please check the website, elsie.org for any updates regarding this issue.) THE PURPOSE IS TO DISCUSS VILLAGE CODE CHAPTER 12: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES: SECTION 12-1 OPERATIONS OF GOLF CARTS IN THE VILLAGE OF ELSIE.

Thank You,
Ann Trierweiler
Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF ELSIE RESIDENTS: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

THE VILLAGE OF ELSIE IS HOLDING PUBLIC HEARINGS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 AND ON TUESDAY MARCH 9, 2021 AT 6:45 PM. THE MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ELSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATED AT 145 W. MAIN ST. (If unable to do in person public meetings due to emergency mandates, ZOOM meetings will be held. Please check the website, elsie.org for any updates regarding this issue.) THE PURPOSE IS TO DISCUSS THE ADOPTION OF THE SPECIAL AND REGULAR BUDGETS FOR 2021-2022.

Thank You,
Ann Trierweiler
Village Clerk

Rep. Frederick - New House Rule Allows Remote Participation in Committee Meetings

submitted by Christina Guenthner

House Majority Floor Leader Rep. Ben Frederick today said a new House rule has been added for the 2021-22 legislative session to allow representatives to participate in committee discussions when they are unable to be physically present.

Frederick, of Owosso, said the pandemic has created new challenges, and the House is adjusting to make sure the Legislature’s work can continue safely and uninterrupted in the age of COVID-19.

“This adjustment will ensure legislators are able to continue serving as a voice for the people in their communities, even if they are unable to attend a committee meeting due to the pandemic,” Frederick said. “It further ensures the people we represent that state government will be able to continue acting in their best interests throughout the pandemic.”

The new provision contained in House Rule 34 (c) allows members of standing committees to utilize remote participation for purposes of testimony and committee deliberation. A legislator must be physically present to participate in a vote.

Beef Market Animal Check-In for the 2021 Shiawassee County Fair

Beef Market Animals to be shown at the 2021 Shiawassee County Fair, August 8-14 must be owned by the exhibitor and be in the exhibitor's possession by February 15, 2021. Animal check-in will be online this year. All exhibitors must complete the online google form to enroll their animal for the fair. Every calf must have an R.F.I.D. tag in its ear to complete the form. Forms must be completed and submitted by February 15th at 5:00pm. Each exhibitor may tag up to three animals. Families may tag animals as family projects with all children's names listed. Animals that have not been enrolled will not be eligible to show. In person animal tagging will not take place this year.

Please complete the google form here: <https://forms.gle/c6td6ksDkXNEVoMK9>.

Follow our “Shiawassee County Fair Beef Barn” facebook page or email us at scas-beef@gmail.com for more information.

ACCEPTING BIDS

The Village of Elsie is accepting bids until Feb 1st for the Riverside Cemetery lawn care starting spring of 2021.

To download a bid packet go to <http://elsie.org/Departments/Riverside-Cemetery>

Be Careful Driving!

TOWNSHIP OF VICTOR

Clinton County, Michigan

PUBLIC NOTICE

VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD 2021 REGULAR MEETING DATES

TO the residents and property owners of the Township of Victor, Clinton County, Michigan and any other interested persons.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Victor Township Board will meet on the following dates for 2021. All meetings will take place at the Victor Township Hall, 6843 E. Alward Rd., Laingsburg, MI, and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

DATE	DAY
January 11	Monday
February 8	Monday
March 8	Monday
April 12	Monday
May 10	Monday
June 14	Monday
July 12	Monday
August 9	Monday
September 13	Monday
October 11	Monday
November 8	Monday
December 13	Monday

* Meetings may be cancelled, rescheduled, and additional special meetings may be scheduled, as needed, on 18 hours notice as permitted by Section 5(4) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.265(4).

Agendas for all regular and special meetings will be posted on 18 hours notice. A posted agenda is subject to amendment as determined by the Board.

Victor Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon (5) days notice to the Victor Township Clerk by contacting the Victor Township Hall at tel. (517) 651-2094, email info@victortwp.org, or in writing to the address below.

This public notice is posted in compliance with: A 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2)(3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Focus is a fabulous trait to behold. Mine is working well this morning; I have been up for about half an hour and seem to be accomplishing much. The hutch is in place and just waiting for its glass shelves, and yup this being an old farmhouse I had to shim the base so that it doesn't rock and roll out of its place. The dishwasher is emptied, the pots are soaking, the garbage is bagged, and I only have two more pieces of furniture to move.....and I need to get my hair washed and dried so that I can take my pickup to get an oil change. I spruced up the reading room so that it is guest ready. Hopefully my column will go quickly this morning; I think that my muse may be in the right mood.

Just got back from the oil change and am trying to finish up the pots and pans. I also need to booby trap my house plants that the cats have decimated. Most of them are down to miserly stems sticking out of the dirt. At Christmas they had been robust and beautiful....that was before the little hellions took a fancy to making messes with them. This past week I have trimmed back the plants, removed dead leaves and have been spraying the little heathens with a water bottle every time that I caught them jumping the plants. Also this past week I have been picking up pieces of my houseplants off the floors of every room in the house. It is time for the aluminum foil to turn the tide in the favor of the plants. I'm grateful that the little turds haven't unleashed their machinations on the aloe plants. I surely do hope that Karen is right about the aluminum foil deterring the little thugs.

Today is also co-op day and I have a large order coming in....it was stock up time. I'm also picking up two forty pound cases of chicken breasts for Dena, another case for Diane plus some co-jack cheese and four pound bags of cauliflower and peas. I will be canning chicken tomorrow and putting half of my case into the freezer today, along with a case of bacon and half a case of sausage patties. I've also been rearranging the bathroom cupboards to accommodate the case of toilet paper that I ordered.

I found out this morning that I really need to keep my pickup locked at all times. It appears that someone has been trying to remove my grill and they have managed to work it loose and to remove the piece that holds it to the radiator. Thinking back over this past year I can remember not locking the cab four times....of course in my dotage I could have forgotten more often. This is something that has happened since the last time I had my oil changed which was the end of October. I am disappointed that someone would do such a thing to me or to anyone else.....

I'm getting a great deal done today but am still bringing up the rear. I worked on becoming lame on Tuesday when I was unloading my pickup at the church, and then I had to move it and then move the boxes inside. I noticed a man walking his dog down the road and he asked what I was doing. I told him the same thing; I was working on becoming lame tomorrow. I didn't sleep well and had to get up at 2:30 to take a couple of Advil.....thankfully they worked and I relaxed enough to fall back to sleep at 5AM. Of course, the two Charlie horses that I had didn't help matters either. So I walked throughout the house to loosen their grip and drank lots of water and grew agitated with myself because I couldn't find my Tei-fu oil.

May you be able to walk off your woes and remember to drink plenty of water....of course this forces you to make more trips to the bathroom but it also means that you're getting more stimulated exercise. If you look closely, you will see that there are more silver linings than expected. Use your good sense and question what you hear.....your version and someone else's may be miles apart. God bless you all.

Crystal Mitchell ©2021



Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

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

Car Tips for Winter

Dear Andy,

My dad places his windshield wipers in an upright position away from the windshield in the wintertime. Common sense tells me that a gust of wind during a blizzard could snap them off completely. I am just learning to drive, and he has been giving me some tips that seem like old wives' tales. I do not want to contradict him, but I am not too sure about the windshield thing. What do you think?

Becca S.

Dear Becca,

I admire your respect towards your Dad, keep in mind parents really want to be a part of the process of you learning information to take to your adult life-skills bank. Be a good listener, then weigh out his advice from what you learn and apply to your life-decisions in the future. I am not just talking about cars. Thank you for writing.

Since you wrote to me, I have noticed quite a few people with their windshield wiper blades popped up away from their windshield on my recent travels. It appeared to be an end of the day thing; I am presuming they do not want icy windshield wiper blades when they leave on cold mornings.

So, I called Auto Zone and spoke to a technician to get an expert opinion. I got an ear full. Here are some of his winter road tips: #1) Popping up your wiper blades is a BIG mistake. "Windshield wipers are on springs; leaving the blades upright will stretch over time, so the blades end up applying less pressure on the windshield, making them much less effective." No problem, he said, just stop in they will replace the blade while you wait. Costs can vary for 1 blade for as little as \$12.00 or 2 for \$20. Need to have clear vision for safe driving.

Other tips for battling the cold weather? #2) Do NOT leave your car idling every day in the winter -- as that can cut short the lifespan of your car battery. #3) Never pour hot water on your frozen locks, that will just create a new layer of ice. Hot water on a windshield can shatter the glass. #4) Prior to winter months, check your tire pressure and keep the fluids full. #5) If you get stranded, always stay with your car. I carry a blanket with a plug-in attachment that runs off the battery power. If you need to run your car to keep warm, limit the time with 10 minute intervals with the window cracked a few inches. Be sure there is no snow packed in the exhaust pipe as it could cause affixation of carbon monoxide. #6) Turn on your flashers and headlights.

After my phone call with the AZ tech, I was given more helpful information and a price list to last me for years, but I appreciated professional advice. The last one to share with you is #7) ...Fill your tank at the half full mark, so you won't run out of gas. Be prepared for emergencies with blankets and snacks, flares especially when you travel in inclement weather. Stay off roads that have not been plowed. Please drive safely and slowly on our snowy roads. Your life is more important than getting somewhere faster.

Ask anything @ ask_andy@aol.com



Religious Thoughts

by Chris Hearn
www.letsmeetgod.com

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."- John 3:16-17

Some people say that they are too far gone for God to forgive them. That they have committed too many sins or committed a huge sin. Maybe one or more huge sins. At any rate, they

are out of God's reach.

Thankfully, this is not true. But before I continue with that thought, it should be mentioned that it would be true if the situation was different. That is, if God forgave us based on our merit (or lack thereof), then it could be true that you would be too far gone for God to forgive you.

Praise God- this is not so. God's love for us and desire to forgive us is not based on who we are or what we have done, but it's based on Himself. God's love for us is based on Himself, a God who is love in His very nature. Because of who God is, God loves you and wants to forgive you of all of the sins, all of the bad things you have done. Because God in His nature never changes, He will always want to forgive you. Nothing will ever change that.

Something else is the same too. That is, all people are in need of God's forgiveness and salvation for all have sinned or done wrong. For the vilest of sinner or for the person who is pious and religious but remains estranged from a personal relationship with God, the way to know God is the same for everyone- everyone is on equal ground and everyone is accepted by God in the same way, through faith in Christ.

Faith in the life, deity, death and bodily resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ as full payment for all of our sins that we have committed before God.

Thank You

Letter to the Editor:

Please accept our thanks and sincere appreciation for your help with Christmas Wishes. Through you efforts many Shiawassee County children had a wonderful Christmas this holiday season. Our County residents, businesses, community groups, churches and individuals that come forward each year to adopt low-income children are amazing. The greater the need, the greater the sharing that occurs.

A special THANK YOU to the "Old Newsboys" who have been our partner in Christmas giving for many years. All of you "Rock"!

The holiday season has made things even more difficult than usual for people due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Living in poverty increases the sense of hopelessness and added to that is the sense of isolation and desperation. Through your actions, you have made December 25th a very special day this year and a wish come true for many children and families.

Thank you for caring and sharing this Holiday Season.

Rebecca Zemla

Shiawassee County Center Coordinator

Memorial Healthcare Information on Vaccine

submitted by Vicki McKay

As your local healthcare leader throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Memorial Healthcare is standing ready to vaccinate as many people as possible for COVID-19. We are currently prepared to hold community vaccine clinics for those in Phase 1B, and have already scheduled one additional clinic with remaining supply of vaccine currently on hand for this Thursday, which has been filled completely. Unfortunately, the State of Michigan has been unable to provide additional vaccine for distribution even after repeated requests, as well as, what appears to be large inventories being held by the State at this time. We will continue to request vaccines each and every week in hopes to receive more from the State, however, until this happens, we are unable to move forward with scheduling additional community vaccine clinics.

Due to the uncertainty surrounding shipment of additional vaccine, we will not be taking names for a waiting list for the vaccine. As soon as we have vaccines distributed from the State, we will post information on our website, social media and local news outlets on how to schedule an appointment.

Memorial Healthcare asks for your patience at this time. We share your frustration and will continue to request vaccines from the State for our community. If you have concerns about our community not receiving COVID-19 vaccine allocations, please direct your calls and emails to the State of Michigan.



YOUR NEWSPAPER:
TEXTBOOK TO THE WORLD



Laingsburg Girl Scout Troop 30476 Earn Silver Award

submitted by Jody Frank

The Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn and requires 50 hours of community service. For their Girl Scout Silver Award Project, Troop 30476: Emily Arthur, Audrey Rowley and Hannah Sebenick, choose to work with Girl Scout Heart of Michigan, Camp Wacousta, located in Wacousta Michigan. For our project we designed and built 4 benches and 2 side tables for the fire pit, several bird houses, a bat house and a bookshelf.

For this project we received cash donation from Amy Penrod and lumber and supply donations from Rick Hart, Matt Wagner, Mike Schmidfranz and Jody Frank. Troop leader Jessica Sebenick and husband Dave were of assistance with this project. We used the lumber to build the benches, tables, bird houses and the bookcase. One of the donations was a toddler bed that we repurposed the wood to build the bat house.

This project was fun and challenging. We learned about tool safety and how to use a table saw, circular saw, and drills. We also learned how to design, measure, cut and assemble our projects. We all worked together to help each other out when something was built wrong or just struggling to build a part of the project. From doing this project we have acquired knowledge and confidence in building.



Laingsburg Junior Troop #30601 Earn Bronze Award

submitted by Jody Frank

The Girl Scout Bronze Award is the highest award that can be earned by a Junior Girl Scout by completing 20 hours of community service. The girls identified a need in our community, planned how to meet that need, organized and developed the plan to implement and then working both as a group and individually to complete the service hours. Completing this during a pandemic caused the girls to have to rethink, reimagine and modify their original plan. The silver lining is that not only did all the girls in the troop earn the award, they learned about resiliency, flexibility and creativity.

For this award, the girls decided to help with hard work for people in our community that could not do it for themselves. The pictures attached are from one of our troop raking days. Our group picture was taken with Betty Saxton a long time Laingsburg resident that recently passed away.



Pictured: Paige Erickson, Anna Fickes, Samantha Guzman, Samantha Magyar, Alayna Merrell, Riley Mills, Emily Oceansaek, Hayden Wilson, Kendell Michels, Lia Soeltner. Not pictured: Rylee Strait, Kendall Nixon, Ava Louch, Sydney Curtis, Troop Leader Monica Erickson and Jamie Nixon.



Laingsburg Girl Scout Cadette Troop #30059 Earns Silver Award

submitted by Jody Frank

Laingsburg Girl Scout Cadette Troop 30059 recently completed their Girl Scout Silver Award. The Silver Award is the highest award that a Cadette Girl Scout can earn, requiring a minimum of 50 community service hours.

The Troops project was completed for the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, Camp Wacousta-Mill Run, located in Wacousta. The Mill Run Bunk Bed Restoration Project will benefit the camp in the years to come and make a safe sleeping place for overnight campers.

The project included sanding, sealing all the joints and painting 8 sets of bunk beds. The purpose of the sealing is to prevent the infestation of bugs and their nests. The girls worked hard over a span of 3 weekends and 7 days.

Troop 30059: Cora Jorae, Myah Soldan and Tessa Boyle. Troop Leader: Jamie Boyle



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LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Laingsburg Board of Education Meeting

submitted by Krissy Pratt

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., as of now it will be held in the middle school media center but please see our website at <http://www.laingsburg.k12.mi.us/> for up to date meeting information.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: Organizational Meeting- Election of Officers, School Board Recognition, 2020/21 Budget Update, 2021/22 Preliminary Budget Discussion, Legislative update, Board Policy and Bylaws Update, Personnel and any other business that may properly come before the board.

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

Gugel Named to Presidents List

Jesse Gugel of Laingsburg, a Trine University student, was named to the President's List for the Fall 2020 term. Gugel is majoring in Exercise Science.

Home Improvement

How to Choose the Right Lighting Inside Your Home

Lighting in a home serves both practical and aesthetic purposes. It's easy to maneuver around a well-lit home, reducing the risk of slips and falls, and the right lighting can help homeowners create their desired ambiance, which typically changes depending on which room you're in.

When choosing lighting for their homes, homeowners must walk a fine line between appearance and functionality. A fixture in the foyer that instantly impresses visitors likely won't prove as awe-inspiring if it's installed in the living room. When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

Kitchen: Kitchens are often the busiest room in a home, so lighting here can be especially important. A kitchen often benefits, both practically and aesthetically, from different types of lighting. For example, pendant lighting above kitchen islands can make meal preparation easier and safer, but such lighting likely won't work in breakfast nooks and informal dining areas in the kitchen. Recessed lighting works best in such areas. In kitchens with no island, under-cabinet lighting can be used to illuminate countertops and simplify meal preparation.

Formal dining room

Many people enjoy the look of chandeliers in formal dining rooms, and such fixtures can be installed directly above the dinner table. The interior design experts at Better Homes & Gardens advise hanging chandeliers roughly 33 inches above the table in dining rooms with eight-foot ceilings, adding three inches for each additional foot above eight feet. Darkened dining areas may be ideal in restaurants, but homeowners may want to split the difference at home and choose dimmable chandeliers for their dining rooms. This allows homeowners to dim the lights for romantic dinners but turn them up for family gatherings with lots of people around the table.

Living room: Adaptability also is important in the living room, where homeowners may host anything from movie nights to book clubs to parties for the big game. It can be a tall order to accommodate such a wide range of activities, and many homeowners come down to deciding between recessed lighting and track lighting. If the living room currently has neither style, homeowners should recognize that it will cost considerably less to install track lighting than recessed lighting. Better Homes & Gardens notes that flexible track lighting provides ambient, task or accent lighting, and track lights can even be moved to change lighting schemes at any time, making them a budget-friendly option for homeowners whose living rooms are multi-purpose spaces. Recessed lighting also works well in living rooms, especially ones with low ceilings. That's because recessed lighting is installed into the ceiling, meaning it does not take up any visual space in the room. That can help living rooms feel bigger.

Bedroom: The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that bedroom lighting should provide enough light when getting dressed, but also be able to be toned down as residents prepare for their bedtime routines. Both portable and installed lighting can be used in bedrooms to serve these various functions. Recessed fixtures that dim can ensure there's ample light to get dressed in the morning, but they also can be dimmed at night as residents try to get ready to sleep. Portable nightstand lights can make it easier for couples sharing a bedroom, allowing one person to stay up and read while the other goes to sleep.

Homeowners have many options and many needs when choosing lighting for their homes. A professional consultation with a lighting expert or interior decorator can help homeowners find lights that provide both practical and aesthetic appeal.



Post-Flood Safety Tips

Natural disasters can strike at any time, and no disaster is more likely to strike than a flood.

According to the World Health Organization, floods are the most frequent type of natural disaster, affecting more than two billion people worldwide between 1998 and 2017. And the WHO reports that floods are increasing in frequency and intensity.

The Insurance Information Institute notes that flood damage is excluded under standard homeowners and renters insurance policies. However, flood insurance can be purchased from the Federal Emergency Management Agency via the National Flood Insurance Program.

Purchasing flood insurance prior to flooding can be a wise move for renters and homeowners who live in areas vulnerable to flooding. And should flooding occur, victims can take these steps to be safe as they try to get back to normal.

- **Dress the part.** When returning to your property to assess any damage, wear appropriate safety gear. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends homeowners and renters wear a hard hat, goggles, respirator mask (with an N95 rating or higher), thick work gloves, and waterproof, steel-toed boots when returning to their homes after a flood. If there's been a sewage leak, wear rubber gloves and rubber boots during the inspection.

- **Conduct a self-inspection of your home.** Local authorities often dictate when people can reenter their homes after flooding has occurred. Once they get the go-ahead to go back home, residents should first inspect the property to see if it's safe to reenter. A walk-around of the property may reveal downed power lines, wildlife and leaky utility lines that can make it dangerous to reenter a home. In addition, the Red Cross recommends checking the home exterior for structural damage like cracks in the foundation, roof damage or missing beams. Any such damage should be inspected by a professional before anyone moves back into the home.

- **Assess utilities and appliances.** If the home is safe to enter, Allstate Insurance recommends checking the utilities and appliances inside the home. The CDC advises against turning on any light switches, as doing so could spark a fire if there are any gas leaks or electrical problems. Leave the property immediately if you smell gas and call the fire department to report the leak. If there is no standing water around the electrical box and your clothes are dry, turn off the electrical system if you did not do so prior to evacuating. Do not use any damaged appliances until they have been deemed safe by a professional.

Homeowners and renters victimized by flooding must make safety a priority when returning to their homes to assess the damage.

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DuPlain Township Proceedings

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – DuPlain Township welcomed 2021 with their first meeting of the year Wednesday, January 13, 2021. The evening was highlighted by the approval of resolutions involving Clinton Area Ambulance Service.

Levey presented an update on roads, bridges, and the mill pond. Levey commented that he had contacted Kyle Thornton Director of Clinton County Green Space Commission, regarding the county getting involved with the park at the Elsie Dam. This issue will be pursued with more information to be presented in the near future

Amy Bowen, township treasurer, reported on the additional cost of the reprinting and dispersing of the second Winter tax bill the end result \$1060.92. Noting that this did not include the extra time commitment by the Duplain Township treasurer, 26 hours in total. It was decided to bill the Elsie Public Library for the \$1060.92 for reprinting, envelopes and postage.

Dennis Baese, fire representative, gave a year end recap of runs Elsie Area Fire Department 67 fire runs and 232 rescue runs for 2020. This includes DuPlain, Chapin, and Fairfield Townships, and mutual aid runs.

Levey presented officials with the annual salary comparison, currently DuPlain Township salaries are in the middle which is where they want to be. After discussing the topic with

clerk Frink it was proposed to raise the deputy salaries adding an hourly rate to the annual stipend. Proposed was \$13.25 per hour for the deputy clerk, \$13.25 per hour for the deputy treasurer, and \$50 for meetings the deputy supervisor attends. After discussion it was recommended to eliminate the \$400 annual rate for the deputy treasurer. Discussion followed. Action will be taken to approve the recommendations at the annual meeting in March.

Officials took formal action to approve the Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authorities 2021-2022 operational budget. In addition, the resolution to purchase and finance the ambulance was presented and approved. Finally, action was taken to approve Resolution 01-2021 for the addition \$3.00 per capital for 2021-2022 and \$2,000 for cot and equipment purchase.

Dr. Mark Holley, assessor, presented officials with the Poverty Exemption and updated officials on the changes. Major changes included the passing of the exemption process allows for the exemption to roll over for three years. Officials will wait to see what other townships do and what those resolutions will look like. The other changes involve posting information on the website. The Board of Review organizational meeting is slated for March 2, those in attendance will be the supervisor and the board of review members and the assessor who will turn assessment role to the board. The first public meeting is tentatively set for March 8 2021, 3 p-6p, and the second March 11, 2021 9a-3p. These dates are pending State approval.

Holley recommended that the township not pass a resolution rolling over the exemption for three years because circumstances change and this requires individuals apply annually. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Mr. Kam Washburn, Clinton County Commissioner, presented a monthly report to officials. The county COVID update as of this January 13, 2021, 308 days Emergency Operations Center. Clinton County residents that are confirmed COVID POSITIVE 4,043 and 49 deaths, the numbers have stabilized, the death count has risen in the last week.

Washburn was re-elected as chair of the commission at the organizational meeting. Board meetings were set for the last Tuesday of each month for most meetings and will continue to meet virtually for now. Details can be found on the Clinton County website. It is recommended that appointments be made for business at the Clinton County court house. Jury trials will begin February 1, 2021. The vaccine roll out has not been smooth. At the January 8, 2021 EOC call with the Health Department, people voiced their concern the discussion was very intense. The major problem is the lack of availability of the vaccine. A YouTube video was created by the Clinton County Health Department that explains and addresses the concerns, a direct link is available on the Clinton County website.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, the minutes of the December 2020 meeting were presented for approval, and financial statements. Officials approved for expenditures totaling \$8,467.25. On a related action, officials voted to amend the budget.

Virtual Workshops Offered by Tri-County Office on Aging

submitted by Christine Histed

Need help managing Chronic Pain and/or Diabetes?

Tri-County Office on Aging is offering free virtual workshops for individuals with chronic pain and diabetes. You will learn tools and techniques to better manage your condition and improve quality of life. Non-Zoom option also available.

Chronic Pain PATH: Thursdays, January 21 – February 25 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Diabetes PATH: Tuesdays, January 19 – February 23 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Cost: Free of charge but donations are accepted.

To register: Call Tri-County Office on Aging at 517-887-1465. If you are interested but don't have a computer and/or internet, call the number listed above for another option.

Website (no online registration): <https://www.tcoa.org/classes/evidence-based-programs/>

RESOLUTION #2021-01 CITY OF OVID CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution to Authorize Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority to Purchase and Finance an Ambulance

WHEREAS: at a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Ovid, held on the 11th, day of January, 2021 at

7:00 p.m., with the following Council Members present:

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

ABSENT: None.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Williams, to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas: The City of Ovid is a municipality which is a member of the Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority (hereafter referred as CAASA); and

Whereas: Each member municipality contributes \$3.00 per capita for capital expenses/improvements including the acquisition of new ambulances; and

Whereas: CAASA intends to purchase one (1) ambulance and related equipment (the "Property") from Kodiak Emergency Vehicles, Grand Ledge, Michigan, in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$130,000), and to enter into an installment purchase agreement (the "Installment Purchase Agreement") to finance a portion of the cost of the Property; and

Whereas: The CAASA Board has received an offer from Mercantile Bank (the "Bank") to finance One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) through an Installment Purchase Agreement at an interest rate not to exceed three percent (2.65%) per annum over a period not to exceed 2 years, with monthly principal and interest payments beginning no later than thirty (30) days after the date of funding/closing, with monthly interest thereon, based upon a 360-day year, 30-day month, and the

Board now desires to accept that offer; and

Whereas: The Articles of Incorporation of CAASA requires that all member municipalities approve by resolution in approval for CAASA to seek financing for such a acquisition/capital expense.

Now Therefore, be it resolved that the City of Ovid, does hereby approve of CAASA to enter into an Installment Purchase Agreement in order to finance the purchase of the Property described above.

In Witness Whereof, I, _Josefina Medina, Clerk of the City of Ovid, have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ovid to be affixed this 11th, day of January in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-one.

Roll Call: Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Williams, Mr. Starn and Mr. Lasher.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Resolution adopted.

Josefina, Medina, Clerk

City of Ovid

Eric Brown, Council Representative

City of Ovid

RESOLUTION #2021-02 CITY OF OVID CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At a regular meeting of the City of Ovid, held in the Council Chambers Room on the 11th, day of January 2021, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening.

Present: Mr. Starn, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Lasher, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Williams

Absent: None.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Mr. Brown, and supported by Miss Hibbard:

WHEREAS, City of Ovid is an incorporating municipality of the Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority ("CAASA"); and

WHEREAS, CAASA has certain anticipated capital purchases/improvements for its upcoming 2021-2022 fiscal year, including, but not limited to, the "Capital Improvements"; and

WHEREAS, CAASA has an aging fleet of major equipment that is soon to be obsolete and no longer usable including cots, monitors, etc.; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XVI ("Financing the Authority") and Article XVIII ("Capital Improvements") of CAASA's Articles of Incorporation, incorporating municipalities may provide funding for CAASA's capital purchases/improvements, in amounts greater than each incorporating municipality's financial contribution as provided for in Article XVI, Paragraph A of CAASA's Articles of Incorporation, if such additional funding is approved by the affirmative vote by resolution of each municipal board of all incorporating municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ovid desires to approve such additional funding for CAASA's anticipated Capital Improvements at the rate of \$3 per capita based on their municipality's population, for CAASA's 2021-2022 fiscal year only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City of Ovid hereby approves the above funding for CAASA's 2021-2022 fiscal year only.

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

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Brown, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Lasher.

Nays:None.

Absent: None.

Resolution declared adopted.

William Lasher

Mayor for City of Ovid

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Ovid at a regular meeting held on January 1, 2021, the original of which is part of the City's regular minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, PA 1976, as amended).

Josefina Medina

Clerk for City of Ovid

RESOLUTION #2021-03 CITY OF OVID SCHEDULE MEETING DATES

WHEREAS: at a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Ovid, held on the 11th, day of January, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., with the following Council Members present:

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

ABSENT: None.

A motion was made by Mr. Starn, seconded by Ms. Perrien, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS; the City of Ovid's Council hereby adopts resolution #2020-03, to set the dates and location(s) for its regular meetings for the year 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meetings of the City Council will be held on every 2nd, Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the location of the meetings will be held at the City Hall located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid

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

AYES: _Mr. Williams, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Starn and Mr. Lasher.

NAYES: _None.

ABSENT: _None.

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

Josefina Medina,
City Clerk

Sports



Ashleigh Jelenk
Honorable Mention



Sharla Juhas
Honorable Mention



Alexa Burlingame
Honorable Mention

Jelenk, Burlingame, Juhas are Ashley Selections on All-MMAC Girls Volleyball Team

ASHLEY -- Ashleigh Jelenk, Alexa Burlingame and Sharla Juhas have all been honored on the 2020 All-Mid State Athletic Conference Girls Volleyball Team.

Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart dominated the honor contingent.

As voted by the league's coaches, here is the complete All-MSAC squad:

First Team: Allison Hauck, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Cassidy Smith, Breckenridge; Laney Wiley, Merrill; Grace Tyler, Carson City-Crystal; Maddie Munley, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Lindsey Pumford, St. Charles; Kennedy Hadanek, Breckenridge; Jenna Dove, Vestaburg

Second Team: Addie Pahl, St. Charles; Summer Smith Breckenridge; Kelsey McDonald, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Isabelle Fritz, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Lillie Laney, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Makenna Johnson, Edmore-Montabella; Kya Horman, Breckenridge; Ruby Schwalm, Merrill

Honorable Mention: Sharla Juhas, Ashley; Ashleigh Jelenk, Ashley; Alexa Burlingame, Ashley; Kara Whiting, Breckenridge; Katie Steinhaus, Breckenridge; Neesa Smith Carson City-Crystal; Aubrey Hessbrook, Carson City-Crystal; Kylie Collar, Carson City-Crystal; Amber Nehrig, Coleman; Maddie Miller, Coleman; Lexi Aultman, Coleman; Havahna DeJongh, Coleman; Linzi Wiley, Merrill; Emma Hesse, Merrill; Alexis Jordan, Edmore-Montabella; Madison Jordan, Edmore-Montabella; Aysia Smith, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Emma Stempky, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Macie Czymbor, St. Charles; Reese Czymbor, St. Charles; Peyton Volk, St. Charles; Kaitlyn Palmer, Vestaburg; Allison Weichert, Vestaburg.

Three Winter Sports to Start Boys & Girls Basketball Still on Hiatus

LANSING — Three more Michigan High School Athletic Association non-contact winter sports will be allowed to restart practice Saturday following the updated epidemic order announced Wednesday by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

However, four winter contact sports, including boys and girls basketball and wrestling, will be limited to non-contact activities while beginning indoor practices Saturday.

Girls gymnastics, girls and boys bowling, and boys swimming and diving may also begin competition before the end of this month. Swimming and diving are set to start Jan. 22 and gymnastics and bowling starts Jan. 25. Masks will be required of all participants except when they are actively participating in gymnastics and swimming and diving. Spectators will be capped at 100 people in school gyms or 250 in stadiums and arenas, according to MDHHS orders.

Basketball, competitive cheer, ice hockey and wrestling are considered contact sports and may begin non-contact practices Saturday, with their first competitions scheduled for Feb. 1. Because of the later start in those sports, the MHSAA will adjust its tournament dates for those four to conclude on later dates than what is currently scheduled. Those dates will be announced later this week.

The boys basketball finals were originally scheduled for March 27, with girls basketball concluding March 26.

Girls and boys skiing, as an outdoor non-contact sport, were allowed to begin in December.

“We are glad to have three more sports join skiing in return-

ing to full activity, but we understand the disappointment and frustration on the part of our athletes and coaches whose sports are not yet able to restart completely,” MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. “We will continue to adjust schedules to provide all of our winter teams as substantial an experience this season as possible, as part of our greater plan this school year to play all three seasons to conclusion.

“We have shown with our remaining fall sports this month that our schools can participate safely, and we’re confident teams will continue to take all the appropriate precautions as we jump back into indoor Winter activities.”

Additionally, spring sports teams and fall teams not participating in the MDHHS rapid testing pilot program may begin four-player workouts and resume conditioning Saturday, but only with non-contact activities. Fall teams finishing their seasons in girls volleyball, girls swimming and diving and football have been able to do so by taking part in the MDHHS rapid testing pilot program for COVID-19.

Volleyball and swimming and diving all concluded with finals last weekend. Football will finish Jan. 22-23 with the 11-player finals.

Victor Township, Clinton County, MI 6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI Proposed Board Minutes from January 11, 2021 meeting

The regular meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Jim Conklin at 7:01 pm.

Attendance: Present: Nikki Fickes, Jim Conklin, Julie Townsend, Amanda Conklin and Paula Willoughby

Agenda: Motion by Conklin to amend the agenda. Supported by Willoughby. Roll Call. Motion carried. Motion by Conklin to approve the agenda with amendments. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Conklin to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2020 Board Meeting. Supported by Townsend. Roll call. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Conklin to accept the treasurer's report. Supported by Townsend. Roll call. Motion carried.

Approval of bills: Motion by Willoughby to pay the bills in the amount of \$7,041.81 using checks #28097-28098 and 28115-28129 voiding #28126 and EFT #571-579. Supported by Townsend. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to disburse payroll and related payroll expenses for December 2020 in the amount of \$5,733.96 using checks #12171-12178 and EFT 136. Supported by Townsend. Roll call. Motion carried.

Reports:

Victor Township Planning Commission: Revised meeting dates. Discussion on 2021-2022 proposed budget projects. Draft masterplan can be viewed at <https://victortwp.org/departments/planning-commission/> The next PC meeting will be held electronically on February 1, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Zoom meeting ID 83394750325 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83394750325>

Unfinished Business:

- ISO Update – Discussion regarding dry hydrant maintenance plan
- Janitorial Services – Motion made by Conklin to hire temporary custodial employee. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.
- Opening Township Hall - No change Motion by Willoughby to change office hours to appointment only until a new office administrator is hired. Supported by Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.
- Master Plan – tabled until February 8, 2021.
- Budget Report – 3rd Q report provided. Motion by Willoughby to approve budget adjustment 988. Supported by Fickes. Roll call vote. Motion Carried.
- ORV/ATV – Forwarded to County Commissioners.
- Clerk Vacancy – No update
- Internet Access – Fickes shared some grant work locations. Supervisor Conklin to reach out to Commissioner Stacey for an update at the county level.
- Budget – Budget work session scheduled for February 4, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

New Business:

- Meeting Dates – Municode Meetings Software – Motion by Willoughby to approve contract. Supported by Townsend. Roll call. Motion carried.
- Road Projects –
- Board of Review – Motion by Conklin to appoint Donald Arthur, Duane Ginther and Don Bracke to Board of Review. Roll call. Motion carried.
- Training – Motion by Conklin to purchase MTA annual training package for entire board. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.
- Poverty Resolution – Motion by Conklin to approve the Poverty Resolution. Supported by Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

Extended Public/Board Comment:

Motion by Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. Supported by Supervisor Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

CITY OF OVID SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 11, 2021

The Full set of the Minutes for the Regular meeting may be viewed or acquired at the Municipal Building located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid. Mayor Lasher opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

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

ABSENT: None.

EX OFFICIOS: Rich Simpson – DPW Superintendent, Al Goodrich – Chief of Police, Liza Kusnier- Treasurer and Josy Medina – Clerk

VISITORS: Dr. Mark Holley and Antone Haddad.

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

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Williams to approve the minutes of December 14, 2020 as corrected and the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on December 29, 2020 as printed.

MOTION CARRIED

INVOICE REGISTRY: A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Miss Hibbard to approve the checks as printed for the period of January 12th, thru February 8, 2019.

MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER: Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Ordiway, second by Ms. Perrien to waive the check fee of \$25 to said account.

MOTION CARRIED

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

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

1. A motion was made by Mr. Ordiway, second by Mr. Brown to accept the list of Boards of Commissions and Committees as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

2. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to adopt resolution #2021-01 to authorize CAASA to purchase and finance an ambulance. Roll Call was taken as follows: AYES: Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Williams, Mr. Starn and Mr. Lasher.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

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

3. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Miss Hibbard to adopt resolution #2021-02 to Authorize \$3 per capita and to eliminate the second option

to donate a flat rate as discussed. Roll Call was taken as follows: AYES: Mr. Brown, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Lasher.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

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

4. A motion was made by Mr. Starn, second by Ms. Perrien, to adopt resolution #2021-03 to accept the schedule meeting dates for the City of Ovid's Council for the year 2021 to be the second Monday of the month. Roll Call was taken as follows: AYES: Mr. Williams, Miss Hibbard, Mr. Brown, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Starn and Mr. Lasher.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

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

5. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to reappoint Mr. Wells Monroe as a member of the Board of Review.

MOTION CARRIED

6. A motion was made that we accept the bid from North American O-H-D in the amount pending if they approve the bid price of \$1,959.19.

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to award the bid to Capital Equipment if the bid is still valid and no more than \$14,200.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Simpson presented a quote for the Dissolved Oxygen Meter in the amount of \$445.00 from HANNA Instruments. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Miss Hibbard to accept the quote for the Dissolved Oxygen Meter in the amount of \$445.00 from HANNA Instruments.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on SAW GRANT.

2. Discussion one the City's UAR (Utility Assistance Program) that the sub-committee is working on.

3. A motion was made by Miss Hibbard, second by Ms. Perrien to approve the cost share of health insurance to be 7 ½ % for each employee effective January 1, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Lasher closed the meeting at 8:50 pm

Josefina Medina, Clerk
City of Ovid

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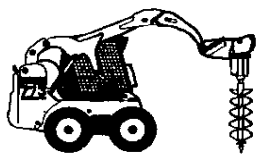
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Timeline and actions taken
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USPS 70142120000102692300
Notice of non-compliance mail out: 2020-12-14
Notice of non-compliance received: No receipt at destination, unclaimed
Settlement date to resolve non-compliance dispute: 2020-12-29
Public notice of sale or other disposition-
FIRST NOTICE: 2021-01-17
Public notice of sale or other disposition-
SECOND NOTICE: 2021-01-24
Newspaper contracted to publish notice to the public: **The Weekly**
Contents of the unit will be removed: 2020-02-01
Description of unit contents:
Miscellaneous items with or without personal or familial value. Some items may or may not be in individual containers.
Owner/manager actions: All items will be sold and/or discarded. Upon removal of all items the unit will be restored to a functional, safe condition, making this unit available to other prospective tenants.
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BEWARE OF:

All the people still flying Trump flags and signage. These people support the rioters, looters, insurgents and killers who savaged our Governmental buildings. They do not truly support the rule of law or law enforcement. They used an American flag to beat a law enforcement officer, if you did not see that video you must watch Fox. True Americans need to remember that six people died because of this assault, two of them police officers. The insurgents also dropped the American flag to the ground to install the Trump flag in its place. 1560

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Ashley FFA Group win Silver

submitted by Amber McAllister

Ashley Group Winner Winner Chicken Dinner scored a Silver at the State Broiler Competition.

Group Members on right include (l-r) Caden Passmore, Logan Drummond, Leslie Bockheim, and Renee Viles. Ashley's second team (not pictured) the Jamacian Bacon Thundercats were not far off placing either. Group members include: Ed Waters, Bailey Crocker, and Heath Powelson.

Advisor Amber McAllister also reports the Ashley FFA was also responsible for placing 5th in the Speak Ag Challenge through Farm Bureau.



(EE Knight Picture): Knights of Columbus member Steve Sopocy; Special Education Resource Teacher, Michelle McDowell; Self Contained Special Education Teacher, Hannah Kolito; Principle Alicia Ormsbee.

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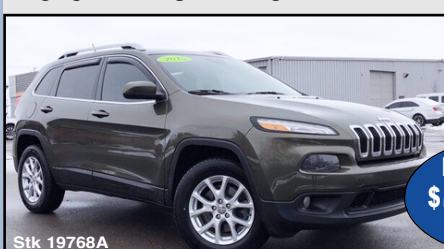
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submitted by Steve Sopocy

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(Ashley Picture): Knights of Columbus member Jim Fabus; Principle Tracy Gavenda; Special Needs teacher Joe Shaw.

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