



Just a sampling of the items left for residents and staff in the Love Box.

The Pre-School class at Leonard Elementary made this banner for the residents at Ovid Healthcare.

Loved the Love

The love that was sent to the residents at Ovid Healthcare warmed many hearts. The response was tremendous. Staff started delivering Valentine wishes two days before and two days after the February 14th holiday.

Individuals from Ovid-Elsie and surrounding communities filled the Valentine Love Box, donated by the Ovid Lions Club, with cards, candy and gifts for residents and staff. "As soon as we would empty out the box located outside our facility, it would fill up again real fast. Our residents and staff were overwhelmed with all the LOVE that was shared with us," said activities director, Tammy Fisher. Elementary students from O-E, St Johns, Owosso and Chesaning delivered homemade valentines as a class project for the "Spread the Love" project.



C.A.C.S. Receives Technology Grant

submitted by Becky Zemla

Capital Area Community Services, Inc. has received a technology grant to provide a tablet or a hotspot to low-income residents of Shiawassee County. Each type of device comes with prepaid broadband service through 12/31/2021.

Financial Requirements: Must meet 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline: Family size: 1 - 30 day max income \$2,147; 2 - \$2,903; 3 - \$3,660. For each additional member add: \$757.

Additional Requirements: The household has been specifically and negatively impacted by COVID-19 through - A financial reduction or loss of income. An increase in daily living expenses specifically related to COVID-19. Access to technology is insufficient to essential employment, education, daily living, and/or health related internet technology.

If you believe you or your family meet this criteria, please contact CACS at 989-723-3115. Office hours are: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Winter Sports Back in Action for Ashley, Laingsburg and Ovid-Elsie

Gavin Godfrey looks for a Marauder teammate as a Burton Bentley player applies pressure during the Feb. 15th game. See pages 8-9 for more sports results.

Coming March 7th, team photos for all three schools, Freshman thru Varsity. Also included will be schedules for the remainder of the Winter sports season and coaches comments.

Photo by Jody Thornton

Committees Gear Up for Festival Season

by Deb Price

Festival committees in Elsie, Laingsburg and Ovid have begun planning for their 2021 festivals. The Elsie Dairy Festival will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 8th-9th-10th in downtown Elsie. The pageant for this year has been cancelled due to COVID restrictions but plans for the summer festival are underway. The Laingsburg Springtime Festival, sponsored by the Laingsburg Lions Club, will be held over Memorial Day weekend, May 27th-31st. The popular Springtime raffle tickets will soon be available for purchase. The Ovid Carriage Days committee met in-person and virtually on February 17th to start the planning process of the 2021 Carriage Days festival scheduled for September 10th-11th-12th.

All three communities are excited and look forward to a successful return of the festival season. Watch the Meridian Weekly for monthly meeting dates and updates.



VILLAGE OF ELSIE RESIDENTS: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Village of Elsie is holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 6:45 p.m.

The meeting will take place via Zoom. Please go to elsie.org for instructions on how to join the meeting.

The purpose is to discuss the Adoption of the Special and Regular Budgets for 2021-2022.

Thank You,
Ann Trierweiler
Village Clerk

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DANIEL BUKOVCIK

101 N. MAIN ST., OVID

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Fax (989)834-2279

Social

Donations Needed at the Senior Center

submitted by Brenda Terpening

As you may know, the Clinton County Senior Center, located at 201 E Walker Street in St. Johns has been closed for many months due to the COVID pandemic, which means there has been very little income coming in.

Recently, one of the Center's Board Members decided to be at the center a couple days a week for a few hours so people can come in to purchase various items like puzzles, books and many homemade items.

One of the best sellers so far has been puzzles, which the center is running very low on. So, if you have any puzzles (children's through adult) you would like to donate, please drop them off. Puzzles have been a life saver for many of the center's seniors to keep them busy while sitting at home through this pandemic and cold winter. Puzzles can be dropped off on Mondays between 8 am - 3 pm (leave on the black bench if the door is locked and someone will come out and get them), or come in on a Tuesday or Thursday between 10 am - 1 pm when the center board member will be there.

If you don't have any puzzles to donate, but would like to help, consider coming in to shop on Tuesday or Thursday. As mentioned, in addition to puzzles and hundreds of books for sale, the center has a great variety of homemade items like quilts (baby through queen size), table runners (reversible for the holidays), pillows, book pillows, towels, plastic bag holders, pet blankets and much, much more. These items are all homemade by another volunteer Board Member.

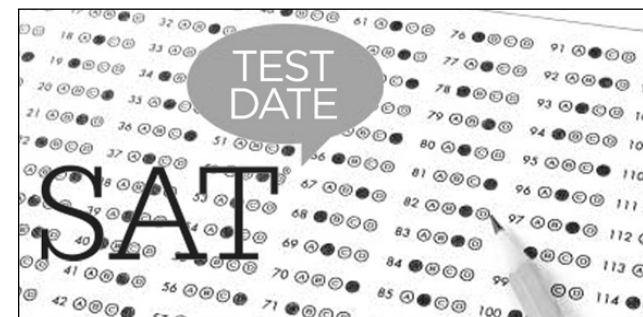
If you need to come in at a different time, call Darlene at 989-224-6605 to make other arrangements.



Blood Drive at Duplain Church of Christ

On Tuesday, February 23, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. the Duplain Church of Christ will be holding a blood drive.

For information or appointment, visit redcrossblood.org (sponsor code DUPLAINCOC) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



SAT Test Scheduled for Shiawassee Scholars

submitted by Renee Dotson

The Shiawassee Scholars program is working with the Cook Family Foundation, Owosso High School, and College Board to ensure a safe testing environment for the potential Shiawassee Scholars, Class of 2025. Health screening and social distancing will be a top priority as the program complies with the State of Michigan orders in effect as well as being in compliance with College Board's regulations for testing.

The March 13, 2021 SAT test for Shiawassee Scholars will be held at the Owosso High School, 765 E North St. This is a NEW LOCATION; it is best set up for social distancing and ability to keep students with classmates from their same district.

Parent drop off is in the East Parking Lot. Due to COVID restrictions, only students will be allowed in the building.

Students will bring home necessary documents, i.e. Health Screening Questionnaire to be completed at home the morning of March 13, Student Identification Form and a list of testing items to bring. SAT Admission Tickets are mailed to student's home from College Board.

If you have not registered your 8th grader yet, there is still time! Don't delay, registration closes on February 11. Instructions to do so can be found at shorturl.at/buHW2. If you have further questions, contact Renee Dotson @ 989-743-3471 or dotson@sresd.org.

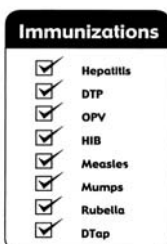
OVID-ELSIE AREA SCHOOLS REGISTRATION FOR KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

March 10th & 11th
LEONARD ELEMENTARY
732 N. MABBITT ST., OVID

All parents of children who will be 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2021, should call for an appointment as soon as possible.

If your child's birthday is after Sept 1, 2021, but before December 1, 2021, you may sign a waiver so they may attend Kindergarten next year.

If you have a Pre-K student at Leonard or EE Knight Elementary or you are the parent of a new kindergarten student, please contact Leonard Elementary School at 989-834-5029 to make an appointment.



A registration packet and other information will be sent to you after an appointment has been made.

VILLAGE OF ELSIE RESIDENTS: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Village of Elsie is holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. The meeting will take place vis zoom. Please go to elsie.org for instructions on how to join the meeting. The purpose is to discuss the Ordinance #174 - 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

Ashley Pre-School Round-Up



For 2021-2022 School Year

**Friday, March 5, 2021
by appointment
Ashley District Library Conference Room**

Contact: Ms. Combs at 989-847-4000, ext. 1010 to make an appointment

COVID-19 Vaccine is Still in Short Supply

submitted by Leslie Kinnee

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- The COVID-19 vaccines are our best hope for ending the pandemic and we have now vaccinated more Michiganders than we have cases of COVID! Progress is being made, although not as fast as most of us would like.

We know many of our community members are waiting to get their COVID-19 vaccinations and many are frustrated because they are having a difficult time getting an appointment. Local public health departments across the State of Michigan, including Mid-Michigan District Health Department, are moving as quickly as possible to vaccinate those who are eligible. Unfortunately, efforts are being hampered because there simply is not enough vaccine to meet the high demand.

Mid-Michigan District Health Department is administering around 600 first doses every week and holding second dose clinics. We are also working with area hospitals and Meijer Pharmacies to vaccinate as many people as possible. We wish we could vaccinate more people on a weekly basis, and are making plans to hold mass vaccination clinics, but can't follow through with these plans until the amount of vaccine we receive is increased.

When we have COVID-19 appointments available, we will send out a notice to those on our waiting list. If you would like to be placed on our waiting list, please visit our website: www.mmhd.org/covid-vaccine-information/.

The good news is that more and more vaccination locations are opening up in our area and we recommend people explore all of these options to increase their chances of obtaining an appointment. These locations can be found on our website: www.mmhd.org/covid-vaccine-information/.

The biggest challenge every organization offering the vaccine faces right now is the limited supply of vaccine. We ask for patience as we work through this monumental task and want our communities to know that everyone who wants to be vaccinated will be vaccinated, but it will take time.

We know that those without internet or our seniors might have an especially difficult time trying to schedule a COVID-19 vaccination appointment. We encourage these individuals to call 211 for assistance. A 211 operator will help callers register or sign up with clinic sites in their area.

Seniors over 65 who do not have internet or who struggle to use a computer may call their nearest office on aging. Clinton County seniors over 65 can call the Tri-County Office on Aging at 517-887-1440. Gratiot County seniors over 65 can call the Gratiot County Commission on Aging at 989-875-5246. Montcalm County seniors over 65 can call the Montcalm County Commission on Aging at 989-831-7476.

As a reminder, we all need to continue preventative measures such as wearing masks properly, social distancing, and hand washing to reduce the spread of COVID in our communities, even as the vaccine is being administered.

We've come so far since the start of the pandemic, and hope is on the horizon. This is a difficult time for us all, but we will get through this, one vaccination at a time.



Lansing Urgent Care

submitted by Madison Earl

Schedule a TeleMed Visit 24/7 @ www.lansingurgent-care.com/telemed

View Estimated Wait Times and Check In Online @ www.LUC123.com

Lansing Urgent Care - Frandor (OPEN 24/7), 505 N Clippert St, Lansing, MI

Lansing Urgent Care - Okemos, 2289 W. Grand River Ave, Okemos, MI

Lansing Urgent Care - West, 4440 W. Saginaw Hwy Lansing, MI

Lansing Urgent Care - South, 320 E Jolly Rd Lansing, MI

Lansing Urgent Care - Dewitt, 12970 S US Highway 27, Dewitt, MI

Lansing Urgent Care - Bath, 16945 Marsh Road Haslett, MI

Lansing Urgent Care - Mason, 132 S Cedar St, Suite 3, Lansing, MI

R & M Rental

Canopies: 10x20 - \$65; 20x20 \$85;
20x30 - \$95; 20x40 - \$110
Tables 32'x8' - \$5, Round Tables - \$9, Plastic Chairs 60¢,
Outdoor Sign \$10, Ice Trays \$10,
Drink Coolers \$10, Roasters \$10.

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City of Ovid March Board of Review Meeting Dates

Will meet on the following dates:
Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday March 2, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.
(Informational only no appeals may be presented)

Appeals will be heard:
Tuesday, March 9, 2021
9 am to 3 pm
Wednesday, March 10, 2021
3 pm to 9 pm

Appeals may be submitted in writing or email before March 8 at:
mholley4444@gmail.com

Ovid City Hall, 114 E Front Street
Ovid, MI 48866

Any questions Ph. 989-834-5611 (Assessor)
Protests will be heard for the 2021 assessments

ONLINE ONLY PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Bid Now Through February 24, 2021



Can - Am 800XT Outlander 4 Wheeler, Can-Am 650XT Outlander 4 Wheeler, Four Seasons ATV Track System, Campolast Tatou ATV Track System, Powermatic MDL 90 Wood Lathe, Grizzly Combination Disc/Belt Sander, Craftsman 6" Jointer, Delta 14in Band Saw, 300 Board ft Kiln Dried Rough Sawn Oak, 5HP Rotary Phase Converter, 10HP Rotary Phase Converter, 8 HP, 3 in gas operated trash pump, 6 foot Steel Lawn Roller, Grizzly 2 part Wooden Tool Chest, DR Tow Behind Power Grader, Milwaukee Band Saw, SWISH--ERR Tow Behind Mower, Steel case desk, Hand Tools, Power Tools, Office Supplies Vintage Cameras, Dark Room Equipment, Porcelain Sink, ATV Jack and MUCH MORE! This is a large auction, and you will want to look over all the lots!

Successful Bidders will pick up their items at
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LAINGSBURG SCHOOLS KINDERGARTEN Round-Up Scheduled



We are excited to announce that it's that time of year again! Laingsburg Community Schools is compiling a list of students for our annual KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, **APRIL 21 & 22**. If you have a child, who will be five years of age by September 1, 2021, please contact the Early Childhood Education Center at **517-651-3100** or Laingsburg Elementary at **517-651-5067** to register. Students currently in Laingsburg's Wolf Pup's Preschool **will** need to **attend Round-up**. We have your names for registration already. **If you do not plan on your child attending Laingsburg Community Schools in the fall, please let us know as soon as possible so we can remove their name from the list.** A waiver is also available for those who miss the September 1 deadline but will be 5 by December 1. Once again we will also have Developmental Kindergarten.



Families of **registered** students will be mailed a packet in March informing them of the date and time their child is scheduled to attend Round-up as well as what paperwork they will need to bring. Should you have any questions, please contact Sue Bates at the elementary school.


Contact 517-651-3100 or 517-651-5067 for more information




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WatkinsFuneralHomes.com



We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for all the love and care we have received these past weeks. All those acts of love has helped to lift us up during this time. A special thank you to the crew of OMESA and CAAS for helping John that night.



Thank You Again and Many Blessings from the Family of John Pesik




In Loving Memory

Memorialize your loved one in the Weekly

989-834-2264

ads@meridian-weekly.com



Obituaries

Richard Glen “Richie” Vincent, Jr.

Richard Glen "Richie" Vincent, Jr., age 58, of Bay City, formerly of Ovid, MI, passed away Friday, February 12, 2021 at his home.

Richard was born in Owosso, Michigan on November 7, 1962, the son of Richard Glen and Alice M. (Hudson) Vincent, Sr.

He was an avid fisherman and loved hunting. He also loved horse racing. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force.

He is survived by his children: Lori Vincent and Jeff Mitchell, Kala and Shane Ouillette, Jerrod and Barbie Vincent, Theron and Katherine Vincent, and Megan and Ray Pennington, parents: Richard and Wanda Vincent Sr., and Alice Vincent, grandchildren: Ryland, Grayson, Audrey, Ivory, Brayden, Brylee, Elizabelle, Kamden, Zane, Elijah, McKenna, Damion, Hailey, Marcus, Miina, Lawrence, Dominic, Nora, Lena, Grayson, and Dakota. His siblings: Roger and Nancy Vincent, Sheryl and Mike Richardson, Sally Vincent, Trent Vincent and Sheena and Chad LePard. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI, on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Burial has taken place at Middlebury Township Cemetery, Ovid, MI.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, Michigan.



Jeanne Rebecca (Olson) Leonard

Jeanne Rebecca (Olson) Leonard passed away January 23, 2021 in Huntsville, Alabama. She was born February 25, 1923 in Shepherdsville, Michigan and was the daughter of the late Charles and Ruth Olson.

Jeanne graduated from Ovid High School in 1940 and the University of Michigan Nursing School in 1944. She served as an instructor in the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corp at UM during WWII. On October 28, 1945 Jeanne wed Douglas Leonard in Ovid, Michigan. She worked as a nurse for several years and then became a homemaker who was an active volunteer in the Red Cross and other organizations. Jeanne was also an avid gardener who loved nothing more than working in her yard.

Jeanne is survived by a son, David and his wife, Jayne, of Wildwood, MO; a daughter, Susan (Leonard) Scalici and her husband, Tony, of Delray Beach, FL; and four grandchildren: Matthew Leonard, Debra (Leonard) Page, Melissa Scalici-Weir, and Angela Scalici-Young. She is also survived by eight great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Dr. Douglas Leonard, her sister, Alverda, and her brothers, Robert and Charles Jr.

A Memorial Service is planned at a future date in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Wharton Center Announces 2021 Planned Return to the Stage

submitted by Tara Peplowski

EAST LANSING – Wharton Center's much-anticipated return to live performances is now expected to occur this fall with a series of Broadway hits, beginning with *Pretty Woman: The Musical*, September 14-19, 2021. Renamed the 21 Season, it will now feature the rescheduled performances of *Cats* and Disney's *Frozen*, along with *Pretty Woman: The Musical*. The pared-down Broadway season package is still available by subscription, and single tickets will be available in the coming months. Additionally, because many artists and tours have canceled their performance plans due to travel restrictions and concerns about the pandemic, events originally scheduled in the 2020-2021 performing arts series have been canceled.

Wharton Center's 21 Season includes:

•*Pretty Woman: The Musical* - September 14-19, 2021

•*Cats* – January 4-9, 2022*

•Disney's *Frozen* – January 27-February 6, 2022*

Three events from the 2019-2020 season are also being rescheduled:

•Dear Evan Hansen – May 17-22, 2022

•Davina & The Vagabonds and Hot Club of Cowtown – TBA

•The Klezmatics – November 10, 2021

For patrons who have purchased a ticket to any of the shows outlined above, you will receive an email within the next week providing specific information on your options for the rescheduled dates.

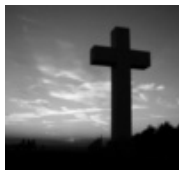
Patrons with performing arts included in their 20-21 subscription package will receive a refund for those purchases or may donate their refund to the Wharton Center Relief Fund <https://www.whartoncenter.com/support/relief-fund>.

In addition to the 21 Season, Wharton Center continues to work on planning the 2021-2022 season, which will include the eagerly awaited return of Hamilton. Dates for the return of Hamilton and the full 2021-22 season lineup will be announced in late Spring.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Call (989) 834-2264



Middlebury United Methodist Church

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573
Minister: Rev. Terry Melton



Zoom Worship Service
10:30 a.m.

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street

Pastor: Zella Daniel

Sunday Worship 11:15am

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: Andrew Goodrich

Associate Minister: Matthew Barnum

Children's Minister: Jessica Prieto

www.duplainchurch.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

163 W. Main St., Elsie

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Roger Numerich

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns

Pastor: John Jakus

Sunday School: 9:00am

Worship Service 10:00am

517-651-6210

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

160 W. Main St., Elsie (989) 862-5239



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

LAINGSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

210 CRUM ST.

517-651-5531

Online Service:

Sundays at 10am.

Facebook or Youtube

Pastor Tiffany Newsom

laingsburgumc@gmail.com

www.laingsburgumc.org

Shepardsville United Methodist Church

6990 E. Winfield, Ovid

(989) 862-4881

In-Person Worship
Sunday 11am Service
Pastor: Paik

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

Pastor Eugene Blair

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

Mass: Sun 10:30am,
Wed. 9:00am

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...

Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

It is a very white landscape that I'm viewing....it finally looks as if winter is here. Larry came down and plowed out the driveway this afternoon, it looks as if I have a rather large drift on the driver's side of my pickup. Plus I must wade through knee deep snow to get to the driveway. It was quite difficult at eight this morning when I took a large box of burnables to the burn pile. The box was useful in me keeping my balance as I trudged through the snow with a variable depth of ankle to mid-thigh. I nearly fell flat on my face as I turned around and made the return trip to the house. About an hour later Tri County came to fill up my propane tank, I felt sorry for the young man who couldn't find the driveway off the road. He finally grabbed the hose and struggled through the drifts to reach the propane tank. He walked through the ditch.

I shoveled some of the snow off the deck and cleared the south facing steps. I forgot to mention that I could barely push the storm door open enough to get onto the deck. Pru was excited because I was dressed for an outing and she didn't want to miss a step of it. Poor critter cringed at the back of the door as I shoveled a path across the deck and cleared the doorway. She was thrilled to go back into the house while I finished up the pathway. I went back into the house where I needed to mop up the snow that had clung to Miss Pru's hairy little body, she was very courteous and stood on the mat as she shook off the snow.....then ran into the living room to curl up on the coach. I was almost surprised that she wasn't sipping a hot brew when I reentered the house.

I spent the day shoveling snow and listening for the house phone. Sear's repair was supposed to be here sometime between 8AM and 5PM to fix my Kenmore refrigerator. Of course they called to cancel just before noon and to change the appointment for the same time this Friday. I mentioned the fact that both 127 and M57 were plowed, and that the local roads meaning Mason south of M57 and Roosevelt were also plowed. They told me that I misunderstood the weather conditions. Then they informed me that they had ready access to road conditions and that I had misinterpreted my information. I thought that "seeing was believing".....it must have been a big optical illusion on my part with large orange objects. Such is life.

The Bannister, Ashley and Pompeii United Methodist Churches will be open starting this Sunday (February 21st) and masks are mandatory. So I will be going into work in the morning to work on setting up the bulletins and updating the inserts. The starting time for services at the Bannister United Methodist Church will be at 11:15 AM. Pompeii service is at 9AM and Ashley's is at 10AM or you can call in to listen on the conference call. The phone number is 1-312-626-6799, when answered punch in 74267036410# and finally *266501#, the service times are the same 9AM, 10AM and 11:15 AM. Good to be back.

Well darn it all, insult has been added to injury....I went into the office this morning at ten. At 10:15 my son called and told me that there was no water.....it trickled to nothing when he went to use it this morning. He told me that he was going to his sister's to take a shower so that he could make his dialysis appointment. Five minutes later he told me that his truck wouldn't start....had to do with the minus eighteen degrees that we had last night. I stayed at work until I had finished the bulletins and inserts, got them delivered and did my banking. As I got home at six there was still no water and his truck hadn't started. It is now 2:30 Thursday morning and the water has not started to trickle out of the faucets. Yes, there is a thermostatically controlled heater in the insulated pump room and the pipes under the house are wrapped in heat tape. It must be one of those suck it up buttercup moments and I'll have water when the weather warms up. Ain't life grand? Hopefully everything will fall back into place by Friday.....

I do hope that you have a grand week filled with God's blessings. Please use your discerning nature and apply your common sense. Even the insults can make you take a thankful view of your life.....I still have heat and a roof over my head and only one load of laundry to be done.



Religious Thoughts

by Phil Hoppersberger
Graham Community Church

"When the Deal Goes Down"

"Jesus...abolished Death and brought Life and Immortality to light (2 Timothy 1:10)."

A good friend lies in the ICU right now, and will most likely be dead before this column goes to press. Eternity looms for Jeff, as it did for Paul when he wrote these words, his last letter to Timothy before Rome chopped off his head. Immortality finally revealed.

Each invisible prayer is like a cloud in the air, Tomorrow keeps turning around

We live and we die, we know not why, But I'll be with you when the deal goes down

Fortunately, Jeff's a Christian (and a fellow Bob Dylan fan). We went to see Dylan at the Wharton Center last year (our third time seeing him together since Bob became a Christian) and Jeff wondered if this was the last time we'd see Bob (since Dylan is 79).

The midnight rain follows the train, We all wear the same thorny crown

Soul to soul, our shadows roll, And I'll be with you when the deal goes down

Bob has a song, "When the Deal Goes Down" that talks about not being alone in Death for the Christian. Jeff is living these lyrics right now. What an immense comfort to his wife who sits by his side tonight, praying, knowing their separation is only momentary. And, that Jesus will usher him into eternity to be safe from any harm. Death abolished.

More frail than the flowers, these precious hours, That keep us so tightly bound

You come to my eyes like a vision from the skies, And I'll be with you when the deal goes down

Warren Weirsbe once said, "If you're born once, you die twice; born twice and you die only once." In other words, Death cannot hold you in the grave if you're born again by the Spirit. But if you ignore Jesus, the one who conquered Death, and are only born physically, then a Second Death awaits you to pay for your own sin. It's your choice.

In this earthly domain, full of disappointment and pain, You'll never see me frown

I owe my heart to you, and that's sayin' it true, And I'll be with you when the deal goes down

Those are some excerpts from Dylan's classic song, and now I'll take a shot at a verse:

The rich and the poor, they always want more, Immortality too far from shore. They cut and they duck, but Death still runs amok, and stands alone at their door. Asleep at the switch, there's always some itch, thinking there's bound to be more. But the road always ends, with no payment for sins, they're left alone, when the deal goes down.

Maybe I'm not Dylan, but we both know without Jesus you haven't got a chance in your ICU. If Jesus rose from the dead, and revealed Life and Immortality, can you give me one good reason why you wouldn't bend your knee tonight and repent? I can see Jeff, a man "Forever Young," offering a thumbs-up right now on that ICU bed. Choose Life.

Ovid Township March Board of Review Meeting Dates

Will meet on the following dates:
Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.
(Informational only no appeals may be presented)

Appeals will be heard:
Tuesday, March 9, 2021
3 pm to 9 pm

Friday, March 12, 2021
9 am to 3 pm

Appeals may be submitted in writing or email before March 8
at: mholley4444@gmail.com

Ovid Township Hall, 1015 Baese Court
Ovid, MI 48866
Any questions Ph. 989-834-5611 (Assessor).
Protests will be heard for the 2021 assessments

ELBA TOWNSHIP GRATIOT COUNTY

Elba Township board of Review Organization Meeting will be held at the Township office at 109 W. Oak St. in Ashley.

Tuesday March 2, 2021 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Organizational Meeting.

Elba Township Board of Review will be held at the Township office at 109 E. Oak St. in Ashley.
Monday March 8, 2021 from

1:00pm to 5:00pm & 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Tuesday March 9, 2021 from

9:00am to 12:00 Noon & 1:00pm to 4:00pm

VICTOR TOWNSHIP 2021 BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review will meet on the following dates for the purpose of hearing 2021 assessment appeals:

Tuesday, March 9th

3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Call for an appointment and access information.

Friday, March 12th

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Call for an appointment and access information.

Per the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Emergency Order-Gatherings and Face Mask Order dated February 5, 2021, and Open Meetings Act (OMA) 1976 PA 267, **all appeals will be held virtually, by phone or by letter.**

To schedule an Appointment and Receive your access information call (517) 204-3752. The Board of Review will accept letters of appeals until 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 12, 2021, at Victor Township, 6843 E. Alward Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848.

Beth Botke
Assessor

Middlebury Township March Board of Review Notice

March 2nd at 1:30 pm Organizational Meeting
Board of Review

Wednesday, March 10th from 9 am to 3 pm

Friday, March 12th 3 pm to 9 pm

All above meetings will be held at the township hall located at 7627 W M21, Ovid, MI 48866

In order to ease the burden on taxpayers, the assessor and the board of review and to ensure that all taxpayers have an equal opportunity to be heard by the board of review, the Township of Middlebury hereby resolves, according to provisions of MCL 211.30(8) of the General Property Tax Act, that the board of review shall receive letters or emails of protest regarding assessments from resident and non-resident taxpayers from the first Tuesday in March until it adjourns from the public hearings for which it meets to hear such protests.

If you do not want to appear in person, appeals may also be submitted by March 12 in writing to PO Box 622, Ovid, MI 48866, or by email at mholley4444@gmail.com

Middlebury Township Budget Public Hearing

The Middlebury Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022 at the township hall located at 7627 W M21, Ovid, MI on **March 9, 2021 at 6:45 pm. *The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at 7627 W M21, Ovid, MI 48866.

Home Improvement

Did You Know?

Basements may not be go-to hangouts during spring, summer and fall, when many homeowners spend more time on their patios and decks enjoying the great outdoors. But as winter approaches and the great outdoors becomes less welcoming, basements once again become popular places to relax and spend time with loved ones. That's why fall is such an ideal time to address mold issues in a basement. According to WebMD, exposure to mold can irritate a person's eyes, nose, throat, and lungs. That's true whether a person is allergic to mold or not. Even people who are merely sensitive to mold can experience sneezing and runny nose, and some may even develop red eyes and skin rash if exposed to mold. Reactions are much more severe for people with mold allergies, who may experience shortness of breath or suffer from asthma attacks if exposed to mold. Molds require moisture to grow, and basements may provide ideal growing conditions for mold. Mold spores cannot grow without moisture, so dehumidifiers can help homeowners effectively reduce the risk of mold growth in their basements. WebMD advises homeowners keep indoor humidity levels, which can be measured with an inexpensive instrument known as a hygrometer, below 60 percent. In lieu of wall-to-wall carpeting in basements, install concrete floors and area rugs to make mold growth less likely. Basement floors also should be routinely inspected for leaks, as leaks can promote mold growth. Address leaks promptly if any are found.



Should I DIY? 3 Questions to Determine if it's Best to Renovate on Your Own

A do-it-yourself mentality has taken hold in millions of households across the globe. Popular television channels like HGTV and DIY Network as well as accessible home improvement content on apps like YouTube has inspired many homeowners to tackle renovation projects around their homes. Taking such initiative is admirable, though it also can prove costly if homeowners end up biting off more than they can chew.

Home improvement videos and television shows have a tendency to oversimplify renovation projects, potentially giving homeowners a false sense of confidence in their DIY abilities. A concerted effort on the part of homeowners to determine if it's best to renovate on their own or hire a professional should always be the first step of any renovation project. No two homeowners are the same, but the following three questions can help homeowners determine if DIY is their best option.

1. Can I afford to DIY?

Professional home improvement projects are costly for a variety of reasons. Materials can be costly, but so are the tools and labor necessary to do the job right. Homeowners may not have the tools necessary to complete complicated projects. Specialty tools can be expensive to purchase or even rent, and the cost of acquiring such tools should be included in any DIY project cost estimates. Labor also factors heavily into professional projects, and for good reason. Talented contractors have unique skills that have been developed and perfected over many years. Those skills can ensure projects are completed quickly and correctly. Labor may seem costly, but such costs may ultimately prove to be a bargain compared to the cost of fixing DIY mistakes. Projects that are minor in scope and don't require the use of potentially costly specialty tools may be better suited for weekend warriors than more complicated renovations.

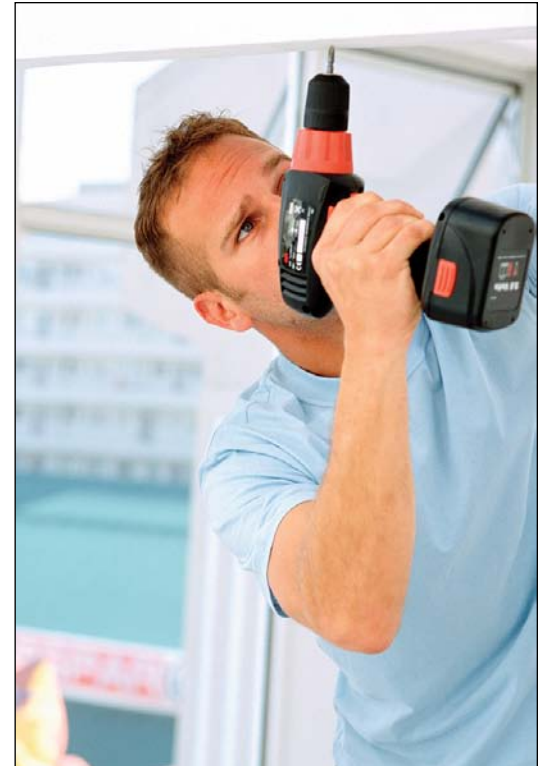
2. Do I have the time?

Homeowners must determine how much time they have to complete a project before deciding to do it themselves. No one wants to spend months staring at an unfinished renovation project. Homeowners who are already pressed for time may not be able to complete projects in a timely fashion, which can make homes less comfortable and even less safe.

3. Can I pull this off?

DIY projects can instill homeowners with a sense of pride in their homes, but it's imperative that homeowners considering the DIY option conduct an honest assessment of their skills. A lack of renovation experience does not necessarily mean a homeowner cannot successfully complete a DIY project. But in such instances, it may be best to start with small, straightforward projects and then gradually move up to bigger, more complicated projects as skills are fine tuned. And homeowners who have never been at their best with a hammer in hand should not be ashamed to leave the work to the professionals.

Television shows and online tutorials can make renovations appear easier than they actually are. Homeowners considering DIY renovations can ask themselves a handful of questions to determine if they're ready for the challenge of renovating their homes on their own.



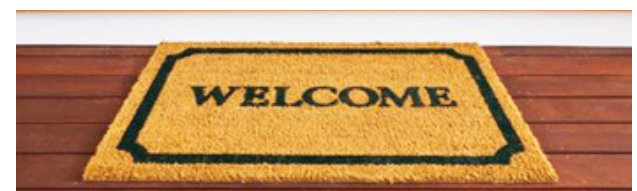
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Home Improvement

The Average Timelines for Popular Renovation Projects

Home renovation projects are significant undertakings. Working with skilled and experienced contractors can ensure projects go smoothly and are completed promptly. Timing is a big consideration for homeowners as they begin renovating their homes, and the home improvement experts at HomeAdvisor note that the following are some general timelines for popular renovation projects.

- **Home addition:** Short of a full-scale demolition and rebuild, home additions are the most time-consuming projects homeowners can undertake. HomeAdvisor notes that its survey of customers who recently completed home addition projects reported that the average time from start to finish was between three and four months. Certain variables, including the scale of the project and the local permits process, can extend the time it takes to complete a home addition.

- **Kitchen remodel:** Scale is a big factor to consider when estimating the time it takes to complete various home improvement projects, and kitchen remodels are no exception. Some HomeAdvisor users reported projects taking as long as four months, though the average time reported was roughly six weeks. Projects that require major overhauls like rearranging the plumbing and moving walls will likely take longer than more cosmetic projects that are limited to replacing cabinets and countertops.

- **Bathroom remodel:** More than 1,000 homeowners surveyed by HomeAdvisor reported that bathroom remodels took about 4.5 weeks from start to finish. Small-scale remodels that focus on painting the walls a fresh color and replacing existing tiles can be completed in less than two weeks. But like with kitchen remodels, bathroom remodels that involve replacing plumbing fixtures and removing walls figure to take much longer than that.

- **Siding installation:** HomeAdvisor users report that new siding projects take roughly two weeks from start to finish. That estimate is the same regardless of which materials homeowners are replacing and installing.

- **Replacement windows:** Homeowners who want to replace all the windows in their home can expect such a project to take roughly three weeks. HomeAdvisor notes that such a timeline need not concern homeowners worried that they will be forced to brave the elements during the length of the project. Much of a contractors' time during a window replacement project will be spent on upfront measuring and then ensuring a tight fit once the windows have been installed.

Did You Know?

Homeowners rely heavily on electricity to power their homes and their lives. Coal, nuclear power and water energy help to generate this electricity. Without electricity, lights wouldn't work, digital devices wouldn't charge and cities would come grinding to a halt. This is experienced on a local level when power outages occur. Homeowners may need to diversify some of the resources they have at home to be able to make it through an electrical power outage successfully. Investing in solar power panels can be one way to generate electricity even when power has been disrupted. In addition, pellet stoves or woodburning stoves can serve as alternative heat sources as well as cooking surfaces if traditional forced air systems are rendered useless during an electrical outage. Homes equipped with a coal-fired smoker can complement gas-powered grills for outdoor cooking as well for those who have electric ranges and ovens. Solar-powered device chargers can provide power to phones or tablets during electrical outages. Having a few different options on hand can help people make it through power outages unscathed.



Tips to Improve WiFi Around the House

Speedy, reliable internet is something people have quickly grown accustomed to. That's no doubt why dropped WiFi signals can be so frustrating.

Various things can contribute to slow or interrupted Wi-Fi. As a result, there's no one-size-fits-all solution to address underperforming Wi-Fi. But that's good news, as it means there's an assortment of strategies that consumers can try to improve the Wi-Fi in their homes.

- **Upgrade your router.** Many people rent their routers from their internet service providers, but it may surprise some to learn that they can buy their own. Buying your own router can be beneficial in various ways, not the least of which is it can save money. Router rental fees vary, but they typically cost between \$10 and \$15 per month. Consumers will save money in the long run by buying their own router rather than renting one from their ISP. When buying their own routers, consumers also can pick from a host of options, including routers with strong performance ratings that may contribute to better WiFi performance.

- **Set up automatic firmware updates.** It's easy to forget a router after it's been plugged in and internet service starts working. However, manufacturers routinely issue firmware updates to improve router performance. Turning on automatic updates may improve WiFi performance, and such updates also can provide a host of additional benefits, including added security measures.

- **Relocate the router.** PCMag.com notes that the location of the router can affect WiFi performance. If possible, locate the router in the center of the home so it can easily reach all parts of the house. Locating wireless routers away from walls and other obstructions also may improve performance.

- **Switch frequencies.** Switching frequencies can help wireless consumers whose service might be adversely affected by congestion. Consumer Reports notes that wireless congestion can affect WiFi performance in apartment buildings and densely populated neighborhoods. In such instances, consumers can check their routers to see if they're running on the 2.4 GHz frequency band. If so, switching them to the 5 GHz band, which has more channels and is likely to be less congested, may improve WiFi performance.

Slow and/or interrupted WiFi signals can be very frustrating. Thankfully, various strategies can help consumers quickly remedy such issues.



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Editorial



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Kodiak Heat Socks

The weekly Sportsman is very particular about socks and foot wear especially when it pertains to cold weather. About six months ago a package of camo socks were purchased at a big box store for no other than for their appearance. After wearing them for casual use the Weekly Sportsman went on a buying binge and purchased as many packages of these camo Kodiak Heat socks as possible.

Like all clothing products and gear covered in this column extensive real life testing has been undergone on these socks from casual wear to miles and miles walked when hunting. These socks just don't seem to easily wear out or lose their shape. No stretching and no shrinkage!

Comfort is incredible no matter how often they are washed but their real advantage over other socks is their wicking and fast drying ability. The Weekly Sportsman has always been an advocate of polypropylene sock liners worn inside a pair of socks that are 100% pure wool or a heavy wool blend. Serious reconsideration has happened about this decades old practice because of these newly discovered socks.

How could a package of three pairs of socks for \$9.99 be superior to the old polypropylene and wool combo? The Weekly Sportsman was expecting to read that there was some blend of wool in these socks but the labels stated 85% acrylic and 15% Olefin. Acrylic is known for comfort and quick dry time but the secret component is olefin because of it's lightweight, super wicking abilities, stain proof, mildew resistance, and is very comfortable on the skin. When these two synthetic fibers are combined they create almost a super material that in many ways is superior to wool in not only price but also practicality in most conditions. They have been worn in hiking boots on 85 degree days and in deep snow and sub zero temperatures with complete satisfaction. You can find these socks online and at local big box stores. The Weekly Sportsman recommends readers looking for a new pair of hunting/outdoor socks to try Kodiak Heat. You won't be disappointed!

-WS

Elba Township Ford Cemetery

Just a reminder that all flowers must be removed from the grave site by March 15th. Flowers can be replaced again starting April 1st.

Madalin Morris
Township Clerk
989-847-2097

Duplain Township March Board of Review Meeting Dates

Will meet on the following dates:
Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday March 2, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
(Informational only no appeals may be presented)

Appeals will be heard:
Monday, March 8, 2021
3 pm to 9 pm
Thursday, March 11, 2021
9 am to 3 pm

Appeals may be submitted in writing or email before March 8
at: mholley4444@gmail.com

Duplain Township Hall, 145 E. Main Street, Elsie, MI 48831
Any questions Ph. 989-834-5611 (Assessor).
Protests will be heard for the 2021 assessments



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

Feeling Useless, Try Thoughtfulness

Dear Andy,

I would like to do more with my life. My husband and I are empty-nesters, and our children are out on their own making there way in the world. No grand children yet. At first we used our extra money to go out to dinner, take long weekends to the lake and other get-ways. We have been retired for over 3 years and I am getting "bored" for lack of other words. I would like to do something more meaningful in my life than watch reruns and clean house. My husband is completely content to have me make all 3 meals, watch TV or read.

With quarantine recommendations with limited interaction with others, and many activities not available, I need some ideas to make some changes and feel more useful. What can I do? Feeling Useless

Dear Feeling Useless,

Keeping a clean house and cooking for a man can keep you quite busy. I doubt you are useless. You might feel that way at times, so here is a little advice that came to mind: First of all, when you cook meals...try different recipes that take more prep than you typically might not engage in when making meals. Make cooking fun. Learn to love to chop. Make enough to share with a shut-in or neighbor who also might need a break.

Just this week I took some frozen fish caught by my husband to a person that used to ice fish and is now homebound. He was so grateful to see me, he got teary eyed. After a strong hug, a little visit, I was in tears, too. Believe it or not...I think I was more moved by his reaction and appreciation. It made me want to be thoughtful more often. So first try thoughtfulness towards others.

Next, write down your thoughts, visions, and goals. Create a regular routine to meet those goals. Such as scrapbooking old photos, organizing your recipes, learning to sew, learning to knit, writing a book, start a virtual book club, and get into an exercise routine. It is so important to keep fit during our extended time at home due to the health regulations and restrictions during COVID.

Once a month, set up a date and time with your local Homeless Shelter to have pizza delivered or order from a local restaurant that does takeout and delivery. Shelters can also use money cards to buy what they need. Drop some off or mail them for their use. The logistics of coordinating a dinner will make you feel good and useful.

To make transformations in your life develop regular habits, build your self-confidence and be positive about life in general. Find opportunities in your interest areas, then develop them. Eat balanced meals and have a bedtime routine to sleep well. If you are not getting a good nights' sleep it can make you feel restless. Contact your doctor, as we age, we often do not make enough melatonin in our system to get to sleep, especially if you take naps during the day.

Abraham Lincoln said, "The best thing about the future is that it only comes one day at a time." So, take time to write down your dreams for the future. Make a commitment and a plan to do what you want to accomplish during this wonderful phase of your life.

Ask me anything @ Ask_Andy@aol.com



*You are never too old to set
another goal or to dream
a new dream." – C.S. Lewis*

Sports

Ovid-Elsie Boys Move to 2-0 with 10-Point Win over Holly Bronchos

OVID-ELSIE — A 15-4 third quarter run propelled Ovid-Elsie's boys basketball team past Holly on February 12, 42-32.

Logan Thompson and Dylan Carman led the Marauders (2-0) with nine points each in a game that had four lead changes. Carman also tied for the team-high in assists, dishing out four alongside teammate Cal Byrnes.

Adam Barton had eight points, while Clay Wittenberg added six for the Marauders. Jackson Thornton tossed in four for coach Josh Latz's Marauders.



Clay Wittenberg scored six points during the Feb. 12th games against Holly Bronchos.

Marauder Boys Score 15-Point Win Over Bentley



Jackson Thornton goes up for two of his 20 points for Ovid-Elsie against Burton-Bentley. He also led the Marauders in rebounding with 12 on the night.

Photos by Jody Thornton

OVID-ELSIE — Jackson Thornton scored 20 points and pulled down 12 rebounds February 15 as coach Josh Latz's Ovid-Elsie boys basketball team led from start to finish for a 60-45 nonconference win over Burton Bentley.

Thornton, a 6-foot-6 senior center, shot 9-for-14 from the floor and the Marauders (3-0) built a 35-15 halftime lead.

Logan Thompson scored 12 points and Adam Barton scored 11 points with six rebounds while shooting 3-for-3 from 3-point range.

Scoring for the Marauders looked like this: Jackson Thornton 9 2-3 20 points, Adam Barton 4 0-2 11, Colin Fluharty 1 0-0 2,

Clay Wittenberg 0 3-6 3, Alex Eichenberg 2 0-0 4, Dylan Carman 2 0-0 6, Logan Thompson 4 2-2 12 and Jacob Schaub 0 2-2 2.

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Sports

Ovid-Elsie Teams Get Sweep of Burton Bentley 63-18

OVID-ELSIE — Kiah Longoria scored 12 points with four rebounds and four assists, and Braeden Tokar had 10 points and four steals to lead coach Ryan Cunninghams' Ovid-Elsie girls past Burton Bentley, 63-18, on February 15.

The Marauders (2-1) shot 52 percent from the floor. O-E came up with 18 steals and committed just 10 turnovers.

"We came out with a lot of intensity tonight and played our most complete game so far," coach Cunningham said. "For a young team, they're starting to buy in and it's starting to click for them. I'm proud of the effort tonight, especially on the defensive end."

Caitlyn Walter scored nine points with two steals and two assists for the Marauders. Bentley fell to 1-2 overall.

Marauder scoring went like this: Kaylee Hall 2 0-2 4 points, Kiah Longoria 5 2-5 12, Tristin Ziola 3 0-0 6, Caitlyn Walter 4 0-0 9, Braylon Byrnes 0 2-2 2, Braeden Tokar 3 4-6 10, Evalyn Cole 3 0-0 6, Hailee Campbell 2 0-0 4, Madison Cunningham 3 0-0 7 and Ava Bates 1 1-2 3.

Lady Bears Lose to Mustangs

by *Ashleigh Shaw*

The Ashley Lady Bears traveled to Montabella to take on the Mustangs in a conference match-up last week. Ashley's scoring woes plagued them again and the ended up losing the game 31-12. "Our inexperience showed quite a bit tonight, as our younger players continue to work and improve. We shot the ball poorly for the second game in a row. We just need to continue to work hard to get good shots and they will start falling" commented Coach Shaw.

Allison Emmendorfer scored 4 points and had two steals, Lydia Ergen also scored 4 points and grabbed 9 rebounds, Jenna Wirt scored 3 points and ripped down 12 rebounds and Savannah Beebe added a point.

Merrill Takes it to Ashley

Ashley hosted Merrill for a conference game and once again struggled to score, taking good shots, but not getting them to fall, resulting in the Bears taking the loss 57-10. "We had another tough shooting day and also turned the ball over too much. We continue to get good looks at the basket. We just need to concentrate and make the shot" said Coach Shaw.

Jenna Wirt lead the team on the night with 6 points and 6 rebounds, Savannah Beebe scored 4 points and had 4 rebounds and Lydea Ergen grabbed 6 rebounds.

Irish Beat Lady Bears

Jenna Wirt lead her team against the Irish of Sacred Heart scoring 14 points, grabbing 6 rebounds and nabbing 3 steals, but it wasn't enough to overcome the deficit they faced as Ashley loses to Sacred Heart 66-20.

"We played a better game tonight against a quality opponent with a tough press. We were able to make a few shots in the second half tonight and hopefully that will help us gain confidence going forward" exclaimed Coach Shaw. Ashleigh Jelinek also scored 4 points, 6 rebounds and 3 steals, while Lydea Ergen added two points.

Bears Take on Sacred Heart

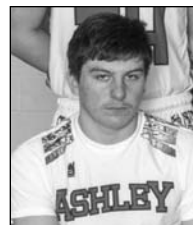
by *Ashleigh Shaw*

Ashley went down quick to start the game but managed to play some catch up and even though going down quick managed to only be down 13 at the end of the first quarter. The Bears struggled to score in the second quarter and by halftime trailed 43-14. The Bears were able to play a pretty even second half outscoring the Irish by 2, but because of the first have deficit couldn't make up enough to take the lead. Ashley lost 69-42.

Logan Drummond scored 13 points and had two steals, Evan Litwiller scored 8 points, Aaron Drummond scored 5 points and grabbed 6 rebounds, Grant Malek chipped in 7 points nabbing 11 rebounds and Logan Hardman scored 7 points.



Jenna Wirt



Logan Drummond

Wolves Finally Open Defense of 2020 CMAC Crown, but Fall Short to P-W, 50-40

PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA — Pewamo-Westphalia spoiled Laingsburg's boys basketball opener, 50-40, here February 12. Zach Hawes scored 18 points for the Wolfpack, while Cooper Wilson added nine points.

P-W, up 26-13 at halftime, saw Laingsburg climb back into it in the second half. The Wolfpack cut the deficit to two points but came up short in the end.

It was the CMAC opener for both teams. "P-W played and won vs. Ionia on Wednesday night," said Wolfpack coach Dan Morrill. "P-W started with stern defense keeping us in check, and got out to 13-3 advantage. We started to find our way back but went into the half with a 26-13 deficit."

"P-W found themselves in a dogfight as we stormed back coming out of the locker room and eventually cut the deficit to 2, but it was all that the we were able to muster."

The Pirates grew the lead into the 4th and finished the game as victors, 50-40. Said coach Morrill, "We used our speed, press and 3 point shooting to try to pull it off, but in the end it was the physical play of PW and their advantage to rim and rebounding edge that carried the day."

P-W had a balanced attack led by Brock Thelen with 14, Zach Simon with 13 and Jamison Eklund with 13.

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Ovid-Elsie Varsity Bowling

submitted by *Matt Fabus*

OE Varsity Bowlers took to the lanes on Thursday, February 11th at Grand Blanc against New Lothrop.

The girls won 30-0. High scores were Emma Fox 164; Ashland Particka 153; Morgan Douglass 155, 154; Gracie Schultz 161, 150; Mikayla Kelley 246, 151; Lizzy Underhill 197, 158.

The boys were also on the winning side 26-4. High scores included Evan Hehrer 181; Clay Wenzlick 154; Tommy Terpening 208; Steve Zedemont 191, 232; Ian Hehrer 179, 236; Corbin Kelley 170, 198.

Both teams were at Colonial Lanes on Saturday, February 13th against Mt. Morris.

The girls came out on top 30-0. High scores included Emma Fox 164; Morgan Douglass 139, 150; Gracie Schultz 161, 147; Mikayla Kelley 180, 202; Lizzy Underhill 204, 151.

The boys won 22.5 - 7.5. High scores were Evan Hehrer 179; Tommy Terpening 138; Steve Zedemont 151, 190; Ian Hehrer 203, 189; Corbin Kelley 246, 156.

The next match will be Saturday, February 20th at 9am at Grand Blanc Lanes against Bentley. Tuesday, February 22nd at B's Bowling Center against Mt. Morris.



Your Marauder Sports Radio Network

Graham, Baynes Lead Rout of P-W as Wolfpack Gals Move to 2-0

LAINGSBURG — Laingsburg's girls defeated perennial CMAC powerhouse Pewamo-Westphalia for the first time since the 2015-16 season — and did it convincingly February 11.

Laingsburg won 40-19 behind a ball-hawking defense that delivered 17 steals and the offensive sparks of senior point guard Grace Graham and sophomore forward Ellie Baynes.

Graham, who had never been on a Laingsburg team that had beaten P-W, delivered a team-high 15 points with five steals, six rebounds and two assists. Baynes added 11 points and two assists while junior guard Erica Wade scored six points and junior forward Lorna Strieff had seven rebounds and four steals.

Coach Doug Hurst's Wolfpack improved to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in the CMAC while P-W, led by Sierra Schnieder's seven points, fell to 1-1. The Wolfpack were coming off Tuesday's 49-28 win over Portland St. Patrick, in a game that did not count toward the league standings.

Laingsburg never trailed Thursday after taking an 8-0 lead. Wade scored the first two points of the game before Graham made it 4-0 with 5 minutes left in the first quarter.

P-W finally got on the board with Aylah Smith's 3-pointer, but Laingsburg took an 11-5 lead into the second quarter, and an 18-10 advantage into halftime.

LHS went on an 8-0 scoring binge early in the third quarter with Graham in on all four baskets. First she fed Baynes for a low-post basket. Then, Graham scored on a drive while being fouled. She missed the free throw, but Baynes rebounded and Graham laid in a left-handed layup in what turned into a four-point play. Moments later Graham scored again and it was 26-10 Wolfpack.

That 17-3 scoring advantage in the third quarter gave Laingsburg a commanding 35-13 lead heading into the final eight minutes.

Graham said the key was defensive intensity. The Pirates had just one 3-pointer. Laingsburg dominated with 28 team rebounds, and 17 steals.

Said coach Hurst, "After watching two games I'm very impressed how well we were playing together during such a difficult Covid season. In the gym ... out for months ... and back in the gym and oh! You have games in a few days. Everything has been crazy, and to see this group of girls pull it together so quickly has been wonderful."

"We still have a lot of work to do, and improve across the board, but I'm really happy at this moment where we are as a team playing, and even more important where we're at mentally."

**Coming March 7th Winter Sports
Photos remainder of season
schedules and coaches comments.**



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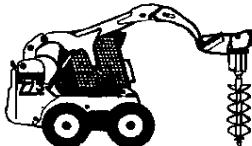
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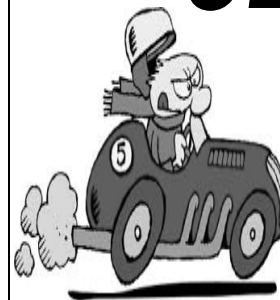
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Treasury: Working Families, Individuals Eligible for Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit

submitted by Ron Leix
LANSING, Mich. – Working families and individuals with low to moderate income may be able to receive Michigan's Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

To qualify, individuals must meet certain requirements and file a federal income tax return, even if no tax is owed or there is no requirement to file a return. If a federal EITC is granted, the state of Michigan will provide a 6% supplemental EITC when the taxpayer files his or her state income tax return.

"The Earned Income Tax Credit is a very important tax credit that all eligible Michiganders should seek out," State Treasurer Rachael Eubanks said. "The extra income this tax credit provides can be really helpful to working, low to moderate income families. Please don't hesitate to seek out assistance so you can claim it on both your federal and state individual income tax returns."

The amount of the federal EITC depends on income, filing status and number of qualifying children claimed as dependents on the taxpayer's federal income tax return. The EITC reduces the amount of tax owed and may provide a refund.

During the 2019 tax year, approximately 738,400 claimants received the Michigan EITC, totaling almost \$110.6 million with an average credit amount of \$150.

The state Treasury Department estimates there are thousands of eligible Michiganders who are eligible for both the federal and state EITCs and do not claim them each year.

To learn more about the EITC, go to www.irs.gov/eitc. For more information about services provided by the state Treasury Department, go to www.michigan.gov/treasury or follow @MITreasury on Twitter.



Digging Out

On Monday night, February 15th, Mother Nature dumped several inches of snow in Mid-Michigan. Ovid's DPW crew began work in the wee hours on Tuesday removing snow from Main Street. Area schools were closed on Tuesday and Wednesday as road crews worked in both city and rural areas to clear the roadways.



Photos by Deb Price



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