



Front Coach Matt Fabus. Back row (l-r): Ashland Particka, Lizzy Underhill, Emma Fox, Gracie Schultz, Morgan Douglass and Mikayla Kelley.

Ovid-Elsie Boys & Girls Are Conference Champs

The OE Marauder Varsity Boys and Girls Bowling Teams earned Conference Championships on Saturday, March 13th at Richfield Lanes in Flint. It was a three-peat performance for the girls team, finishing first in 2019-2021. The lady Marauders also went unbeaten for the last three years in league play. On March 13th, the girls defeated Lakeville 28 1/2 to 1 1/2 in the 30 point league meet. High scorers were Lizzy Underhill (169), Mikayla Kelley (154), Gracie Schultz (150) Morgan Douglass (152) and Emma Fox (139).

The OE boys team also went undefeated in the 2020-21 season. They finished the season in Flint on March 13th with as perfect 30-0 win over Chesaning. High scorers were Corbin Kelley (245,223), Ian Hehrer (162), Steve Zedemont (161), Tommy Terpening (169) and Clay Wenzlick (157).

Coach Matt Fabus was named Coach of the Year by his peers of coaches. This is the second year he was coach of the year for the girls.

The boys teams competed on Friday, March 19th and girls on Sunday, March 21st during Regionals at Northern Lanes in Sanford for team and individual spots for State Tournament on March 27th and 28th at Jax Lanes in Jackson. Good Luck Marauders.



Front row (l-r): Clay Wenzlick, Coach Matt Fabus and Steven Zedemont. Back row (l-r): Tommy Terpening, Corbin Kelley, Evan Hehrer, Ian Hehrer.

Tapping Into Sweetness

by Deb Price

Typically when one retires, the clock becomes unimportant and relaxation is the order of the day, at least for a little while. On Saturday, March 13th, I visited Tim Riegle, a rural Elsie resident and learned about how this retiree spends some of his free time.

Tim, retired from the Michigan State Police Operations Department in 2012 after 33 years of service. He grew up tapping Maple trees as a youngster. His Dad George gathered sap and made maple syrup for almost 25 years. After his passing, Tim's brother Dave, moved the operation commercially to Harrisville, Michigan where he operates today.

Riegle, who describes himself as a Micro-Hobbyist, got started tapping his own trees and making Maple Syrup after he purchased a grain silo in Eaton Rapids from an online auction. Tim and his brother Dave transported the silo to Elsie and set it up. He turned an ordinary filing cabinet into a wood stove, placed it inside the silo creating his very own "Sugar Shack".

Several taps are placed in his 60 year old Soft, Silver Maple Trees each year around the 3rd week of February, depending on the weather. "The sap will run once the trees start to thaw, best condition is a cold night, followed by a day warming up to about 40 degrees," he explained. Once the sap is collected it is transferred to storage containers and kept at a temperature of

38 degrees or colder. It is then boiled within 7 days of collection. It takes 40 parts of maple sap to make one quart of syrup. The sap is boiled to remove excess water over intense heat, until it reaches 219 degrees. Riegle collects approximately 200-250 gallons of sap each season from his trees and turns that sap into approximately 5 gallons of delicious maple syrup. The entire process takes about 4-6 weeks each year.

For this retiree, at least once a year he is kept quite busy in his "Sugar Shack". Thank You Tim, the syrup is delicious. Can't wait to share it with my grandson, French toast is his favorite.



Tim is pictured here in his Sugar Shack, checking out the boiling sap. Below he is collecting the sap from the trees, placing it in storage pails. He then does a testing procedure before the boiling process.



Meridian Weekly

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E-mail - Publisher deb.price@meridianweekly.com
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Social



Ovid-Elsie High School Supports Successful Food Drive

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE - The Ovid-Elsie High FFA, NHS, and Student Council spearheaded a competition between the Advisory Classes to support the Elsie Food Pantry. The end result was tremendous support by the Ovid-Elsie High School students and staff collecting 4,906 food and paper products and \$906.15 in monetary donations. And all this was accomplished in one week.



A special thank-you to advisors Tracey Hoffman, Renee Baese, and student teacher Autum Ash, who assisted the OE students with the project and the delivery of the products.

Legion Members Recognized

Members of Elsie American Legion Post 502 and Laingsburg American Legion Post 248 were recognized recently for their Continuous Membership Status within each organization.

Frank Bernath, of Elsie Post 502, was recognized for 75 years of membership. He is also the only living member that was instrumental in creating the Legion Post in Elsie. He was visited at his home in St Johns by members of the Post as well as four of his brothers, sister and daughter.

At their regular monthly meeting, Laingsburg American Legion Post 248 recognized Don Arthur for his 50 years of service to the Post. The late Gary Andersen was also recognized as this year would have been his 50th year in good standing with the Post.



Frank Bernath



Pictured here (l-r) Clyde Casler, Alex Hagerty and Don Arthur.

The Laingsburg Lions Club 2021 Springtime Festival Raffle



First Prize: Custom Club Car by Carts R Us-Owosso
2nd prize: \$500
3rd prize: \$400 grill from Leonard's Hardware
4th prize: \$400 meat package from Sage Market

5th prize: "The Mystery Bag"

Tickets 3 for \$20 1 for \$10
Drawing May 31, 3:00 PM



Need not be present to win
winner will be called immediately

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Tickets Available from any Lions Member,
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Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – The regular meeting of the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools Board of Education was held in-person Tuesday, March 16, 2021. Officials once again re-confirmed the “Return to Learn” plan.

Jennifer Branch, Career Technical Education director, presented the annual Clinton County RESA vocational education report. The data reviewed was from 2019-2020, and the programs were in collaboration with Lansing Community College. Noting that the 2020-2021 program is in collaboration with Mid-Michigan Community College. The number of students participating has grown this year due to growing interest in CTE, and with the addition of early college. Due to the increase in opportunities more students are choosing to participate, as well. In April there will be an opportunity for students to participate in a Capital Area College Network event. Branch further noted that the virtual venue is changing the way instructional opportunities are presented and recruiting students.

The monthly “Return to Learn Plan” for Ovid-Elsie Area Schools was presented by Mr. Randy Barton, assistant superintendent. It was reported that there is not a lot of change. Attendance numbers are increasing and remote learning contacts are in the high 90s. It is refreshing to see more students face-to-face. Officials approved the reconfirmation of the plan for the next 30 days.

COVID numbers were at declining levels until last week, when a spike took place. Currently three elementary students are in quarantine, one middle school student, one alternative high school student, and 33 high school students including the varsity basketball team, due to a positive case on the opposing team. As a school district it was noted that this is not the time to relax social distancing and masking. There are also concerns regarding the upcoming spring break.

Next officials were presented individual building updates beginning with Leonard Elementary School. Ms. Rachelle Parsons reported that students are in the middle of March Reading Month though a bit of change, but events are planned weekly and the students have read 750 books. In addition, students are enjoying the virtual special readers. Staff and volunteers are preparing for the Run for the Roar in April. The annual event will take place outdoors and in the class cohorts. The Science club has been successful. After spring break, there will be increased academic support for at risk students, 2 hours a week after school for six weeks. Administration and staff are planning summer learning programs. Kindergarten Round-up is going well and the numbers are looking very positive.

Next, Mrs. Ormesbe reported about the activities at EE Knight Elementary School. As with the other elementary school students are participating in reading month activities with travel being the theme. At lunch time students have an opportunity visit places and take virtual field trips. Also, staff is preparing for summer learning opportunities. Finally, staff and administration are focusing on social/emotional opportunities for students. To date 85% have returned to the classroom, we are welcoming students weekly back to face-to-face learning.

Ovid-Elsie Middle School activities were presented by Mr. Bryan Powell, students participated in American Me Essay Contest with three students doing very well. Eric Cliff and CBD Consultants are working directly with teachers to improve technology opportunities in the classroom, the focus is for students take ownership of their learning opportunities. The school will have a three-week boys’ basketball season for athletes and students.

Mr. Jason Tokar, Ovid-Elsie High School principle, reported that April 17-18 the drama club will be presenting the musical “Shek” with social distancing and attendance restrictions. There is as possibility that the performance will be live streamed. In addition, the high school students, FFA, National Honor Society and the Student Council collected 4907 food and paper products for the Elsie Food Pantry. Mr. Jeremy Johnson, Athletic Director, has worked many hours behind the scene to insure that athletes have an opportunity to compete in sports this year. There have been many challenges including schedules having to be redone numerous times for each sport. Mr. Johnson reported that spring sports schedule has been posted.

Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School has seen improved attendance and online engagement. Currently there are 49 enrolled students. Recently 33 students were administered the ASVAB test with scores showing considerable improvement.

Mr. Craig Coleman, transportation and grounds, reported that the bus fleet inspections had been completed. The District has 28 buses, 26 passed, 1 bus was red tag but has since been re-inspected, passed and is back in service, and 1 bus was yellow tagged and also has been fixed, re-inspected and is back in service. The Ovid-Elsie maintenance team also maintains Ashley Community School bus fleet. The 7 buses were inspected, 6 passed one red tagged fixed that day and returned to service. Noting that O-E buses bus fleet, historically OE does well in regards to inspections and surpasses area schools. OE has a great maintenance crew that keeps the buses safely on the road.

Action was taken to offer a contract to Kim Hewitt, 8th grade English Language Arts. Kim comes to the district with 14 years’ experience. She will replace Justin Vetter who recently took a position with another school.

Mr. Jason Tokar and Dr. Ryan Cunningham, superintendent, proposed a second counselor position at the high school, a position that was not replaced five years ago. The high school students need the additional social/emotional support. In addition, the pressure for career plans, students need the additional support. The request was approved by the board members.

Officials were presented the recommendation for a pre-Labor Day start, a waiver is not required because the district falls under the CCRESA umbrella and the recommended 2021-2022 calendar both were approved by officials. It was noted that a tentative agreement has been accepted by the Ovid-Elsie Education Association.

Next, officials took annual action to designate a representative to the CCRESA board, as in the past, Mrs. Erin Bancroft was reappointed to the position.

Finally, officials approved the Authority Resolution, giving Dr. Ryan Cunningham, district superintendent, the authority to sign easements and related paperwork. Currently negotiations are taking place for the solar meters and easements for the solar installation.

Monthly action was taken to approve the consent agenda which included the meeting agenda, approval of February 15, 2021 meeting, payment of the expenditures and financial reports.

Senior Center

submitted by Brenda Terpening

Do you need a Birthday Gift? Or maybe something for a Baby or Wedding Shower? Or maybe you just need something for yourself. Then come on down to the Clinton County Senior Center, located at 201 E Walker Street, St. Johns on Tuesday or Thursday between 10 am - 1 pm. They have everything from homemade items (baby to adult quilts), pet blankets, pillows (sports related and book holder ones), table runners (reversible with 2 holiday seasons), towels and much more like puzzles, books (including lots of cook-books), nic nacks and too many other things to mention. Sales of these items help the center pay for their utility bills for their building, which has been used this last year by Clinton County Meals on Wheels while the Senior Center itself was closed.

If you would like to come in at a different time, call Darlene at 989-224-6605 to set up another time.

VILLAGE OF ELSIE NOTICE Riverside Cemetery Spring Clean-up

Riverside Cemetery Spring Clean-up weekend is April 10th & 11th. There will be a dumpster on site to throw items away. The Water system will also be turned on (weather depending). Families who wish to keep tributes and decorations including holders, flowers, vases, planters, winter wreaths or grave blankets, natural or plastic must have them removed prior to April 12, 2021. Any items left after this date may be removed by the Elsie DPW.

Thank you.
Ann Trierweiler-Elsie Village Clerk

CITY OF LAINGSBURG SHIAWASSEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE NO. 02-2019

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Laingsburg Council (the “City Council”) has amended Ordinance No. 02-2019, an Ordinance to authorize, regulate, and establish a permitting process for commercial marihuana facilities as provided by the Michigan Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, Public Act 281 of 2016.

In summary, this amendment to the Ordinance changes the number of microbusinesses allowed in the City to zero (0).

This Ordinance amendment was adopted by the City Council on Monday, March 1, 2021, and shall become effective five (5) days following the day of this publication. A complete copy of this Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk and online on the City of Laingsburg’s official web site.

Paula Willoughby, City Clerk
(517) 651-5374

ONLINE ONLY ESTATE AUCTION Bid Now Through March 24, 2021



Dick & June Dickinson Estate Online Auction EZ-GO Golf Cart, 1956 John Deere 620 Tractor, 1945 H McCormick Farmall Tractor, Vintage Farming Book Collection, Pamari Glass TV Stand, Farmhouse Side & End Tables 5 Antique Crocks, Oak Dining Table & 4 Caption Chairs, Antique Coat Rack, Antique Castle Reel Films, Antique Castle Reel Films, Victorian Setttee, Kenmore Sewing Machine, 1964 G.I. Joe, accessories & foot locker, Ergonomic Brown Recliner & Footstool, Green Depression Glass Pieces, Noritake Complete China Set, Antique Wooden Secretary, Enamel Stock Pots, Nesco 18 Qt Roaster Oven, Lionel 675 Train Engine & Lionel Cars, Farmall Neon Clock, FFA Limited Edition Tractors, Steiger Super Wildcat II Model Tractor, Gold 2007 Michigan FFA Farmall 806, 1/16 Scale, Depose Figurines, Household, Antiques and MUCH MORE!

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Obituaries

Jamie (Butcher) Ladisky

May 29, 1973 - March 25, 2006

If roses grow in Heaven
Lord, please pick a bunch for
me, please place them in my
daughters arms and tell her
they're from me.

Tell her I love and miss her
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek and
hold her for awhile.

Because remembering her is easy, I do it
everyday - but there's an ache within my
heart that will never go away.

Love,
Mom



Public Welcome...
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8am-11am
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American Legion
Post 248
1240 E. Grand River
(517) 651-6050

Donald A. Herrington

Donald A. Herrington, 71, of St. Johns, died peacefully at home on Friday, March 12, 2021 after a long, valiant battle with Melanoma.

Don was born on December 6, 1949 in Toledo, Ohio, the youngest of three children born to Chester and Verla (nee. Crago) Herrington. Following graduation from Lake High School (Walbridge, OH), Don earned a bachelor's degree from Manchester College in Indiana, and later earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University. For over forty years, Don enjoyed a career as a research technician and animal caretaker with Michigan State University until his retirement in 2016.

Don and Gloria Wyrick were married on April 14, 1984 at University United Methodist Church in East Lansing, where the couple met one year prior. They made their home in Lansing, where they raised their son, Matt and daughter, Katie, until building their dream home in St. Johns, Michigan in 2001.

Don was faithful, loving, and a wonderful people person who loved to socialize. He always had a way of putting a positive spin on things and encouraged others to make the most out of life. He loved the out-of-doors, fishing, hiking, travel, and time spent with his grandkids.

He is survived by his beloved wife of nearly thirty seven years, Gloria Herrington; son, Matthew Herrington; daughter, Katie (Coby) Mizrahi; granddaughters, Cassie and Colleen; brother, Dick (Sue) Herrington; sister, Carol (Jim) Moomaw, as well as many extended family members, all of his favorite nephews and nieces, dear friends and his canine companion, Smoky.

A Memorial Gathering will take place on Friday, June 11, 2021 from 2-8 PM at McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel, 1500 Waterford Pkwy, St. Johns. A graveside service to inter Don's ashes will be held at Mt. Rest Cemetery on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 11 AM.

For further information, phone McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel at 989-224-4422.



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989-834-2573



Minister: Rev. Terry Melton

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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

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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...

Gary James Louch

Gary James Louch, age 75 of Elsie passed away Thursday, March 4, 2021 at his home.

Gary was born January 27, 1946 in Owosso, the son of Kenneth and Marion (Vautherot) Louch.

He graduated from Corunna High School, class of 1964 where he was an all around athlete and State Wrestling Champ.

Gary married Suzanne Leis at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church on May 22, 1971.

He was an avid outdoorsman and loved farming, hunting and fishing. Gary enjoyed wildlife and feeding the birds in his backyard. He enjoyed a good Euchre or Poker game. He especially loved watching his grandchildren grow and going to their many activities.

He retired from Premarc after 25 years of service and moved to the U.P. where he was owner and operator of Louch Logging.

Gary is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years Suzanne; sons Traves J. (Amy) Louch, Trent R. (Renee) Louch and Kenneth P. Louch (Shannon Mudge); grandchildren Hallie and Shawn Mahoney,

Nathan Louch, Cassie and Daniel Potter, Michaelah (Shire) and Ethan Baker, Andrew MacGillivray, Madison MacGillivray, Morgan Louch, Kylie Louch, Ashlynn Louch, Breyonna Louch, Delaney Shiflet, Dylan Shiflet, Amber Andrews and Matthew Andrews; great-grandchildren Rory Potter, Brycen Potter, Foster Mahoney, Levi, Luke, Landin, Mercedes and Damien Andrews; mother Marion Louch; brother Brian (Marti) Louch; brother-in-law Louis (Shirley) Schipper; sisters-in-law Kathy Mahoney and Connie Honeychurch; many nieces, nephews and other loving family and friends.

He was predeceased by his father Kenneth; father in-law Paul Leis, mother in-law Beatrice (Burgess) Leis Binkowski; brother-in-laws Joel Leis; Pat Mahoney, and Neil Honeychurch; and sister-in-law Paula Leis Stennett.

Funeral Services were held Monday, March 8, 2021 at Nelson-House Funeral Home with Rev. Norman Beckwith officiating.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the family.

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



OID TOWNSHIP + CEMETERY – BIDS FOR LAWN CARE

Ovid Township is accepting bids for lawn care services for the Ovid Township Hall, 1015 Baese Court, Ovid, and South Ovid Cemetery, St. Johns, located on the corner of St. Clair and Parks Road. In addition to mowing services, the bid should include: 1) weed trimming around headstones at South Ovid Cemetery, as needed; 2) limb pick-up and removal; 3) tree and bush trimming, as needed; 4) removal of dead flowers, plastic flowers and trash, and, 5) use of fertilizers and other chemicals, as needed (chemical supplies to be invoiced and reimbursed separately). In addition to these requirements, Ovid Township requests that lawn care services be provided as close to National Holidays as possible (i.e., Memorial Day, July 4th Holiday and Labor Day). Bidder must clearly state any specifications they will be unable to provide. Bidder must carry liability insurance. Bids are due by Monday, April 5, 2021, to the Township Clerk. Ovid Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Ovid Township is a local governmental unit, and is exempt from all State and Federal Taxes. Please send two separate bids, one for the Ovid Township Hall, and one for South Ovid Cemetery. Thank you.

Please address bids to:

Claudia Barrett Pluger, Ovid Township Clerk

P.O. Box 136, Ovid, MI 48866 Phone: (989) 834-4830

Obituaries

Richard Allen Shilling

Richard Allen Shilling, age 77 of Brant, MI passed away at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing on Saturday, March 13, 2021.

Rich was born on May 5, 1943 to parents Clyde and Florence (Musall) Shilling at their home in Farwell, MI. After graduating from Farwell High School, Rich married Joy Lynn Groves at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in Clare on September 26, 1964.

Rich worked for GM, primarily as a vehicle tester. After many years of experience, he became somewhat of a jack-of-all-trades in the automotive department. This position prompted him and his growing family to eventually move to the Saginaw area, to lessen the commute and time spent away from his family, whom were his biggest pride and joy. Rich loved farming, but his favorite thing was to be actively involved in his children's interests and activities. Everything from 4H to Band, Rich was his children's biggest fan. He never missed an event, and that carried over to his grandchildren as well.

Rich will be dearly missed by those who survive him, including his loving wife of 56 years, his son, Bill Six, 3 daughters; Stacy (Arthur) Caldwell, Kristin (Thomas) Bower and Heidi Stinson, 8 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren, as well as his brothers; George Shilling of White Lake, Chuck and Ann Shilling of Sanford Lake, and Jim and Barb Shilling of Farwell, as well as other extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clyde and Florence Shilling, 3 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

A funeral service was held at the Campbell Stocking Funeral Home in Farwell for Thursday, March 18th, 2021 with Pastor Ray Francis officiating. Masks will be required in the building and temperatures will be taken upon entry. Rich was buried in the Gilmore Township Cemetery following the service.

Please share your memories and condolences with Rich's family online at www.CampbellStocking.com.



Gwendolyn Ann Kelley

Gwendolyn Ann Kelley, age 87, of Ovid, MI, passed away Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at Ovid Healthcare Center, Ovid, MI.

Gwendolyn was born in Owosso, MI on July 12, 1933, the daughter of LeRoy Maurer and Pauline Nethaway. She graduated from Ovid High School with the class of 1951.

On August 30, 1951, she married Jack Kelley in Ovid, MI. They were blessed with 47 years of marriage, prior to his passing on March 8, 1999.

Gwen was a homemaker and was the Librarian at North Elementary Library in Ovid, MI. She was also the choir director at United Church of Ovid where she was a member. In her spare time she sold Avon Products.

She is survived by her daughter, Jacki and Ric Winkler of Swartz Creek, MI; son James and Melva Kelley of Ovid, MI; granddaughter Chastity and Lynn Behrens of Swartz Creek, MI; and 2 great granddaughters Eliza and Harper. She was predeceased by her parents and brother Jim Maurer.

Burial will take place at Fairfield Township Cemetery, Fairfield Township, MI. There will be no formal services at this time.

Memorials may be made to the United Church of Ovid, 131 W. Front St., P.O. Box 106, Ovid, MI 48866. Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI.



Editorial

A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell



Back to square one, I seem to be in a holding pattern right now....not getting much done just cleaning up messes. It does irritate me and I know that by the end of this month I can get things running more smoothly. Finally on the thirty-first I will be taking the last three cats to be neutered. No more keeping the boys inside to keep them from chasing their tails. This means no more plants to be destroyed.....no waking up to have dirt flung all over the dining room floor and furniture. Wow, just no more excessive messes, what a relief that will be!!! As a side note, my son just informed the cats that I was verbally assaulting them.....lucky cats....I laughed.

Last week was really a very busy week and my muse was on vacation, for some reason or other things did not divert me enough to pass them on for your amusement. I was excited on Tuesday because my new refrigerator was delivered and installed. It is still a bit empty but it is nice to go out to the kitchen and get a cold glass of milk and it is great having the fresh veggies on hand for salads and snacks. Life is good. I worked on Wednesday and Thursday and it seemed to frazzle me a bit. Being frazzled does not work well for me....

On Friday, my daughter and I went shopping.....it was the first time since mid-December. We did have a good time and managed to cover a lot of ground, we plan on going back this Thursday afternoon so that we can spend some time at Barnes & Nobles. My grandson's birthday is coming up and I hope to find him a few more books of his favored genre to read. I also plan to find some reading material for me....not a lot because I need to get out and start working in the yard. There are lots of sticks to pick up and about half a dozen small logs that need to get onto the burn pile. I do need the exercise!!!

I need to buy another new mail box....mine has been hit again. It happened Saturday between noon and five in the afternoon. It didn't happen when someone backed out of my yard but it did happen after the mail was delivered. I've already checked and mine was the only one hit on my mile of roadway. I don't know why I'm so lucky but I do wish that if it had been an accident that whoever did it would have stopped to let me know. And if it wasn't accidental I would like to know what I have done that generates this assault.....temporarily it has been bent back into a useable shape by my son. Today he will use a hammer to adjust the mailbox door....

Sunday afternoon I attended a "Baby Shower" and had a wonderful time. It was held up in Rodney so we had a bit of a drive. Of course this was to be the first granddaughter to be born into the family, and the ladies were there in droves.....about seventy of us. The gifts were phenomenal and abundant as was the food. One of the gifts was presented upon a clothes line that was approximately thirty feet long and filled with outfits, onesies, pajamas, first bathing suit, etc. spaced every fifteen inches and held into place with snap clothespins. It was pretty awesome. Baby Grace Lynn has an abundance of clothes and an equal abundance of story time books with personal messages in them for her and her parents. Her debut is scheduled for April 27th and she has a good start on life, may God bless her always.

Why is it necessary to keep changing time? Springing forward in the spring and falling back in the fall? Next question is to why it tucks us out so much? I enjoyed getting up with the sun shining, why does this process seem to mess up our sleep cycles so much....it is a conundrum. May you sleep well, enjoy your life and make adjustments as needed. May God bless you daily and do pay attention to your common sense.

Crystal Mitchell©2021



Sports

Struggling Ashley Loses to Coleman

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Ashley Lady Bears struggled to score as they lost to the Coleman Comets 50-18. "We did a good job executing the defensive game plan tonight against one of the better players in our league, as we only allowed 24 points in the first half. However, we have to continue to be stronger with the ball on offense and work on making shots around the rim so we are able to score some points" expressed Coach Shaw.

Ashleigh Jelinek scored 6 points and 8 rebounds, Jenna Wirt also had 6 points and 9 rebounds, Lydea Ergen, Savannah Beebe and Saige Slowinski all chipped in a basket a piece.

Wolverines Beat Lady Bears

Ashley played their last home game of the season against Vestaburg this week. The Bears struggle to score as their shots were on target just not falling in the hoop. The Bears were in the game until their scoring drought was too much to overcome. Ashley fell to Vestaburg 42-26.

Jenna Wirt led the team with 12 points, grabbed 8 rebounds and had 2 assists, Ashleigh Jelinek scored 6 points had 11 rebounds 3 steals and 2 assists, Lydea Ergen had 4 points and Allyson Emmendorfer and Saige Slowinski had a bucket each.

"We struggled shooting the ball tonight especially early, we had a lot of quality looks in the first quarter and first half that just wouldn't go in. We battled hard the whole night but could not overcome an early deficit" stated Coach Shaw.

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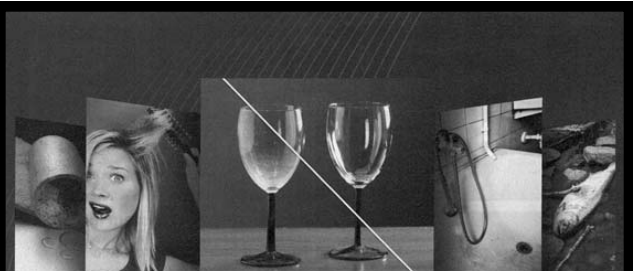
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Health

Did You Know?

According to the National Autism Association, autism is a bio-neurological developmental disability that affects the normal development of the brain in various areas. Those areas include social interaction, communication skills and cognitive function. Autism generally appears before a child reaches his or her third birthday, and the NAA notes it is diagnosed four times as often in boys than it is in girls. Roughly 40 percent of children with autism do not speak, but parents whose children speak between the ages of 12 and 18 months should know that such youngsters can still ultimately be diagnosed with autism. In such instances, the NAA notes that children lose the words they previously learned. Incidences of autism appear to be on the rise, though the reasons for that remain unclear. According to a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the prevalence of autism had risen to one in every 59 children by 2018. That's twice as great as the rate in 2004, when the CDC reported one in 125 children were diagnosed with autism.




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Did You Know?

When nurses go to work each day, many report to hospitals while others work at private practices. For others, a day at the office takes place at research labs. According to the online nursing resource Nurse.org, research nurses develop and implement studies to investigate and provide information on new medications, vaccinations and medical procedures. Research nurses, sometimes referred to as clinical nurse researchers or nurse researchers, typically have advanced degrees, and many first work as research assistants, clinical data collectors and/or clinical research monitors to gain some practical experience as they pursue or consider pursuing their degrees. Some research nurses even conduct independent research, though Nurse.org notes that such professionals need advanced degrees such as an MSN or Ph.D. to pursue such a path. More information about becoming a research nurse can be found at www.Nurse.org.

There are many forms of mental illnesses nowadays and understanding them a little will better help prepare you if or when any cross into your life.

It's a difficult thing when one day you wake up and realize that your loved one has a mental illness. In fact, that in itself can be debilitating for most. Learning about their illness can not only help them but you as well. It'll make it easier for you to accept once you learn the symptoms and you'll understand it's something out of their hands that they didn't ask to have. But it can be managed and controlled with the proper guidance and support.

The following are only a few mental illnesses with a very brief definition or description of itself. This is intended for a beginning place to learn but the real work will be going deeper to find out and learn more. Then becoming the support for your loved one, who desperately needs one.

Clinical depression is a disorder where the person loses interest in activities and has a depressed mood, which creates an impairment in day-to-day life.

This could possibly be caused by distress, causing changes in the brain function including altered activity of certain neural circuits within the brain.

Anxiety disorder is when the person feels worry, anxiety or fear so great that it interferes with their activities on a daily basis. It could range from panic attacks, obsessive-compulsive disorder, or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Bipolar disorder is well known for its mood swing episodes from depressive lows to manic highs and back again. Although the cause is unclear, genetics, environment and brain chemistry can have a role in this disorder.

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder often begins in childhood and can continue into adulthood. This particular chronic condition may cause relationship issues, low self-esteem, and difficulty with school or work.

Schizophrenia is a disorder affecting the person's ability to think, feel, and behave clearly. The exact cause isn't known other than having a combination of genetics, environment, and altered brain chemistry and structure is a factor.

Obsessive compulsive disorder is a combination of excessive thoughts, which is the obsessive part leading to repetitive behaviors, which is then the compulsive side. This disorder is characterized by thoughts that are unreasonable and obsessions like fears, leading to compulsive behaviors.

Autism is a disorder that impacts the nervous system creating serious developmental disorders such as the ability to communicate and interact.


Post-traumatic stress disorder is when the person finds it difficult to recover after experiencing or witnessing a terrifying event in their life. This condition can last from months up to years and have triggers which can bring memories of the trauma back at any given time. The triggered memories are accompanied by intense emotional and physical reactions.

These short and brief descriptions can be used for a guide or at least to give a little understanding around a few of the mental illnesses listed. Just know that there are many other mental health issues out there and it's always wise to seek out a qualified medical doctor or/and therapist for help, guidance and care plans.

If nothing else, hopefully this will help you have more patience and compassion with yourself and others. The mind is a wondrous power, so handle it with gentle care. After all, the way it's cared for can determine your future both positively and negatively.

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Health

Legislators Join With Medical Experts to Urge Healthy Habits During Vaccine Rollout

submitted by Christina Guenther
A bipartisan group of state representatives today joined with local health experts in encouraging all Michigan residents to actively energize, and be responsible for, the readiness of their own immune systems.

State Reps. Ben Frederick (R-Owosso), Shri Thanedar (D-Detroit) and Mark Tisdell (R-Rochester Hills) emphasized the need to continue using common-sense mitigation strategies like handwashing, distancing, mask-wearing and other good nutrition habits while the vaccine is distributed to residents.

"We are months and months away from anything close to 'herd immunity' and wide-spread resistance to COVID-19 viral infection," Tisdell said.

The state has received and distributed nearly 1.1 million doses of the vaccine, as of Jan. 20, and coordinated efforts are underway to improve the vaccination rate among all residents who qualify under Phase 1A (frontline healthcare workers) or Phase 1B (individuals 65 years and older and frontline, essential workers in critical infrastructure).

Frederick, the House Majority Floor Leader, said residents should not let their guard down just because the vaccination distribution process is underway.

"My office is closely monitoring the distribution of vaccines and the number of vaccinations given statewide," Frederick said. "Right now, we are strongly encouraging Michiganders to help prepare their own bodies in case they need to actively fight a COVID infection. An easy and inexpensive way to do that is getting a sufficient amount of Vitamin D every day."

According to a prospective study published Jan. 29 in The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, the habitual use of Vitamin D supplements was significantly associated with a 34 percent lower risk of COVID-19 infection.

"Vitamin D also strengthens cellular immunity through reducing the cytokine storm with impacts on the pro-inflammatory cytokines and anti-inflammatory cytokines," the study reads.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, encouraged people to take a Vitamin D supplement: "I take (Vitamin) D as you should take D," he said.

"Taking a Vitamin D supplement will give your immune system a boost that may protect you from getting sick with a viral illness," Cleveland Clinic Dr. Sandra Darling told Tisdell. "Typically, Vitamin D3 1000-2000 units daily is adequate. Ask your doctor to check your Vitamin D level to determine the amount you should take."

Dr. Michael Laffer, an Oakland County pulmonologist, said Vitamin D plays a significant role in supporting immune function.

"Vitamin D deficiency not only increases the risk of getting the virus but can also increase

the severity of symptoms," Dr. Laffer said. "Eighty percent of people with COVID-19 infections are Vitamin D deficient. My colleagues, Drs. Berg, Langnas, Iliseu and I, monitor Vitamin D levels, which are normally low on the COVID floor."

Thanedar also emphasizes the need for adequate Vitamin D levels.

The representatives all emphasized that taking a daily Vitamin D supplement can have a big impact on COVID infection outcomes.

"More than just waiting for your turn to get the vaccine, we can all take responsibility for our own health – and take control of our own bodies – by taking a Vitamin D pill every day," Tisdell said. "Talk to your family doctor or local pharmacist. It's one of the easiest, least expensive, and best things we can all do to beat this pandemic."

Thanedar added: "You can protect yourself, and prepare your body to fight COVID, by making healthy lifestyle choices and following CDC guidelines."

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Sports

Dansville Avenges Earlier loss, Pins 52-44 Loss on Wolfpack

DANSVILLE — Dansville avenged an earlier defeat at the hands of Laingsburg and won in Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) action here March 12, 52-44.

Zach Hawes led coach Dan Morrill's Wolfpack with 15 points, followed by Eli Woodruff with 8 and Lucas Woodruff with 6.

Dansville was led by Carson Voss with 14, as the Aggies improved to 10-2 overall. Laingsburg fell to 4-4 in the CMAC, 4-4 overall.

Hemlock Huskies ruin Wolfpack boys cagers' Senior Night, 48-35

LAINGSBURG -- The Hemlock Huskies invaded Laingsburg on March 18, and handed the Wolfpack a 48-35 loss on Senior Night.

Zach Hawes led coach Daniel Morrill's Wolfpack (4-5 overall) with 12 points. Eli Woodruff had 5 for Laingsburg.

Hemlock was led by Brayden Green with 14 and Nolan Finkbeiner added 13.

Lady Wolfpack Finishes Strong 7-3 in CMAC, with 40-12 Victory over Bath Bees

LAINGSBURG — Ellie Baynes scored 13 points and Julia Starr scored 12 as coach Doug Hurst's Wolfpack downed Bath, 40-12, in the regular season finisher on March 16.

Hurst's Wolfpack completed a 7-3 regular season, 6-2 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), tied for second place with Portland St. Patrick. Fowler won the CMAC with an 8-0 mark.

"Tonight was sad, and yet it was a fun game knowing it was our last game of a short regular season. Our girls came ready to play, and they finished their last league game on a great note. Everyone played hard and we had solid defense," said Hurst. "I'm very proud how we set our goals high, and the girls did a great job going after them. Now we're focused on a tough MHSAA District. We got a bye, and play the winner of P-W vs Perry on March 24."

Grace Graham added nine with 13 rebounds, six steals and three assists for Laingsburg. Bath fell to 5-6 and 2-4 in the CMAC.

Laingsburg scoring included: Grace Graham 4 1-5 9 points, Hayleigh Mertens 1 0-0 2, Ellie Baynes 5 2-4 13, Erica Wade 0 1-2 1, Lorna Strieff 1 1-1 3, and Julia Starr 4 2-3 12.

LHS Wrestling Team Nips Sanford, Falls to Charlotte

LAINGSBURG -- Coach Shawn Baynes' Wolfpack wrestling team moved to 11-6 on the 2021 season with a 1-1 showing vs. Sanford-Meridian and Charlotte.

The Wolves' nipped the Sanford Mustangs, 42-40, with big wins from Gabby Motz at 112 lbs., Martin Meyers at 119, Noah Gentry at 145, Seth Sivak at 160, Caleb Boetcher at 171, Sean Divine at 215 and Iain Hart at 285. In an extra exhibition match, Wyatt Stanford of LHS won a 13-11 decision over Mike Wallace of Meridian.

Things were tougher for the red-and-white in a 51-27 loss to the non-league Charlotte Orioles. LHS broke through for wins from Aden Baynes (3 pt. decision) at 135 lbs., Brice Smith with a fall at 189, Sean Divine with a fall at 215, Iain Hart with a fall at 285, and Blake Goetschy with a win by forfeit at 103.

Ovid-Elsie Girls Bring the Three-Ball, Romp Past Lakeville, 62-18

OVID-ELSIE — Caitlyn Walter tied a school record with six 3-pointers as Ovid-Elsie cruised past Lakeville, 62-18, on March 11.

Walter scored 26 points with three rebounds and four steals and Tristin Ziola chipped in 14 points for the Marauders (9-3, 4-1 MMAC). Ovid-Elsie's defense surrendered only four points in the second half.

"We were a little bit sluggish coming out tonight but then we picked it up," coach Ryan Cunningham said. "All-in-all it was a fun night and we were even able to get some of our JV kids a few minutes."

The Otisville-Lakeville Falcons fell to 0-5 and 0-3 in the MMAC.

Scoring for the Marauders: Caitlyn Walter 9 2-4 26 points, Tristin Ziola 6 2-2 14, Kiah Longoria 4 0-0 8 and Braylon Byrnes 1 2-2 5.

Bullock Creek Pulls Away from Sluggish O-E Girls 52-46

BULLOCK CREEK — Ovid-Elsie couldn't overcome a sluggish 27-percent shooting performance from the floor (16 of 58) as Bullock Creek topped the Marauders 52-46 on March 15.

"We had a lot of good looks but shots just didn't fall," Ovid-Elsie coach Ryan Cunningham said. "We made a nice run in the second (quarter) to regain the lead but their third quarter run took a lot out of us. Then we got in a bout of foul trouble and they got to the line enough to keep us at bay."

Ava Bates scored 13 points with four steals for O-E (9-4). Caitlyn Walter added 10 points with four steals.

Scoring for the Lady Marauders: Kiah Longoria 2 0-1 4 points, Tristin Ziola 1 5-6 7, Caitlyn Walter 4 0-0 10, Evalyn Cole 3 2-2 8, Hailee Campbell 0 1-2 1, Madison Cunningham 1 0-0 3, and Ava Bates 5 2-2 13.

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Boys Basketball		
Owosso		
March 23 5:30 p.m.		
Durand	March 25 5:30 p.m.	
	Corunna	
		March 27 7:00 p.m.
	Chesaning	
	March 25 7:00 p.m.	
Lake Fenton		
March 23 7:00 p.m.		
Ovid-Elsie		

2021 MHSAA DIVISION 2 DISTRICT TOURNAMENT NO. 40 held at: Owosso High School, 765 E. North St., Owosso, MI 48867		
Girls Basketball		
	Corunna	
	March 24 5:30 p.m.	
Ovid-Elsie		
March 22 5:30 p.m.		
Durand		March 26 7:00 p.m.
Chesaning		
March 22 7:00 p.m.		
Owosso	March 24 7:00 p.m.	
	Lake Fenton	

2021 MHSAA DISTRICT TOURNAMENT NO. 111 held at: Akron-Fairgrove High School, 2800 N. Thomas St., Fairgrove, MI 48733		
Boys Basketball		
Mayville		
March 23 5:30 p.m.		
Akron-Fairgrove	March 25 5:30 p.m.	
	Midland Calvary Baptist	
		March 27 7:00 p.m.
	Saginaw Nouvel	
	March 25 7:00 p.m.	
Ashley		
March 23 7:00 p.m.		
Bay City All Saints		

2021 MHSAA DISTRICT TOURNAMENT NO. 110 held at: Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart, 316 E. Michigan St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858		
Girls Basketball		
	Vestaburg	
	March 24 5:30 p.m.	
	Mount Pleasant Sacred	
		March 26 7:30 p.m.
	Coleman	
	March 24 7:00 p.m.	
Fulton		
March 22 6:30 p.m.		
Ashley		

2021 MHSAA DISTRICT TOURNAMENT NO. 81 held at: Perry High School, 2555 W. Britton St., Perry, MI 48872		
Boys Basketball		
Perry		
March 23 5:30 p.m.		
Byron	March 25 5:30 p.m.	
	Bath	
		March 27 7:00 p.m.
	Laingsburg	
	March 25 7:00 p.m.	
Montrose		
March 23 7:00 p.m.		
New Lothrop		

2021 MHSAA DISTRICT TOURNAMENT NO. 81 held at: Laingsburg High School, 8008 Woodbury Rd., Laingsburg, MI 48848		
Girls Basketball		
	Laingsburg	
	March 24 5:30 p.m.	
Pewamo-Westphalia		
March 23 5:30 p.m.		
Perry		March 26 7:00 p.m.
Bath		
March 23 7:00 p.m.		
Potterville	March 24 7:00 p.m.	
	Byron	

CITY OF OVID
CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Resolution No. 2021-07
RECREATION PASSPORT GRANT PROGRAM
OF AUTHORIZATION – LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT
MATCH WITHOUT DONATED FUNDS

At a regular meeting of the Ovid City Council held on the 8th, day of March, 2021 in the Council Meeting Room, at 114 E. Front St., Ovid, MI.
PRESENT: Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Starn, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brown and Ms. Perrien.
ABSENT: None
A motion was made by Mr. Brown seconded by Miss Hibbard to adopt resolution #2021-07 as presented:
WHEREAS: The City of Ovid supports the submission of an application titled, “Veterans Park Restroom/Pavilion” to the Recreation Passport Grant Program for development of restroom/pavilion at Veterans Park and;
WHEREAS; the proposed application is supported by the Community’s 5-Year Approved Parks and Recreation Plan or Current Annual Capital Improvement Plan; and,
WHEREAS, The City of Ovid is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of \$20,000 matching funds, in cash and/or force account; and,
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The City of Ovid hereby authorizes submission of a Recreation Passport Grant Program application for \$80,000 and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of \$20,000 (25%) of a total \$80,000 project cost, during the 2021-2022 fiscal year.
AYES: Mr. Brown, Mr. Williams, Mr. Starn Mr. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Lasher.
NAYES: None.
ABSENT: None.

MOTION APPROVED

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by Council of the City of Ovid at their regular meeting held on March 8, 2021, at 7:00 pm, in the Council Activity Room, with a quorum present.

Josefina Medina, Clerk
March 18, 2021
City of Ovid

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SYNOPSIS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 8, 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: Miss Hibbard, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Starn, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Williams, Mr. Brown and Ms. Perrien.

ABSENT: None.

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

VISITORS: Dave Love.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Miss. Hibbard to approve the agenda as is.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: Ms. Perrien had two corrections (typo's). Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to approve the regular minutes of February 8, 2021 as corrected.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Ms. Perrien to approve the Closed meeting minutes of February 8, 2021 as printed.

MOTION CARRIED

INVOICE REGISTRY: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Miss. Hibbard to approve the checks as printed for the period of February 9, 2021 thru March 5, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED

POLICE: A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Brown to purchase from Digital Alley the video system for the two (2) patrol cars in the amount of \$400.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by a motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Williams to purchase two (2) radars from the company called Stalker for the amount of \$2,495 per unit.

MOTION CARRIED

DPW: A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Mr. Brown to roll over the remaining leave time when Mr. Simpsons anniversary time comes up if there is time left.

MOTION WAS CARRIED

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

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Mr. Williams, second by Miss Hibbard to add the Veterans Memorial Park improvement priority list to the CIP and the finance committee will set the cost at a later date.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Mayor Lasher read resolution #2021-07. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Miss Hibbard to adopt resolution #2021-07 titled Recreation Passport grant program of authorization – Local Unit of Government match without donated funds. The Clerk took roll call as follows: **AYES:** Mr. Brown, Mr. Williams, Mr. Starn Mr. Perrien, Mr. Ordiway, Miss Hibbard and Mr. Lasher. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

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

3. A motion was made by Miss Hibbard, second by Ms. Perrien to accept Mr. Starn proposal for the GIS licensing in the amount of \$1,400 through the SAW Grant, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Lasher closed the meeting at 8:49 pm.

Josefina Medina, Clerk
City of Ovid

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The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster

theweklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Arthur V. Baker 1940-2011

It has been ten years this weekend since family friend and neighbor Art Baker of Laingsburg passed away on March 13, 2011. The Weekly Sportsman has chosen to use this weekend's column as a tribute to Art and reflect on his valuable contributions made during his lifetime to our community and his influence on the Weekly Sportsman at an early age.

Born on March 1, 1940, in Lansing, he was a son to George and Margaret Baker. Following graduation in 1958 from Bath High School he served in the U.S. Army. He then went to work for 48 years in Lansing with GM and retired as a UAW negotiator.

Early in his career he began to win union elections and quickly climbed the leadership ladder and never lost a shop election and eventually served as Chairman of UAW Local 652 for many years. Certainly ahead of his time he worked very hard to always achieve a win-win for both management and labor during contract negotiations and understood the need to be adaptable and flexible as the global auto industry was always changing. He was probably the only union member in the country who was always able to get the President of the UAW and the Chairman of General Motors to always take his phone calls.

Over twenty years ago Lansing was in a crisis when GM was going to leave town but Art went to work with local community leaders in an effort to convince GM that the Lansing area had the best trained auto making workforce in the nation that had proven itself in not only quality and craftsmanship but also labor contracts with management for generations. Some give most of the credit to former Mayor David Hollister for bringing two new plants to Lansing but many locals say that Art understood what was at stake and was actually the man who saved Lansing.

Many may often remember Art with a cigar in his mouth or his clear almost staccato and rhythmic machine gun like voice when he spoke. A very high level union official once told the Weekly Sportsman that Art was always able to connect with people and often used their name when talking to them. He commented further that Art commonly stated, "people will never really remember exactly what you said to them but will always remember how you spoke to them." Some sound and sage advice to say the least and something we should all consider on a daily basis.

In terms of the conservation community, you would be hard pressed to find such a well rounded sportsman comparable to Art. An avid fan of hunting and fishing he not only pursued wildlife but loved to study his query especially when it came to deer and birds such as ducks, turkeys, and pheasants. He kept almost daily journals filled with wildlife sightings and reports even when he wasn't in the field hunting. Art and his wife Gale were the owners of Buckhorn Wildlife Art Gallery for many years and often donated numerous prints to local wildlife banquets that were auctioned or raffled off with proceeds going toward funding conservation efforts. It would be hard to even estimate the amount of money their efforts generated decades ago to help fund conservation across Michigan.

Many sportsmen have had at least one, if not many individuals, who were influencers and helped to create an interest in the outdoors during the years of early age development. The Weekly Sportsman was very lucky to have a great grandfather who taught him how to fish and a father that continues to this day to stress the importance of marksmanship for clean and humane shots on game. Unfortunately, the Weekly Sportsman never had a chance to thank Art for the inspirational role he played in the development of a future deer hunter.

Hard to believe but it was the little things like him making the first slingshot for a four year old out of a y branch and an old bike inner tube. This first weapon, which came with responsibility, was the precursor to an air rifle and then eventually firearms. Art also had the tendency to quietly slip used shotgun shell hulls into the pockets of the Weekly Sportsman when mom wasn't looking. Truth be told those empty yellow shotgun slug hulls were often frequently sniffed which probably explains the love for the smell of burnt gunpowder. He was sowing the seed to create a future hunter and possibly doing it unknowingly.

In the 1970's and early 1980's the deer population was not like it is today, but Art always managed to get "his deer" on our family farm. Sometimes it was with a rare and coveted doe permit. A lesson learned very early in life that it was ok to shoot does. As a matter of fact, the first dead deer the Weekly Sportsman saw up close was a doe hanging in Art's garage. He often wore one piece deer hunting suits so when the Weekly Sportsman acquired a "clearance special" camo suit about 25 years ago it was presumed to be the right outfit to increase the odds because after all Art was always wearing one. It actually did help increase the odds because it could be put on so quickly after exiting a vehicle, even when wearing work dress clothes, thus making short and quick after work evening hunts to be possible. And then there were the ground blinds he built that saved the Weekly Sportsman so much time decades later when trying to determine deer travel routes. Most of those blinds have literally decomposed with their naturally made components slowly rotting away, however, their locations still produce deer to this day. Art's strategic blind locations serve as a sort of key to finding well traveled deer corridors to and from feeding and bedding areas, Amazing how many locations offer commanding views and are down wind of tight funnels, corners, and transition areas.

How does one repay or thank someone who is no longer here today? Sure this column is a nice tribute and hopefully will help those readers who knew Art personally to reflect on some great memories this weekend but the Weekly Sportsman has a better idea on how to say thank you.

Art's grandson is twelve now and what could be more fitting and proper than to take young Gus afield to pursue some deer or birds. Hopefully next fall you will be reading a column or two about some hunts with him.

-WS



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Accepting bids for lawn care services 2021 – 2023:

The Township of Sciota is accepting bids for a 2-year agreement for lawn care services for the Sciota township hall and Putnam Cemetery locations. Contractors are asked to submit bid estimates by two methods – #1) by cost per each mowing and #2) by cost per season, May - October. Mowing acreage is at 2 locations. Location #1 is approximately 0.25 acre at the township hall, 3990 Leland Rd. and 0.9 acre at the township parking area across from the township hall. Location #2 is approximately 2.5 acre at the Putnam Cemetery on Putnam Rd. Specifications include grass height for both locations to be kept at an average of 3.0" - 3.5" inches. In addition to mowing services, the bid should include: 1) weed trimming around approximately 110 headstones at the Putnam cemetery, as needed; 2) limb pick-up and removal; 3) tree and bush trimming, as needed, to reserve fence-row lines; and 4) removal of dead flowers and trash, and 5) use of fertilizers and other chemicals, as needed (chemical supplies to be invoiced and reimbursed separately). In addition to the preceding requirements, the township requests that lawn care services be provided as close to national holidays as possible (i.e., Memorial Day, July 4th holiday and Labor Day). Bidder must clearly state any specifications they will be unable to provide. Bidder must carry business liability and auto insurance policies and worker's compensation. Bids are due by Friday, April 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. to the township clerk. The township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Sciota Township is a municipal local governmental unit, and as such, is exempt from all State and Federal Taxes. All questions should be directed to the clerk.

Jamie Parker-Wing, Clerk, Township of Sciota
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