# Meridian Weekly

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### Happy 100th Birthday Scholastic Books

by Deb Price

With March being reading month, Gayla and Bonnie Ehlert decided to make their next window project one that would recognize the 100th Birthday of Scholastic Books. Due to scholastic book sales being low due to the pandemic, the Mother and daughter team has invited elementary teachers from Leonard and KK Knight as well as both of the libraries in Elsie and Ovid to join them in working on a project to put a book in every child's hands. Scholastic was formed in 1920 by Maurice R. Robinson. He

Scholastic was formed in 1920 by Maurice R. Robinson. He entered the book club business in 1940. In the 1960's entered in the publishing business, in the 1980's entered into the book fair business and in 2012, Scholastic bought Weekly Reader Publishing and co-branded the magazines as "Scholastic News/Weekly Reader. The mission was to place reading material into the hands of children at an affordable price and to have current understandable information for different reading levels. Today, the company is an American multinational publishing, education and media company that published and distributes comics, books and educational materials for schools, parents and children. Products are distributed through retail and online sales through schools via reading clubs and book fairs.



Retired OE elementary teacher, Leann Martin, who was a student at North Elementary, remembers fondly ordering a book or two from the book fair. As a teacher she loved the experience with Scholastic. She was able to earn free books for her classroom thru the "Bonus Points" they offered. "During my teaching career, thru the program, we were provided hundreds of books for the classroom. Getting books into the hands of kids encouraged them to keep a lifelong love of reading, said Martin.



In recognization of the 100th birthday of Scholastic, donation boxes will be placed at various locations in Elsie and Ovid. All monies donated from the public will be devided between the two elementary's and used to buy more books for kids. Be sure and stop by the window displays next to the Ovid Post Office and experience the History of Scholostic and the individuals who have dedicated their lives to bring reading into our

# Admission Limits Have Been Raised to 50% for all Indoor Events

Effective Friday, March 5, 2021 and extending until further guidance from the health department, Governor's office and MHSAA , Ovid-Elsie High School and Middle School will begin allowing up to 50% capacity for indoor athletic events. The capacity of our high school gym would allow for a maximum of 355 spectators per event and 245 spectators at events held in our middle school. Given this change, we will now begin charging at home athletic events effective Friday, March 5th. There will be a charge of \$5 for individual attendees and \$10 for families. We ask that you please pay with exact change, if possible.

While we are eager to see more faces in the bleachers, we ask that you please be mindful that there is still limited seating available. Please try to keep your family's attendance to a maximum of 5 spectators to allow for all athletes' families to be able to attend. We will still be asking for name and contact information upon entrance into the facility for contact tracing purposes.

Athletic events hosted at other MMAC (Mid-Michigan Activities Conference) venues may allow for more or less patrons based on the size of their facilities. Non-conference events will also have varying allowances as well. We will notify parents and athletes of the capacity limits and rules for other schools as we learn of them. At this time, please expect to pay admission at other school venues. The maximum number allowed at indoor events, based on the new health department order, is 375 patrons regardless of the facility's capacity

Please understand that these regulations and protocols are subject to change. We will notify you as soon as possible when changes occur.

We appreciate your continued support of Ovid-Elsie Athletics. If you have any questions, please contact the high school office at 989-862-4237 ext. 1800 or 1804.

Go Marauders! Sincerely, Jesse Johnson O-E Athletic Director

#### Rep. Filler Stands up for Local 4-H Kids, County Fairs

submitted by Christina Guenthner

State Rep. Graham Filler, a member of the House Agriculture Committee, this week listened to testimony from 4-H kids and community fair organizers about the detrimental impact COVID-19 restrictions could have on young people if fairs and 4-H programs are not allowed to offer in-person activities this year.

In 2020, Michigan State University Extension canceled all face-to-face activities for its programs, including 4-H, as a result of state pandemic orders. Filler believes fairs and the showing of animals can and

all face-to-face activities for its State Rep. Graham Filler welcomes Luke Hagerty to the programs, including 4-H, as a House Agriculture Committee, where Luke gave testimony on result of state pandemic orders. the importance role 4-H plays in the lives of young people.

should go forward this year in a safe manner.

"Listening to the passionate testimony from these young people was incredibly moving," Filler said. "It's clear that kids in our communities benefit tremendously from 4-H programs and fairs. These are great programs that offer young people a place to belong while teaching personal responsibility, confidence and teamwork. It would be a shame if they miss out on another full year of experiences."

Filler welcomed Logan Hagerty, a 19-year-old FFA and 4-H participant from Clinton County's Victor Township, who testified about the important role 4-H has had in his life.

"It has been a phenomenal experience," Hagerty said, describing how his experiences at the Clinton County Fair helped him decide to pursue a career in the agricultural industry. "Had I not gotten a chance to exhibit at the fair and share my passion with others, I would probably still be aimlessly wandering."

# Social

# Furniture Restoration



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#### Kemry K. Coulter

Craig and Kayla Coulter of Lansing welcomed their daughter, Kemry K. Coulter on March 1, 2021. She weighed 7lbs, 11

Great grandmother is Ellie Bowles of Ovid.



Kari Dickenson

# March is Reading Month at the Ovid Public

The days are getting longer but the weather is still cold and dreary. It's the perfect time to read a book or two

Library

The Ovid Public Library will be hosting a Childrens Reading Challenge for the month of March. This is open to kids aged 0-18. The reading challenge will start March 1 and run through March 31.

For every book the child reads they will need to fill out an entry for a drawing which will be held on Friday, April 2. Winners will be able to choose a prize from the prize cart. We will be drawing for three different winners.

Also during the challenge we will be handing out reading bingo cards. For every Bingo the child gets they can pick out a book and add to their collection.

Remember that we are still operating with limited hours and occupancy restrictions. Our current hours are Monday 10-7, Wednesdays 10-5 and Fridays 10-5. If you have any questions you can call us at 989-834-5800.

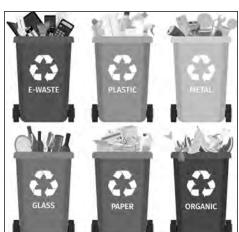
### Sorting is Important at Clinton County Drop Off Recycling Sites

submitted by Kate Neese

Clinton County Department of Waste Management would like to remind residents to take the time to properly sort their recyclables into the proper containers at the Rural Recycling Sites. The Rural Recycling Sites are located in Fowler and Maple Rapids. Acceptable materials include all colored glass bottles & jars, metal cans, household plastic containers numbered #1 to #7 (NO Styrofoam or plastic bags please), newspapers, magazines, office paper, junk mail, cardboard and boxboard (NO waxy coated freezer boxes please). Please remember to empty all recyclables before placing them into the proper bin.

Contamination has been a problem specifically at the Fowler drop off site in all of the recycling containers.

Please help keep the cost of recycling down and make sure what is put into the bin can be recycled. When in doubt, please contact our office at (989) 224-5186 or email recycle@clinton-county.org or check out our website www.clinton-county.org.



# Clinton County Catalyst Executive Committee Elected

submitted by Dru Mitchell

DeWitt, MI – The Clinton County Economic Alliance (CCEA) is pleased to announce the 2021 officers elected by the Board of Director and the Executive Committee members who will serve through December 31, 2021. They are:

• Craig Bishop, Chairman of the Board. Mr. Bishop is

Market President/Middle Market Commercial Lending with TCF Bank;

• David Kudwa, Vice Chairman. Mr. Kudwa is Deputy City

Manager/Community Development Director of the City of St. Johns;

• Nicholas Bancroft, Treasurer. Mr. Bancroft is CEO of AgroLiquid;

• Rounding out the Executive Committee are Mike Bills, principal with MB Strategies LLC, Allen Blower, partner with Clark Construction Co.,

Beth Daugherty, MPH, President of Sparrow Clinton Hospital,

and Dr. Wayne Petroelje, superintendent of Clinton County RESA.

President and CEO Dru L. Mitchell will continue as Secretary to the Board.

"CCEA would like to thank outgoing Board Chairman Kathryn Burkholder of Consumers Energy for her dedicated service to the organization and leadership as board chairman the past two years," said CCEA Chairman Bishop.

Additional members of the 2021 Board are: Patricia Barnas – First National Bank of Michigan, Jessica

 $Chant\text{-}Smith-Bingham\ Township,\ Dan\ Coss\ \text{-}\ City\ of\ DeWitt,\ Bruce\ DeLong\ \text{-}\ Clinton\ County\ Board\ of}$ 

Commissioners, Kurt Hanus – Mercantile Bank; Charles Hauser – Granger Waste Services, Brian Holland

- DTN Management, Shawn Middleton - Spicer Group, Inc., David North - MWC LLC, Charles 'Rusti'

Owens – C2AE, Travis Roberts – Tri-Area Trucking School, James Rundell – Sam Eyde Co.,

Kaylan Kennel – Michigan Milk Producers Association, Nicholas Tafelsky – Bath Charter Township, James

Tedder – ITC

Michigan Jaccica Tramontona Consumers Energy and Bratt Wittenberg DeWitt Charter

 $\label{eq:michigan} \mbox{Michigan, Jessica Tramontana} - \mbox{Consumers Energy, and Brett Wittenberg} - \mbox{DeWitt Charter Township.}$ 

Visit clintoncountycatalyst.org to connect with members and partners, learn about resources, and discover opportunities in Clinton County. Join the catalyst movement today!



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# LAFCU CEO Patrick Spyke Named Michigan MVP

submitted by Jan Jenkins

LANSING — LAFCU CEO Patrick Spyke has been named a 2021 Most Valuable Professional (MVP) by Corp! Magazine.

The statewide business publication's MVP award program recognizes individuals who are making Michigan a better place to live and work by creating job opportunities, driving economic growth, nurturing community advancement or leading successful companies.

"Receiving this award is humbling, especially because I view success not based on my own awards, but by the awards of my team members," Spyke said. "We have an amazing team at LAFCU.

"Throughout my 40-year-plus career I have been truly blessed to work in the credit union industry that's driven by the philosophy of 'people helping people.' I've tried to be an advocate of doing what's right, whether it's for the community or for my team at LAFCU and its members."



Patrick Spyke

Spyke has worked for the Lansing-based credit union nearly 30 years and has led it as CEO since 2016. Founded in 1936, LAFCU now employs approximately 150 and serves more than 68,000 people and businesses throughout Michigan.

Corp! Magazine honored Spyke as an MVP at a virtual award presentation, and he will be featured in the magazine's March/April ePublication.

Spyke's winning nomination focused on his mentoring of coworkers, developing quality member services, leveraging technology for member benefit, and addressing community issues via legislative advocacy and working with local charities.

Specific to his leadership of LAFCU's pandemic response, the nomination identified the credit union's prioritization of protecting the health of employees and members; helping members survive financially, and supporting the community:

Within days of the March 2020 Michigan "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order, more than 90% of LAFCU employees could work from the safety of their homes, including tellers operating the Interactive Teller Machines located at all branch drive-thrus.

A virtual wellness resource was added as an employee benefit to address stress caused by the rapidly changing environment — the resource provides free access to nutrition guidance, fitness challenges and stress management strategies.

Members received more than \$13 million in financial relief through waived fees, special loans, government and non-government-insured mortgage modifications, and government-guaranteed loans

Community support included financial donations to organizations distributing food to those in need (equating to 23,000 meals) and two charities supporting families and people with disabilities; lunches to front-line health care workers and families receiving help from the local Ronald McDonald House; and doubling scholarship dollars awarded to high school seniors participating in a LAFCU essay contest.

Spyke serves on the executive boards of two credit union service organizations, Member Driven Technologies and Member First Mortgage. He's also a board member for Greater Lansing Food Bank and is helping to lead its capital campaign. He was named 2020 Credit Union Professional of the Year by the Michigan Credit Union League for his leadership and accomplishments in 2019 that bettered LAFCU and the statewide credit union movement.



It's That Time of Year Again...

# Ashley Schools Kindergarten Round-Up

Children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2021 or Pec. 1, 2021 with waiver are eligible for Kindergarten!



Call Peanna Hardman (989) 847-4000 ext. 1003 to set up appointment.

Friday, March 19, 2021 at Ashley School Media Center 8:30am - 2:30pm

#### MDARD Director McDowell Issues Emergency Rules to Protect Agricultural Workers

submitted by Jen Holton

LANSING — The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Director Gary McDowell issued Pandemic Public Health Measures in Migrant Agricultural Worker Housing Emergency Rules, which require licensed housing providers to create and implement plans to prevent exposure to the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19, care for individuals with COVID-19, and take measures to help prevent the spread of the virus among workers.

The emergency rules are similar to guidance issued by Governor Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and

Human Services in 2020, including provisions requiring licensed housing providers to have a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

The new rules, created under the state's Administrative Procedures Act emergency rules provisions, went into effect today after being filed with the Office of the Great Seal. These rules will be in place for up to six months and may be extended once for an additional six-month period, if needed.

To assist with COVID-19 preparedness and response plan, MDARD has provided a checklist that outlines the content needed for the COVID-19 preparedness and response plan. MDARD staff will review the COVID-19 preparedness and response plan as part of the licensing process.

licensing process.

Migrant labor housing providers who have already received their 2021 license will have until April 1, 2021, to comply with the provisions in the emergency rules.

To view the rules, visit Michigan.gov/MOAHR. To view the COVID-19 preparedness and response plan and FAQ sheet, visit Michigan.gov/MLH.

# Public Welcome... BREAKFAST Every Sunday 8am-11am Laingsburg American Legion Post 248

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We are saddened by the passing of our Dear Wife, Mother and Grandmother Judy Miller. She was the center of our famiy and this business. She will be greatly missed by many.

# Obituaries

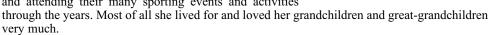
#### **Jurline Lois Len**

Jurline Lois Len, age 81 of Ovid passed away Friday,

February 26, 2021 at Grace Haven Assisted Living.
Jurline was born January 19, 1940 in Harlan County, Kentucky, the daughter of Lum and Iness (Mitchell) Tye.

She graduated from Melvindale High School in 1957 and married the love of her life Frank Len in Detroit on September 19, 1959 spending nearly 42 years together prior to his death on August 31, 2001.

Jurline enjoyed reading, sewing, gardening and canning, She spent many years as a den leader, softball coach and CCD teacher and looked forward to dancing with her husband in her earlier years. Jurline was an active member of the Holy Family Catholic Church and enjoyed spending time with her friends and family. Jurline loved her family and attending their many sporting events and activities



Jurline retired from Ovid Elementary School after 23 years of service as a secretary and special education aid.

Jurline is survived by her three sons, Douglas (Jeannette) Len, John (Cary) Len and Frank (Danielle) Len; daughter Lori (Robert) Eaton; grandchildren Joshua, Steven (Paula), Isaac, Hannah, John, Jarrod, Jacob, Jennifer, Joseph (Jessica), Kayla, Sydnee and Carter; great-grandchildren Joe and Trenton; special friends Joe Tejkl and Joane McCall; along with other loving family and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband, parents and brother Robert Tye.

A Private Mass of Christian burial was held at Holy Family Catholic Church in Ovid with Fr. Robert C. Bacik officiating. Burial followed at Middlebury Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association.

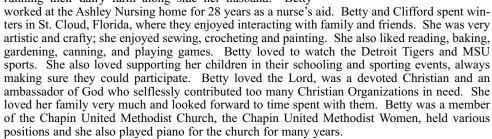
Online condolences may be sent to the family at Nelson-House.com.

### **Betty Mae McQuiston**

Betty Mae McQuiston, age 95, of Elsie, MI, passed away Friday, February 26, 2021 at her home surrounded by her

Betty was born in Chapin Township, Michigan on January 15, 1926, the daughter of Fay Marion and Dorothy Ellen (Miller) Somers. She graduated from Elsie High School with the class of 1943. Betty worked at the Chapin Telephone Office as the operator. Clifford John McQuiston regularly paid his phone bill, that's where they met and he courted her until they were married on January 21, 1956. They celebrated 50 years of marriage before Clifford's passing on March 5, 2006.

Betty grew up during the depression. She worked on the electric motor assembly line in Owosso supporting the WWII effort. Betty spent many years as a farmer's wife assisting in running their dairy farm along side her husband. Betty



She is survived by her children: Rebecca Faye (Glover) Bannerman, Karen Sue Louchart (Glover) and Larry Brooks, Clifford James (Jim) and Joyce McQuiston, Joleen Ann McQuiston, Marilou Kay (McQuiston) and Terry Ayers, Katrina Marie (McQuiston) and Archie Johnson, Gerald (Jerry) Roger McQuiston, 19 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, and 4 great great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Clifford, one sister Francis Jones, and brother George Somers.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI, on Wednesday, March 2021, with Chris Radcliffe officiating. Burial has taken place at Ford Cemetery, Gratiot

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Chapin United Methodist Church or Youth Haven. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, Michigan.

# Gary Lee Scherer

Gary Lee Scherer, age 67, of Owosso, MI, passed away on Friday, February 26, 2021 at Bavarian Comfort Care in Bridgeport, MI.

Gary was born in Dayton, OH on March 1, 1953, the son of James and Marie Therese (Simms) Scherer. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a truck driver for the United States Postal Service. He loved his cats especially: Mitty, Chanelle, Fluffy, Batman, and Mr. Talk Alot. He loved to play the drums and guitar and listen to Jimmy Hendrix.

Gary was the loving father of Adrian (Veronica) and Gary Jr. (Cindy); cherished grandfather of Logan, Lilly, Liberty, Leo. Leroy, Aiden, Megan, and Gavin, dear brother of Larry Simms, James Jr. (Deborah), Debbie (Mark) Weingart, Linda (Terry) Baker, Mary (Bob) Lewis, Kim (Mike) Petkus, and the late Daniel (surviving wife Ruth) Simms.

Funeral Services will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 11:00 A.M., with Pastor Scott Seelhoff officiating. Burial will follow with Military Honors at 2:00 P.M. at the Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. Visitation will be held on Sunday, March 7, 2021 from 2-8 P.M. with family present from 2-4 and 6-8 P.M. at the funeral home.

Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Pastor: John Jakus Sunday School: 9:00am



#### **Middlebury United Methodist Church**

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

**Bannister United** 

**Methodist Church** 

103 Hanvey Street

Pastor: Zella Daniel

Sunday Worship 11:15am



**Zoom Worship Service** 10:30 a.m.

#### Worship Service 10:00am Office Hours: 9-Noon Mon - Fri 517-651-6210 Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing

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www.unitedchurchofovid.org

or on Facebook

Pastor Eugene Blair

11:00 - Worship

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

> **Confession:** Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...







#### **Dean Edward Acre**

Dan Edward Acre, age 73, of Elsie, MI, passed away Wednesday, March 3, 2021, at Memorial Healthcare, Owosso,

Dan was born in Owosso, MI on March 24, 1947, the son of Paul O. and Bessie Herrick (Woods) Acre. Dan graduated from Elsie High School with the class of 1965.

Dan was a lifelong farmer. His love for the land and the cattle it fed began as soon as he could be carried to the barn. He enjoyed watching each year's

crops grow and every new calf that came along. Dan especially enjoyed the holidays and watching the Lions play on Thanksgiving.

He is survived by his brothers: David Acre of Elsie, MI, Dean and Ronda Acre of Elsie, MI, nephews: Michael Watson and friend Kristi of Oxford, MI; Corey Acre of Elsie, MI; and Ryan and Jamie Acre of Elsie, MI. He is also survived by his favorite nieces: Hope Watson of Oxford, MI and Holly Watson of Oxford, MI. He was preceded in death by his parents Paul

The family would like to thank Herm Kaufman, Rod Kiger and family, and Kevin Nash and family.

Funeral Services will be held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI, on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 11:00 A.M., with Mr. Dennis Baese officiating. Burial will take place at Riverside Cemetery, Elsie, MI. Visitation will be held on Monday, March 8, 2021 from 2-8 P.M. with family present from 2-4 & 6-8 P.M. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to Ovid Elsie FFA, the Elsie Historical Society or Elsie Area Fire and Rescue. Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.

### **MDARD Accepting Applications for annual** 'Michigan Agriculture Exporter of the Year' Award

submitted by Jessy Sielski

LANSING—The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is now accepting applications for its annual "Michigan Agriculture Exporter of the Year" award. Each year, MDARD recognizes a leading food or agriculture exporter for its efforts to increase exports of Michigan food and agriculture products. Applicants may also be considered for the "Rising Star" award, which is reserved for new companies or companies new to exporting.

Companies of all sizes are encouraged to apply. Eligibility is limited to Michigan food and agriculture producers, manufacturers, or shippers that are aggressively pursuing international markets and increasing export sales. Products must be more than 50 percent grown, processed, or manufactured in Michigan.

The winner of the award is selected by international trade industry representatives based on export growth, innovation, and the pursuit of new export markets.

The award was first awarded in 2006. Previous winners include Kamps Hardwoods, Sklarczyk Seed Farm, Dr. John's Candies, Bayside Best Beans, Star of the West Milling, Continental Dairy, Connor Sports, Graceland Fruit, Cherry Central, Zeeland Farm Service, Walters Gardens, Honee Bear Canning, Cooperative Elevator Company, and Michigan Apple Committee

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 16,

For more information, and an application, visit https://bit.ly/3bygHxr or contact Donna LaCourt at 517-614-



#### **A** Little **Common Sense**

by Crystal Mitchell

The sun is up and the air is nippy, I surely do wish that my brain was formatted to be very functional today....it doesn't appear to be so. All week long I have been searching for something to share with you. I do have a book that was published in 1938 and it has given me a great deal of fun. I'm talking about the Modern Webster Dictionary that Linda provided me. It has given me some very gleeful insights. On one hand the definitions are short and concise and do not muddy the waters of my brain. I find that the newer dictionaries seem to go out of their way to confuse the user. What a humdinger!!!

I still don't have a refrigerator....but will have one delivered on Monday or Tuesday of next week. I really am looking forward to getting it. Imagine not having to go to the store to get ice for the cooler....just so I can have a glass of cold milk. I haven't been camping in years and probably won't be inclined to do so for many more. Thank goodness the well is working as it should.....I only need to run the water a bit for a glass of pristine cold well water. Yup, it may be hard water but it soothes my palate well.

Do you remember back in October when I went on a shopping spree at JC Penney's and finally found some "Isotoner" gloves with leather palms that fit my "large unladylike hands"? I had been so excited that I bought me two pair. Of course I put up a pair up for later use and carried the others around with me....I tucked them in my coat pocket when I wasn't wearing them. I lost the pair and have unsuccessfully searched for them for the last six weeks. I searched my office, my home, my truck, and my daughter's home...... William just walked out to dump the kitty litter and there laid my gloves on the ground by the shed entrance. They had been buried in the snow......I was ecstatic, now if I could just find the other pair that I put up for safe keeping. It is a good day!!! Currently it would be nice if I could find a way to make the house cats leave my plants alone. My spider plants are down to nubs....

Yesterday I drove one of those newfangled autos....you know the ones that have no keys just a key fob that needs to be in the vehicle. Nobody gave me any directions on how to use it....I just looked around and applied a bit of common sense. Put foot on brake and push the ignition button to the left of the radio dial to start the engine. On the drive home it took me awhile to figure out how to use the cruise. The car accelerates quickly and I tend to have a lead foot....not a good combination. So I do appreciate the cruise....

Today the co-op order comes in.....so I need to rearrange the freezers. If that doesn't work I will rely on the barn fridge at Diane's. That freezer is empty for now......later today it will be filled to the brim. I have ten pounds of cod coming home with me today and I do need to get the rest of the frozen meat and vegetables moved out of my fridge's freezer. I also need to make a quick stop at the office to see if the bulletin info has arrived

Basically life is good here, some might call it boring at times....I enjoy the opportunity to read and to view what I wish on the television. When it comes to miracles and blessings I see them daily and I enjoy them. Of course it could just be my way of viewing things. May your days be filled with sunshine and God's blessings. Be safe and use your common sense. Crystal Mitchell©2021





Editorial

# Religious **Thoughts**

In Matthew 2:16 it reads, "When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

King Herod is the textbook example of what happens when someone rejects God and gives into their sin nature. A sin nature that all of us have and that all of us share with Herod. A scary, sobering thought.

Our sin nature and the sins that we commit separate us from God and the abundant and eternal life that He wants for all people to have.

Thank God, that quality of life is for everyone.

Do you feel that you don't measure up? That you keep falling short of people's standards or expectations for you?

Have you always been the last one picked for the team? The odd one out? The person who just doesn't really fit in with anyone, anywhere?

Maybe you think that you've sinned too much. That you have committed the one sin that God won't forgive you from. That you are too far gone for God to forgive and love.

There's good news for you. God loves you and when you come to Him, He welcomes you into His Kingdom with open

Paul writes, "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..." 1 Timothy 1:15

Are you a sinner? We all are. That means that Jesus came into the world to save you.

That's good news! That's news of great joy! That God has sent Jesus to call and save the sinners. To call the drug addicts. To call the prostitutes. To call the millionaires. To call the blue collar worker. To call the white collar worker. To call the unemployed. To call the student, teacher, sailor, servicemen and women in the armed forces, and to call and forgive you and me.

Praise God! That is good news.

#### **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF LAINGSBURG** SHIAWASSEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN 2021 LOCAL STREETS REHABILITATION

City of Laingsburg (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project: 2021 Local Streets Rehabilitation, 20.0503.20. Sealed Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the City of Laingsburg, City Hall located at 114North Woodhull St., Laingsburg, Michigan 48848, until Thursday, March25, 2021 at 11:00 AM local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Work includes: 2,450 Syd HMA Base Crushing and Shaping; 12,565 Syd Cold Milling HMA Surface; 2,845 Ton HMA, LVSP; 3Lane Mile Overband

Bidding Documents may be downloadedfrom C2AE's ShareFile Website for bidding purposes only; contact Beth Dillsworth at beth.dillsworth@c2ae.com at C2AE for logon information and to register as a plan holder. It is the Bidder's responsibility to determine/evaluate the capability of his equipment The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: C2AE; 106 W. Allegan Street, Suite 500; Lansing, MI 48933; 517•371•1200.

Bidding Documents may also be examined at the following locations: · Office of the Owner, City of Laingsburg, City Hall, 114 North Woodhull St., Laingsburg, MI 48848, Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00am•4:00pm.

- · Builder's Exchange or Plan Rooms
- Construction Association of Plan Room Bloomfield Hills
- Dodge Data andAnalytics

Questions regarding the Bidding Documents may be addressed to Adam Falkowski at adam.falkowski@c2ae.com

This Advertisementis issued by: Owner: City of Laingsburg

By: Paula Willoughby Title: City Clerk/Treasurer Date: March 3, 2021

#### **Ovid-Elsie Reverse Raffle Update**

The OE Sports Boosters along with the Marauder wrestling program have decided to hold this years event virtually. The 2020 event was cancelled due to the Pandemic and so far this year hasn't looked any better for an in-person event so the event will be held virtually on Sunday, April 11, 2021. Organizers realize that ticket holders from last year would be looking forward to the dinner party as in previous years. If you hold a ticket from last year wish to return it for a refund please contact Kyle Spiess, Carl Thornton or Amy Knickerbocker. Watch the Meridian Weekly for event details in the coming weeks.

#### **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

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

#### Victor Township, Clinton County, MI 6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI

Proposed Special Board Minutes from February 18, 2021 meeting The special meeting of the Victor Township Board was called to order by Township Supervisor Jim Conklin at 6:03 PM.

Attendance: Conklin, Willoughby, Townsend, Fickes and Conklin Public Comment - None

Agenda: Moved by Clerk Conklin to approve the agenda. Supported by Townsend, Roll call, Motion carried

Mintues: Motion by Townsend to approve the proposed minutes of special meeting February 4th, 2021 and regular meeting February 8th, 2021. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.

Budget: The Board discussed the draft budget presented by Supervisor Conklin. The board reviewed each fund separately in detail. Several items were discussed regarding building updates and maintenance items. One item of concern is the boiler system and water quality. Supervisor Conklin to speak to maintenance contactor Shawn Smith in regards to bids for the project.

Motion by Willoughby to approve the purchase of 28 new hall tables utilizing previously budgeted funds for township upgrades. Supported by Clerk Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

Motion by Clerk Conklin to approve large hall painting utilizing previously budgeted funds for township upgrades s. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.

Motion by Willoughby to approve purchase of 12 new picnic tables utilizing previously budgeted funds for township upgrades. Supported by Clerk Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

An electronic public budget meeting to be held March 08, 2021 at 6:30 pm You can join the meeting electronically at

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84229186630 or by calling: 1 253-215-8782 or 1 301-715- 8592 Meeting ID: 842 2918 6630 on February 18, 2021 at 6:00

Moved by Supervisor Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm, Supported by Willoughby, Roll call. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

#### **Moolenaar Announces 2021 Congressional Art Competition**

Congressman John Moolenaar invites all high students school from Michigan's Fourth Congressional District to enter their art in the 2021 Congressional Competition.



The winning student from the Fourth District will have their art displayed at the U.S. Capitol for a year. It is also possible that the Congressional Institute, which runs the competition, will hold an event in Washington D.C. later this year to honor winning students from across the country. If the event is held, the winning student from the Fourth District will receive two round-trip airline tickets to travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the event.

All entries will be displayed at the Midland Center for the Arts after the competition ends. Regional winners from the Fourth District will have the opportunity for their art to be displayed in Congressman Moolenaar's Midland and Cadillac

The entry deadline for this year's Fourth District contest is Friday, April 16, 2021. Entries should be mailed or delivered to Congressman Moolenaar's Midland office at 200 East Main Street, Suite 230, Midland, MI 48640.

More information on the rules and how to enter the art competitions is online at moolenaar.house.gov/artcompetition. Interested students who need assistance transporting their art to Midland or who have additional questions on the competition should contact Congressman Moolenaar's Midland office at

Michigan's Fourth Congressional District is made up of Clare, Clinton, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon, Shiawassee, and Wexford counties, and parts of Montcalm and Saginaw coun-

#### **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

#### **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

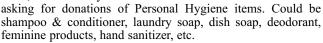
#### Laingsburg Area Food **Bank Update**

submitted by

Linda Culpepper
With the great blessings from our community and the Greater Lansing Food Bank, the Laingsburg Area Food Bank is thankful to announce that we are in abundance of food!

We are also thankful to individuals in our community who have been consistent in donatcereal canned goods and meats!

With that in mind, we are only



SBURG AREA

OOD BANK

We have set up a donation can in Sage Market, by the ice melt and salt in the lobby of the building.

Again, we thank you all for your blessings!

# **ELBA TOWNSHIP GRATIOT COUNTY**

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

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

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/2076770426?pwd=M204LzZuY11 5VXg4cG12L04zdzEzQT09

Meeting ID: 207 677 0426 Passcode: 698422

### One tap mobile

+13126266799,,2076770426#,,,,\*698422# US

+19292056099,,2076770426#,,,,\*698422# US (New York)

#### Dial by your location

- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicageo
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- + 1 3-1 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- + 1 346 248 7799 US ( Houston)
- + 1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 207 677 0426

Passcode: 698422 Find your local number: http://zoom.us/u/abmzM9LD7S

# Purple in the Woods

Michigan has a very interesting no trespass law and it would take pages and pages to cover not only the public act but also all the case law and



# The Weekly Sportsman

517-373-1778

Representative Ben Frederick

(Shiawassee County) 517-373-

by Dan McMaster theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

examples of violations truly prosecutable and not. In simple terms, when land is posted with a no trespassing sign or you have been warned to leave the property then your continued recreational trespass could result in jail time and court fines. As taught in hunter safety it is best to always seek permission before crossing property lines.

In some ways the burden is on the landowner to post their property with ugly no trespassing signs that often are hung by punching staples or pounding nails into trees. Over time the tree grows and the staples and nails pop out and the sign falls onto the ground. This practice may come to a halt very soon as the Michigan legislature considers a no trespassing purple paint law similar to language enacted in about a dozen other states. Originally started in Arkansas, the purple paint law allows landowners to post their land by spray painting purple paint on trees with a vertical stripe at least 8 inches in length and 3-5 foot above the ground. Posted trees would have to be no more than 100 foot apart.

The Weekly Sportsman has thought long and hard about this proposed legislation and can only come up with one negative side of this concept. For the 7% of the male population and 1/2% of the female population affected by color blindness the purple stripes may appear blue. On the upside markings would last longer than signs and free of damage from weather and violators.

Additionally, the purple in the woods is sure to match hunter pink and zombie hunter neon green. The public will need to be educated but hunter safety courses and the game book along with some media coverage should be sufficient.

What are your thoughts on Michigan becoming a purple paint state? Currently SB 106 has passed out of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and awaits action on the floor of the Michigan Senate. Please call Senator Tom Barrett 517-373-3447 or your State Representative Graham Filler (Clinton County)

#### 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: mhollev4444@dmail.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

# FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given to all persons liable to assessment for 2021 taxes in the Township of Fairfield, County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan: That the Assessment Rolls of said Fairfield Township as prepared by the Township Assessor will be subject to inspection. At which place, and on each of said days as listed below, said board of Review will be in session and upon the request of any person who is assessed on said roll, or of his agent, and upon sufficient cause being shown, said Board of Review will correct the assessment as to such property in such manner as will in their judgement make the valuation thereof relatively just and equal.

After said Board shall complete the review of said rolls, a majority of said Board shall endorse thereon, and sign a statement to the effect that the same are the assessment rolls of said unity of government for the year in which it has been prepared and approved by the Board of Review.

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
7988 W. HENDERSON RD., ELSIE (TOWNSHIP HALL)
Appeals Monday, March 8th, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. & 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.\*
Tuesday, March 9th, 9 a.m. - 12 noon\* & 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
(\*Assessor Present)
www.fairfieldtwp.us

Notice is given that this is a handicap accessible building and if other special services are needed, the City or Township Clerk should be contacted.

Also, due to COVID-19, all appeals shall follow the safety guidelines from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Public Act 228 of 2020.

#### Husband did not Keep New Years Resolution



# 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

Dear Andy,

My wife is always nagging me about my weight and what I eat. She does the shopping and cooking so I do not see how it is my fault! She is a good cook and I eat what she makes. I admit I might eat more than necessary, and I have gained a lot of weight over the last year. I was going to start the new year with a better diet. How can I get her to stop nagging at me? Hungry Husband

Dear H. H.,

If the situation were reversed, I would tell my husband that "my weight is none of your business" or "my weight is between me and my doctor." However, you might not want to say anything that would cause even more problems. My suggestion to you to get her to stop "nagging" is to lose some weight. Typically, it is easier for men to lose weight than women. So my advice to help you lose weight:

First you may want to see your doctor to check for any underlying physical problems. Your doctor can make recommendation for a diet plan that may be best for you. In the meantime, you can start out by eating smaller meals. Make sure you are getting 3 or 4 servings of fruit, 3 servings of protein and 4 servings of vegetables and 2 dairy servings every day. Limit your starches, pasta, breads and fats, such as catsup and dressings with high sugar levels. No sweets for the first month you are trying to lose weight.

If you chew or smoke, quit. And don't quit quitting! Go for a walk after dinner. Start out at 10 minutes and build up to 30 minutes a day. Walking helps your circulation and improves your breathing. Exercise keeps you in better shape as you lose weight. You did not say how much weight you needed to lose but set a reasonable goal in a reasonable amount of time to allow you to lose weight. Those extra pounds didn't get there overnight; you're not going to lose them overnight. Be patient with yourself.

If you can lose 2 pound a week, in 10 weeks you could be down 20 pounds. Keep track of your weight-loss by writing it down each week or daily. Some people find it helpful to write down everything you eat. Track your eating habits. You might be surprised where you can cut back some unnecessary and fattening snacks or calories. Do not deny yourself special occasion and holiday foods but be reasonable in the "smaller" amounts you take. Always pass up second servings

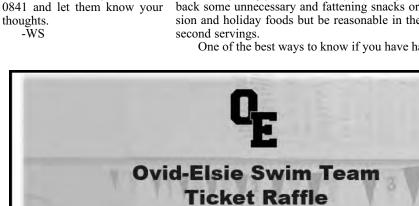
One of the best ways to know if you have had enough, listen for a breath and a sigh. Listen

12 o'clock Noon

for that sign and stop eating as soon as you can. It takes 20 minutes for your stomach to signal your brain that you are full. The sigh is the indicator that you are done and already had enough. If these suggestions do not get you on the path you desire, go to a medical weight loss clinic and they will sell you a plan that will work. FYI: Men who weigh less than 200 pounds live longer. Healthy diets work for ladies, too.

Your wife will notice that you are not "pigging out" as much and if you are trying, she will stop "nagging." Having her support is another great way to lose weight. Talk about changes in buying groceries and cooking such using healthier spray oil and spray butter products. Buy low fat everything with zero sugar. Help her out in the kitchen, and plan meals together. Tell her you need her support, not the constant reminders. She must love you very much to be concerned about your weight. Good Luck and Be Healthy. Thank you for writ-Andy ask andy@aol.com





The Kayak Package

(two Kayaks, paddles, life jackets)

(two Kayaks, paddles, life jackets)

(two Kayaks, paddles, life jackets)

The Cooler Package

The Cooler Package

(yeti Cooler with some added

The Cooler Some inimum)

(yeti Cooler Some inimum)

The Floating Down the River Package

The Floating Down the River (river tubes, 150 (minimum)

The Value \$150 (minimum)

Tickets can be purchased thru: Any O-E Swimmer

The Meridian Weekly
Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial
or call Jackie Leavitt at 989-277-0052

\*\*NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN, WINNERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY TELEPHONE
Prizes shown may not be actual prizes won

# Sports

#### **Indiana Tech Continues to** Shine with O-E's Barton in the Lineup

Indiana Tech continues to shine with Ovid-Elsie grad Lauren Barton in the lineup. Barton scored two points and grabbed a rebound in Tech's 73-37 win Feb. 25 over Cornerstone in the first round of Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament. She had one rebound Satruday in a 65-33 win over Siena Heights in the semis. The Warriors won their third straight title Tuesday with a 65-59 victory over Concordia-Ann Arbor.



#### Wolfpack's Wilsev is Every-Game Starter for Oakland U. Soccer



Laingsburg grad Sophie Wilsey continues to excel on the soccer field for Oakland University.

Wilsey scored the Grizzlies' lone goal as Oakland battled Northern Kentucky to a 1-1 tie Feb. 24.

The junior defender has started all four games so far for Oakland.

#### **CITY OF OVID** NOTICE OF SMOKE TESTING

The City of Ovid will be testing sewer lines throughout the City from 9:00am to 3:00pm starting March 15, 2021 thru March 19, 2021

The City of Ovid will be doing smoke testing to the sanitary sewer lines in your area, including all residents outside of the City limits connected to the City's sanitary sewer system. These tests involve blowing harmless smoke into parts of the sewer system to find damage, improper connections, and where unwanted water may be entering the City's sewer system. As a result, smoke may be seen coming from roof vents, building foundations, catch basins, clean-outs, down spouts, sewer laterals or manhole covers. The smoke will not enter your home or business if it is properly plumbed, vented, and the water traps contain water.

#### Recommendation For Residents:

If you have a bathroom or plumbing fixture that is not used or is seldom used, traps should be filled by running water in the fixtures the day before scheduled smoke testing begins. Water can evaporate from unused plumbing fixtures and Sewer gases can enter the home. Water should be added on a monthly basis thereafter in order to prevent sewer gas from entering the home or office.

The smoke used is a non-toxic substance that is relatively harmless to humans, pets, food, and material items. The smoke could potentially cause some minor irritation to nasal passages. Any irritation will be temporary and should quickly disappear after exposure has ceased.

Persons with heart and respiratory ailments should leave the house during the test. Please contact the City Office at 989-834-5550 to leave your name, address and phone number. The City will notify you when smoke testing will be done on your street.

House pets will react in a manner similar to a prudent person and leave the Smokey area. If an exit is not available be sure pets are provided with proper ventilation

If smoke does enter the building, it will clear in a few minutes with proper ventilation. Please advise a representative of the smoke testing crew if any leakage occurs in your home or business. Additionally, if you have any questions about the test, health issues or any other concerns, feel free to ask a crew member or contact the City Office at 989-834-5550.

Your presence is not required during the tests, and all public safety authorities will be notified of this event. We would appreciate it if you would mention this notice to your neighbors in case, they have not received a notice.

Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **O-E Boys Bounce Back, Beat** Byron for 5th in 6 Tries, 57-23

OVID-ELSIE — Dylan Carman scored 18 points and Ovid-Elsie bounced back from its first defeat with a 57-23 rout of Byron here February 26.

Cal Byrnes added six points, five rebounds, four assists and six steals for the Marauders (5-1, 3-0 Mid-Activities Michigan Conference), who had 11 players score at least one point. Jackson Thornton had five points and six rebounds. Alex Eichenberg and Jacob Schaub each scored five points.

ond quarter by outscoring Byron (0-8, 0-4) 20-2.



Dylan Carman scored 18points Ovid-Elsie broke open a for OE against Byron on Feb. seven-point game in the sec- 26th. Photos by Jody Thornton

Scoring for coach Josh Latz's Marauders: Cal Byrnes 3 0-0 6 points, Jackson Thornton 2 1-2 5, Keigan Ormes 1 0-0 3, Gavin Godfrey 1 0-0 3, Colin Fluharty 1 2-2 4, Ale Eichenberg 1 3-4 5, Dylan Carman 6 1-2 18, Logan Thompson 1 0-0 3, Carson Gregory 0 1-2 1, Brayden Phollips 1 0-0 3, Jacob Schaub 2 0-0 5 and Jacob Tomasek 0 1-2 1.

#### Ovid-Elsie boys keep rolling with 50-40 Victory at Ithaca



OE's Logan Thompson scored 14points to hold off Ithaca 50-40 on March 3rd.

ITHACA -- The visiting Marauders stunned Ithaca with a 19-2 run in the first quarter, then held off the Ŷellowjackets the rest of the way for a 50-40 boys basketball victory.

Logan Thompson led the way with 14 and nine different players scored for coach Josh Latz's O-E cagers, who improved to 6-1 on the 2021 campaign.

The 'Jackets got within 39-30 after three quarters of play, but Ovid-Elsie closed out the contest with a 11-10 advantage in the final period, including some clutch free throws. The Marauders finished 9-of-17 from the stripe.

Scoring for O-E looked like this: Thompson 14, Adam Barton 8, Clay Wittenberg 8, Jackson Thornton 5, Cal Byrnes 4, Dylan Carman 4, Alex Eichenberg 3, Colin Fluharty 2 and Jacob Tomasek 2 points.

#### **ELBA TOWNSHIP GRATIOT COUNTY**

Elba Township will hold its budget meeting on March 16th at 6:00pm. The meeting will be virtual on ZOOM. Elba Township's monthly meeting will be moved to March 16th at 7:00pm on ZOOM.

Madalin C. Morris

Township Clerk

989-847-2097

#### Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/2076770426?pwd=M204LzZuY11

5VXg4cG12L04zdzEzQT09 Meeting ID: 207 677 0426

Passcode: 698422

#### **Bryon Girls Down Ovid-Elsie** 55-36 Just 2nd Loss for Lady **Marauders**

OVID-ELSIE — Sarah Marvin posted a double-double with 16 points and 11 rebounds and sister Becky Marvin added a career-high 13 points as Byron defeated Ovid-Elsie, 55-36, on February 26.

Makayla Clement added 15 points, six steals and four assists for the Eagles (8-0, 3-0 MMAC). Makenna Clement had eight points, four rebounds and three assists.

Madison Cunningham scored 12 points with four rebounds for the Marauders (5-2, 1-1 MMAC). Braeden



Madison Cunningham

Tokar had six points, five rebounds and two assists. Other scoring for coach Ryan Cunningham's Marauders looked like this: Caitlyn Walter 2 0-2 5 points, Evalyn Cole 2 0-0 5 points and Ava Bates 1 1-2 4 points.

#### Ovid-Elsie girls get past Ithaca, 56-50



Caitlyn Walter

OVID-ELSIE — Caitlyn Walter scored 25 points while shooting 5-of-7 from three-point territory and Ovid-Elsie downed the visiting Ithaca Yellowjackets, 56-50, on March 3.

Walter shot 8 of 16 from the floor. Coach Ryan Cunningham's Marauders (6-3) also got eight points each from Braeden Tokar and Madison Cunningham. Ava Bates scored four points. Ovid-Elsie led 9-2 after one quarter but Ithaca made it closer later.

"It was definitely a game of runs and thankfully we hit our free throws

down the stretch," coach Cunningham said. "Ithaca is a lot better than their record indicates. We had a lot of good minutes from all of our kids, which is nice to see, especially when so many fouls were called.'

Ithaca fell to 3-6.

Scoring for the Marauders: Kiah Longoria 1 1-2 3 points, Tristin Ziola 1 3-4 5, Caitlyn Walter 8 4-5 25, Braeden Tokar 2 4-6 8, Hailee Campbell 1 1-4 3, Madison Cunningham 3 2-5 8, and Ava Bates 2 0-0 4.

# COMPOSITE **PALLETS**

**FOR SALE Available at** The Weekly (989) 834-2264



Roughly 48" x 48" Great for Storage \$10 Each

# **Senior Spotlight**

### Seniors' Biggest Expenses

New parents may not be able to visualize that one day their largest expenditures won't be centralized around providing necessities for their children. Adults go though many years of paying for diapers, toys, clothing, food, and education for their children. Yet, when the children have flown the coop, spending patterns change, and even more changes await come retirement.

According to a 2020 survey from the financial services firm Edward Jones, 68 percent of workers soon to retire said they had no idea how much they should be setting aside for expenses, particularly health care and long-term care. Professionals approaching retirement would be wise to analyze the Consumer Price Index - Elderly (CPI-E). It is a good reference to estimate which future expenses will cost the most after retirement. The Bureau of Labor Statistics looks at consumer spending and uses various data to determine the rate of inflation in key areas that apply to older adults starting at age 62.

Individuals may be surprised to learn about where they'll be spending the bulk of their money when they get older. Here's a look at some key categories.

Housing: According to data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute, in 2017, the most recent year for which data is available, housing accounted for roughly 49 percent of all spending for seniors. Focus should be centered on lowering those costs when a fixed income is imminent. The possibilities include paying off a mortgage; downsizing a home to have a lower rent or mortgage payment; refinancing a home to a fixed-rate loan so that costs are predictable; and taking on a tenant to

offset costs.

· Food: The cost of food will not change dramatically, but it can eat into your budget. Even though food costs may decline when there's only two mouths to feed, food and beverage spending may go up due to more leisure time and dining out. Utilize senior discounts by shopping on days when stores offer percentages off purchases. Save money on restaurant spending by eating out at lunch instead of dinner, splitting plates or skipping appetizers.

· Healthcare: Experts warn that while many expenses

Healthcare: Experts warn that while many expenses decline in retirement, health care spending increases. According to Fidelity, the average 65-year-old couple retiring in 2020 in the United States needed roughly \$295,000 just to cover their retirement health care expenses. Those with family histories of severe illnesses or those with preexisting conditions will need even more. It's also important to realize that roughly half of the population will need long-term care at some point, offers The Motley Fool, and that requires advanced budgeting as well. Many people find that Medicare supplement plans can bridge the gap in expenses that government-run plans will not cover. Saving through a health savings account (HSA) when employed also can create extra cash on hand for retirement expenses.

Understanding which retirement expenses will be high can help people plan better for the future



THE BEST LOCAL INSURANCE AGENCY

Ovid Service Agency
Ovid • (989) 834-2288



#### What to Expect During a Colonoscopy

A colonoscopy exam can detect changes or abnormalities in the large intestine and rectum that may eventually develop into cancer. Though colonoscopies are effective at screening for cancer and catching illnesses at an early, treatable stage, many people are hesitant to undergo the procedure. That may be due to unfamiliarity with colonoscopies.

Annual colonoscopies are generally recommended for people age 50 and older. Here's what to expect:

- · The day before the colonoscopy you will be asked to fast from solid food and only consume clear liquids. A doctor usually will prescribe a preparatory laxative product that will help to clean out the bowels.
- $\cdot$  You also may need to adjust medications you take under the guidance of your doctor, such as those that thin the blood.
- $\cdot$  On the day of the procedure, the medical staff will ask you to get undressed and put on a gown.
- · Sedation through pill or IV form is usually given to make the experience more comfortable. Because of this, you will likely need to have a ride home after the procedure.

You will be asked to lie on your side with your knees drawn in.

A scope will be inserted into the rectum. The scope contains a light and camera, and is long enough to reach the entire length of the colon. Air or carbon dioxide will be pumped to inflate the colon.

· The Mayo Clinic says the entire procedure may not take long, but it can take up to an hour to recover after sedation.

· After the scope has been removed, there may be some residual abdominal cramping because air has been introduced. It also may feel like you need to have a bowel movement. Walking can help expel that gas and help you feel better.

Colonoscopies are routine procedures. It is an essential procedure for adults over 50.



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# Senior Spotlight

#### **Benefits of Exercise**

Exercise keeps the body and brain healthy. That's why exercise should be an important component of daily life no matter one's age.

WebMD says exercise keeps the body and brain healthy. That's why exercise should be an important com-



ponent of daily life no matter one's age.

Research published in the journal Immune Aging found that how people age is 75 percent lifestyle and only 25 percent genetics, which underscores the importance of the lifestyle choices people make.

Cardiorespiratory fitness

Many health experts say that cardiorespiratory fitness may be just as valuable a metric to determine overall health as blood pressure and lipid levels. People with a high aerobic capacity can deliver oxygen to tissues and cells efficiently to fuel exer-

& Disease. Women who were fit from a cardiovascular perspective had a lower death rate from all causes, irrespective of the women's weight.

Manage stress and mood

Exercise has direct stress-busting benefits that can promote longevity. The Mayo Clinic says physical activity can increase the production of endorphins, which are the body's feel-good neurotransmitters. In addition, exercise can imitate the effects of stress, helping the body adjust its flight or fight response accordingly, and help them cope with mildly stressful situations. While engaged in exercise, people may forget about their problems as they are focused on the activity at hand.
Improve bone health

Strength training and physical activity can stave off the effects of frailty and osteoporosis, which affects bone strength. A study published in the Journal of Internal Medicine in 2017 found that hip fractures are associated with diminished quality of life and survival among the elderly. One in three adults aged 50 and over dies within 12 months of suffering a hip fracture, and older adults have a five- to eight-times greater risk of

dying within three months following a hip fracture. Building muscle strength, balance and bone density through exercise can reduce falls and frailty, helping to prevent fracturerelated health risks.

Addresses sarcopenia

The health and wellness resource Healthline defines sarcopenia as the loss of muscle mass specifically related to aging. Doctors once considthis muscle loss inevitable, and it can affect stamina and lead to weakness. However, new indications suggest that exercise is the main treatment regimen for sarcopenia, particularly resistance training. This is designed to improve muscle strength and help balance hormone levels by turning protein into energy for older adults.



**Exercise Ideas for People** 

health. In November 2020, the WHO released new exercise guidelines for people of all ages. Adults should get between 150 and 300 minutes a week of moderate to vigorous aerobic activity, and that includes older adults and those with chronic conditions or disabilities.

Individuals with limited mobility due to age or preexisting medical conditions may wonder how they can meet the guidelines for exercise. Those with chronic pain or illness sometimes find that exercising for more than a few minutes can be challenging. Even brief periods of exercise can pay dividends, and there are various approaches people can take to work around mobility and other issues.

Explore chair exercises

Just because you are seated doesn't mean you can't get a workout in. Seated chair exercises can work various muscle groups. Seated arm rows, tummy twists, overhead arm raises, hand squeezes with a tennis ball, inner thigh squeezes, leg lifts and extensions, and many other exercises can be customized to be performed in a chair.

Work out in the water

Exercising in the water can assist with movement and reduce strain on the body. The Arthritis Foundation says the water's buoyancy supports body weight, which minimizes stress on joints and can alleviate pain. Water provides gentle resistance as well - up to 12 times the resistance of air. That means it's possible to build strength and muscle even just walking or swimming around a pool.

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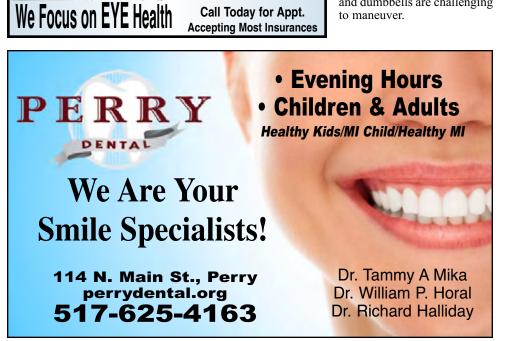
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# **Sports**

#### Wolfpack Girls Rebound from Controversial Loss at Fowler Torch Fulton Pirates 56-17

FULTON-MID-DLETON -- The visiting Wolfpack roared to a 25-4 first quarter lead and won for the 4th time in five games, with a 56-17 rout of Fulton.

Coach Doug Hurst's Lady Wolves were led by Ellie Baynes with 14 points and 6 steals.

Grace Graham was again solid witg 11 points, 5 rebs, 5 assists and 7 steals. Lorna Strieff added 10 pts, 4 rebs, 4 assists and 5 steals; Julia Starr 6 pts.; Erica Wade 4 pts.; Saige Wurm 3 pts. and 3 rebs; Hayleigh Mertens 2 pts. and 4 steals; and Gabby Paquet, Shaily Baynes and Kezzie Dietz each with 2 points.



Laingsburg

improved to 3-1 in the CMAC with the win. Said coach Hurst, "After a tough loss with Fowler on Tuesday I was a little worried on how we may bounce back and respond. However, after just a few minutes into the game it was clear to me that the girls came to play, and we're moving forward. I was very proud of them, everyone of them played hard, and were fired up and ready to go."

# Lady Wolfpack edges St. Pats on the road to stay in CMAC girls basketball title contention

PORTLAND — Erica Wade drained two free throws to stake Laingsburg to a 3-point lead, and Grace Graham nabbed a steal with :05 seconds left, and the Wolfpack girls basketball team escaped with a critical 36-33 away-from-home win here March 2

Coach Doug Hurst's Laingsburg girls basketball team needed a win to keep its Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) title hopes alive, and got it to improve to 5-1 overall, 4-1 in the CMAC.

Ellie Baynes scored 12 points with five steals for the Wolfpack. Lorna Strieff scored nine points with nine rebounds. Wade finished with eight points. Graham had nine rebounds and five steals. Saige Wurm grabbed 10 rebounds.

Portland St. Patrick (5-2, 4-1 CMAC) got 10 points from Mara Schrauben.

Laingsburg beat the Shamrocks 49-28 Feb. 9 in its season opener, but it did not count toward the league standings.

Both teams were one game behind league-leading Fowler, 5-0 in the CMAC. Coach Hurst said Portland St. Patrick and Fowler will play March 16 in a league matchup.



Laingsburgs grappler Seth Sivak gets the win against against Breckenridge on March 2nd. Photo by Angela Motz

#### Wolfpack Wrestling Team Sweeps Coleman, Breckenridge, Mayville

LAINGSBURG -- Coach Shawn Baynes' Wolfpack wrestling team swept three non-league rivals, in double-dual action on March 2.

Team scores were Laingsburg 66 - Breckenridge 12; Laingsburg 48 - Coleman 23 and Laingsburg 47 - Mayville 28 as the Wolves excelled on the mats.

Opposite Breckenridge, the Wolfpack opened up a 18-0 lead behind wins from Gabby Motz at 112, Martin Meyers at 119 and Desire Knoblauch at 125, before the Huskies' Derek Maye won by forfeit at 130. The Wolfpack then scored consecutive wins by Dacota Dysinger at 135; Aiden Baynes at 140, Noah Gentry at 145, Kyle Boetcher at 152, Seth Sivak at 160, Caleb Boetcher at 171, Brice Smith at 189 and Sean Divine at 215 to run to a 66-6 lead.

Against the Coleman Comets, Motz, Baynes, Gentry, Kyle Boetcher, Sivak, Caleb Boetcher, Smith and Divine all led a 48-23 comeback victory after Laingsburg fell behind 18-6.

A technical fall by Dysinger, after a win by Motz, rallied the Wolves from a 16-6 deficit vs. Mayville. Baynes and Kyle Boetcher then won by fall, and Sivak, Caleb Boetcher, Smith and Divine all won by forfeit as the red-and-white swept the competition.

# Wolfpack wrestling team continues early dominance on CMAC mats

LAINGSBURG -- The Wolfpack wrestling team continued to make its case as one of the best mat contingents in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), routing Saranac 66-18.

SHS opened with 3 wins in the lightweight classes to grab a narrow early lead, but coach Shawn Baynes' Wolves churned out 9 straight wins in the middle- to upper-weight slots to win going away.

Laingsburg victories came from Gabby Motz at 112 lbs., Martin Meyers at 119, Dacota Dysinger at 135, Aden Baynes at 140, Noah Gentry at 145, Kyle Boetcher at 152, Seth Sivak at 160, Brice Smith at 171, Wyatt Stanfield at 189, Sean Divine at 215 and Iain Hart at 285.

In extra matches, Zach Grandy at 140, Alex Forcier at 152 and Jack Borgman at 152 all scored Wolfpack victories.

### Fulton Drops Laingsburg to 2-2 in CMAC with 53-42 Boys Victory

FULTON-MIDDLETON — Laingsburg's two-game win streak was snapped February 26 as the Wolfpack fell at Fulton-Middleton, 53-42.

Zach Hawes scored 15 points for coach Daniel Morrill's Wolfpack (2-2, 2-2 Central Michigan Activities Conference).

Fulton improved to 2-3 in the Central Michigan Activities Conference and 3-3 overall. Bruce Thelen scored 22 points and Joe Lung added 18 for the Pirates.



Zach Hawes

#### Laingsburg stays in thick of CMAC boys basketball race, 36-33 over Portland St. Patrick



Eli Woodruff

PORTLAND — Zach Hawes scored 16 points as Laingsburg edged Portland St. Patrick 36-33 Tuesday.

"It was a straight up defensive battle," Laingsburg coach Daniel Morrill said.

The Wolfpack's next-highest scorer was Eli Woodruff, with six points, as Laingsburg rose to 3-2 overall and 3-2 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference.

The Shamrocks fell to 1-4 over all and 0-4 in the CMAC.

# Good Luck WOLFPACK!



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# **Ashley Bears 2020-21 Winter Sports**



#### Ashley Boys Varsity Basketball

Front row (l-r): Logan Drummond, Bailey Long, Grant Malek, Jordan Huntoon, Chase Kral Second row (l-r): Logan Hardman, Evan Litwiller, HC Steve Hardman, Caden Passmore, Aaron Drummond.

#### 2021 Ashley Boys Basketball

by Ashleigh Shaw

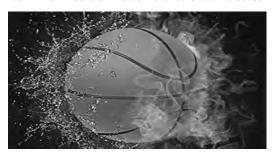
Winter sports are finally underway and the Ashley boys' basketball team is ready for the season. Steve Hardman is returning to coach again for his second year, assisted by Marty Cartwright.

The team brings two returners from last years team, two seniors, Grant Malek and Aaron Drummond. Newcomers this year are juniors Logan Hardman, Evan Litwiller and Jordan Huntoon. Sophomores Logan Drummond and Caden Passmore.

Coach Hardman says his team lacks some depth, size and experience, but make up for those weaknesses by being hardworking, fast and committed to improvement. Hardman also believes that his team will be in the middle of the conference once the season ends.



Coach Steve Hardman







#### Ashley Girls Varsity Basketball

Front row (l-r): Sophia Wirt, Lydea Ergen. 2nd row (l-r): Savannah Beebe, Manager Gracyn McAllister, Alexyss McAllister. Back row (l-r): HC Joe Shaw, Allyson Emmendorfer, Ashleigh Jelinek, AC Meggan Andrews, Jenna Wirt, AC Frank Sourek.

#### 2021 Ashley Girls Basketball

by Ashleigh Shaw

The girls are also excited to get this season finally started and this team is lead by returning juniors Jenna Wirt and Ashley Jelinek. Joining the team this season are seniors Lydia Ergan, sophomores Alexyss MacAllister, Savannah Beebe and Allison Emmandorfer along with freshman Sophia Wirt.

Coach Joe Shaw is also returning with the team this season and believes he has a good group of students who get along well and work hard. This year's team is very young, due to outside circumstances some players decided not to play, which results in the teams being inexperienced. Coach Shaw believes that Sacred Heart, Merrill, Breckenridge, Carson City and St. Charles will be battling for the top of the league this season.



Coach Joe Shaw

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**Good Luck Sports Teams!** 

# Ashley Boys Basketball 2020-2021

3/6/21	1:00 pm Merrill	Н
3/9/21	6:30 pm Carson City-Crystal	Н
3/11/21	6:30 pm Sacred Heart Mt.P	Α
3/13/21	1:00 pm Coleman	Α
3/18/21	6:30 pm Vestaburg	Α
3/20/21	1:00 pm St. Charles	Н

# Ashley Girls Basketball 2020-2021

3/8/21	6:30 pm Carson City-Crystal	A
3/10/21	6:30 pm Sacred Heart Acd. Mt. P	Н
3/12/21	6:30 pm Coleman	Η
3/17/21	6:30 pm Vestaburg	Η
3/19/21	6:30 pm St. Charles	A

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# Laingsburg Wolfpack 2020-21 Winter Sports



Laingsburg Boys Varsity Basketball

Back row (l-r): Miguel Fajardo, Cooper Wilson, Caleb Clark, Ethan West, Josh Baker, Addison Goff, Dayshawn Bowman, Zach Hawes. Front row (l-r): Jack Byrnes, Alex Brown, Landon Tribe, Justin Grandy, Lucas Woodruff, Noah Hagarty, Eli Woodruff.

# Wolfpack Cagers Return to Defend 2019-20 CMAC Title

LAINGSBURG -- Coach Dan Morrill's 2021 edition of the Wolfpack boys basketball team returns a solid nucleus of four returning players, as the Wolves look to defend their Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) championship from last season.

Officially, the 'Pack finished 14-1 in the CMAC, 19-2 last year - figuring in the disputed results from a controversial game at Potterville last January 6. It seems all parties are eager to move on from that experience.

So they will, with Zach Hawes, Josh Baker, Lucas Woodruff and Justin Grandy leading the way as seasoned veterans.

"Our strengths will be depth, and good team speed," says coach Coach Dan Morrill Morrill, entering his 2nd season at the Wolfpack helm. Morrill is no newcomer to Wolfpack basketball, however, as a title-winning alumnus off teams coached by the legendary LHS mentor, Greg Mitchell.

The Wolves will be inexperienced at some positions, and with the current situation due to a late start because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the roster isn't quite nailed down yet.

Could coach Morrill's 1st year as head coach have been any more challenging, between disputed game results that ended up in a shared league championship, and then a nationwide pandemic? We're not thinking so.

Morill will again team with assistant coach Jordan McGee to navigate through another tough CMAC race. "It's very hard to tell this year (a conference outlook), but Pewamo-Westphalia, Bath, Fowler, Laingsburg and Potterville could all be in the mix," Morrill explains. "Fulton could be decent, too."



Laingsburg Girls Varsity Basketball

Team includes: Gracy Graham, Hayleigh Mertens, Shaily Baynes, Ellie Baynes, Erica Wde, Dakota Ballard, Gabby Paquet, Kezzie Dietz, Lorna Strieff, Julia Starr, Saige Wurm. Head Coach Dough Hurst, Asst. Coaches Tim Beebe, Eric Wade.

#### Wolfpack Girls Look to Improve on 15-8 Mark from 2020 Hoops Season

LAINGSBURG -- Veteran coach Doug Hurst returns for his 9th season at the helm of the Wolfpack girls basketball program, with an eye on improving on last year's solid 15-8 finish.

The Wolves went 10-6 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), and with a solid nucleus returning, hope to compete with the likes of Pewamo-Westphalia, Portland St. Patrick and Fowler for supremacy in the league race.

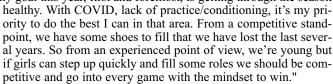
Hurst, 144-40 overall (.782) as the LHS mentor, returns standout players in Grace Graham, Sr., PG; Lorna Strieff, Jr., F; Erica Wade, Jr., G; Hayleigh Mertens, Sr., G; Saige Wurm, Sr., F; Shaily Baynes, Sr., G; and Gabby Paquet, Sr., G.

Newcomers will include Dakota Ballard, Jr., PG/G; Julia Starr, PG/G; Ellie Baynes, So., and F/G; Kezzie Dietz, J., G.

Graham is a senior point guard and is regarded as one of the best players in the area after nabbing first-team all-Central Michigan Athletic Conference honors as a junior. She averaged 12 points, six steals, six rebounds and two assists per game.

Strieff was a second team all-leaguer who averaged seven points, six rebounds and two steals. Wade averaged five points, three rebounds and two steals.

"Navigating a season through COVID-19 will be a challenge," says coach Hurst. "I'm guessing, like most coaches, my goal this year, first and foremost, is getting through the season





Coach Doug Hurst

Laingsburg Basketball 2020-2021 **Boys** Girls 7:00pm Fulton 3/10/21 7:00pm Fulton Н 3/9/21 Α 3/12/21 7:00pm Dansville 7:00pm Dansville 3/11/21 Η 3/17/21 7:00pm Bath 7:00pm Bath 3/16/21 Η 3/23/21 5:00pm MHSAA Districts @ Perry A 3/22/21 5:00pm MHSAA Districts Η 5:00pm MHSAA Districts @Perry A 3/25/21 5:00pm MHSAA Districts 3/24/21 Η 3/27/21 5:00am MHSAA District Finals 6:00pm MHSAA District Finals 3/26/21



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# Laingsburg Wolfpack 2020-21 Winter Sports



#### Laingsburg Boys Freshman Basketball

Front row (l-r): Austin Wright, Adam Essenberg, Vance Klont, Jacob Agueros, Braden Jodway, Lucas Dafoe, Dano Winans, Clayton Bergey. Back row (l-r): Jayse Grettenberger, Aiden Maddaloni, Lucas Matthews, Ty Randall, Cam Ballard, Elliott Wilsey, Jackson Audretsch.



### Laingsburg Boys JV Basketball

Front row (l-r): Tommy Gousetis, Jacob Essenberg, Brayden Thomas, Adam Myers, Kyle Thelen. Back row (1-r): Brad Dedic, Zander Woodruff, Luke Snyder, Connor Hulliberger, Hayden Johnston. Head Coach: Rob Porritt

### Laingsburg Co-Ed Wrestling 2020-2021

3/10/21	5:00pm	Perry	A
3/15/20	TBA	MHSAA Districts	TBA
3/22/21	TBA	MHSAA Regionals	TBA
3/31/20	TBA	MHSAA Team Finals	TBA
4/2/21	TBA	MHSAA Individual State	TBA
4/3/21	TBA	MHSAA Individual State	TBA







Wolfpack Wrestling Team Builds Off Success; **Looks to Make Post-Season Run** 

LAINGSBURG -- Momentum.

It's something, in sports, that's tough to catch. When you do, it's something to build on.

That is exactly what Laingsburg wrestling coach Shawn Baynes plans to do with the 2021 Wolfpack wrestling team.

Before the Covid 19 pandemic hit -- remember that? February 2020? -- Baynes' Wolves fashioned a 2nd place standing in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC), then impressed with a sterling post-season run.

Coach Baynes isn't backing off the gas. He sees the Wolfpack as a 1st place candidate in the CMAC this winter.

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. "We are a very young team," Baynes says. "We have two seniors, one junior and the rest are sophomores and freshmen. (But) we have great depth with lots of young (underclassmen) experi-

The Wolfpack made a run last season that included returning grapplers Aden Baynes, Kyle Boettcher, Caleb Boettcher, Scottie Brewer, Michael Brooks, Sean Divine, Noah Getner, Gabby

Motz abd Iain Hart. A stellar -- numerous -- list of newcomers includes Jack Borgman, Nicota Dunn, Dacota

Dysinger, Alex Fornier, Zach Grandy, Desire Knoblauch, Garrett Matthews, Martin Meyers, Seth Sivak, Bryce Smith, Dillion Soldan, Wyatt Stanfield and Lorenzo Stuckey.

Says coach Baynes, "I hope to have a team that goes on a deep run into the (state) tournament. I also hope to have 5 to 7 state qualifiers this season."



### Laingsburg Girls JV Basketball

Coach Shawn Baynes

Ashley Bila, Callie Clark, Merrell, Brenna Highfield, Addy Elkins, Savanna Hernandez, Ashlee Hawes, Joy Antcliff, Bella Strieff. Head Coach Julia Angst, Asst. Coach Katie Chalker.



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Coaches please remember to submit your results so the Meridian Weekly can publish them in that weeks publication!

# **Ovid-Elsie Marauders 2020-21 Winter Sports**



Ovid-Elsie Boys Varsity Basketball

Front row (l-r):Cal Byrnes, Jackson Thornton, Kiegan Örmes, Adam Barton, Gavin Godfrey Second row (l-r): Mike Loynes, Colin Fluharty, Clay Wittenberg, Alex Eichenberg, Dylan Carman, Logan Thompson, Austen Jones. Back row (l-r): Carson Gregory, Brayden Phillips, Josh Latz, Jacob Schaub, Jacob Tomasek, Tyler Bancroft.

#### Ovid-Elsie Male Cagers Excited to Be on Court, Look to be MMAC Basketball Favorites Once Again

OVID-ELSIE -- Forget about the winning legacy. The accomplishments from recent seasons. The goal of competing for league and district titles again.

The Marauder boys basketball team -- in trying times like these -- is just happy to be on the court again.

"We are so grateful and appreciative of every moment we get to be on the court together in a year like this," says veteran coach Josh Latz. "We hope to play our best and compete every night."

The Marauders rank as a MMAC favorite once again, coming off a 14-0 league season, 20-2 overall. Coach Latz lists their strengths as "culture, athleticism and depth," as they return six key veteran contributors: Jackson Thornton, Cal Byrnes, Dylan Carman, Adam Barton, Kiegan Ormes and Carson Gregory. Add in newcomers Logan

Thompson, Colin Fluharty, Jacob Tomasek, Gavin Godfrey, Clay Wittenberg, Jacob Schaub, Alex Eichenberg and Brayden Phillips, and you've got an O-E contingent that ranks at the top of the MMAC pre-season rankings once again.

The MMAC ranks like this: O-E, New Lothrop, Chesaning, Durand, Mt. Morris, Montrose, LakeVille and Byron. Of course, the games need to be played and time will tell -- as all teams fight through the weird times encompassed by a Covid-19 pandemic.

Coach Latz will be assisted by Mike Loynes, Austen Jones, Shayne Loynes and Jakob Loynes as the delayed 2021 season finally kicks into gear in early February.



Ovid-Elsie Girls Varsity Basketball

Front row (l-r): Kaylee Hall, Kiah Longoria, Tristin Ziola, Caitlyn Walter. Second row (l-r): Jayelnn Doan, Braylon Byrnes, Braeden Tokar, Evalyn Cole, Hailee Campbell, Ellyanna Carman. Back row (l-r): Jason Tokar, Ava Bates, Madison Cunningham, Ryan Cunningham, Justin Moore.

# Quickness, Speed Will be Team Strengths as O-E Girls Open the 2021 Cage Season

OVID-ELSIE -- The Marauders girls basketball team, 2021 edition, will be gunning to improve on last year's solid 15-7 finish.

Coach Ryan Cunningham's Lady Marauders went 9-5 in the MMAC, good for third place. Coach Cunningham will be assisted by Jason Tokar and Justin Moore with a team that has the hallmarks of speed and quickness.

"Our strengths will be quickness, speed and team chemistry," says coach Cunningham, as he's impressed with a lineup that returns six solid players.

Where can Ovid-Elsie improve? "Losing the summer (practice season to Covid-19) is tough. We do have some inexperience. That is where we would have found ourselves."

where we would have found ourselves."

Newcomers Hailee Campbell, Evalyn Cole, Ava Bates and

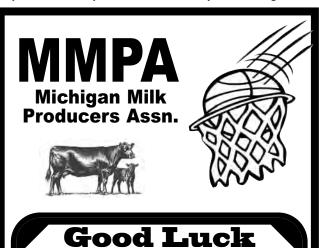
Braeden Tokar are the 2021 additions. They'll look to blend with seasoned veterans Madison Cunningham, Tristin Ziola, Kaylee Hall, Braylon Byrnes, Kiah Longoria and Caitlyn Walter.

Coach Cunningham sees Byron, New Lothrop, Durand, Chesaning, Montrose, Mount Morris and LakeVille -- in that order -- as he assesses the strength of the MMAC. Look for O-E in the top three of that rundown.

"If we can find ourselves early on, we can compete for a conference and district title," he ays.



Coach Josh Latz



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Coach Ryan Cunningham

# Ovid-Elsie Marauders 2020-21 Winter Sports



#### Ovid-Elsie Boys JV Basketball

Front row (l-r): Gunner McCreery, Perrien Rasch, Shaine Leslie, Justice Moore, Braxton Stenger, Colin Veith. Back row (l-r): Coach Joel Longstreth, Jonas Neumeier, Jayden Watson, Beau Price, Kole Middleton, Nick Long. Missing: Brayden Miller.



#### Ovid-Elsie Boys Freshman Basketball

Front row (l-r): Cohen Tyler, Bruce Thornton, Jamison Custer, Mason Ritenburg, Dominic Kline. Back row (l-r): Mgr Kaden Huss, Carter Hebeler, Hunter Bates, Caven Brooks, Brayden Ormes, Joe Humrich, Coach Ron Shivley. Missing: Asst Coach Brad Kline, Mgr Tayt Kline.



# Ovid-Elsie Boys JV (2) Bowling

Front row (l-r): Brandon Grieder, Tobin Clark, Macy Fabus and Austin Smith. Back row (l-r): Coach Darin Underhill, Asst. Coach Wayne Underhill. Missing: Karina Custer Inset: Wyatt Wilcox from Team 1. Not pictured: Makenna Pierce, Olivia Burt, Tyler Burt and Gunnar Barrett





#### Ovid-Elsie Varsity Competitive Cheer

Top row (l-r): Allyson Pokorny, Alexandrea Ladiski, Mary Draher, Alexis Hart-Butcher, Olyvia Darling, Lani Kahalehau, Amber Ingraham. Back row (l-r): Telexia Terpening, Macey Bennett, Hannah Moore, Karli Witt, Jordyn Smith, Claire Wiktorowski, Amy Davis Not pictured: Coach Hailey Godfrey.

#### Marauder Competitive Cheer Team Brings Positive Attitude to 2021 Season

OVID-ELSIE -- Remaining upbeat over the past year, as a high school athlete during the Covid-19 pandemic, has been ... putting it mildly ... a tremendous challenge.

Yet that's what Marauder competitive cheer coach Hailey Godfrey calls a team strength as O-E enters the 2021 campaign with " ... great coordination, strong cheer motions ... and postitive attitudes," she explains.

"Just like any other year this will be a difficult conference (race) with hard-fought wins," coach Godfrey explains. "We have all had the huge disadvantages Covid has brought, so it will be interesting to see how our season goes. This has been a difficult season to navigate already with so many changes and delays, but our positive mindset keeps us working harder every day."

The Marauders return a bevy of experience including Karli Witt, Allyson Pokorny, Alexis Hart-Butcher, Alexandrea Ladiski, Amber Ingraham, Lani Kahalehau, Mary Draher, Olyvia Darling, Claire Wiktorowski, Jordyn Smith, Hannah Moore and Chelsie Shamblin.

Newcomers include Amy Davis, Telexia Terpening and Macey Bennett.



#### Ovid-Elsie Girls JV Basketball

Front row (l-r): Kylee Milledge, Haylee Palus, Samantha Snider, Cari Martinez, Rylee Lewis, Kathryn Thornton. Back row (l-r): Murphy Alexa, Katie Lorio, Assistant Coach Caron White, Assistant Coach Brian Gavenda, Head Coach Brandon Belill, Isabella Loynes, Hadley Bukantis.







# Ovid-Elsie Marauders 2020-21 Winter Sports



Ovid-Elsie Boys Varsity Wrestling

Front row (l-r): Alexis Butcher, Talan Parsons, Cole Workman, Aubrey Arnett, Cecilia Eldridge. Second row (l-r): Coach Kyle Spiess, Coleten Towsley-Wagner, Kyron Miller, Sam Grubaugh, Rudy Morales, Kameron Arnett, Coach Justin Potter. Third row (l-r): Coach Frank Goodrich, Max Spiess, Gavyn Perry, Kaia Spiess, Luke Follett. Not pictured: Joshua Everden.

### Marauder Wrestling Team Low in Numbers, Strong in Talent

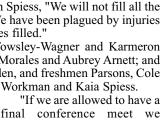
OVID-ELSIE -- What coach Kyle Spiess' Marauder wrestling team lacks in numbers, it makes up for in talent and experience.

Two O-E grapplers are ranked in the Top 12 in the state, and the Marauders return nine veteran leaders who'll join four newcomers as the team tries to improve on last season's 2-6 conference finish (6-9

"We have a small team but a lot of experienced wrestlers," says coach Spiess. "Talan Parsons enters his freshman year ranked #7 in Division III at 103 lbs., and Max Spiess in ranked #12 at 125 lbs. We have lots of experience ... just not enough wrestlers."

What that means is that Ovid-Elsie will be giving away needed points by not filling weight classes, making it especially tough to win dual meets. Says coach Spiess, "We will not fill all the weight classes, but we will be tough where we have wrestlers. We have been plagued by injuries before the season which will reduce the amount of weight classes filled."

The Marauders return seniors Cecilia Eldridge, Coleten Towsley-Wagner and Karmeron Arnett; juniors Gavyn Perry, Max Spiess, Sam Grubaugh, Rudy Morales and Aubrey Arnett; and sophomore Luke Follet. Newcomers include junior Joshua Everden, and freshmen Parsons, Cole



final conference meet we would have some championships and alot of placers due to our experience," says the coach. "Overall as a team, we are small, so it could prove difficult to win dual meets.' Coach Spiess rates the con-

ference as one of the strongest in Michigan. "The MMAC is one of the toughest conferences in the state," he explains. "Four of the eight teams qualified for the State Meet as a team."

Kyle will be assisted by Frank Goodrich and Justin Potter as the Marauders finally get their Covid-19 delayed season underway.



Coach Kyle Spiess



Ovid-Elsie Varsity Swimming
Front row (l-r): Gavyn Leavitt, Ben Cook, Luke Spitzley, Skylar Spitzley. Second row (l-r): Ruby Stambersky, Caleb Love, Alayna Zemla, Sam Harden, Tori Maynard, Max Spiess. Third row (l-r): Coach Wyatt Dahlke, Alexis Spitzley, Ryan Gavenda, Gage Kvalevog, Ethan O'Brien, Coaches Gabrielle Wildes and Jowa Wildes. Fourth row (l-r): Karl Dahlke Kaydence Bowen, Amelia Cook, Lindsey Washburn, Rachel Spitzley, Kaia Spiess, Coach Eugene Howe. Missing Natalie

#### **Quartet of Returning Swimmers** Lead Marauders into 2021 Season

OVID-ELSIE -- A quartet of strong, experienced swimmers lead coach Karl Dahlke's Ovid-Elsie team into the 2021 season.

Finally able to get things rolling after a suspended season due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Dahlke is looking to returning Maruaders Sam Harden, Gavyn Leavitt, Skyler Spitzley and Luke Spitzley to lead the team, looking to match or improve on last season's 8-5

That foursome will be joined by newcomesr Max Spiess and Lindsey Washburn. "Our team is hard working and with great attitudes," says coach Dahlke. "We lost (a lot) of our strength from last year, but still look to have some good showings. We should be able to break a record and quality for the State Finals in an event or two.'

Dahlke will be assisted by coaches Eugene Howe and Gabrielle Wildes. That Gabrielle Marauders will be competing with a conference affiliation in 2021.



# Please Save the Date! April 11, 2021



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# Ovid-Elsie Marauders 2020-21 **Winter Sports**



Ovid-Elsie Boys Varsity Bowling

Front row (l-r): Clay Wenzlick, Corbin Kelley, Steve Zedemong. Back row (l-r); Ian Hehrer, Coach Matt Fabus, Evan Hehrer. Inset photo Tommy Terpening.



#### Ovid-Elsie Girls Varsity Bowling

Front row (l-r): Ashland Particka, Gracie Schultz, Elizabeth Underhill. Back row: Coach Matt Fabus. Inset photo: top-bottom: Mikayla Kelley, Morgan Douglass, Emma Fox.

#### **Marauder Bowling Team Returns Outstanding** Keglers in 2021 Ovid-Elsie Season

OVID-ELSIE -- Don't look for a shortened 2021 season, due to Covid-19, to phase the

Coach Matt Fabus returns an outstanding group of keglers -- boys and girls -- to Marauder teams that won 12 out of 14 conference matches in 2020.

You know. Before 'Rona took a toll on the rest of the high school bowling slate.

Fabus returns solid bowlers in Mikayla Kelley, Lizzy Underhill and Morgan Douglas on the girls' side; Corbin Kelley, Ian Hehrer, Steve Zedemont and Tommy Terpening on the boys side as the 2021 season has finally rolled out.

Newcomers looking to make an impact are girls Gracie Schultz, Emma Fox, Ashland Particka and boys Evan Hehrer and Clay Wenzlick.

'The conference outlook looks good for both squads," says coach Fabus. "Hopefully getting the season in and healthy, with everything going on, will happen."

The Marauders are calling Riverbend Bowl in Corunna their home for a hopeful 2021 campaign.



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# Sports

### **O-E Bowling**

submitted by Matt Fabus

The Ovid-Elsie Varsity Teams were at B's Bowling Center in Flint on February 25th. Both teams came out on the winning side against Mt. Morris.

The girls won 23-3. High games were Emma Fox 130; Morgan Douglass 148; Gracie Schultz 151, 169; Mikayla Kelley 171, 245; Lizzy Underhill 177, 192.

Boys won 17-13. High games included Evan Hehrer 143; Tommy Terpening 155, 177; Steve Zedemont 165, 183; Ian Hehrer 179, 170; Corbin Kelley 168, 193.

On February 27th teams were at Colonial Lanes in Flushing. Both teams were up against Atherton.

The girls won 27-3. High games Morgan Douglass 143, 137; Gracie Schultz 155; Mikayla 161; Lizzy Underhill 180, 141.

Boy came out on top 29-1. High games were Evan Hehrer 180; Clay Wenzlick 135; Tommy Terpening 166, 168; Ian Hehrer 204, 220; Corbin Kelley 190.

OE Freshman wrestler Talan Parsons defeated #2 ranked Tyler Ueberroth from Swan Valley on Feb. 26th.

Photos by Marie Spiess

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# Marauder Grapplers Keep it Rolling in Double-Dual Prep Wrestling Action

OVID-ELSIE -- Another strong showing by the lightweight weight groups highlighted recent prep wrestling action at the Byron and Durand Quads.

At Byron on February 26, team scores were OE 48, Byron 27; Ovid-Elsie 30, Swan Valley 48 and Durand 66, O-E 18.

At Durand the following day, team scores looked like this: OE 48 - Carman Ainsworth 15; OE 22 - Flushing 48 and OE 13 - Durand 66.

For the Marauders, Talan Parsons (freshman at 103) went 6-0 on the weekend and sports a 12-0 season record. Talan defeated the #2 ranked Tyler Ueberroth from Swan Valley.

Cole Workman (frosh at 112) went 6-0 on the weekend and boasts a 11-1 season record.



Gavyn Perry, OE junior, finished the double-dual weekend at 5-1.

Gavyn Perry (junior at 130) went 5-1 on the weekend and owns a 9-3 season record. Said coach Kyle Spiess, "We are wrestling really well where we have the weights filled. Giving up 6-7 voids per dual meet makes it hard to win as a team and with this shortened season all we wrestle is dual meets. We are focusing on refining our athletes skills and are planning one of the strongest finishes at the individual state finals on April 2nd and 3rd as a group."

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