

A Little Bit of Magic at Elsie First Baptist Church

submitted by Richard Easlick

There is a new face in town! The Elsie First Baptist Church would like to welcome Pastor Phillip Rogers. Pastor Phillip believes strongly that all people need to be encouraged! He loves to pray FOR folks.... friends and strangers! Pastor Phillip has a pretty special birthday as he was born on Christmas Day. Growing up in the greater Lansing area, he was a 1978 Lansing Everett grad. For some, the last sentence may have triggered a sports memory. Pastor was a member of Everett's 1977 State Championship basketball team alongside legendary Earvin "Magic" Johnson. After graduation from high school, Pastor attended Michigan State University and graduated in 1982. Go Green! Pastor Phillip, his wife and 2 children currently reside in Williamston.

For the past 20 years, Pastor Phillip has pastored in four churches. His life verse is "God can do ANYTHING, you know-far MORE than you could EVER imagine, guess or request in your wildest dreams." Ephesians 3:20 (The Message)

Whether you have similarities in the love of the Green and White, dark chocolate or reading, Pastor Phillip welcomes everyone. If we do the unusual, God will do the extraordinary!

Elsie First Baptist services are in person at 9:30 each Sunday or can be viewed on YouTube at Elsie Baptist. Feel free to contact the Church office at 989-398-1009 or Pastor Phillip directly at GOD4MSU@hotmail.com.

Come visit with us and see what the magic is all about!



Scholarship Competition & Exhibition

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Council, celebrating its 49th anniversary in 2021, awarded \$2,400 in scholarships to 17 students from five area area high schools at the Annual SAC Scholarship Show & Competition held May 2nd at the Arts Center. A total of 40 students from Owosso, Corunna, New Lothrop, Ovid-Elsie and Byron students participated in the show.

The top prize of \$600 went to Owosso senior, Sarah Wittum. Second place, \$500, went to Corunna senior, Evie Wright and third place, \$300, went to Owosso senior, Sierra Wiseley. OE senior, Edward Salinas, was one of the six Friend of the Arts award winners.

Shiawassee Arts Center New Exhibit

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Center opens an exciting new exhibit featuring the work of artists Kimberly DeVoe & David DeVoe of Grand Blanc, Jennifer Ross of Corunna, Karl Racenis of Owosso and Sheila Murphy of Farwell. The exhibit, which runs May 4 through June 20, is generously sponsored by CLH Insurance Agency. The public is welcome to attend the 'Meet the Artists' event on Sunday, May 9th, from 1 - 3pm. Members receive 20% off one featured item during the event (new members are always welcome).



Kimberly DeVoe is an award winning artist who works mainly in pastels and colored pencils. Her work is featured in three local galleries and has been published in both art anthologies and instructional books with worldwide circulation. Her animal portraits, either commissioned by pet owners, or chosen because they speak to her in some way, make up the main body of her work.

During his tour of duty in the Navy, David DeVoe realized he would be going to places he might never be able to visit again, so he bought a pretty good camera and taught himself how to use it. During the intervening 50 some years he has never stopped searching for that elusive "perfect" image. His work today is mainly, but not limited to, composite images, products of imagination.

Jennifer Ross is inspired by life, such as family, friends, and emotions. Special moments are treasured and painted as precious memories. Ross believes that life should be honored, so with that thought, her inspirations are executed in a contemporary realistic style with exploratory aspirations. This style helps her convey emotion through color and technique. The strong strokes of color on a larger canvas or thick paper make a wonderfully strong statement/feeling that she hopes to convey to the viewer.

Karl Racenis strives to see the light even on gray days, looking for unique perspectives on his favorite subjects. His best photographs come from serendipitous moments when those converge. He enjoys using well-designed instruments that allow him to focus on the essentials of straight, unmanipulated images. Racenis' work has appeared on the covers of American Road magazine and Upper Peninsula Beer – A History of Brewing Above the Bridge.

Sheila Murphy is a self-taught hobbyist photographer who started with photography about seven years ago and fell in love. She enjoys capturing moments in time that most people never notice and mostly photograph landscapes, nature, old buildings. Sheila can see beauty in almost anything!

The Shiawassee Arts Center, located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso, is open to the public Monday through Friday 10-5pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-4pm. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieske Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. The public is welcome to schedule an appointment and there is no admission charge. SAC, which is celebrating its 49th anniversary in 2021, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage participation and appreciation of the arts. For more information or to schedule your appointment call the Arts Center at 989.723.8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.

Bikers Blessed with a Beautiful Day in Ovid



Sunday, May 2, 2021...It was a absolutely beautiful for the Blessing of the Bikers event. The small town of Ovid heard the welcome sound of the hundreds of motorcycles as they entered into town headed to Church of the Living Word for the annual event held the first Sunday of May. The days event included a church service, music and food followed by a Charity Ride.

Photos by John Morence



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Social

Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School Hosting Shower for Elsie Baby Pantry

submitted by Dawn Levey

OVID – The students at Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School are hosting a baby shower for the Elsie Baby Pantry. The event will take place Wednesday, May 12 with drop off sites at the Elsie Masonic Community Center, 100 E Main Street, Elsie from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm and at Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School, 732 Mabbitt Rd, back entrance. The pantry is in need of premie disposable diapers, canned veggies (all stages). Sippy cups, clothes Boys 2T and girls 3T, crib sheets, lotion, baby wash, shampoo and cash donations accepted. For additional information call 989-834-5440.

The seniors at Ovid-Elsie Alternative High School are required to provide community service as part of their senior project. Due to the pandemic they decided collaborate together on a project. This is a way to give back to the community and to be an active participant in the community.

Elsie Dairy Festival Meeting

submitted by Carolyn Long

Plans are underway for the 2021 Elsie Dairy Festival. There will be a meeting Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Elsie Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Anyone interested in helping out in any way the can, is more than welcome to attend or call Carolyn Long at 989-277-4826 or Rose Thering at 989-862-5319.

Watch The Weekly for more details after the May 11th meeting.



RBW Class of 1964 - 5th Annual Potluck Picnic

submitted by Janet Chick

RBW Class of 1964 --5th. Annual Potluck Picnic welcomes the Class Members of 1963 & 1965 to join us Sunday, August 29th. 2021 @ the Main Pavilion @ the Sj City Park arrive between 12:00 & 12:30 pm, eat @ 1:00 p.m.

Bring a dish to pass & your own Beverage..

"ALL" paper products will be provided.

May want to bring Lawn Chairs

Any questions, please contact Jan Chick at 989-630-9021 or Rick Knight at 989-224-4167.

Health Department Shortens Quarantine

submitted by Leslie Kinnear

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- Nearly one month ago a dramatic rise in COVID-19 cases prompted the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to reinstate a 14-day quarantine for close contacts of those with COVID-19.

Throughout this surge the Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) has exercised the highest level of caution by maintaining the gold standard of a 14-day quarantine for close contacts as it provides the lowest risk of transmission of COVID-19 to others.

A review of local data shows case rates and test positivity rates are trending downward, which is welcome news. These findings, along with the knowledge that quarantining for two weeks causes a disruption in education and a hardship for some families has led MMDHD to reduce the number of required quarantine days.

While a 14-day quarantine period is still recommended, it may be shortened to 10 days if the person remains symptom free and continues to monitor themselves for any sign of COVID-19 illness. This change goes into effect Wednesday, May 5, 2021. Anyone who is in a 14-day quarantine on or after May 5 can reduce it to 10 days.

MMDHD has notified Traceforce, the contact tracing program for the State of Michigan, of the quarantine change. However, errors are expected for several days as the quarantine change is implemented in the Traceforce system. We apologize in advance if you receive a letter or message from Traceforce stating that your quarantine period is 14 days instead of 10.

As a reminder, proof of antibodies or a negative COVID-19 test result during quarantine will not reduce or end quarantine. The only people excluded from quarantine are those who have been infected with COVID-19 within the last 90 days or are fully vaccinated for two or more weeks prior to exposure.

MMDHD is asking community members to continue efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19. Washing your hands frequently, staying at least six feet away from others not in your household, not attending large gatherings, and wearing a mask can make a big difference. And, if you have not been vaccinated, be sure to visit our website, www.mmdhd.org, to make an appointment.



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Obituaries

Blanche (Micka) Plesko

Blanche (Micka) Plesko was born on January 28, 1937. She passed away on January 10, 2021 at the age of 83.

She grew up in Elsie, Michigan. Graduated from Elsie High School in 1954 and then went on to further her education in clerical and bookkeeping skills.

On June 28, 1958 she married Edward (Ed) Plesko. They lived in Ashley for their 62 years of marriage. Together they had a family with three children.

Blanche was a hard worker, she took excellent care of her family and home in addition to being a meticulous bookkeeper for her husbands business. She also worked full time outside of the home for many years as a secretary-bookkeeper and then went on to do other jobs in her later years.

Blanche was a very interesting and talented person.....

She had a vegetable garden from which alot of canning was done. Planted flowers to attract butterflies and hummingbirds. She was an avid birdwatcher. Feeding many birds year round, anxiously waiting for the seasonal birds to return every year was a shared a joy between her and her husband.

Cooking and baking was something she was excellent at doing. Her meals, complete with dessert were wonderful. The delicious pies, cookies and variety of lovely pastries including kolachy that she made were an exceptional treat.

Blanche was also an excellent cake decorator. She would bake a cake (in ones favorite flavor) then specifically design and beautifully decorated it for each of her family members for their birthdays and special occasions. She also made cakes for others dear to her for their special day. Sending cards and making phone calls were other expressions of love and kindness that she so often did for so many.

She really liked listening to music and attended several concerts over the years seeing some of her favorite artists. Going to broadway plays and other performing art events was also something she enjoyed and shared with family and friends.

Most of all Blanche loved her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. They were the highlight of her life. She kept in constant contact with each of them caring about them ever so much.

Blanche is survived by her husband Edward (Ed) Plesko, son Edward (Eddie) Plesko Jr. and daughter Catherine (Cathy)-Bob Warner. Six grandchildren: Jill (Sam) Herman, John (Ellen) Plesko, Jenna Plesko, Jaime (Derek) Arndt, Nicole (Brandon) Swinsick and Rachel Warner. Three great-grandchildren: Henrik and Nolan Arndt and Scarlet Swinsick. Sister Joanne (Jim) Ebert and other special family members.

Preceding her in death were her parents Tony & Ellie Micka and precious infant daughter Jayne Sue Plesko.

No services were held with health concerns of others in mind.



Ralph Iocco

Ralph Iocco of Ovid, MI 1932-2021, surrounded by his loving family, Ralph N. Iocco of Ovid, MI went to be with his Lord and Savior, April 29, 2021 after a short battle with cancer.

Ralph was born and raised in upstate New York, the son of Nicholas and Anna (Ruffalo) Iocco, and graduated in 1948.

He was a long-time Clinton County resident and also lived in Monticello, IN.

Ralph was a strongly motivated and dedicated worker his entire life. He also loved and served the Lord faithfully at many churches over the years, most recently First Baptist Church, St. Johns, MI.

Survived by the love of his life and wife of 65 1/2 years, Anita (Remus) Iocco, children Steven (Angie) Iocco, Raleigh, NC, Doug (Wendy) Iocco, Perrinton, MI, Kathy (Tom Donaldson) Phelps, Arlington, TX, and Gordon (Valerie) Iocco, Burlington, KY. Nine grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. Sister Pauline Incarnato, Seneca Falls, NY. Also many nieces & nephews, friends & relatives.

Per his requests, the family will hold a memorial service Thursday, May 6, 2021 at First Baptist Church, St. Johns, MI. Visitation with family will be from 9-11am. before the service begins at 11:00 am. Masks are requested for safety.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Answers in Genesis, P.O. 510, Hebron, KY 41048-0510 or AnswersInGenesis.org/donate (1-800-778-3390), or the charity of your choice.



Kati Helen-Marie Nethaway

Kati Helen-Marie Nethaway, 30, of Ovid, MI, passed away Friday, April 30, 2021, at McLaren Regional Medical Center, Flint, MI.

Kati was born in St. Johns, MI on February 14, 1991, the daughter of David Coon and Rebecca Nethaway. She graduated from Ovid Elsie High School with the class of 2009. Kati worked for Valero Gas Station in Ovid. MI. She enjoyed fishing, and camping.

She is survived by her daughter Alexis Nethaway, father David Coon, sister Jessica and Earl Tessman, grandparents: Marie VanDeusen, and Ron and Sue Nethaway, and aunt Rhonda and Chris Robinson. She was predeceased by her mother, and brother Chris.

A Memorial service will be held on May 15th at 1p.m. at the Ovid Lions/VFW Hall in Downtown Ovid.

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



Memorialize your loved one in The Weekly
989-834-2264 ads@meridian-weekly.com

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Zoom Worship Service
10:30 a.m.

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

Bannister United Methodist Church
103 Hanvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:15am

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
160 W. Main St., Elsie (989) 862-5239

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

LAINGSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
210 CRUM ST.
517-651-5531
Online Service:
Sundays at 10am.
Facebook or Youtube
Pastor Tiffany Newsom
laingsburgumc@gmail.com
www.laingsburgumc.org

Duplain Church of Christ
5565 E. Colony Rd.
(3 mi. W. of O-E H.S.)
Sunday School
10:00 a.m.
Worship Service
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Senior Minister: Andrew Goodrich
Associate Minister: Matthew Barnum
Children's Minister: Jessica Prieto
www.duplainchurch.org

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Watch Sunday Service on
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Pastor Phillip Rogers

United Church of Ovid
Office Hours: 9-Noon Mon - Fri
Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing
11:00 - Worship
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www.unitedchurchofovid.org
or on Facebook
Pastor Eugene Blair

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

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

**Confession:
Sun 11:30am**

We Welcome You to Come...

Obituaries

Debra Ann (Willson) Seelhoff

Debra Ann (Willson) Seelhoff, age 66, of Ovid, MI, entered into the arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at her home surrounded by her family.

Debbie was born in Owosso, MI on July 5, 1954, the daughter of Laverne and Loretta (Ewing) Willson. She graduated from Eastern High School, Lansing, MI.

On March 6, 1976, Debbie married Norman Scott Seelhoff at Duplain Church of Christ in St. Johns, MI. They have been blessed with 45 years of marriage.

Debbie was a gentle woman who was loved by all who knew her. One of her greatest joys was being a Mom, Grandma and Great-Grandma. She enjoyed watching God's wonderful creation, especially birds and deer. Debbie's faith was precious to her. She loved and served her Savior daily.

Debbie is survived by her husband Scott, daughter Kimberly (Paul) English of Elsie, MI; son Nathan (Mindy) Seelhoff of Ovid, MI; daughter-in-law Shawn Seelhoff of St. Johns, MI; 6 grandchildren: Heath Seelhoff, Heather (Thomas Peiffer) Seelhoff, Holly Seelhoff, Desiree English, Abigail English, and Mason Seelhoff; 7 great-grandchildren: Maxwell Jr., Kainen, Mary Jane, Colton, Scottlyn, Bobbie-Jo, and River. She is also survived by her mother Loretta Willson, and 3 siblings: Sandy Putnam, Linda Steele, and Randy (Sarah) Willson; one brother-in-law Robert Shinn; 3 sisters-in-law: Pam Willson, Dixie (Chris) Nethaway, and Darla Ladiski; special cousins "brothers": Darrin, Rod, Allan and Mark Silvers; and many nieces and nephews. Debbie was preceded in death by her father Laverne Willson, 2 sons: Scotty Seelhoff and Bobby Seelhoff; granddaughter Victoria English, sister Dianne Shinn, brother William "Bill" Willson, and her husband's parents: Norm and Berma Seelhoff.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI, on Friday, May 7, 2021, with her husband, Pastor Scott Seelhoff officiating. Burial has taken place at Middlebury Township Cemetery, Ovid, MI.

Memorials may be made to Ovid Bible Church P.O. Box 633 Ovid, MI 48866 or Compassus Hospice - 801 S Waverly Rd Suite 200, Lansing, MI 48917. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI.



Robert (Toby) Leroy Aldrich

Robert (Toby) Leroy Aldrich, formerly of Laingsburg, passed away April 30, 2021 at his home in Florida. Toby was born September 5, 1936 in Rochester, Michigan. Toby was a wonderful Husband, Dad, Brother, Uncle, Grandpa and Great-Grandpa. He retired from General Motors and then continued his own electrical business along with his wife, Shirley. He loved family, fishing and sports. Toby also enjoyed golfing with his buddies and rooting on his kids and family with baseball, football and their many other activities.

Toby was selfless and always willing to help others. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, children: Bruce (Sole) Aldrich of Texas, Debbie (Jim) Aldrich-Plowman of Ovid, Mike (Lila) Reed of Laingsburg, Sue Reed of Florida, Jeff (Penny) Reed of Owosso. Brother, Guy (Jana) Aldrich, sisters, Pat Mott, Kate (Dick) Davis and Irma Badgers. Toby had many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his Mom, Alice Aldrich-Burley, Dad, Robert Aldrich, Step-Dad, Art Burley, sister, Fluvanne Fogus and Joann Olger, grandsons, David Reed and Hunter Reed, brother-in-laws, Ivan Mott and Warren Badgers.

A Memorial will be held at the end of July, 2021 in Laingsburg where his ashes will be laid to rest.



Editorial

2021 Roof Sit for Kids

Letter to the Editor:

The Voice for Clinton County's Children is so appreciative of all who supported us during our 2021 Roof Sit for Kids! The purpose of our outside event was to raise awareness during National Child Abuse Prevention Month. We cannot undo the harm of the children and youth we serve, we can do our part to raise awareness; everyone can do their part to keep our kids safe.

We appreciate St. Johns Big Boy for hosting us, Clinton County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Team for being on

site, Michigan Graphics and Signs for the great sponsor signs, and The League of Enchantment (seeing the reactions when people meet Superheroes is priceless). Special thank you for all who stopped by to learn about us and pick up a Blue Pinwheel, the symbol of awareness for Child Abuse Prevention Month. Your generous support raised nearly \$5,000 supporting our services for Clinton County children and youth who have experienced abuse and/or neglect.

For more information about our services, please visit our website VoiceForClintonCountyChildren.org. We hope you will join us Saturday, September 25th for our 8th Annual Superhero 5K Run, Walk, or Fly! Will your cape be ready?!

Kelly Schafer
Executive Director
The Voice for Clinton County's Children

NOTICE

The Village of Ashley is calling for a public hearing on May 13th, 2021 at 6:45p.m. at the Ashley Community Center located at 110 N. Sterling St.

A PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ROAD CLOSURES AT RAILROAD CROSSINGS.

The proposed road closures will be considered for at the May 13, 2020 regular council meeting.

Village Clerk

CITY OF LAINGSBURG SHIAWASSEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS RESOLUTIONS 2104 & 2105

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Laingsburg Council (the "City Council") has amended the City of Laingsburg Zoning Ordinance, as provided for in Resolution No. 2104 and Resolution No. 2105, with the following effects:

Amendments to Sections 515, 601, 837 – To eliminate the marihuana microbusiness use as a permitted use within the City of Laingsburg as provided for in the Michigan Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, Public Act 281 of 2016 and the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018, being MCL 333.27951 et seq.

Amendments to Sections 203 and 424 – To provide for the general use and location requirements of solar energy systems. The recommended changes establish requirements for associated placement, land development, installation and construction regulations of solar energy installations. These Zoning Ordinance amendments were adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 3, 2021, and shall become effective seven (30) days following the day of this publication. A complete copy of this Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk and online on the City of Laingsburg's official web site.

Paula Willoughby, City Clerk
(517) 651-5374

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Editorials



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

This has been a remarkably busy and intense week.....I am exhausted and my mind keeps perambulating all over the place. Believe it or not, I am a bit overwhelmed with the choices I have made. The launch for our food trailer that we call "Our Taste of Michigan" went very well and yet we have so much to learn.... I would like to take a minute to thank all that came and supported our endeavors. Everyone seems to be pleased with the food and even the service which at times was a bit slow. We are improving.....

We do have an excellent cook/chef but she hasn't had much luck in teaching the rest of us how to 'make the grill' sing. This Saturday we will be set up on Sterling Street in Ashley across from the Community Center during their village wide yard sales. We already have been assured that we will need about twelve dozen of our donuts and a plethora of our breakfast burritos. Granted we were surprised that they want us to be set up and running by 7AM.... So it will be another busy day. FYI we will be set up on Monday and Wednesdays from one until six on the corner of Mason and Roosevelt roads north of Bannister and yes I do mean afternoon. On May 28th we will be here from 4PM until 7PM...so if you have the time or inclination come visit us.

I am excited because my garden is rototilled and ready to be planted. I have already been picking my rhubarb and getting it into the freezer and do have hopes of making some jam this weekend..... I believe that our last hard frost of the season should be Saturday.....of course I don't know if that will be in the morning or at night. I still can plant a few cabbage and red beet seeds and a bit of kale, spinach, and kohlrabi.... Maybe that will be how I celebrate Mother's Day. I do wish all of you Moms, Grandmas, GGs and Aunts a wonderful Mother's Day filled with appreciation, affection, and at least a healthy dollop of love. God bless you all.

Today I need to go into the office and get the bulletins printed and delivered. Oops, I also need to get the 'Prayers and Concerns' updated and inserted. Unfortunately my wagon is dragging and my morning pot of coffee isn't working its normal magic. I also need to do a bit of banking which used to be simple until the nearest one is now twenty miles away. I also plan on making a stop at Simpson's Greenhouse to pick up a tree for my daughter. Diane's birthday is on June first so I thought that it would be a good remembrance. There are a few other issues that need to be addressed...just not today. I'm fairly sure that I will be locked into 'buy mode' the instant that I walk into the greenhouse....Good for them but not so much for my pocketbook.

I forgot to mention that one of our neighbors built us a milk stand for our Nigerian dwarf goats. It is a remarkable piece of engineering that takes into account the height of the goats and the age of the milkers. It is nice to sit down with my knees perpendicular to my derriere....it is much easier to sit and stand. The goats belong to Diane and I am willing to do some of the milking....I want to try my hand at making cheese. Rolayne has offered to milk for us when needed, I think that it brings back good memories for both of us. Diane wants to try her hand at making soap. What an interesting crew we have.

Wow, just got another call from Diane and we are being booked up fast.....this is a good thing. May your days be filled with good circumstance and lively conversations. May the ladies be blessed with a wonderful Mother's Day and may their dance cards always be filled. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2021



Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

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

Gramps, Ease up on the Heavy-Duty Chores

Dear Andy,

When my husband climbed up a ladder above our fireplace to change the clock to day-light savings time, he fell off halfway down, landing on the sofa. He said he did it on purpose. He did not get hurt, but I do not believe him, and I think he lost his balance. He is 78 years old, in great health and he is getting anxious to start working around the yard now that spring is in the air. I am afraid to leave him alone and I think he is getting too old to do everything. I am afraid he is going to fall off the extension ladder when he cleans out the gutters on the roof or try to repair something out of reach. What can I do? Concerned Wife (Left holding the Ladder)

Dear Wife,

Before it is too late, have a younger neighbor "borrow" your ladder. Keep it stored in their garage or barn. If you have a friend or family member to help, please ask! ...so you are not left holding the ladder. It is important to talk to him about your concerns, but it is just as important for him to feel useful even if he may not be as young as he acts. Remind him of easy jobs, such as the hedge trimming, raking, or picking up sticks, sweeping or weeding. Ask him to ease up on the heavy-duty jobs, such as cleaning the gutters, checking for missing shingles, getting chain saw out to trim trees, or moving patio furniture and putting in screens. Get someone to work with him or pay someone to do the Spring chores. He deserves it, after all the years of working to take care of your home, and so do you. Take him lemonade or a glass of iced water, several times during the day. Keep him hydrated and it will force him to take breaks often.

Not that men or even women think it could happen to them but according to the consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) over 95,000 people receive emergency room treatment



every year from accidental falls. And, that does not include the accidents that are minor or unreported. The top three reasons accidents occur is due to a poor working condition of the ladder, using the wrong ladder for the job or when the ladder is improperly used. A high percentage of victims are often holding objects with one hand while climbing up or down the ladder. Wet or slippery shoes can cause serious problems.

The #1 reasons for falls occur when reaching too far to one side or the other of the ladder and lose their balance. It is important to have another person always secure the ladder, while someone is climbing. Keeping a body centered and always keep at least one hand on the rail. Move slowly. According to the CDC, 43% of accidental deaths have been caused by ladder falls. As we age, we often feel like we can still do everything but do not take the chance. Live to garden and drink iced tea, together. If your husband insists, show him the statistics, and call a younger friend or relative to help. It is ok to be aging. It is what we are meant to do when we have birthdays. Most importantly: Install gutter guards and hire a handyman or get a volunteer from your neighborhood church.

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Home Improvement

Learn the Right Ways to Clean Lawn and Patio Furniture

Once the days begin to grow a little bit longer and the numbers on the thermometer creep a tad higher, outdoor entertaining season is right around the corner. Homeowners may be anxious to once again return to the comforts of their backyards. However, their patio furniture may not be ready for lounging just yet.

Some simple cleaning strategies make it easy to brighten outdoor furniture made of metal, glass, wood, and plastic. Before homeowners know it, their backyards will be ready for outdoor entertaining season.

Proper storage

Storing outdoor furniture during the colder months of the year is a great way to protect items from the elements. This may involve careful shrink-wrapping and keeping items outdoors, or by moving furniture indoors to a shed or garage. Cleaning the furniture one last time before storing it also can be handy.

Remove stuck-on debris

Inspect furniture and be prepared to remove any stuck-on debris, such as bird droppings, sticky food residue or even cobwebs and insect nests. Be sure to use a cleaning tool that is safe for the material you are cleaning. Test an inconspicuous area of the furniture first to ensure your tools don't damage the furniture. For example, many scrub brushes can scratch glass or aluminum.

Make a thorough cleanser

Clean stains off of furniture with a versatile cleanser. A mild cleanser can be made by mixing 1/2 cup baking soda with 1 gallon of warm water, according to the experts at Better Homes & Gardens. Regular dishwashing detergent also can be mixed with water, as it has a mild bleaching agent. This cleanser can be used on plastic resin furniture or metal furniture, which are popular patio furniture materials.

Patio fabrics

Check the cleaning instructions of outdoor fabrics, as there might be specific instructions on the tags. In some cases, fabric may be removed and washed in a washing machine on a gentle setting. A



solution of dish soap and warm water also is a gentle way to clean outdoor fabrics. Once items are clean, HGTV advises applying a water-repellent fabric protector to minimize staining and maintenance.

Strip or sand

Wood furniture may need specialized care. If stains cannot be removed with a mild cleanser, then hard woods like teak can be surface-sanded to restore items' original look.

Pressure washers can often do more harm than good to patio furniture, so it's best to look for an alternative way to clean them. Usually a bit of elbow grease and a cleanser is all that's needed. Give the cleaning product time to work. Wipe down and dry the furniture thoroughly to prevent the growth of mildew.

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Without pollinators, more than 100 crops grown in the United States would not be able to thrive. Plants, including various fruits, vegetables, nuts and more, rely on pollinators to ensure to transport pollen. Though many plants are self-pollinating and others are pollinated by the wind or water, many others rely on insects and animals to become pollinated. The U.S. Department of Agriculture says birds, bees, bats, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, and small mammals all can work as pollinators. Examples of crops pollinated by pollinators include apples, squash and almonds. Animals and insects help pollinate more than 75 percent of the world's flowering plants, and nearly 75 percent of all crops, according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Unfortunately, pesticide use can diminish the number of natural pollinators. Natural gardening and pest-control can help protect the habitats of pollinators.



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Home Improvement



How to Care for Perennials

Perennials can add color and vibrancy to any garden. One of the more desirable components of perennials is that they come back year after year, meaning homeowners do not have to invest in a gardenful of new flowers every year. That can add up to considerable savings. Perennials often form the foundation of beautiful gardens.

Annuals only grow for one season, produce seeds and then die. However, perennials die back to the ground every autumn and their roots survive the winter. So the plants reemerge in the spring, according to The Farmer's Almanac. Some perennials are short-lived, meaning they will come back a few consecutive years; others will last for decades.

Though planted perennials require less maintenance than annuals, they are not completely maintenance-free. Certain care is needed to help perennials thrive, and that starts with the soil. In fact, soil is the single most important factor for growing healthy plants. Penn State Extension says most perennials grow ideally in well drained, fertile soil with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. In addition, organic matter can improve soil texture and water-holding ability.

When including perennials in the garden, make sure you wait for the right time to plant them. The ideal time is during the spring or fall. Perennials come as container-grown perennials, which already have been established in the soil. Bare-root perennials are just roots that are often packed in peat moss. In order to plant bare-root perennials, soak the roots in water for several minutes before gently planting in the ground, indicates the how-to resource Tip Bulletin.

Perennials should be watered deeply, especially during the first growing season. However, the soil should never be overly dry or wet. Most perennials do not need to be fertilized heavily. A single application in the spring typically is all that's needed.

Care along the way can include deadheading spent flowers so that plants can use their energy on seed production and reblooming. Perennials should be divided when they grow large, every three to four years when the plants are not in bloom. Perennials produce fewer flowers or may look sickly when the time has passed to divide them. Early spring often is a good time to divide perennials, advises The Farmer's Almanac.

A thick layer of mulch can help perennials to overwinter successfully. Perennials planted in containers will need to be transplanted into the garden before it gets cold because most containers cannot thoroughly insulate perennial roots.

Apart from these strategies, perennials pretty much take care of themselves. As long as sunlight requirements match plant needs, the perennials should thrive.



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Sports

Laingsburg Track Boys Take Third at Ovid-Elsie Lions Club Invite

OVID-ELSIE — Sarah Marvin and Allison Glass combined to win three of four field events as Byron finished third at Friday’s Marauder Lions Club Invite. Marvin won the shot put (49-4 1/2) and discus (137-10) while Glass placed first in the high jump (5-2). Teammate Becky Marvin placed second to sister Sarah in the shot put (34-5 1/4) and third in discus (95-1/4). Laingsburg took fourth with 41 points. The Wolfpack were led by Emma Kribs, who placed first in the 100 relay in 13.81 seconds. Ovid-Elsie’s 800 relay team of Alexis Spitzley, Abigail Prewitt, Ella Powell and Kaia Spiess took second in 12:44.22 and Spitzley also placed second in the 800 dash. The Marauders finished fifth overall with 51 points. Laingsburg’s Lucas Woodruff won the boys 800 dash in 2:08.52, leading the Wolfpack to a third place finish at 73 points. Byron (41 points), Ovid-Elsie (38 points), Durand (33 points) and Owosso (29 points) finished fourth, sixth, seventh and eighth, respectively.

Laingsburg boy, girl track teams in CMAC action at Pewamo-Westphalia

PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA — Laingsburg's boys track team split during a pair of Central Michigan Athletic Conference dual-meets Wednesday at Pewamo-Westphalia. Coach Brian Borgman's Wolfpack defeated Fulton 96-26, but lost 98-39 to Pewamo-Westphalia. Zach Hawes was first for Laingsburg in the 100-meter dash (11.50 seconds) and 400 dash (54.59). Alex Brown won the pole vault (12-9) while Laingsburg also won the 400 relay (47.60) with Cameron Salas, Hawes, Jack Borgman and Brown. Laingsburg’s girls defeated Fulton 73-28 but lost to Pewamo-Westphalia 85-36 Wednesday. Capturing solo wins for Laingsburg were Emma Kribs (200 dash, 26.88), Lorna Strieff (400 dash, 1:05.25) and Hailey Bila (high jump, 4-10). The Lady Wolfpack also placed first in the 400 relay thanks to Ashley Bila, Hailey Bila, Grace Borgman and Kribs (53.48).

T-Frank was an athlete. He wasn't a great athlete by any means. He wasn't bad. He was just OK. All through his high school and college years, that more than anything else is how he identified himself.

T-Frank was a pretty good football player on a pretty good team. Come basketball season, through countless hours of practice he was a pretty good shooter, but too short and too slow to earn any playing time. Come spring, he somehow forgot how to hit a baseball, though he'd been swinging a bat in sandlot and pickup games since he was 8 years old.

His senior year of high school, he didn't go out for the baseball team -- but he found he couldn't stay away from his "buds," his "brothers," and volunteered to keep the book, home and away games.

T-Frank was a fairly good student. Yet he loved going to school not for books, but for sports. He was a mediocre prep athlete just like thousands of his peers; all of them wishing they could be a little bit (maybe a lot) better.

I knew T-Frank very well, because he is me. Thomas Frank. Star wannabe.

The point in telling you all this is, I don't know what I would have done without the sports I chose to play. They were more than extra-curriculars. They were passions.

For more than the past year, I've tried to come to terms with how much the Covid-19 global pandemic has stolen away from us. I walked into church last summer when they re-opened it after months of quarantine and I cried. It hit me there, especially, how much we have lost.

I drive past vacant ballfields and practice fields and gymnasiums, games gone and entire seasons canceled, and I can't imagine.

T-Frank, particularly, can't imagine.

The Laingsburg High School baseball team played on their home field last Friday on bright cloudless but windy / chilly afternoon. They hosted Lakewood and the hometown Wolfpack didn't necessarily play very well. I looked out at the tall trees swaying beyond the right field fence, took in the freshly mowed grass, heard the leather pop of a hard-thrown pitch hit the catcher's glove ... and T-Frank wished he could join them.

He wouldn't necessarily play very well. But play he would, relishing every moment.

Between games of the non-league doubleheader, LHS coach Todd Randall planned a tribute. Not to any All-Conference or All-State players, not to any graduating seniors.

No. Instead he brought back those seniors from last season, along with their parents, those families who had been robbed of playing the 2020 season.

Coach Randall explained he was " ... blessed to be on the ride with these guys since they were in youth baseball making it a very special group. They were all determined to do great things and the unknown of what 'could have been' haunts all of them. Having their senior season canceled was devastating to say it lightly ... but these boys handled it with poise and class."

Coach Randall went on to say how his 2020 seniors had been role models: "Laingsburg baseball wants you boys to know that hour have conducted yourselves has set great examples for the players in this program and we could not be prouder of you."

If you can't play the games -- if they're stolen from you -- what could be a better tribute? A life lesson?

That's what prep athletics are supposed to do. Help teach us life lessons.

What dreams will be fulfilled as we finally open back up and purge the pandemic, getting back to our lives and our games and our passions?

One can only imagine.



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by Tom Turek



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The LHS baseball program honored its 2020 seniors who were denied a season due to the Covid-19 pandemic. (Front row, L to R) Ethan Fleming, Sam Marshall and Connor Thomas; (back row L to R) Mitchell Morrill, Caleb Moor, Austin Randall and coach Todd Randall.

Sports

Lakewood Moves to 13-3; Scores 33 Runs in Twinbill Sweep at Laingsburg

LAINGSBURG -- The Lakewood Vikings won for the 13th time in 16 games, plating 33 runs in an offensive explosion that carried the Vikes to a non-league doubleheader sweep here April 30.

Lakewood weathered a scare by Laingsburg in the third inning where the Vikings coughed up three runs, but still won 16-3. Laingsburg's big inning was driven by by Josh Baker and by Ethan West.

The Vikes secured the victory thanks to nine runs in the second inning. Brent Sweet, Brady Gawne, Nathaniel Graham, Nathan Willette, Sawyer Stoepker, and Sweet all drove in runs in the frame.

Lakewood fired up the offense in the first inning, when Gawne singled on a 1-2 count, scoring two runs., then notched nine runs in the second inning. The offensive onslaught by was led by Sweet, Gawne, Graham, Willette, Stoepker, and Sweet, all knocking in runs in the inning.

Jayce Hansen pitched Lakewood to victory. The pitcher allowed two hits and three runs over five innings, striking out five and walking one. Ty Randall took the loss for Laingsburg. Randall lasted one and one-third innings, allowing nine hits and 11 runs.

Coach Todd Randall's Wolfpack tore up the base paths, as two players stole at least two bases. Baker led the way with two.

-- LAKEWOOD 17, LAINGSBURG 8: Both pitching staffs had their hands full on Friday in a high-scoring affair where Lakewood bested Laingsburg, 17-8, in the nightcap of a non-league twinbill. Lakewood got things started in the first inning. Blake Price grounded out, scoring one run, then took the lead for good with five runs in the third inning. In the third Sawyer Stoepker singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run, Brent Sweet drew a walk, scoring one run, Price singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run, and Grandy induced Jayce Hansen to hit into a fielder's choice, but one run scored.

Laingsburg scored three runs in the second inning. Laingsburg's big inning was driven by a groundout by Ty Randall and a double by Baker.

Brady Gawne was the winning pitcher for the Vikes. The righthander allowed zero hits and zero runs over two innings, striking out six and walking zero. Sweet and Martin Hollern entered the game out of the bullpen and helped to close out the game in relief.

Grandy took the loss for Laingsburg. Grandy allowed four hits and nine runs over one and two-thirds innings, striking out one. West started the game for Laingsburg. The pitcher allowed three hits and four runs over two innings. Price started the game for Lakewood and surrendered six runs on two hits over two innings, striking out four.

Wolf sackers get big CMAC baseball win over Dansville

LAINGSBURG -- Coach Todd Randall's Wolfpack baseball team scored a big Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) win over Dansville on May 5, tasting victory to the tune of 5-1.

The Aggies scored their lone tally in the first inning. Skyes singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run.

Laingsburg knotted the game up at one in the bottom of the second inning, when Cooper Wilson grounded out, scoring one run. LHS pulled away for good with one run in the fourth inning, when Ethan West doubled on a 1-0 count, scoring one run.

Laingsburg scored three more times in the fifth inning. The Wolves put the pressure on, led by singles from Zack Fortino and Josh Baker, and an error on a ball put in play by Nick Woodbury.

Woodbury led things off on the hill for Laingsburg, allowing three hits and one run over four innings, striking out six.

Dase was on the hill for Dansville. The pitcher went six innings, allowing five runs on three hits, striking out two and walking one.

West, Fortino, and Justin Grandy each collected one hit to lead Laingsburg.



Laingsburg Varsity Soccer Team

(l-r): Callie Clark, Emily Gutzman, Desire Knobloch, Brooke Putnam, Hayleigh Mertens, Emma Heyd, Grace Borgman, Grace Graham, Abby Kirkbride, Lorna Streiff, Emilie St. Amour, Emma Koenig, Dakota Ballard, Grace Elfring, Dani Winans, Sierra Price, Addison Elkins, Sophia Sanfillipo.

Photo by Keith Kingsbury

Laingsburg Girls Soccer Team Returns Experience, Depth in 2021

LAINGSBURG -- The Wolfpack coaching staff of Graham Lockwood (head coach), Geoff Heyd, Natalie Elkins and Brad Kramer are hoping for big things from a deep, experienced girls varsity soccer team in 2021.

Returning players include seniors Grace Graham, Emilie Saint Amour, Abby Kirkbride, Emma Heyd, Hayleigh Mertens, and Sierra Price; and juniors Grace Elfring, Lorna Streiff, Emma Koenig, Emily Gutzman and Dani Winans. Too, the Lady Wolves sport some promising youth in sophomore Sophia Sanflippo and freshman Addison Elkins.

"We are an older team with a lot of experienced players. We have depth off the bench this year," says coach Lockwood. "We are looking to compete and win the conference this year. I think we can do it."

O-E Captures 8-0 Senior Night Soccer Win

OVID-ELSIE — After honoring seniors Madison Cunningham, Amber Dorn, Karli Witt, Tristin Ziola, Taylor Stinson and Allison Reppenhagen, Ovid-Elsie's girls soccer team defeated Byron 8-0 Tuesday.

Hailee Campbell had a hat trick and Evalyn Cole scored twice during the Senior Night victory. Witt, Reppenhagen and Cunningham also scored as the Marauders improved to 5-0 overall and 4-0 in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference.

"Our seniors had a lot to do with tonight's win and with our successes as a team over the years," Ovid-Elsie coach Craig Thelen said.

Cole had two assists for the Marauders, who led 7-0 at half-time and scored their last goal with 13:20 left in the contest.

Taylor Stinson had one save for the Marauders.

Ashley Softball Split a Pair

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Ashley Lady Bears softball team so far have taken on the Bulldogs from St. Charles in a double header. In game one the Bears loss 3-0 with Jenna Wirt taking the loss but striking out 14. In game two Alexa Burlingame started the game out pitching but errors by the infield put the game out of reach quickly. Jenna Wirt entered the game and struck out 7 and Ashley lost 12-2.

Ashley also hosted the Coleman Comets in a double header. Jenna Wirt pitched in game one striking out 6 and giving up 8 hits. The Bears score 13 runs on 6 hits and 9 walks to win the game 13-12. In game two the Bears scored 4 runs on 3 walks and a hit, while Coleman scored 17 runs taking the game.

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Sports

Koerner Out-shoots Field by Four Strokes,

PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA -- Laingsburg standout Zack Koerner out-shot the field by four strokes for individual plaudits, but Bath again took home team honors from the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) golf jamboree here April 29.

Play on the front nine at Huckleberry Creek GC was hosted by Fowler, while action on the back nine was hosted by Pewamo-Westphalia, in what was actually two different league meets.

On the front nine, Koerner carded a 32 to win the Fowler Jamboree. His closest competitor was Jared Huhn of the host Pirates, with 36. Team scores went like this: Bath 157, P-W 167, Fowler 168, Laingsburg 183 and Portland St. Patrick 246.

Coach Greg Beavers' Wolfpack jumped all the way up to 2nd place in the P-W Jamboree across the back nine. Bath again was the top team with 164, followed by Laingsburg 183, Fowler 187, P-W 188 and St. Pats 239.

Koerner was again four strokes better than the field with a 34. Silver medalist was Ethan Swanson of Bath at 38. Laingsburg's J.R. Nixon fired 47 for 7th place among the individual golfers.

Swan Valley Softballers Capture Lead Early to Defeat O-E Marauders

SAGINAW SWAN VALLEY -- The O-E Marauders fell behind early and couldn't come back in a 10-3 loss to Swan Valley on Thursday.

The Vikings scored on a triple by Olivia Bell in the first inning, a double by Hannah Koch in the first inning, a single by Kayla Baase in the first inning, a double by Ellie MacDonald in the first inning, a single by Lexie Stephens in the first inning, and a home run by Koch in the second inning.

Coach Felicia Gingrich's Marauders struggled to contain the high-powered offense of Swan Valley, giving up ten runs.

The Lady Marauders notched three runs in the fourth inning. Jolene Nash, Skylar Bowen, and Allyson Pokorny each had RBIs in the big inning.

Koch was the winning pitcher for Swan Valley. The hurler allowed five hits and three runs over seven innings, striking out 13.

Olivia Burt took the loss for O-E. The righthander allowed 15 hits and ten runs over six innings, striking out two and walking one. Maddisyn Miller went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead the Marauders in hits.

Swan Valley tallied 15 hits. The Vikes were sure-handed and didn't commit a single error. Rosas made the most plays with 14.

-- SWAN VALLEY 8, OVID-ELSIE 4: The Marauders fell behind early and couldn't come back in an 8-4 loss to Swan Valley, lowering O-E's overall record to 8-12.

Swan Valley opened up scoring in the first inning, when Julia Rosas singled on a 2-0 count, scoring one run. The Vikings added three runs in the seventh inning. Swan Valley big bats were led by Kayla Baase, Olivia Bell, and Hannah Koch, who each had RBIs in the inning.

Bell was the winning pitcher for Swan Valley. The hurler lasted seven innings, allowing seven hits and four runs while striking out 14.

Kaitlyn Fry took the loss for O-E. Fry went seven innings, allowing eight runs on 12 hits and striking out two.

Gracie Schultz went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead the Marauders in hits.

Swenders', Hills Lead O-E Girls at Steck Tennis Invite

OWOSSO — Owosso and Ovid-Elsie shared third-place honors at the Steck Girls Tennis Invitational on May 2.

Mt. Pleasant won the four-school event with 24 points. Flint Kearsley was second with 10 points. Owosso and Ovid-Elsie each scored seven points.

Owosso's Kelsey Andrykovich placed second at No. 1 singles. Trojan teammate Ellie Feldpausch finished second at No 3 singles.

Ovid-Elsie placed second at No. 4 singles with Katelyn Swender, and at No. 2 doubles with Abigail Hills and Jollee Swender.

Ovid-Elsie tennis girls win easily over Charlotte, 5-1

OVID-ELSIE -- The Charlotte Orioles managed just one win at #3 singles, as Ovid-Elsie won easily in non-league girls tennis match here May 3.

Individual matches went like this:

Singles: No. 1 - Alexis Phillips, O-E def. Maddy Olson, 6-1 , 6-1. No. 2 - Brooklyn Belill, O-E def. Hailey Rice, 6-2 , 6-3.No. 3 - Sara Lin, CHS def. Hanna Pappila, 6-4 , 6-2.

Doubles: No. 1 - Rylee Lewis and Claire Thornton, O-E def. Ally Dye and Aubrey Bruch, 6-0 , 6-1. No. 2 - Jollee Swender and Abigail Hills, O-E def. Holly Martin and Genevieve Rudy, 6-0 , 6-0.No. 3 - Christina Rademacher-Vine and Katelyn Swender, O-E def. Charlotte.

O-E girls tennis team continues solid play in 5-3 victory over Durand

OVID-ELSIE -- The Lady Marauders dominated doubles' play in a 5-3 victory over the Durand Railroaders on May 5.

At No. 1 singles, O-E's Alexis Phillips def. Carli Warren of DHS, 7-5 and 6-4. At No. 2 singles, Brooklyn Belill picked up another triumph for O-E, over Emma Maiden 6-2, 6-3.

Durand scored wins at No. 3 singles, Emma Warren over Hanna Pappila, 6-0, 6-2 and at No. 4, Mia Coleman win by default 2-0, 2-0.

The doubles action looked like this, in Ovid-Elsie's favor:

No. 1 - Claire Thornton and Rylee Lewis, def. Macy Friend and Lilly Scriptor, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. No. 2 - Jollee Swender and Abigail Hills, def. Jillian Reddy and Maddy Stebbins, 6-2, 6-3. No. 3 - Katelyn Swender and Christina Rademacher-Vine, def. Raegan Taylor and Julia Burk, 6-1, 1-6, 6-4. No. 4 - Ashlynn Duffey and Chloe Whitney (Durand), won by default 2-0, 2-0.

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County of Midland Auto and Surplus Live Auction Wed., May 19, 5pm. 220 W. Ellsworth St., Midland, MI (County Building Parking Lot). Trucks; SUV; enclosed trailer; more. Details at www.FurloAuction.com 989-835-1581. CPM

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Bancroft, Byrnes, Fahey lead Marauder golf team in recent action across Michigan

OVID-ELSIE -- Three different Marauders have earned medalist status through a whirlwind finish to April, and start to May, for coach Josh Latz's Ovid-Elsie boys golf team.

On April 26 at a non-league tournament at Oceana Golf Club in Shelby (18 holes), the Marauders carded a 393 team total to finish 4th out of 7 teams. In the cold (29 degrees), windy, rainy/snowy conditions, Tyler Bancroft scored 89 as Medalist-1st overall. Cal Byrnes shot 108, Adam Barton/Jake Tomasek a Best Ball 97, Noah Fahey/Dylan Carman a Scramble 99.

On April 29 in the rain and cold at their home course, the Emerald (9 Holes) near St. Johns, the Marauders downed Montrose 188-259. Cal Byrnes at 45 was the Medalist, with Dylan Carman firing 47, Tyler Bancroft 48, Noah Fahey 48, and Adam Barton 49.

On April 30, again at the Emerald, O-E fought off the windy conditions to down Chesaning (9 Holes), 195 to 233. Player scores were Noah Fahey 43 (Medalist), Adam Barton 47, Cal Byrnes 50 and Dylan Carman 55.

On May 3 at Hidden Oaks in St. Louis (18 holes), O-E played through the rain for a team total: 393, finishing 6th out of 12 teams. Freeland was 1st with a 331. Marauder player scores were Tyler Bancroft with 87, Adam Barton 90, Dylan Carman 106 and Noah Fahey 110.



Tyler Bancroft was medalist-1st overall at Oceana Golf Club on April 26th.

Laingsburg, O-E Medal Winner Impress at Marauder Lions Club Track Invite

OVID-ELSIE — Sarah Marvin and Allison Glass combined to win three of four field events as Byron finished third at the Marauder Lions Club Invite on April 30.

Marvin won the shot put (49-4 1/2) and discus (137-10) while Glass placed first in the high jump (5-2). Teammate Becky Marvin placed second to sister Sarah in the shot put (34-5 1/4) and third in discus (95-1/4).

Laingsburg took fourth with 41 points. The Wolfpack were led by Emma Kribs, who placed first in the 100 relay in 13.81 seconds.

Ovid-Elsie's 800 relay team of Alexis Spitzley, Abigail Prewitt, Ella Powell and Kaia Spiess took second in 12:44.22 and Spitzley also placed second in the 800 dash. The Marauders finished fifth overall with 51 points.

Laingsburg's Lucas Woodruff won the boys 800 dash in 2:08.52, leading the Wolfpack to a third place finish at 73 points.

Boys' team scores were Frankenmuth 232, Gladwin 126, Laingsburg 73, Byron 41, Bath 41, Ovid-Elsie 38, Durand 33 and Owosso 29.

Ovid-Elsie medal winners included Christian Schmidtfranz - 3rd 200 m in :25.01, Gavyn Leavitt 6th 400 m in : 56.14, the 4x800 Relay Team- 2nd, Jacob Schaub, Nick Long, Dillon Renfroe, Gavyn Leavitt in 9:30.46, and the 4x200 Relay Team 3rd, Eddy Evans, Schaub, Leavitt, Schmidtfranz in 1:40.52.

Ovid-Elsie male thinclads place 4th in 2nd MMAC Meet at New Lothrop

NEW LOTHROP -- Chesaning took home the team title with 203 points, and Ovid-Elsie's boys placed 4th as a team at the second Mid-Michigan Athletic Conference (MMAC) meet on 2021 here May 5.

Team scores were Chesaning 203, the host Hornets 168.5, Montrose 71, O-E 64, Lakeville 42.5, Byron 42, Durand 40 and Mt. Morris 18.

Point winners for coach Doug Long's Marauders were: 8th: Corbin Kelley SP 33'10". Nick Long 300H 51.05. 7th: Ryan Gavenda HJ 5'2". Clay Wenzlick LJ 5'2". Long LJ 16'10.75". 6th: Schmidtfranz 100 12.09. Dillon Renfroe 800 2:22.2. Kelley DS 104'1". Andrew Hall PV 8'6". 5th: Schmidtfranz 200 24.25. Alex Eichenberg DS 107'5". 4th: 4x100 Relay Evans, Isaac. Orta, Bruce Thornton, Schmidtfranz 48.95. 4x200 Relay Evans, Schaub, Thornton, Schmidtfranz 1:41.10.. 3rd: Wenzlick LJ 17'7". 4x800 Relay Renfroe, Long, Cole Workman, Leavitt 9:50.20.. 2nd: Leavitt 400 53.60, 4x400 Relay Renfroe, Long, Evans, Leavitt 3:52.14

Said coach Long, "Although we finished 3rd in the 1st meet and 4th in this meet we had many personal records. The kids are working hard and with losing a year (due to Covid-19) they are progressing well."

Ashley Baseball

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Ashley Baseball team has played 4 games to start the season. They first took on Breckenridge in a double header losing both games with scores of 11-1 and 15-0. In the first game Evan Litwiller was credited with the loss, Grant Malek, Aaron Drummond, Carson Litwiller and Clayton Juhas each had a hit. In game two Logan Drummond took the loss on the mound and Gavin Malek got the only hit for the Bears.

The Bears have also taken on the Bulldogs from St. Charles. Game one was a loss for the Ashley with a score of 24-6, Evan Litwiller took the loss for the team. Grant Malek had three hits in the game, two singles and a double, and Aaron Drummond and Jimmy Fabus both had two hits, a single and a double. In game two the Bears clinched their first win, winning 8-6. Carson Litwiller earned the win, pitching five innings, giving up seven hits and getting three strikeouts. Aaron Drummond, Clayton Juhas and Jimmy Fabus all had hits in the game.

Ashley has also taken on Coleman and loss both games 19-5 and 17-14. Logan Drummond took the loss in game one. Logan Drummond, Grant Malek, Aaron Drummond, Clayton Juhas and Nate Reser had hits in the game. In game two Chase Kral took the loss giving up six hits and five strikeouts. Aaron Drummond had a great game three hits and four RBIs, while Grant Malek had two hits and three RBIs. Logan Drummond, Clayton Juhas and Nate Reser all chipped in a hit.