



Talent Show Winners: On July 8th, local talent took to the main stage following opening ceremonies of the 2021 Elsie Dairy Festival.

Pictured here are the winners: (l-r) Lexi Munger, Best Musical Performance, Lacy Southgate, Best Vocal Performance, Larissa, Best Wild Card Performance and Austin Smith, Moolahoop Contest Winner.

Photo by Carolyn Long

Ovid Township Supervisor Resigns

by Karen Anderson, Correspondent

OVID- At the Ovid Township regular monthly meeting on July 8, 2021, Clerk Claudia Barrett-Pluger made motion to accept a letter of resignation from the Ovid Township Supervisor, Debbie Shaughnessy. Reluctantly, a roll-call vote was accepted and passed unanimously.

The Township Board, Clerk Claudia Barrett-Pluger, Treasurer Nancy Hughson, Trustees Patricia Hibbard and Arlene Pesik and the attending Committee chairs respectfully offer a grateful testimony and for the record thanked Shaughnessy for her service. Shaughnessy was appreciated and her staff is disappointed to see her leave the position.

In the letter of resignation, effective July 5, 2021, it states the announcement is due to "personal health and other concerns." Shaughnessy stated it was an honor to serve the people of Ovid Township and sincerely wishes them all the best.



Packed Performances: On Friday, July 2nd, the start of the Fourth of July weekend, the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus, hosted by the Ovid Lions Club, experienced two packed performances under the big tent. Organizers were extremely pleased with the turnout and appreciated the community support in making the fund raising event so successful.

Photo by Mary Perrien

Gymnast with Bannister Roots is Gaining National Prowess

GRAND RAPIDS -- A gymnast with Ovid-Elsie roots is becoming nationally known for his prowess.

Isaac Bradley is 12 years old and will be starting 7th grade at Crossroads Middle School (in the Northview Public School district) on the north side of Grand Rapids. Isaac attended Ovid-Elsie Area Schools from kindergarten to 1st grade before moving to Grand Rapids and still enjoys seeing friends when he is visiting his grandparents -- Tom and Diane Bradley -- in Bannister.

Isaac's accomplishments? They are impressive. The USA Gymnastics Region 5 meet (Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio) was held in Battle Creek on April 17. Isaac earned Overall Champion for his level as well as 1st place in parallel bars and high bar.

That came on the heels of the Michigan State meet in Flint on March 27. Isaac earned Overall Champion, as well as 1st place in rings, vault, and parallel bars. His performance at the state meet qualified him for the regional meet.

Isaac competed in the junior development level this year. Men's gymnastics competes in levels 4-10, as well as junior development. Junior development provides male gymnasts in the higher levels to work on developing additional skills based upon their areas of strength. For example, the handles on the pommel horse are not added until level 9, but those competing in junior development use the handles.

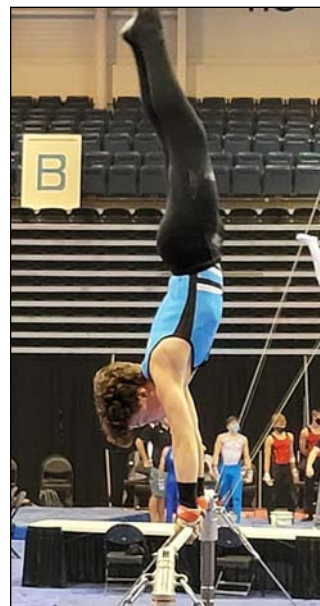
Bring on the hardware. Total medals earned thus far: 36, with 24 of those being in the top 3 places, gold: 10 (4 parallel bars, 2 pommel horse, 2 high bar, 1 vault, 1 rings), silver: 8 (2 floor, 1 high bar, 1 rings, 2 parallel bars, 1 vault, 1 high bar) and bronze: 6 (2 floor, 2 rings, 1 vault, 1 pommel). Isaac was the Overall Champion at the Cereal City Classic in Battle Creek and the Overall Champion at the Don Sellman Meet in Cincinnati.

This was Isaac's 5th year in competitive gymnastics. Isaac started gymnastics at 22 months old and first began competing at level 4 with Twistars Gymnastics in 2016 when he was 8 years old. In 2018, he joined Empowered Athletics, LLC, moving up a level each year and will possibly be competing at level 9 this coming competition year. He credits his coaches, Emily Bell and Joe Swinehart for their support in his success. Isaac said they are good coaches because they encourage him to try big skills that he is afraid to do, such as giants on the highbar and working

on tsuk (round off back tuck on vault). Coach Kiki at Kiki's Gymnastics in DeWitt also deserves some recognition for believing in a high energy 2 year old and allowed him to explore his abilities in gymnastics.

Isaac's strongest events this competition season were parallel bars, floor and pommel horse, but was able to finish in the top three of all 6 events throughout this season. His favorite event is the rings because of the variety of different skills the rings allow you to do and that the rings are so different from all of the other events. Isaac even has a set of rings hanging at home that he can practice on.

When asked what accomplishments mean the most to him, Isaac laughed and said, "I'm married to the grind," meaning that he dedicates a lot of hours each week to training and conditioning. Presently, Isaac is in the gym 13.5 hours a week and will be increasing to 16 hours/week in the fall. "I feel very happy and proud to be a regional champion," he says. "It was a great feeling to see how all of the work I've put into gymnastics over the years led to the overall championship. It is a hard sport and I've had to overcome a lot of fears of the bigger skills, such as giants into flyaway dismounts on the high bar as well as tsuks on vault." He just recently completed a week of gymnastics camp spending 35 hours honing in on new skills.



continued on page 5

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Place: 222 N. Main St Ovid, MI



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 - Baby Shampoo

Carland UMC Outdoor Worship Service

submitted by Charlene Wagner

Carland UMC will be having an Outdoor Worship Service on July 18th featuring the Jack Clarkson Gospel band. Bring your lawn chairs, your family and your friends and join us for an outdoor worship service at 9:00 a.m. Rain or shine! We are located on the corner of Carland and Juddville Rd. Hope to see you there.



Underhills Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Wayne and Connie Underhill of Ovid will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, July 17th by having a vow renewal at the First Baptist Church in Elsie, the same church they were married in on July 17th, 1971.

Celebrating with them will be their four children, Rachelle (Scott) of Ashley, Renate of Ohio, Darin (Jamie) of Elsie and Jenn (Ryan) of St. Johns, their grandchildren, close family and a few close friends.

Cards may be sent to 8930 E. Parks Rd., Ovid, MI 48866.

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Carriage Days Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 29th for the Ovid Carriage Days Wine & Hard Cider Fundraiser Night. The event will be held at Uncle Johns Cider Mill at 6:30pm. Persons 21 & older are invited with ID. The event will include tasting, snacks and 50/50. Make plans now to Join the committee in July.

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Laingsburg Schools Board of Education

submitted by Krissy Pratt

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct its new fiscal year board meeting on Wednesday, July 14, 2021. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Media Center.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: adoption of regular meeting agenda, designation of depositories for school funds and signatory authorizations, designation of person for posting public notices of meetings, delegation of election duties, approval of organizational memberships, approval of annual retainer contracts, Superintendent's Report, personnel items and any other business that may properly come before the board.

The Board will meet for regular scheduled board meetings on the third Wednesday of each month.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| July 14, 2021 (2nd Wednesday) | January 19, 2022 |
| August 18, 2021 | February 16, 2022 |
| September 15, 2021 | March 16, 2022 |
| October 20, 2021 | April 20, 2022 |
| November 17, 2021 | May 18, 2022 |
| December 15, 2021 | June 15, 2022 |

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



Midwest Brass and Gas Car Club to Make a Stop in Elsie July 15

submitted by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE —. The Midwest Brass and Gas Club drives 1912 antique cars and they are having their annual car tour July 12-16 and will be coming through Elsie on Thursday, July 15. The slated rest stop is the Elsie United Methodist Church at approximately 9 am.

The Club encourages area residents to come and see the parade of vintage vehicles. EUMC will be open for cooling off and refreshing beverages.

Elsie Historial Society

submitted by Sue Hardaker

The Elsie Historical Society is now open every Wednesday from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. We have on display the collection of Joe Kelly's Indian arrowheads and artifacts that he collected from his farm along Maple River Road from 1881 to 1968. We also have Elsie High School memorabilia, so come in and browse.

When you are downsizing, we would love old telephone books, maps and most anything associated with Elsie history.

We are located at 145 W. Main Street in Elsie.



Christmas in July

Vineyard Creative Arts Theatre, in Ovid, will be host a Christmas in July vendor event on Saturday, July 24th from 10am-4pm. Vendors are still be accepted for inside and outside spaces. There will be a food truck on site and 2-3 bounce houses for the kids. During the event a donation tree for the Elsie Baby Pantry will also be featured, the following items are needed: Stage 1 baby food, snippy cups and baby shampoos. Vineyard Creative is located at 222 N. Main Street in Ovid.

Concerts in the Park Kick Off 18th Season

submitted by Bill Tennant

The popular summer "Concert in the Park" series, sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns, will opened its season on Wednesday, July 7 this year with a husband-and-wife duo from Denver. The series will include 9 concerts ending the season on September 1 with a concert featuring the King himself, Elvis! In between is a nice variety of performances featuring excellent musicians from throughout Michigan.

"We receive a lot of requests from performers each year wanting to come to St. Johns to perform," says Bill Tennant, concert coordinator. "This year the committee decided to invite some new performers, giving our community a chance to hear a nice variety of different groups. There are only 2 groups performing this summer who were with us last year."

The series will be held at the William E. Tennant Performance Shell in the beautiful St. Johns City Park. All concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. rain or shine. The Lions Club food trailer will be available this year – social distancing and safety precautions are encouraged. The CCAC receives funding from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

July 14 - Surf Zup - Iconic Surf Guitar Hits from the 60's
July 21 - Monday's Supper - The Tastiest Irish Music Around

July 28 - David Gerald Band- The Best of Detroit Blues
Aug 4 - Kari Holmes - Pop/Country Nashville Recording Artist

Aug 11 - Rachel Curtis - American Idol Folk/Pop Artist

Aug 18 - FRENZ- Classic Pop Hits from AM Gold
Aug 25 - David Bennett Quartet - From Swing to Rock
Sept 1 - Matt King- An Award-Winning Tribute to Elvis

10th Annual Golf Outing

The Ovid-Elsie Golf fund raising golf outing will hold its 10th annual event on Sunday, July 25th. At the North Star Golf Course, 4550 S. Bagley Rd. Ithaca. The format will be a 18 hole, 4 person scramble. The cost per person is \$50 (\$200 per team) and includes the cart, range balls, hole prizes, 1 mulligan per golfer and dinner after golf. The event will shotgun at 9am. Proceeds from this fund raiser will benefit the O-E bowling teams. To sign up, contact Coach Matt Fabus at (989)862-5746.

Upcoming Events
Laingsburg Pancake
Breakfast

Jul 25

Clinton County 4-H Fair

July 31 - Aug. 5

St. Johns Mint Festival

Aug. 13 - 15

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Victory Township
Clinton County, MI
6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI
Proposed Board Minutes from June 14, 2021 meeting
The special meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Jim Conklin at 6:06 pm.
Attendance: Present: Jim Conklin, Amanda Conklin, Paula Willoughby and Nikki Fickes. Absent Julie Townsend,
Public Comment: None
Agenda: Motion by A. Conklin to approve the agenda as printed. Supported by Willoughby. All in favor.
Motion carried.
• **Maintenance Items:** Grounds, Hall, Parks and Rec and Historical. A future meeting will be scheduled to discuss prioritizing and assigning items.
Extended Public/Board Comment
Motion by J. Conklin to adjourn at 6:31 pm. Supported by Willoughby. All in favor. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk



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Obituaries

Margaret A. Grubaugh

Margaret A. Grubaugh, age 100, of Elsie, MI, passed away Friday, July 2, 2021, at Hazel I. Findlay Country Manor, St. Johns, MI.

Margaret was born in Dawes, West Virginia on March 7, 1921, the daughter of William and Leta (Watson) Oldaker. She married Alpha E. Grubaugh on August 26, 1950 in Flint, MI. He passed away on November 11, 1989.

She moved to MI in 1945. After her marriage she worked for Wooley's Dime Store in Elsie and also Sill's Market. She was a lifetime member of the VFW Auxiliary in Owosso and a member of the Church of the Nazarene in Owosso. Margaret was a United Methodist Certified Lay Speaker and an associate Pastor at the St. Johns Nazarene Church in St. Johns, MI.

She is survived by daughter Sandra and David Kemp of Elsie, MI; and her son Alpha J. and Diana Grubaugh of Elsie, MI. She is also survived by 4 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Alpha, 6 brothers and 3 sisters.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes Elsie, MI on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. Burial has taken place at Riverside Cemetery, Elsie, MI.

Memorials may be made to a Charity of the Donor's Choice. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.



Arthur Lee Binger

Arthur Lee Binger, age 79, passed away peacefully on July 6, 2021 at Durand Senior Center.

He was born on April 16, 1942, graduated from Ovid High School, served in the United States Navy, and retired from General Motors after twenty-five years. Art was a member of Alcoholics Anonymous with forty years sobriety, was a proud sponsor and aided many to sobriety. He also took pride in and loved his vehicle.

Art was preceded in death by his parents, Charles A. Binger and Pauline D. Bouck. He is survived by twin sisters, Judy (Garry) Feehan and Jane Binger; brother, William Binger as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on August 13, 2021 from 6PM-8PM at Faith Fellowship Bible Church, 3955 E. Price Rd, St. Johns. A Celebration of Life will be held at the church on August 14, 2021 at 11 AM.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or in support of your local AA group.

For further information, phone McGeehan Funeral Home, Keck-Coleman Chapel, at 989-224-4422 or visit www.McGeehanFH.com



Editorial

Fishin' in the Shadows

Nearly fifteen years ago the Weekly Sportsman went trout fishing on the Jordan River with friend Jordan. It is no coincidence that Jordan knows the ins and outs of the river and its tributaries as his family has been fishing the river for generations and he was named after the river. His pre-trip advice and packing list was simple; bring lots of line, hooks, and earth tone colored clothing. Unbeknownst to the Weekly Sportsman this couple day trip was going to be a real lesson in river fishing and efficiency.

For starters the Weekly Sportsman learned that real hard core river fishing means a lot of snags and broken line. A lot of time was spent on the river bank retying hooks and then the line really just ran out. Since then, all fishing trips have had a tackle bag with extra reels and line ready to go even if they are just cheap box store replacements. As for hooks, you can never have too many in the tackle bag.

Now the real lesson came with learning about how trout like to hang out on the edge of shadows within the river. While nobody really knows what fish are thinking they are very smart to hide within the shadows near the surface while also like being close to the light to see their predators and likewise prey. When the sun is low in the morning and evening the river will have the greatest shadows while midday most rivers are lit up. Approach the river under the shadows and cast within the shadows. Even if this means walking way off course to approach your targeted area. Fish can easily see anglers and lines being cast when they are backlit from the sun. As for the earth tone clothing you don't need to be wearing a ghillie suit but every little edge counts when trying to blend within the shadows. Think of a sniper shooting from a treeline or from a dark room. Snipers can see out into the light but you certainly can't see them.

Over the course of the trip fishing was done early and late in the day and often near trees that made shadows creating honey holes for fish. Mid day fishing in the open was never done because there wasn't substantial cloud cover. Jordan's style of fishing is much like other methods of efficiency for pursuing waterfowl, deer, and certain upland game. Sure it is great to fish (or even hunt) all day if you have the time but with a limited schedule make the most of it by fishin' in the shadows

-WS



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster

theweklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

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Laingsburg 8 Friday of Summer Music at McClintock Park Amphitheater at 7pm - July 16th Global Village.

LARC Movies in the Park - Wednesday July 14th at dusk - The Croods: A New Age

Elba Township Gratiot County

The July Board of Review will meet
Tuesday, July 20th, 2021 at the Elba Township
Office at 109 Oak St. Ashley, at 7:00 p.m.



Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul.

--Luther Burbank

Gymnast cont' from front page...

Isaac isn't yet at the point where college recruitment is an option. His plan is to continue developing his gymnastics skills and taking those into the sport of diving in hopes that he'll compete on his high school diving team when the time comes. In the meantime, Isaac enjoys the physical and mental challenge that gymnastics and competing provides, he says.

Isaac is unsure of how long he will stick to gymnastics because of his interests outside of the gym, which include soccer and diving. His teammates at Empowered Athletics have become a family and are incredibly supportive, so it will be a difficult decision to make in the future.

Regarding his education, Isaac is several years away from seriously thinking about education after high school, but is leaning towards something that allows him to be creative and work with others and help people.

He also has an interest in entertaining others. Isaac is a member of the ZCBI Lodge #225 in Bannister and the Czechoslovakian Folk Dancing group, volunteers with people with disabilities, Michigan Ski for Light, and also enjoys hiking, swimming, MineCraft, biking, and drawing. His favorite subjects are science and band (trombone).

Isaac lives with his mom, Sarah Bradley. Other family members who have been supportive of Isaac and his gymnastics include his grandparents, Tom and Diane Bradley, and his aunt Mary Bradley and uncle Charles Olsen. It was his aunt Mary's idea to have Isaac begin gymnastics when he was 22 months old because of how physically active he was climbing, standing on his head, flipping himself on the furniture. Isaac also receives a lot of support and encouragement from his Aunts Anmarie and Tish Bradley-Dodd of Ashley, and his Uncle Tom and Aunt Paula Bradley of Midway, Utah as well as his cousins and many family friends.

Isaac's mom, Sarah, says "I am so happy that I made the decision to enroll him in gymnastics at a young age. The first few years were tough as he had to learn to wait his turn, stand in line, listen to the coaches.

"The skills that gymnastics has taught him are hard work, focus, determination, sportsmanship, courtesy to others, confidence and overcoming fears, as well as strength and flexibility. It is great to see these skills transfer over into other sports as well as in the classroom and community."



Bradley Family

Journey Federal Credit Union 2021 CORE4 Scholarship Winners

submitted by April Steele

St. Johns, MI – July 7, 2021 – Each year, Journey Federal Credit Union offers three scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each through their CORE4 Scholarship program to local graduating High School seniors. One student is selected from each of the following High Schools: St. Johns, Fowler, & Ovid.

Journey Federal Credit Union has a strong sense of pride in their CORE 4 values. Applicants are asked to include letters of recommendation demonstrating the following CORE4 values: Trust/Honesty, Teamwork, Integrity, and Respect.

JFCU's Scholarship Selection Committee bases their selection process upon subjective criteria including essays, academic performance, community involvement, curricular & extracurricular activities, and personal goals. Pictured are this year's winners, from left to right: Aubrey Goerge (Fowler HS), Sam Sackrider (St. Johns HS), and Skyler Spitzley (Ovid-Elsie HS). Aubrey plans to attend Central Michigan University where she will study Finance. Sam plans to attend the University of Michigan where he will study Political Science. Skyler plans to attend Michigan Technological University where she will study Biomedical Engineering.

Journey FCU is proud to support the goals of our young members. Congratulations graduates!



*Sam Sackrider
St. Johns*



*Aubrey Goerge
Fowler*



*Skyler Spitzley
Ovid-Elsie*

Chamber to Hold Annual Golf Outing

submitted by Brenda Terpening

The Clinton County Chamber of Commerce will be holding their annual Golf Outing at the Emerald Golf Course on Wednesday, August 25, 2021. You do not need to be from a business, or a member of the Chamber to participate in this 4-person scramble.

The cost is \$290 for your team and that includes continental breakfast, golf carts, 18 holes of golf, contests, goodie bags, lunch and prizes. Tee-off is at 8:30 am. You can print off the Golf Registration Form at www.clintoncountychamber.org/events, send an email to ccchamber@4wbi.net or you can call the Chamber of Commerce at 989-224-7248 to request a form. The Chamber office is currently under construction but all emails and phone messages are being monitored offsite.



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The Pros and Cons of Irrigation Systems

Maintaining a lush, green lawn and thriving landscape that includes shrubbery, flowers and trees requires time, money and often some sweat equity. However, the beauty that results from such effort compels many homeowners to take on the landscaping challenge.

Forgetting to water the greenery or getting hit with a drought can cause a lawn to deteriorate rapidly. An irrigation system may seem like a smart investment, but homeowners should weigh the pros and cons of such systems before having one installed.

Irrigation systems are installed to protect landscaping so plants can thrive year-round. Irrigation systems come in various forms, from sprinkler to drip to surface irrigation systems. No system is necessarily better than another. That's because each is designed to address specific watering needs.

Here's a look at various irrigation systems and the pros and cons of each.

Sprinkler system

Sprinklers are popular because they tend to be very affordable and easy to set up. Manual sprinkler systems utilize a hose and sprinkler head, while automatic systems are programmed and do all the work once they're installed. Sprinklers cover a lot of ground and can irrigate large spaces quickly. However, that same benefit can be a disadvantage as well.

Sprinklers are indiscriminate in their watering, sometimes hitting pavement or driveways. Also, the Gardening Channel says that water from sprinklers is lost due to evaporation on hot, windy days. In fact, as much as 80 percent of the water used may not make it onto the grass or plants.

Surface irrigation system

Sometimes called gravity irrigation, these systems use channels or furrows throughout the cultivation area. Once the water runs through these channels, gravity distributes it accordingly.

Surface irrigation systems require minimal effort but are best suited for farms and commercial enterprises because they require a large reservoir or pond to accumulate water. Also, uneven terrains could divert the water.

Drip irrigation system

This type of irrigation system is used primarily in arid regions. It is made up of lateral lines of flexible or rigid polyethylene pipe. Drip irrigation allows homeowners to focus watering on a particular garden area. It provides moisture directly to the soil. Therefore, there is no water waste from runoff or evaporation. Drip irrigation waters plants slowly and can cause less soil erosion and reduce nutrient leeching.

While easier and more effective than some other irrigation methods over the long haul, a drip irrigation system has a substantial startup cost. In addition, the system can get clogged at times. When gardening season is finished, a drip irrigation system will need to be drained and dismantled.

Irrigation systems can help care for plants and lawns. However, they can be costly and some require significant maintenance. Weather and pests also can reduce the effectiveness of yard irrigation systems by damaging equipment or directing water in directions homeowners did not intend. Customers are urged to do their research regarding which system, if any, is best for their properties.



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Insulation recommendations are based on certain factors that coordinate with regional climate zones to increase energy efficiency. These factors are known as R-values. The R in R-value stands for "resistance," and refers to how certain products resist the flow of heat through walls, floors and ceilings. Products should reduce heat escape so heat is kept on the right side of the wall. In summer this means outdoors, in winter it means indoors. R-values relate not only to insulation, but also to walls, windows and other barriers. R-values also coordinate to the type, thickness and density of the material being used. The higher the R-value, the more resistant to heat the product is. The U.S. Department of Energy coordinates R-value to climate zones 1 through 7 (1: Tip of Florida; 7: Canadian border). A higher R-value is needed in Zone 7 and a lower R-value is necessary in Zone 1. Those embarking on home improvement projects that involve choosing between R-values are urged to speak with a professional or to visit the Department of Energy website (www.energy.gov) to determine which R-Value is ideal for their homes.

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How to Keep Gardens Safe in Summer Heat Waves

Summer is a season to relax and enjoy the warm weather. Basking in the summer sun is a great way to relax, but only when the temperatures are safe. Summer heat waves can compromise the health of human beings as well as their pets. Gardening enthusiasts also may need to go the extra mile to keep their plants and gardens from wilting under harsh summer sun.

Extreme heat stress can be very harmful to plants. The online gardening resource Gardening Know How notes that some plants can withstand summer heat waves better than others. For example, succulents conserve water in their leaves, helping them to withstand heat waves when the dog days of summer arrive. But succulents are unique, and many plants will require a little extra help to withstand a heat wave.

- Take a proactive approach with mulch. Gardeners need not wait until the heat arrives to protect their plants from searing summer heat. The sustainable living experts at Eartheasy recommend utilizing light-colored mulch during heat waves. Such mulch will reflect the sunlight and help to maintain cooler surface soil conditions. Eartheasy even notes that grass clippings, once they've turned from green to light brown, can make for the perfect mulch to protect plants from the heat. Clippings also are free, making them a cost-effective solution.

- Water wisely. The horticultural experts at Yates Gardening note that water only helps plants withstand heat waves if it's applied effectively. If water is only applied in short bursts and not long enough so it can penetrate all the way to the root zone, roots will then stay near the surface. In such instances, roots will dry out during a heat wave and plants won't make it through the season. Timing also is essential when watering. Eartheasy recommends watering in the morning to avoid heat scald and also ensure as little water is lost to evaporation as possible. When watering during a heat wave, do so by hand rather than through a sprinkler. Hand watering allows gardeners to direct all of the water onto the plants that need it most during a heat wave.

- Let your plants pitch in. When planting new plants, it's important that gardeners recognize it takes time for these plants to establish their roots so they're strong enough to withstand heat waves. In the meantime, strategic planting can help them make it through their first heat waves unscathed. Eartheasy notes that planting by taller, more established plants can provide new plants with shade that can help them survive heat waves. Just make sure new plants can still get the sun they need to thrive.

Heat waves are inevitable and potentially harmful to gardens. Gardeners can help their plants beat the heat in various ways.



Fresh Veggies are not Exclusive to Spring and Summer

Spring and summer may be the seasons most often associated with gardening. But people who love to grow their own vegetables can do so even when the weather outside is frightful.

Various vegetables thrive in cool temperatures. The home and garden experts at HGTV note that some winter vegetables are hardy. That means they can handle frosts in temperatures as low as 25 F without being damaged. Others are even sturdier in the face of all that winter can throw at them, capable of tolerating temperatures that dip into the high teens.

Growing vegetables in winter requires a different approach than growing in spring and summer, as gardeners must be ready to prevent damage from frost if temperatures get especially chilly. For example, the experts at Michigan State University

Extension note that gardeners may need to utilize floating row covers to protect sensitive crops from frost. Gardeners interested in planting winter vegetables can speak with a local garden center professional about which crops to plant and what to do if temperatures push winter vegetable gardens to the brink.

Though it's up to gardeners what they want to plant, the following are some popular winter vegetables that can make for wonderful, fresh additions to any dinner table even after the traditional gardening season has come and gone.

- Arugula
- Broccoli
- Brussel sprouts
- Cabbage
- Carrots
- Collard greens
- Endive
- Parsley
- Parsnips
- Kale
- Radishes
- Rutabagas
- Spinach
- Swiss chard



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Senior Spotlight

Senior Center Open Limited Hours


submitted by Brenda Terpening

If you like to play Euchre, the Clinton County Senior Center, located at 201 E Walker Street in St. Johns is the place to be on Monday's. From 1-3 pm each Monday afternoon they hold a friendly Euchre Tournament. The cost to participate is \$2. You don't have to print a partner with you - once a team reaches the score of ten the bell rings and you change partners. Come and join in on the fun.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays the center is open between 10 am - 1 pm to allow people to come in and purchase puzzles, books, various other donations (like yarn and toys) and many homemade items. If you would like to donate any of these items to the center, including fabric and quilt batting a Tuesday or Thursday between 10 am - 1 pm would be a great time to drop things off.

If you have any questions you can call them at 989-224-4257. Since they are not open each day it may take a couple days before someone gets back to you.





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Tips to Find the Right Skilled Nursing Facility

Humans’ desire to live independently begins in adolescence and continues into older adulthood. Though many seniors can handle the tasks of daily life on their own, others may need varying degrees of assistance.

Seniors have various options at their disposal in regard to finding help to get through daily life. Those who need round-the-clock help typically look to skilled nursing facilities, or SNFs, which are staffed with licensed nurses and therapists who are capable of providing a more advanced level of medical care than home health aides or assisted living facilities can offer.

Seniors who want to plan ahead can shop around for SNFs and make their preferences known in their estate planning. When looking for an SNF, seniors and their loved ones can utilize these tips to find the right facility.

- Speak with your health care team. Seniors’ health care teams, including their general practitioners as well as any doctors who may have treated them for specific diseases or conditions, can be great resources. For example, an oncology team may recommend a local SNF that has a strong track record in working with cancer survivors. Many people who stay in SNFs do so as part of a rehabilitation program, and a health care team can provide valuable insight into which facilities may match up well with individual patients’ needs.
- Give location ample consideration. When looking for an SNF, location should not be overlooked. The quality of care a facility can provide should be the utmost priority, but the value of choosing a facility that’s close to loved ones cannot be understated, especially for seniors who will be moving in for a lengthy period of time. Routine visits from loved ones can lift the spirits of SNF residents. In addition, AARP® notes that regular visitors can scrutinize care and serve as residents’ advocates if they feel their concerns are not being satisfactorily addressed by staff members.
- Visit facilities in person. Online ratings can provide some insight into a facility, but nothing can replace the value of an in-person visit. The American Health Care Association urges families to observe a facility in person so they can gauge its overall environment and whether or not it seems like a peaceful or chaotic place. Pay close attention to residents and try to determine if they’re well-groomed. These are things that can only be noticed in person, which underscores the importance of in person visits.

Skilled nursing facilities are an option for seniors who require advanced medical care. Finding the right facility requires careful consideration of a host of factors.



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Senior Spotlight



Simple Ways to Maintain Memory as you Age

Adults confront various age-related side effects as they transition from middle age to their golden years. Skin may begin to wrinkle and hair may turn gray, but those are just the visible side effects of aging. Many additional effects are unseen, but those changes can have a profound effect on adults' quality of life.

According to the Mayo Clinic, various parts of the body are affected by aging. For example, the cardiovascular system changes as people grow older. Blood vessels and arteries stiffen as adults age, forcing the heart to work harder to pump blood through them.

Though many changes are linked to aging, other changes commonly associated with aging, such as a decline in memory, reasoning and other thinking skills, are not natural. The Alzheimer's Association® notes that dementia is not a normal part of aging. There are many different types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, and these are the result of damage to brain cells that affect a person's ability to communicate. That damage is not inevitable, even if it's commonly associated with aging.

The Harvard Medical School notes that fleeting memory problems experienced with aging often reflect normal changes in the structure and function of the brain. But it's important that those changes not be mistaken for dementia, and it's equally important that adults recognize there are many ways they can protect and sharpen their minds as they age.

- Continue learning. HMS notes that a higher level of education is associated with improved mental functioning in old age. The reasons for that are unknown, but experts theorize that advanced education compels people to remain mentally active, which in turn helps them maintain a strong memory. Even aging men and women who are still working in challenging fields can benefit from pursuing a new hobby or learning a new skill.

- Use the tools at your disposal. It may seem counterintuitive to suggest that organizational tools like planners, maps and lists can help people maintain their memories. However, HMS notes that expending mental energy on finding car keys or trying to remember what to buy at the store makes it harder to learn new and important things.

- Let all your senses play a role. HMS reports that the more senses a person uses to learn something, the more his or her brain is involved in retaining a memory. HMS cites one study in which adults were shown a series of emotionally neutral images that were each presented along with a smell. Participants were not asked to recall what they saw, but were later shown a set of images and asked to indicate which they had previously seen. The participants had excellent recall for the odor-paired images, and researchers believe that's because additional parts of the brain were activated when participants were asked to use more than one sense.

Memory loss is not an inevitable side effect of aging, especially for adults who take steps to maintain their memories as they age.

Did You Know?

Health screenings are a vital component of preventative health care. Specific screenings for older adults can help them stay healthy. Healthline and WebMD recommend older adults schedule these routine tests. The frequency of the screenings may depend on individuals' health histories, so each test should be discussed with a physician during adults' annual checkups.

- Blood pressure check
- Blood test to check cholesterol and triglyceride levels
- Colorectal cancer exam starting at age 50
- Weight screening to check for gains or losses
- Prostate cancer screening for men age 70 and older
- Breast exam and mammogram for women, starting at age 40
- Pap smear and HPV tests at the recommended intervals advised by a doctor
- Hearing test
- Osteoporosis test
- Shingles and pneumococcal vaccines
- Eye exam
- Periodontal exam once per year



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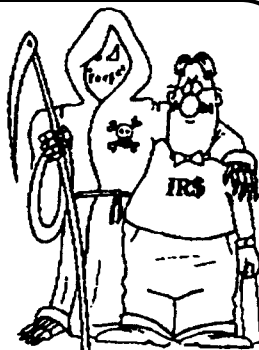
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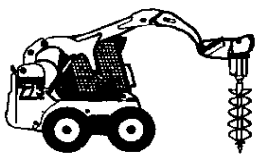
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Sports

Wolfpack's Zach Koerner Named All-Area Golfer of the Year

LAINGSBURG — Wolfpack All-Stater Zach Koerner is once again Shiawassee area Golfer of the Year, as named by the Owosso Argus-Press.

Koerner carded a record-setting golf season as a Laingsburg senior in 2021, and was joined by Ovid-Elsie's Tyler Bancroft and Adam Barton on the All-Area Team. Ovid-Elsie's Cal Byrnes, Dylan Carman, Clay Wittenberg, and Laingsburg's James Nixon were selected to the Honorable Mention contingent.

Koerner broke his own school record with an 18-hole score of 66. He reigned as the individual Central Michigan Athletic Conference champion for the third time, won medalist honors at the Tullymore Invitational with a 67, and captured All-State honors. Zach also tied for second place at the Dick's Sporting Goods Invitational in Perry with a 74.

He follows up his All-Area Boys Golfer of the year award in 2019 with his outstanding showing this season.

Bancroft, a junior at Ovid-Elsie, captured first-team honors in the MMAC. He shot 97 to finish sixth at the MMAC Postseason Tournament. Bancroft shot 91 to place sixth at the MMAC Preseason. Bancroft was 30th at the Division 3 regionals.

Barton, also a Marauder junior, averaged in the mid 40s for nine holes. He placed fifth at the MMAC Preseason Tournament with a 90 at Twin Brooks. Barton placed seventh at the MMAC Postseason with a 98. Barton was 39th at the Division 3 regionals.

Koerner's junior golf season was taken away due to COVID-19, but Zach enjoyed a spectacular senior season. He said he is looking forward to continuing his golf career at Ferris State University.

Laingsburg golf coach Greg Beavers said Koerner's achievements won't be forgotten, saying he truly left a mark at the school.

"He has a great mental game for golf," Beavers said. "He had a good first day at states and was in second place. And then just struggled a little bit the second day. Still not a bad showing. He broke our school record twice (in his career)."

GOLFER OF THE YEAR

Zach Koerner, Laingsburg, senior

Koerner reigned as the individual champion of the Central Michigan Athletic Conference for the third year. He re-broke his own school record with a round of 66 at Huckleberry Creek Golf Course in Pewamo during a CMAC meet with six birdies and an eagle. Koerner won the Tullymore Invitational with a round of 67. He was a regional runner-up with a 73 and tied for eighth place in the state at the Division 3 state finals.

FIRST TEAM: Elijah Beland, Durand, senior; Nick Crowe, Corunna, junior; Noah Ruddy, New Lothrop, senior; Jacob Johnson, Durand, junior; Gabe Salsgiver, New Lothrop, senior

SECOND TEAM: Jon Mazza, Owosso, freshman; Blake Rowe, Corunna, junior; Tyler Bancroft, Ovid-Elsie, junior; Jaden James, Chesaning, junior; Adam Barton, Ovid-Elsie, junior

HONORABLE MENTION: Kyle Stroub, Durand; Gavin Powell, Durand; Jack Lamb, Perry; Tyler Webb, Perry; Caleb Woerner, Perry; Cal Byrnes, Ovid-Elsie; Dylan Carman, Ovid-Elsie; Clay Wittenberg, Ovid-Elsie; Addison James, Chesaning; James Nixon, Laingsburg.



Zach Koerner

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