

Rachel Rodriguez to Perform at Amphitheater

by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg
Correspondent

LAINGSBURG - On Wednesday, July 21st, Señora Rachel Rodriguez will be presenting a special event for Children and those “young at heart” or want to “feel young and joyful” are invited to a FREE performance sponsored by the Laingsburg Public Library: Songs for My Little Amigos-Bilingual Song & Storytime. At 2:00pm sharp at McClintock Park Amphitheater.

Using stories, music and dance, Señora Rachel inspires children to imagine their own stories. Her story, like the characters in her books, is one filled with dreams of using music to build a strong community. Children will learn some Spanish, hear a story, dance, and sing! All are invited.

On Friday, July 23rd at 7:00pm Señora Rachel Rodriguez and local Musician friends will be the Musical entertainment for “Fridays Summer of Music” in the McClintock Park Amphitheater. Sponsored by Wirostek Lighting and Spirit Expressions and Laingsburg Business & Community Association. Bring a Chair and enjoy your evening with an accomplished talent with a full time career as a favorite musical entertainer from Nashville, Tennessee.

If her name sounds familiar, she grew up in Michigan with her talented family training her voice with the influence of her father’s Band singing traditional Mariachi and Country Music. Her parents are Ray and Yolanda Rodriguez of Ovid. Her role models and musical influences were her father and support of her family. She was singing in Honky Tonks, at Fiestas and Festival and family events all over Michigan her entire childhood. It was her destiny to find her voice, write music and become a talented star on her own, which took her to “Music City.”

According to the Laingsburg Music in McClintock Park Amphitheater organizer, Gale Geasler, Musical Chairperson stated that, “The community is excited to bring this musical performer to entertain in our new Amphitheater. My granddaughter and I had the opportunity to meet Rachel and her daughter in Nashville, Tennessee on a recent trip and we are honored she accepted our invitation to sing in Laingsburg and share her talent.”

Also instrumental in getting this very special musical talent to share her voice in our community was Jack Clarkson, who stated, “Ms. Rachel is a major player in the Nashville music scene, playing with national class musicians regularly and repeatedly serving as the face and voice for music and ethnic diversity. She learned her trade from one of the Michigan’s top performers for decades, Dad Ray Rodriguez.”

Señora Rachel has taken her musical roots and created a style of her own. The combination of her Latino heritage, Rock ‘n’ Roll attitude, and soulful voice give her a unique sound. Her eclectic blend of Latin, Rock, Country and Soul is a vibrant soundscape, shining a light on Nashville’s diverse musical and cultural community.

As an entrepreneur, Señora Rachel is the creator and founder of “Songs for My Little Amigos”. Inspired by the desire to introduce her own children to Spanish and their Latino heritage, Rachel wrote and recorded a bilingual children’s album called “Songs for My Little Amigos”.

After the release of her children’s CD, she created a Bilingual Music and Movement program to accompany and enhance the music. Rachel provides services for and collaborates with educators and organizations seeking to offer culturally diverse enrichment programs. conducting workshops, bilingual story times, and presenting her program at local schools, daycares,

continued on page 2



Elsie Village Council Proceedings

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE – The regular meeting of the Elsie Village Council was held Tuesday, July 13, 2021. The evening was highlighted by the updating of the Village Ordinances and discussion on the fate of the former Dorman Galley.

Shane Grinnell, Village Manager, presented the Introduction of Ordinance 175, the new, updated Village of Elsie Code Book. It was recommended that officials review the document before the August regular meeting. A special meeting will be held at 6:45 prior to the August regular meeting and then the second public hearing in September with an effective date of October 1, 2021. Copies are available upon request. It was noted that the biggest change is the addition of a spread sheet in the back of the book that outlines the fees for services including but not limited to water bills, cemetery lots, violation of ordinance fees, with a recommendation to review annually. Officials can then make amendments to the fee page instead of addressing the entire ordinance book. Municode updated the ordinances at a cost of \$8,000 and once adopted will be available on the website. Officials noting that it was time to have the entire document updated.

This was an evening of updates, Shane Grinnell, notified officials that the web page will be updated and is looking for Village officials to offer suggestions. It was recommended that officials look at other municipalities sites and refer those ideas to Grinnell. More to come.

Next, Tom Frink, president, addressed Chapter 11, Article 3, sidewalks. I response to a concern voiced by a resident on E. Pine Street. The current state of the sidewalks in the Village is a safety concern for the elderly and children. Currently, by ordinance, residents are obligated to pay one-half of the cost of residential sidewalk replacement. There is a concern regarding the ability of residents to pay their portion. It was noted that in the recent past officials had not been charging but prioritizing the sidewalks, the Village is not able to continue this practice.

Intense discussion followed. Some in favor of the ordinance, others feeling that it is unfair and residents could lose their home over a sidewalk. It was further noted that officials after notified will have 20 days to pay their portion or the cost will be added to the resident’s property taxes.

The Dorman House discussion was next item on the agenda. Social media is indicating that the Village is going to bulldoze the house and install a \$40,000 billboard and many other rumors. Nothing has been decided and these are rumors. In addition, officials discuss many topics and it does not mean all the ideas and suggestions come to pass.

Options were discussed for example an individual purchasing the building for a business, an individual interested in moving it and one option to demolish the building. Mrs. Phyllis Acre, member of the Arts Council, and a former resident was present to discuss the fate as well. Options were further discussed. It was recommended that a committee be established to develop options for the building and the site. Overall the Village wants to prevent the facility from falling into disrepair. Committee members are Dorothy Ornelas, Todd Carroll, and Sam Frink. All meetings will be open to the public.

Officials also took action to assume the liability of the property located at 120 S. Ovid, known as the Dorman Gallery due to the surrender of the property to the Village of Elsie. The property was released by the Elsie Arts Council and returned to the responsibility of the Village of Elsie.

Rumors are escalating regarding the “Code Enforcement” car why it was purchased, where it is used, and who is using it. The car was a police cruiser but is now used to conduct village business in lieu of paying employees mileage when using personal vehicles. The Village is transparent the regular meetings and committee are public, and stories written monthly.

Shane Grinnell, village manager, recommended that Matt Spencer be hired as a full-time, permanent Department of Public Works employee. This action was requested due to the recent reduction in hours by Brad Sutliff.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda as amended with the removal of the manager’s report and the addition of Matt to DPW report, the minutes of the June 8, 2021 meeting, monthly police department report and the financial reports. Officials took action to pay expenditures totaling \$93,239.84.

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Social

10th Annual Golf Outing

The Ovid-Elsie Golf fund raising golf outing will hold its 10th annual event on Saturday, July 24th. 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 muligan 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.

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Rachel cont' from front

libraries, and museums.

Señora Rachel is passionate about nurturing creativity, promoting culture appreciation, and sharing her love of the Performing Arts. Nothing makes her happier than watching people, of ALL ages, experience the joy of music and dance.

In addition to Señora Rachel's roles as wife, mother, teaching artist, coach, and performer; she volunteers at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Musicians on Call, and is an alumni member of the Women's Music Business Association.

Join your neighbors and friends for an evening of musical fun on Friday, July 23rd. Food will be provided by Dairy Den and the Big Cheese Grill. There is limited parking at both ends of the park. Parking at the Middle school, Roosevelt Row and on some side streets. Handicapped stickers required to park in the marked spots. Drop off are allowed but please exit your vehicle safely and allow extra time to be careful.



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For more information, contact
Rachel Rodriguez:
rachelrodriguezbooking@hotmail.com
www.rachelrodriguez.com
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Laingsburg Summer Movie Slate

LAINGSBURG — Free movies have returned McClintock Park with a bang. The Movies in the Park series kicked off with “Trolls World Tour” July 7 and runs Wednesday evenings through Aug. 11.

This year marks the 13th installation of the annual series, organized by the Laingsburg Area Recreation Committee. The movie schedule was delayed and ultimately canceled last year amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Movies will begin each Wednesday at dusk, though activities downtown will actually start much earlier. The Jack Clarkson Band will offer live music beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesdays outside of Twilinger's Tavern; the Laingsburg Farmers Market runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays nearby along Roosevelt Row; and food trucks will occupy the park every Wednesday, serving up fresh offerings to patrons.

In years past, movie screenings followed the city's annual Music in the Park concert series, but with the addition of the new amphitheater, the weekly concerts have transitioned to Fridays.

For more information on Movies in the Park, visit facebook.com/laingsburgmoviesinthepark. The rest of this year's Movies in the Park lineup includes: July 21 — “Toy Story 4”; July 28 — “Dolittle”; Aug. 4 — “Tom & Jerry”; Aug. 11 — “Frozen II”

Sign up for Bike to Build 2021

submitted by Dawn Parker

The event mid-Michigan cyclists look forward to returns for its 12th year on Sat., Aug. 7.

Bike to Build will again start from Northpointe Community Church, 505 E. Webb Road, DeWitt.

The ride, which regularly attracts cyclists of all ages, gives riders a choice of routes between 20, 35, 50 and 75 miles and everywhere in between, all in one day!

The \$35 entry fee includes access to up to five rest stops and lunch. Anyone registering before July 15 will receive a complimentary Bike to Build t-shirt.

The event is a major annual fundraiser for Habitat.

All proceeds further the mission of providing safe, decent and affordable housing to people in need through its house-building, critical home repair and wheelchair ramp programs. To learn more, call 989-227-1771, option 3.

Look for more information about registering at www.cghabitat.org.

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Obituaries

Editorial

Continue on
page 4

Celebration of Life

Paul Grinnell, age 65 of Ovid, was born on April 4, 1955, he passed away Saturday, July 25, 2020. A celebration of Paul's life will be held on Sunday, July 25, 2021 at Bannister Bar, 219 Main Street, Bannister, Michigan 48807.

A Memorial Celebration of Life will be held for Paul Hurley Grinnell on Sunday, July 25, 2021 beginning at 2pm at the Bannister Bar, 219 Main Street, Bannister, Michigan.



Josephine "Jo" MacLennan

Josephine "Jo" MacLennan, age 81, of Bannister, MI, passed away Monday, July 12, 2021, at her home surrounded by her family.

Josephine was born in Hamilton Township, MI on September 4, 1939, the daughter of John and Anna (Hudecz) Sipka. Jo married James Walker MacLennan on October 19, 1957, in Ithaca, MI. They celebrated 53 years of marriage prior to James' passing on December 2, 2010.

Jo worked at Wolverine Worldwide in Ithaca for many years until she went to work for Ashley Public Schools in the maintenance department. She also managed and maintained the Chapin Township Hall. She enjoyed talking on the phone, spending time with family, baking, playing cards and trips to the casino. She also liked feeding the birds, bowling, taking trips and spending everyday together with Jim. She was an active member of East Washington United Brethren Church.

She is survived by her daughters: Pam and Larry Phillips of Chesaning, MI, Penny MacLennan of Saginaw, MI, grandchildren: Jamie (Ryan) Neitling, Jeremy (Carrie) Phillips, Carissa MacLennan (Brandon), and Kady MacLennan; great-grandchildren: Lani, Maverick, Braydon, and Rayne, sister JoAnn and Larry Beard of Ithaca, MI, sisters-in-law: Barb Sipka of Cedar Springs, MI, Phyllis and Daryl Smith of Ithaca, MI, Janet MacLennan of Ashley, MI, brother-in-law Rick MacLennan of Edmore, MI. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and love of her life Jim, brothers: Andrew Sipka and Edward Sipka Sr., father and mother-in-law John and Lillian MacLennan, brothers-in-law: Bob MacLennan Sr. and Jack MacLennan, and sisters-in-law: Gloria Keck and Lori MacLennan.

Funeral Services was held at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI, Wednesday, July 14, 2021, with Pastor Jeff Reser officiating. Burial has taken place at Ford Cemetery, Gratiot County, MI. Memorials may be made to East Washington United Brethren Church 8051 South Crapo Road Ashley, MI 48806. Online condolences can be sent to www.smithfamilyfuneral-homes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.



Remember When 'Weekend of Fun, Fellowship and Food'

LAINGSBURG -- Time to play, party and dance! Are you registered for the 2021 All-LHS class reunion scheduled for Saturday, August 21st yet?

Games and fellowship are from 12-4 pm. Dinner program from 4-7:30 pm and an ol' time sock hop from 8-10:30 pm.

They will also be kicking off their Laingsburg Alumni Legacy Association (LALA) program that evening!

Registration forms are available at the Laingsburg Post Office or by contacting one of the staff members listed below. Deadline to register is August 9th – so SOCK HOP TO IT.

The 'Welcome Home' contacts include: Tom Turek (810) 241-1007, tomturek@20032003@yahoo.com; Ken Walters (517) 402-7146, kgwalters45@gmail.com; or Frank Mallon (248) 348-5189, foxtrot@mi.rr.com.





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There Is Never a Good Time To Say Goodbye

Dear Andy, Our 13 year old family dog has been lethargic and acting old for the last couple of weeks. We took her to the Vet and she gave us meds to make her "final" days comfortable. We cannot decide if we should have her put down or continue to spend more money on expensive x-rays, blood work and testing or procedures to prolong her life. How do we know when is the right time to say goodbye? Dog Days Nearly Gone

Dear Dog Days, I know you love your family pet very much. They are a member of the family and it is difficult to let go. There is no good time to say goodbye. If money is no object Michigan State University Veterinarian Clinic have specialist in cancer, heart, or any organ that might be failing. If you decide not to spend what could be in the thousands of dollars you're going to feel bad because it's just money. However, when a dog starts to decline, it can happen quickly and if you wait until the discomfort is painful and you cannot bare the pain; it's also going to feel bad; either choice, you're going to feel bad. Sadly, it may be time to euthanize your pet. Your local veterinarian can help you in making the decision.

I have poem from a friend entitled: A Dogs Prayer – Thank you my beloved friend for your kind treatment. No heart in the entire world is more grateful for your kindness and love for me. Your voice is the sweetest music to my ears, as you must know by my fierce wagging tail. When your footsteps fall upon my waiting ear, I am always near and hope you never cease talking to me for I will always be listening. You keep me safe from the cold and bitter world; there is no greater glory then the privilege of sitting at your feet keeping you company. You keep my pan filled with fresh water, even though I cannot tell you I am thirsty. You feed me good food so I have energy to play and walk by your side, willing and able to protect you with my life had there ever been a need. Remember our walks and all our talks. I will always treasure them. Now that I no longer am in good health and we know I am dying, do not make a heroic effort to keep me going; I am not having fun anymore. Please see that my life is gently taken as I leave this earth, knowing with my last breath I draw that my fate was safest in your hands. Goodbye my friend, I loved you unconditionally. Your dog.

Dear Reader, I am so sorry for your sadness. When I look into my pets eyes, I feel a friend and see a living soul. One day we all have to say goodbye. I recently heard of a book entitled: Signs from Pets in the After Life by Lynn Regan. You may find some comfort in reading it. Andy

P.S. For my friend and dear neighbor who will understand this message is especially for you and your family. You can borrow my kittens when the grandchildren come to visit to help cheer them up. Andy



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



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Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Harvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
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160 W. Main St., Elsie (989) 862-5239

Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
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Facebook or Youtube
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laingsburgumc@gmail.com
www.laingsburgumc.org

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

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

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...

Editorial

I'm dealing with a heavy duty guilt complex this week. Why? The answer being that I did not get a column written last week. It would be fair to say that I was very busy last week but I freaked out a bit on Friday morning as I was going to pick up supplies at the Allen Paper Company in Owosso. One of those neurons in my brain failed to make a normal synapsis and apparently it was not uppermost in my mind. Granted, I did get the Parable published for the charge and mailed out two hundred and thirteen copies, and yes I got the bulletins out but I did make a couple of mistakes. My ego would like to say that it isn't so.....but I made the mistakes. And yes, I did bake for two different Farmer's Markets and attended them both.....Oh, I also worked on the food trailer much of Wednesday.

Saturday afternoon when the St John's market was closed I went to the bank and then to Wally World to pick up the necessary fixings for baking a bunch of cookies. I also picked up the rest of Brent's birthday gift to take to his fiftieth birthday party. His friends had a great time focusing upon his great age. They gave him a walker trimmed out Hawaiian style. I made it to the party after taking a two hour nap, wrapping his gift, preparing fresh pineapple, and slicing a couple of loaves of pineapple based quick breads. I had a wonderful time schmoozing with Robin and now have to get together with her shortly to donate the promised material for making quilts at her church.

I got home shortly after ten and went to bed.....slept until one Sunday afternoon. Stayed up for a couple of hours and slept for another six. I finally went to bed at 11:30 PM Sunday night and snoozed thru until 6:30 AM on Monday morning. I do believe that my thyroid meds are not working well.....no one can sleep that much (maybe a depressed person could). I don't believe that I have any of those symptoms. So, I have made an appointment with my doctor, of course nothing can be simple. I must see the doctor before I can have the tests.....the fact that I'm exhausted is minimal. Why would I the patient have any insight as to what the problem is? My guess is that he will want to do a 'fasting' blood test, which is okay with me, I won't eat anything next Wednesday morning when I have the appointment.....then I can get the blood drawn without making another trip to Ithaca.

I've been scrubbing the filters above the grill from the food trailer. I believe that they are almost sparkling clean now.....I have managed to remove most of the old grease stains. They are a real pain to clean. I wish that there was some special formula to getting the crud off from them. I've come to the conclusion that it is at least three parts elbow grease to one part hot soapy water. The soapy water is so hot that my hands seem to wither up when dipped into the solution. Thank goodness for the curly steel pads that I use to scrub the greasy surface. And yes, I do hate doing the scrubbing!!!

Dang it, I now need to get packed for our three day excursion at the Remus Tractor Pull. We are fortunate that we have a fifth wheeler to stay in (that's in case we really do have an opportunity to sleep). It will be a good place to relax but probably not a place to take a much needed nap. I still need to clean out my pickup and finish bagging cookies, I have an order for fifty dozen and half are finished. Prudence isn't going to be happy because she will be left at home with the cats and William. This morning we are making a meat run to Wilson's and then I have to take a quick trip into Sears. It would appear that I will be having another busy day. If it was dry out I would be mowing my lawn, I certainly don't want the mini-vampires coming back to feast as I mow. The ditches are dry so maybe their incursion is done for the summer.

Take the time to visit with your friends and family, even if you have to make a quick run back to your house shut off the stove (I'll share that story some other time). May your days be filled with peace and may you be able to move well and enjoy the view. Fill your life with laughter and just maybe you have a young Izzy to meet that requirement. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2021



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Ruger 10/22 Must Haves

The Ruger 10/22 rifle will probably be the most reliable and mass produced .22 LR semi-automatic ever produced. If you are the past or current owner of this rifle you know that it hums no matter what ammo it is fed and the aftermarket accessories are almost endless when it comes to stocks, barrels, triggers, bases, magazines, etc. You can actually build a 10/22 from scratch with aftermarket parts. Some owners like to maintain the original rifle and others spend 2-3 times in value to improve accuracy and or tactical functionality. With the uncertainty of the future political climate on both the state and federal level consider upgrading your 10/22 in three areas; stock, magazine, and trigger group. The last time there was an "assault weapons ban" the supply of magazines and stocks dried up very quickly and tripled in value almost overnight.

When it comes to stocks consider models that have folding or collapsible features along with pistol grips. Costs range from \$75 to \$300 but quickly turn your 10/22 into a quick handling micro looking black rifle. Save your old wooden or fiberglass stock so if you choose to go back to the original you can in a matter of minutes.

Right now 10/22's come with a very reliable detachable 10 round magazine. Over the years many companies have made 35-30 round plastic banana magazines. Some were decent and a few were pure junk. Ruger now markets 15 and 25 round magazines that can be disassembled for cleaning and lubrication. Sold under the names BX15 and BX25 they are packaged in blister packs alone or in pairs. Some of the BX25's are permanently coupled together. Expect to pay around \$25 for the BX15 and over \$50 for a pair of BX25's. WARNING: These magazines make shooting at the range a real blast but make sure to budget some extra money for ammo.

There are a lot of trigger groups that offer improved trigger pull and accuracy with match grade hammers and sears but unless you are in a serious competitive shooting league or like to take headshots on woodchucks at over 100 yards consider saving money. If you want to just have fun and throw more lead down range at a quicker rate and still stay legal, consider a Franklin Armory Binary Trigger System. Although this semi-auto trigger has been outlawed in some states it is still legal in Michigan. With some tools, skill, and \$300 you can install this three position trigger that allows the 10/22 to shoot regularly in position 2 but in position 3 it will fire when the trigger is both pulled and then released. In essence it remains a legal semi-automatic but the firing rate of speed is slightly doubled. The best feature is the ability to switch from position 3 to position 2 after the trigger has been pulled but not yet released. It is probably just a matter of time before this trigger becomes outlawed.

Whether you decide to alter your 10/22 with one or many of the aftermarket accessories mentioned above you will definitely increase the value of your firearm and make shooting a lot of fun!

-WS



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster

theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

OID TOWNSHIP SEEKING SUPERVISOR

The Statutory requirement for holding township board elective office is a candidate must be a qualified elector of the township and registered to vote. To be a qualified elector, a person must be 18 years of age, a U.S. Citizen, and have lived in the township at least 30 days. MCL 168.11 and 168.342.

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Notice of Public Hearing City of Laingsburg

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR THE RENTAL REHABILITATION PROJECT

The City of Laingsburg will conduct a public hearing on August 2, 2021 at 7:15pm at 114 N. Woodhull Street, City of Laingsburg Council Chambers for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to examine and submit comments on the proposed application for a CDBG grant.

The City of Laingsburg proposes to request \$111,071 in CDBG funds to do a Rental Rehabilitation at 205 E. Grand River, converting 1500 square feet of vacant space into two rental units. The project owner will provide a \$38,258 in matching funds. The project will fill a need to increase the residential density in downtown Laingsburg, by providing two new units that did not previously exist. 51% (one) of units will be rented to a low to moderate income person. There will be zero persons displaced as a result of the proposed activities.

Further information, including a copy of the City of Laingsburg's Community Development Plan and CDBG application is available for review. To inspect the documents, please contact Paula Willoughby at 517-651-6101 or review at the City Offices at 114 N. Woodhull, Laingsburg, MI 48848. Comments may be submitted in writing through Friday, July 30, 2021 or made in person at the public hearing.

The City has previously received CDBG funding and experienced only positive feedback with the City's Performance in prior CDBG programs funded by the State.

Citizen views and comments on the proposed application are welcome.

*City of Laingsburg
Paula Willoughby, Clerk/Treasurer
517-651-6101*

Meridian Weekly

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VILLAGE OF ELSIE RESIDENTS: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Ordinance # 175

The Village of Elsie is holding Public Hearings on **Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:45pm** and **Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:45pm**. The meetings are taking place at the Duplain Township Hall located at 145 W. Main St. The purpose is to discuss the adoption of the 2021 update for the Village Code Book of Ordinances for the Village of Elsie.

*Thank You,
Susan Lightner
Village Clerk*

Health

Tick Season is Here - Michiganders Urged to Prevent Tick Bites

submitted by Chelsea Wuth

LANSING— The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is encouraging Michigan residents to take steps to avoid tick bites when enjoying the outdoors this summer. Tick-borne diseases, particularly Lyme disease and anaplasmosis, are increasing across the state.

Lyme disease, caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*, is the most common tick-borne disease in Michigan. Anaplasmosis, caused by the bacteria *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*, is the second most common tick-borne disease in Michigan, and cases are increasing – particularly in the state’s Upper Peninsula.

Both Lyme disease and anaplasmosis are transmitted by *Ixodes scapularis*, commonly known as the blacklegged or deer tick. The blacklegged tick is well-established in parts of Michigan’s Upper and Lower Peninsulas and has been found in new regions over the past few years. Information about Lyme disease risk by county is available at Michigan.gov/lyme.

“Preventing tick bites is the best way to prevent tick-borne diseases, including Lyme disease and anaplasmosis,” said Dr. Mary Grace Stobierski, MDHHS Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Diseases manager. “If you find a tick attached to your body, promptly remove it. Monitor your health and if you experience fever, rash, muscle or joint aches or other symptoms, consult with your medical provider.”

Signs and symptoms of tick-borne disease typically begin one to two weeks after a tick bite or being in wooded or brushy areas where ticks commonly live. Early symptoms can be non-specific and include fever or chills, rash, headache, fatigue and muscle aches. Early treatment with appropriate antibiotics can decrease the risk of serious complications.

- Protect yourself and your family against tick-borne diseases by following these tips:
- Avoid tick-infested areas:
 - As ticks live in grassy, brushy, and wooded areas, walk in the center of trails to avoid contact with overgrown grass, brush and leaf litter at trail edges.
 - Protect your pets – dogs and cats can come into contact with ticks outdoors and bring them into the home. Talk with your veterinarian about the best tick prevention products for your pet.
 - Use insect repellent:
 - Apply repellent containing DEET or Picaridin on exposed skin.
 - Treat clothes (especially pants, socks and shoes) with permethrin, which kills ticks on contact or buy clothes that are pre-treated. Do not use permethrin directly on skin.
 - Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions when applying repellents.
 - Perform daily tick checks:
 - Always check for ticks on yourself and your animals after being outdoors, even in your own

- yard.
- Inspect all body surfaces carefully and remove attached ticks with tweezers.
- To remove a tick, grasp the tick firmly and as closely to the skin as possible. With a steady motion, pull the tick’s body away from the skin. Cleanse the area with an antiseptic.
- Bathe or shower:
- Bathe or shower as soon as possible after coming indoors (within two hours) to wash off and more easily find ticks that are crawling on you.
- Wash clothing in hot water and dry on high heat to help kill ticks in clothing.
- Not all ticks spread the same germs. MDHHS can help to identify ticks you may encounter outdoors. Residents can email photos of ticks to MDHHS-Bugs@michigan.gov for identification. Michiganders can also submit ticks to MDHHS for identification free of charge. For more information on how to submit your tick and/or photos, visit Michigan.gov/lyme.
- The MDHHS Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Diseases Section has recently released a report "Michigan Trends in Tickborne Disease, 2016-2020," which includes up-to-date information on the types of ticks that are common in Michigan and the diseases they can carry.
- Visit CDC.gov/ticks for additional information.

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Photos by Deb Price, Elaine Crosby, Dairy Festival Volunteers and Laura Braun.

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Health

Memorial Healthcare’s Online Medical Portal Now Available for 0-17 Years of Age

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Memorial Healthcare’s online patient portal, M-Health, is now available for patients 0-17 years of age. You’ll be able to request appointments and prescription refills, have access to lab and radiology reports, message your provider and more!

Who is eligible to participate in Memorial Healthcare’s M-Health online medical record portal? Eligibility requirements include:

- 0-12 Years of Age
- Patients ages 0-12 must not have a personal email address on file.
- Parent/guardian must have their portal account set up prior to having their child(ren) added to their portal account.

- Parent/guardian must complete a consent form which is available from your medical provider’s office or from Memorial Healthcare’s Medical Records Department. More than one parent/guardian may request access to the medical record. Please discuss this with your medical provider’s office.

13-17 Years of Age

- Patients 13-17 years of age may have access to their personal medical record when they sign up with an email address different from their parent/guardian.
- If a patient age 13-17 wants to grant access of their medical record to a parent/legal guardian, a signed authorization form must be on file with our Medical Records Department.
- This authorization form can be obtained from your medical provider’s office or from Memorial Healthcare’s Medical Records Department.

18+ Years of Age

- The Memorial Healthcare M-Health online medical record portal is available to all Memorial Healthcare patients 18 years and older.

Please visit <https://bit.ly/3js2rvO> for options on enrolling into the portal.

Our eyes are a very complex organ with many components; retina, cornea, Iris, lens, blood vessels, muscles, pupil, and much more.

This is one organ that many people take for granted. The ability we have to see is just another function that the human body does automatically for us. Sure, many people have adjustments made through wearing glasses, contacts and sometimes even surgery, but for the most part, we don’t think about our eyes until they need care.

This organ allows us to view the beauty of earth and life itself. Taking in multiple shades of colors, shapes, textures and more. Our eyes translate messages to our brain, making it easy to learn, teach, function and enjoy life in the world as we know it.

- The eyes are each surrounded by several muscles;
- Superior Rectus - which moves the eyes upward.
 - Inferior Rectus - which moves the eyes downward.
 - Superior Oblique - rotates the eye in a circular motion, downward and outward.
 - Inferior Oblique - rotates the eye in a circular motion, upward and outward.
 - Medial Rectus - pulls the eye toward the nose.
 - Lateral Rectus - moves the eye outward.

Each one of these muscles has its own job in controlling the direction of movement in the eye. Working simultaneously, the muscles keep both eyes going in the same direction. These muscles engage every time the eye moves, looking up, down, left, right, and rotating the eyes in a circular motion, both ways.

Exercising these muscles can help improve eye strain, light sensitivity, blurred vision, focusing, drifting eyes, even headaches in many cases and a lot more.

Now, as with any workout or exercise program, you should consult your healthcare provider, doctor, or health professional before beginning. This even applies for eye exercises because of the difference in eye conditions, age of the person, and the variety of exercises available.

It’s important for the muscles around the eyes to stay healthy and strong. You can ask your doctor which exercises are best for you and why. Here are a few different types of eye exercises that can be beneficial for eye care and health but as always ask your doctor before starting.

- 20-20-20 rule:
Take a break every 20 minutes, focus on something that is 20 feet away, for 20 seconds.
- Palm Relaxation:
Close your eyes and place your cupped palms over your eyes, without applying any pressure, for 30 seconds or until the afterimages turn to black.

- Eye Rolls:
Without moving the head and only moving the eyes, look up, look down, then look right and left. Do this slowly, several times. You can even look diagonally top left, top right, bottom left, bottom right and circle the eyes.

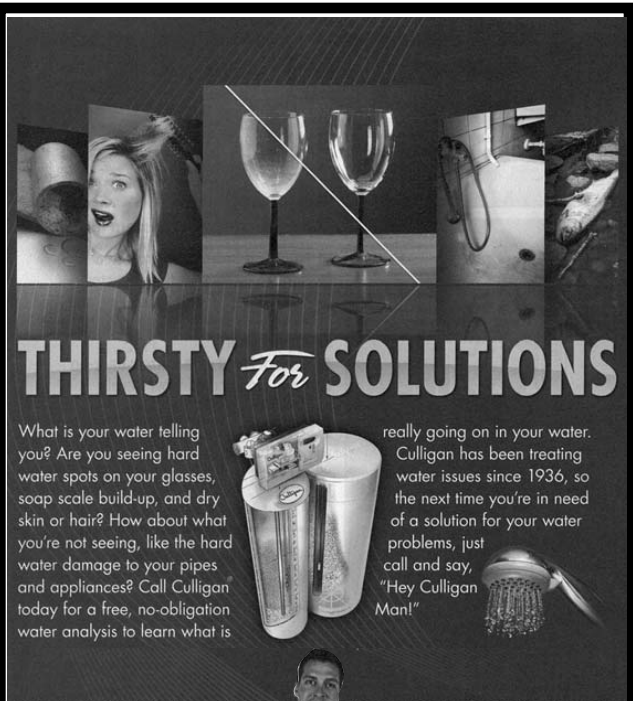
- Near and Far:
Hold a thumb up near the face and the other thumb farther away. For 2 seconds each, focus on the closest thumb, then the farther thumb, then move focus to something further away across the room then focus on something even farther away, like across the yard or road. (If glasses are worn, remove them for this).

Now these are only a few examples of exercises that can be helpful for the eyes and muscles but it is a start to becoming healthier. Eye tension can create a lot of problems for many people and cause different health issues like headaches and migraines. So be sure to take care of your eyes and not to take them for granted. After all, it’s said that “the eyes are the window to the soul”. That statement should make everyone want to look after their eyes. It’s important to keep the eyes strong and healthy, so they’ll shine bright and beautifully.

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DuPlain Township Proceedings

by Dawn D. Levey

DUPLAIN – The regular meeting of DuPlain Township was held Wednesday, July 14, 2021. A presentation was made by Planning and Building & Zoning Community Development by Doug Riley and staff.

Doug Riley, Clinton County Community Development Administrator, Joel Hariland, Zoning, Building and Soil Erosion Administrator; and Jessica Plesko, Planning & Permit Technician, provided a presentation regarding community development. The department covers zoning enforcement, building permits and inspections, erosion and land usage. Every five years the county updates the Clinton County Comprehensive Planning and Zoning Plan with a focus on land use. A part of the planning is based on the census, however, that information has been delayed, and may be available October 2021. A power point presentation was given that was DuPlain Township specific. The presentation indicated home starts are increasing, the recent average is four new starts per year. A future public land use map was reviewed. It was noted that agricultural preservation is encouraged in DuPlain Township. “Good planning does not stop at boundaries,” commented Riley. Discussion followed regarding some re-designation, specifically east of the Village limits. Bruce Levey, supervisor, recommended that a mixed use designation for the parcels. The rational being that there is access to the railroad, water and sewer. Another area to re-designate is the Rochester Lake area. The Commission will address the re-designations for all eleven counties at one time and a public hearing will be scheduled at a later date. A final decision will be made at the end of the year.

Construction has been consistent throughout Clinton County even through the pandemic. Zoning enforcement continues, currently no cases in DuPlain Township. Soil erosion permits have been issued for the Houska swine operation, which is checked regularly. The biggest complaint during the pandemic was free range chickens in subdivisions.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, the minutes of the June 9, 2021 regular meeting, and financial reports. Officials took formal action to approve expenditures totaling \$29,633.95 and fire runs five at \$500 each for a total of \$2,500

Officials then completed the paperwork for the American Rescue Act funds, use will be determined at a later date as details and criteria become available.

Still Time to Register Your Mint Festival Weekend Garage Sale

submitted by Brenda Terpening

If you are planning to hold a Garage Sale during the Mint Festival Weekend (Aug 13-15) you can register it with the festival and receive extra publicity. For a \$10 fee your sale will be listed on Facebook with the other registered sales, it will be listed on flyers that will be available to pick up on the festival grounds and each sale will receive 25 flyers to hand out to shoppers that list all the sales.

The Garage Sale application is available to print off at www.clintoncountychamber.org/mint, or you can call (989-224-7248) or email (ccchamber@4wbi.net) the Chamber for a copy. All applications are due back to the Chamber office by Friday, July 23, 2021.



Happy Trails for Three Sisters from Ovid

submitted by Delores Myers Wilson

What wonderful fun to have our family reunion on horseback riding trails in New York. We also visited the grave of our great-great grandfather who settled in New York from Germany, and fought in the Revolutionary War. His son came to Michigan, fought in the Civil War, and bought land on Kinley Rd. where he built a home and raised our grandfather. That is where our father George Myers and Ann, Sandra, and I grew up.

We each developed a strong love of horses and riding. It was in our genes. Our father and Uncle Jack (who died in World War II) showed their horses at the State Fair in Detroit. Our mother Grace Hughson Myers taught us to love horses but be careful.

Her grandmother had died in a horse accident. When our mother was carried to her final resting place at Maple Grove Cemetery, it was in a hearse pulled by 2 black horses.

As a little girl Ann rode her pony to Sherburn School. Ann and Sandra were involved in 4-H, trail riding, and training horses. I took a different route with a special interest in dressage when Aunt Mary (Mary Myers Museum on William St.) and I took a trip to Ireland and went to the Dublin Horse Show.

Ann, as a missionary in Africa, rode horses where people had never seen horses and they even wondered if horses were to be eaten. Sandra's first hospital experience was with a compound arm fracture when she came off her pony. She has gone on to rescue and train wild mustangs and help the horses become very useful and special partners.

Our reunion on horseback was one of the best times ever. It rates up there with a visit to Tom's Western Store. Each day of our lives begins with feeding and caring for God's wonderful creatures, our horses.

Ovid Middlebury Fire Department Can/Bottle Drive

The Ovid Middlebury Fire department will be holding a can and bottle drive. Please bring bottles and cans in a bag and place them in the green trailer that is sitting in front of the Fire station at 1045 Baese Court. The money raised will be used for further purchases of equipment and special items needed by the fire department.

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.

Memorial Healthcare is Hosting Three Career Fairs

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso— HIRING EVENT! Memorial Healthcare invites you to attend one of our three Career Fair events. Each event will highlight specific positions, with our first event featuring “healthcare positions” which will include clinical areas such as nursing and patient care. Additional events include Memorial Medical Associates (MMA) and non-clinical positions.

Healthcare Positions: Monday, July 19. 3-6pm in the Auditorium at Memorial Healthcare, 826 W. King St., Owosso.

Memorial Medial Associate: Wednesday, August 4. 3-6pm in the Medical Arts Building at Memorial Healthcare, 721 Shiawassee St., Owosso.

Non-Clinical Healthcare Associate Positions: Monday, August 16. 3-6pm in the Auditorium at Memorial Healthcare, 826 W. King St., Owosso.

Discover why choosing a career at Memorial Healthcare is the best decision you will make in 2021. Bring your resume, dress professionally, interview on-site with one of our hiring managers and wear a mask.

We have nearly 100 positions available:

- Registered Nurses
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To view a complete listing of available positions, please visit the career page at memorialhealthcare.org. For additional information, email Makayla Chrzan at MChrzan@memorialhealthcare.org or call (989) 729-4327.

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Mint Festival Pageant, July 22

submitted by Brenda Terpening
The St. Johns Mint Festival Pageant will be held on Thursday, July 22 at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium of St. Johns High School. Tickets will be \$8.50 each and will be on sale at the Chamber of Commerce office (1013 S US 27 in St. Johns) on Mon & Tue, Jul 19 & 20 between 10am - Noon each day. Tickets will also be for sold starting at 6:00 pm the night of the pageant outside the auditorium at the school.
If you have any questions about the Pageant or the Mint Festival in general, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 989-224-7248 or email ccchamber@4wbi.net.
Due to construction/painting the Chamber office is not open each day at this time, but messages will be monitored and calls/emails returned as soon as possible.

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Elsie Dairy Days Results

3 on 3 Winners



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Winners of "C" Division - Dirty Docks- L-R Clay Wittenburg, Axel Newell and Braxton Stenger



First Place Winners of Elementary Miss - Triple Threat- From Left to Right McKenzie Keck, Danica Bancroft, Dannika Campbell and Allison Moore

Cornhole Winners

Age 7-12 Kenyon Keusch and Gabe Lohr. Age 12-17 Clayton Fruchey and Tryce Tokar. Senior Social Richard Smith and Derek Culthbert. Adult Competition 18 plus Scott Engelhardt and Zach Hall.

Cornhole Tournaments at the Mint Festival

submitted by Brenda Terpening
Cornhole is coming to the Mint Festival. Events include the following:
Sat, Aug 14: Social singles (\$10) and Competitive Singles (\$20). Registration begins at 9:00 am...bags fly at 10:00 am.
Social Doubles (\$20) and Competitive Doubles (\$40). Registration begins at 11:00 am...bags fly at Noon (or slightly later if singles are still going on).
Sun, Aug 15: 8 game switcholio (new partner each game (\$10). Registration begins at 11:00 am...bags fly at Noon.
Blind Draw (\$10). Registration begins at 2:00 pm...bags fly when Switcholio ends.
There will be other side games taking place as well...airmail raffle, 4 bagger torch and maybe more. For more information or questions join and follow the Mint City Baggers Facebook group. All registrations will take place onsite.

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Live Living Estate and Real Estate Auction, Saturday, July 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. 4300 Washington St. Midland, MI. Five bedroom ranch. Furniture; vintage/antique; telescopes/microscopes; garage/outdoor. Details at www.FurloAuction.com 989-835-1581.

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Live Walroth Estate Auction, Saturday, July 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. 7498 Silverlake Rd. Linden, MI. Chevrolet 2500 HD diesel 4x4; Challenger 5th wheel camper; Tractors; Collectibles; Guns. Details at www.NarhiAuctions.com 810-266-6474.

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Nutcracker Sweet Online Only Auction Bid now through July 25, 2021. Commercial candy making equipment; heavy marble tables; riding mower; yard & garden tools; bikes. Details at www.FurloAuction.com 989-835-1581.

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Current Officers (l-r): Eugene Peterson (Sgt-at-Arms), Dean Acre (Finance Officer), Edwin Lamb (Chaplain & Trustee), Gary Nethaway (Judge Advocate), Brian Valentine (Trustee), Scott Hall (2nd Vice Commander), Richard Black (1st Vice Commander), Gene Nethaway (Commander, Service Officer), Max Holden (Trustee), Paul Murray (Adjutant) and Missing John Shipley (Historian).

American Legion Post 502

submitted by Gene Nethaway

The American Legion Post 502 of Elsie, Michigan and this past year 2020 because of the Pandemic all of the Post Officers and Trustees had to remain the same. But now it's a new year and we have Elected new Post Officers and Trustees and have just sworn all of them in this past week so we would like you to meet our current officers effective June/July of 2021.

In addition to this work: Dean Acre is now Assistant Finance Officer of the 8th District, John Shipley is the Assistant Sgt-at-Arms for the 8th District and Gene Nethaway is now the 1st Vice Commander and Service Officer for the 8th District this year.

Ovid Carriage Days Fundraiser

wine & hard cider fundraiser night

July 29TH
6:30PM

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