

Shepardsville Corner Store Gets Liquor License

by Deb Price

Since taking over ownership of the Shepardsville Corner Store in May of last year, Mike Holmes and his fiancée, Lisa Olson have made a lot of improvements to the convenience store at the corner of Shepardsville Road and M-21 in Ovid. The location has seen many changes in both merchandise and ownership since it became Alderman's back in the day.

Mike and Lisa met at Leonard Elementary in Ovid and graduated from Ovid-Elsie in 1988. Together, they run the day to day operations of the business. Lisa does the baking and preparation of the newly added lunch specials offered daily and Mike tends to ordering of product and coming up with new offerings for their customers.

The newest addition to the store is the addition of Liquor. "Beer and wine were added when Tim Zwick and Pat Ackels owned the store, and the bakery was added when the Braun's were the owners," explained Holmes. "We guarantee to have the lowest prices on beer and liquor in Ovid, Elsie or Laingsburg," said Holmes.

The store features a large variety of Michigan made products. For example: Mandingo Pickles, Dr. Strangelove Bloody Mary Mix and Theodore's Superior Coffee Roasters, all of Owosso. Other products include, Uncle Bob's BBQ sauce of Frankenmouth, Pop Daddy Pretzels from Detroit, Ice Cream and milk from New Era Dairy, Made Rite Chips and Pet Treats just to name a few. "We are coffee lovers, that's why we serve freshly, ground coffee in our store. We buy our beans from Theodore's in Owosso, they are coffee experts," explained Mike. They also feature Koegel meats in their deli.

Future additions to the store will include adding Lottery, a Propane Dispensing Station, an Espresso Machine and obtaining a DNR Agent License. If it's been a while since you have visited the store, Mike and Lisa invite you to stop in and take a look at what's new and compare their new lower prices. They are located at 7002 E. M-21, Ovid, the hours of operation are 7am-9pm daily.



Business & Community Association Annual Dinner

submitted by Karen Anderson, Laingsburg Correspondent

LAINGSBURG - The meeting of the Laingsburg Business & Community Association Board, past officers, members, local business owners, and nominated Unsung Heroes and Business of the year nominees were present for the annual potluck dinner at the American Legion Hall on Thursday, January 30, 2020. The 2020 new Board members were selected at the following meeting on Feb 5th and are: President -Greg Beavers; Vice President-Andy Wirostek; Secretary - Allison Cummings and Treasurer- Tom Nemeth.

A moment of silence was observed with an emotional and tearful tribute of appreciation for the late William Vore, LBCA past President, publisher of the LBCA directory and for his many years of service. Greg Beavers read the eulogy of appreciation sent in from Del Drega for Vore's contributions to the area communities.

After dinner was served, an official meeting took place regarding regular business matters. First order of business was the Secretary and Treasures reports. Tom Nemeth, Treasurer reported the intake from events, dues and donations totaled \$16,090.34; the expenses of \$14,617.53 was reported, with a balance of \$5,961.00 to start the new year.

Events hosted throughout the 2019 year by the Laingsburg Business & Community Association include: The Set up and take down of the Flags along the streets, Music in the Park, Pancake Breakfast, Mentoring/Career program at the Laingsburg High School and the Annual Winterfest Events. The pancake breakfast made \$8,200 which funded the Winterfest. The Music in the Park (broke even), due to the sponsorships of local businesses. Career Day at the High School was a notable success with over 40 professionals. It provided an educational forum for information, knowledge and internships with potential jobs opportunities. The event is being modeled by other schools interested in setting up a successful Career Day.

Over 80 citizens were present for the heartfelt nominations for the Laingsburg Business Person of the Year and the Unsung Hero candidates. Nominations for the Business Person of the Year included the Dairy Den, Station House, and Laingsburg Librarian Sandra Chevez for her outstanding service to the community.

The honor for Business Person of the Year was presented to Wendy Kribs, owner of the Dairy Den and an active community member offering jobs to individuals with special needs. Some of her generous contributions have included providing hot chocolate for the community at Winterfest and her involvement in the community along with the expansion of her business, creating more local employment opportunities.

Nominees for the Unsung Hero were Wendy Kribs, Dena Judd, Adam Merrill, Dave Hasselbeck, Pastor Brian West, Ashley Foster, Jen West, Clyde Casler, Dean Meyer, Sarah Cole, Andy Wirostek, Henrietta Sparks, and Dean Veith. All who were recognized for their contributions to the community. Nominees read the written submissions for the diverse services, activities, time and contributions they have all generously donated to the community.

The Unsung Hero nomination was presented to Pastor Brian West of the Laingsburg Methodist Church for his commitment to the community. Some of his generous acts of kindness included first day of school encouragement to each student as they entered the building. West has been involved in the community since he moved here on day one. He is appreciated for his significant impact on many individuals and families with his counseling, preaching and by making a significant impact on the community. Unfortunately, the community and the church will miss him as he is being transferred to another location for his ministry.

On behalf of the Laingsburg Business & Community Association, Greg Beavers presented Gail Geasler a plaque of appreciation for her service as President of the LBCA board. Geasler is taking a step down and leaving the LBCA board to care for a family member with medical needs. Geasler will continue her role with the DDA Treasurer and will continue being hands-on organizing the Music in the Park, along with Jack Clarkson. She has set a goal to extend the weeks of entertainment and movie in the Park. Previously, the entertainment took place the 1st Wednesday after the 4th of July for only 6 weeks. Many citizens voiced their appreciation of her many contributions and the time she has committed to the success of many projects in the community.

Final order of business was a plea for the need of membership growth and interest for positions on the board. To join, it only cost \$40.00 per year. Membership includes advertisement in the City Directory and on social media. Membership provides opportunities to be a part of making Laingsburg and the surrounding community a better place to work and live. It is an opportunity to make your voice heard. You do not need to have a business in or around Laingsburg to join the association.



Gail Geasler presents Pastor Brian West with The Unsung Hero Award



Wendy Kribs receiving Business Person of the Year from Gail Geasler



Laingsburg Austin Randall makes this shot against Dansville on January 29th as teammate Aidan Soeltner looks on. This unique photo from the balcony was taken by Keith Kingsbury. See pages 12-13 for more sports.

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Ovid Public Library Movies

submitted by Sharry

Huyck

During the month of February, the Ovid Public Library will be showing movies on Mondays. All movies begin at Noon.

Monday February 10: The second half of Dr. Zhivago

Monday February 17: Full House (1952) Five short stories written by O'Henry

Monday February 24: Laura (1944) one of the 10 best mysteries.

Also during the month of February, the Ovid Public Library will be showing movies on Fridays. All movies begin at Noon.

Friday February 7: The Making of Gone with the Wind (1988 Documentary) 124 minutes

Friday February 14: The very first two episodes of Downton Abbey. We will be watching them all in order, so you won't want to miss the first two.

Friday February 21: Downton Abbey episodes three and four

Friday February 28: Downton Abbey episodes five and six
For further information, please call the Ovid Public Library at 989-834-5800.

FREE Spaghetti Dinner

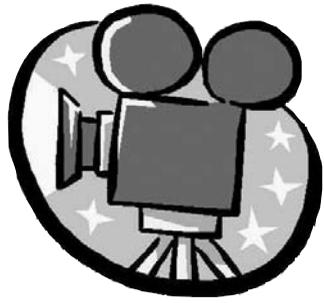
Dine with Your Laingsburg Lions Club on February 18, 2020 from 5-7pm at the Laingsburg United Methodist Church.

You are invited to a FREE Spaghetti dinner with your Laingsburg Lions.

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All are welcome, bring the family and hungry tummies!

No tickets or RSVP needed, just come and enjoy. We hope to see you Tuesday February 18th. Carry out available.



Owosso Parkinson Support Group Meeting

submitted by Owen Prussner

Owosso Parkinson Support Group meeting will be on February 12th 5:00pm at The Owosso Council on Aging, 300 N Washington St, Owosso, Mi, 48867. Phone Number (989)-723-8875. Owosso Parkinson Support Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month.

Special guest speaker will be Dr Lynn Larson, Do. She works with elderly people with chronic issues.

Will talk about palative care. Dr Larson works for Memorial Healthcare.

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, please join us. We provide information, encouragement, fellowship, and support. We can connect you with Michigan Parkinson Foundation, at (800)-852/9781. Please contact Karen Prussner, RN, Facilitator at (989)-723-6901 or council on Aging at above phone number.

GED and Pathways Adult Education February Workshop

submitted by Troy Napier

By 2024, just five years from now, 80 percent of all jobs will require more than a high school degree. Pathways Adult Education can help you complete your high school diploma or GED, so you'll be ready to get further training. Pathways also offers free welding training. To learn about studying for the GED and the Pathways Adult Education program, attend a free workshop on Tuesday, February 11, from 9:30-10:45 am. It will be held in room 1421 on the second floor of the Curwood Building on the main campus of Baker College.

For more information, contact Pathways Adult Education at 989-729-3620.

Friends of Hospice Host Candy Sale

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso —Friends of Hospice will be hosting a Candy Sale on Tuesday, February 11, from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm in the Memorial Healthcare main lobby. A portion of proceeds from this event will go to benefit Hospice.

Just in time for Valentine's Day, this event is a great opportunity to purchase delicious candies and chocolates from Murtle's Handmade Chocolates. The event is open to the public. Cash, checks, credit/debit cards, and payroll deduction for qualified Memorial Healthcare employees will be accepted.



Reverse Raffle Tickets Available

Tickets for the Saturday, March 14th Reverse Raffle are still available. Only 250 tickets will be sold and are going fast. Each \$50 ticket holder will gain entrance to the event and will enjoy an all you can eat dinner and drink (beer and wine).

The event will also feature 50/50 drawings, sideboards, Silent Auction and 2nd Chance Raffle.

The Ovid-Elsie Sports Boosters along with the Marauder Wrestling Program are hosting this fund raising event which will be held at the Elsie American Legion Hall in Elsie. A total of \$6,400 will be paid out including 20 payouts of \$100 or more. The grand prize is \$1,500.

The event this year promises to be as exciting and fun while raising funds for the Sports Boosters and Wrestling Programs at Ovid-Elsie.

Doors to the event will open at 4pm on March 14th and the raffle will begin at 5pm. To purchase a ticket contact Amy Knickerbocker at (989) 992-7797 or Coach Kyle Spiess at (989) 395-4901.

Free Lunch and Learn February 11 Topic "Cancer Prevention"

submitted by Melissa Neuhaus

Owosso – Memorial Healthcare's next FREE Lunch and Learn presentation will be held on Tuesday, February 11 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. This event's topic will be about "Cancer Prevention" and will be presented by Mindi Odom, from the American Cancer Society.

This presentation will be held at the Medical Arts Building, 721 Shiawassee Street, Owosso and lunch will be provided. Individuals must RSVP to Michelle at (989) 729-4786, ext. 6786.

For additional information on Memorial Healthcare services and events visit: MemorialHealthcare.org

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Representatives of the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce brought balloons to surprise Julianne Ackerson, third from right, with the good news that she'll receive the chamber's 2020 Mission Award.

LAFCU's Julianne Ackerson to Receive Shiawassee Chamber Mission Award

submitted by Jan Jenkins

LANSING, Mich. — LAFCU's Julianne Ackerson has been selected to receive the 2020 Mission Award from the Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce at its Annual Dinner and Awards Night, Feb. 6.

Chamber representatives brought balloons to the LAFCU Corunna Branch in January to surprise Ackerson with the good news. She is assistant vice president of branch operations, responsible for managing the credit union's Owosso and Corunna branches.

The Mission Award recognizes a member who has helped chamber staff meet the organization's mission of advancing economic success in Shiawassee County. Staff members nominate an individual who has demonstrated a strong commitment to the chamber and gives generously of their time and talent.

"Julianne is a great influence upon our chamber staff," said Jeff Deason, chamber president/CEO. "She always gives thoughtful consideration in her roles as a board member and a member of the many event planning committees on which she has served and currently serves.

"We are thrilled to honor Julianne this year."

Ackerson said, "It's truly an honor to be chosen for this award. I love working with the Shiawassee chamber staff.

"I'm grateful that LAFCU is a strong supporter of the communities we serve because it allows me the opportunity to support the chamber's mission and contribute my time."

Ackerson has contributed countless hours to chamber events, projects and committees over the past decade. In addition to serving on the chamber board of directors, she is a member of the Golf Classic and Ladies GOLD Golf Classic planning committees. She is also a past member and past president of the Chamber Ambassadors and has helped plan and volunteered at countless chamber networking events. She is a graduate of Leadership Shiawassee, a chamber talent initiative.

Additionally, in the community Ackerson is a facilitator for Shiawassee County FIST Group. FIST, which stands for Financial Institute Security Team, comprises representatives of law enforcement and financial agencies who work on county security issues. She also supports LAFCU's partnership with the Perry Public Schools that provides financial literacy curriculum and activities for all grade levels, including operation of a portable branch at the district's three buildings and a Financial Reality Fair for seniors.



He didn't see his shadow!



MMDHD Immunization Clinic

submitted by Linda Gronda

The Mid-Michigan District Health Department, 1307 E. Townsend Road, St. Johns, MI 48879

Immunization Clinics are to be held as follows:

February 10, 12, 20 and 24: 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Immunizations will be available for adults and children eight weeks of age through adulthood, appointments are preferred. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (989) 224-2195, Option 5, Monday through Friday.



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New Shop Talk Series Offered

submitted by Donna Kanan

The Shiawassee Conservation District is excited to launch its newest Shop Talk workshop series. Farming is complex and understanding how conservation can play a role in an operation can be overwhelming. These workshops are intended to be farmer-driven and offer a chance to learn from friends and neighbors about local experiences with conservation.

The first Shop Talk in the series will be held on February 27 and hosted by Braid Farms located at 3107 E. Newburg Road, Durand. The theme of this first event will be cover crops and how they fit into an operation. Types of cover crops, methods of planting, soil health benefits, weed control, nutrient capture and release, and pest reduction will all be discussed.

The second Shop Talk will focus on reduced till, no-till, and ways to limit nutrient loss from crop fields. The event will be held on March 12 and hosted by Eickholt Farms located at 4367 E. North Ridge Road, Chesaning.

The final Shop Talk in the series will be held on March 26 at the Miller Family Farms located at 6757 N. Warren Road, Elsie. Weeds, forecasting weeds, controlling weeds, and pest management techniques will be topics at this event.

These Shop Talks will be roundtable discussions, encouraging participants to share their experiences and learn from others. Resource professionals from the Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee, and/or MSU Extension will be available to answer questions and provide insights into new research. Come prepared to ask your questions and share successes and challenges faced in your operations.

"These Shop Talks will be casual and be crowd-led," states Joshua Crambell, Shiawassee Conservation District Board Chair. "We want there to be questions and sharing about farming experiences with conservation."

Each event will begin at 9:00 AM. Coffee and donuts will be provided. There is no cost to attend, but RSVP is appreciated. MAEAP Phase 1 credit and 2 RUP credits are available for events. Come ready to share and learn from your farming peers.

For more information or to reserve a spot, contact the Shiawassee Conservation District at (989) 723-8263, ext. 3.

SCD to Hold a Winter Nature Walk February 29th

submitted by Donna Kanan

What are you doing with your extra day in February? Why not get outside and enjoy nature! The Shiawassee Conservation District will hold a winter nature walk at DeVries Nature Center on Saturday, February 29th. SCD forester Chris Worst will guide you on a (potentially) snowy journey to see the plants and other natural features visible at DeVries this time of year.

"Winter is a great time to get outside, and really learn your trees," Worst said. "You can't use leaves as a shortcut, so you really have to hone-in on buds, bark, and things like that. If you practice enough, you'll be able to identify trees any time of year, leaves or no leaves!"

The walk will be held at DeVries Nature Center on Saturday, February 29th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. There is no cost to attend, however please bring your own boots, gloves, and other winter weather gear. Please RSVP by Monday, February 24th by calling the Shiawassee Conservation District at 989-723-8263 ext. 3.

Don't miss this opportunity to get some hands-on experience identifying trees and plants in the winter with a forester!



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Parsons Dance

submitted by Bob Hoffman

EAST LANSING, Mich. — One of the hottest American contemporary dance companies, Parsons Dance, will appear at Wharton Center on Saturday, February 22, for two performances, a sensory-friendly matinee and an evening performance. Parson's Dance is known for their energized, joyous, and athletic ensemble work, and Artistic Director David Parsons is heralded by The New York Times as "one of the greatest movers of modern dance." Tickets are available at the official source to purchase Wharton Center tickets online, whartoncenter.com; at the Auto-Owners Insurance Ticket Office; or by calling 1-800-WHARTON.

This prestigious company has toured to more than 400 cities, 40 countries, and 5 continents performing the vast and varied repertory of more than 75 works created by David Parsons. Constantly innovating, Parsons has received many accolades throughout his career, including three Choreography Fellowship Grants from the National Endowment for the Arts; the American Choreography Award; the Dance Magazine Award; a Howard Gilman Fellowship, and the Dance Masters of America Annual Award. In 2018, he received the Capezio Award, one of the most prestigious awards in dance. Parsons believes "...the arts are a powerful tool for self-expression and communication. My goal is to provide opportunities for more people to experience the wonders of dance."

The Toronto Star proclaims, "Parsons and his company are one of the hottest tickets in contemporary dance ... they are all terrific performers, energized ... Parsons provides choreography that is consistently intelligent, witty, well-crafted, and human."

The program will feature two of Parsons' most celebrated and critically-acclaimed works: Caught and Nascimento. Caught – a piece that tricks the eye into believing the dancer is flying about the stage – is what D Magazine calls "a visual magic married to unbelievable athleticism." Nascimento has Brazilian influences and flavor, showcasing a true dance of joy. Eight Women, a featured piece choreographed by Trey McIntyre, incorporates Aretha Franklin's music. The New York Times raves McIntyre "is one of the best choreographers around at drawing out the emotional complexity of pop music."

A 2:00 p.m. sensory-friendly performance will provide a supporting and welcoming environment for those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), developmental disabilities, sensory processing disorder, and other sensory-sensitive people and their families. At sensory-friendly performances, accommodations include lower sound and light levels; all strobe light effects removed; house lights on at a low level throughout the performance; an activities area with crafts and activities for engagement; designated quiet and calm spaces. Audience members are welcome to stand, move around, and enter and leave the theatre as needed, autism specialists and trained volunteers are on hand, and sensory supports are available (fidgets, earplugs).

For more information about accommodations available, please visit www.whartoncenter.com/sensory-friendly-performances.



Priscilla Raven (Mom), Daryth Lennox (Austin), Wyatt Wesley (Lee)

Lansing Community College Performing Arts

submitted by Laura Paige Tufford

A presentation of True West, by Sam Shepard, directed by John Lennox will be at the LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing on February 21-22 and 28-29 at 8:00 p.m.

February 29th performance will be sign interprete by students in the LCC Sign Language Interpreter Program.

This American classic tells the story of two brothers, sons of a desert-dwelling alcoholic and a suburban wanderer; as they clash over a film script. Austin, the achiever, is working on a script he has sold to producer Sal Kimmer when Lee, a demented petty thief, drops in. He pitches his own idea for a movie to Kimmer, who then wants Austin to junk his bleak, modern love story and write Lee's trashy Western tale.

Tickets available for purchase online at www.lcc.edu/showinfo.

Contact LCC Performing Arts Production Office, 517-483-1122. www.lcc.edu/showinfo

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How Did "XO" Come to Symbolize Kisses and Hugs?

Love letters are a great way for couples to express their affection and devotion to each other. The sentiments expressed in love letters are as unique as the couples who write them. However, love letters often contain one particular turn of phrase regardless of their authors.

When signing a love letter, it's customary for writers to include at least one "XO" near their names. "XO" is widely recognized as symbolic of wishing "hugs and kisses" to a letter's intended recipient. This tradition is such an ingrained part of romantic letter writing that few may stop to pause and wonder just how the letters "XO" came to symbolize hugs and kisses.

The origins of "XO" are not definitively known, though many historians note that signing letters with "X" dates back to the Middle Ages. Few people could read and write in the Middle Ages, but signing "X" did not require either of those abilities. Christianity played a big part in many people's lives during the Middle Ages, and "X" was seen as a representation of the Christian cross. So when people signed "X" on legal documents, they were essentially stating the contents of the document were true in the name of Jesus Christ.

While Jesus Christ's teachings are rooted in showing compassion for one's fellow man, signing a letter with "X" did not symbolize love in the Middle Ages. In fact, that development did not come about until much later. The Oxford English Dictionary attributes the first use of "X" to symbolize love and/or kisses in a letter to English naturalist Gilbert White. However, some historians debate the accuracy of that attribution, saying White's use of the letter "X" in his letter was likely meant to convey blessings on the letter's recipient.

Researcher Stephen Goranson found many uses of the letter "X" to convey love and/or kisses in or after the 1880s, so it's very likely that this was the first time that including the letter "X" at the end of a letter took on the meaning so many people give it now.

As for "O" symbolizing hugs, even less is known about how that came about. The late American writer Leo Rosten, whose writings included 1968's "The Joys of Yiddish," suggested that including "O" at the end of a letter might have a similar origin story to "X." Rosten theorized that "O" was used by Jewish immigrants who did not want to sign a document with "X," which they, like the people in the Middle Ages, interpreted as symbolic of the Christian cross.

Exactly when "O" was paired with "X" and came to symbolize hugs is unknown, though various historians suggest the two were not paired until the latter half of the 20th century.

Popular Candies Share Sweet Words of Lovd

There are many ways to say, "I love you,." For Valentine's Day celebrants, various sentiments may be expressed with candy — particularly candy hearts.

Candy hearts, also called Conversation Hearts® and Sweethearts® (similarly Love Hearts in the UK), are sweet, chalky confections that have been around for more than 100 years. The conversation about candy hearts began back in 1847 when Oliver Chase, a Boston pharmacist, wanted to get in on the apothecary lozenge craze that was popular at the time. Lozenges were common remedies for sore throats and bad breath, and were growing in popularity as a convenient medical treatment. Chase invented a machine that could roll out lozenge dough and press it into perfect discs, a time-saving improvement on the manual process used until then. Chase eventually abandoned making lozenges and the pharmacy business, ultimately realizing his machine could be used to make candies. He formed the New England Confectionery Company and began producing what would eventually be known as NECCO wafers.

Wanting to get in on his brother's candy empire, Daniel Chase saw an opportunity to build on the growing popularity of Valentine's cards by printing words on candy with vegetable dye during the cutting process. In 1866, conversation candies began as round confections and were much bigger than today's heart varieties. It wouldn't be until 1902 that conversation candy hearts became available.

Through the years, the candies became smaller and the sentiments expressed on the hearts have been updated to stay current with the times. Phrases like "LOL," "BFF" and "Text me" have replaced some less modern sentiments.

At the height of the candies' popularity, NECCO estimated that it made nearly 100,000 pounds of the hearts each day throughout the year in preparation for Valentine's Day.

In 2019, NECCO filed for bankruptcy and did not produce the iconic candy hearts while it was being purchased by an investment company called Round Hill Investments, LLC. Round Hill decided to sell NECCO to another candy company. Fortune magazine reported Spangler Candy Co., which took over rights to NECCO's iconic brands, would manufacture candy hearts in 2020. Similar conversation hearts also are available through Brach's candy company.

Candy hearts have long been a way to share sweet words of affection and a sugary treat with the ones you love.



'My Fair Lady' Comes to Cob Great Hall

submitted by Bob Hoffman

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Wharton Center is pleased to announce that the North American tour of Lincoln Center Theater's critically acclaimed production of Lerner & Loewe's MY FAIR LADY, directed by Bartlett Sher, will play Wharton Center from Wednesday, February 26, through Sunday, March 1. Tickets are now available at the official source to purchase Wharton Center tickets online, whartoncenter.com; at the Auto-Owners Insurance Ticket Office; or by calling 1-800-WHARTON.



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Worship Service 10:30am
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Community Dinner Every Thursday
at 6pm
Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: Ava Euper

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

163 W. Main St., Elsie
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Roger Numerich

Eureka Christian Church

2619 E. Maple Rapids Rd., Eureka
Sundays:
10:00 a.m. Worship Service and
Children's Church
6:30 p.m. Youth Group
(Sept. - May)
Pastor Keith Whipple:
989-763-9675 (cell)
Office: 989-224-7709

Duplain Church of Christ

5565 E. Colony Rd.
(3 mi. W. of O-E H.S.)
Sunday School
10:00 a.m.
Worship Service
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
Senior Minister: Chuck Emmert
Associate Minister: Andrew Goodrich
www.duplainchurch.org

United Church of Ovid

Office Hours: 9-Noon Mon - Fri
Sundays am: 10:45 - Hymnsing
11:00 - Worship
131 West Front Street
Ovid, MI 48866 • (989) 834-5958
www.unitedchurchofovid.org
or on Facebook
Rev. Melanie Young

Middlebury United Methodist Church

8100 W. Hibbard Rd., Ovid
989-834-2573
Worship Service
9:30 a.m.
Rev. Melanie Young

LAINGSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

210 CRUM ST.
517-651-5531
Children's Sunday school: 9am
Adult Sunday school: 9am
and 11:45am
Worship: 10am
Pastor Brian West
laingsburgumc@gmail.com

St. Cyril Catholic Church

Bannister
Mass: Sun 10:30am,
Wed. 9:00am,
Word & Communion
Every 3rd Friday at 9am
Confession:
Sun 11:30am
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Obituaries

Angela Marie Miller

Angela Marie Miller, 52, of Mason, MI, passed away after a short battle with cancer Sunday, February 2, 2020, at her home surrounded by her family.

Angela was born in Owosso, MI on April 25, 1967, the daughter of Larry Jr. and Linda (Hicks) Miller. She graduated from Ovid-Elsie High School with the class of 1985.

On August 7, 2015, Angie married Kimberly Kay Kistler her best friend and partner of over 20 years in Ovid, MI; and she survives her. Angie and Kim had 2 exchange students (Nicolai and Gjermund) that they remained close to over the years.

Angie loved all things Dale Earnhart. She was member of the 1984-85 Ovid-Elsie Basketball Championship Team; which was just inducted into the O-E Wall of Fame. After graduation, Angie played softball with her cousins and sisters while Dad coached with Mom as the assistant coach. In 1995-1996, the team qualified for the championship playoff in Florida. She enjoyed taking Christmas Cruises, and taking Grandma Miller to the casino. Angie dearly loved the annual sister camping trips and watching sunsets.

Angie loved her special fur babies: Jonny, Brutus, and Teddy. She dearly loved her nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews who considered her the "Cool Aunt". Angie would say she "has four of the best sisters and the best wife in the world".

Angie is survived by her spouse Kim Miller, mother Linda Miller, 4 sisters: Laura (Roger) Nixon, Rhonda (Bill) Hehrer, Tammy (Scott) Peru, Dana (Brad) Schneider; father-in-law Mike (Donna) Furrow, sisters-in-law: Tina (Mark) Voss, and Nicci (fiancé Chris Poeschel) Carpenter; 3 brothers-in-law: Jack (fiancée Allison Perdue) Furrow, Chris (Crystal) Furrow, and Michael (Megan) Furrow. She is also survived by nieces and nephews: Whitney Hehrer, Steven (Allison) Nixon, Keith (Michelle) Hehrer, David (Jessica) Nixon, Dylan (Dezarae) Peru, Dakota Winans, Katlyn (fiancé Alex Keeley) Peru, Brianna Schneider, Ian Hehrer, Evan Hehrer, Joshua (Mariah) Voss, Lauren (fiancé Jerome Mendez) Voss, Kayla Carpenter, and Nathan Carpenter; great-nieces and great-nephews: Abigail, Mason, Logan, Garrett, Jase, Vaida, KayLee, Wyatt, Kynlie, and Ashtyn. Angie is preceded in death by her father Larry Miller Jr., mother-in-law Judy Furrow, nephew Joseph Andrew Hehrer, great-nephew JR Hehrer, and grandparents.

Funeral Services was held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI, on Thursday, February 6, 2020 with cousin Terri Fisher and Pastor Scott Seelhoff officiating.

Memorials may be made to Angie's family to help with her medical bills. Online condolences can be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI.



Donald William "Don" Seelhoff Sr.

Donald William "Don" Seelhoff Sr., 83, of Ovid, MI, passed away Sunday, February 2, 2020, at Advent Health Hospital, Zephyrhills, FL.

Don was born in Rush Township, MI on February 9, 1936, the son of William and Clara (Wellmer) Seelhoff. He attended Rush Township School. On June 16, 1991, Don married Hazel Mae Hinkle at her daughter's home in Ovid. They enjoyed 28 years of marriage.

Don worked at Midland Brake, Owosso, for many years. He then was a semi-truck driver, until retirement. Don has been a custodian at Ovid-Elsie Schools since retirement, which he truly enjoyed.

Don loved to golf, play cards, and trips to Vegas with Hazel. Most of all, Don loved his family.

Don is survived by his wife Hazel Seelhoff of Ovid, 2 sons: Donald (Wendy) Seelhoff Jr. of Hopkins, and Thomas (Karen) Seelhoff of Owosso; 2 step-daughters: Vickie (Dan) Csapos of Zephyrhills, FL, and Tracy (Kerry) Cole of Laingsburg. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Lindsay (Aaron) Pumfery, Ryan (Samantha) Seelhoff, Donald (Casandra) Seelhoff III, and Daniel (Krista) Seelhoff, step-grandchildren: Derek Csapos, Erin (Derek) Cuthbert, and Dayna (Ryan) Bancroft; several great grandchildren, sister Shirley (Gaylord) Long, and many nieces and nephews. Don was preceded in death by his parents, son Richard Seelhoff, and siblings: Arlene (Dewey) Simpson, Doris (Clarence) Atkinson, Bernice (Lee) Sutliff, Lorraine (Harlan) Shuster, and Norman (Berma) Seelhoff.

Funeral Services were held at Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI, on Friday, February 7, 2020 with his son Pastor Donald Seelhoff Jr. and nephew Pastor Scott Seelhoff officiating. Burial will take place at a later date at Maple Grove Cemetery, Ovid, MI.

Memorials may be made to Ovid Fire Fighters Association. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Don's obituary at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes - Houghton Chapel, Ovid, MI.



Editorial



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

It is already the first full week in February and the year is already flying by.....I think that I may have had the time to have blinked twice when January screamed past. This is going to be a very interesting year and I will be truly amazed if I can keep on top of things....especially since I feel as if I'm already sliding down the far side. In the past sliding down the hill would be okay, but now as I am maturing (which is questionable) the slide feels steeper more like a mountain than a hill-side.

Obviously I'm not doing a very good job of emptying my freezers.....I have the Sure Jell, the blueberries and the sugar needed to make jam, I even have the jars but my ambition seems to be dwindling. Plus I have a forty pound case of boneless skinless chicken breasts coming in on my coop order. I do plan on canning about twenty pounds so that I will have the canned chicken handy for chicken salad sandwiches, or hot barbecued chicken sandwiches. It is nice to have things on hand in case unexpected company stops by. The rest of the chicken will dive into the freezer. But not before I can wield my new chef's knife that Diane gave me for Christmas.....it's pretty spiffy and has its own cradle and storage unit. Yes, I am spoiled and looking forward to using this new utensil.

Monday I took Prudence up to Fetch A Do in Alma to be groomed. The gals there keep telling me what a well-mannered pooch she is. They keep telling me how easy it is to groom and trim her and what a delight she is even as they soak her. I flash back to my attempts in bathing her and visualize this comical romp around the bathtub basin. I have to hold her in place as I get her soaked to wash. Then the splashing frolic either slows to an accusatory stare filled with despair or as a tail wagging pooch endeavors to clear the soapy side of the tub. Lots of splash and go.....Time we are finished and Pru is soap free I'm soaking wet and mopping up the bathroom floor with one hand as I try to towel off my little beast. Then to add insult to injury Pru tries to rid herself of the clean smell.

Last night I took Prudence with me on a little outing. Diane had asked us over for a broccoli soup and Asian salad supper. Both were yummy and the company was fun filled. Of course we both got to travel the welcoming guest's ritual. Her three dogs greeted us with their chorus of barks, than we passed thru the gauntlet of shoves and wags.

The biggest galoot, Millie is about the size of a Labrador and is a big black hulk and still very much a puppy (an easy eighty pounds of wag). Midnight is half her height but makes up the difference in her width and is a bit more solitary plus she is a beautiful silver agouti and is about six years old, she is a Heinz variety and part Husky. Finally there is the eight pound mouthy wonder, Sadie Mae, a tan and white Chihuahua cross who is very sweet natured and age is unknown. (The vets tell us that she is probably twelve years old). And then there is Prudence who is half Shiatsu and half Dachshund and mostly black with silver highlights (she is twelve pounds of comfort). Now this is a crew of interesting critters and their interactions are amazing. Millie takes umbrage with Pru because she can fit on Diane's lap and cuddles with her every time we visit. Millie tries to do the same but isn't lap sized so she generally gets into a snit and starts making guttural sounds to get extra attention and to dominate the conversation. She had been known to plop down on any available lap which is more of a half on half off situation.

Our pack of dogs reminds me how varied our own actions and reactions are to daily events. Some of us like to draw attention to ourselves, some have a tendency to push our way thru; a few are placid and passive like Midnight. Several of us make a lot of noises so that others will notice us. Makes me glad that we all have our own expressions and I would be more so if I could understand them all. God made us for a reason and we all have much to do. Have a great week filled with accrued common sense and blessings. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2020



Have a Question for Andy?

Submit them to:
ask_andy@aol.com

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

Dear Andy,

My stepdaughter has made a proposal to her Dad and me. I couldn't stop laughing and her dad was furious. She has lived with us since she was a teen and is now 20 years old, going to college part-time and working part-time. She is smart and keeps her grades up and we love her dearly and we have been encouraging her to find a roommate to have some more space and independence.

Her suggestion was that we switch bedrooms. She would take the Master Bedroom, so she could have her own bathroom and more room for friends over and a quiet place to study and her own entrance off the back patio. She is willing to pay a small amount. I suggested she pay a big amount for the room and board she already has had for the last 9 years. Her dad is so angry at her boldness and I can't stop laughing. She said she feels disrespected and that we are being rude not to see the benefits of the situation. What do you think about this situation?

Stepmom

Dear Stepmom,

I can see the humor and irony of this scenario. However, I will give her this....your stepdaughter is creative, a thinker - out of the box and in her own way, makes sense. If she was older, married, with a child and needed more space temporarily while their house was being built...maybe.

But, a 20 year old in college is still a teenager in my mind-set. Perhaps she needs to understand the costs of running a household and learn what it takes to live a middle-class life that has earned a married couple a master bedroom at the far end of the house with a patio entrance. She needs to stay in her own room, pay a little rent and start saving. Suggest she take a finance class or read a Dave Ramsey Solutions© and budget book.

Youth makes me laugh, too. I just love how they do not have a clue....and how many feel "entitled" or "want it now" for what we have worked years to achieve. They don't know the 2 room dump many lived in when young or the 12 x 10 college dorm room. Give her the "respect" by educating her with the other "facts of life" that comes with age and experience.

Even if it is feasible to switch rooms, don't do it just out of principle. And, just so you know, this is not the first time I have heard this proposal.

Andy.....still laughing. ask_andy@aol.com

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CITY OF LAINGSBURG NOTICE OF CEMETERY MEETING TO BE HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

A Cemetery meeting will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 114 N. Woodhull Street, Laingsburg, Michigan.
City Hall is barrier-free. If you need assistance, please contact City Office at 517-651-5374 prior to the meeting.

Paula Willoughby
City Clerk

11th Annual Reverse Raffle Fundraiser

submitted by Dyana Gebauer

Laingsburg – The Laingsburg Educational Advancement Foundation is again hosting its annual reverse raffle fundraiser to generate revenue for its school grant program.

The 11th annual Reverse Raffle will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020, at Eagle Eye Golf Club in Bath. The doors open at 5 p.m. and the Laingsburg High School Jazz Band performs at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. and the Raffle drawings take place between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. In addition to the raffle, there will be a silent auction, 50/50 drawings, special giveaways and contests.

LEAF's annual Reverse Raffle is held annually on the last Saturday in February and awards up to \$4,200 in prize money. The top prize for the last ticket holder is \$3,000. Thousands of dollars in non-cash prizes are also awarded throughout the evening thanks to generous donors. More than \$65,600 has been raised since the event's inception and \$16,500 in 2019!

The \$100-per-ticket charge includes one raffle entry and one dinner plus two drink tickets. With a raffle ticket, additional dinner-only tickets are also available for \$40. People can purchase as many of either kind of ticket as they like, however supplies are limited.

For more information, to purchase tickets, or if you would like to sponsor for this event contact us at info@leaf4kids.com.

Gift prize donations are always welcome, such as sporting event tickets, gift certificates and business services.

LEAF is a Michigan nonprofit corporation and a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that provides grants to teachers and students within the Laingsburg Community Schools. Since its inception in 1992, LEAF has given out more than \$300,000 in grants. LEAF uses the net proceeds of the raffle to support innovative educational opportunities for Laingsburg students. The 2019 raffle license number is R55471.

For more information visit www.leaf4kids.com



GREENBUSH TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING BUDGET 2020 - 2021

Saturday February 15, 2020

9:00 am

At the Greenbush Township Hall
1883 E French Rd. St. Johns, MI 48879

This meeting will be open to the public. If you have any questions please call 224-3993.

Respectfully submitted by Ramona Smith, Greenbush Township Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Public Accuracy Test for the Presidential Primary Election will be at the Fairfield Township Hall at 7988 W. Henderson Rd. Elsie at 1:00 p.m. on Monday February 10, 2020.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to record the count of the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law.

Clerk,
Carolyn Long

Shiawassee Dems Announce February Meeting

submitted by Janae Fear

Owosso – Less than two months into 2020 and it has already been incredibly active as far as politics are concerned. The Shiawassee Dems are working hard to restore integrity to our government, but we need your help. If you are dissatisfied with the current state of politics, at the national, state and local levels, the Shiawassee Dems might be the place for you.

The February monthly meeting will be held on February 12, 7pm at the Corunna Community Center in McCurdy Park. Doors will open at 6pm and if you have been a registered Democrat for the past 30 days you may attend and vote at the Shiawassee County Democratic Party Convention being held at 6:15pm where we will elect a representative to the Rules Committee at the State Convention.

The Shiawassee Dems is the official Democratic Party for Shiawassee county. For more information go to www.shiawasseedems.org.

Home-Generated Sharps Disposal Program

For those in need of free containers for disposal of sharps you may pick up a container at DeWitt Pharmacy, Sparrow Clinton Pharmacy, Harvest Pharmacy in Ovid.

Drop off full containers at Granger Facility on Wood Rd., in Lansing.

Meeting Dates and Times

City of Ovid - Meets the second Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held February 10th at 7pm at City Hall, 114 E. Front St., Ovid.

Sciota Township - Meets the second Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held February 10th at 7pm at the township hall located at 3990 Leland Rd., Laingsburg.

Victor Township - Now Meets the second Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held February 10th at 7pm at 6843 Alward Rd., Laingsburg.

Village of Elsie - Meets the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be held February 11th at 7pm at 145 W.Main St., Elsie.

Go Positive - Meets February 11th at 6:45 a.m. at Agro Liquid in St. Johns. 3055 W. M-21.

Duplain Township - Meets the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be held February 12th at 7pm, at 145 W. Main St., Elsie.

Laingsburg Lions Club - Next meeting will be February 12th from 6 to 7pm, at Twilligers Tavern, Downtown Laingsburg.

Middlebury Township - Meets the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be held February 12th at 7pm at 7627 W. M-21, Ovid.

Village of Ashley - Meets the second Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be held February 13th at 7pm at 110 N. Sterling, Ashley.

Ovid Township - Meets the second Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be held February 13th at 7pm. at 1015 Baese Court, Ovid.

Ashley School Board - Meets the third Monday of the month. The next meeting will be Monday, February 17th at 7pm. at 104 N. New St., Ashley.

Ovid-Elsie School Board - Meets the third Monday of each month. The next meeting will be Monday, February 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Information Center at the high school 8989 E. Colony Rd., Elsie.

Laingsburg School Board - Meets the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 19th at 7p.m. in the high school large meeting room, 8008 Woodbury Rd., Laingsburg.

Exhibition Opens at the Shiawassee Arts Center in Owosso

submitted by Piper Brewer

The Shiawassee Arts Center is excited for the opening of its first exhibit of 2020 featuring the work of artists Anita Brett of East Lansing, Candace Miller of Lansing, Xavier of Owosso and fifteen Flint Artist Market members. The exhibit, which opens February 4 and will run through March 15, is generously sponsored by American Speedy Printing, Getzen & Connell, CPAs, Gilberts Hardware and Appliance and Hon. Jerald & Kris Lostracco. The public is welcome to attend the opening reception to enjoy good food and drinks with the artists on Sunday, February 9 from 1-3pm.

Brett's earliest works include commissioned watercolor portraits that now span the world. She participates in several select art fairs and is represented by galleries across the state of Michigan. Anita, who calls herself a sensitive artist, now works in oils, watercolor, encaustic paintings and is always in pursuit of new subject matters and art mediums.

Miller, a sculptor for over 30 years, creates mostly figurative works in paper mache, resin, wood and clay. She also makes assemblages by combining found objects with her sculpted pieces. She is a narrative artist who combines elements of storytelling, humor and fantasy and hopes her work will spark understanding and dialog with the viewer.

Enjoying a professional career in studio art, Owosso's Xavier chooses to draw people or rather the essence of people because they are the most exciting subject. He tries to achieve a harmony or tension within the interactions of subject matter and texture. Line, shape, value and color seem to create themselves while he is working and he lets them flow naturally into a visual form.

The Flint Artist Market (FAM) is composed of 20 artists (15 will display work at SAC) working in a wide variety of art media. The members are actively producing art, have current resumes and are regularly accepted into juried competitions and together exhibit in select galleries throughout Michigan. FAM believes it is important to support the arts, especially in our community.

The Shiawassee Arts Center, located at 206 Curwood Castle Drive in Owosso, is open Monday through Friday 12-5pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-4pm. The Arts Center features the artwork of local and statewide artists in eight galleries including the Frieske Gallery and a specialty Gift Shop. The public is welcome and there is no admission charge. SAC, which is celebrating its 48th anniversary in 2020, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage participation and appreciation of the arts. For more information call the Arts Center at 989.723.8354 or visit www.shiawasseearts.org.

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Dining with Diabetes

Type 2 diabetes can be delayed, controlled or even prevented by eating healthy and getting regular physical activity!

Dining with Diabetes is a fun and interactive course series targeting individuals with prediabetes, type 1 or type 2 diabetes, members of their support system and/or anyone interested in learning more. Participants learn to make healthy food choices and incorporate balanced menus into the family dining experience. Classes include research-based education, cooking demonstrations and healthy recipe tasting.

Do you have prediabetes? Visit www.DoIHavePrediabetes.org.

Join us at the Ashley Community Center for our next class!

When: Four consecutive Thursdays, starting February 20, 2020

Time: 5:30-7 p.m.

Where: Ashley Community Center, 110 S. Sterling St., Ashley

Cost: Free. Sponsored by Lions Club International Foundation and the Lions Clubs of Michigan.

To register: Email Sean (knurekse@msu.edu) or call (810)221-1615



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Respite Volunteer St. Patrick's Party

submitted by Helen Howard

The Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee St. Patrick's Party is Fri. March 13th in the D'Mar Banquet & Conference Center in Owosso. Musical entertainment during the dinner will be provided by Harold Smith, and Richard Lahmann. The evening will also include a Canned Raffle, 50-50 and Live Auction. The meal will include corned beef and cabbage and baked fish. The doors open at 5 pm for the raffle 50-50 and gathering time.



The event Sponsor is Hemenway Business Service / H & R Block. Pot of Gold \$500 Sponsorships for the event are; Jackie Hurd, Memorial Healthcare, Family of C. Diz Clark- In Memory of Diz Clark, Meijer, Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes, Lloyd & Wanda Lamphere. Twelve tickets to the event are provided to Pot of Gold Sponsors. \$1000 Leprechaun Sponsors are still available.

Rainbow \$350 Sponsors are; Shattuck Specialty Advertising - Delux Trophies Awards Gifts, Young Chevrolet Cadillac Buick GMC, Perry Physical Therapy, Greg & Karen Bontrager, Jerry & Darlene Walden. Six tickets to the event are provided to Rainbow Sponsors.

Shamrock \$100 Sponsorships for the event are; Dr. Daniel Williams & Diane Cutler, Charles & Loretta Rolfes, Oakes-Fisher Insurance-Renee Fisher, Terrance J Johnson, PhD PC, Mike & Laura Davis, Carol Nama, Jacob Sizemore, D & D Truck & Trailer Parts-David & Lori Stechschulte Jr., Wildwoods Assisted Living, Donna Kanan & Jim Jean, Brooks Innovative Graphics Inc.-Heather Brooks, Mary Jane Scarlett, Anonymous (2), Corunna Mills Feed LLC-Dick & Janet Demerly, Jerry & Cathy Robinson, Right at Home In Home Care, Pat Elliott, Ron & Marie Schaar, Mid-Michigan Monument, and

J & S Sales & Service Inc. Two tickets are provided to Shamrock Sponsors.

Ticket Printing \$300 Sponsor is R. H. Meihls & Associates. Program \$200 Sponsors are; Mark & Elaine Suter. Additional Pot of Gold, Rainbow, Shamrock, and Program Sponsorships are still available.

This year's Live Auction and Canned Raffle include: Sept. 20-27 stay at Mountain Run at Boyne Club Resort in Boyne Falls, Brad VanPelt Autograph with his MSU # & New York Giants #, 2 different Hayrides & Bonfires at Peacock Road Tree Farm one for 30 persons, one for 12 persons, 6 mo. Individual membership at the Shiawassee Family YMCA, Antler Mount Gift Certificate from Log Cabin Taxidermy, Nine Holes of Golf for Four with Cart at Corunna Hills, 4 V.I.P. Passes for Bavarian Belle Riverboat, Nights lodging at Bavarian Inn Lodge Sun-Thurs., 2 tickets to A Cappella Live at The Whiting, tickets for Potter Park Zoo & Children's Zoo, Impression 5 Science Center passes. Mackinac Island Carriage Tours passes, Nautical North Family Adventures tours in Cheboygan, tickets to Henry Ford Museum or Greenfield Village, tickets to tour Edsel & Eleanor Ford House. Also gift baskets from Upcycled Wood & Brooks Innovative Graphics, 12 dozen homemade cookies made and delivered by Kathy Raines, Mary Jane Scarlett's Famous Toffee, Chocolate turtles made by Judy Beach, and Pam Giffey's Carmel Corn. Engraved mounted slate clock with 1225 Train photo by Mid Michigan Monument, and Ron Raines. Gift Certificates for Estate Planning for 2 persons value \$600, Estate Planning for 1 person value is \$400 from Barbara BakerOmerod, American Flag from State Rep Ben Frederick, in triangle wood display case handcrafted by Ron Raines, Folding Camp Tables made by Greg Vogl, and new items are added daily. The Canned Raffle also includes handcrafted items by Donna Nault, Sandy Maynard, Susan Moore, Cindy Strien and photography by the late George Nama.

Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee is a Faith in Action non-profit that serves Shiawassee County. Volunteers primarily provide friendly visiting with the patient and the person's family caregivers. Patient and Caregiver Education is also provided to help persons know and access all the other senior & home care services available. Volunteers are matched with a person in their own community, and usually provide 1.5-3 hours of help weekly. Volunteer opportunities also include; helping in the office, helping with events, helping with fundraisers, special projects for the persons and caregiving families served, and helping maintaining the office, building and grounds.

Individual tickets are \$40, in advance and available at the Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee office at (989) 725-1127. Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee is located at 710 W. King Street, the historic home east of the Memorial Healthcare King St. entrance. The office is open M-F, and the main entrance on the parking lot side. The website is www.respitevolunteers.org and see the Respite Volunteer of Shiawassee facebook page. Persons needing information on respite services and persons interested in volunteering may also contact the office.

MMDHD Family Planning

submitted by Linda Gronda

The Mid-Michigan District Health Department's Family Planning Clinics provide confidential care for men and women in need of contraception and reproductive health services. Charges for services and supplies are based on income. The Family Planning Clinics are scheduled as follows:

Mid-Michigan District Health Department, 1307 E. Townsend Road, St. Johns.

February 11 & 18: 8 a.m. to Noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

February 25: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

New Clinic in Shiawassee County

February 13: 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

149 E Corunna Ave, Corunna MI

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (989) 224-2195, Option 5, Monday through Friday.

Consumers Energy Foundation Announces \$50,000 in Support for Michigan's Small Towns in 'Put Your Town on the Map' Competition

submitted by Vickie L. Walker

JACKSON – The Consumers Energy Foundation announced it is again sponsoring a competition that will provide \$50,000 to support big ideas in small towns across Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

The "Put Your Town on the Map" pitch competition will provide dollars for three projects that build strong communities. Up to 10 finalist communities will compete for the funding at the annual Small Town and Rural Development Conference on April 22 at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville, Mich.

"Consumers Energy is committed to ensuring that Michigan's communities of all sizes are growing and thriving," said Roger Curtis, Consumers Energy's vice president of public affairs. "We were impressed by the incredible ideas from so many communities last year. We're excited to invest more dollars into the competition's prizes and look forward to seeing even more creativity and innovation on display."

Consumers Energy created the competition to reward ideas and provide critical dollars for projects in Michigan's small towns. Communities with a population of up to 10,000 have until March 2 to submit proposals. Consumers Energy and the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM) will select 10 communities to make a pitch at the Rural Partners of Michigan conference for grants worth \$25,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000.

Last year's first competition featured \$15,000 in grants. The winners were:

- Port Austin – First place (\$7,500) – A large vacant lot will be developed into an interactive and dynamic space for tourists and community members.

- Spring Lake – Second place (\$5,000) – A plan to bring public art to the Lakeside Trail to make the village a destination for visitors.

- Sparta – Third place (\$2,500) – The Orchard, an incubator for small businesses.

The "Put Your Town on the Map" competition aims to reward a variety of innovative ideas, such as those that attract visitors to downtowns, focus on housing, education or employment, create community pride and more. Community leaders can learn more and apply at <http://cedamichigan.org/rpm/conference-rpm>.

The Consumers Energy Foundation is the charitable arm of Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider. The Foundation enables communities to thrive and grow by investing in what's most important to Michigan — its people, our planet and Michigan's prosperity. In 2019, the Consumers Energy Foundation, Consumers Energy, its employees and retirees contributed more than \$11.5 million to Michigan nonprofits. For more information about the Consumers Energy Foundation, visit www.ConsumersEnergy.com/foundation.

Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider, is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: CMS), providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.7 million of the state's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

Thrill Me The Leopold & Loeb Story Part of the Illuminate Series

submitted by Bob Hoffman

EAST LANSING, Mich. — A potent tale from history with a twist of artistic focus as it traces the hopes, fears, dreams and desires of Nathan Leopold. In flashback, Leopold tells the parole board how he and Richard Loeb planned what they considered to be the perfect crime—with horrifying results. Exploring the power dynamics and manipulation between the two, Thrill Me features haunting music and taut dialogue as the complicated web created by Chicago's notorious "thrill killers" unfolds. Tickets are available at the official source to purchase Wharton Center tickets online, whartoncenter.com; at the Auto-Owners Insurance Ticket Office; or by calling 1-800-WHARTON.

Dates are Wednesday, February 12 at 7:30pm; Thursday, February 13 at 7:30pm; Friday, February 14 at 8:00pm; Sunday, February 16 at 1:30pm at Pasant Theatre.

Thrill Me has received Drama Desk Award nominations for Best Musical and Best Music; an Outer Critics Circle Award nomination for Best Off-Broadway musical; won an ASCAP Music Award and a Los Angeles Garland Award. After its extended run in New York City, Thrill Me has been licensed for nearly 200 productions in 20 countries and 12 languages, including long-running versions in Seoul, Tokyo and Shanghai. The original London production transferred to the West End after a sold-out run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

"Startling...Provocative...I can't get enough of this...Will keep you spellbound...Thrill Me freezes the blood and keeps you wanting more!" –New York Observer

Stephen Dolginoff is the author/composer of Thrill Me: The Leopold & Loeb Story. This Wharton Center Theatre Production is directed by Bert Goldstein, the director of Wharton Center Institute for Arts & Creativity. This production will feature New York-based actors Mark Ryan Anderson and Wayne Shuker. Thrill Me is best suited for ages 15 and up, as it contains adult themes and situations. On Wednesday, February 12, there is an After Chat immediately following the performance, and on Thursday, February 13, there is an Insight Preview at 6:45PM.



**NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020 IN CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of Clinton County who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the Township or City Clerk; the office of the appropriate County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at www.mi.gov/vote and mailed to the Township or City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is **Monday, February 24, 2020**

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following:

Bath Twp Clerk - 14480 Webster Rd., P.O. Box 247, Bath, MI 48808 517-641-6728

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Bengal Twp Clerk - 6586 W. M-21, St. Johns, MI 48879 989-640-4750

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Bingham Twp Clerk - 2057 N. Lansing St., St. Johns, MI 48879 989-224-7297

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Dallas Twp Clerk - 11245 W. 1st St., Fowler, MI 48835 989-593-2542

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 9:00 am - 1:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

DeWitt City Clerk - 414 E. Main St., DeWitt, MI 48820 517-669-2441

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

DeWitt Twp Clerk - 1401 W. Herbison Rd., DeWitt, MI 48820 517-668-0270

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Duplain Twp Clerk - 340 W. Main St., Elsie, MI 48831 989-862-5084

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment - Monday, Friday, Sunday; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Eagle Twp Clerk - 10505 W. Howe Rd., Eagle, MI 48822 517-526-0218

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

East Lansing City Clerk - 410 Abbott Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823 517-337-1731

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Essex Twp Clerk - 8740 W. Colony Rd., St. Johns, MI 48879 989-224-3484

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 7:30 am - 3:30 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Greenbush Twp Clerk -3215 E. Marshall Rd., St. Johns, MI

48879 517-930-4180

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Lebanon Twp Clerk - 14234 W. Kinley Rd., Fowler, MI 48835 989-593-2193

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Olive Twp Clerk - 1669 E. Alward Rd., DeWitt, MI 48820 517-668-9506

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Ovid City Clerk - 114 E. Front St., Ovid, MI 48866 989-834-5550

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Ovid Twp Clerk - 1015 Baese Court, Ovid, MI 48866 989-834-2597

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Riley Twp Clerk - 7110 W. Pratt Rd., DeWitt, MI 48820 517-819-6132

Regular Business Hours: Wednesday 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm and by Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (7110 W Pratt Rd., DeWitt); Sunday, March 8th 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (4690 W Pratt Rd., DeWitt); Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

St. Johns City Clerk - 100 E. State St., Ste. 1100, P.O. Box 477, St. Johns, MI 48879 989-224-8944

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday, March 8th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Victor Twp Clerk - 6843 E. Alward Rd., Laingsburg, MI 48848 517-651-2094

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm and Sunday, March 8th 9:00 am - 1:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Watertown Twp Clerk - 12803 S. Wacousta Rd., Grand Ledge, MI 48837 517-626-6593

Regular Business Hours: Monday–Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday, March 7th 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

Westphalia Twp Clerk - 13950 Pratt Rd., PO Box 429, Westphalia, MI 48894 989-587-3411

Regular Business Hours: By Appointment; Saturday, March 7th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm; Election Day, Tuesday March 10th from 7 am - 8 pm

For the purpose of nominating candidates to the following office:

- President of the United States

Also to vote on the following proposals:

CLINTON COUNTY MILLAGE PROPOSITION COUNTY-WIDE E-911 EMERGENCY DISPATCH:

SHALL THE LIMITATION ON REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES WITHIN CLINTON COUNTY BE INCREASED BY UP TO .85 MILL (85 CENTS FOR EACH \$1,000 OF TAXABLE VALUATION) IN ORDER TO FUND THE CAPITAL, EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION NEEDS OF THE CLINTON COUNTY CENTRAL DISPATCH CENTER.

GRATIOT ISABELLA REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT:

SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL (RESTORATION OF HEADLEE REDUCTION) 0.1655 MILL FOR 10 YEARS

INGHAM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL (RESTORATION OF HEADLEE REDUCTION) 0.2438 MILL FOR 20 YEARS

PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS:

OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW 21 MILLS FOR 4 YEARS

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW 18 MILLS FOR 4 YEARS.

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Clinton County Clerk's Office, 100 E. State St., Ste. 2600, St. Johns, MI 48879,

989-224-5140. A sample ballot may be viewed at www.mi.gov/vote.

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the clerk's office.

This notice is given as required by law (MCL 168.498(3))

Diane Zuker, Clinton County Clerk

Election Coordinator

(989) 224-5140



MDHHS Activates Community Health Emergency

submitted by Lynn Sutfin

LANSING – As cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) continue to increase in the United States and internationally, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) activated the Community Health Emergency Coordination Center (CHECC) today to support local and state response to the outbreak.

“We at MDHHS recognize the potential threat associated with this virus and are working to identify any suspect cases in Michigan along with our local health partners,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief medical executive and chief deputy for health. “To help coordinate Michigan’s response to 2019 Novel Coronavirus, we are opening the Community Health Emergency Coordination Center to assist the multiple public health jurisdictions involved in the response and prevention of coronavirus here in our state.”

The CHECC will develop and distribute guidelines and educational materials concerning 2019-nCoV to public health agencies and healthcare providers as needed. This includes coordination with local health departments, including Detroit and Wayne County Health Departments especially as Detroit Metropolitan Airport has become a 2019-nCoV screening location.

To date, there are no confirmed cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus in Michigan. MDHHS has issued statewide messages through the Health Alert Network encouraging healthcare providers across Michigan to assess patients for exposures associated with the risk of 2019-nCoV infection, including travel to China or close contact with a confirmed case, and for symptoms consistent with 2019-nCoV infection. This includes coughing, shortness of breath and fever.

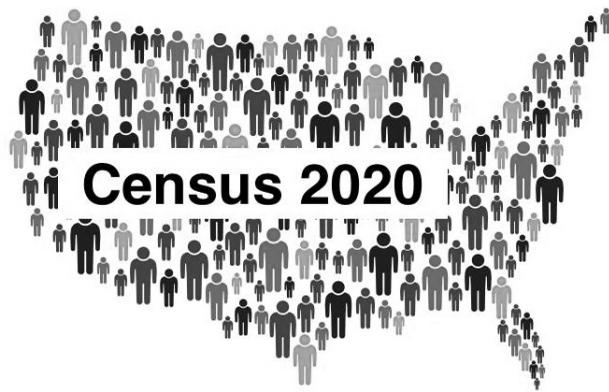
The first U.S. case-patient was identified on Jan. 21, and had recently traveled from Wuhan, China. Since that time, additional cases have been confirmed in the United States among persons who traveled from Wuhan, and two close contacts of confirmed cases. Globally, reported illnesses in people with 2019-nCoV have ranged from mild to severe, including death.

Last week, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared the coronavirus a public health emergency in the United States. In response to the evolving threat of the novel coronavirus, and to minimize the risk of the virus spreading, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has begun enforcing restrictions for all passenger flights to the United States carrying individuals who recently traveled from the People’s Republic of China. Any U.S. citizen who has been to China in the last two weeks will be diverted to one of 11 airports, including Detroit Metropolitan Airport, to be checked and potentially quarantined for an additional 14 days.

According to DHS, as of Sunday, Feb. 2, U.S. citizens who have been in Hubei province within 14 days of their return will be subject to up to 14 days of mandatory quarantine to ensure they are provided proper medical care and health screening. U.S. citizens who have been in other areas of mainland China within 14 days of their return will undergo proactive entry health screening and up to 14 days of self-quarantine with health monitoring to ensure they have not contracted the virus and do not pose a public health risk.

Generally, foreign nationals (other than immediate family of U.S. citizens, permanent residents and flight crew) who have traveled in China within 14 days of their arrival, will be denied entry into the United States.

As this is a rapidly changing situation, more information about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus outbreak and current recommendations will be updated at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.



Census 2020: Michigan Needs You! Make Sure You are Counted

Each decade, the U.S. Census strives to count every person living in the United States. The next census is scheduled to occur in this year. It is vital for everyone living in Michigan on April 1, 2020, or anyone who spends at least 50 percent of their time in Michigan, to be counted as living in Michigan on the 2020 U.S. Census.

An accurate count is critically important in determining how much federal funding our state will receive for essential services that impact local communities. For instance, in 2016, Michigan received nearly \$30 billion in federal funding for programs like highway planning and construction, food and housing assistance, health, and education.

Census results can also affect our Congressional representation. We currently have 14 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives but stand the chance of losing one seat if our population declines. If that happens, our state's congressional districts would have to be redrawn, which would lead to a reduction in the number of electoral votes we have in presidential elections.

Despite its importance, many challenges, obstacles and misinformation about the census persist which could hamper participation. This is especially true in rural communities and larger cities, which have been traditionally undercounted in previous census counts.

To ensure an accurate count, the Michigan Census Committee has launched a statewide "Count Me In" campaign, to communicate the importance of completing the census, dispel myths and maximize participation in the census. The campaign focuses on the "three Cs": the 2020 Census is convenient, confidential and critical to our future here in Michigan.

Completing the census is easy and the questions are simple. You will be asked how many people are living or staying in your home on April 1, 2020; whether the home is owned or rented; the sex, age and race of each person in your home and their relationship to you. Governments, businesses, communities and non-profits all rely on the data these questions produce to make critical decisions.

So, what can you do to help ensure a successful and accurate 2020 Census count? First, be counted! By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. The 2020 Census marks the first time you'll have the option to respond online. You can even respond from your mobile device. Responding by phone or mail will also still be options. Second, help spread the word to your family members, friends and neighbors that responding to the census is vital to Michigan's future success.

For more information about the 2020 U.S. Census, visit www.michigan.gov/census2020 or www.2020census.gov/. Thank you for doing your part to make sure Michiganders are counted.

LAFCU Offers \$5K in College Scholarships, \$1K in Charity Donations

submitted by Jan Jenkins

LANSING — LAFCU is accepting applications for its unique 2020 Write to Educate Essay Contest beginning Feb. 1.

The contest awards \$5,000 in two \$2,500 scholarships to high school seniors and asks each recipient to designate a charity to receive a \$500 donation from LAFCU. The scholarships can be used at any accredited Michigan college or university beginning fall 2020. The entry deadline is March 31.

Lansing State Journal is the community sponsor of the contest.

"LAFCU believes that higher education should be within reach of anyone who has the passion to pursue it," said Kelli Ellsworth Etchison, LAFCU chief marketing officer. "That's why the recipients are selected based solely on their one-page essay without regard to other factors such as grades. Every student who is a high school senior in Michigan qualifies to apply for this scholarship."

The Lansing credit union is chartered to serve people and businesses throughout Michigan.

For the essay, applicants are asked to examine technology in their life: Does it have a positive or negative effect on their personal safety? For example, how do they handle texting and driving, whether for themselves or others? The winning essays will be published in the Lansing State Journal.

In support of the credit union philosophy "People helping people," LAFCU will donate \$500 on behalf of each winner to one of the following charities of their choice:

- The Arc of Mid-Michigan
- Child and Family Charities
- CASA for Kids

Applicants do not need to be LAFCU members.

Information is at www.lafcu.com/lafcumyway where entries can also be uploaded.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer Signs State Service Plan

LANSING — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed the 2020-2022 State Service Plan outlining the Michigan Community Service Commission's vision for volunteerism in Michigan for the next three years.

As the state's lead agency on volunteerism, the Commission and its partners have created a plan highlighting ways Michigan can strengthen its communities through the expansion of national service and volunteerism.

The State Service Plan is a guide for future decision-making, investment and collaboration in an effort to improve Michigan's communities. The 2020-2022 plan outlines ways to strengthen partnerships to expand the impact of volunteerism, national service, mentoring and disaster preparedness efforts in the state. Key points in this plan include:

Facilitate collaboration between local leaders, businesses, public officials, education leaders and volunteer program managers to align and grow volunteer impact in Michigan communities.

Establish a National Service Leadership Council to share resources, identify unmet needs, coordinate effective action and expand national service resources in all regions of the state.

Launch a youth volunteer movement that engages Michigan youth in solving challenging issues and investing in their communities.

Expand the number of mentoring programs to positively impact the lives of young people using national mentoring best practices.

Assist state and local organizations to establish collaborative community plans to support donations and volunteer management to prepare for, respond to, recover from and mitigate disasters.

As the Governor's Commission, Community Service Commissioners are responsible for creating a vision and plan for volunteerism and national service in Michigan. The State Service Plan for 2020-2022 is built on the input gathered from a 12-stop statewide regional listening tour, a public online survey as well as the input of Commissioners and staff. The plan will now be submitted to the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency responsible for leading service, volunteering and grant-making efforts.

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City of Laingsburg City Council Vacancy

Laingsburg City Council is looking for an individual willing to commit to preparation, participation, and attendance at various meetings and community activities. Councilmember duties include, but are not limited to:

- Attendance at regular City Council meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m.;
- Serving on Council committees, and to represent the City Council at various community functions;

and,

The seven-member City Council is the legislative authority of the City of Laingsburg. The City operates under a mayor-council form of government. The council is responsible for setting policy, adopting the annual budget, adopting laws, setting priorities, and appointing citizens to its advisory boards and commissions, etc. The applicant appointed will serve until the expiration of November 2020.

To be eligible for appointment, applicants must:

- Reside within the City of Laingsburg city limits; and
- Be registered to vote in the City of Laingsburg.

To be considered, please send a letter of interest to:

Laingsburg City Hall
PO Box 178
Laingsburg, MI 48848

Letters of Interest will be accepted until **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2020.**

Paula Willoughby, Clerk
City of Laingsburg 517-651-5374

CITY OF LAINGSBURG SHIAWASSEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS ORDINANCE NO. 01-2019 ORDINANCE NO. 02-2019 ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLES 2, 5, 6 AND 8

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Laingsburg Council (the "City Council") has amended Ordinance No. 01-2019, Ordinance No. 02-2019, and Sections 2, 5, 6 and 8 of the City of Laingsburg's Zoning Ordinance. All such Amendments are concerned with the authorization, regulation, and permitting process for commercial marijuana facilities as provided by the Michigan Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act, Public Act 281 of 2016 and the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018.

In summary, these Amendments:

1. Create the availability of a maximum of two (2) facility permits for marijuana microbusinesses in the City.
2. Create consistency between Ordinance Nos. 01-2019 and 02-2019 by making renewal fees the same for medical and recreational facility permits and by removing criminal penalties for non-compliance.
3. Add a more detailed procedural process for enforcement in the event of permit holder non-compliance.
4. Add "Marijuana Microbusiness" to special land uses and require a site plan for such use.
5. Create zoning standards for microbusinesses, including a requirement for microbusinesses to be in stand-alone structures.

These Amendments were adopted by the City Council on Monday, February 3, 2020, and shall become effective February 15, 2020 (5) for Ordinance 01-2019 and Ordinance 02-2019 and March 11, 2020 for the Zoning Ordinance Amendments (30) days following the day of this publication. Complete copies of these Amendments are available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk and online on the City of Laingsburg's official web site.
Paula Willoughby, CITY CLERK
517-651-6101

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Sports

O-E Boys Crush Railroaders 59-29

by Tim Zwick

DURAND – The Ovid-Elsie boys basketball team ran their season-long unbeaten streak to 11 games with an easy 59-29 victory over Durand in an MMAC affair played here on January 31st. The Marauders sit alone in first place in league play at 9-0.

The visitors stepped on the gas from the opening tap forging out to a 20-2 first quarter lead. Play was much of the same in the second stanza as O-E increased the bulge to 35-6 at the intermission. The second half was a much more contested proceeding as the Marauders cruised to the win.

Shayne Loynes shouldered the load for the O-E offense, finishing with 26 points including three bombs from beyond the arc. The crafty senior also dished out five assists while coming up with six steals on the defensive end.

Justin Moore added eight points, grabbed 10 rebounds and also handed out five assists. Jackson Thornton and Cal Byrnes chipped in with eight and five points respectively.

12 In A Row! – Marauders Top Chesaning 63-46

CHESANING – The Marauders topped Chesaning 63-46 to extend their unbeaten record to 12-0 while upping their Mid-Michigan Activities Conference stranglehold on first place to 10-0. The game was rescheduled to February 5th due to cancellation earlier in the season because of illness.

Justin Moore paced the Ovid-Elsie attack, stuffing the stat sheet with 17 points, 10 rebounds, six steals and three blocked shots. Running mate Shayne Loynes finished with 13 points while dishing out seven assists and coming up with three steals. Aaron Hurst chipped in with 11 points including nine in the decisive third quarter.

Jackson Thornton added six points while Dylan Carman finished with five points, six rebounds and three blocks. Kyren Henning recorded four points, six rebounds and four assists. Imari Hall paced Chesaning (5-7 overall, 4-5 MMAC) with 21 points.

O-E has a pair of games on the horizon this week. On Monday, February 10th they play host to the Bath Bees in a non-conference tilt. Next up is a road trip to Montrose on February 13th to take on the Rams in a MMAC match-up. Tip-off is set for 7:00 p.m. both nights.



Justin Moore Shayne Loynes



Aaron Hurst Jackson Thornton

Vandals Beat the Bears

by Ashleigh Shaw

Once again the Bears went through a scoring spell in their game against Merrill only able to score 4 points in the first quarter compared to the 18 the Vandals put up. Scoring continued to be a struggle until the second half when the Bears began to play catch up, scoring 14 points in the third quarter and 19 in the fourth, but it wasn't enough to cut the deficit. Merrill won the game 62-44.

Korvin Bradley had a great game scoring 26 points grabbing 14 rebounds and adding 5 steals. Cole Keller scored 12 points and had 5 rebounds.

The Bears look to keep improving and coming out ready to score, to help themselves from getting behind to early.



Korvin Bradley Cole Keller

Leading Conference Foe Take One from the Lady Bears

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Lady Bears took on the top team in the conference the Irish from Sacred Heart Academy. The Bears went down 20-3 in the first quarter and struggled to score throughout the game against the tough Irish squad. The final score was 55-15.

"I thought that our effort tonight was a lot better, especially in the second quarter. Sacred Heart is a strong and deep team and we were able to hang in the game and battle with them through most of the first two and a half quarters" expressed Coach Shaw.

Isabele Kremer scored 9 points grabbing 4 rebounds and had 4 blocks as she lead the Lady Bears. Ashley Gavenda scored 5 points and had 5 rebounds, while Kellie Brown chipped in a bucket.

Lady Bears Win Tight One in Akron

It was a long bus ride over to Aron Fairgrove where they Lady Bears found their first win of the season. Although the team only had 5 players the whole night they were able to walk away with the win. The game was tight all night as Ashley lead at the end of the first quarter and at half time but Akron battled back. At the end of the third quarter the score was 25-24, with Ashley having the lead. In the fourth quarter the scoring went back and forth. With 24 seconds left Ashley trailed by 3 points, but they came up with a steal and a basket. Akron went down and missed a free throw leading to a Bears rebound where they were able to find Jenna Wirt for a layup with 5 seconds left to take a one point lead.

"We played shorthanded tonight only having five players available, but we were able to get a nice win on the road" commented Coach Shaw.

Comets Take One from the Bears

Ashley had another long bus ride this week as they traveled to Coleman for a conference matchup. The Bears were able to keep the game within reach for the first few quarters but then Coleman took over.

Isabele Kremer scored 13 points had 9 rebounds and 3 steals. Jenna Wirt chipped in 7 points and had 6 rebounds and Ashley Gavenda had 3 points.

"We struggled out of the gate to put points on the board but worked hard to try to keep the game close. We played a solid third quarter until the last minute and Coleman was able to pull away and put the game out of reach" expressed Coach Shaw.



Isabele Kremer



Jenna Wirt



Ashley Gavenda

OE Bowling

submitted by Matt

Fabus

On February 1st the Ovid-Elsie Varsity bowlers competed at Richfield Lanes against Southwestern.

The girls won 30-0 with high games of Chloe Taylor 162, Madison Schneider 150, Morgan Douglass 151, Jocelynn Holton-Pugh 139, Mikayla Kelley 154, 254, Lizzy Underhill 180, 147.

The boys won 27-3. High games included Ian Hehrer 201, 218, Eian Bushard 155, 175, Steve Zedemont 170, Tray Terpening 167, 189, Corbin Kelley 189, 210.

On February 2nd the teams competed in a singles tournament at Grand Blanc Lanes. OE did well with three girls making the top 30 out of 80 bowlers.

Total pins out of four petersons was used for the cut to 30. Lizzy Underhill 28th, Chloe Taylor 25th, Mikayla Kelley 15th moved on. Madison Schneider 33rd missed cut by one pin.

Lizzy Underhill bowled a 236 in the first round to move to the top 15 followed by a 211 to move into the top 8. She bowled a 135 and received a medal.

Ian Hehrer missed cut and finished 34th for the day.



Mikayla Kelley Liz Underhill



Ian Hehrer Corbin Kelley



Ben Maynard



Gavyn Leavitt



Will Schmidtfranz

OE Swimming

The Marauder swim teams hosted the Orioles from Charlotte on Tuesday, February 4th. OE won the meet 148-129 thru the 12 events.

In the mixed 200 yard medley relay, the OE team of, W. Schmidtfranz, S. Harden, B. Maynard and G. Leavitt took first place with a time of 2:00.37.

In the 200 yard freestyle, W. Schmidtfranz placed third with a time of 2:16.14. In the mixed 200 yard IM, B. Maynard finished first with a score of 2:25.37.

In the mixed 50 yard freestyle, OE finished third and fourth, G. Kvalevog, 29.52 and C. Holley, 30.32. Sam Harden finished first with a time of 1:07.77 in the mixed 100 yard butterfly. William Schmidtfranz finished second in the mixed 100 yard freestyle, 57.76.

In the mixed 500 yard freestyle, Ben Maynard finished first with a time of 5:36.70. In the mixed 200 yard freestyle relay, the team of Leavitt/Harden/Schmidtfranz/Maynard finished second, 1:45.03.

In the mixed 100 yard backstroke, OE finished 1st-4th, G. Leavitt, 1:24.05, N. Leavitt, 1:36.01, W. Dahlke, 1:39.99 and A. Pumford, 1:47.87.

In the mixed 100 yard backstroke, Sam Harden had a first place finish with a time of 1:12.90. The team of L. Gruber/A. Spitzley/C. Holley/G. Kvalevog finish 2nd in the mixed 400 yard freestyle relay with a score of 4:40.49.

The Marauders swim team will host the Corunna Cavaliers on Tuesday, February 11th at 6pm.

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Sports



Lauren Barton Caitlyn Walter Allison Reppenhagen Kiah Longoria Braylon Byrnes

Lady Marauders Back on Track 51-29 Over Durand

by Tim Zwick

DURAND – Ovid-Elsie got back to their winning ways with an impressive 51-29 win over MMAC foe Durand in a game played here January 31st. The Marauders now stand 9-5 overall and 5-3 in league play.

Lauren Barton had a monster effort, leading all scorers with 23 points while also hauling down 18 rebounds and handing out five assists for good measure. It was the second straight double-double for the senior front-courter and she was joined in double digit scoring by Caitlyn Walter, who finished with 12 points.

Allison Reppenhagen chipped in with seven points and five rebounds. Freshman point-guard Kiah Longoria added six points and four assists while Braylon Byrnes rounded out the Marauder's scoring effort with three points.

"I thought Barton played one of her best games of her career, there weren't many flaws in her game tonight," noted Marauders mentor Ryan Cunningham. "I was also really pleased with how well Reppenhagen played tonight - she gave us some great minutes."

Next on the docket for O-E is a road trip to Montrose for a contest with the Rams on February 13th. Tip-off is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Wolfpack Survives Raining of 'threes' Moves to 6-1 in CMAC Boys Cage Race

LAINGSBURG -- Despite the below-freezing outside temperature and the fact they were playing indoors, it started raining in the LHS gymnasium January 24.

Raining three-point shots.

In a game that totaled 28 made 3's (14 by each side), coach Daniel Morrill's host Wolfpack was able to hang on to win, 72-65.

"Fulton came in to Laingsburg ready to prove that they can fill it up," said coach Morrill. "And both teams did."

The Wolves remained in a tie for CMAC supremacy at 6-1, 8-1 overall. Pewamo-Westphalia routed previously unbeaten Pottersville 56-24 on January 24, and both those teams kept pace with just one loss in league play.

Laingsburg was led by senior Gabe Hawes who had 26 (18 behind the three-point arc), Zach Hawes with 14. Aidan Soeltner and Colt Wurm both chipped in 13.

Fulton was led by Sam Jung who scored 18 (including five 3's) and Hunter Elkins, who totaled 16 points.



Jesse Gugel scores 2 for Laingsburg against Fulton on Jan. 24th.

Photo by Keith Kingsbury

Perry hands Wolfpack boys just second loss of season, 63-56

PERRY -- The host Ramblers bolted to an early 16-12 lead, then held off a frenetic Laingsburg comeback in the 4th quarter, handing the Wolfpack just their second loss in 10 games here Monday night.

Perry's 63-56 victory came on a 20-9 run to close out the contest, as the Ramblers moved to 7-2 overall. Both teams are atop their respective conferences with just one loss in league play; Monday's contest showcased two of the Shiawassee area's top teams in non-league action.

"I think we needed this," said LHS coach Daniel Morrill. "As a coach you never want to lose, but I think it's exactly what we needed right now and I'm looking forward to our response — I know this team will respond well."

The Ramblers bounced back after Friday's 62-44 loss to Stockbridge, its first defeat in Greater Lansing Activities Conference play. Perry, Leslie and Stockbridge are all 5-1 in the league.

Perry took a 52-49 lead late and never looked back. The Wolfpack would come close several times, but thanks to some clutch free throw shooting down the stretch, the Ramblers held on.

Trailing 31-26 at the halftime break, Laingsburg came out blazing, going on a 10-0 run to open the third quarter. Colt Wurm (three baskets) and Gabe Hawes (9 points on 3-point shots) led the charge.

Perry knotted the scored at 47-47 with 6:30 to go, then played shut-down defense to finish the contest.

Hawes finished with 19 points to pace Laingsburg (6-1 Central Michigan Athletic Conference), which leads the CMAC by a half-game over Pewamo-Westphalia and Pottersville (both 5-1). Wurm scored nine points. Connor Thomas added 7 points, and Austin Randall 6 for the Wolves.

Just four players scored for the Ramblers: Brodie Crim 20, Caleb Leykauf 18, C.J. Kin 9 and Brody Kassa 7.

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2019 Shiawassee County Fair Queen

submitted by Shannon Saul

Applications for Miss Shiawassee County Fair Queen are now available at www.shiawasseeefair.com or at the Fair Office, Monday – Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 2900 E. Hibbard Road. The deadline for Queen Applications is 4 p.m. Thursday, March 5th, 2020.

Fair Queen Applicants should be between the ages of 16-21 yrs. (as of January 1, 2020) must have previously exhibited at the fair. Complete pageant rules are included with the application.

The Shiawassee County Fair Queen Pageant will be held Saturday, March 21st, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the Community room at the Shiawassee County Fairgrounds. The public is invited to attend. Miss Shiawassee County Fair and her attendant will participate in events and parades throughout the area to represent the fair.

If you have any questions, please call the Fair Office at 989-743-3611 or email shiacofair@gmail.com

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LAINGSBURG

Editorial

Pheasants Forever



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

The Weekly Sportsman has written frequently about pheasant hunting and Pheasants Forever (PF) events but has never really drilled down on the history, mission, and structure of the organization. Started by a group of Minnesota pheasant hunters who saw a direct connection between upland habitat loss and declining pheasant populations they held the first fundraising banquet on April 15, 1982. This was the start of an organization which would eventually span 45 states and Canada with more than 700 local chapters and over 150,000 members. Michigan PF alone boasts over 30 active local chapters and membership exceeding 8,000.

Like all conservation wildlife organizations, PF has a mission statement focused on wildlife and habitat. It reads, "PF is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education, and land management policies and programs." What separates PF from all other conservation wildlife organizations is its operation under a very unique local chapter model. With the exception of \$35 annual membership dues per member all funds raised locally stay under local administration which is often used for seed to plant habitat and fund events for youth, women, and veterans. Known as the "habitat organization" local chapters often send funds up to state councils and national to be pooled and leveraged for habitat projects with matching funds from partners of similar conservation wildlife organizations and state game agencies.

Although Charity Navigator currently only gives PF a three star rating it was rated a four star organization a few years ago and will more than likely be back at that level very soon. The success of this organization can be attributed to many different factors but their CEO and paid staff are second to none. You certainly don't take a job with PF to get rich but you do it because it is your passion and you are working to make a difference for future generations. Leadership starts at the top and CEO Howard Vincent certainly does lead by example. His push to leave a lasting legacy of habitat individually and as an organization reverberates through all PF staff and volunteer levels.

Locally, PF chapters are very strong in mid-Michigan and the banquets are second to none. Most chapters hold youth, women, and veteran hunts; along with youth days and all pour a lot of revenue into seed for habitat. Some even sponsor competitive youth shooting teams. The Weekly Sportsman often tells friends that attending a PF banquet pays for itself. Clearly just the fact that your annual membership and money spent at a banquet is used wisely and efficiently to grow habitat locally and across the country for pheasants and wildlife is worth the investment. However, the Weekly Sportsman can make a pretty good argument that a family with at a couple of teenagers really can benefit from participating. Most chapters spend around \$125 per youth twice a year with youth hunts and seed is often given away for free or a very little copay per bag whether it is grass seed, pollinator mixes, corn, beans, sunflowers, and sorghum/millet mixtures. If some family members participate in a womens or veterans event that is a bonus as well as the quarterly adult and youth magazines that show up in the mailbox. And of course, the more you play the more you win, so who knows what firearms and merchandise you could bring home from a banquet.

Most banquets and hunts book up very quickly so make your decision on attendance very soon!

- 2/28- PF, Genesee #112 Banquet, Grand Blanc, 810-695-5169 or 810-635-7988
- 3/07- PF, Shiawassee #399 Banquet, Owosso, Bryan Gross, 810-869-4170
- 3/20- PF, Saginaw #526 Banquet, Frankenmuth, Jeanna, 989-652-2200
- 3/21- PF, Clinton #469 Banquet, Fowler, Dave Rademacher, 517-282-8758
- 3/21- PF, Gratiot #90 Banquet, Ithaca, Dean Havelka, 989-763-1575
- 3/28- PF, Shiawassee #399, Spring Youth Hunt, Martin Perez, 989-277-8180
- 4/04- PF, Shiawassee #399, Spring Women's Hunt, Martin Perez, 989-277-8180

-WS

Shiawassee County Walk for Warmth

The Shiawassee County Walk for Warmth will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2020.

Registration for the 3 mile walk will be at the Shiawassee Council on Aging, 300 N. Washington St., Owosso and begin 9:00am and the walk will start at 9:30am.

Breakfast will be open to the public. A small donation is appreciated. Also face painting, photos with Buckle Bear, Penguin, Fox and Snowman.

This is the 30th Anniversary of this walk benefiting Shiawassee County. 100% of monies raised stays in the county.

Help Capital Area Community Services, Inc. raise dollars to assist low income families, seniors and those with disabilities who live in Shiawassee County. All monies raised provide heat and related utilities to people in Shiawassee County.

For questions please call 989-723-3115. Visit us on Facebook @capital area community services. Or on the website www.cacs-inc.org



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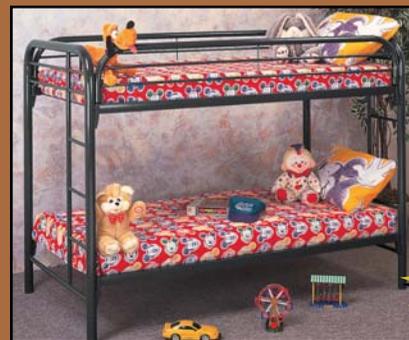
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