

Laingsburg Schools Forge Ahead with Construction Underway at LHS

LAINGSBURG -- With the tall walls going up and the new Performing Arts Center taking shape, continuing construction at Laingsburg High School is drawing a lot of attention.

The footings are completed for the project, which includes the PAC and an auxiliary gymnasium, and now construction crews are working diligently to get the structure capped with the roof before the snow flies, says Laingsburg Community Schools superintendent Matt Shastal.



The three-phase project is nearing the completion of phase one, with a projected completion date of August 2021 -- in time to open for the new school year. All the construction projects at four facilities -- Early Childhood Development Center, Elementary School, Middle School and LHS -- are on time and on budget, according to Shastal.

In the fall of 2017, the Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education conducted a retreat for strategic planning, and it was during that session that board members discussed adding a new performing arts center and an auxiliary gym to the high school campus.

May 26, the district moved one step closer to that reality when construction under its \$17.8-million bond -- approved by district voters in May 2019 -- began.

TowerPinkster, the district's chief architectural firm, and Christman Company, in charge of construction management for the project, have been working with officials since the bond passed in May 2019.

In an effort to secure contractors for the work, the bond improvements -- which include upgrades to the district's Early Childhood Center, elementary school, middle school and high school -- were split into two bid packages, according to TowerPinkster



Design Architect Matthew Murphy.

Package one will encompass the addition of secure vestibules to the Early Childhood Center, the elementary school, the middle school and the high school. The measure will also provide air conditioning throughout the elementary school, as well as cover the cost of reconfiguring the high school's main entrance, removing the "skeletonized steel" overhang, according to Murphy.

With the addition of secure vestibules in each building, students, parents and other guests who need to enter the building during school hours will require authorization from the main office. Individuals will be funneled directly into the main office, rather than having access to the main hallway as they had previously.

Package two of the project will include a 650-seat Performing Arts Center at the high school constructed on the building's northeast side near the student parking lot. The auditorium space will have two separate dressing rooms as well as a designated storage space for props and scenery.

Package two will also add an auxiliary gym -- constructed adjacent to the existing high school gym -- and will create a larger space to accommodate the high school band.

Under the design, the current band room, large group meeting room, and existing auditorium space will be renovated into a larger band room -- which will feature increased space for instrument storage and practice rooms -- as well as a new mat room, to be used by the wrestling and cheerleading teams.

Interior work at the high school campus is slated to begin in January and run through August 2021, while work on the existing interior renovations (band room, mat room) won't start until June 2021.

Village of Elsie Proceedings

by Dawn D. Levey

ELSIE - The regular meeting of the Elsie Village Council was held Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at the Elsie Public Library. Prior to the regular meeting a public hearing was held to discuss rental properties and ordinances addressing inspections and a safety checklist. Officials took formal action to adopt the ordinance during the regular meeting.

Action was taken on Ordinance #173 addressing rental inspections, noting that two public hearings had been held. Officials approved the adoption of the ordinance, a check-list will be established in the very near future for implementation.

Mary Ann Rees updated officials on the status of the Elsie Community Garden. The area is being fitted for spring planting. Dairy Doo has been provided to naturally fertilize the site. Ms. Rees is additionally, looking for volunteers to assist with the project. Contact information can be left at the Village business office.

The Lally Group, out of Jackson, representative John Lewinski was present to offer a proposal for providing accounting services to the Village. Three proposals were outlined - essential, enhanced and preferred financial services. This is financial services accounting based, not an audit service. Officials took action to approve the Essential proposal at a cost of \$1,000 monthly, onboarding fee not to exceed \$5,000. It was noted that if additional services were needed the current proposal could be enhanced.

October 13 was an evening of resignations and appointments. Officials took action to appoint Megan Montes to the Elsie Public Library Board. Followed by the resignation of Shane Grinnell as Village Treasurer, explaining that the decision was made due to changes in the village managers duties. Due to the resignation, Molly Frink was appointed to the treasurers' position. In addition, action was taken to purchase a lap top and printer for the newly appointed treasurer.

Next, officials approved the resignation of Jason Freeman as the representative to the Clinton County Area Ambulance Service Board. The resignation was prompted by commitments at work. Cory Witt was appointed to fill the position on the CAAS.

Finally, it was recommended that Shane Grinnell be designated as the Village Code Enforcement Officer and Zoning Administrator. Compensation was discussed and determined that there is a need to amend the village manager's job description, this will be added as an action step. Formal action is slated for the November regular meeting.

Officials took action to establish Trick-or-Treating hours 6-7:30 pm on Saturday, October 31, 2020. Immediately following the annual Halloween Party will be held at the Emergency Services building following Michigan Health Department guidelines. All food will be individually packaged and served individually, and socially distancing and masks will be required.

Shane Grinnell, village manager, reported that the Village of Elsie and Elsie Fire Department audit had been completed. Zoning has been busy reviewing a number of resi-

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Ovid-Elsie Homecoming Court

Back row (l-r): Josh Swender, Cal Byrnes, Jackson Thornton, Noah Fahey, and Keigan Ormes. Front row (l-r): Emma Woodbury, Emily Sopocy, Mary Sopocy, Karli Witt, and Madison Cunningham.



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Social

VanGieson Celebrating 80th Birthday

Sharon VanGieson will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on October 26th with a card shower. Birthday wishes can be sent to Sharon at: 2495 N. Ovid, Rd., Ovid, MI 48866.



Elsie cont' from front...

dential building projects, noting that the variance request for 115 W Pine building request had been approved by the Zoning Board.

Water bills are back to regular water usage, summer rates have expired. 3,000-gallon usage for minimum instead of the summer rate of 5,000 gallons.

Officials were given information regarding the fees assessed at Riverside Cemetery, lots, opening and closings, etc. The issues were placed as an action step to be with recommendations to be presented in the near future.

Officials received comments from Village residents regarding the proposal to purchase a digital information sign at a cost of \$40,000 for a sign, it is truly necessary, a true slap in the face to the public. Grinnell indicated that maybe the school, township, and community organizations could assist with the expense. Discussion followed.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of community garden and the elimination of golf carts and add cemetery fees, the minutes of the September 8, 2020 meeting, financial reports and the Elsie Police Department. Action was taken to approve expenditures totaling \$84,349.76.

Laingsburg School Board Meeting

submitted by Krissy Pratt

Laingsburg Community Schools Board of Education will conduct a regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. The meeting will begin at 7:00p.m. in the Middle School Media Center.

The major tentative agenda items for this meeting include the following: Lewis & Knopf-District Audit Report presentation, Pupil Count Day, 2020-21 budget update and amendment, legislative update, building reports, personnel, Superintendent Evaluation, Wall of Fame and any other business that may properly come before the board.

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

Snowbirds Flying South, LAFB Needing Volunteers

submitted by Linda Culpepper

As our snowbirds fly South for the winter, the Laingsburg Area Food Bank has found a need for volunteers to fill in their spots. If you can give 2 hours of your time a month to help distribute food & hygiene products to our clients. New volunteers will always be working with seasoned volunteers. It is actually a great time to meet other people in our community who care about people.

If you would like to become a volunteer, please call Linda Culpepper @ 517.285.0789, and make sure to leave a message, just in case I am away from my phone. Thank you!

Ovid Public Library Re-Opening

The Ovid Public Library will be open to ten (10) patrons at a time beginning Monday October 19, 2020.

Open Hours Are: Monday: 10:00 – 7:00; Wednesday: 10:00 – 5:00; Friday: 10:00 – 5:00

Each patron is limited to one hour per day. Masks are required, social distancing will be practiced, hand germicidal is available as you enter.

Items may be returned to the container on the floor as you enter. Please do not place materials on the desk.

Curbside will still be available. Computers are only available by appointment only 2 of our computers will be available to use by appointment only.

There is a 30-minute time limit per day for using the computer.

There are currently no in person programming or other activities

Call 989-834-5800 with any questions.

Healthcare Provider

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In Assisted Living Facility in Elsie. Experience with health care and/or caring for the elderly highly recommended. Call Karen at: 517-281-2729

CITY OF OVID PUBLIC NOTICE

To all Residents:

Last Day of Brush Pickup is Monday, Nov. 2, 2020.

Do not put brush in road or along gutters or mix with leaves

THE FIRST DAY of LEAF PICKUP is the First TUESDAY in NOVEMBER. (November 3, 2020).

LAST DAY of LEAF PICKUP is the First MONDAY in DECEMBER (December 7, 2020)

OR THE FIRST SNOW FALL. Put your leaves in bags or along the road edge.

Beauty and Barbershop Directory

If you would like to place your ad in our directory, please call us today at: (989) 834-2264

Country Styles Hair Studio

Hair Care!
 Owner/Stylist Meri Smith
 Manicurist/Stylist Erica Nichols
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 989-862-5848
 109 S. Ovid St. Elsie
 Open 5 days M. & W. 9-8;
 Th. 9-5; Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-1;
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 Handicap Accessible

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Stylists: Patty Coleson, Colleen Pennell, Grace Ruckle, Loni Plowman
 Full line of Hair & Nail Care Products

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Obituaries

Robert Kent "Bob" Walter

Robert Kent "Bob" Walter of Mason, MI passed away on October 1, 2020 at the age of 69 after a brief battle with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. He was born June 14, 1951 in St. Johns, MI, the second son of Gerald and Jeanne (Baker) Walter. He graduated from Ovid-Elsie High School with the Class of 1969. In 1973 Bob began his career with the Michigan Department of Transportation and retired in June, 2006.

Surviving are his sister and brother-in-law, Leanne and Tom Walling of Rapid River, MI; his partner, Patti Balint; treasured cousins and many lifelong friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Gerald; mother, Jeanne; and brother, Randy.

Bob's smile was contagious and after talking with him or spending time with him you always came away feeling uplifted. He will be forever remembered for his loving presence, easy laugh, and dedication to family and friends.

Following Bob's wishes, cremation has taken place and there will be no services. Memorials may be made to a no-kill animal shelter of the donor's choosing in Bob's memory.



Garry L. Gasek

Garry L. Gasek, age 63 of Ovid passed away Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at his home.

Garry was born March 5, 1957 in Durand, the son of George and Carole (Watson) Gasek.

He graduated from Corunna High School, class of 1975 and attended Automotive Trade School, Livonia.

Garry was an avid outdoorsman and loved boating, fishing, hunting and golfing. He spent many years in leagues at Chippewa Hills Golf Club and volunteered for the Corunna-Caledonia Fire Department. Most of all he looked forward to family time and watching his grandchildren grow.

He married Denise George in Owosso on May 16, 1981; she predeceased him on February 1, 2013.

Garry was employed through the years at Gasek Gas Station and Towing and other local dealers as service manager.

Garry is survived by his son Ryan (JaLynne); grandchildren Colbe and Averi Gasek; mother Carole Conklin; sister Denise (Paul) Eister; dog Allie; special friends Eric and Julie Brown of Ovid; other loving family and friends.

He was predeceased by his wife Denise and his father George.

The family will receive friends at Nelson-House Funeral Home on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 from 5pm to 8pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the family.

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



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The Family of Neil Somers

would like to thank family, friends and neighbors for the flowers, gifts, cards, food, memorials, calls, messages, prayers, love and support during our time of loss.

Thank you to the doctors, nurses and Hospice at Memorial Hospital; Hospice House of Shiawassee County for their compassion and care of our loved one; friends, staff and nurses at Fresenius.

Thank you to Pastor Charlene Wagner for the wonderful service and her words of comfort; also to everyone at Smith Family Funeral Home for their helpful and caring service.

We appreciate all the heartfelt condolences and memories you shared.



In Memory Ed Young 8-23-32/10-20-19



*The Day God Took
You Home*

*A million times I've needed
you, a million times
I've cried.*

*If love along could have saved
you, you never would of died.*

*In life I loved you dearly, In
death I love you still. In my
heart you hold a place. No*

*one else can ever fill. It broke
my heart to lose you. But you
didn't go alone Part of me*

went with you.

The day God took you Home.

*Love From Your
"Berta" and Family*

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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Middlebury United Methodist Church

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Worship Service
9:30 a.m.
Rev. Melanie Young

FAITH FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

Corner of Price & Chandler, St. Johns

Pastor: John Jakus

Sunday School: 9:00am
Worship Service 10:00am
517-651-6210

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Pastor Roger Numerich

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

Bannister United Methodist Church

103 Hanvey Street
Pastor: Zella Daniel
Sunday Worship 11:00am

ELSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

160 W. Main St., Elsi e(989) 862-5239

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

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

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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Curtis Keck



Joe Coleman

Pre-Arrangements have you wondering?

Please call us for answers.

Editorial



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

Politics and Attitude

Dear Andy,

I am so disappointed in our Presidential debates. I was on a debate team in college. We were timed and prepared to defend our position with facts. The interruptions and personal banter in the debates are out of hand. I am so embarrassed how people are not telling us what they will do but criticizing opponents of what they have not done. The rudeness and jabs are hurtful and now we find out that the FBI has foiled an abduction of our Governor, who only has our best interest in her motives. People who think they can have the right to hold a kangaroo hearing or trial. What has happened to our country. Do you have anything to say about what is going on? Ralph G.

Dear Ralph,

Oh yes, I have plenty to say, but this is not the column for me to politically vent. I will share this to my readers: You have the right to disagree on any point anyone makes but when you express it, please consider others' rights and feeling.

If you do not like how things are going in the government, contact your congressman or run for office to make your platform known. Quit making yourself look good by making others look bad. I am not embarrassed; I am motivated to listen and understand other points of view. I am inspired to take a stand and to respect other who have taken a stand. I am excited to encourage each of us to VOTE on or before November 3, 2020.

Mostly, I am sad for the friendships that have been severed due to opposite political views. People who have stopped attending their church, people not wearing masks, when appropriate or needed. Yes, people die of the flu every year. If we have learned nothing else how about common sense – stay home if you are sick. Go to your doctor for treatment. Follow CDC guidelines as with any other disease or virus and wash your hands like your mommy taught you when you were little. That's it on this subject! Thank you for writing me. Andy @ ask_andy@aol.com

P. S. People continuing to spread germs and lies because they do not really know the truth. To know truth...we must have faith. "Faith is being sure of what we Hope for; and Certain of what we do not see." NIV Hebrews 11:1



**YOUR NEWSPAPER:
TEXTBOOK TO THE WORLD**

PUBLIC NOTICE

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 3, 2020 General Election is scheduled for Monday October 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Township Hall at 7988 W. Henderson Rd. Elsie.

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.

Carolyn Long
Fairfield Township Clerk

Middlebury Township Residents

Letter to the Editor:

Do to the fact that we have sold our farm and are moving to Owosso, I am resigning my position as Trustee of the township board effective October 19, 2020. After my serving for many years it will be good for the township to get some new ideas and insights for future development.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my years as Supervisor and Trustee seeing the township road millage improve our roads and hope our residents will continue that program which also includes roadside brush control and spraying. The land acquisition with the former gravel company has enabled the township to move ahead with replacing the township hall with no additional millage.

Thank you again to all the residents who have supported me for many years.

Sincerely,
Richard "Dick" Semans

Dear Fellow Citizens of Duplain Township

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to encourage you to vote YES on the Elsie Public Library millage increase proposal which will be on the November 3 ballot. Most public libraries are funded primarily by a voter-passed millage, penal fines, state aid, and miscellaneous income from fines, fees, memorials, grants, and donations. The Elsie Public Library is seeking a 1.0 mill increase (that is \$1.00 on each \$1000 of taxable value annually on taxable property.) That would increase the overall library millage to 1.985, as eight years ago the community passed 1.0 mill in support of the library which has since been reduced to .9811 thanks to the Headlee Amendment. Besides the millage, the library's second-highest contributor for funding is penal fines but those have been decreasing, particularly this year.

In short, the Elsie Public Library needs your support to increase its income in order to provide services, maintain and upgrade technology, pay competitive wages, and expand operations to meet the needs of the community. We hope that the millage increase will enable us to be open more hours, increase our budget for both printed and electronic books, expand programs and interactive opportunities for children, offer more technology services, eliminate fines for overdue items, and provide DVDs free of charge to patrons.

As a member of the Elsie Library board for the past several years, I see how efficiently the library is run with existing monies and how much we are able to offer to the community, but with dwindling and less-reliable income we are concerned that eventually we will not be able to afford adequate staffing and continue to be the resource to the community that we have always been.

Please join me in voting YES to support the Elsie Public Library millage increase on your absentee ballot or when you vote in person on November 3.

Thank you,
Leeann Huff
Elsie Library Board Vice-President

CITY OF LAINGSBURG NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020

A public accuracy test for the General Election to be held Tuesday, November 3, 2020, will be conducted on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 114 N. Woodhull Street, Laingsburg, Michigan.

The public accuracy test is conducted to assure that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the ballots of the election are in conformance with the procedures prescribed by the law.

Paula Willoughby
Laingsburg City Clerk

Sheriff BeGole

Letter to the Editor:

Once again it is campaign season and the election is quickly approaching. In the first four years serving as your sheriff a lot has been accomplished with the assistance of deputies, employees, and the community.

Some of the highlights include:

- Establishment of a jail garden that has produced over 100,000 lbs. of fresh produce for the jail kitchen and local pantries

- Implemented active shooter trainings and procedures for schools and churches

- Restored K-9 unit service and increased road patrol

- Completion of new central dispatch center

- Established towing policy for consumer protection and equity to business owners

- Updated outdated and unsafe equipment for deputies including vehicles, firearms, and uniforms

- Reduced departmental spending and worked hard to do more with less resources

While my opponent, along with some local social and print media, prefer to tear down the progress made I will continue to work hard everyday to improve your sheriff's office. In addition, during these recent times of uncertainty due to COVID-19 and civil protests I will always continue to balance and protect your constitutional rights while at the same time ensuring public safety.

Sheriff Brian BeGole

Thank You Laingsburg

Letter to the Editor:

We wanted to give a big THANK YOU to LSW Fire Department and our EMS here in Laingsburg. Also, thank you from the bottom of our heart to the Laingsburg Community for your donations and supporting us during our cookie booths.

Our Daisy Girl Scout Troop 30163 has been waiting months to donate their 19 boxes of cookies to them. For everything they do for those around us, some little snacks won't hurt after a long day! You are amazing people for everything you do!

Thank You, Laingsburg Girl Scout Troop 30163

CITY OF OVID

PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 3, 2020, General Election has been scheduled for Thursday, October 22 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Hall Activity Room located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the programs and the Election Equipment being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

Josefina Medina, Clerk
City of Ovid

PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF ELECTRONIC VOTING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that Victor Township will hold a Public Accuracy Test of the electronic voting system to be used in the November 03, 2020 General Election on October 28, 2020 at 3:00 p.m at 6843 E. Alward Road Laingsburg, MI 48848. This test is being conducted as required by Michigan law (MCL168.798) to demonstrate to the public that votes cast will be accurately counted for all offices and on all proposals. The Victor Township board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 10-day notice to the Victor Township board. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Victor Township board by writing or calling the following: 517-651-2094. Notice complies with MCL 141.436 and MCL 211.24e

DuPlain Township Proceedings

by Dawn D. Levey

DUPLAIN - The regular monthly meeting of the DuPlain Township Board was held Wednesday, October 14, 2020, 7:30 pm. The evening was highlighted by preparations for the 2020 General Election.

Officials took action to approve the appointment of the election inspectors: Phyllis Moore, Chair, John LaLonde, Kathleen Pattison, JoAnn Fogarty, Emielie Schoch, Larry Ott, Brody Bowen, and Cheryl Bowen. In addition, Phyllis Moore and JoAnn Fogarty were appointed to the Receiving Board. The polling place for the General Election will be held at the Elsie American Legion, 220 S. Ovid Street, Elsie the larger site will accommodate CDC guidelines and allow for social distancing. 539 absentee ballots request up approximately 100 from last month, considerably more than the primary, 53% returned thus far. In the future the township may want to consider a ballot drop box because 455 individuals have signed-up for permanent mail-in ballots. It was noted that expenses for this election have increased approximately \$2,200.00.

On a related issue, officials took action to allocate a \$200 bonus to the Deputy Clerk for the added workload of registering voters and assisting with mail-in ballots.

Mr. Dick Bates, township clerk, received a letter from the Michigan Department of Treasury regarding over budget categories and the action to amend the budget an action plan was requested. The remedy offered was creating a plan noting that many of the increases were due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and for the next fiscal budget increases will be made in these specific line items.

Officials were presented a land survey challenge in the Rochester Colony. The DuPlain Church of Christ has decided to make some building changes so they had a survey completed however, a survey stake ended up in the middle of a resident's yard, residents who are very concerned. The home owners noting that the survey stake they have in the back of the year

which goes to the center of the road. The Township has a quandary with this situation. Kam Washburn, former supervisor, noted that there were issues with the original plats. The acceptable lot lines do not jive, everyone just accepted them. To clear up the situation is making an accessor's plat, first everyone must agree who owns property in the Colony. Everyone stakes out their property and then you survey from those stakes and they become official, leaps and bounds on the description. Again, the first step is that everyone must agree, and then followed by the cost and who pays for the surveys. This would be quite an undertaking; deeds need to be amended and mortgages would have to be changed. Very involved and expensive venture. It is estimated that there could be a dozen properties involved. The process begins talking to the involved land owners.

Mr. Kam Washburn, County Commissioner, updated officials on the COVID-19 numbers in Clinton County which is experiencing a spike but deaths remain low, to date 15 deaths. With the revoking of the Governor's Executive Orders due to the Supreme Court ruling Clinton County has developed an emergency plan that will remain in place. The County Commission will continue to meet virtually. It was further noted that many of the issues in the executive orders are being addressed by the legislature and much of the county's direction is coming directly from the Clinton County Health Department Director and the Michigan Department of Public Health.

The Clinton County Commission is preparing the fiscal budget, the public hearing was held and the budget is slated for the end of October. It was noted that the budget was very conservative with some reductions in capitol projects to insure financial stability of the county.

Monthly action was taken to approve the meeting agenda, the minutes of the September 9, 2020 meeting and the financial reports. Action was also taken to approve expenditures totaling \$16,948.07.

SCIOTA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF OPTICAL SCAN and AUTO-MARK VOTING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that Sciota Township will hold a Public Accuracy Test of the optical scan voting system and the Auto-Mark machine to be used in the November 3, 2020 Election on:

Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
Sciota Township Hall
3990 Leland Road
Laingsburg, MI 48848

This test is being conducted as required by Michigan law (MCL168.798) to demonstrate to the public that the computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law.

Jamie Parker-Wing
Sciota Township Clerk
(517) 651-5286

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF GRATIOT STATE OF MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF VILLAGE OWNED PROPERTY

Please TAKE NOTICE that on the 20th day of October, 2020, at 4:30pm a public hearing will be conducted Electronically to consider the petition of the Village of Ashley to annex Village owned property described as:

Parcel 1: The Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼, EXCEPT a parcel of land Commencing 357 feet South of the Northwest corner; thence East 295 feet; thence South 189 feet; thence West 295 feet; thence North 189 feet to the point of beginning, Section 7, Township 9 North, Range 1 West, AND EXCEPT beginning at a point on the North-South ¼ line of said Section 7, North 00 degrees 39 minutes 23 seconds West, along said North-South ¼ line, 959.91 feet; thence continuing along said North-South ¼, North 00 degrees 39 minutes 23 seconds West, 357.00 feet to the South 1/8 line of said Section 7; thence North 89 degrees 22 minutes 08 seconds East, along said South 1/8 line, 610.08 feet; thence South 00 degrees 39 minutes 23 seconds East, parallel with said North-South ¼ line, 356.73 feet; thence South 89 degrees 20 minutes 37 seconds West, 610.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel 2: The Southeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼, Section 7, Township 9 North, Range 1 West.

Electronic remote access, in accordance with the Michigan Governor's Executive Order 2020-48, will be implemented in response to the Covid-19 social distancing requirements and Michigan Governor's Executive Order 2020-42. The public may participate in the meeting/public hearing through Zoom access by computer and smart phone using the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85265067519?pwd=SFFIMWUydkFsQ0h6bWJmVtYnRnJvQT09>

Meeting ID: 852 6506 7519

Passcode: 04231984

The public may also participate by calling into the below toll-free number:

1-312-626-6733

Meeting ID: 852 6506 7519

Passcode: 04231984

If you wish to watch the meeting but not offer comment during the period available for public comment, please click the link below to view the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners YouTube Channel. Meetings will be live-streamed and will remain posted after the meeting is finished.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRv_AhSZPYxO4kRWXslwziz25FvrlC-K

Requests for Public Comment must be made to the County Clerk's Office at (989) 875-5297 or by email to athompson@gratiotmi.com prior to 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please include your phone number so you can be un-muted when it is your turn to speak. Follow the instructions below to call in to the meeting.

For tips on making a public comment in a virtual meeting, visit www.gratiotmi.com/virtualmeetings

If you are disabled and need accommodation to provide you with an opportunity to participate remotely, please call the County Clerk at 989-875-5297.

All persons having interest in such proposed annexation may appear and be heard at such time.

Michelle Fitzpatrick, Village of Ashley Clerk
Village of Ashley
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Ashley, MI 48806
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Email: ashlevillage@bearnat.net

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STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF SHIAWASSEE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate FILE NO. 20-39224-DE Estate of Maureen Beavers

Date of birth: 07/12/50

TO ALL CREDITORS: *NOTICE

TO CREDITORS: The decedent,

Maureen Beavers, died 5/9/2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Gregory Beavers, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 208 N. Shiawassee St., Corunna, MI 48817 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

09/30/2020

Gregory Beavers

Personal Representative

6580 Woodbury Rd.

Laingsburg, MI 48848

517-449-8025

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Sports



Eddy Evans added 14 yards on the ground for OE during the October 9th loss to New Lothrop Hornets 38-0.
Photo by Jody Thornton

Defending State Champ Hornets Lay the Wood to Marauders 38-0

NEW LOTHROP -- Onlookers remarked, as they watched the host Hornets throttle Ovid-Elsie on October 9, that the 2020 edition of the New Lothrop football team may be even better than their 2019 State Champion.

That may be hard to believe. But seeing is believing.

The Hornets scored three touchdowns in the first quarter, leaving little in doubt, and white-washed O-E by a 38-0 count.

NL capitalized on four forced turnovers. The Hornets (4-0, 4-0 Mid-Michigan Activities Conference) were led offensively by senior quarterback Cam Orr, who had a hand in each of the team's five touchdowns, throwing for three and rushing for two against coach Travis Long's Marauders (2-2, 2-2 Mid-Michigan Activities Conference).

It was New Lothrop's defense, however, that proved to be the difference, as the Hornets forced and recovered four fumbles to secure the team's second shutout of the season. "Those four takeaways were just that, they were takeaways," New Lothrop head coach Clint Galvas said postgame. "Those were all forced, we created those turnovers and if we continue to create turnovers like we're doing — we've been doing it all year — we're going to be a tough team to play for anyone. "We're going to hang our hat on our defense and see where that takes us."

Sparked by that defensive effort, the NL offense scored on a 58-yard burst up the middle by Orr, a 8-yard TD strike from Orr to Julius Garz, and a 2 yard slam by Orr with 1:04 left in the opening stanza. Cannon Cromwell booted all three PATs to make it 21-0 Hornets through one quarter of play.

In the second quarter, Orr found Garza in the end zone once again, this time from 10-yards out, for the score. A missed extra point made it 27-0 Hornets with 5:43 remaining in the first half.

Still in the first half, the Hornets ran the ledger to 35-0 when Orr found Rafael Woods for an 80-yard touchdown, which coupled with Orr's successful two-point conversion, propelled the Hornets to an easy halftime lead.

The hosts completed the scoring with :14 seconds left in the third quarter, on a 35-yard field goal off the leg of Cromwell.

For Ovid Elsie, which was led by Logan Thompson's 74 yards rushing, mistakes were too much to overcome. "Turnovers, penalties and missed tackles hurt us," coach Long said. "We knew what we were doing, we executed at times, we just have to be more consistent ... Week in and week out, we're improving, just when you go against a team like this you can't make those mistakes."

Eddy Evans added 14 yards on the ground, and Dylan Carman 10 for the Marauders. Alex Eichenberg (14 yards) and Thompson (one yard) were on the receiving end of throws from QB Carman. Cal Byrnes added 95 yards on five kickoff returns for O-E.

The Marauder defense was led by Thompson with 4 stops, and Landon Stoneman with 3.5. Jacob Schaub, Eichenberg, Tyler Bancroft, Kevin Ley, Maxwell Spiess, Jackson Thornton, Perrien Rasch, Byrnes, Theron Brooks and Evans all added tackles for the Marauder 'D'.

Dansville Runs All Over Wolfpack on a Down Night for LHS 26-0

DANSVILLE — Face it. Sometimes it just isn't your day. Sometimes it isn't your night. Sometimes, it just isn't your deal.

Laingsburg's football team traveled to Dansville on October 9, and was a prohibitive favorite in the local media -- at least -- to move to 3-1 in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC).

That didn't happen.

Coach Brian Borgman's Wolves seemed to come out flat. The host press box couldn't play the National Anthem, and leaned on their home crowd -- which weren't many, due to Covid-19 restrictions -- to sing it instead.

Even the officials seemed to be off their game.

Dropped passes. Missed assignments. Blown coverages. Untimely injuries. Weird calls.

The Dansville skill players, particularly QB Conner Voss, were on their game, and it showed.

The result was a surprising 26-0 Dansville victory that left both teams at 2-2 in the CMAC, 2-2 overall.

Dansville outgained Laingsburg 332-150 and blanked the Wolfpack.

LHS, which typically displays a strong passing offense, instead came out running. They moved the ball, but a penalty on 4th and long set up the Aggies in good field position, and the hosts' Riley Hawkins sprinted 39 yards to paydirt to make it 6-0. The PAT was blocked, but the Wolves still seemed to be back on their heels.

Laingsburg came right back and moved the ball smartly, but at 5:25 of the opening quarter, RB Michael Brooks sprinted down the left sideline, picked up a first down and was dropped on a diving tackle by the Aggie defender. Brooks suffered a knee injury, was carted off, and the problems seemed to snowball for Borgman's Wolves thereafter.

Dansville maintained its lead into the second quarter, when QB Doug Matthews had the Wolfpack on the move. With 7:39 remaining before the half, Zach Fortino made a diving catch at the Aggie 5 yard line. Dansville was whistled for pass interference on the play, but when LHS elected not to take the penalty, the officials said the pass was "incomplete." By all accounts, it was a terrible call.

The Aggies then drove the length of the field, but were stymied into a 4th and goal at the 7 yard line. Voss then crossed up the Wolfpack defense, throwing a jump pass to Devin Marshall for the TD and a 12-0 lead with 1:42 unplayed before halftime. Voss kicked the PAT and DHS was in command, 13-0.

LHS was held on downs on their next possession, but punter Taylor Zdenahlik boomed a punt that pinned the Aggies on their own 7 yard line. That didn't stop Voss. He lofted a 50-yard pass down the right sideline that Hawkins caught in stride and sprinted 93 yards to the endzone. Voss's PAT kick made it 20-0 at the intermission.

After that, the second half was anti-climactic.

Laingsburg quarterback Doug Matthews completed 9 of 17 passes, but compiled just 47 yards. Voss had 128 yards passing.

Lucas Woodruff ran for 54 yards on eight carries for the Wolfpack. Zach Hawes caught four passes for 40 yards for the Aggies.

On defense, Michael Rutila had seven stops for Laingsburg.



Wolfpack senior Zach Hawes grabs one of his four passes and churns to a first down at Dansville in a CMAC loss, 26-0, to the Aggies.
Photo from Burg Sports



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Sports

Ovid-Elsie Claims MMAC Soccer Championship with 1-0 Nail-Biter over Byron

OVID-ELSIE -- Ovid Elsie met up with the Byron Eagles to decide the MMAC championship, and coach Justin Fluharty's Marauders prevailed in a nail-biter, 1-0.

The two teams had met previously and battled to a 2-2 tie.

This time out, the game was 0-0 through most of the first half until Cal Byrnes found Ian Heher across the goal. Ian finished the cross with a header to beat Byron's goalie.

Both teams had a lot of shots but couldn't find the net. Ovid-Elsie's keeper, Nate Reeser, shutout the Eagles with 14 saves.

Coach Fluharty said, "Our game plan was to score first then defend. I knew Byron had a dangerous attack but was confident that if we scored first we could defend well enough to hold on.

"Our defense, led by Colin Fluharty and Brandon Grieder, did a great job shutting down Byron's shooters. The other defenders Jesse Hodges, Kayden Leslie, and Evan Heher played great and did what the team needed to hold on to the lead."

Ovid-Elsie 3, Lakeville 1 in final regular-season MMAC soccer tilt that leaves Marauders undefeated

OVID-ELSIE -- In the final MMAC matchup of the 2020 regular season, Ovid-Elsie beat Lakeville by a 3-1 count.

The scoring got underway with a rocket from distance on a stolen ball by Colin Fluharty. The shot hit the crossbar, bounced, then hit the crossbar again before hitting the net.

Lakeville came back to tie it up with a shot by Caleb Griswold that ended the first half in a 1-1 tie.



Nick Reser shut out the Byron Eagles with 14 saves at the net.

Photos by Jody Thornton

Coach Justin Fluharty's Marauders then found the net 2 more times in the second half, first by Jackson Thornton, then Josh Swender to clinch the win. Camren Cuthbert had both assists on the goals.

Said coach Fluharty, "I am glad of the outcome. We have been struggling through injuries all season but the boys pulled out the win to keep us undefeated in the conference."

Scoring for the Marauders went like this: Colin Fluharty 1 goal, Jackson Thornton 1 goal, Josh Swender 1 goal and Camren Cuthbert 2 assists.



Colin Fluharty came up with the goal after stealing the ball against Lakeville.

Ashley Loses to Bay City All Saints

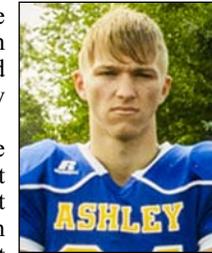
by Ashleigh Shaw

The Bears plagued themselves with three turnovers and five costly penalties on offense when Ashley was driving down the field. Ashley managed to have 238 yards on offense with the mistakes they were unable to stay in the game, losing 22-8.

"Defensively I thought we played a solid game holding their explosive back in check for the most part other than a 75 yard dump pass to him that caught us in blitz. We started and ended with 8 men once again, so the heard is never in question, we just need to continue to work on the mental mistakes" state Coach Saylor.

Offensively for the Bears Jimmy Fabus lead the way with 123 yards on 24 attempts, scoring a touchdown, but also fumbling once and catching an 8 yard pass. Bailey Long gained 52 yards on 8 attempts also with a fumble, while Logan Drummond had 55 yards on 10 attempts.

Aarron Drummond once again lead the way defensively for the Bears with 13 solo tackles and 5 assists. Jimmy Fabus had 7 tackles and an assist, Bailey Long and Jordan Huntoon each added 6 solo tackles while Logan Drummond had 9 solo tackles and Dillon Beebe added 4 tackles.



Jimmy Fabus



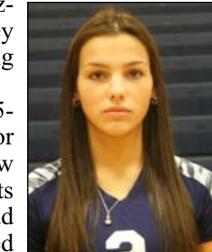
Aaron Drummond

Lady Marauders Drop Tough Five-Set Match to New Lothrop in MMAC Volleyball Action

OVID-ELSIE -- Ovid-Elsie played " ... an amazing game against New Lothrop," said coach Kortney Miller, but came out on the losing end of a grueling five-set match.

The Hornets prevailed, 23-25, 25-22, 30-32, 25-20 and 15-11. Said coach Miller, "The girls fought for 5 whole sets and were point for point with New Lothrop. Game three we took them to 32 points before we pulled off the win. I am an extremely proud coach at the way the girls worked together, pushed each other, stayed positive and fought for every point. Our defense was on point causing the New Lothrop team to resort to changing their offense. Our offense stayed strong the entire game and continued to place the ball in great positions. After this games these girls have showed they can play with the best in our league and with a little more work they can and will win."

Top players for O-E were Madison Cunningham, Kalista Bancroft, Braylon Byrnes and Jolene Nash. Individual statistics were not available at press time.



Kalista Bancroft



Braylon Byrnes



Josh Swender scored a goal for OE against Lakeville.

Reminder to All Coaches

Please Submit Your Game Results to news@meridianweekly.com So We Can Include Them Each Week

CORRECTION TO PUBLIC NOTICE RELEASED OCTOBER 4, 2020

The originally scheduled October 19, 2020 City of Laingsburg Planning Commission Meeting which was intended to be held at 7:00 p.m. REMOTE-LY via Zoom to address the following request:

A petition for map amendment has been submitted by Joe M. Palazzolo to amend the zoning district for property located at 504 E. Grand River Rd. & 500 E. Grand River Rd. from R-M, Medium Density Residential District to R-H, High Density Residential District. The subject properties known as 500 E. Grand River Rd. (Parcel Id. # 022-42-027-006-00) and 504 E. Grand River Rd. (Parcel Id. # 022-42-027-005-00 & 022-40-027-004-00) are within the City of Laingsburg ("City"), and are legally described as the following:

(Parcel Id. # 022-42-027-006-00)
CITY OF LAINGSBURG LOT 8 & W 10 FT OF LOT 7 BLK 27

(Parcel Id. # 022-42-027-005-00)
CITY OF LAINGSBURG E 40 FT OF LOT 7 & W 1/2 OF LOT 6 BLK 27

(Parcel Id. # 022-42-027-004-00)
CITY OF LAINGSBURG LOT 9 & 10 & W 1/2 OF LOT 11 BLK 27

The City of Laingsburg Planning Commission now intends to hold a public hearing to discuss the previously described request on November 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at Laingsburg City Hall, 114 N. Woodhull Street, Laingsburg, Michigan.

Ashley Cross Country

by Ashleigh Shaw

The Ashley Cross Country hosted a Jamboree at Beracy Park for the MSAC. For the boys Clayton Juhas finished 27th in 12:17.69, Carson Litwiller finished 35th with a time of 26:55.13 and Josh Lewis finished 39th in 29:26.85. On the ladies' side Sharla Juhas finished 17th in 27:20.07, Jenna Wirt came in next at 18th finishing in 28:07.93 and Sophia Wirt finished 35th in 35:23.13.



Clayton Juhas



Sharla Juhas

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OVID-ELSIE

Your Marauder Sports Radio Network
Tune in Friday, October 23rd for the OE-Byron Homecoming game.

Sports

Editorial



(L-R): Broderick Rodrigues, Cameron Salas, Tyler Henne, coach Graham Lockwood, Justin Grandy, Kade Clone. Laingsburg honored its senior soccer players with the annual Under The Lights game on October 6.
Photo from Burg Sports

Laingsburg Soccer Honors Seniors, Downs Perry 7-1

LAINGSBURG — Laingsburg erupted for four goals in an eight-minute stretch of the first half to take a 4-1 halftime lead Monday against Perry.

But the fireworks were just starting.

Senior Cameron Salas scored all three of his goals after intermission and the Wolfpack beat the Ramblers 7-1 in its annual Under the Lights game, which honors its seniors and is played at the Laingsburg football stadium.

Salas was determined to make it a night to remember. And he did. Salas found the back of the net in the 47th, 59th and 73rd minutes. His final goal was a point-blank, top-shelf goal to the right corner, earning a high-five from coach Graham Lockwood when he came back to the sidelines.

Another Laingsburg senior who took advantage of the opportunity was Kade Clone, who scored back-to-back goals in the 11th and 13th minutes to give the Wolfpack a 3-1 lead.

Perry (2-7) had taken a 1-0 lead when Rambler junior forward Bryce Krupp scored on a hard shot against Laingsburg goalie Luke Snyder in the seventh minute. Laingsburg tied the game just one minute later when Caleb Clark scored off an Adam Myers assist.

After Clone's two goals, Laingsburg made it 4-1 when sophomore Brayden Thomas scored. Perry goalie Brody Webb made 13 saves including a pair of standout saves in the second half.

Laingsburg dominated with a 20-2 advantage in shots on goal.

Ovid-Elsie Girls Run 2nd, Boys 4th in Final MMAC Cross-Country Standings

OVID-ELSIE -- The Ovid-Elsie girls cross-country team repeated their 2nd place performance from the last conference meet to clinch a 2nd place overall finish in the MMAC.

The Marauder girls who received all conference honors were: 1st Team: Alexis Spitzley, 2nd Team: Kaia Spiess, and honorable mention, Rachel Spitzley and Sam Grubaugh.

Congratulations to the following Lady Marauders who achieved their Personal Records: Kaia Spiess and Rachel Spitzley.

Said coach David Pastula, "Fun fact, each meet that Rachel has achieved a PR, her sister Alexis has not. The same is true in reverse as well.

"While we don't have any seniors who had their last home meet, I do want to take a quick second to thank my captain, Sam Grubaugh, on her outstanding job as a leader of this young team this season."

The Marauder boys had a strong showing, where they solidified #4 place in the conference. Coach Pastula explained, "Congrats to Coleten Towsley who achieved 2nd Team all-conference as well as Gavyn Leavitt, Ryan Gavenda, and Cole Workman who received all-conference honorable mention awards."

Pastula also extended congratulations to the following Marauder Boys who achieved their Personal Records: Dalton Love, Christian Schmidtfranz, Luke Spitzley, Coleten Towsley, Kaden West, and Cole Workman.

"I also want to take a minute to highlight my 4 senior boys who ran their last home meet," said coach Pastula. "Luke Spitzley is a four-year senior who specializes in long distance running. He has already completed a trail marathon and is planning try a 50-miler in the near future. Corbin Kelley is another four-year senior who also excels at track and field. While a fantastic distance runner, he is one of the top throwers in the area and hopes to go to college for shot put and discus. Gavyn Leavitt is a four-year senior who is also a top tier academic performer as well as a swimmer. Gavyn brings a quiet style of leadership and speaks mostly through his hard work and timely jokes.

"Finally, our captain, Coleten Towsley, is also a four-year runner as well as a wrestler. I know that I can always trust Coleten to be a vocal piece on the team to make sure that his teammates are doing the right thing and performing their best.

"All in all, these four boys are the soul of this team and will be severely missed going into next season."



Elfring Leads Wolfpack Golfers at MHSAA Division 4 Regionals

HOWELL — Coach Greg Beavers' Laingsburg girls golf team, led by Grace Elfring's 104 for 15th place, placed eighth as a team with a 505 at the MHSAA District 4 Regionals at Hunters Ridge Golf Course.

The Wolfpack also featured Alyse Rowley (129), Makayla Hagerty (135) and Hailey Hagerty (137).

Perry's lone golfer, Jackie Mattison, shot 118 for 26th place.

Durand senior Emme Lantis shot 88 — tying for second place — and the Durand girls golf team qualified for the MHSAA state finals by placing third.

Byron featured two individual state qualifiers. Jana L'Esperance shot 97 for the first qualifying spot. MaryAnn Montgomery carded a 100 and then won a three-way sudden death playoff to also qualify.

Lansing Catholic won the regional with a 365 under windy conditions. Jackson Lumen Christi was second at 397 and Durand took the final team qualifying spot with a 404.



(L): Coleten Towsley finishes strong in the MMAC Finals at Uncle Johns. (R): Alexis Spitzley came in second to clinch the OE Girls 2nd place overall finish in the MMAC.

Photos by Michelle Ladiski



The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Aberdeen Pheasant Sandwich

This coming Tuesday the 20th is opening day for pheasants and if you are looking for a new way to prepare pheasants, consider stepping back in time. Seventy five years ago the locals of Aberdeen, SD pooled together scarce resources to establish a canteen at the local train depot to service troops traveling across the continent on the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railroad. From 1943 until 1946 the canteen served 17,000 to 20,000 troops a month and became famous for simple pheasant sandwiches made from locally harvested birds. The Weekly Sportsman is unsure if this was done just seasonally or year round but this was during the highpoint of the pheasant population which was believed to number 50 million with around 3 million harvested annually in South Dakota.



Ingredients:

- 3 cups cooked pheasant chopped fine
- 2 hard cooked eggs chopped fine
- 2 carrots grated
- ½ medium onion chopped fine
- ½ cup celery chopped fine
- 2 tsp sweet pickle relish
- Salt and pepper
- Mayonnaise or salad dressing to blend nicely

Directions:

1. Mix all ingredients together.
2. Add mayo or salad dressing to taste, chill.
3. Spread on sandwich bread.

-WS

Laingsburg Lions Club

The Laingsburg Lions Club are hosting a Beef Raffle. Proceeds from this fund raiser will go towards new playground equipment at Scout Bates Park. First Prize thru 4th prize is 1/4 of Angus Beef, 5th place is \$200. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 and are available at Leonard Hardware, Sage Market or from any Lion member and at the Weekly office in downtown Ovid. Tickets can also be purchased directly thru the Laingsburg Lions Pay Pal account. The drawing will be held on Thanksgiving Day at the Lions Annual Thanksgiving Dinner (take-out only this year) between 3:30pm and 4:00pm.

Village Of Elsie Ordinance No 173 Business: Residential Rental Properties, Mandatory Inspection

CHAPTER 4-11: RENTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Section

- 4-11.01 Purpose
- 4-11.02 Definitions
- 4-11.03 Registration
- 4-11.04 Registration fee
- 4-11.05 Inspections
- 4-11.06 Issuance of certificate of compliance
- 4-11.07 Procedure when inspection discloses violation
- 4-11.08 Inspection fees
- 4-11.09 Failure to have residential dwelling unit inspected
- 4-11.10 Effective date
- 4-11.99 Penalty

§ 4-11.01 PURPOSE.

The purpose of this chapter is to protect, preserve, and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of residents of the village, and occupants of rental dwelling units; and to encourage the maintenance of rental dwelling units by requiring the registration and inspection of same to ensure compliance of said rental dwelling units with any property maintenance or existing structures code in effect and adopted by the state, the county and/or the village at the time of said inspection.

§ 4-11.02 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

CODE OFFICIAL. The inspector charged with the administration and enforcement of this chapter, including the issuance of municipal civil infraction violation notices and citations.

DWELLING UNIT. A single unit providing complete and independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation. A DWELLING UNIT for the purpose of this chapter, shall also include the individual sleeping rooms or group of rooms of an apartment building to be occupied by a person or family. Each room or group of rooms so occupied or to be occupied shall constitute a separate DWELLING UNIT.

OWNER. Any person, agent, operator, firm, or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the county as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian/conservator of the estate of any person, or the personal representatives of the estate of a deceased individual.

PARCEL. A separately described piece of land or a lot to which a property tax number applies.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE. The International Property Maintenance Code developed and promulgated by the International Code Council (ICC) and the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), most recent edition.

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL UNIT. All dwellings, dwelling units, or mobile homes which are leased or otherwise made available for rental purposes, except:

- (1) Dwelling units required to be occupied by an employee or agent of an owner as the condition of employment (i.e., parsonages);
- (2) Any dwellings or dwelling units over which the state has exclusive authority under state law to inspect and regulate; or
- (3) The principal residence of the owner which is occupied by persons other than the owner where no rent is paid.

§ 4-11.03 REGISTRATION.

(A) All owners thereof shall register all residential rental dwelling units on forms provided by the village, which registration shall include the following information:

- (1) Name, address, phone number, and any other means of personal contact of the property owner;
- (2) Name, address, phone number, and any other means of personal contact of the designated local property manager if applicable;
- (3) The street address of the rental property;
- (4) The number and types of units within the rental property (dwelling units or sleeping rooms);
- (5) The maximum number of occupants permitted for each dwelling unit or sleeping room; and/or
- (6) The name, address, and phone number of the person authorized to make or order made repairs or services for the property, if the person is different than the owner or local manager.

(B) (1) All existing residential rental dwelling units shall be registered as provided herein on or before January 1, 2023.

(2) Structures subsequently becoming a residential dwelling unit shall be registered within 30 days after any part of the premises is offered for occupancy and will be assessed a registration fee.

(C) Once a residential rental dwelling unit has been registered with the village and continues to be used for such purpose, no further registration of said residential rental dwelling unit shall be required; provided, however, that in the event a transfer of ownership occurs or sale of said residential rental dwelling unit, or in the event that the number of rental units located on a parcel shall be increased or decreased, the new owner or present owner, respectively, shall be required to re-register with the village within 30 days after the date of said transfer, sale, or change in the number of residential rental dwelling units.

§ 4-11.04 REGISTRATION FEE.

(A) At the time of registration, the owner of a residential rental dwelling unit shall pay a registration fee in such amount as shall be established from time to time by resolution of the Village Council.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any owner to fail, refuse, or neglect to register a residential rental dwelling unit within the time for doing so as required in this chapter or to fail, refuse, or neglect to pay any registration fee imposed by the village pursuant to this chapter.

Penalty, see § 4-11.99

§ 4-11.05 INSPECTIONS.

(A) (1) Residential rental dwelling units shall be inspected to ensure compliance of said rental dwelling units with the Property Maintenance Code. Where six or fewer residential rental dwelling units exist upon any given parcel, the same shall be inspected by the Code Official every two years.

(2) Where more than six residential rental dwelling units exist upon any given parcel a minimum of seven dwelling units, plus no less than 10% of the dwelling units over six, they shall be inspected by the Code Official every two years and/or with a change in tenant.

(3) For regular scheduled inspections as herein before provided, the Code Official shall give written notice of the

date and time of said inspection to the owner or local agent, mailed by first-class mail, on or before ten days prior to said inspection date.

(B) In addition, said Code Official shall inspect residential rental dwelling units, upon reasonable notice as required in the Property Maintenance Code, under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) Upon receipt of an oral or written complaint based upon the personal knowledge of an owner, occupant, or other individual, that the premises are in violation of this chapter;
- (2) Upon receipt of an oral or written complaint, or a referral from the Police Department, or other public agencies or departments, indicating that the premises are in violation of this chapter; or
- (3) Upon receipt of information by the Code Official that a residential rental dwelling unit is not registered with the village as required by this chapter.

§ 4-11.06 ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE.

After each initial inspection, if the rental dwelling unit is found to be in compliance with the rules, regulations, laws, codes, and village ordinances, the Code Official shall issue a certificate of compliance in the name of the owner.

§ 4-11.07 PROCEDURE WHEN INSPECTION DISCLOSES VIOLATION.

(A) Where an inspection by the Code Official discloses a violation of the Property Maintenance Code, the Code Official shall issue all necessary notices as provided in said code(s) to ensure compliance with said code's requirements.

(B) A temporary certificate of compliance may be issued when any violation does not constitute an immediate hazard to the health or safety of those who may occupy the premises. Said temporary certificate of compliance may be revoked by the Code Official if the owner or his or her agent fails to correct the noted violation(s) within the time allowed by the Code Official.

(C) No residential rental dwelling unit shall be occupied, unless a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Code Official.

(D) In the event the owner or his or her agent is in the process of evicting an occupant and/or tenant from a residential rental dwelling unit which is in violation of the aforesaid ordinance and laws, then and in such an event, the owner thereof shall have a reasonable time to correct said violation after the eviction is completed, and said owner or his or her agent shall promptly notify the Code Official of the completion of said conviction.

§ 4-11.08 INSPECTION FEES.

(A) The owner of a property subject to this chapter shall pay an inspection fee for any inspection made under this chapter. The inspection fees shall be in such amount as shall be established from time to time by resolution of the Village Council and shall be paid at the time of such inspection.

(B) Where an inspection discloses a violation of the Property Maintenance Code, and re-inspection is necessary to ensure compliance with the Property Maintenance Code, the owner shall pay a re-inspection fee in such amount as shall be established from time to time by the Village Council.

(1) (a) In the event that an occupant of a rental dwelling unit or a private individual shall make a written complaint concerning a violation at a residential rental dwelling unit, the village, in its discretion, may require an inspection deposit in the amount of the anticipated inspection fee from said occupant or individual.

(b) If the inspection, which was made as a result of said complaint, discloses no legitimate violation, then and in such an event the individual making such complaint shall be liable to the village for the aforesaid inspection fee, and said deposit shall be applied thereto, otherwise said deposit shall be refunded.

(2) When the person making a complaint under this chapter requests confidentiality, the village will not release any information regarding the name, address, or telephone number of any person who makes a written complaint concerning a violation at a residential rental dwelling unit, except when required to do so:

- (a) Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act; or
- (b) By court order.

§ 4-11.09 FAILURE TO HAVE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNIT INSPECTED.

Should the owner of any residential rental dwelling unit fail to make said dwelling unit available for any scheduled inspection, or fail to notify the village of the necessity to reschedule an inspection, at least 24 hours prior to a scheduled inspection, additional fees may apply in such amounts as shall be established from time to time by resolution of the Village Council.

§ 4-11.10 EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance becomes effective January 1, 2021

§ 4-11.11 FEES.

Fees for registration and inspection will be as follows:

Registration:	\$ 25.00
Preliminary inspection:	\$ 50.00
Secondary inspection:	\$100.00

§ 4-11.99 PENALTY.

A violation of any provision of this chapter shall be a municipal civil infraction (see section 7.5-3) and any person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity responsible for the violation shall be subject to the fines set by resolution of the Council.

THE VILLAGE OF ELSIE AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD THE THIRTEENTH (13) DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D., 2020.

The above Ordinance was moved by Councilperson Carroll and supported by Councilperson Freeman

Yeas: T. Frink, Ondrusek, Ornelas, Freeman, Hyland, and Carroll.

Nays: None

Absent: K. Witt

THE ORDINANCE WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Village of Elsie at a meeting held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, and was published as required by law.

Ann Trierweiler,
Village of Elsie Clerk

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NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT TO THE VICTOR TOWNSHIP FIRE, AMBULANCE AND INHALATOR SERVICE CHARGES ORDINANCE

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 19.5

TOWNSHIP OF VICTOR, CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at a regular meeting of the Victor Township Board of Trustees held on the 14th day of September, 2020, the Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 19.5, a summary of which is provided below. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance may be inspected or purchased at the Victor Township offices, 6843 S. Alward Road, Laingsburg, Michigan 48848, Monday through Friday, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., from Amanda Conklin, Clerk, or from Township administrative personnel.

ORDINANCE SUMMARY

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Section provides that this Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Victor Township Fire, Ambulance and Inhalator Service Charges Ordinance" as amended.

SECTION 2. ORDINANCE 19.5 ESTABLISHED. This Section sets forth the ordinance, sets forth fees related to fire protection services from personal property incidents to be paid to the LSW Fire Authority; exempts false alarms, fire involving township structures, service performed outside of the jurisdiction, service for area with burning permit, and fire involving real property within the Township, except burning without a permit; requires burning permits and fees related thereto; sets fees for fire services when burning without a permit, or in violation of a permit; codifies the appeal process for persons subject to fire run charges; prohibits the burning of garbage, animals, carcasses, and other materials; requires permits for "brush fires", "weed/grass fires", "special event fires" and defines each; no permits are required for "domestic fires" or "camp or barbecue fires" and defines each; implements penalties and civil infraction for violation of the ordinance.

SECTION 3 - REPEALS ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT. This Section repeals Ordinance Nos. 19.1, 19.2, 19.3, 11022016, and 12062016, so far as they are inconsistent with Ordinance 19.5 and the International Fire Code.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY. This Section provides that if a portion of the Ordinance is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such finding will not affect the remaining provisions of the Ordinance.

SECTION 5. REPEAL. This Section repeals any existing ordinance provisions in conflict with the terms of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE. The Section provides that except as specifically amended by this Ordinance, all other provisions of the Ordinances shall remain in full force and effect. Any pending proceedings will not be affected by the revisions if initiated prior to the effective date.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date provides that this Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after the publication of this Notice and Summary.

VICTOR TOWNSHIP
Amanda Conklin, Clerk
6843 E. Alward Road
Laingsburg, Michigan 48848
Telephone: 517- 651-2094

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT TO THE VICTOR TOWNSHIP FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ORDINANCE

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 19.4

TOWNSHIP OF VICTOR, CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at a regular meeting of the Victor Township Board of Trustees held on the 14th day of September, 2020, the Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 19.4, a summary of which is provided below. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance may be inspected or purchased at the Victor Township offices, 6843 S. Alward Road, Laingsburg, Michigan 48848, Monday through Friday, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., from Amanda Conklin, Clerk, or from Township administrative personnel.

ORDINANCE SUMMARY

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Section provides that this Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Victor Township Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinance."

SECTION 2. ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE OF 2015. This Section provides that Victor Township adopts the 2015 International Fire Code and its appendices, in order to regulate conditions and conduct related to fire, life safety or explosion. Three copies of the code are on file with the Victor Township Clerk.

SECTION 3 - AMENDMENTS TO THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE. This Section sets forth amendment made to the Ordinance upon adoption of the 2015 International Fire Code, including Section 101.1, Title; Section 109, Violations, related to unlawful acts and abatement; Section 109.4, Violation penalties, creates a municipal civil infraction for violations, institutes a civil fine from \$100 - \$450, defines "repeat offense", states each day the violation continues is a separate offense, abatement of violations, and allows Victor Township to modify fines and penalties by resolution or amending the ordinance, provides for civil remedies, and grants authority for enforcement; Section 202, Definitions, defines the terms "bonfire", "burning barrels", "open burning", "permit authorization", "recreational fire", "yard waste", and "training burn"; Section 307.1.2, Open Burning and Regulation, regulates the open burning of yard waste; Section 307.4, Location, states where open burning may occur; Section 307.6, Time Restrictions, states when open burning may occur, Section 307.7, Atmospheric Restrictions, restricts fires when certain hazardous or wind conditions occur; Section 307.8, Burning Barrel Exceptions and Licensed Barrels, prohibits use of barrels other than by permit; Section 307.9, Open Generated Material, limits barrel and open burning to materials generated on premises; Section 307.10, Reimbursement, reimburses Township Fire Department for cost of fire run; Section 501.5, Traffic Control, restricts vehicles in fire lane, provides for removal for violation.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY. This Section provides that if a portion of the Ordinance is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such finding will not affect the remaining provisions of the Ordinance.

SECTION 5. REPEAL. This Section repeals any existing ordinance provisions in conflict with the terms of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE. The Section provides that except as specifically amended by this Ordinance, all other provisions of the Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. Any pending proceedings will not be affected by the revisions if initiated prior to the effective date.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date provides that this Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after the publication of this Notice and Summary.

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Home Improvement

Simple Ways to Improve a Kitchen Pantry

People have been spending more time at home in 2020 than in years past, and certain projects around the house have become a priority. One home improvement idea that serves the double benefit of creating organization and making cooking at home more efficient is to reimagine the kitchen pantry.

A pantry is a room or closet where food, beverages and linens or dishes are stored. Pantries can be highly useful spaces that provide ancillary storage in kitchens. Many modern homes are equipped with pantries, but older homes may require some modification to create more useful pantries. Whether starting from scratch or modifying an existing pantry, these tips can help projects go more smoothly.

- Maximize vertical storage. Utilizing vertical areas can help increase storage capacity. Build in extra nooks by investing in undershelf storage baskets. These baskets can instantly create designated areas for different types of ingredients. Homeowners also can look for ways to use the inside of cabinet doors or add extra shelves on walls or in eaves.

- Consider your needs. Figure out which items you would like to store in the pantry and then shop for corresponding storage systems. For example, storage solutions may feature wine bottle racks, baskets for potatoes and other produce, shelving for small appliances, and even pull out racks for baking pans or cutting boards.

- Use clear storage. Put ingredients in clear, airtight containers of similar dimensions so that you can easily find items you need. Transfer bulky items, like cereals and baking supplies, to storage containers for uniformity.

- Store bulk items elsewhere. Bulk shopping can be cost-efficient, but bulk items can quickly eat up real estate in the pantry. Designate another area for non-perishable bulk products, like paper goods or canned items, such as in a garage or utility room.

- Pull out drawers are convenient. Pull-out drawers can reduce the need to seek and reach for items. These drawers conveniently roll out so items in the back can be accessed without disturbing foods in the front. Drawers can be custom built for any pantry space.

- Make it accessible. Think about who will be taking items from the pantry. Put children's snacks on the bottom pantry shelf where they can reach them, and then organize other shelves for adults in the home.

A pantry remodel can add valuable storage space and make one of the busiest rooms in the house operate more efficiently.

7 Uses for Fallen Leaves

By the time autumn hits full swing, many trees will have shed their leaves for the season, and the last vestiges of red, yellow and orange magic will have faded to brown. Raking, blowing and collecting leaves becomes the primary chores of lawn and yard maintenance, and presents most homeowners with large piles of gathered leaves to tend to.

It is impossible to count just how many leaves fall to the ground each year, or just how many pounds of leaves get collected curbside, but the numbers are substantial. Cleaning up leaves is considerable work, but not all of those leaves need to be carted away. In fact, there are several different uses of leaves that can be beneficial.

1. Spread leaves as a protective mulch to cover tender perennials or root crops/bulbs in the ground. The leaves will form a natural insulating cover that keeps the soil and the plants within a bit warmer over winter.

2. Create a pile of leaves that will break down and form a crumbly, compost-like material called leaf mold. Even though leaf mold may sound like a blight, it's actually a good amendment to garden soil, improving its structure and ability to hold water. Leaf mold also attracts beneficial organisms that are vital in healthy soil.

3. Brown leaves can be added to green materials in compost piles to improve the health of the compost being formed. According to the healthy living resource Care2, the ideal ratio is 75 percent brown to 25 percent green materials in compost. Turn compost piles regularly to aerate them.

4. Store dried, mulched leaves in a dry spot so they can be used in the spring as a weed barrier for spring plantings. They will keep weeds at bay and help retain soil moisture to ensure small sprouts have the resources to grow.

5. Use shredded leaves as a lawn supplement. Pass a lawn mower over leaves left on the lawn to break them down into pieces too small to rake. This will help keep the lawn healthy throughout the winter without blocking out needed sunlight.

6. Bag dried leaves and pack them tightly together in cold areas of the home, such as basements or garages. They can act as added insulation. Bags of leaves also can be placed around planting containers to protect them from frost.

7. Gather a few of the best-looking leaves and preserve them. Use an iron on a low setting and press leaves between two pieces of waxed paper until the waxed paper seals together. Or use clear contact paper to achieve the same effect.

Fallen leaves can be used in many different ways throughout the year.




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