



Still Time to Order Chicken Dinners

The Laingsburg Lions Club will be holding a Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner on Saturday May 8th. This one day only event will be held at the ECEC building in downtown Laingsburg from 11am to 6pm. There is still time to place your take-out order by calling Lion Ed Arthur at (517)896-5338. The menu will consist of 1/2 BBQ chicken, corn, cole slaw and a roll. The cost is \$10 per dinner. The dinners will be available to the public who have not placed a pre-order until sold out.

Springtime Raffle tickets will be available for purchase during the drive-thru dinner event. They are \$10 per ticket or 3/\$20. First prize is a Custom Golf Cart, 2nd prize, \$500, 3rd prize, Grill from Leonard Hardware, 4th prize, \$400 meat bundle and 5th prize, a Mystery prize. Tickets are also available for purchase from any Lions member, Sage Market, Leonard Hardware, Twilligers and The Meridian Weekly office in Ovid. The drawing will be held on Monday, May 31st at 3pm at Leonard Hardware. You need not be present to win. The 2021 Springtime Festival will kick-off on Thursday evening on May 27th and continue thru Memorial Day, Monday, May 31st.

IQhub Opening to the Public in May

submitted by Sue Kadlek

The IQhub is excited to welcome visitors back beginning Tuesday, May 4, 2021. The IQhub will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to noon for members of the public and small groups including daycares, senior care centers and homeschool students. The Kids Korner for pre-K children will remain closed.

The IQhub is excited to premier a video update to the very popular John Deere tractor simulator exhibit. Guests will climb into the cab of the John Deere to experience planting crops using GPS technology while “driving” the tractor. The life-sized tractor exhibit will challenge drivers of all ages.

For the safety of our guests and employees the IQhub has increased cleaning frequency and enhanced sanitation procedures. Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer are available throughout the facility. Plan to practice 6' social distancing with others outside of your family/groups while visiting. Visitors to the IQhub will enter and exit only through the IQhub main entrance, please do not use the AgroLiquid entrance.

The IQhub, located at 3055 W. M-21 in St Johns, is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization with a mission to educate the public, while bridging the gap between agricultural producers and consumers, using interactive displays and presentations. The IQhub is an educational center for agricultural history, innovation and exploration. Operations are funded solely on sponsorships, donations and grants from community and business partners.

The 9,500 square foot facility was completed in June 2014 and was created to educate visitors on how farmers produce food and fiber, while exploring our foods route from farm to fork. The IQhub is filled with twenty-four educational and interactive exhibits that take guests through the history of agriculture.



Ed Arthur (left) of Modern Woodmen presenting checks to Kyle Spiess for both wrestling and swim programs at Ovid-Elsie.

Successful Fundraising Events

The Ovid-Elsie Wrestling and Swim Team programs held successful fund raising events and with the help of Modern Woodmen and company representative, Ed Arthur, the groups efforts gained additional support. Modern Woodmen donated \$2,500 to each program, matching the first \$2,500 that was raised in each fundraising event.

The swim team held their drawing on April 10th, awarding three prizes. A Kayak Package including two kayaks, paddles and life jackets was won by Lisa Bennett. The Yeti Cooler package was won by Denise Burgess and the River Package including river tubes and a floating cooler was won by Ray Medina, Jr.

The Wrestling Program held a Virtual Edition of their Reverse Raffle on April 11th which was a continuation of the 2020 event that was halted due to the pandemic. The \$1,500 grand prize winner was Rick Bancroft, Brian Chaffee took home \$1,000, Russ Smith won \$500, Dan Price won \$400 and Eric Perry won \$300.

New Amphitheater to be Christened

Spring is finally here. If you are looking for something fun to do, look no further. You are invited to see this fabulous new historical, patriotic musical The Hello Girls, presented by the Laingsburg High School Drama Program at the new McClintock City Park Amphitheater in Laingsburg. Performances will be on Friday, May 7th at 7:00pm, Saturday, May 8th at 1:00pm and 7:00pm.

The Hello Girls were among America's FIRST female soldiers of the World War 1. You will meet Grace, Louise, Helen, Bertha and Suzanne, just a few of the historical characters memorialized in this new musical. An appearance will be made by none other than "General John J. (Black Jack) Pershing".

The musical is about America's first women soldiers set in 1918. These intrepid heroines served as bilingual telephone operators on the front lines, to turn the tide in World War 1. Hello Girls is new to the off-Broadway scene with catchy songs from ragtime to jazz that will conjure thoughts of Gershwin or Rogers & Hammerstein, and in no time catapult it to Broadway in no time.

Get your tickets today. They may be purchased at ticketor.com/laingsburgdrama. Bring your chair or blanket as seating is not provided. MDHSS guidelines will be adhered to, seating space will be somewhat limited.



Social

Village Wide Garage Sales in Ashley

submitted by Lynn Schulz

The village of Ashley is going to celebrate spring by having village wide garage sales on May 8th. This is also the same day that the Ashley schools will be having their plant sale. Everything starts at 9:00. We have some space available for vendors. We just ask that your merchandise be home made or home grown or flea market. Call Steve at 989-763-0366 for information and to reserve a spot.

Food will be available.

The Community Days are planning more events this summer. Please watch for the next events.

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Thanks & Good Luck

On Sunday, May 9th from 2pm-5pm, customers from Eatery 21 and the former Ovid Cafe are invited to stop in and wish Jodi Skutt good luck as she prepares to take on a new venture in life.

Over the past 20 years she has worked for Marie VanDeusen and the current owners Heath and Erika Arnett. Stop in and say farewell and wish her luck as she moves on to new employment.



Ovid Historical Society

submitted by Roger Matthies

In the merry month of May, we will meet on Tuesday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Mary Myers Museum. Please join us for discussion and refreshments.

The museum is located at 131 East Williams Street in Ovid.

MSU Graduate

On Saturday, May 1st, Kari Fogarty graduated from Michigan State University. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Biology/Science. She will pursue a career in teaching. Kari is the daughter of Jerome and Nancy Fogarty of Elsie. Congratulations Kari.



Elsie Dairy Festival Meeting

submitted by Carolyn Long

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

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

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



Elsie Public Library Adventures

submitted by Ann Trierweiler

The Elsie Public Library has great news. The Elsie Public Library is now loaning out cake pans...come and see the collection available. Grandparents or parents...it is time to teach a child to make a cake! And if you did not know, any resident of Shiawassee, Clinton or Saginaw Counties and Elba Township in Gratiot Co. can get an Elsie Public Library patron card at no charge!!

We have been adding many new books. There are many DVD's available for free check-out with more being added every week. Check out our website e-catalog for items available. Come in and check one out today.

We are currently working out the details for our summer reading program. Due to the ongoing Covid issues the program will again be different from our past summer reading programs. We will have virtual programs and bags to go with each week's theme. The program begins on June 14th with virtual programs every Monday and Thursday.

New library hours are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 11-7, and Saturday 10-2. Please call us at 989-862-4633 with any questions, and you can always check or Facebook page for Early Literacy programs, virtual reading programs, and any vital updates.

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Area Recycling Will Return in June

submitted by Ellen Link

Area Recycling Will Return in June

Due to the continuing high rates of COVID-19 in Michigan, the Greater Laingsburg Recyclers' plans for resuming recycling drives in May have once again been canceled, reluctantly. But unless things go completely awry, we are determined to hold a drive in June—on Saturday, June 12, from 9 am to 1 pm in the usual location on Roosevelt Row in downtown Laingsburg. If everyone who is able to do so gets a vaccine and we all continue to play it safe, this should be possible.

But as we reported last month, the pandemic has changed much, including the materials that are currently considered marketable, so there are now items we will be unable to accept. As it looks right now, come June we will not be taking plastics #3-7, glass, or electronics; we will, however, continue to accept #1 & #2 plastics, cardboard, metals, mixed office paper & junk mail, newspaper and magazines, and household batteries.

On the bright side, the GLR is still planning to begin construction of a permanent recycling-waste reduction facility in Laingsburg later this summer, with a grand opening in late fall. The building will be sited on Laingsburg Schools' property on Woodbury Rd., with services available to all residents, businesses, schools and offices in the surrounding area. And the plan is to greatly expand our hours, which means we'll also need many more volunteers.

We've raised a lot of money for the project but still have a way to go. Fortunately, we have some generous anonymous donors who are willing to MATCH donations up to a total of \$7,500 for a limited time. You can contribute to our GoFundMe campaign through the link on our website (<https://recycle-laingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite>) and Facebook page.

To celebrate Earth Day, the GLR partnered with the City of Laingsburg on Sat., April 17 in organizing a clean-up of town. Teams of volunteers including interested families scoured the city for every bit of trash they could find, then separated out the recyclables. A good time was had by all!

Finally, H.B. 4454-4461, bipartisan legislation focused on rewriting our outdated solid waste laws and which favors recycling over landfilling (<https://www.michiganrecycles.org/part-115-update/>), was passed by the state House this past week and will next go to the Senate. It took six years and numerous stakeholders to create. Please contact your legislators to express your support. The future is looking better all the time.

Construction Trades Class Will Provide Labor to Build Your Home

submitted by Sheila Waggoner

The Clinton County RESA Construction Trades program is considering prospective individuals or families to partner with on the construction of a home during the 2021-2022 school year. Interested individuals or families will be considered based on predetermined criteria developed by the program's Advisory Board Members. The criteria include factors such as: lot location, securing a general contractor, feasibility/complexity of the project, financing in place, and unique qualities of the build. The students enrolled in the class, under the supervision of Ross Pope, will provide the labor, which could result in considerable savings for the homebuyer. Anyone interested in learning more about this opportunity is encouraged to contact Jennifer Branch, Career Connection director, at (989) 224-6831 or jbranch@ccresa.org to obtain a copy of the rubric.



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Festival Vendors Needed

The Laingsburg Springtime Festival is looking for vendors for their Outdoor Craft Show to be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 28th-May 30th in downtown Laingsburg. Vendors who sign up for Friday and Saturday at \$15 per day will get Sunday for Free. Hours will be Friday (10am set-up) and open noon-to dark, Saturday, 9am-to dark and Sunday, noon-to dark.

For more information or to register call Pam Wagner at (602)821-6293 or Nick Holman at (989)277-0106.

2021 Shiawassee County Victory Gardens

submitted by Emily Marrah

Garden Seeds are available to Shiawassee County Residents through United Way of Genesee County serving Genesee and Shiawassee Counties in partnership with The Greater Lansing Food Bank.

Residents can select (1) Garden Pack to plant their own garden.

To reserve a pack of seeds and schedule a pickup time; call Emily at 810.762.0863. Please leave a message with your name and number to receive a call back.

OMESA MINUTES

Draft

Regular Meeting

March 23, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Herendeen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call:

Present: William Lasher-Absent, Kim Williams: Michael Herendeen; Deb Shaughnessy; Nancy Hughson; Carolyn Stevens.

Others in Attendance: Deputy Treasurer Zane Zwick; Recording Secretary, Susan Swan; and Jennings West.

Approval of Agenda:

Vice-Chairperson Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Stevens seconded. Voice Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None Carried

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairperson Shaughnessy moved to approve the February 23, 2021 minutes as presented. Trustee Williams seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None Carried

Financial Report / Payment of the Bills:

Deputy Treasurer Zane Zwick reviewed the financial reports for the Board. Trustee Stevens moved to approve payment of Checks #11237- 11276 for payroll and vendors totaling \$43,126.15 (\$4,109.46 for payroll; \$39,016.69 for vendors). Seconded by Chairperson Herendeen.

Approved by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Herendeen, Shaughnessy, Stevens, Hughson, Williams. Nays: None Absent: Lasher

Public Comment:

Opened 7:05 p.m.; Closed 7:05 p.m. No Comments

Fire Chief Report:

Chief Stevens was absent. Chairperson Herendeen presented the chief's report on the generator, traffic lighted sign and running the electricity for the lighted sign.

Communications: None

General Business:

1. Equipment Status- None
2. Other Pending Business- None

Final Comments:

Trustee Hughson asked if the treasurer could provide a copy of the actual bank statements with every month financial reports.

Adjournment:

Without objection, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Susan Tomasek Swan
Recording Secretary



OMESA MINUTES

Draft

Regular Meeting

February 23, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Herendeen called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Roll Call:

Present: William Lasher, Kim Williams: Michael Herendeen; Deb Shaughnessy; Nancy Hughson; Carolyn Stevens.

Others in Attendance: Deputy Treasurer Zane Zwick; Recording Secretary, Susan Swan; Chief Jerry Stevens; Jennings West, Arlene Pesik and Greg Atwood.

Approval of Agenda:

Trustee Williams made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Trustee Stevens seconded.

Voice Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Trustee Stevens moved to approve the January 26, 2021 minutes as presented. Vice Chairperson Shaughnessy seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None Carried

Financial Report / Payment of the Bills:

Deputy Treasurer Zane Zwick reviewed the financial reports for the Board. Trustee Stevens moved to approve payment of Checks #11202- 11236 for payroll and vendors totaling \$ 13,580.35 (\$5913.35 for payroll; \$ 7,667.00 for vendors). Seconded by Trustee Williams.

Approved by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Herendeen, Lasher, Shaughnessy, Stevens, Hughson, Williams. Nays: None

Public Comment:

Opened 7:08 p.m.; Closed 7:10 p.m.

Arlene Pesik announced to the board a donation in memory of John Pesik in an amount of \$455.00 to be used by the fire department as they wish. Greg Atwood wanted to thanked Dan Lupu for spending the time and effort in waxing the fire department hall floors.

Fire Chief Report:

Chief Stevens present the monthly and year run report. He also stated about starting to look into getting a new fire truck and what the department may need.

Runs for Jan 27,2021 to February 23, 2021-18

Total Runs for 2021 year- 41

Communications:

Vice-Chairperson Shaughnessy briefed the board on information from MDOT traffic summit meeting regarding a traffic alert sign for fire station.

General Business:

1. 2021-01 FY 2021 Required Contribution Schedule Resolution
OVID-MIDDLEBURY EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY
Resolution No. 2021-01

REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

BE IT RESOLVED that the OMESA Board of Trustees approve the following Fiscal Year

2021 schedule of required contributions and due dates as properly calculated under Article 8A of its Articles of Incorporation:

SCHEDULE

Ovid Township: \$136,033 (50.8%) Due 03/31/2021

Based on \$77,733,129 tax value.

Middlebury Twp: \$80,105 (29.9%) Due 03/31/2021

Based on \$45,774,450 tax value.

City of Ovid: \$51,852 (19.3%) Due 09/30/2021

Based on \$29,629,922 tax value.

FY2021 OMESA Revenue from Req'd Contributions: \$267,990 on Total Tax Value of \$153,137,501.

Resolution moved by: Chairperson Herendeen Seconded: Trustee Stevens
Trustees voting "Yes" Hughson, Stevens, Williams, Lasher, Shaughnessy, Herendeen

Trustees voting "No" None

rustees Absent: None

The above Fiscal Year 2021 schedule of required contributions and due dates was approved and adopted this 23rd day of February, 2021.

2. Equipment Status- Chief Stevens stated there were no new equipment needs or issues.

3. Other Pending Business: None

Adjournment:

Without objection, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Susan Tomasek Swan
Recording Secretary

Moolenaar Welcomes Grants for Fourth District Head Start Programs

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has announced Mid Michigan Community Action Agency in Farwell and EightCAP in Greenville have been awarded grants to help support Head Start programs in the Fourth District.

“The early childhood programs like those facilitated by MMCAA and EightCAP support the needs of children and families in our communities,” said Congressman John Moolenaar. “I have visited Head Start classrooms in the Fourth District and I know the people there work hard to provide children with important lessons and a safe learning environment. These grants will help MMCAA and EightCAP continue to provide essential services.”

Congressman Moolenaar is Michigan's senior member of House Appropriations Committee, and sits on the subcommittee with oversight of HHS and the funding levels for its programs. He has been a long time supporter of Head Start funding and has successfully advocated for it in Congress to support these programs in the Fourth District. He has also visited MMCAA and EightCap on multiple occasions.



Ashley High School FFA

submitted by Amber McAllister

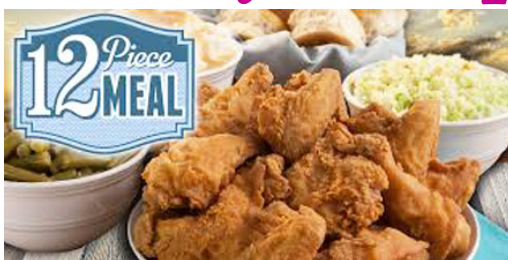
During the Michigan FFA Convention held April 19th thru April 23rd the Ashley FFA was honored with three Awards. The group earned \$500 for placing 5th in the Farm Bureau Speak Ag Competition, they were also given the Superior Chapter Award, and finally received the National Chapter Award ranking Silver. Pictured Left to Right are Advisor Amber McAllister, Reporter Leslie Bockheim, Lydea Ergen, Jimmy Fabus, President Logan Drummond, Aaron Drummond, and Ed Waters. Missing from the photo are Caden Passmore, Vice President Bailey Crocker, Sentinel Heath Powelson, and Secretary/Treasurer Renee Viles.

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Sage Market

Open House Slated for Elsie Masonic Building Association Community Center

submitted by Dawn Levey

ELSIE – The Elsie Masonic Building Association recently purchased the former Courter Drug Store building located at 100 E Main Street, Elsie. The facility has been updated and is available for small party events. An open house is slated for Saturday, May 8, 4 pm to 8 pm, with light refreshments served. Contracts for the rental will be available. For more information, call 517-599-0192.



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Duplain Church of Christ Food Packaging Day



On Saturday, April 24th, Duplain Church of Christ held a food packaging day at the church for IDES (International Disaster Emergency Service) an organization that exists to meet physical and spiritual needs of suffering people through the world in the name of Jesus Christ. The goal on the day was to package 25,000 meals to be delivered to children in Haiti. The 45-50 volunteers that took part at the church packaged 26,044 meals for delivery. Special thanks to all who helped support this much needed effort on May 24th at the church.



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Kimberly Bowen, RN, BSN

Mildred Ann “Micky” Chapko

Mildred Ann "Micky" Chapko, age 86, of Elsie, MI, passed away Monday, April 26, 2021, at Michigan Medicine, Ann Arbor, MI.

Micky was born in St. Johns, MI on September 21, 1934, the daughter of Victor and Augusta (Dogan) Ladiski. She lived her life in the Elsie area and attended Elsie Public Schools.

On November 3, 1951, Micky married Frank Joe Chapko at St. Cyril's Catholic Church in Bannister, MI. After 61 years of marriage, Frank passed away on April 2, 2013. On May 30, 2015, she married Charles "Charlie" Chapko, Sr. He passed away on January 1, 2018.

Micky was a selfless, caring person always seeking to make everyone happy. She enjoyed sewing, camping, fishing, and gardening. She spent many hours sitting by her pond and visiting with family and friends. She liked to dance and listen to Polka music. The most important thing in Micky's life was her family and spending time with them. She loved to prepare family feasts. Her family will treasure the special quilts and afghans she made for them.

Micky's faith was very important to her and she prayed the Rosary daily. She was a lifetime member of St. Cyril's Catholic Church.

Micky is survived by 5 daughters: Elaine (Jon) Bartholic of Ovid, MI, Marcia (Ken) Pangborn of Ashley, MI, Lori (Jim) Porubsky of Bannister, MI, Michelle (Will) Ford of Central Lake, MI, and Tamara Bodine-Wilson of Caledonia, MI; 4 sons: John (Lisa) Chapko of Elsie, MI, Frank (Yolanda) Chapko of Bannister, MI, Jeff (Camie) Chapko of Elsie, MI, and Tim (Tammy) Chapko of Jackson, GA; 28 grandchildren, and 40 great grandchildren. She is also survived by step children: Christine (Dwight) Boak of St. Johns, MI, Charles (Carrie Ann) Chapko of St. Johns, MI step son-in-law Richard Villarreal of St. Johns, MI; 5 step grandchildren, 3 step great grandchildren, sister and best friend Mary Cerny, and many nieces and nephews. Micky was preceded in death by her parents, first husband Frank, second husband Charlie, son-in-law Chris Brown, grandson Creigh Bisson, infant great grandson Silas Chapko, step daughter Lisa Villarreal and siblings: Betty Loznak, John Ladiski, Pete Ladiski, Frank Ladiski, and Paul Ladiski.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Cyril's Catholic Church, Bannister, MI, on Friday, April 30, 2021 at 11:00 A.M. Rev. Fr. David Jenuwine will be celebrating. Burial has taken place at Ford Cemetery, Gratiot County, MI.

Memorials may be made to WOES Polka Palace or St. Cyril's Catholic Church. Online condolences may be made at www.smithfamilyfuneralhomes.com. The family is being served by Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie, MI.



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Worship Service
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Worship Service 10:00am

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Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: JD Paik

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laingsburgumc@gmail.com

www.laingsburgumc.org

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Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

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Pastor Eugene Blair

St. Cyril Parish of Bannister

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

Confession:
Sun 11:30am

We Welcome You to Come...

Duane C. Armstrong

Duane C. Armstrong, 75, of Owensville passed away Friday, April 16, 2021 at Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Duane was born Nov. 19, 1945, to Clarence and Ardis (Culbert) Armstrong in Battle Creek, Mich.

He was united in marriage to Katherine Johnson on Dec. 11, 1976 in Bristol, Ind.


Duane enjoyed old cars, drawing, and woodworking. He owned and operated a tour bus company for over 25 years visiting all of the lower 48 states. He served his country in the U.S. Army.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Ardis Armstrong; daughter, Shari Armstrong; son, Duane C. Armstrong, Jr.; five brothers, Clayton and Arthur Armstrong, and Bobby, Roger, and Gary Southwell; and sister, Janice May.

His survivors include his wife, Katherine Armstrong of the home; three sons, Joey Armstrong of Jefferson City, Jeff Armstrong and wife Heather of Owensville, and Roger Armstrong and wife Jessica of Owensville; daughter, Deborah Armstrong of St. Johns, Mich.; sister, Cheryl Armstrong of Beatrice, Neb.; ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sat., April 24th at 10:00 a.m. at the Chapel with Rev. Paul Landgraf officiating. He was buried in the Owensville City Cemetery with full military honors.

The family was served by the Gottenstroeter Funeral Home.



In Loving Memory

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Editorial

This morning, my body (mostly my right knee and ankle) are overreacting to the grounding that I gave them yesterday. Before I left home, I took a barefoot walk around the exterior of my house, and then I walked the peripheral edge of my property to get myself magnetically centered. Believe it or not, running around barefoot is supposed to help you stay healthy....of course my feet aren't as calloused as they used to be. I didn't just work at being grounded, I also wanted to see how my rhubarb was doing and it will need picking in a couple of days. I also took peek at my asparagus and was thrilled to see that it was pushing up through this hard clay. Of course, I also noted all the weeds that need to be pulled but am pleased with the progress that my garlic is making. I have already mowed the lawn twice this April and will have to do so again Saturday or Sunday afternoon if the weather permits.

I would have been minus the knee and ankle agitation if I'd not done some extra roaming at the homestead, where I wore fitted sandals. My daughter was eager to show me where she had planted her white spruces and wanted to show me how well her pear trees were doing. Of course her apple trees look better than mine which had been trimmed by those dang deer. Though I must admit that we do enjoy the venison that they supply... however there is a very large herd in the area so they do enjoy the beans, corn, alfalfa and wheat crops. Diane has thrown down the gauntlet and is challenging me to see who gets the first ripe tomato this year. It must be from our garden and I expect it to be from a regular tray of plants not a potted four inch one that is already a foot tall....and just needs to become acclimated and proceed on its growth cycle.

For some odd reason, it appears that my regular bath towels have gone AWOL. My favorite big thick ones seem to have also disappeared. I know that I had been weeding out those that would serve another purpose but I still should have plenty left on hand. It appears that I will have to go through the rooms upstairs and do a search and seizure. Why does the admonishment to "not take your towels to your room" work?

Yesterday morning after I finished up at the office I had to run into another snafu.... I do understand intensity and importance but sometimes I need a bit of downtime. Downtime was an illusion yesterday.....I had to get a couple of proposals done and make up a simple flyer for the launch tomorrow. They were excellent ideas and this morning I'm double checking everything to search out flaws. The food trailer is going to keep me much busier than I had anticipated.....I seemed to have forgotten the entire behind the scenes activity. That being said, I am thrilled that "Our Taste of Michigan" has become a reality.

I should be in the office by six this morning and will have the bulletins finished and delivered by nine...then I can focus on finishing up the Parable. Right now, I appear to have a decent twelve page lineup but I understand that several late articles may have landed after I left the office yesterday. One of our parishioners realized that the home computer had been sending information to an old email address.....one that hasn't been used in years.....also one that I can't access. Such minor conundrums seem to spice up my existence....daily.

May your days be filled with interesting details, and may they bring you a multitude of God's blessings and compassion. Take care and stay grounded. God bless.

Crystal Mitchell©2021



A Little Common Sense

by Crystal Mitchell

Voice for Clinton County's Children Thank You

Letter to the Editor:

The Voice for Clinton County's Children is excited to share with you with the generous support of our community, we are proud now fully own our beautiful building! In 2018 the generosity of the Idkowski family began this journey; to ensure fiscal responsibility we made a 10 year plan that we completed in 3 years. Special thank you to all who Sponsored the Hope along with Meijer who helped fully meet our payoff goal. We serve as Clinton County's Child Advocacy Center, or CAC, and Court Appointed Special Advocates, or CASA Programs. Our incredible staff and volunteers feel privileged to work with and help support children and youth who have experienced neglect, physical abuse, and/or sexual assault. We may not be able to undo the harm caused by child abuse and neglect but with your support together we make a positive impact on healing an justice for children and youth in our community. For more information, please visit our website VoiceForClintonCountyChildren.org

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

Meridian Weekly

Deborah Price Owner/Publisher

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SYNOPSIS PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL MEETING CITY OF OVID April 26, 2021

The Full set of the Minutes for the Public Hearing & Regular meeting may be viewed or acquired at the Municipal Building located at 114 E. Front Street, Ovid.

Mayor Lasher opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Lasher asked if there was any public comment regarding abandoning the platted streets in Faxon's Addition. There was no public and/or comment.

Mayor Lasher closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Lasher then opened the Special Meeting at 7:03 p.m., and led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard

ABSENT: None

EX OFFICIOS: Rich Simpson—DPW Superintendent, Liza Kusnier—Treasurer, Patti Kieffer—Deputy Clerk

Agenda: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Mr. Starn to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Mr. Williams to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of April 12, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED

Check Register: A motion was made by Ms. Perrien, supported by Ms. Hibbard to approve the check register dated from April 14 through April 23.

MOTION CARRIED

New Business:

1. A) A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to adopt the resolution #2021-08. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: YEAS: Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

B) A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to adopt the resolution #2021-09. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard.

RESOLUTION #2021-9 ADOPTED

C) A motion was made by Mr. Williams, supported by Ms. Hibbard to adopt the resolution #2021-10. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

D) A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to adopt the resolution #2021-11. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard.

RESOLUTION #2021-11 ADOPTED

2. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to accept the COVID-19 EMERGENCY PAID SICK LEAVE with revisions. These revisions include a start date of April 27, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Also, employees during this period of time who exhaust all 80 hours of EPSL can elect to freeze sick and vacation time for COVID-19 related illnesses and orders. Employees choosing to be in no pay status will not accrue sick or vacation time, and the employee is responsible for any Health, Optical, or Dental insurance deductions.

Mayor Lasher asked if all are in favor? **ALL IN FAVOR:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, and Mr. Williams. **OPPOSED:** Ms. Hibbard

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion was held regarding Memorial Day activities. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
A motion was made by Mr. Ordiway, supported by Mr. Brown at 8:08 p.m. to go into closed session.

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Ordiway, second by Mr. Williams to go back into the regular meeting at 8:25 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Lasher closed the regular meeting at 8:25 p.m.

*Patti Kieffer, Deputy Clerk
City of Ovid*

Resolution #2021-008 thru #2021-11 City of Ovid Clinton County, Michigan

A) A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to adopt the resolution #2021-08. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: YEAS: Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

You may request a copy of the resolution along with the exhibit A at the City Office.

B) A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to adopt the resolution #2021-09. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

You may request a copy of the resolution along with the exhibit A at the City Office.

C) A motion was made by Mr. Williams, supported by Ms. Hibbard to adopt the resolution #2021-10. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

You may request a copy of the resolution along with the exhibit A at the City Office.

D) A motion was made by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Perrien to adopt the resolution #2021-11. Mayor Lasher asked Deputy Clerk to take roll call as follows: **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Starn, Ms. Perrien, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lasher, Mr. Ordiway, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Hibbard.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

You may request a copy of the resolution along with the exhibit A at the City Office.

*Patti Kieffer, Deputy Clerk
City of Ovid*

Editorial

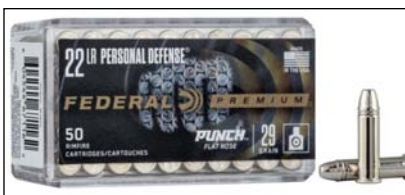


The Weekly Sportsman

by Dan McMaster
theweeklysportsman@meridianweekly.com

Federal Premium Packs a Punch

Almost two weeks ago Federal Premium introduced the first ever .22 LR ammunition designed specifically for self defense when shooting a short barreled pistol and named it Punch. What?



Aren't there already high velocity rounds like the Stinger, Velocitor, or Mini-Mag that provide high velocity options? Yes, but they were designed to violently explode on contact when shot at varmints from a rifle.

The new Punch .22 LR consists of a 29 grain nickel-plated lead core bullet loaded in a nickel-plated case for ease of extraction and corrosion resistance. While the package velocity reads only 1070 fps this is quite misleading because that speed is from a 2-inch barrel. When shot out of a regular rimfire rifle 1,650 fps can be expected. Designed to penetrate deeply with great weight retention, and not blow up or fragment on impact, this load offers those carrying concealed .22's a viable self-defense option when it comes to ammunition selection. Priced at \$9.99 for 50 rounds this seems very affordable but due to the ammo shortage the cost on the internet exceeds \$50. The Weekly Sportsman usually likes to test products before they are covered in this column but it is inconceivable when this ammunition will be commonly available for purchase; nonetheless, when it is available expect a full comprehensive report on internal, external, and terminal ballistics.

-WS



Supervisor Update

by Deb Shaughnessy, Ovid Township

Ovid Township Supervisor

It's hard to believe I was sworn in as Ovid Township Supervisor almost six months ago. Since taking office, I've met with many of the local leaders our township works with to provide residents the services they expect.

One of our most significant responsibilities as a township is to provide for the maintenance of our local roads. I've been very impressed with Clinton County Road Commission Managing Director Doug Steffen and his staff. Our board recently met with Doug and his staff to discuss upcoming maintenance and paving projects.

Ovid Township belongs to the Clinton Area Ambulance Service Authority (CAASA) and Director Lynn Weber attended one of our recent board meetings to talk about their budget and the challenges they've faced during the pandemic. The Township also belongs to the Ovid-Middlebury Emergency Services Authority (OMESA). This valuable authority consists of three municipalities (Ovid Township, the city of Ovid, and Middlebury Township) and oversees fire department operations for these municipalities. I attend all CAASA and OMESA board meetings and provide updates to the township board.

I met virtually with representatives of the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) Lansing Transportation Service Center, who have been very responsive to questions and concerns I've been made aware of regarding the state trunk line in our township. MDOT is in the process of installing a flashing sign on M21 in front of the OMESA building that will be activated when the fire department is responding to a fire or other emergency.

As supervisor, I also serve as secretary to the Board of Review (BOR) and we recently wrapped up our March BOR meetings. Our assessor, Mark Holley, has done a great job updating our tax rolls.

In March the township board approved the fiscal year's budget and increased spending on road maintenance. I appreciate Clinton County Board of Commissioners Chairman Kam Washburn attending our board meetings to keep us up-to-date on all of the issues facing the county. At our next board meeting we will discuss the township's website. Our taxpayers deserve a website that is easy to navigate, up-to-date, and allows residents to have accessible information regarding the Township's operations and services. The pandemic has certainly shown us the value of having reliable on-line information.

I thank the people of Ovid Township for electing me supervisor and allowing me to serve in this capacity. Hopefully, my past experience in government and the various backgrounds of other board members will keep the township on a successful course for years to come.

Ovid Township board meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the township hall on Baese Court, unless otherwise noted due to holidays or other scheduling conflicts. The next board meeting is May 6th at 7 p.m. Don't hesitate to reach out to me at ovidtownshipsupervisor@gmail.com or by calling the supervisor's office at 989-834-4832 if you have any questions or concerns.

Changing Lanes

Letter to the Editor:

I read Mr. Smith's reply to my op-ed.

He states that one should stay in his lane as far as education and leave it to the "experts".

I would ask, which experts?

Is the entirety of the educational experience a static one-way, one lane road, to be led down by those that call themselves "experts"?

Technology is on a J Curve.

Due to such tech, I think today's educational opportunities are more akin to an 8 lane highway with an endless supply of on and off ramps leading to ever growing, varied and exciting options.

Which "experts" should we listen to? The private schools that stayed open? The charter schools that stayed open? The public schools that stayed open? Or the public schools that closed?

One can worry about children supposedly bringing whatever virus home.

(There are differing "expert" opinions on that as well)

But I think one might want to not solely focus on the disease, but also on how bad this lockdown's supposed "cure" has been for so many.

The forced isolation, the drastically increased cases of depression, domestic abuse, drug abuse, physical abuse, sex trafficking, suicide.

(It is interesting to note which schools the fear mongers swayed and which schools forged ahead)

With today's technology it's easier than ever to choose differently, more wisely, and more catered to your individual needs.

One can learn virtually anything via Google, YouTube, KHAN Academy, etc.

For free....

(Bonus: Who knew your phone would be able to carry a guitar tuner in it?)

I believe the marketplace will soon accredit many of the aforementioned sites.

Who knows what VR will do in only a few short years?

Today's life is not black and white. Nuances are everywhere. Choice is abundant.

Mr. Smith says homeschooling is not for everyone. Exactly true. I made no assertion that everyone should try it.

In fact, I posited there are many different avenues (or lanes) one might opt for.

We homeschooled our son the first couple of years. Had we had a larger family, we would have homeschooled longer. I'm no expert. But he did alright I guess. My son is no super genius; but 6th in his class at OE, got into USC, in Southern California (which I would argue was a HUGE waste of money, but that's a topic for another day) and has carved out a nice life.

So I'll put my "non-expert" foundational work up against anyone's.

If memory serves me correct, an absolutely outstanding teacher at OE chose to homeschool all of their children until 8th grade and I believe at least one of them went on to be valedictorian of OE.

It does not take an expert (whatever that is) to educate a child. It merely takes a caring mentor, an attentive parent, a kind coach. Most parents / people are completely capable, even if hesitant. Today there are a myriad of options and tons of help out there.

As libertarian as I was, I still had my doubts about homeschooling 23 years ago.

But we made the leap.

I can not overstate how happy I am we made that choice. One never gets those years back. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life, and I firmly believe it enhanced my son's overall education.

Leaving your child's fate and future, to the so-called experts is absolutely your right. But I'd rather be an advocate for them.

Today there are a great many paths to take: Homeschooling, private schools, charter schools, FREE charter schools via the internet and more.

You might as well financially support the option you deem best for yourself and your children.

Carl Thornton
Colon, MI
Formerly of Elsie

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Senior Spotlight

Signs of Unsafe Driving in Older Drivers

A license to drive has long been symbolic of independence. Teenage drivers long for the day they earn their licenses and can take to the road without mom or dad riding shotgun, while aging drivers want to keep driving as long as possible so they can come and go as they please in their golden years.

There's no formula drivers and their families can employ to determine when it's time to take the car keys away from senior citizens.


Thankfully, fatal collisions involving older drivers have declined considerably in recent decades. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, collision-related fatalities among drivers ages 70 and older declined by 15 percent between 1997 and 2018. A host of factors have no doubt contributed to that decline, including lane-assist technology and forward collision warning systems that have become standard offerings on many modern vehicles.

As much as technology has helped make driving safer for everyone, aging drivers should still keep an eye out for certain signs that may indicate their skills behind the wheel are diminishing and potentially compromising their ability to drive safely. According to AARP, the following are warning signs of unsafe driving.

- Delayed response to unexpected situations: Frequent close calls and narrowly avoiding collisions when other drivers stop suddenly indicate reduced response time that can put aging drivers at an elevated risk of being involved in an accident.
- Becoming easily distracted while driving: Distracted driving has become a significant concern in recent decades, but it's often associated with young drivers. However, aging drivers who are easily distracted also pose a safety risk to themselves and other motorists.
- Decrease in confidence while driving: Only drivers will know if they feel confident enough to drive safely, and it's vital that aging drivers be honest with themselves when assessing how they feel when driving.
- Having difficulty moving into or maintaining the correct lane of traffic: Lane-assist technology can help drivers recognize how often they're staying in the correct lane of traffic. When the warning bell goes off frequently, it might be time for older drivers to reconsider if it's safe for them to be behind the wheel.
- Hitting curbs when making right turns or backing up: Hitting curbs when turning or backing up indicates drivers may be having difficulty controlling their vehicles and/or seeing the road, both of which indicate it's no longer safe for drivers to get behind the wheel.
- Getting scrapes or dents on car, garage or mailbox: These signs also indicate drivers are having trouble controlling their vehicles.
- Driving too fast or too slow for road conditions: This indicates drivers are not as alert to their surroundings as they need to be to stay safe on the road.




It's not easy for aging drivers to relinquish their drivers' licenses. Learning to recognize potential warning signs of unsafe driving can help aging drivers make the safest decisions for themselves, their passengers and their fellow motorists.



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These Nursing Specialist Are in Demand

Nursing can be a fast-paced, exciting occupation. Nursing is a vibrant field that includes talented professionals who specialize in various areas of health care. Depending on which type of medicine they find appealing, nurses can work in various settings.

Demand for nurses is high. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicted that the demand for nurses in the United States would soar in the early years of the 2020s. The ongoing global pandemic has increased demand for nurses even more and highlighted how essential these workers really are.

New nurses or seasoned applicants ready for something a little different may appreciate the growth potential in a variety of in-demand specialties.

- Geriatric nurse: The population of senior citizens is expected to increase by 75 percent between 2010 and 2030, according to Husson University Online. Many nurses have no geriatric training, making a career in geriatric nursing a viable option — and one that can provide for quality care for the aging population.
- Cardiac nurse: The World Health Organization reports that heart disease is the leading cause of death across the globe. So it should come as no surprise that the demand for nurses with a specialty in cardiac health is growing. Cardiac nurses can advise about preventing heart disease and assist in surgical procedures.
- Certified nursing anesthetist: This interesting career option involves nursing and anesthesia. A certified nurse anesthetist administers anesthesia to patients under the supervision of an anesthesiologist. These nurses work closely with doctors in various fields.
- Nursing midwife: In this specialty, nurses deliver babies and provide health care to pregnant patients. They also are instrumental in offering prenatal and postnatal care.
- Critical care nurse: Critical care nurses are especially educated and trained for emergency situations. They are called on to tend to serious wounds and monitor life-support systems.
- Family nurse practitioner: An individual who becomes an FNP is trained in primary care health services for people of all ages. The duties of an FNP are similar to a primary care physician in diagnosing and treating illnesses, providing physical exams and prescribing medications.

The opportunities in nursing are endless. Individuals have many options when they decide to become a nurse, and many fields that fall under the nursing umbrella are experiencing a shortage.





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**Victor Township, Clinton County, MI
6843 Alward Road Laingsburg, MI
Proposed Board Minutes from April 14, 2021 meeting**

The rescheduled regular meeting of Victor Township was called to order by Supervisor Jim Conklin at 7:05 pm.

Attendance: Present: Jim Conklin, Julie Townsend, Amanda Conklin, Paula Willoughby and Nikki Fickes

Public Comment: Motion by A. Conklin to appoint J. Conklin as Victor Township Emergency Manager. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by A. Conklin to adopt Resolution 2021-4-008 to permit telephonic and electronic meetings. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion Carried.

Agenda: Motion by A. Conklin to approve the agenda as printed. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Willoughby to approve the March 08, 2021 meeting minutes. Supported by J Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by A. Conklin to accept the treasurer's report. Supported by Townsend. Roll call. Motion carried.

Approval of bills: Motion by Willoughby to pay the bills in the amount of \$172,697.25 using checks #28228-28254 and voiding checks 12216-12231 and 28250. Supported by J Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to disburse payroll and related payroll expenses in the amount of \$8,230.49 using checks #12207-12215 and EFT 142. Supported by J. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

Reports:
Victor Township Planning Commission: Toured roads with Clinton Co. Road Commission. Discussed master plan. The next PC meeting will be held electronically and in person pending meeting restrictions, on May 3, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Zoom meeting ID 83394750325
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83394750325>

Maintenance & Facilities
Motion by J Conklin to accept bid by T Mechanical to install boiler. Supported by A. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to purchase new outdoor trash cans. Supported by A. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried. Door estimate tabled for more bids. Motion by A. Conklin to accept bid by Rose for pest control. Supported by Fickes. Roll call. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:
• Master Plan – Motion by J Conklin to return the master plan back to the PC. Supported by Fickes. Roll call. Motion carried.

New Business:
• 2021-2022 Salary Resolution– Motion by Willoughby to adopt salary Resolution 2021-4-003. Supported by Fickes. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to adopt Salary Resolution 2021-4-004. Supported by Fickes. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by A. Conklin to adopt Salary Resolution 2021-4-005. Supported by J. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by Will. Willoughby to adopt Salary Resolution 2021-4-006. Supported by J. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried. Motion by Willoughby to adopt Resolution 2021-4-007. Supported by A. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

• 2021 Road Contracts – Motion by Willoughby to approve road contracts: 489.014.140591; 497.014.140471; 497.014.140371; 497.014.140171. Supported by Fickes. Roll call. Motion carried.

• PC Vacancy – Tabled

• PC Appointment – Motion by J. Conklin to reappoint Tammy Ashley to the planning commission. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.

• Emergency Service Milage – Tabled

• LVPOA Goose Control – Motion by Willoughby to support LVPOA's goose control measures. Supported by J Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

• Reopening Township Facilities – Tabled until indoor gathering orders are lifted or increased.

•Contracts –
• Motion by A. Conklin to approve website contract with Web Local and to authorize annual payment for services. Supported by Fickes. Roll call. Motion carried.

• Motion by Willoughby to approve audit contract with VMD & Associates. Supported by A. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

• Motion by Willoughby to approve insurance contract with Burnham and Flower and to authorize annual payment of \$3500.00. Supported by A. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried. A. Conklin to invite John Johnson to our next meeting to discuss cyber and privacy coverage.

Extended Public/Board Comment:
Victor Township office hours beginning in May will be 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Motion by A. Conklin to accept office hours. Supported by J. Conklin. Roll call. Motion carried.

The hall tables and chairs are being replaced. Motion by J. Conklin to authorize the sale of the chairs for \$1.00 each and the tables for \$20.00 each. Supported by Fickes. Roll Call. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm. Supported by Willoughby. Roll call. Motion carried.

Amanda Conklin, Clerk

Sports

Wolfpack Sack Team Stands 2-8 After Twinbill Sweep by Haslett

HASLETT -- Laingsburg's varsity baseball team fell behind early and couldn't come back in a 16-0 loss to Haslett on April 23.

Coach Todd Randall's Wolfpack struggled to contain the high-powered offense of Haslett, as the Vikings got things moving in the first inning. Richstonfer drove in one when Richstonfer singled.

A single by Cooper Wilson in the fifth inning was a positive for Laingsburg.

Rhodes was the winning pitcher for Haslett. The hurler allowed one hit and zero runs over five innings, striking out nine and walking zero.

Nick Regan took the loss for LHS. The righty allowed six hits and seven runs over two and a third innings, striking out three. Wilson went 1-for-2 at the plate to lead Laingsburg in hits.

Haslett racked up 13 hits in the game. Richstonfer, Lucier, and Bailey each managed multiple hits for Haslett.

-- HASLETT 9, LAINGSBURG 6: Laingsburg lost the lead late in a 9-6 defeat to Haslett in the nightcap. The game was tied at five with Haslett batting in the bottom of the fifth when Brick singled on a 0-1 count, scoring one run.

LHS collected six hits and Haslett had nine in the high-scoring affair, and opened up scoring in the first inning, when Brody Rodriguez singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run.

Laingsburg notched four runs in the third inning. Ethan West and Josh Baker all drove in runs in the frame.

Bailey took the win for Haslett. The fireballer lasted two and a third innings, allowing three hits and five runs while striking out one. Rinkelman threw four and two-thirds innings in relief out of the bullpen.

Rodriguez took the loss for Laingsburg, allowing five hits and four runs over four innings, striking out three and walking one.

Nick Woodbury led LHS with two hits in four at bats. **Pitchers sharp as St. Pats sweeps Wolves in CMACbaseball doubleheader**

PORTLAND -- Traditionally, Portland St. Patrick has been a dominant force in Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) baseball annals.

The Shamrocks showed that strength again April 29, in the CMAC doubleheader sweep that dropped Laingsburg to 2-10 on the 2021 season.

Both teams were strong on the mound on Thursday, but St.

Pats was just a little bit stronger at the plate in a 3-1 victory over coach Todd Randall's Wolfpack.

Nick Woodbury started the game for Laingsburg and recorded 18 outs.

Shane Cook was credited with the victory for St Pats. The hurler surrendered one run on five hits over seven innings, striking out five and walking one.

Woodbury took the loss for LHS. The righty lasted six innings, allowing six hits and three runs while striking out eight and walking zero. Zack Fortino led Laingsburg Wolfpack Varsity with two hits in three at bats.

St Pats collected six hits. Braxton Teachworth and Cook each had multiple hits for St Pats.

-- PORTLAND ST. PATRICK 5, LAINGSBURG 3: St. Patrick jumped out to an early lead and took a 5-3 victory in the other game of the doubleheader.

The Shamrocks improved to 6-1, scoring on a groundout by Chase Fitzsimmons in the first inning and a groundout by Tristan Huhn in the second inning.

Laingsburg knotted the game up at one in the bottom of the first inning. An error scored one run for the Wolves.

After St. Pats scored one run in the top of the fourth, Laingsburg answered with one of their own.

The Shamrocks pulled away for good with one run in the second inning. In the second Huhn grounded out, scoring one run.

Schrauben was credited with the victory for St. Pats, going four innings, allowing two runs on two hits, striking out seven and walking one. Cross threw three innings in relief out of the bullpen.

Nick Regan took the loss for the red-and-white. The righthander went three and two-thirds innings, allowing five runs on four hits and striking out one.

Ethan West and Nick Woodbury all had one hit to lead Laingsburg.

Laingsburg Male Thinclads Top Saranac, Dansville

DANSVILLE — Laingsburg's boys track and field team swept a double dual from Saranac and Dansville on April 21, beating the Redskins 77-60 and the host Aggies 87-37.

Zach Hawes won the 100 (12.09 seconds) and 400 (56.31) for the Wolfpack. Lucas Woodruff took first in the 800 (2 minutes, 10.37 seconds).

Laingsburg also won two relays — the 400 (Jack Borgman, Zach Grandy, Woodruff, Cameron Salas) in 47.97 seconds and the 800 (Alex Brown, Borgman, Kadin Beck-Kusnier and Brad Dedic) in 1:44.16.

The Wolfpack swept the first five places in the pole vault, led by Borgman and Brown, who both cleared 11 feet.

Laingsburg's girls beat Dansville 97-1 and lost 69-68 to Saranac.

Emma Kribs was first in the 100 (13.31), while the Wolfpack took the top four spots in the 200, paced by Hailey Bila (29.42). She beat sister Ashley Bila by 3 tenths of a second. Lorna Strieff won the 400 in 1:09.55.

The Laingsburg girls also won two relays, claiming the 400 (Kribs, Shaily Baynes and the Bila sisters) in 54.47 seconds and the 800 (Baynes, Grace Graham, Hayleigh Mertens, Grace Borgman) in 2:02.05.

Wolfpack athletes won every field event except long jump. Strieff won both the discus (74-9) and the high jump (4-10). Baynes claimed the pole vault (9-6) and Graham took the shot put (25-9).

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Sports

Marauders clinch lead In 5th inning for victory over softball Wolfpack

OVID-ELSIE -- The host Marauders took the lead late in the game in a 10-8 victory over Laingsburg on April 15 in non-league softball action.

Coach Felicia Gingrich's Marauders trailed 4-3 in the bottom of the fifth inning when Jolene Nash doubled on a 1-2 count, scoring two runs.

O-E built a six-run lead in the fifth inning and then held off Laingsburg's charge. Laingsburg scored four runs in the failed comeback on a single by Hailey Bila, a groundout by Ashley Bila, a single by Jordan Langdon, and a triple by Kailey Cataline.

Coach Jeff Cheadle's Wolves scored four runs in the sixth inning. The big inning for Laingsburg came thanks to singles by Bila and Langdon, a triple by Cataline, and a groundout by Bila.

Olivia Burt was the winning pitcher for OE Marauders. The righthander allowed six hits and four runs over three innings, striking out one and walking zero. Gracie Schultz threw three innings in relief out of the bullpen. Schultz recorded the last nine outs to earn the save for OE Marauders.

Cataline took the loss for Laingsburg. She surrendered ten runs on 14 hits over four and two-thirds innings.

O-E scattered 15 hits in the game. Karrigan Cuthbert, Schultz, Burt, Nash, and Zoe Baiz each had multiple hits for the Marauders. Schultz and Cuthbert each collected three hits to lead Ovid-Elsie.

LHS totaled 11 hits. Bila, Langdon, Wagner, and Cataline all managed multiple hits.

-- LAINGSBURG 19, OVID-ELSIE 4: The host Marauders watched the game slip away early and couldn't recover in a 19-4 loss to Laingsburg. The Wolfpack scored on a single by Madison Wagner and a grand slam by Ellie Baynes in the first inning.

The Marauders struggled to put runs on the board and had a tough time containing Laingsburg, giving up 19 runs. LHS opened up scoring in the first inning. Wagner drove in one when Wagner singled.

The Marauders scored four runs in the third inning. Ashland Particka and Olivia Burt all drove in runs in the frame.

Laingsburg scored nine runs in the third frame. The Wolves' big inning was driven by singles by Bila, Bila, Langdon, and Baynes, a fielder's choice by Hailey Koleczny, an error on a ball put in play by Baynes, and a double by Cataline.

Cataline earned the victory in the pitcher's circle for Laingsburg. The bulldog went five innings, allowing four runs on eight hits and striking out five.

Kaitlyn Fry took the loss for OE Marauders. Fry surrendered six runs on five hits over one inning, striking out two.

O-E smacked one home run on the day. Burt went for the long ball in the third inning. The Marauders racked up eight hits in the game. Burt and Karrigan Cuthbert all collected multiple hits; Cuthbert and Burt each collected two hits to lead OE Marauders.

Laingsburg collected 17 hits. Cataline, Bila, Starr, Bila, Langdon, Wagner, and Baynes all had multiple hits for the red-and-white.

Early Lead for Softball Marauders Sets Stage for Victory over Chesaning

OVID-ELSIE -- The host Marauders grabbed an early lead on its way to a 15-6 victory over Chesaning on April 19.

O-E scored on a walk by Maddisyn Miller in the first inning, a walk by Gracie Schultz and a walk by Jolene Nash. In the second frame, a double by Miller, a double by Kaitlyn Fry, and a double by Schultz were crucial to the Marauder offense.

The base paths were crowded in this high-scoring game. OE Marauders collected 12 hits and Chesaning had ten.

OE Marauders put up seven runs in the fourth inning. The offensive onslaught came from singles by Schultz, Allyson Pokorny, and Ashland Particka and a groundout by Olivia Burt.

Chesaning scored three runs in the fifth inning. The Tribe's big inning was driven by a single by Florian, a groundout by Davis, and a double by Mahoney.

Burt earned the victory on the rubber for O-E. The righthander lasted seven innings, allowing ten hits and six runs while striking out five and walking one.

Russell took the loss for Chesaning. Russell allowed one hit and four runs over one-third of an inning, striking out one.

OE Marauders scattered 12 hits in the game. Miller and Schultz all had multiple hits for O-Es. Schultz and Miller all had two hits to lead the way.

Chesaning collected ten hits. Mahoney, Cooper, and Florian all managed multiple hits for the Lady Indians.

-- Marauders fall to Chesaning after 4th inning score: O-E stayed in it until the end, but Chesaning pulled away late in a 10-8 victory in the April 19 MMAC twinbill.

The Indians trailed 8-7 in the bottom of the fourth inning when Oakes singled on a 0-2 count, scoring two runs.

Despite the loss, coach Felicia Gingrich's Marauders did collect eight hits in the high-scoring affair. Unfortunately, Chesaning had nine hits on the way to victory. The Tribe opened up an early lead in the first inning when Oakes drew a walk, scoring one run.

After O-E scored one run in the top of the third, Chesaning answered with one of their own. CHS then answered when Hereoux grounded out, scoring one run.

Deveranx led the Chesaning to victory on the rubber. Deveranx went three innings, allowing eight runs.

Gracie Schultz took the loss for O-E. The Marauders socked one home run on the day. Olivia Burt had a long ball in the fourth inning. The Marauders racked up eight hits on the day. Maddisyn Miller and Burt each racked up multiple hits; Miller went 3-for-3 at the plate.

Chesaning totaled nine hits. Vanharren, Cooper, Florian, and Russell all had multiple hits for the Tribe.

Lady Cavaliers sweep O-E in MMAC softball action

CORUNNA -- The Ovid-Elsie varsity softball team watched the game slip away early and couldn't recover in a 13-3 loss to Corunna on April 28 in MMAC girls action.

Coach Felicia Gingrich's Marauders struggled to put runs on the board and had a tough time defensively containing Corunna. The Cavaliers got on the board in the first inning when Ryon doubled on a 3-1 count, scoring one run.

Corunna scored eight runs in the third inning. The Cavs' big inning was driven by singles by Edington and Rau, doubles by Yerian and Patrick, and an error on a ball put in play by Ryon.

Ryon pitched Corunna to victory. The pitcher went five innings, allowing three runs on three hits and striking out nine.

Gracie Schultz took the loss for O-E, allowing eight hits and 11 runs over two and a third innings, striking out one and walking zero.

Olivia Burt led OE Marauders with two hits in two at bats.

Corunna totaled 11 hits. Patrick and Ryon all collected multiple hits for Corunna. Patrick went 4-for-4 at the plate to lead Corunna at the dish.

-- CORUNNA 13, OVID-ELSIE 4: The Marauders had trouble keeping up all afternoon with Corunna, including a 13-4 loss in the MMAC twinbill.

O-E got on the board in the first inning, scoring one run when Ashland Particka tripled.

Corunna knotted the game up at two in the top of the second inning, when Campos singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run.

After Corunna scored two runs in the top of the seventh, O-E answered with two of their own; an error scored one run and Maddisyn Miller singled on a 2-2 count, scoring one run.

Corunna pulled away for good with one run in the third inning. In the third Alchin grounded out, scoring one run.

Henry was credited with the victory for Corunna. She surrendered four runs on 11 hits over seven innings, striking out one and walking zero.

Olivia Burt took the loss for Ovid-Elsie. The righty went seven innings, allowing 13 runs on 15 hits and striking out five.

O-E collected 11 hits. Particka, Miller, and Zoe Baiz each collected multiple hits for the Marauders. Particka went 3-for-4 at the plate .

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Sports

Marauder Girls Soccer Team Remains Unbeaten at 4-0 with Big Win Over Durand

OVID-ELSIE — Ovid-Elsie’s girls soccer team won for the 4th time in four starts, with a 9-0 victory over Durand here April 27.

The Railroaders were forced to cancel the first three weeks of its season due to a COVID-19 quarantine and now are dealing with injuries and a smaller roster. That meant Durand was forced to play unbeaten Ovid-Elsie with just seven players — instead of 11.

The Marauders (4-0) were indeed too tough to stop, cruising to a 9-0 victory in a game that spanned just one half before the mercy rule went into effect.

Hailee Campbell scored twice for Ovid-Elsie, which also received goals from Haylee Palus, Amber Dorn, Madison Cunningham, Audrey Bates, Emma DelBosque, Kiah Longoria and Caitlyn Walter. Ovid-Elsie goalie Ava Bates did not face a single shot. Cunningham, Campbell and Kalista Bancroft each had two assists.

"Madison Cunningham, Hailee Campbell, and Kalista Bancroft led the way for us tonight each tallying a pair of assists," said O-E coach Craig Thelen. "Coaches and teammates really appreciate it when players look to get their teammates involved."



Tristin Zola, #13 for OE, drives past a Durand defender.



Coach Thelen said his team worked on several aspects of its game, including passing and shooting, but gave credit to Durand for playing despite being shorthanded.

The Marauders started the game with 11 players but eventually went down to 10.

"I appreciate them coming down," Thelen said. "We played a man down at the same time. We don't want to screw up our formations too much ... We want everybody to know their role. When we play against a team that many people down, it's kind of hard. It messes with the formation a lot."

The Marauders scored their first goal 31 seconds into the game on Palus' goal off of Cunningham's assist. It was 2-0 Marauders when Cunningham scored off Campbell's assist with 38:16 left in the half.

Emma DelBosque, #5, scores a goal for OE in their 9-0 victory over Durand.

Cavs Limit O-E While Offense Powers Corunna to MMAC Doubleheader Sweep

OVID-ELSIE --The Marauder varsity baseball team stayed in it until the end, but Corunna pulled away late in a 16-4 victory on April 28 in the first game of a MMAC doubleheader. Corunna trailed 4-3 in the top of the fifth inning when Caleb Stahr lined out, driving in a run.

In the first inning, the Cavaliers got their offense started. Stahr drove in one with a double.

Coach Luke Martin's Marauders evened things up at two in the bottom of the second inning when Keigan Ormes doubled on a 0-1 count, scoring two runs.

Corunna scored nine runs in the sixth inning. Cole Mieske, Porter Zeeman, Gavin Darling, Jack Belmer, Collin Thompson, and Carson Socia each drove in runs during the frame.

Darling was on the pitcher's mound for Corunna. The pitcher surrendered four runs on seven hits over six innings, striking out three and walking one.

Tyler Bancroft started the game for O-E, surrendering seven runs on four hits over four and a third innings, striking out three. Joshua Everden threw one and two-thirds innings out of the bullpen.

Ormes, Ian Hehrer, Everden, Kayden Leslie, Braxton Stenger, Bancroft, and Carson Gregory each collected one hit to lead Ovid-Elsie.

Corunna totaled ten hits. Socia and Darling each had multiple hits for Corunna. Socia went 3-for-3 at the plate to lead Corunna in hits. Socia led Corunna with three stolen bases, as they ran wild on the base paths with 12 stolen bases.

-- CORUNNA 9, OVID-ELSIE 0: It was a tough day for O-E, which also lost 9-0 to Corunna in the league twinbill.

A single by Keigan Ormes in the third inning was a positive for O-E.

Porter Zeeman earned the win for Corunna. The fireballer surrendered zero runs on four hits over five innings, striking out five and walking zero.

Dylan Carman took the loss for Ovid-Elsie. The righty lasted three innings, allowing seven hits and six runs while striking out one. Ormes went 2-for-2 at the plate to lead the Marauders in hits.

Corunna racked up eight hits. Caleb Stahr and Zeeman each had multiple hits for Corunna. Corunna tore up the base paths, as two players stole at least two bases. Stahr led the way with four. Corunna was sure-handed and didn't commit a single error.

Ovid-Elsie Track Teams Follow Lead of Girls' 1600 M Relay Team to Impress at First MMAC Jamboree

CHESANING — New Lothrop's boys won Wednesday's MMAC jamboree with 177 points, outpacing second-place Chesaning (164).

Coach Doug Long's Ovid-Elsie booyos checked in third with 901/2 points. Montrose (52), Durand (51), Byron (49 1/2), Otisville Lakeville (47) and Mt. Morris (24) rounded out the field.

The New Lothrop girls also won their first MMAC jamboree, holding off second-place Chesaning on April 28 during the first of three MMAC track and field league event. The Hornets scored 176 1/2 points while Chesaning scored 157. The remaining field included Byron (132), Ovid-Elsie (97 1/2), Durand (26), Montrose (14) and Mt. Morris (5).

Ovid-Elsie's Isabella Loynes, Kaia Spiess, Rachel Spitzley and Alexis Spitzley won the 1,600 relay (4:44.85).

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Wolfpack Track Teams Return Strong Nucleus to Join Promising Newcomers in Return to the Track

LAINGSBURG -- The enthusiasm for track and field is, perhaps, at an all-time high as the Wolfpack enters the 2021 season.

Who could argue? Coach Brian Borgman's Wolfpack was forced from competition last spring, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Wolves return a load of talented lettermen: seniors Zach Hawes (sprints), Lucas Woodruff (middle distances), Cam Salas (sprints) and Tyler Henne (high jump, long jump, sprints). Returning juniors looking to make a big impact include Alex Brown (pole vault), Andrew Kingsbury (throws), Kadin Beck-Kusnier (sprints), Reece Kramer (hurdles), Miguel Ramirez (distances), Nolan Gregg (distances, long jump) and Caleb Clark (distances).

"We have good numbers this season, and it is spread out over all the events," says coach Borgman. "That should keep us competitive."

Newcomers are senior Doug Matthews (hurdles and pole vault), sophomores Caleb Boettcher (pole vault) and Brad Dedic (sprints, high jump), and freshmen Jack Borgman (pole vault, sprints) and Zack Grandy (sprints).

"We have lots of freshmen and sophomores that will need to fill varsity roles," explains the coach.

As far as the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC) race, coach Borgman says, "Typically, P-W will be very strong. I see us finishing in the top 3 teams."

-- GIRLS TRACK TEAM: Shaily Baynes (pole vault and sprints), Kezzie Dietz (sprints), Emma Kribs (sprints) and Alexa Weathers (discus and sprints) will lead coach Borgman's Lady Wolfpack track squad into the 2021 campaign.

"The girls we have are athletic and competitive," says coach Borgman. "We have 20 girls on the team, and 9 of them are dual-sport athletes. Sharing athletes helps a lot in a smaller school."

Newcomers promising to contribute at Grace Borgman (discus and sprints), Hailey Bila (sprints), Ashley Bila (sprints), Grace Graham (middle distances), Hayleigh Martens (distances), Lorna Strieff (high jump and sprints), Alyse Rowley (throws), Bella Strieff (high jump and hurdles), Libby Rucklos (high jump and hurdles), Sophia Dittrich (throws) and Ellie Baynes (sprints).

Coach Borgman will be assisted in 2021 with both teams by assistant coaches Shawn Baynes, Andy Brown, Jordan Allen, Clint Hawks and Brad Gebauer.



Laingsburg Softball

Front row (l-r): Josie Keenan #5, Jordan Langdon #18, Gabby Motz #6, Ashley Bila #2, Haley Konieczny #10, Erica Wade #15, Ella Merrell #3. Second row (l-r): Madison Wagner #7, Kailey Cataline #4, Saige Wurm #8, Ellie Baynes #13, Hailey Bila #1, Gabby Paquet #11, Julia Starr #24, Coach Cheadle.

Wolfpack Softball Girls are Perennial Contenders in CMAC

LAINGSBURG -- "We should be one of the teams that contend for the league title."

That's how veteran coach Jeff Cheadle sums up his Lady Wolfpack softball team heading into 2021.

That's nothing new. Laingsburg annually is one of the top teams in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference (CMAC). What is new, and possibly concerning, is a lack of numbers in the LHS program. The Wolves won't field a Jr. Varsity team this season.

That clears the way for young newcomers like Haley Kenieczny, Ellie Baynes, Ashley Bila, Ella Merrell and Saige Wurm, who'll join a strong senior nucleus that includes Jordan Langdon, Madison Wagner, Hailey Bila (a transfer from Bath) and Kailey Cataline (another transfer from Bath).

"Our hitting and defense should be strong. We will be able to score runs," says coach Cheadle. "One weakness will be a lack of varsity experience."

Coach Cheadle will be assisted by Mike Cooper, Adam Cheadle and Kelsey Jones as the Lady Wolves enter the 2021 campaign.



Spring Sports Previews Will be Published as Team Photos are Taken. More coming in the next Meridian Weekly!!

Laingsburg Photos by Keith Kingsbury The rest of Laingsburg Spring Sports will be published when Team Photos Available.

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