

Volunteers like Beth Lebioda hard to find

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Couple from Belgium enjoy Cass City visit

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CASS

VOLUME 86, NUMBER 10

CITY

CASS

CHRONICLE

1992

FIFTY CENTS

12 PAGES PLUS ONE SUPPLEMENT

Council plans special meet to set taxes

A special meeting will be held Thursday morning to set the 1992 millage rate in Cass City, where the state equalized value (half the true cash value) of property rose nearly \$760,000, despite a statewide freeze in property values.

Bids for the village's walking trail project will also be considered during the special Village Council meeting, set to begin at 7:30 a.m. at the village municipal building.

Although 1992 property assessments were frozen at 1991 levels, the freeze didn't affect new construction, which explains the 2 percent increase in Cass City's overall SEV this year, according to village Manager Lou S. LaPonsie. He noted the new construction came in the form of new housing, primarily condominiums.

Cass City's 1992 SEV is set at \$37,305,100. Industrial development exemptions (industrial property taxed at half the local millage rate) total another \$2.67 million.

The village currently levies a total of 16.4296 mills — 10.9447 mills for general operations, 2.9849 mills for streets and 2.5 mills for the wastewater treatment plant. The tabulation of SEV figures was late this year due to problems encountered with

the county's new tax system.

During the Village Council's May 26 regular meeting, village President L.E. Althaver noted the village typically receives those figures and sets the millage rate in April. He voiced concern that further delays in getting the village's SEV might lead to cash flow problems.

With the figures in now, Village Clerk Joyce LaRoche indicated Monday the village should get by alright provided tax bills go out in a timely manner. She said county officials have told her they hope to send out tax bills in early July, which is when they went out last year.

If that doesn't happen, LaRoche added, the due date will be extended in accordance with when the bills are sent out.

In Millington Township

Sophisticated pot growing operation raided by police

A drug raid last week in Millington Township broke up what authorities described as a sophisticated marijuana growing operation.



MAKING DECISIONS is what Cass City resident David Barnes was attempting to do Monday morning at Cass City High School. Barnes was one of the more than 200 people who turned out to vote in school board elections.

TNU spokesman: It ranks up there with the top raids we've done.

Roy M. Wood

Recognize centennial farm

A Deford area man's home has been recognized as a centennial farm by the Michigan Department of State, Bureau of History.

The Kingston Township farm at 1495 Crawford Rd. belongs to Roy M. Wood, 80, whose grandfather purchased the original 80-acre spread Dec. 21, 1891, from John and Mary Bessy for \$10 an acre.

"My dad and granddad came here at the same time,"

Roy recently remarked, adding his father was the oldest of 6 children born to John and Kate Wood.

Roy's grandfather sold a 40-acre farm in Lapeer, making enough to purchase 240 acres in the Deford area. Although previously from Canada, the family's roots have been traced to England.

Upon arriving at their property in Kingston Township, the family moved into

an existing shack, the foundation of which is part of the present farmhouse.

Roy said his grandfather and father, William H. Wood, were dairy farmers, a tradition he continued until 1947. He was a full-time cash crop farmer until 1965, when he began working at General Cable Co. He continued to farm part time, retiring in 1972. He has since successfully battled colon cancer.

A former township treas-

urer, Roy was married in 1945. He and his wife, Genevieve, who died in 1984, had 2 children, Larry and Patty.

Today, the Wood farm consists of only 20 acres, most of which is registered in a conservation plan. Another 20 acres belongs to Roy's son, who resides just north of the farm.

Roy's farm is among 4 in Tuscola County recently named centennial farms. The others are in Unionville and Vassar.

According to officials with the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of History, a centennial farm is a working farm of 10 or more acres that has been continuously owned by the same family for at least 100 years.

The Centennial Farm Program was begun by the Michigan Historical Commission in 1948, with support from the Detroit Edison Company, Consumers Power Company, local electrical cooperatives and farm groups. It is intended to recognize farms that have remained in the same family for generations and highlight the family farm's contributions to Michigan's development.

Farm owners receive a Michigan Centennial Farm Certificate from the state's Bureau of History and a metal display marker for the farm.

The green-and-yellow markers are supplied by Michigan electrical utility companies to commemorate the dramatic changes electricity brought to farm operation and family life.

Centennial farm families are eligible for membership in the Michigan Centennial Farm Association, which was established in 1986 and meets annually in Lansing.

Officers from the Thumb Narcotics Unit and county agencies seized several thousand dollars worth of marijuana as well as guns and growing equipment in the June 2 raid, which targeted a Milliman Road residence.

Arrest warrants are pending for 2 suspects.

A search warrant executed at 7:15 p.m. culminated several months of investigation by the Thumb Narcotics Unit and the Millington Police Department.

During the operation, officers from the area narcotics unit, Millington police, Michigan State Police and Tuscola County Sheriff's Department seized 260 marijuana plants, ranging in height up to 4 feet, and 6 pounds of processed marijuana, with a combined street value of some \$275,000.

Also confiscated were 5 long guns, 3 hand guns, scales, and a large volume of "highly sophisticated motorized growing equipment."

A TNU spokesman indicated the estimated value of the marijuana plants is conservative. He explained the figure is based on a federal formula, with each plant having the potential to produce one pound of marijuana, and each pound being valued at about half of the actual street value of \$2,000 a pound.

The spokesman described last week's raid as significant.

"It rates up there in the top of the raids we've done," he said. "It's the biggest indoor operation I've seen in the past year."

The spokesman said the growing facility, set up in the basement of the residence, was comprised of a 10-foot by 10-foot growing area and a similarly sized drying area. Lights above the plants were attached to a chain bracket and motorized device that moved the assembly back and forth, providing an equal distribution of light among the plants.

Light vote sends incumbents back to school boards

Incumbents prevailed and millages were approved in area school districts during Monday's annual school elections.

Voter turnout was light for the most part in area districts, although some 30 percent of Kingston voters went to the polls.

In Cass City, incumbents Beverley Auten and Fred Matthews won new 4-year terms on the school board after garnering 213 votes and 172 votes, respectively. Challenger Danny Haag received 168 votes and newcomer Linda Volz received 152 votes.

About 380 of the district's 4,000 voters went to the polls for a turnout of 9.5 percent.

There was no millage question on the ballot.

Kingston voters also re-elected their incumbents and approved a millage renewal.

Ray Wolak garnered 309 votes and Ben Boyl received 235 votes, while challenger Larry Barrons received 188 votes.

Also receiving votes were several write-in candidates, including school Supt. Jerry H. Laycock (one vote). The others were Marie Mutart (54 votes), Patti Westerby (13 votes) and Wayne Moore, Keith Wood and Ella Thorp (one vote).

Residents approved renewal of 16.5 mills for operations, 250-209.

A total of 459 out of 1,500 registered voters went to the polls.

Voter turnout totaled about 13 percent (200 out of 1,490 registered voters) in the Owen-Gage School District, where incumbents Ronald Good and Walter Swiastyn were re-elected to 4-year terms. Good received 133 votes and Swiastyn, 142 votes, while challenger Tom Mellendorf garnered 84 votes.

Voters approved renewal

of 14.8 mills for 5 years for operations, 149-43.

In the Ugly Community Schools, incumbents John Rutkowski and Martin Kubacki were re-elected with 304 votes and 283 votes, respectively. Challenger Carol Peruski-Fess, mean-

while, garnered 224 votes.

Voters approved renewal of one mill for 2 years for the purchase of new school buses. The vote was 306-150, with one spoiled ballot. About 14 percent (457 residents) of the district's 3,250 registered voters cast ballots in the election.

Kirby warns of possible O-G cash crunch

Finances and new state education mandates dominated discussion at a 3-hour monthly Owen-Gage Board of Education meeting Monday night.

The board approved a motion to borrow \$610,000 on anticipated tax revenues, a move that will keep the district going until next spring, according to Supt. Harley Kirby.

Although the district has been able to get by without borrowing large sums in recent years, Kirby indicated the district's financial outlook is being hit by a loss of revenue due to statewide property assessment freezes, among other factors.

For example, the superintendent said, the district will lose an estimated \$5,324 in local tax revenue stemming from lower SEVs in Elkland and Elmwood Townships due to the shutdown of a manufacturing plant and an oil well.

"If they put another freeze on SEVs, then next year we'll probably have to borrow 2 years in advance" unless the state gets its act together in the area of school finance reform, he said.

Kirby warned the board it will have to begin looking at paring expenditures for next year. He offered no specific-

ferences and extracurricular activities, rather than programs, will be the first to go.

School officials eliminated extracurricular activities such as field trips a few years ago. They were later reinstated as the district's financial health improved, but the trend appears to be reversing itself again, Kirby said.

In a related matter, the superintendent requested a special board meeting for Monday, June 29, to finalize amendments to the district's 1991-92 budget, and approve a 1992-93 spending plan.

The session will begin at 8 p.m. in the Owendale High School library.

THE NEW DIPLOMA

Turning to new state education mandates, high school Principal Manuel Thies told the board that beginning in 1997, students will be required to pass a standardized proficiency test, such as the Michigan Educational Program Assessment (MEAP) exam, in order to receive a high school diploma.

In the meantime, students who don't pass a state-approved test will still receive diplomas, while those who Please turn to back page.



DAVE FRITZ (LEFT), member services and marketing manager for the Thumb Electric Cooperative, Ugly, presents a Michigan Centennial Farm marker to Roy Wood, whose grandfather settled in Kingston Township in 1891.



WHOOOOO ARE YOU? A baby owl peers down from a tree in Gagetown, where a family of 4 owls — 2 adults and 2 little ones — has taken up residence. Carol Gray says her sons, Matthew, 7, and Bradley, 11, enjoy "talking" to the birds.



Mr. and Mrs. Stanley McArthur

McArthurs celebrate 65th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley McArthur celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with an open house Saturday, June 6, at their home in Cass City. Around 60 friends and relatives attended.

They were married June 4, 1927, at the home of her parents in Flint, and have

lived in Cass City since then.

They have one son, Robert, and his wife, Joyce, 3 grandchildren, Kathy Denault and her husband, Junior, Doug McArthur and his wife, Brenda, and David McArthur, and 4 great-grandchildren, Benji, Andrew, Phillip and Joseph, all of Cass City.

Capps to receive bachelor's degree

Jeremy Capps will be graduating June 13 with a bachelor of arts degree in social science from Michigan State University's James Madison College in East Lansing.



Jeremy Capps

He will have earned a double major in psychology and American public affairs, social relations.

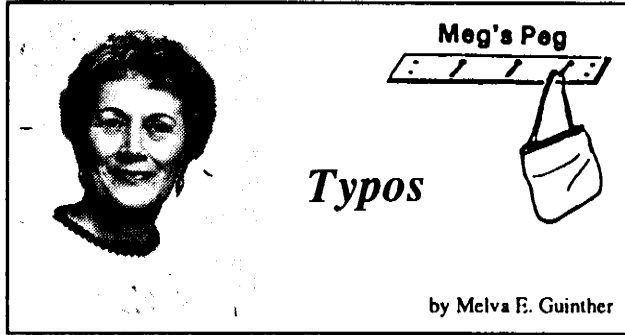
Capps' future plans are to attend law school at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, in the fall.

A 1988 graduate of Cass City High School, he is the son of Rita and Dave Lovejoy and Harry and Jill Capps.

Hills and Dales General Hospital

PATIENTS LISTED MONDAY, JUNE 8, WERE:

James Johnson, Deborah Jordan, Angeline Male, Leslie Merchant, Cass City; Curtis Cleland, Uby.



Here's our latest collection of typos that ordinarily only the proof reader gets to see:

The delicates will be turned into a spiral ring cookbook. (Which should definitely toughen them up.) [delicacies]

The garden, which once spanned 10-12 acres, has shrunk to a small pot next to the barn. (Talk about dehydrated vegetables!) [small spot]

Barley, wheat and oat variety trial results will be dismissed at this location. (Okay, crops, you're free to go.) [discussed]

Brian H. and Denise O. were untied in marriage. (Actually, they were just getting tied up.) [united]

The bridesmaids' dresses were T-length cabbage patch print. (Isn't that what those ugly dolls wear?) [cabbage rose]

The couple were united by a major at city hall. (No minor accomplishment!) [mayor]

The bride's mother sang the communion song. (In a gravelly voice, no doubt.) [sang]

Sept. 23 was set to make adults for Lutheran World Relief. (Can you do that on one specified day?) [quilts]

The touchdown march covered 40 yards. (The ball carrier retired immediately afterward.) [yards]

He was charged with breaking and entering a swelling. (Oooh! That sounds painful!) [dwelling] Santa, don't forge Jimmy. (And don't clone him' either!) [forget]

Several people will get ticks if they don't chain their dogs. (And some will get them if they do.) [tickets]

Sue B. was a super guest of Mrs. R.H. and family. (There were other guests, but they were just average.) [supper]

The project will result in smother day-to-day operations. (Some operations deserve to be smothered.) [smoother]

The 4-H safe tractor operation course is open to any youth 1 year of age and older. (You can't start farm workers too young!) [12 years]

Anyone wishing a flue shot should call... (You can hire a hit man for a flue?) [flu]

The topics will include feed conversation. ("Bessie, isn't this hay simple divine?") [conversion]

It had been a meat market since the urn of the century. (For pickled bologna maybe?) [turn]

The house has oat trim. (And if times get tough, you can eat it.) [oak]

The top 5 men bowlers were: (You'd blow, too, if you bowled that well.) [bowlers]

The ladies voted to end invitations to the Trinity UMW and Snover UMW for dinner. (Maybe they eat too much?) [send]

All of this demonstrates that, while we make our share of mistakes, we do catch a few.

Cass City Personal Items

Call your local news to the Chronicle office - 872-2010

Duane Chippi, Cass City, has been selected by The Citizens for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, to receive the organization's citizen of the year award. The award is granted, says Alan Gottlieb, chairman, for being active in local, state and national gun rights issues.

Approximately 75 relatives and friends attended a surprise 80th birthday party for Hazel Seeley Sunday, June 7, with dinner at the VFW Hall in Cass City. Those in attendance came from Cass City, Caro, Gageton, Deckerville, Kingston, Wilmot, North Branch, Holt, Dearborn, Trenton, Grand Rapids and Toledo, Ohio.

Marriage licenses

Michael Eugene Liley and Barbara Darlene Jewell, both of Mayville. James Walter Schmalz, Yuma, Ariz., and Diana Lynn Zyrowski, Kingston. Alvin Edward Thrasher and Shirley MacAnn TerBush, both of Caro. Miles Mitchell Teitl and Susan Diane Weber, both of Fairgrove. Daniel Frank Hodges and Louise Kay Nast, both of Caro. Joel Dean Petzold, Millington, and Vicky Lynn Sohmer, Otisville. Russell James Funsch, Millington, and Dianna Lynn Rangel, Flint. David Stephen Karovich, Caro, and Tonya Sue Mays, Vassar. Michael James Behrens and Andrey Ann Kennedy, both of Caro. Jon Thomas Lea, Chicago, Ill., and Sarah Kathryn Caister, Caro.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE USPS 092-700 PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AT CASS CITY, MICHIGAN 6550 Main Street Second-class postage paid at Cass City, Michigan 48726 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CASS CITY CHRONICLE, P.O. BOX 115, CASS CITY, MI 48726 John Haire, publisher National Advertising Representative Michigan Weekly Newspapers, Inc., 257 Michigan Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan. Subscription Prices: To post offices in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac Counties - \$12.00 a year or 2 years for \$22, 3 years for \$32, \$9 for 6 months, and 3 months for \$6.00. In Michigan - \$15.00 a year, 2 years \$28.00. In other parts of the United States - \$17.00 a year, or 2 years \$32.00. Payable in advance. For information regarding newspaper advertising and commercial and job printing, telephone 872-2010.

2 from Cass City on GMI Dean's List

David Burnette and Caren Britt, both of Cass City, senior management systems students at GMI Engineering & Management Institute, Flint, have been placed on the Dean's List for the past semester in recognition of outstanding academic performance.

They were presented certificates of academic achievement in qualifying for the Dean's List, which requires that students attain a grade average of 92.0 or higher for the semester, with no course grade average below 85.0.

The college offers Bachelor of Science degrees in mechanical, industrial, electrical and manufacturing systems engineering, management, and applied mathematics. Masters degrees are offered in manufacturing management and engineering. Undergraduate students alternate 12-week

periods of classroom and laboratory academic studies with paid work experience at more than 560 business and industrial organizations at about 750 locations throughout the U.S. and Canada.

As cooperative education students, Burnette is sponsored by Walbro Corporation, and Britt by GM Powertrain Division, Pontiac.

Dance club slates party

The Y.M.C.A. Thumb Dance Club will hold its next party June 27 at the Sandusky Maple Valley School.

Refreshments will be served and music will be provided by Denny Ewald's Music Makers. Guests are welcome.

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NEW GALL BLADDER SURGERY

When "bandaid surgery" started many years ago for simple procedures like tubal ligations, no one ever thought it would eventually become the way to do more complicated operations. But that is exactly what has happened--removing the gall bladder through the laparoscope has become very popular in recent years. It offers an exciting alternative for many persons with gall bladder disease.

The benefits to the person needing the gall bladder out are significant. Rather than a large incision of 4-6 inches, the laparoscope needs only four small incisions of one quarter to one half inch each. These small incisions heal much faster than the larger incision.

A person only needs to be in the hospital a day or two after surgery rather than several days which is usually needed for conventional surgery. With this quicker recovery, a person is able to return to work much sooner--often in one week rather than 4-6 weeks.

Finally, the cosmetic results are also better. Rather than the tell-tale scar of a cholecystectomy, a person has four small scars which are much less noticeable.

Who can have this surgery? Since this procedure is technically more difficult, any complicating factors, such as previous operations, inflammation, or scarring around the gall bladder, may make conventional surgery a better choice.

The procedure is generally not done if there is an infection in the abdomen, pregnancy, a bleeding disorder or scars and adhesions in the area of the gall bladder.

This is one of a series of articles brought to you in the interest of better health by



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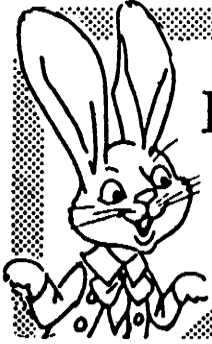
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Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire
(And anyone else he can get to help.)

Mike Weaver reports that the Cass City community has responded well with help for Richard Barnes, Deford, who for the lack of \$850 has been unable to have his injured leg repaired.

\$605 has been donated, mostly from the Cass City area, Weaver says, and we need \$245 more to get the job done. Good-hearted folks who can help to push the total over the top can donate directly or give the check to Weaver and he'll pass it on.

In Frankenmuth there seems to be an unwritten rule that each and every year there needs to be a major tourist attraction added in the community.

This year it is the Fortress, an 18-hole golf course. After playing it the other day, the opinion of all was that Zehnder has opened the bankroll and produced a very fine facility.

It's not cheap. If you play with a cart, the fee is \$49. Senior citizens (55 years or older) pay \$40. It's not necessary to use a cart and that cuts the cost for a twosome by \$12.

The 3-man basketball tournament sponsored by the Cass City Rotary has been a fun thing at the July 4 Festival and produced a modest profit.

It will change this year and will be directed by a pro who does it all over the country. He'll come in with his own extra baskets and a program that will have divisions for all age groups and all skill levels for men, women, boys and girls.

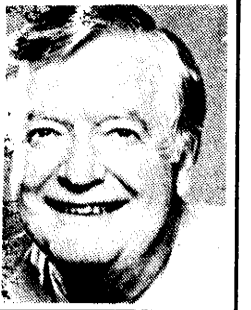


A TRIP ABROAD is what Cass City High School senior Jude McNaughton will use this \$200 check for. Dennis Rienstra, president of Cass City Band Boosters, and Mindy Nash, band director, presented the check Monday. McNaughton leaves June 23 for Europe as part of the Blue Lake International Jazz Band. The band returns July 18 and will perform at the high school Aug. 2. Host families are needed to house band members that night. Anyone interested should contact McNaughton at 872-4061 or Nash at 872-2148.

"If It Fitz...."

Wear a helmet

By Jim Fitzgerald



Flowers have been placed on a fourth-grade classroom desk where a child no longer sits. Emily has begun wearing a helmet when she rides her bicycle, even though some little boys stung her by saying it made her look like "a retard."

A little girl was killed. She was 10-year-old Lynn Bankstahl of Lapeer. I never met Lynn or her family, but I cried when I heard the tragic news. Lynn was my granddaughter Emily's classmate. She was a beautiful girl, according to her picture in the local newspaper, and an all A, perfect attendance student. Lynn was fatally injured May 27 when she pumped her bicycle out of a side street and into the side of a pickup truck at an intersection only a couple of blocks from Emily's home.

It's the intersection of a much-used cross-town street and a much-less-busy side street, in a residential neighborhood where traffic usually moves at only 15 to 30 m.p.h. But a driver's view is limited by hilly terrain. Emily and her bicycle cross there nearly everyday. Her parents long ago instructed Emily to walk the bike across. But kids don't always do as they're told.

At that point, our daughter shouted, "Here comes another one!" Her warning may have saved a life. My wife jammed on the brakes, not quite soon enough to avoid the collision, but the impact was minimal. The girl suffered nothing worse than a skinned knee. Whew! In those days, few bicycle riders wore protective helmets. These days, many do. Bill McGraw does. A Free Press reporter, McGraw hit a pothole while bicycling last month. He was thrown from the bike and through the window of a parked car, head first. He was banged up, but back to work in a week.

"If I hadn't been wearing a helmet, I would have been killed," McGraw said. "Everyone who rides a bike should wear a helmet."

Little Lynn Bankstahl didn't. She was thrown from her bike, and she died from massive head injuries. No one, of course, can say for sure that a helmet would have made a difference.

But it can be said that it wasn't unusual that a 10-year-old biker wasn't wearing a helmet. It seems that almost all the helmets are on adult bikers. How many helmets do you see on youngsters pedaling to school?

didn't buy them helmets until after Lynn was killed two blocks away. It would never have occurred to me to write this column if Emily's classmate hadn't been killed.

I know it could have been Emily instead of Lynn. It makes me gasp to realize how grateful I am that it wasn't. And it makes me feel guilty to be so thankful that I had better luck than another grandfather who surely loved his granddaughter just as much as I love mine.

NO CHILDISH EXCUSES, PLEASE

Perhaps it's the guilt that puts me on this stump. I didn't do anything 30 years ago, after the girl my wife hit was luckier than Lynn. But now I'm compelled to preach helmets, especially for young bikers who must depend on adults to know what's good for them.

Children always have and always will say thoughtlessly cruel things. It comes with the territory. So it isn't surprising that some little boys called Emily "a retard" for wearing a helmet.

But adults don't have the excuse of childishness. It's our responsibility to teach our children it isn't dumb to wear a helmet while riding a bike, it's lifesaving.

And the life saved could be that of the child sitting at the next desk in a fourth-grade classroom. Or worse.

Pleads guilty to drug charge

A Unionville man pleaded guilty to attempted possession of marijuana with intent to deliver Thursday in Tuscola County Circuit Court.

The plea was entered by Sampson T. Harder, 41, in exchange for a maximum sentence of one year in jail (the actual maximum is 2

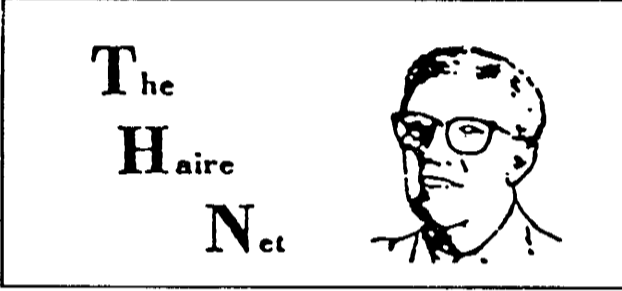
years and/or a \$1,000 fine). The plea was taken under advisement by the court, which ordered a pre-sentence investigation and continued bond at \$200. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

Court records state Harder's offense occurred Jan. 28 in Unionville.

INTERSECTION HAS BAD MEMORIES

It's the same intersection where, 30 years ago, my wife's car hit a little girl on a bike. She calls it the scariest moment of her life. She was driving home from the grocery store with our 12-year-old daughter. My wife saw a bike shoot out of the side street without even slowing down. It was about half a block ahead. Not a real close call, but close enough to prompt my wife to exclaim, "Would you look at that..."

I certainly don't mean to suggest that Lynn's parents were irresponsible. They were typical. The parents of my little granddaughters



The Haire Net

There has been so much talk and so little action in plans to revamp the nation's school system that when new proposals come flying by no one gets excited.

But when the president of one of the nation's most prestigious universities quits to take control of a proposed network of 1,000 private schools it perks your interest.

And when the muscle behind the plan is Whittle Communication, it's time to sit up and take notice. Whittle is the company that has Channel One, the TV program that is beamed into schools across the country.

The plan is for the schools to try innovative new tech-

niques, new approaches to education.

In addition to taking the kids that can pay, the schools will offer a full free ride to 10 percent of its students based on competitive examinations.

What we hope to do, the former Yale president says, is to establish new methods of teaching that can be adopted by the public schools.

Cass City Supt. Ken Micklash agrees that the plan could be a very serious problem for public schools. We need to look at what we are doing today, he said. We no longer can wait for change to happen 10 years down the road. Unless we adapt, we could end up like Brazil, where only the kids without money attend public schools.

Let's assume for a moment that the private schools devise teaching methods that prove more effective than those used in our public schools. Just because they worked there doesn't mean that they will work in the public school system.

Now if Whittle, when offering free scholarships to 10 percent of its students, awarded them to students not doing well in public schools and the new teaching plan helped them, great. That's wishful thinking. There's no way that private schools will take those kids. Every school established by Whittle just has to exacerbate our growing problem. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

The big plus to the plan is that it places our schools in competition.

The battle for tax dollars that is fierce enough today would be nothing compared to what the public schools and the unions would face if 1,000 private schools dotted the landscape.

Few parents would be willing to pay to educate their kids and pay for a public education they aren't using.

If the private schools are successful, and unlike public schools, they won't be around long if they are not, first preference in the job market will go to those with the private school diploma.

At the very least we appear to be in for some tremulous times in education and in the lifestyle of our citizens.

We need to plan for the poor and less intelligent as well as the rich and smart.

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Registration deadline July 6

Residents who aren't registered to vote in the Aug. 4 Primary Election still have time to do so.

Area county clerks remind voters that the deadline to register is Monday, July 6.

The Weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	80	52	0
Wednesday	86	52	0
Thursday	82	62	.05"
Friday	70	62	.014"
Saturday	76	63	.03"
Sunday	72	52	.32"
Monday	74	43	0

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant)

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Colleen Langenburg - Student Loan Officer

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Holbrook Area News

Mrs. Thelma Jackson

Phone 658-2347

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Cleland of Colorado and Mrs. Marty Chockley of Algonac spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cleland. Other Sunday potluck dinner guests were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Chockley of Mt. Clemens, Eugene Cleland of Bad Axe, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Doerr and Jeff, Mr. and Mrs. Jamie Doerr and Courtney and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Edanna Sweeney was a Friday evening guest of Reva Silver.

Gordon Farrelly and Nancy of New Baltimore were Wednesday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Allen

Farrelly.

Mr. and Mrs. John Walker Jr. and son were Monday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Walker in honor of John Walker Jr.'s birthday.

Mrs. Marty Chockley of Algonac was a Sunday overnight guest of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sofka were Wednesday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Zawilinski in Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwin Richardson and Brenda were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Cleland of Colorado and Mrs. Marty Chockley of Algonac were Sunday supper and evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Bartle and Tom were Tuesday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Farrelly.

Mr. and Mrs. George King and Jim were Wednesday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Shagena.

Arnold LaPeer came home Wednesday after spending a week in Marlette Hospital. Visitors through the week were Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Franzel of Livonia, Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord LaPeer, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Fuester of Cass City, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lee of Marlette, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Grifka, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jackson and Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Franzel.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Goronowich of Harbor Beach were Tuesday visi-

tors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sofka.

Mrs. Doug Cleland and family were Monday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray DeHondt of Almont were Thursday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jackson.

Ruth Ann Regal and Nancy Spooner of Plymouth spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Evans Gibbard and were overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gibbard in Bad Axe.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Osenoski, Mrs. Alex Cleland and Bob Cleland were Sunday afternoon guests of Blanche Clutz and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cleland and family at Walled Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kukuk of Brown City were Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Gordon Farrelly and Nancy of New Baltimore and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Farrelly spent Sunday at Shep's in Argyle to hear the Barney Schubring band.

Mrs. Arnold Lapeer attended a pink and blue shower for Mrs. Dave Franzel at St. Ignatius Catholic Church hall at Freiburg Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Stinko of Willis, Tammy Curry and Greg Bailey of Bellview

spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. John Walker.

WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Cleland of Colorado, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cleland of Bad Axe, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bailey and girls, Mr. and Mrs. Enos Cook and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cleland, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Doerr and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland were among a group who attended the wedding of Patsy Recor of Ubyly and Merle Eggert of Port Hope at Our Savior Lutheran Church at Bad Axe at 7:30 Saturday. A reception followed in the church fellowship hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Sofka and Krysten were Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sofka.

Mrs. Alex Cleland came home Friday evening after spending 5 days with Bob Cleland Sr. at Waterford.

Mrs. Martin Sweeney spent from Sunday till Friday with Dr. and Mrs. Tom Collins and family at Allegan where she attended Sara Collins' graduation.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Shagena visited Uretha Fockler and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schmidt and sons in Deckerville Thursday.



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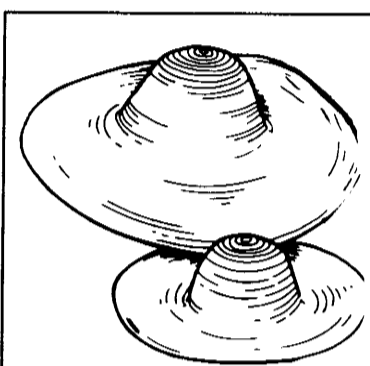
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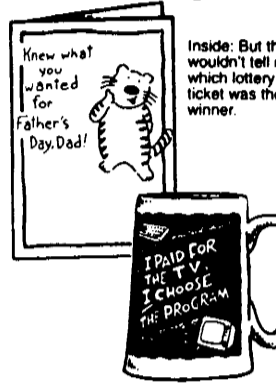


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New books at the library

RELATIVE SINS by Cynthia Victor (Fiction). Kailey Davids thinks it's too good to be true when Cameron Hawkes, easily the most handsome man at the party, falls in love with her. And of course, she's right. Kailey, beautiful and rich but insecure, has just what Cameron is looking for - wealth and respectability. After their marriage, Kailey finally realizes Cameron's ruthlessness, and she tries to escape with her infant daughter, Bonnie. Cameron plots to stop them, but thanks to a convenient trick of fate, neither Kailey or Bonnie are in their auto when Cameron's men cause the fiery crash. Everyone assumes they're both dead. Bonnie is raised in an orphanage and foster families as Susan Holland; Kailey heads for family friends in Europe.

THE MARK OF THE CAT by Andrew Norton (science fiction). This novel is of a richly drawn world of 5 queens where domestic cats are revered, huge rats hunt in vicious packs, and young humans are abandoned miles from home in a coming-of-age rite called the Solo. Hynkel, the younger son of a high-ranking official, is ostracized by his family because he's more comfortable with animals than practicing warfare. Only Ravinga, a doll maker with powers beyond her craft, sees his promise and gives him a pendant marked with a cat to protect him on his quest. But beneath Hynkel's quiet nature lies a streak of heroism, and left alone, he risks his life to save an injured sandcat. In return for his courage, he becomes a blood brother to its pack and privy to their thoughts.

"I" IS FOR INNOCENT by Sue Grafton (mystery). Private investigator, Kinsey Millhone, is hired to gather witnesses and facts for a civil suit. Her client is the ex-husband of a woman murdered six years earlier. The victim's estranged husband was indicted but subsequently cleared - seems the jury couldn't move past reasonable doubt. Now the ex, thinking of the child he had with the victim, is suing to prevent the alleged killer from squandering the victim's considerable fortune. Remember, in civil suits it's the "preponderance of evidence" that carries the day. Millhone pokes and prods among friends, neighbors, and associates; retraces the steps of the original investigator, and uncovers a tenuous connection between the murder and a very cold hit-and-run killing.

Veldman, Spencer receive degrees

One current and one former Cass City area resident recently were conferred associate degrees from the Baker College campus in Flint.

Lynette M. Veldman of Deford received a business degree in word processing. Veldman is a 1989 graduate of Cass City High School. She currently is employed full time at Hills and Dales General Hospital in billing.



Lynette Veldman

Former area resident Jamie D. Spencer, now of Grand Blanc, received a business degree in travel agency management.

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Belgian couple enjoys visit to Cass City, state

by Brian D. Bell
Staff Writer

A recent stay in Michigan and Cass City by two visitors from abroad left them with good impressions of American people.

Belgium natives Herman and Denise Vermeersch were in Cass City May 22-28 visiting their aunt, Alexia Roose, who turns 91 years old in August, and cousins, Tom and Ginny Sutter, owners of Sutter's Bakery and Restaurant. They arrived in the United States

346 entries in Tuscola SCD contest

There were 346 entries in the 1992 poster contest for youth sponsored by the Tuscola Soil Conservation District, according to District Chairman Tom Hess. The 1992 theme was "Water for Life."

The winners were as follows: Division I: Casey Mantey of McComb School in Caro, first place, and Eric Bauer of Unionville Elementary School, runner-up; Division II: Jordan Mantey of Schall Elementary School of Caro, first place, and Brooke Southgate of Unionville Elementary School, runner-up; Division III: Tiffani Miller of Caro Middle School, first place, and Deanna Witkovsky of Caro Middle School, runner-up.

All participants received certificates. The first-place winners will be entered in the state competition at the Michigan Association of Conservation District's annual meeting in December.

The first place winners and runner-up contestants will be invited to the Tuscola SCD annual meeting in January and at that time will be presented with an award. Their picture will also appear in the Tuscola SCD report.

May 15. This was their first visit to the country.

Herman, who is a Belgium customs agent, and his wife are residents of Antwerp, Belgium. He is a European country bordered by France, Germany and the Netherlands. The government is a parliamentary democracy with a monarch who is largely a figurehead. The country's currency is the franc, of which 35 equal one U.S. dollar.

Although Herman speaks English relatively well, Denise only speaks the language a little and relies on her husband to act as a translator. Their native tongue is Flemish, a Dutch dialect which is the primary language of Belgium.

Both he and his wife enjoyed their first trip here.

"The people here are more friendly," Herman said, adding Americans seem to do things at a more leisurely pace. "In Belgium people are a lot busier and are always in a hurry."

They also liked Cass City. "Cass City is very clean (and) it is beautiful," Denise said.

The couple was surprised at how much larger Michigan and the United States are, compared to Belgium. Five countries the size of Belgium can fit into a state the size of Michigan, commented Herman.

"It was hard to imagine how big the U.S. is," Denise said. "There are so many people (and) everything is so green."

Herman and Denise were intrigued that Americans rely so heavily on their automobiles for transportation. Herman said in Belgium roads are narrow and often clogged by traffic, and with gas priced at about \$3.50 per gallon, many people walk or ride bicycles.

During their stint in Michigan they kept busy spending

time with relatives elsewhere in the state and visiting places including Frankenthum and downtown Detroit. They plan to visit Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum before they return to Belgium. In fact, Herman is keeping a diary of his activities during his trip.

After leaving Cass City they headed for Niagara Falls, Canada, where they'll stay for a few days before heading back to Detroit in time to catch their June 5 flight back to Belgium.

One of the highlights of the trip was the numerous shopping opportunities the couple had. Unfortunately the airline only allows 40 pounds of luggage per person. They visited several shopping malls, which were three times bigger than their Belgian counterparts. "She spent all my money in there," laughed Herman as he joked about his wife.

Clothing is much more expensive in Belgium, he said. On average, a pair of casual slacks costs about \$60 and a pair of dress slacks about \$120. Denise especially enjoyed her trip to Hudson's, she said while pointing to the blouse she was wearing that she'd bought at the store.

The Vermeersch's enjoyed the convenience of shopping when they wanted, regardless of the time of day or night. In their country stores generally are open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day except Sunday, when they are closed. In addition, many are closed from noon to 2 p.m. to allow time for lunch and resting.

In addition to clothing, the variety and cost of meals at restaurants is much cheaper in the United States. In Belgium a hamburger, French fries and juice at McDonald's is \$6 per person. He said McDonald's and other kinds of fast foods have only been in the country about a year.

Herman added that 30 years ago Belgians didn't have many of the conveniences present in the United States, such as indoor plumbing and readily available electricity.

"(But) it's getting more closer to American than before."

The Vermeersch's arrived in the United States by jet at Metropolitan Airport. The 9-hour trip was their first time on an airplane.

"In the beginning I was a little scared, but it was exciting," Herman said.

The Sutters and Roose, who visited Belgium in 1984, enjoyed having the Vermeersch's visit the United States. But trying to translate certain English words and terms for Denise was difficult.

"We laugh a lot," Ginny said. "And the names of drinks she couldn't believe. 'Can you imagine trying to explain a Fuzzy Navel (or) a Screwdriver?'"



A TASTE of the American way of life is what Herman (left) and Denise Vermeersch (center) got during their first visit to the United States. The couple spent about a week in Cass City visiting their aunt, Alexia Roose (right), and their two cousins, Tom and Ginny Sutter, owners of Sutter's Bakery and Restaurant.

U.S. Representative

Hare seeks Traxler's post

Don Hare, Saginaw, the district chief of staff for Rep. Bob Traxler since 1974, has resigned to seek the U.S. Representative post being vacated by his former boss.

In connection with his campaign, Hare made a political tour in the Thumb recently to talk with the media and meet with many potential voters as possible. Hare believes that it's necessary for representatives to take seriously the concerns of the ordinary citizen and stop "politics as usual."

Rathje selected for award

Marian Rathje, Pigeon, director of Lake Huron Chorus of Sweet Adelines International, was selected for the Becky Daniels Arrangers Achievement Award, as presented by region 2.



Marian Rathje

The Lake Huron Chorus will present "Harmony on the High C's" in Caseville this summer and some of the Rathje arrangements will be used. The show is scheduled for July 31 at St. Roch Church.

Proceeds from the show will be added to the Caseville Community Building fund.

Women interested in learning 4-part harmony, barber-shop style, are invited to attend any rehearsal Monday evenings, 7 to 9:30, in the cafeteria of the Huron Medical Care Facility, Bad Axe.

Hare adds that he is for fair trade and that the government has to "force the issue to see that our industry and those of our foreign competitors are on a level playing field."

"We must invest in America and now that the cold war threat has diminished, cut our defense spending, while maintaining an adequate force. The money has to be invested in America, in highways and bridges and the promotion of jobs and

the revival of the economy," Hare says.

Prior to his work for Traxler, Hare operated a tax preparation business for 8 years and served as Saginaw County Commissioner. He taught government and economics at Garber High School in Essexville for 12 years.

He has Bachelor and Master's degrees from Central Michigan University. He and his wife, Rita, have 4 children.



ON THE CAMPAIGN trail recently, U.S. Representative candidate Don Hare, Saginaw, greets Linda Leeson of Cass City.

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6219 Main

Cass City

Detroit Edison to offer interruptible industrial rate plan

Detroit Edison will offer its largest industrial customers a lower electricity rate in 1993 as a way to better manage peak customer electricity demand, defer the need to build additional generating facilities and ultimately hold down the cost of electricity for all customers.

The company's new interruptible industrial rate, recently approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC), will substantially reduce the price paid for electricity by its largest manufacturing customers willing to risk interruption of their electric service in return for a lower rate.

The move by Detroit Edison is the first step in lowering rates for all classes of electricity customers, as announced last month by Detroit Edison Chairman John E. Lobb. Rate reductions for commercial and residential customers are expected to be implemented by Jan. 1.

"With this rate everyone benefits," said Larry G. Garberding, the utility's executive vice-president and chief financial officer. "We will be able to defer the construction of additional power plants and eliminate that potential cost to all of our customers."

"In addition," Garberding continued, "the new rate makes Southeastern Michigan more competitive, better able to maintain our existing industrial base and attract new business and jobs."

The new industrial rate is designed to provide up to 650 megawatts of service that can be interrupted for short periods of high customer electricity demand, typically during summer months.

Mr. Farmer

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6219 Main Cass City

Peyerck receives bachelor's degree

Cindy L. Peyerck, daughter of James and Janis Peyerck of Cass City, recently graduated from Ferris State University, Big Rapids, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in health systems management.

Community School, she will be residing in Mt. Pleasant and plans to begin working towards a Master's degree in business administration in the fall at Central Michigan University.

While in school, she was a member and treasurer of Pi Delta Alpha, a professional dental society, and a member Amicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership society. She was also a member of the Health Systems Management Association and was an auxiliary volunteer with Mecosta County General Hospital.

Peyerck has accepted a position at Central Michigan Community Hospital, Mt. Pleasant, as accounts payable coordinator.

A 1988 graduate of Ubley



Cindy Peyerck

Polega earns nursing degree

An Owendale resident recently received a diploma from St. Clair County Community College.

Pamela Polega earned a one-year certificate in practical nursing. Polega, a 1986 graduate of Cass City High School, currently works at Bay City Medical Center as a nurse. She plans to continue working there.

Although she works under a temporary license, after she receives the results of the State Board Test in July, she can get a permanent license.



Pamela Polega

Crystal Adkins receives diploma

Crystal Adkins graduated with honors at the end of the winter term from the University of Northern Florida, where she received a bachelor of arts degree.

Her major was economics and her minor was accounting.

She now attends law school at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Adkins resides with her husband, Jim, and their 2 children in Jacksonville.

She is a 1982 graduate of Cass City High School and the daughter of Rosemary Galloway and the late Vern Galloway.



Crystal Adkins

Letters to the editor

Please return VFW flag

To Cass City Chronicle Readers:

Last week's featured article on shoplifting addressed a long time business

Jordan experience really meant a lot

I had an experience that I wanted to share with the community. Please see that this copy of my letter reaches the editor.

June 3, 1992

Jerry White, Campus Dean
Jordan College
6667 Main Street
Cass City, MI 48726

Dear Jerry:

We are spending a few days in Nashville resting and enjoying country music. I keep thinking of everyone at Jordan and the experience I had there that has enriched my life. The graduation ceremony at Cedar Springs, the banquet in Cass City with the honors and "Outstanding Student" trophy awards received by this old geezer capped off some very constructive time in the classroom. You and your staff have been an excellent antidote to the sober business of caring for and burying aging parents and relatives. I seem to have to spend too much time at also overcoming some health problems of my own.

The "Perspectives" class discussions and lessons and the "Drawing" class were 2 very pleasant surprises. Bill Tracy's efforts to teach Deiter and me some math was a real challenge, probably for

problem very well. Shoplifting has grown into an outdoor sport, too. Apparently, nothing is safe anymore.

Memorial Day, Post 3644

all of us. Bill's a great guy and I appreciate the extra help he gave me.

Linda Volz and Linda Boynton's influence was always a positive factor at school with Elaine (Armstrong) adding to the caring and sharing atmosphere. I still marvel at Sue Campbell's ability to teach me to draw. Jan Moore's trying to teach me to play the piano has also been interesting.

My classes and graduation from Jordan means more to me than I can describe.

Best Regards,

Marv Hobart
"Class of '92"

VFW raised a new, all weather flag - they last about a year - on the flag pole in front of the post hall. We raised it in memory of Russell Dewey, USMC, one of the first Cass City men to lose his life in World War II. He died in one of the early Naval battles against Japan nearly 50 years ago.

One week later, the flag was stolen. It's doubtful if it's now being flown, or used with respect. Please return it to any VFW member, no questions asked. We will fly it the way it should be flown - Semper Fi -

Post 3644 VFW
Cass City, Mich.

Ferris State honors list

Several area residents are among 1,395 students have been named to the spring

2 from area receive SVSU scholarships

A pair of Saginaw Valley State University students from the area who maintained high grade point averages will see their education costs cut when they return to classes next fall.

Tina Ballard of Deford and Lloyd P. Damm of Gageton are among several students who have been named Recognition Scholarship recipients. Each will receive a \$200 award for maintaining a minimum grade point average of 3.4 throughout their college careers.

quarter academic honors list at Ferris State University, Big Rapids.

To be eligible, a Ferris student must have compiled a 3.5 grade point average in at least 12 quarter hours of work.

Area residents included in the list are Gary L. Suzor,

Brent A. Morell and Cindy L. Peyerck, all of Cass City; Tony O. Yost of Deford; Bradley J. Copeland, Charlene M. Goslin and Marla B. Goslin, all of Gageton; Thomas F. Rye of Kingston; Jennifer A. Bradley and Rodney A. Rockwell, both of Snover; and Chris E. Kichl of Ubley.

UM women meet

The Trinity United Methodist Women met June 1 for a dinner meeting served by Group 5, chaired by Joyce McConkey and Mickie Marshall.


"20 Years and Running" was read by Marilyn Alexander and Elaine Proctor. It explained the structuring of the UMW in 1972.

The unit will host the June birthday party at Ten-

decare. Volunteers to assist with the party are Bertha Shagena, Elsie Blades, Midge Thompson, Pauline Hulbert, Kay Warner and Virginia Hartwick.

A shower was held for Red Bird Mission under the leadership of Shirley Wagg.


An outing is planned for July and a bazaar workshop Aug. 3.



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Be aware of Lyme disease risk

As we venture to our parks, woodlands and lawns for a summer of fun and toil, the threat of Lyme disease grows enormously. Awareness of the disease and the first symptoms is essential for early, effective diagnosis and treatment.

Lyme is a serious body-wide bacterial infection transmitted during the bite of an infected deer tick. It can often be prevented by wearing protective clothing and insect repellent containing DEET before venturing into wooded areas, high grass or lawns. Our children and pets are especially at risk with their increased exposure during summer play. Nightly bath time provides an ideal opportunity for tick checks and removal.

If a bite or tick removal is followed by a bullseye rash or flu-like symptoms, it may be an indication that the bacteria has been transmitted. Lyme can be promptly and effectively cured with oral antibiotics at the onset. However, undetected or untreated, it becomes a persistent, serious health problem.

We can still hike, fish, camp and enjoy our woodlands and waterways without fear. Have fun but be aware!

For more information on Lyme disease and doctor referrals call the Michigan Lyme disease Hotline toll free, 1-800-643-7769 Tuesdays from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. or Thursdays 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Editor's note: Jan Monson is a late-stage Lyme disease patient and leads the Thumb Area Lyme Support Group on the first Thursday of each month at the Caro Regional Center administration building from 6:30 to 9 p.m. For further information on the support group call 1-517-673-1586.

It's here...GTE's way to take a bite out of local phone bills! Starting the week of June 15, we'll be sending you a ballot. In it you can choose a money-saving GTE Local Calling Service Option that's tailored to the way you use your phone. That means you pay only for the local calls you complete. So you chomp a nice chunk out of your present phone bill!

Until the ballot arrives, do this. Look over the options below. Think about your local calling habits. If you need help deciding which option is best for you, just phone 1-800-232-2544. Then watch for your ballot, make your choice and mail it back. Don't miss this chance to save with GTE!

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*Applies to residential customers only.



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Superintendent says

Cash crunch possible at Owen-Gage

Continued from page one.

do will receive a special "state endorsed" diploma, he said.

Thies explained that under the new mandate, students, beginning with this year's sophomores, will have more than one opportunity to pass the proficiency test during their high school careers.

In cases where the student doesn't pass, a meeting will be held with the parents to set up a study program.

The only exception in the new mandate applies to special education students, Thies noted.

In a related matter, Thies outlined another mandate which requires that physical education be a part of every high school student's core curriculum.

In the past, Owen-Gage students could take band instead of physical education, according to the principal, who presented a freshman class schedule that would allow students to take

both classes.

Thies said the proposed schedule also includes a reading program that would fulfill a recommendation by the district's curriculum committee, meet a fifth requirement for accreditation and prove valuable in terms of improving MEAP reading scores.

"It will solve a number of problems that we've been looking at," he added.

The board unanimously approved the schedule.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

In other business Monday, the board:

•Discussed behavior problems encountered this year with a fifth grade student with special education needs.

The matter was brought up by Mr. and Mrs. Craig Sorenson, parents of another student, who voiced concern over whether the youth in question is being disciplined and how his behavior is af-

fecting other students.

Kirby and elementary Principal William Britt acknowledged the situation.

Kirby pointed out public schools don't have the luxury of accepting or rejecting students, and there are a number of special considerations when dealing with students who have special education problems. However, he and Britt assured the couple school officials are addressing the situation in several different ways and are looking to see some improvement next year.

•Learned 25 Owen-Gage students — more than twice the number the year before — will attend skill center classes in 1992-93. The students are involved in all but 4 fields: auto mechanics, marketing, metal shop and welding, Thies said.

•Met in executive session for about 50 minutes to discuss teacher contract negotiations and communications from the district's attorney regarding a teacher's grievance.

•Approved a resolution directing Athletic Director Dean Roller to look into a proposed "umbrella" athletic league that would pit Thumb schools with similar

enrollments against each other in various sports.

The proposal was formulated last month at a meeting of 19 athletic directors representing upper Thumb schools.

•Approved a request from the Owendale and Gageton United Methodist Church to use a school bus and driver for several

short trips to points of interest in the Thumb on Tuesdays, June 30 through Aug. 11. The request was approved contingent on the church paying for all expenses.

•Approved a request from an area men's softball league to use the high school ball diamond on various Friday nights this summer,

with certain restrictions.

•Endorsed a planned 2-week trip to France next summer by French teacher Sandy Juengel and 4 or 5 students.

•Approved resolutions to join the Michigan High School Athletic Association and Michigan Association of School Boards for the 1992-93 school year.

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ITEM OF THE MONTH

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Bale hay still wet?

In the future, farmers may be able to bale hay at 25 to 30 percent moisture, without the use of preservatives, and not sacrifice large dry matter or crude protein content.

Alan Rotz, USDA/ARS agricultural engineer at MSU, has researched the effect of forced air drying on small rectangular bales of alfalfa baled at 25 to 30 percent moisture. Baling hay at these moisture levels, he explains, should reduce harvest losses.

Rotz conducted his experiment on 2 Canadian dairy farms that were already using forced air drying. Both farms forced unheated air through bales that were stacked vertically to allow for adequate air flow.

Both farms can dry about 100 tons of hay at one time. Because humidity was consistently low, it took only 4 weeks to lower the moisture content of the bales to 9 to 11 percent.

After drying was complete, Rotz compared the nutrient changes that occurred in 3 groups of bales — bales that averaged 25 percent moisture, 30 percent moisture and 30 percent moisture with a bacterial hay preservative — with the nutrient changes that normally occur when hay is baled at 16 percent moisture.

The bales that averaged 25 and 30 percent moisture before drying were higher in quality than the bales

treated with a preservative and dried, and they were similar to hay baled at 16 percent moisture, Rotz says.

Your neighbor says

July 4 Festival bigger this year

Things are really shaping up for Cass City's 14th annual 4th of July festival, which is slated for July 2-5.

Geraldine Prieskorn, festival committee chairwoman, said this year's festival will be bigger than last year. "We've got lots of new events plus all the old favorites."

New events this year include a street dance, spook house, a golf tournament at Rolling Hills Golf Course, the Akron-Fairgrove Community Singers, an open barn at North Star Farms and Jordan College's solar and future car exhibit.

Several events return this year bigger and better than before.

The festival will have an expanded fireworks display. The 4th annual Little Miss Pageant will feature live musical entertainment this year. Registration for the event is 7 p.m. Thursday in the Cass City High School speech room. For more information, contact pageant coordinator Amy Emmert at 872-3755.

The 3 on 3 basketball tournament is expected to have more than 100 teams participating. For registration information, contact tournament chairman Matt Prieskorn at 872-5033.

Putting the festival together wouldn't be possible without the efforts of many people, including members of area service organizations, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Jaycees, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Association of University Women, Eastern Stars and Business and Professional Women.

"We've got a great committee that has worked very hard," Geraldine said. "(But) for many of the committee members this will be their last year."

Prieskorn said she and others have decided to drop out of the festival planning process and interest among others is needed if the event is to continue in the future.

Participation in festival planning is a great opportunity for people to become active in their community, she explained. But involvement has other rewards as well.

"(She enjoys) the fun on the 4th of seeing everyone have a good time."

Anyone who wants more information about what the committee does can contact Geraldine at 872-3275, or Jane Hittler at 872-3147.

Geraldine is a Cass City native. She and her husband, Gerald, are the owners of the local Ben Franklin store.



Fun Days set Saturday at Bay Shore

Pancakes 'n sausage, eggs any style, hash browns, fresh fruit, coffee, juice, milk and much more will be served up in ample portions at Bay Shore Camp's 1992 Family Fun Days Weekend, scheduled Saturday. Bay Shore Camp is located at 450 North Miller St., Sebewaing.

Doors to the camp dining hall will open at 8 a.m. and the all-you-can-eat event will be served until 12:30 p.m. Requested donations are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children 5-12 years old. Children 4 years old and younger eat free, and families with 5 members or more will be able to donate a maximum of \$15. All proceeds will be used to benefit Bay Shore Camp.

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