

Merry Christmas!

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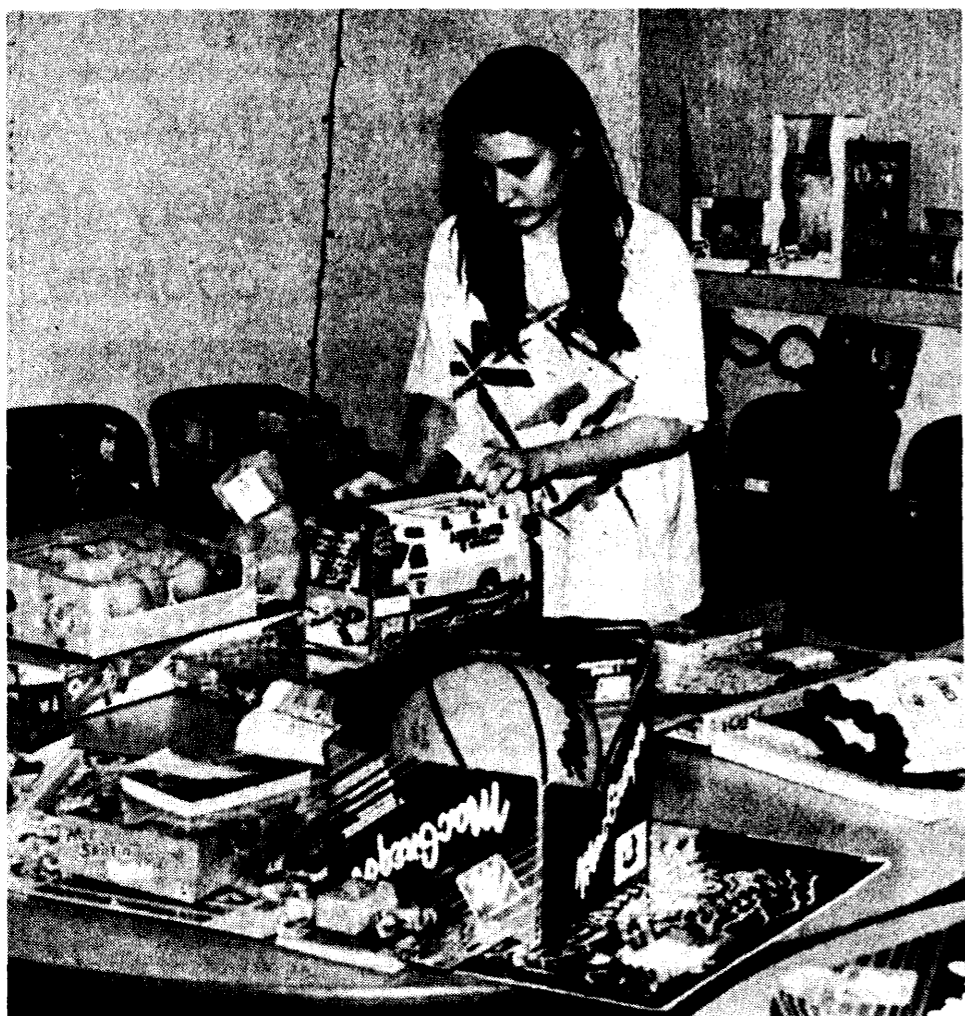
Y CHRONICLE

VOLUME 89, NUMBER 38

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1995

FIFTY CENTS

22 PAGES



TOYS FOR TOTS volunteer Angie Eckert fills the wish list of some children on her list Monday at the Detroit Edison North Area Energy Center. More than a dozen volunteers gathered Monday to sort and pack toys for distribution Thursday at the Cass City VFW Hall.

Campaign report

United police effort to make roads safer reported successful

Tuscola County law enforcement officers made a total of 275 traffic stops during the first wave of the "Safe and Sober Alcohol Enforcement" project, Nov. 19 through Dec. 3.

The effort involves the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department, Caro Police Department and Michigan State Police.

All 3 departments were "very active" during the 15-day period, according to Deputy James Jashinske, Safe and Sober Grant Project director.

"Eight drunk drivers were arrested and 6 alcohol-related citations were issued,"

Jashinske reported. "(There were) 29 seat belt violations, 33 speeding citations, 231 verbal warnings for traffic violations, 15 other moving citations, 22 other non-moving citations and one misdemeanor arrest."

Jashinske noted there were 291 enforcement contacts, with an average of 2.5 contacts per car patrol hours, which exceeded the minimum of 2 contacts per hour required by the grant.

"In summary, we feel very good about what we have accomplished during the first wave, although we did fall short on alcohol arrests," Jashinske said.

He added however, "We feel that our alcohol arrests were down due to several factors. First of all, there was a significant amount of publicity surrounding our enforcement efforts. Secondly, the public has become increasingly aware of the seriousness of drunk driving and has been making an effort to curb its drinking and driving."

Jashinske indicated officers expect to be even busier during the second wave of the Safe and Sober Campaign, scheduled for June 23 through July 7, 1996. "We

Please turn to back page.

Village plans massive sidewalk repair project

Better sidewalks are in Cass City's future, starting in 1996.

The Village Council Monday took the first step in a long-range but aggressive plan to repair poor sections of sidewalk, approving a budget of up to \$25,000 for the improvements next year.

The total, included in a proposed 1996 spending plan that was also approved during the rescheduled council meeting, represents an increase of \$16,500 over what village officials had planned to spend on sidewalks next year.

The council originally budgeted \$8,500, the same amount spent in 1995.

But residents will also be asked to contribute their share, as has been expected of property owners whose sidewalks have been replaced in the past.

The council reviewed a recent survey of village sidewalks, requested last month by Trustee Matt Prieskorn.

The survey revealed there are 58,600 lineal feet — 11 miles — of sidewalk within the village limits. Of those, nearly 30 percent (16,600 feet) were rated poor, nearly 60 percent (35,000 feet) were rated fair, and the remaining 7,000 feet were rated good.

The southeast quadrant of the village ranks the highest in terms of the amount of poor sidewalk (7,700 feet), while the southwest quadrant ranks second with 5,200 feet.

The estimated cost of removal and replacement of sidewalk is \$12 per foot.

Elwyn Helwig, chairman of the council's Streets and Parking Committee, commented the village is very interested in making some significant improvements.

However, he noted there is concern that if the village were to pay the entire cost, that would set a bad precedent, especially in light of past policy requiring property owners to pay 50 percent

of the tab.

It would also take years to make any significant headway, village President L.E. Althaver suggested at the beginning of the discussion.

"There's clearly a big task in front of us if we're going to get our sidewalks up to speed," he said. "Even if we were to double or triple our (sidewalk) budget, it would take us some time to catch up."

It was suggested that the council draft a plan outlining sidewalk improvements over a period of years, then establish assessment districts each year and bill residents for a portion of the work, as is done now with curb and gutter construction.

But council members decided to table any further action in hopes of receiving some input from the community.

Considering the village has only so much to spend on the work, and it will be done on a first come, first serve basis, some residents may be willing to come forward and contribute 50 percent of the cost if it means new sidewalk in front of their property, Althaver said.

'96 BUDGET

In other business Monday,

the council approved a revised 1995 spending plan, as required by law, and adopted a 1996 budget totalling \$1.866 million.

The spending plan represents a planned spending increase of nearly \$106,000, or about 6 percent, over estimated actual 1995 expenditures.

Plans call for the new bud-

get to balance with the help of \$78,500 from fund balance, which is expected to total \$432,500 in 1996, a decrease of \$31,000 compared to 1995.

The budget includes a 3-percent pay hike across the board for village employees, which is less than the 3.5 percent originally figured. Please turn to back page.

Murder charge

Caro woman is accused of drowning her sister

An Indianfields Township woman was arrested Monday and charged with the drowning murder of her sister.

The victim was identified as Myrtle Mae Hughes, 46, Bruisee Road, Caro.

Mary Anna Hughes, 52, Bruisee Road, was arraigned on a charge of open murder. Bond was set at \$100,000 cash.

Her arrest was the result of an investigation conducted by Det./Sgt. Patrick Woidan and Det./Sgt. Larry Walker, both of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department, fol-

lowing Hughes' death in her home Dec. 9.

Investigators reported Tuscola County Central Dispatch received a request for an ambulance for a medical condition at about 1:22 p.m.

After determining the victim was deceased, the ambulance crew requested a medical examiner-special investigator to come to the scene. Det./Sgt. Patrick Woidan investigated and requested an autopsy be completed on the victim.

Mary Ann Hughes remains lodged in the Tuscola County Jail.

Judge dismisses case against mother charged in son's death

The case against a Deford woman charged in the death of her 2-year-old stepson a year ago was dismissed last week in Tuscola County Circuit Court.

However, in a motion granted by Circuit Judge Patrick R. Joslyn, prosecutors reserved the right to pursue charges in the future. Early last week, the defen-

dant, Amanda May Ross, 26, entered a plea of no contest to one count of involuntary manslaughter, which carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and/or a \$7,500 fine.

The plea was taken under advisement by Joslyn, who ordered a pre-sentence investigation, continued bond at \$50,000 and scheduled sen-

tencing for Feb. 2.

However, Joslyn formally rejected the plea a day later following a review of the case.

"There is no question that the victim in this case died as a direct result of blunt force being inflicted to the back of the head," Joslyn wrote in his opinion. "The facts presented, however, do

not show that the defendant caused the death of this child. The submitted facts do not support the plea."

In response, prosecutors told Joslyn it would not be in the best interest of justice to proceed with the case at this time.

The charges were initially brought following the death. Please turn to back page.

United effort at Kingston

Families helped at Christmas

Santa Claus isn't the only one making a list and checking it twice.

Vicki Wolak is busy checking a list of her own in an effort to make sure no Kingston family goes without a special Christmas dinner and gifts for the children under the tree.

Wolak is quick to point out the annual project — known as the Kingston Community Schools Caring for Families at Christmas — is a community effort involving Kingston teachers and students as well as individuals, businesses and civic groups.

But her fellow workers say she is the spark that keeps the holiday drive alive each year.

"She works 2 months getting this together. It's a lot of work," commented Patty Rodenbo, a Title I paraprofessional at the elementary school. "She has done this for several years, and I really think it's special how she's made the difference in sev-

eral families' Christmases."

The project was started at least a dozen years ago, according to Wolak, who credits then-elementary Principal Doug Kramer with coming up with the idea.

"The teachers got together and agreed that rather than have the kids exchange gifts, we would have a food drive and have each child bring a can of food in," explained Wolak, who is also employed at the elementary school as a Title I paraprofessional.

"From there it's escalated to where we're taking care of 30 to 40 families a year."

Wolak said the campaign's success can be attributed to generosity throughout the community.

The children still bring in canned goods each year, while businesses, the local VFW post and the Lions Club, as well as other civic organizations, donate everything from sugar and apples

to meat and vegetables, she explained. Elementary and high school staffers donate children's gifts, as does St. Michael's Catholic Church, Wilmot, another active participant.

Also donated are coats, boots and other warm clothing for needy children. Last year, one firm even donated smoke alarms.

"We have one lady who makes Raggedy Ann dolls and donates them. We also have a family in the community that donates toys and little stocking stuffers," Wolak said.

"Donations can range from groceries to money to gifts; whatever anyone wants to donate. It's a community response, really, with the school organizing it."

When it comes time to deliver the items, a dependable group of 7 or 8 volunteers is ready and willing.

"The staff does a wonderful job in wrapping and pack-

ing and shipping," Wolak said. "They're the ones that do the grunt of the work."

Wolak's co-workers disagree.

"We're the work horses," Rodenbo commented, "but she (Wolak) does most of the work, quite honestly."

Nancy Franklin nodded, saying Wolak makes all the contacts with businesses, civic groups and other donors long before the holiday season arrives. "And then she turns around and sends all of them a thank-you note."

At delivery time, Wolak makes up color coded maps that ensure gifts are coordinated with the food, noted Christine Zyrowski. "She gets the routes down, the house numbers, and who's going to deliver what."

The work begins in the summer, when Wolak begins making contacts and putting together a computer list of Please turn to page 9.



GEARING UP FOR this year's annual Kingston Community Schools Caring for Families at Christmas project is a crew of volunteers, including (from left) Patty Rodenbo, Christine Zyrowski, Vicki Wolak (co-chairman) and Nancy Franklin. Missing is Carrie Gilley, co-chairman.

Inside

In the second section for the second year in what the Chronicle hopes will be an every year feature at Christmas are Christmas drawings and original thoughts about Christmas.

This year the section includes the work of students from Owen-Gage and Cass City. If you feel, like we do, that it shows lots of talent, be sure to let the students know how much it is appreciated.

In this issue in his usual spot on page 3 is the "If It Fits" column written by Jim Fitzgerald. It's the last one as Jim, who wrote for the Free Press, has retired. Needless to say, his rare ability to please and provoke, sometimes in the same column, will be missed.

His column will be replaced by another writer that we feel will gain a quick following. Watch for it.

The pre-school children were entertained recently when they met Mrs. Santa Claus at Rawson Memorial Library. The story is on page 12.

Corey Ulfig led Cass City to a hoop win over Sandusky with a career high 43-point night. It was the best individual effort since 1968, when John Maharg scored 44. Story page 7



FIVE GENERATIONS - - Jack and Vera Hirsch of Decker are shown holding Ryan Colwell of Oxford, their second great-grandchild. Standing behind is their daughter, Delia Rayl of Snover, their granddaughter Rinda Smith of Caro, and their great-granddaughter Jennifer Colwell of Oxford.



FIVE GENERATIONS are represented above. Harriet Rayl of Deford is shown holding Ryan Colwell, her fifth great-grandchild. Seated beside her is great-granddaughter Jennifer Colwell of Oxford. Standing above her is granddaughter Rinda Smith of Caro and her son Walter Rayl of Snover.

Seeley inducted in honor society

ITT Engineering and Drafting Institute in Troy announces the acceptance of Brian C. Seeley into the National Vocational Technical Honor Society. Induction ceremonies were held Tuesday, Dec. 12.

Seeley is seeking a career in the mechanical Computer Aided Drafting field and will graduate in March 1996. In addition to full time college, he also works part time with United Parcel Service in Madison Heights. He is the son of Roberta Seeley and the late Charles (Buzz) Seeley.

He graduated from Cass City High School in 1994.

Cass City Social Items

Call your local news to the Chronicle office 872-2010

Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord LaPeer were pleasantly surprised to have Willard Alexander of Alma, Ark., visit them recently. Alexander had not seen the LaPeers for 11 years. He was here to attend the funeral of his brother, Frank Alexander.

The nine remaining children of the late John and Marion Guinther, and their spouses, had their annual cooperative Christmas dinner Saturday evening at the home of Harold and Esther Guinther.



Meg's Peg

Christmas

by Melva E. Guinther

This is the latest intercepted communication from Gernithu, the space traveler sent to study Earth, to his commander.

Commander - This is a special season on Earth of great interest and wonder. The humans call it Christmas. Intriguing human behavior patterns are observed for study.

I believe it is a memorial of the visit to Earth of Jehovah in human form, which occurred nearly 2000 Earth time periods past.

Some humans erect likenesses of Jehovah as the human infant and sing and tell of the event. However, many other images are also displayed.

One which seems to have special significance is a human-like creature who is covered with red clothing. He has long white facial hair and much flesh. His speech consists primarily of the syllable, Ho, repeated many times.

Young humans seem especially attracted to this image, and many female humans encourage their offspring to approach it.

It is told that this creature goes to every human dwelling place on the eve of the Jehovah memorial and enters through the exhaust vent on the top of the dwelling carrying a large container filled with play objects for young humans.

I believe this must be a myth because humans do not have the ability to rearrange molecules. The amount of the creature's flesh and the size of the full container could not pass through the exhaust vent.

It is also statistically impossible that this being could visit all places on Earth within the allowed time frame. He does not use even the fastest human methods of travel. It is said that he sits in a vehicle pulled by 4-

footed beasts that fly through the air. I have not found beasts on Earth with such capabilities or the velocity required.

Further study is needed on this matter.

Another strange custom is taking trees into the dwelling places and covering them with all manner of bright substances. Lights powered by electricity are placed on the trees to illuminate them at night.

Many bright and colorful lights are also displayed around the human dwelling places and merchandise buildings at this time.

Humans accelerate their trading during this time and the merchandise buildings often become clogged. They exchange many human \$ for a wide assortment of merchandise.

The humans appear to be trading not so much for their own life necessities as for objects to present to other humans. They carry the merchandise to their dwelling places and cover it with brightly colored material and secure it with various forms of string.

Many groups of humans gather together during this time. They seem to have more joy than at other times. They also consume much food, particularly rich, sweet varieties.

There is much singing and music can be heard everywhere.

Also a result of the thing called Christmas is that humans seem to be more aware of other humans in need than at other times. They give \$ for food for those who lack and play things for young humans who have no \$ to trade.

I do not know how all of these actions relate to the visit of Jehovah, but perhaps the spirit of the season is designed to please him.

Respectfully,
Gernithu

Marriage licenses

Thomas Jeanne Stephens and Karen Marie Stephens, both of Caro.

Roger Allen McWilliams Jr. and Jessica Marie Hess, both of Vassar.

Aaron Bruce Peshek and Janice Marion Edith Wright, both of Vassar.

Wab Alan Stahl, Frankenmuth, and Kristina Nicole Eskelson, Vassar.

James Michael Creason and Pamela Sue Kohn, both of Caro.

Michael William Abraham and Mellissa Renae Hill, both of Vassar.

Dennis Owen Martin and Suzanne Rose German, both of Vassar.

Kevin James Hanshaw and Michele Marie Schmieder, both of Millington.

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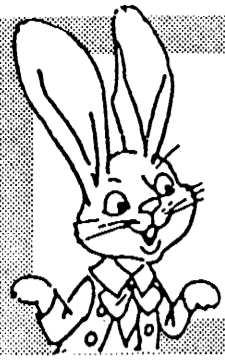
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Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help.)

Cass City's Pat Gee called our attention to an article on the back page in the Dec. 13 issue of the Detroit Free Press. It concerned the 103rd birthday of Irene Livermore of Farmington, who was born Dec. 17, 1892, on a farm on the outskirts of Cass City.

She remains active and is reported in the story as saying "I've been through everything. I've had a good life, but a hard one."

There's still time to help in the Toys for Tots campaign. Friday, Dec. 22, is the last day for donations. More than 300 area kids will have a merrier Christmas when the local volunteers complete their gift giving foray this year.

Residents interested in preserving the round barn at Gageton will be interested in this.

Rev. Lloyd Streeter, a former Baptist pastor in Cass City, sent a page devoted to 3 round barns, with pictures, published in the Illinois Agri-News.

The barns are in the University of Illinois Experimental Dairy Farm Historic District.

The barns were built in 1908, 1910 and 1912 and were considered innovative and state-of-the-art and are now storage sheds.

The barns have been added to the National Register of Historic Places for Agriculture and Architecture in early 1994. The story is available for viewing at the Chronicle.

John Maharg says don't publish this in Rabbit Tracks. But I'm going to do it anyway because right is right and wrong is wrong and I was wrong.

Wrong when I said that Frankenmuth was the only team to score 100 points against Cass City.

Several teams did it. One of them that Maharg remembers from his playing days was North Branch, who beat Cass City in a game in which both teams raced up and down the small floor unchecked.

The Chronicle will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, and Monday, Jan. 1, due to the holidays. The paper, as usual, will be published a day later on both weeks (Wednesday on the newsstands, Thursday through the mail). All deadlines remain the same.

The Chronicle staff thanks you for your usual good cooperation.

Announce raffle winners

Hills and Dales Hospital Auxiliary president Jeannine Hobart reports that the club's raffle netted over \$600.

Friday and the winners were: Marie Pfaff, Caro, quilt; Lillian Hanby, Cass City, hand made doily, and Marilyn Bismark, Minden City, music box.

The drawings were held

The Weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	20	-5	0
Wednesday	33	24	1.9"
Thursday	40	36	.05"
Friday	37	27	0
Saturday	30	10	0
Sunday	36	28	0
Monday	36	25	0

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)



GENERAL CABLE Co. is marking its seventh year of participation in the local Toys for Tots campaign, with a corporate donation as well as cash and toys contributed by employees. Representing the company above are (from left) John Cooper, Louise Buehrly and Matilde Trujillo.

Grinches steal from church

Some holiday grinch hit the Shabbona United Methodist Church last week, making off with \$800 to \$1,000 in property, including a solid brass cross and candlesticks.

Also discovered missing from the church over the weekend were a VCR, 4 microphones, including a cordless mike system, and a small amount of cash.

Church members indicted the theft took place sometime late last week.

Troopers from the Michigan State Police post in Sandusky are investigating the incident.

The

Haire

Net



I blinked once and it was Christmas time again. How could that be? It was only yesterday that I watched the grandkids peeking from the top of the stairs in the early morning hours waiting to storm the living room and dive into the presents.

That particular joy at Christmas never changes...as long as the kids are there.

Even though it flew by, there were a host of changes in the last 12 months, criminal trends continued, problems exacerbated.

In the front pages of newspapers, stories of inhuman treatment of children were recounted time after time. Some of them in the Thumb. Just this week a father was charged with murder because of the death of his daughter caused by a blow to the head. She also had 8 fractured ribs that had healed.

While the problems weren't the type that get state-wide attention, we have them right here in our immediate area. For the first time in memory, 2 front page news stories were published that dealt with problems that were unthinkable 5 years or less ago.

They concerned ways of thwarting the gangs in Gageton and controlling incorrigible students in Cass City.

In the same issue a story ran about a string of radio thefts in cars in Cass City.

It's certain that the situation will not get better in the near future and may well get worse.

We have to remind ourselves that while it may be necessary to lock our cars and our homes, there is a flip side to the coin and it comes out at Christmas. It's reflected in the Cass

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"If It Fitz...."

Affirmative action fair, decent atonement

By Jim Fitzgerald



Regarding the current wide-spread uproar against affirmative action, my favorite rhymester, Rudy Simons of Southfield, put it this way: You wind up their motor, They'll quotch, "No quota!", And many will label them "hero."

But did they care an iota When there was a real quota, And that quota was absolute zero?

I wish I could be as cleverly succinct as Simons (undoubtedly, so do a lot of readers). More strongly, I wish it were no longer necessary to write columns like today's. Thirty years ago, I would have scoffed at the suggestion that affirmative action favoring black people would still be necessary in 1995.

Of course, I also thought Elvis Presley was a showbiz blip surely to be forgotten overnight.

I'VE-GOT-MINE MENTALITY CROSSES ALL LINES

My cousin Al, now retired from a lifelong job working for his uncle, is pleased by the current clamor to end any sort of employment-line jumps for minorities. And magnanimous Al is especially delighted to say that although he is white, he doesn't hesitate to praise those well-known black people who publicly proclaim affirmative action is unneeded and unwelcome in the black community.

Oh yes. Those are the black people who usually became well-known for their success, especially financial, thanks to their high intelligence and work ethic. Which certainly proves that whites don't own the franchise on I've-got-mine prejudice, whether it be based on race, class or luck.

Where were Cousin Al and those other anti-affirmative-action zealots yesterday? Al is almost 80. Today, he yelps about constitutional rights when a black person is allowed to sit right beside a white person in the employment office. Years ago, he had no complaints when there was a sign in the employment office saying, "Whites Only."

If only the obvious bigots like Cousin Al were using the reverse-discrimination argument to fight affirmative action, I wouldn't be so dismayed by the hypocrisy. But many supposedly enlightened people, including judges and newspaper editorialists, are taking the same position.

Where was all that grave concern for equal opportunity when blacks, women and other minorities needed it?

IT WASN'T RIGHT THE OTHER WAY, EITHER

2 face felony charges

How can educated, supposedly intelligent people wait that they shouldn't suffer, however marginally, for some injustice, like slavery, committed before they were born, without conceding that people born after slavery was abolished (or sanitized) are still suffering from it?

It is true, as Cousin Al keeps preaching, that 2 wrongs don't make a right. But in a society trying to atone for past sins, it is not wrong to give equally qualified blacks a slight head start the first time they compete in a race they previously were only allowed to watch — from segregated seating. It is not wrong. It is the fair and decent thing to do.

It's too bad if a few innocent newborn whites must personally pay the price of atonement. But it's a legiti-

mately debt that someone must pay. And who could deny that those doing the atoning are suffering far less, and in far less numbers, than those sinned against?

My sympathy is with, say, the white would-be fire fighter who must let an equally qualified black applicant into line ahead. I would only ask him or her to try to understand, and to remember when blacks couldn't even apply.

But there is no sympathy here for Cousin Al and other righteous hypocrites who have suddenly discovered it is unfair to be forced to ride in the back of the bus. I would only ask them to get out and walk.

2 face felony charges

The following people were recently arraigned on felony charges in Tuscola County District Court:

•Craig A. Schiller, 17, Fostoria, is charged with first degree criminal sexual conduct allegedly involving use of force or coercion and personal injury to the victim. The offense allegedly took place in November 1994.

Bond in the case was set at \$5,000. A preliminary examination was scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday.

•Ryan P. Ozbat, 19, Caro, was arraigned on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon (knife) Nov. 19 in Indianfields Township.

Bond was set at \$500 and a preliminary exam was slated for Thursday morning.

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Cass City Public Schools PROGRESS IN EDUCATION

from the desk of Ken Micklash, Superintendent

Community Survey Results

During the first 2 weeks of November, a random survey was sent to 205 area residents asking them their opinion about a few questions relating to school issues. 108 surveys or 53% were returned. The following information outlining the survey responses is presented to you.

- When asked the last time they were in the current middle school building the response was:
 - 67% within the past year.
 - 17% two to four years ago.
 - 8% five to ten years ago.
 - 5% more than ten years ago.
 - 3% never in the middle school.

- When asked how often they read the information in the "Red Hawk News" and the Cass City Chronicle titled "Progress in Education" the response was:
 - 76% read both.
 - 12% read only school newsletter "Red Hawk News."
 - 9% read only newspaper column "Progress in Education."
 - 3% read neither.

- When asked why they thought the September 18th bond issue was turned down the response was:
 - 37% felt that people voted no because they think the present building is good enough.
 - 37% felt that people voted no because of the cost.
 - 5% felt that people voted no because they wanted a new high school.
 - 21% felt that people voted no because of other reasons such as:
 - No new taxes.
 - Frustrated taxpayers.
 - This is the only place for people to vote no on taxes.
 - Lack of knowledge.
 - Believe money will just go to school employees.

- When presented with the following options and asked which do you think would be the best next step the response was:
 - 39% said stay with the same plan and build only a middle school.
 - 23% said build a middle school and some Campbell upgrades.
 - 17% said do nothing.
 - 11% said build a new high school.
 - 10% said upgrade the middle school.

Questions may be sent to me at 4868 N. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726. Thank you.



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Change is good

Australian Brad Fewson soaking up new culture

Change is good. Just ask Brad Fewson, an Australian native who has spent the past 4 weeks doing nothing but experiencing change. Changes in what he eats, new traditions, cold weather.

"I came to see something different, and that's what I found; the way you live, the food — it's completely different, which is good," the 16-year-old recently commented at the James and Sandra Bolton home, where he is staying.

Fewson is in the Cass City area through an abbreviated Rotary Exchange program in which students visit other countries for 8-week periods.

"I've got 4 brothers and a sister. I've got 3 older brothers and they all went overseas," he said, noting 2 of them were Rotary Exchange students — one traveled to California and the other to New Zealand. "So, when it came my turn, I wanted to go overseas."

America's influence abroad through the movie industry and other mediums hasn't missed Australia, according to Fewson, who wanted to experience life in the United States first hand.

"America is the mecca of entertainment; that's where it happens," he said, "and I wanted to go there and see it."

Fewson was born in a small town about the size of Cass City, but now lives in Wagga Wagga, a city of some 60,000

people in New South Wales.

CROW CROW

Interestingly, the town's name came about due to a lack of a plural name for the word "crow" in the Aborigine dialect. Wagga Wagga, which means crow crow, was named after the large number of the black birds living in the vicinity. Fewson explained the Aborigines don't have a word for "crows."

Living in the rural Thumb is new experience for the Australian, who is used to hopping on his bike to get where he wants to go at home.

But he pointed out he has been welcomed with open arms, including those of his fellow students at Cass City High School.

"When I got there (school), I was accepted virtually immediately. The first day they adopted me and took me around," he said.

Fewson has already seen quite a bit of Michigan, including the Mackinac Bridge. He added, "I don't want to embarrass anyone, but I've just got the best host family you could actually get. They've gone out of their way for me."

Fewson, a high school senior, said this is a good time for him to take advantage of the exchange program. "Right now it's the holidays in Australia, so I'm not missing any school.

"It's a little bit different — our schooling to yours. We start in January and end in December," he said. "Our school is spread out more and it's outside."

CLASSES

Fewson attends a private Catholic school, so he's also used to religion classes. But he's noticed the presentation of courses, such as history, is different.

Here, students take a world history class that touches on a myriad of events and people covering hundreds of years, but in Australia, students take an ancient history course that covers only ancient history, or a modern history class that might cover a period of time limited to the world wars up to Vietnam, he explained.

Athletics, too, differ in Australia, where students compete in sports, but as a schoolwide activity, rather than in teams. "We play rugby league, cricket and basketball."

American food, meanwhile, has also presented a challenge to the teen.

"I've noted the basic foods, such as bread, have a completely different taste," Fewson continued. Beef and pork are common in Australia, he added, but turkey isn't. "We're more chicken eaters."

Other favorites include the good old hamburger, topped with a fried egg, and vegemite. Fewson produced

a jar of the latter, a salty, Australian sandwich spread made principally with yeast. Enjoyment of the concoction, he acknowledged, "is an acquired taste."

Fewson is familiar with peanut butter and jelly, although what Americans call jelly, Australians call jam. But it doesn't matter because Australians don't put peanut butter and jelly together anyway.

CHALLENGES

Fewson is quick to grin and joke about the challenges he's faced since arriving in this country — everything from figuring out the hot and cold water taps to understanding the double meanings of many American words and phrases.

But the easygoing teen is serious when it comes to his plans for the future.

He has spent the past 2 years in the Australian Army Cadet Corps, learning about military practices and undergoing training. A corporal, when he returns home, he'll be placed in the Australian Army Reserves.

Toastmasters plan to form club in Tuscola County

Area residents who are interested in improving their communication skills, being more effective in meetings, and getting their point across more concisely may be interested in joining a new club in Tuscola County.

The club is Toastmasters, a leading organization devoted to the improvement and development of individual communication and leadership skills.

"One of the things about the program is that it is ongoing training," explained Bob Brentin, district governor for Michigan-Ontario Toastmasters. "It is a participative program with a variety of opportunities to develop your own most effective communication style."

Besides speaking and listening skills, the Toastmaster program is designed to develop leadership skills as well. Officers are elected for every club. Meeting roles include Toastmaster of the day, Table Topic master (for impromptu talks), evaluator and several others.

"Toastmasters gives me the experience to organize my thoughts more clearly and be more effective in relating to the needs and interests of the audience," said Deford area resident Tom Young of the Thumb Consortium/Michigan Works.

Toastmasters offers members a self-paced program that promotes learning by doing. Different communications projects develop areas such as prepared speaking, impromptu speaking and critical analysis.

Scholarships available at Olivet

Olivet College officials recently announced scholarships of up to \$7,720 are available for transfer students from the Tuscola County area.

Transfer Student Scholarships are available for the spring semester beginning Jan. 9, or the fall semester beginning Sept. 5. Interested students should contact the college at (616)-749-7635 or 800-456-7189.

Olivet College is a nationally recognized liberal arts college located 20 miles east of Battle Creek and 30 miles south of Lansing. Transfer students are an important segment of the college, comprising over 20 percent of the student body.

"It's always appealed to me," Fewson commented. "A lot of my mates are doing it as well."

After a year in the reserves, he plans to apply for entry into the Australian Defense Force Academy — similar to the United States' West Point — where he hopes to earn a university degree, graduate and join the army as an officer.

Fewson said he believes a year in the military ought to be mandatory. "It gives you discipline and all the skills you need," he added. "In a way, it will make you grow up."

The teen is looking forward to a career in the military, but for now is content to continue taking in all he can during the time he has left in Michigan, where the climate is much different than the warm summer weather he'll enjoy when he returns home. "I love the snow," he said. "I think it's great, but it's cold."

Judging by his remarks and enthusiasm, the United States hasn't seen the last of Brad Fewson.

"As soon as I landed here, I knew I wanted to come back."



AUSTRALIAN EXCHANGE student Brad Fewson (right) relaxes at home with host brother Mike Bolton, a Cass City High School senior who will soon be making a trip to Australia as an exchange student.

Service Set for Fisher Family

Christmas Eve, 6:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Cass City

The community is invited to join the congregation in encouraging and supporting the family.

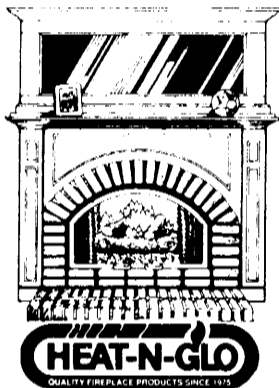
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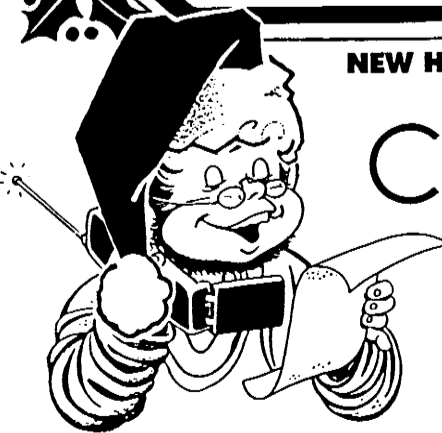


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Obituaries

Frank Alexander

Frank L. Alexander, 66, of Fenton, died Sunday, Dec. 10, at Genesys Flint Osteopathic Campus. He was born June 18, 1929, in Cass City, the son of Nicholas and Alice (Kretschmer) Alexander. He married Nina Wissner April 26, 1952, in Kilmantagh.

Alexander moved to Fenton in 1975. He was a self-employed harness horse trainer for 28 years. He served on the board of directors of the Michigan Harness Association for 10 years.

He is survived by his wife, Nina; 5 children, Randy and wife Laurie, Brian and wife Kim, Brent and wife Pam, DeAnn and husband Mike Bickford, all of the Fenton area, Kirk and wife Michele of Escanaba; a daughter-in-law, Julie, and husband Joe Tidwell of Linden; 16 grandchildren; his father, Nicholas Alexander of Bad Axe; 3 sisters, and 4 brothers. He was preceded in death by his mother in 1984; a son, Mark, in 1987, and a sister, Shirley.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Fenton. Pastor James McCoy officiated.

Interment was in Grant Township Cemetery, Gagetown.

Memorials may be made to the Trinity Lutheran Church Memorial Fund.

Arrangements were made by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, Fenton.

Robert Bookey

Robert (Bob) Bookey, 67, of Seguin, Texas, formerly of Cass City, died Friday, Dec. 15, in Texas.

He was born Nov. 6, 1928. Survivors are a son, Ronald Bookey of Minneapolis, Minn.; 2 daughters, Lee Ann Vomhof and Laurie Gragert, also of Minneapolis, Minn.; a step-daughter, Debbie Modlish of California, and 7 grandchildren.

Anyone wishing to send cards may send them to Lee Ann Vomhof, 3647 Girard N., Minneapolis, Minn. 55412.

William Jones

William Edward Jones, 59, of Decker, died Sunday, Dec. 17, in Beaumont Hospital after a short illness.

He was born April 6, 1936, in his grandmother's house in Troy, to William and Ethel (Hill) Jones. He had lived in this area for over 20 years. He married Nancy E. George Nov. 6, 1954, in Monroe.

Jones was a director of the Thumb National Farmers Organization, a member of Organic Growers of Michigan and of Shabbona United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; 3 daughters, Shary (Thomas) Nesbit of Bad Axe, Sharon Kay Jones and Lisa Jones, both of Decker; a son, Michael (Kathy) Jones of Decker; 3 grandchildren; his mother, Ethel Jones; 3 sisters, Eunice (Richard) Perschke of Cottonwood,

Ariz., Barbara (Bob) Livak of Riverside, Calif., and Sandra (Johnny) Arnett of Carson City, Nev.; a special aunt and uncle, Helen and Malcolm Garbock of Troy, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and an infant brother, George Michael.

Funeral services were scheduled for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, at Shabbona United Methodist Church, Shabbona, with the Rev. James Rencontre and the Rev. Jean Rencontre officiating.

Interment will be in Evergreen Township Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the family discretionary fund.

Arrangements were made by Little & Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

John Morris

John Walter Morris, 82, of Cadillac died Saturday, Dec. 16, at Mercy Hospital in Cadillac.

Morris was born Sept. 3, 1913, in Owendale to Frank and Harriet (Lee) Morris. He married Norma M. Hillman Dec. 18, 1945, in Detroit.

He was a graduate of Cass City High School, Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., and Grand Rapids University in pharmacy. He owned and operated a drug store in Dearborn for several years. He moved to Cadillac in 1968 and worked for Gould Drugs until his retirement.

He was a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Cadillac, and a former member of Dearborn Rotary Club. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, stationed in the South Pacific.

He is survived by his wife; a daughter, Melanie Morris (Mrs. Steven) Sharp of Grand Rapids; a grandson, and a brother, Frank (Kathleen) Morris of Arcona, Ontario.

Cremation has taken place. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Cadillac, the Rev. Christine D. Barton officiating.

Memorial tributes may be made to the Hospice of Wexford-Missaukee or First Congregational Church.

Arrangements were by Hitesman Funeral Home in Cadillac.

Agencies sting weapons, drug trafficking group

Sanilac County Drug Task Force Director William Gray recently announced the culmination of a year-long, multi-agency investigation into a drug and weapons trafficking organization in southeast Michigan.

Agencies involved in the investigation, aside from the drug task force, were the St. Clair County Drug Task Force, County of Macomb Enforcement Team, Federal Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and Michigan State troopers from the Sandusky and Richmond posts.

Last Wednesday, the multi-unit investigative team served a pair of federal arrest warrants, including one charging a 41-year-old St. Clair County man with 12

federal drug and weapons violations.

A second St. Clair County man is expected to turn himself in to federal authorities. During last week's arrest, 2 other subjects were taken into custody on local arrest warrants, and officers seized more than 6 ounces of methamphetamine, or "crank", with a street value of more than \$10,000; 9 firearms, and drug and weapons paraphernalia.

The investigation resulted when the various agencies all noticed an influx of west coast methamphetamine coming into the Sanilac-St. Clair-Macomb county areas in late 1994.

Drug raids and arrests in Sanilac County early this year resulted in the eventual identification of the 2 St.

Clair County men, named in the federal warrants, as being responsible for the importation and distribution of multiple pound shipments of methamphetamine from California into Michigan.

"This investigation was successful through the extended cooperative efforts of the 6 different investigative agencies involved," Gray said.

"The Sanilac County Drug Task Force believes that these arrests will have a significant impact on the availability of crank in the county."

Anyone with information on suspected drug activity in Sanilac County is encouraged to contact the drug task force anonymously at 1-800-544-3784.

Calendar of Events

Deadline for submitting items in the calendar is the Friday noon before publication.

Friday, December 22

Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 8 p.m.

Monday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Wednesday, December 27

No Duplicate Bridge this week. Next meet Jan. 3, 1996. Last week's winners: John Haire and Bill Dupuis.



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On felony charges

Several appear in court

The following people appeared in Tuscola County Circuit Court on various criminal charges over the past week:

•Christopher P. Gusek, 22, Mayville, was found innocent of 3 counts of felonious assault, but guilty of reckless driving and malicious destruction of property (auto) over \$100 Sept. 10 in Wells Township.

The verdict was returned by a jury last Wednesday following a 2-day trial and about 90 minutes of deliberation.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$5,000. Sentencing is to be set.

•Inmate James C. Satek, 52, pleaded guilty to being a prisoner in possession of a weapon (knife) July 23 in Indianfields Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$5,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Inmate Timothy Krzeminski, 32, pleaded innocent to being a prisoner in possession of contraband (marijuana) Nov. 17 in Indianfields Township, and to being a habitual offender.

A jury trial was ordered scheduled in the case.

•Brent L. Hart, 30, Cass City, was sentenced to 3 years probation and 180 days in jail (suspended), and was ordered to pay \$6,597.26 in restitution for his plea of guilty to writing a non-sufficient fund check of \$200 or more Aug. 17 in Indianfields Township, and having one prior felony conviction.

Hart, who was also ordered to pay a \$40 victim crime fee, was charged with writing a non-sufficient fund check of \$20,651 to Howard Bell Inc. The check was drawn on Chemical Bank Bay Area.

•Todd E. Ramirez, 24, Lapeer, was sentenced to 4 years probation and 365 days in jail for his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle

while under the influence of liquor, third offense, May 19 in Mayville.

Ramirez, who was ordered to undergo substance abuse counseling/treatment, will also be required to pay \$200 in court costs, \$500 in fines, \$210 in restitution and a \$40 victim crime fee.

Ramirez was sentenced to an additional year in jail and \$100 in costs and fines for his plea of guilty to driving while his license was suspended.

•Inmate John C. Ovalle, 26, was sentenced to 14 months to 5 years in prison for his plea of guilty to being a prisoner in possession of contraband July 2 in Indianfields Township.

•Efrain M. Ortiz, 32, Bradenton, Fla., stood mute to charges of conspiracy to deliver a controlled substance (marijuana) in March-April 1994 in Indianfields Township.

A pre-trial hearing is to be scheduled in the case. Ortiz, whose bond was continued at \$10,000, was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department.

•Donald G. Lambert, 26,

Vassar, pleaded innocent to probation violation — failure to appear for probation violation sentencing Sept. 15.

A hearing is to be scheduled in the case. Bond was continued at \$5,000.

•Franklin H. Primeau, 41, Caro, was sentenced to 3 years probation and 270 days in jail, with worksite privileges, for his plea of guilty to fourth degree criminal sexual conduct involving a child at least 13 years of age but under 16 years last May in Caro.

Primeau was ordered to undergo HIV testing, and to not be alone with any child under the age of 16 years. He was also ordered to pay \$400 in costs and fines plus \$720 in oversight fees and a \$40 victim crime fee.

•Gordon Greer, 24, Vassar, failed to appear for his sentencing on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon (double-edged knife) Nov. 13, 1994, in Caro.

The court, which issued a bench warrant, sentenced Greer to 60 days in jail. He was also ordered to pay \$200 in costs and fines plus attorneys fees.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

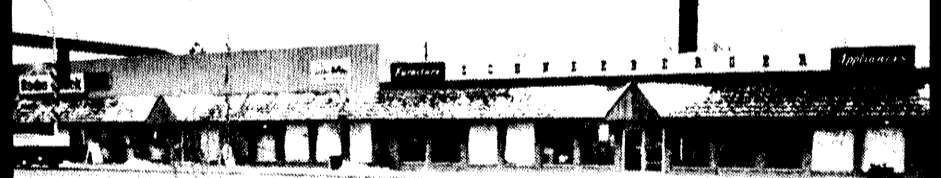


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The Middle School Concept

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Meet the Cass City Middle School Administrative Team

Probably the most hectic place to be in a school is the office. All outside phone calls enter into the main office. All visitors must report to the office when coming to the building. All new students must register in the office. Teaching supplies, copy machines, and staff mailboxes are located in the office. When students misbehave, they are sent to the office. There's not a time of the day that you can enter the office and not see some kind of activity taking place. And who deals with all of this activity? ...The secretary, principal and assistant principal!

We all know who the most important person is in any business...it's the secretary! She is the one who must deal with the public and staff as well. She is also the one who is expected to do 100 things, all at the same time, and do it with a smile. It is a stressful job but Mrs. Shirley McIntosh handles it well. Shirley has been employed by the Cass City School District for 19 years. She graduated from Cass City High School and later went to Tri-County Beauty School.

The newest addition to the Middle School administrative team is Dr. William Snyder. Dr. Snyder comes to us from southern Michigan after a distinguished career there. Bill has taught English, Yearbook, Social Studies, Mathematics, and History (for Eastern Michigan University). He served as Middle School Principal for a number of years as well. He has earned a Bachelor's, Master's, and a Doctorate degree in Education all from Wayne State University. Bill has also taken classes from Eastern Michigan University and the University of Colorado. Bill has raised two twin sons and now lives in Cass City. He likes to camp, fish, cross country ski, and is a runner.

The Cass City Middle School Administrative Team hopes that they can assist you and your children during their four year stay at the Middle School. Please feel free to call at 872-4397.



Pictured L-R: Dr. William Snyder, Mrs. Shirley McIntosh, and Mr. Russell Biefer

Hawks split games

Ulfig's 43 points lead Hawks to win over Sandusky



JEFF LITTLE drives to the basket past Chris Schmitt for 2 points as Dan Sherman watches for a possible rebound.

Riding on the shoulders of Corey Ulfig, the Cass City Red Hawks defeated the Sandusky Redskins Friday, 83-65.

Ulfig's 43-point effort was better than any single game posted by his brother, Paul, who holds the career scoring record for Cass City, and second only to John Maharg's 44 points set in 1968.

In addition to his points, Ulfig grabbed 12 rebounds and had 3 assists.

Despite his career night, Cass City was threatened all the way by the Redskins.

The Hawks broke out of a 39-39 half-time deadlock to score the first 10 points in the third quarter and take what appeared to be a commanding lead, 49-39, but an 8-point play moved the visitors right back into contention.

Here's how it happened. Jon Kelly scored a basket and was fouled. He converted. A technical was called on the play and both shots were converted. Sandusky took the ball out of bounds and promptly scored again.

Although Cass City never trailed in the second half, the game was in doubt until late in the last quarter. With 3:24 left the Hawks were in front, 64-60.

The Hawks used some clutch free throw shooting to salt away the game. Ulfig started in with a pair and Chad Zawilinski converted 4 in a row. With less than 2 minutes left, the lead was a comfortable 10 points. In the final quarter Cass City scored on 16 of 20 opportunities from the foul circle.

In his scoring spree, Ulfig scored 8 points in the first period, 13 in the second, 9 in the third and 13 in the fourth. Among his field goals were 6 from 3-point range.

While the offense was clicking, Coach Jeff Hartel was concerned about the defense. We must improve to become a good team. Offensively we did a better job of passing and moving the ball, he said.

CC - SANDUSKY

CASS CITY - Dave Murphy 1-0 (0-0) 2; Scott Wallace 0-1 (7-8) 10; Dan Sherman 0-0 (3-4) 3; Matt Oesch 2-0 (1-3) 5; Chad Diegel 2-0 (0-1) 4; Corey Ulfig 7-6 (11-15) 43; Kurt Iwankovitsch 3-0 (0-0) 6; Chad Zawilinski 1-0 (6-6) 8; Bob Gengler 1-0 (0-0) 2.
TOTALS - 17-7 (28-37) 83.

SANDUSKY - Tony Reiner 5-1 (6-9) 19; Jason Newton 2-1 (2-2) 9; Todd Tunich 1-2 (0-0) 8; Jon Kelly 5-0 (1-1) 11; Josh Hund 1-0 (0-1) 2; Craig MacNeil 1-0 (2-2) 4; Roger Haupt 0-3 (0-0) 9; Chad VanConant 1-0 (1-4) 3.
TOTALS - 16-7 (12-18) 65.

REESE GAME

The Hawks were scheduled to play their last game before Christmas and their first game on the road when they travel to Harbor Beach Tuesday.

In games against Thumb C American League teams the Hawks are 2-1 with Harbor Beach and Uby ahead before the league games start.

Cass City's loss against American division teams was recorded last Tuesday by visiting Reese.

The Rockets used a last half rally to post a 79-69 win.

Reese used a devastating fast break and a pressure defense to topple the Hawks. In the first 4 minutes of the game, Cass City turned the ball over 6 times and the Rockets were off to an 8-0 lead. Cass City turned the ball over 24 times in the game.

The Hawks fought back and tied the game for the first and only time midway through the second quarter, 26-26. Reese took control again in the next 2 minutes with 8 unanswered points, 6 of them coming as the Rockets beat the Hawks down the floor. Ulfig broke the spell with a pair of free throws. At the half the Rockets were in front, 36-30.

Reese moved into a commanding lead in the third period and early moments of the fourth when the score was 62-46 at the 5:33 mark.

Cass City closed the gap to 5 points, 66-61, with a little over 2 minutes left, but Reese widened the gap with excellent free throw shooting as the Hawks fouled to get control of the ball.

In the last quarter the Rockets converted 20 of 29 free throws.

Hartel said that Cass City is giving up too many second shots and turnovers.

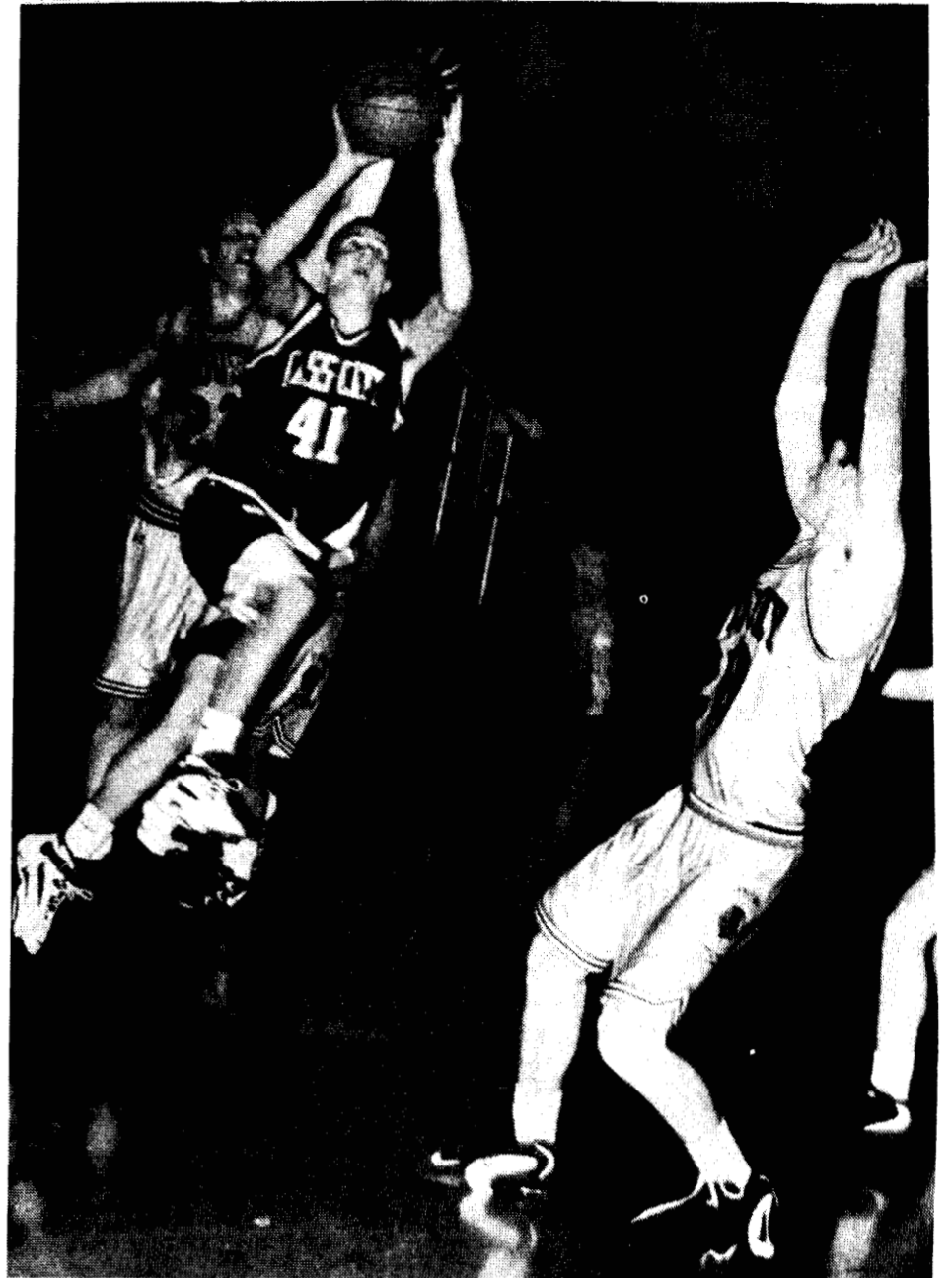
Offensively the Hawks were led by Ulfig, with 21 points, and Jeff Little, who scored 13 points with 7 rebounds and 4 assists. Scott Wallace scored 14.

JV GAMES

The Hawk junior varsity defeated Reese, 72-57, and also topped the Sandusky JV.

CASS CITY - Dave Murphy 2-0 (0-0) 4; Scott Wallace 4-1 (3-4) 14; Dan Sherman 1-0 (0-0) 2; Matt Oesch 1-0 (0-0) 2; Jeff Little 4-1 (2-2) 13; Corey Ulfig 7-0 (7-9) 21; Kurt Iwankovitsch 2-0 (0-1) 4; Chad Zawilinski 2-1 (0-1) 7; Bob Gengler 1-0 (0-2) 2.
TOTALS - 24-3 (12-19) 69.

REESE - C. Schmitt 6-0 (3-6) 15; E. Ketelhut 0-0 (3-4) 3; J. Teddy 4-0 (0-0) 8; J. Jucius 4-0 (6-8) 14; J. Roberts 3-0 (1-2) 7; S. Geilhart 2-1 (0-0) 7; B. Allen 4-0 (8-12) 16; Haubenstricker 1-0 (5-6) 7; M. Durussel 1-0 (0-0) 2.
TOTALS - 25-1 (26-38) 79.



Career night!

COREY ULFIG SCORED every way possible against Sandusky. His 43 points were second best in Hawk history, just one point shy of the record set by John Maharg in 1968.

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BASKETBALL
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 School W L W L
 EPBP 0 0 3 0
 Marlette 0 0 3 0
 BCAS 0 0 2 1
 Cass City 0 0 2 2
 Bad Axe 0 0 1 2
 Cros-Lex 0 0 0 4
TCC AMERICAN
 School W L W L
 Reese 0 0 2 0
 Uby 0 0 3 1
 Harbor Beach 0 0 2 1
 Mayville 0 0 1 2
 Sandusky 0 0 1 2
 USA 0 0 0 2
 Deckerville 0 0 0 4
NORTH CENTRAL THUMB
 School W L W L
 Kingston 2 0 4 0
 CPS 2 0 3 0
 Peck 2 1 2 1
 North Huron 1 1 1 3
 Port Hope 1 2 2 2
 Caseville 1 2 1 3
 Owen-Gage 0 1 0 2
 A-Fairgrove 0 2 1 3
FRIDAY'S RESULTS
 EPBP 75, USA 53
 Marlette 70, Uby 58
 Bad Axe 73, Mayville 51
 Cass City 83, Sandusky 65
 BCAS 58, Deckerville 49
 Harbor Beach 74, Cros-Lex 45
 NBW 78, North Huron 67
 Peck 72, Port Hope 47
 Kingston 72, Caseville 55
 CPS 65, A-Fairgrove 45

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Six Swift Sports Seers	John Haire	Clarke Haire	Tom Montgomery	Doug Hyatt	Gary Robinson	Jim Hillaker
December 19 Sandusky at Marlette Peck at Brown City CPS at Dryden USA at Bad Axe Cass City at H. Beach Deckerville at Lakers Cros-Lex at Mayville Reese at BCAS Kingston at Owen-Gage Caseville at Akron-Fair.	Sandusky Brown City Dryden Bad Axe Harbor Beach Lakers Mayville Reese Kingston Akron-Fair.	Marlette Brown City Dryden Bad Axe Harbor Beach Lakers Mayville Reese Kingston Caseville	Marlette Brown City CPS Bad Axe Harbor Beach Lakers Mayville Reese Kingston Caseville	Marlette Brown City CPS Bad Axe Harbor Beach Lakers Mayville Reese Kingston Akron-Fair.	Marlette Brown City Dryden Bad Axe Harbor Beach Lakers Cros-Lex BCAS Kingston Akron-Fair.	Marlette Brown City Dryden Bad Axe Harbor Beach Lakers Mayville Reese Kingston Akron-Fair.
December 22 Harbor Beach at Reese USA at Deckerville Sandusky at Uby	Reese USA Sandusky	Harbor Beach USA Uby	Harbor Beach USA Uby	Harbor Beach USA Uby	Harbor Beach USA Uby	Reese USA Uby
This Week's Totals Percentages	13-5 72%	13-5 72%	15-3 83%	14-4 78%	15-3 83%	15-3 83%
	Paper Pros 59-22 73%			Upstarts 64-17 79%		

**Township of Elkland
 County of Tuscola, Michigan**

The Zoning Board of the Township of Elkland, Tuscola County, Michigan, will conduct a public hearing request of Triple T Farms, L.P. for rezoning of property near the west boundary of the Village of Cass City. The legal description and proposed rezoning for that parcel are described as:

Ten acres at T14N-R11E in Elkland Township of Tuscola County, Commencing at the Northwest Corner of Section 33, Elkland Township, running thence South 663 feet along the West Section line, thence East 330 feet to the Point of Beginning, Running thence East 660 feet, thence South 660 feet, thence West 660 feet, thence North 660 feet to the Point of Beginning, being 10.0 acres zoned from A-1 Agricultural Zoning District to M-1 Manufacturing Zoning District.

The parcel of ten acres proposed for rezoning is part of 83 acres owned by the applicant south of M-81 state highway and east of Koepfgen Road.

The rezoning will be presented in detail by the Township of Elkland at the public hearing held as follows:

Time: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, December 21, 1995

**Location: Elkland Township Hall
 6691 Church Street
 Cass City, MI 48726**

All residents of Elkland Township and especially those within 300 feet of the proposed project are invited to attend and participate at the meeting. A professional planning consultant will present an analysis of the proposed use as well.

Roger Root, Chairman
 Elkland Township Zoning Board

Wrestlers fifth at Marlette

Marlette won its own wrestling tournament Saturday with 193 points while Cass City finished fifth among the 10 teams competing.

Cass City was hampered by the loss of 8 wrestlers who were not able to compete because of academic ineligibility.

Cass City's Chris Revis had a particularly impressive outing, Coach Don Markel pointed out, with wins over the second and third seeded wrestlers to finish second. He wrestled at 145 pounds.

Other Hawks to earn medals were:

John McNaughton, 119 pounds, fourth; Jeremy Markel, 130 pounds, fourth, Dennis Pisha, 125 pounds, third; Jeremy Dillon, 152 pounds, third; Jon Freundt, 189 pounds, third; Nathan Hendrick, 171 pounds, second.

The team standings:

Marlette	193
Imlay City	185
Lapeer West	152 1/2
Yale	110
Cass City	100
Bad Axe	77
Brown City	62 1/2
EPB Lakers	30
Mayville	26 1/2
Almont	11

Cass City Bowling Leagues

SUNDAY NO ROLLERS Dec. 10 End of First Half

Ulby Buds & Blossoms	20
Half N Half	16
New Arrivals	14 1/2
CB's	14
N.F.G.	13 1/2
Schott's Accounting	12 1/2
CWD's	12
Spank-O-Rama	9 1/2

Men's High Games: R. Meredith 224, K. Schott 210, S. Vatter 203, T. Betzold 202.
Women's High Series: C. Klaus 513.
Women's High Games: J. Krol 195, C. Klaus 187.
High Team Series & Game: Schott's Accounting 1950 (658).

MERCHANTS DEC. 13

Men's High Series: R. Meredith 612, K. Schott 599.

Charmont 11

Charmont Motel	11
Brentwood	11
Milletics Surveying	10 1/2
New England Life	10
Homesteaders	10
Wickes	8
Cole Carbide	7 1/2
Warju Flooring	7
Soundz by Greg	6
Pro-Temp	3
Independent Bank	1

Note: Alan Reed had a 299 game.

High Series & Games: M. Lutz 684 (257-214-213), K. Pobanz 680 (241-234), M. Jackson 676 (247-247), L. Morgan 665 (245-214), T. Comment 660 (226-222-212), J. Smithson 650 (226-219), A. Reed 649 (299), J. Krol 648 (245-221), G. Robinson 641 (234-224), J. Langenburg 636 (255-245), K. Beachy 633 (235), D. O'Dell 628 (238), J. Storm 628 (243), J. Mushenski 618, C. Comment 615 (234), C.

Altizer 607 (211), D. Orton 593 (216), C. Anthes 588 (212), R. Mater 588 (211), B. Rutkoski 578, B. Kingsland 577, B. Anthes 575, M. Gettel 573 (215), T. Schnell 568 (216-211), V. Trisch 567 (224), R. Salcido 563, D. Volz 557, R. Lewis 553, G. Truemmer 551 (220), P. Voss 550 (227), P. Robinson 225.
High Team Series & Game: Charmont 3057 (1070).

213), G. Sadler 641 (227-223), K. Kilbourn 635 (237-213), W. Guinther 611 (213), Doug Hyatt 608, G. Robinson 599 (210-222), J. Baker 598 (218), D. Heleski 587 (214), Dennis Hyatt 587 (247), K. Repshinska 584 (227), D. Dickinson 576, J. Roth 217, B. Dillon 229, Duane O'Dell 217, K. Pichla 211, R. Doerr 235, G. Pringle 212.

ECUMENICAL CHURCH LEAGUE End of Round Dec. 16

Four Seasons	22 1/2
The Stouts	18 1/2
The Last Resorts	18 1/2
The Little Kids	18
Alley Cats	16
Neighborhood Gang	15 1/2
Pinippers	15 1/2
Over The Hill Gang	15
Woodsplitters	14 1/2
The Antiques	13 1/2
Ladies Four	12 1/2
"In" Control	12

High Team Series & Game: Alley Cats 1929 (677).
High Individual Series & Games: M. Stover 595 (214-229), Duane O'Dell 575 (206).

CHARMONT LADIES

J.B.'s Crew	15
Live Wires	13
Wild John's	12
Cable-ettes	11
Cass City Tire	10
Dott Manufacturing	10
Thumb Nat'l Bank	9
Dee's M.P. Rockets	9
Pizza Villa	7
Walbros	4

High Team Series & Game: J.B.'s Crew 3027 (1073).
High Series: S. Hutchinson 533, N. Davis 505, J. Stevens 490, V. Humes 470, B. Kilbourn 472, V. Patera 496, D. Sweeney 519.
High Games: S. Hutchinson 194, B. Kilbourn 188, V. Patera 185, D. Sweeney 186, N. Davis 179, M. Haley 174, T. Avery 172, V. Humes 173, J. Stevens 176, B. Wilson 178, C. Hill 182.

High Team Series & Game: IGA 1834 (661).
High Series & Games: Doug O'Dell 705 (266-245), D. Beecher 660 (216-269), E. Champagne 666 (258-213).

MERCHANETTE LEAGUE Dec. 14

All Season Rental	12
Caro Chiropractic	11
The Village Diner	10
Allen Home Care	9
Rolling Hills	8
Cass Tavern	8
Thumb Auto Wash	7
Northwood Shores	7
Form You 3	5
Nel's Kitchen	3

500 Series: L. Erla 557, K. O'Dell 531, Phyllis McIntosh 514, J. Morell 514.
200 Games: J. Morell 212, L. Erla 202.

High Actual Team Series: Thumb Auto Wash 1888.
High Actual Team Game: Caro Chiropractic 684.

THURSDAY NITE TRIO Dec. 14

Gemini Plastics	12 1/2
IGA	12
NEIC	10
Pioneer Seeds	10
General Cable	9
Hyatt Farms	8 1/2
Marlette Oil & Gas	8
Kilbourn Service	7
Backroads D J Service	7
Mycogen Plant Sciences	6
Martin Electric	4
County Wide Builders	2

High Team Series & Game: IGA 1834 (661).

High Series & Games: Doug O'Dell 705 (266-245), D. Beecher 660 (216-269), E. Champagne 666 (258-213).

THURSDAY MORNING COFFEE LEAGUE Dec. 14

Dairy Barn	47 1/2
Sal's Country Clipper	35
AIDES	33
Dee's M.P. Rockets	32 1/2
E's & V's	30
RATS	28
Fabulous Four	20
Bye	10

High Team Series & Game: Dairy Barn 1955 (691).
High Series & Game: K. Champagne 628 (257).

FRIDAY NIGHT MIXED DOUBLES Final standings first half Dec. 15

Jegsters	76
U.S.	64
Four Stars	59 1/2
The Family	54
Misfits	50 1/2
Funny Farmers	49
Wilbee Folks	48
Kingston Mini Mart	46
Gators	45
Grumblers	26

Men's High Series & Games: R. Pringle 568, T. Potrykus 566 (219), R. Dibble 202.

Women's High Series & Game: D. Smith 526 (183), S. Soldan 496 (191).
High Team Series & Game: Funny Farmers 1943 (651).

School buys 2 buses

The Cass City Board of Education authorized the purchase of 2 school buses next year.

The chassis for both buses will be purchased from Moore Motors in Caro for a total of \$53,926.

The bus bodies will be purchased from Thomas Bus Co. for \$29,084.

The companies submitted the low bids for the units.

From our home to yours...



The Riemans
Kendall and Lisa



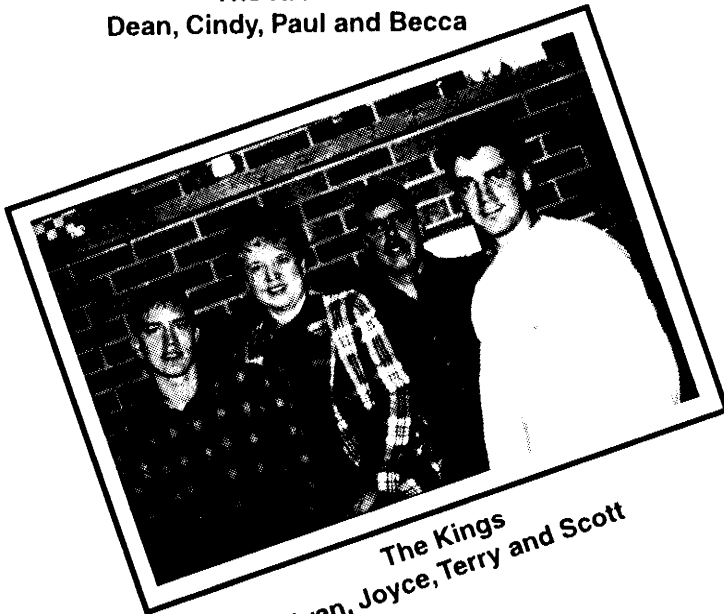
Shellie Berger, Jim, Charlotte, John and Kim
The Kritzmans



The Kruses
Dean, Cindy, Paul and Becca



The Irrers
Marv, Barb, Mark and Matt



The Kings
Ryan, Joyce, Terry and Scott



The Langenburgs
Joe, Colleen, Brad and Amanda



The Hendricks
Chuck, Kelli, Lindsey, Ashley and Carley



The LaFaves
John, Pam, Estee, Andrew and Kent

With our warmest wishes that the holidays will bring all the season's joys and all the best of everything to you!

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4th spring hunt added

Turkey permits for everyone

There won't be a turkey in every pot next spring, but every hunter interested in trying to bag a fat tom will get the chance under a DNR plan that adds a fourth hunt period.

Under the plan, any hunter who selects the fourth hunt period would be guaranteed a license valid for all units open to turkey hunting except for public land in the southern Lower Peninsula. In the Thumb, hunters who apply for the fourth hunt period will be guaranteed a license valid for hunting on private land only.

According to DNR turkey expert John Urbain, the fourth hunting period was created by reducing the third hunt by 6 days and adding an extra 5 days at the end of the season.

The 1996 spring turkey hunts are scheduled for April 22-28, April 29-May 8, May 9-20 and May 21-31.

Last year, nearly 80,000 hunters applied for 56,131 licenses statewide.

Provided the state doesn't encounter a severe winter, Michigan's wild turkey numbers are expected to be up from last winter's count of 86,000, Urbain said, adding, "We expect the winter counts this year to be over 100,000 statewide."

Despite the increase, Urbain noted the number of licenses issued for the spring hunts will remain about the same as last year for the first 3 hunting periods, because of the expanded season.

While Thumb hunters who apply for the fourth hunt won't be allowed to use their permits on public land, hunting opportunities will be expanded overall in terms of the amount of public lands available, according to Bud Jarvis, a wildlife biologist at the DNR's Cass City Field Office.

In recent years, hunters have had 2 areas of public land to choose from: Area T, which at one time was bordered by M-53, M-46, M-81

and M-24, but has been expanded to include land south of Marlette Road and west of M-15, and Area T-A, which includes northwestern Sanilac County and is bordered by M-53 to the west, Ruth Road to the east, Deckerville Road to the south and Rapson Road to the north.

"We're going to combine these areas and we're going to expand the area to include more of Huron County and more of Sanilac County," Jarvis explained.

He indicated the Thumb's turkey population is doing well, despite a setback in the winter of 1993-94.

"I think we've seen a fairly steady increase in the numbers," he said. "The winter before last we lost a lot of turkeys because of the weather, but last winter wasn't too bad and last spring's production was pretty good, so they began to bounce back."

Last year's harvest numbers were not available, but Jarvis

said hunters in the Thumb typically enjoy a 25-percent success rate.

Last spring in Area T, the DNR issued 75 public land turkey permits for each of the 3 hunt periods along with a total of 250 private land per-

mits. In Area T-A, there were a total of 107 public land permits and 150 private land permits.

Applications for turkey permits go on sale Jan. 1, and the deadline to apply is Feb. 1.

Kingston families helped by effort

Continued from page one

needy families, complete with the children's ages and other information.

Experience from past years provides some of the family names. "We also work through social services, and some recommendations from through the school," Wolak explained.

And while those families are sure to benefit, the students at Kingston Elementary also get a lot out of the project, Rodenbo pointed

out.

The kids are getting much more than the \$1 gifts they used to exchange, she said. "It gives them a chance to do something meaningful for others, which is the true meaning of Christmas."

Pigs in space

All the essential information that cooks could want about pork and other food news is as close as a computer, a modem and an Internet hookup. The nation's pork farmers are taking pigs where no pig has gone before — into Cyberspace — with the National Pork Producers Council pork site on the World Wide Web. The site can be found at <http://www.nppc.org>.



A SHORT-LIVED but significant ice storm left Thumb area roads treacherous Thursday morning, slowing traffic and closing most schools in the area. Residents welcomed warmer temperatures Thursday and Friday.

Play Your Cards Right This Christmas...and Win!!



Happy Holidays!

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Last Minute Christmas Suggestions

<p>Stocking Stuffers</p> <p>MATCH BOX CARS HAIR ACCESSORIES CANDY POTPOURRI CRAYONS CHALK STICKERS POGS MUSICAL FARM ANIMALS and BEARS Gift Certificates</p>	<p>Sewers</p> <p>SCISSORS CRAFT BOXES \$4⁰⁰ and up PILLOW PANELS NOTIONS 3 for \$1⁰⁰ NEW!! MUMMS THE WORD FABRICS Selected CHRISTMAS FABRICS NOW \$1⁸⁸ yd.</p>	<p>Kids</p> <p>MODELS LEGOS PUZZLES GAMES JOHN DEERE TRACTORS BARBIE DOLLS & ACCESSORIES SHINING TIME STATION FUZZY POSTERS PAINT SETS Gift Certificates</p>	<p>Apparel</p> <p>CHIC JEANS \$18⁸⁷ CABLE SWEATERS \$9⁸⁸ CHRISTMAS SWEATSHIRTS 30% OFF TURTLENECKS \$5⁰⁰ & up "BUM" VESTS \$13⁸⁸ "BUM" SWEATS One Group \$21⁹⁹ FLANNEL SLEEPWEAR 20% OFF</p>	<p>Crafters</p> <p>JEWELRY KITS \$1⁹⁹ BEAD LOOMS \$5⁹⁹ FELT WORKS KITS \$4⁹⁹ FELT VEST KITS \$9⁸⁸</p>
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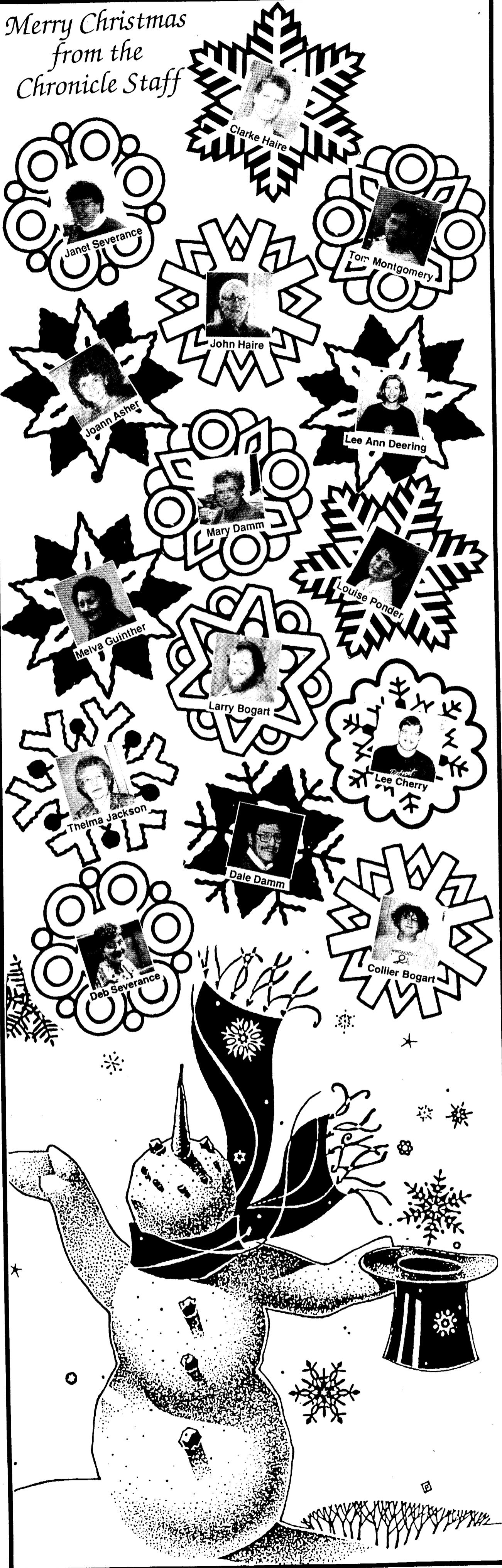
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Collier Bogart

Deb Severance

Letter to the editor

Thumb Area Television

Townsend explains programs

Dear Editor:

Some viewers of Thumb Area Television (TATV) have questioned the presence of programs in foreign languages. I'd like to take this opportunity to explain TATV's programming. TATV's primary audience is the K-12 educational community. At the present time, we are broadcasting to the schools beginning at 9 a.m. A typical day will see 5 or 6 hours of instructional broadcasting.

Modern electronic equipment, such as our transmitters, will run better, longer if left operating. That is, with no constant on and off cycling of the equipment. Therefore, we have selected a "filler" service which has educational value for the remaining broadcast hours.

The "filler" service used on our lower channel, usually 98, is SCOLA, a gathering of worldwide news and general interest broadcasts. Most are either in real time or shown the same day as originally broadcast. The SCOLA service provides several benefits:

- * First, it provides a signal on that channel so the viewer never sees a blank screen and is left to wonder what happened.
- * Second, it provides our students enrolled in foreign language classes with an excellent opportunity to see and hear that language as it is spoken by native language speakers.
- * Third, it provides students of all ages and classes an opportunity to see how alike people are no matter where in the world they may hap-

pen to live. Turn the volume off and it will be difficult to imagine just where the broadcast originates.

* Fourth, SCOLA provides a link to the "old country" for a large number of our citizens whose ancestors were part of that proud immigrant movement to Michigan. Specifically, programming is broadcast from Mexico, Philippines, Spain, France, Germany, Sweden, Latvia and Poland to mention a few.

Please remember that TATV went "on-air" Oct. 30, 1995. We are growing into the potential of the system. More K-12 programming is being investigated for possible use. More teacher

in-service sessions are being scheduled. (We currently have 145 hours of in-service from which we will choose just between Jan. 1 and May 31, 1996.)

Broadcast sessions designed specifically for the residents of the Thumb are also planned. For example, TATV broadcast a report on the Medicare debate from Congressman James Barcia Dec. 15. Suggestions for such programming are encouraged.

Our second, higher channel, usually 99, carries Mind Extension University (MEU). That channel is aimed at the general population, especially to those who want to

pursue a college degree or at least see what college classes would be like. Information on any MEU class or course offering is available by calling 1-800-777-MIND.

Many people from the area have helped Thumb Area Television get started. With your continued suggestions and comments, we will grow into the potential of service to the schools AND to the communities of the area.

Thank You,

Robert Townsend
Director, REMC #10
Manager, TATV
4415 S. Seeger Street
Cass City, MI 48726

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Appoint 3 to board of review

The Elkland Township Board last week re-appointed 3 residents to the township's Board of Review, and learned about a new power line Detroit Edison workers will be installing through the area.

Appointed to the 1996 review board were John Maharg, Elwyn Helwig and Roy Wagg.

Township Clerk Norma Wallace reported Edison's new power line will start at a transformer located at the corner of Dodge and Penny roads, and run north, primarily along roadways, to Pigeon. Officials from the company, which are notifying affected property owners, explained the line will provide additional power to Huron Casting Inc.

In other business during the Dec. 11 monthly meeting, the board approved a resolution stating the township will not collect fines for failure to file 1995 real estate sales affidavits.

Novesta cantata planned

The adult choir of the Novesta Church of Christ, 2896 N. Cemetery Road, will present the cantata and drama "In Adoration of the King of Kings" Sunday, Dec. 24, at their 11:00 a.m. morning worship.

Christmas is full of celebrative music written in a variety of styles and this cantata is the result of combining the heritage of seasonal favorites with the best of the new praise music.

At 7:00 p.m. the church will hold a candlelight service featuring special vocal and instrumental numbers, congregational singing, communion, Scripture reading and candlelighting.

The public is invited to each of these services and if more information is needed, call 872-3658.

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Down Memory Lane

From the files of the Chronicle

5 YEARS AGO

John and Gayle Nicol spent about a week stringing some 5,500 Christmas lights this season at their Robinson Road home, 9 miles east of Cass City, which offers a striking view in the rural countryside.

David A. Osentoski of Cass City parked his pickup in the parking lot at Cass City Hardware at about 5 p.m. Wednesday and returned a few minutes later to find the vehicle missing. The pickup was later recovered and 2 juveniles taken into custody. Tuscola County officials are expected to back funding of a gypsy moth suppression program next year with the understanding that townships will be responsible for the cost of spraying. Extension Director Dennis Stein estimated the cost of spraying 1,500 to 1,700 acres in the first year of the county program at \$25,000 to \$30,000. Naida Doerr of Caseville, former Cass City resident, has her paper Santas on display at the Paint Store. Doerr creates Santa Clauses, each one unique, each one individually hand crafted. Cass City area resident Gregory B. Thompson is being recognized by GTE North on his 25th anniversary of employment with the company.

10 YEARS AGO

A Monday morning mobile home blaze claimed the lives of a 25-year-old Caro mother and her 4-year-old son, and seriously injured another infant, the woman's 2-year-old daughter. The names of the victims are being withheld until authorities can locate the woman's husband who is presently out-of-state.

Gary Rockefeller, 42, of Gagetown, is listed in fair condition in Hills and Dales General Hospital after his leg was severed in a farm equipment accident Wednesday.

A Sunday night fire at the Stanley Kloc residence killed 5 Holstein heifers and totally destroyed a 16x60 foot shed. The total loss is estimated at over \$6,000.

Barbara Kelley of Troop 414 sold 260 boxes of Girl Scout cookies, the most sold by any scout in Cass City.

Three women, each described as being about 30 years old, shoplifted gold merchandise valued at \$670 from McConkey Jewelry and Gift Shop last week.

The Cass City Red Hawks rolled past North Branch, 62-45, Friday to remain undefeated in Thumb B competition. Dave Miller led all scorers with 23 points and Mike Kelley added 17.

25 YEARS AGO

Donald Kaatz of Alaska, a former area resident, was instantly killed Thursday when a roadway on which he was working on the "Inside Passage", near Petersburg, some 1,000 miles south of Fairbanks, caved in and he and a co-worker were crushed by heavy machinery. Kaatz was married to the former Jean Field and the father of 6 children, all at home.

A number of freight cars of a Penn-Central train derailed just west of Caro Monday night. There were no injuries.

Jim Fritz and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Forthun are home for a month's leave from the Peace Corps. They have spent 2 years in Asuncion, Paraguay. Mrs. Forthun is the daughter of the Curt Hunts and Jim, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Ed Fritz.

Miss Eleanor M. (Nellie) Bigelow, 89, died Tuesday, Dec. 15. She was affiliated with the N. Bigelow & Sons

Hardware, Cass City, until she retired in 1951.

The salary differences between the Tuscola County sheriff's deputies and the board of commissioners of the county is apparently moving toward arbitration or mediation. The deputies are asking for pay increases of \$400 a year and 100 percent paid health insurance. The board of commissioners has offered a salary increase of \$350 a year and 75 percent paid health insurance.

35 YEARS AGO

The community paid its last respects to popular Robert McEachern Wednesday when funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church. The 22-year-old youth was killed in the airliner crash that took the lives of 135 persons Friday in New York. Robert was the only son of Mr. and Mrs.

Owendale women air meet

The Owendale Women's Club went to the Brian Gaeth home in Unionville Monday evening, where Rosemary Gaeth hosted the Christmas evening with a tour of her beautifully decorated Christmas home. Co-hostess for the evening was Bonnie Gaeth.

Ten club members and 2 guests, Liz and Jody Fritz, were in attendance. A short business meeting was conducted by President Joyce Sheldon. It was noted all cheeseballs were sold. Profits are to be used for community projects. Gifts were exchanged with a previous name drawn in the fall. Punch and desserts were served by the hostesses and Arlene Enderle.

The January meeting will be girls' night out with a movie and dinner, weather permitting.

Linda Roe is in charge of arrangements.

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1996 PRIZM "LSI"

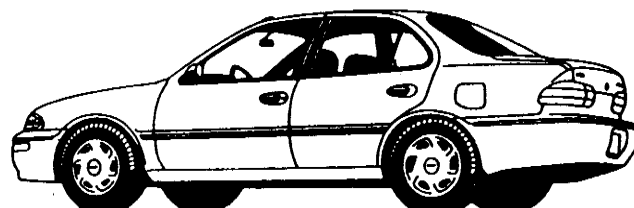
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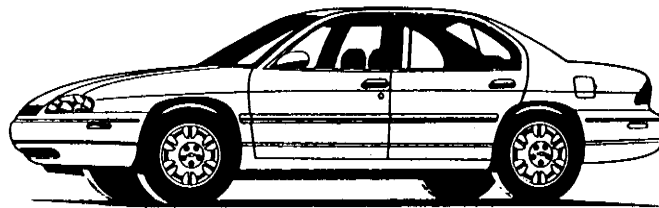
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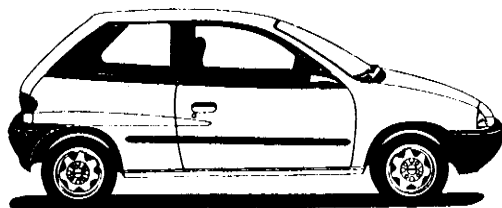
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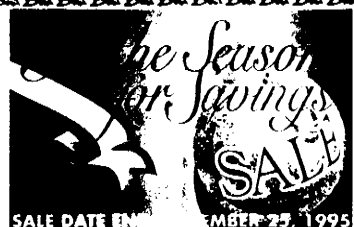
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Read Meg's Peg, page 2

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FOR SALE - 3 deer rifles, 3 shotguns, Remington knives, Colt Woodsman pistol. Wanted to buy - Remington shotguns, 870, 1100 or 11-87. Will consider trade. Call 872-2766. 2-12-6-3

HEAVY DUTY Ping Pong table with accessories, good condition, \$95. 872-3290. 2-12-20-1

FOR SALE - 2 cockatiels; one AKC registered Pomeranian, 7 months old. 872-4628. 2-12-20-1

FOR SALE - Under cabinet Sears dishwasher, \$25. 673-3283. 2-12-20-1

FOR SALE - Thor Metal Works Ltd. wood burning, brick lined stove with 15 foot of all purpose stainless steel chimney. Call 872-3748 between 8 a.m.-12 noon. 2-12-13-3

TANYA'S COLOSSAL cookie creations. Place your order now for a unique made-to-order gift or add a special touch to your holiday dessert table, with my 10-inch chocolate chip decorated cookies. Call 872-2346. 2-12-13-3

HARDWOOD/FIREWOOD - \$30 face cord. Call 872-1140. 2-10-5-1f

Real Estate For Sale

STATELY Turn-of-the-Century Victorian beauty, 17x17 foyer, curved oak staircase, fireplace and paneled walls. All the grace and charm have been preserved while redecorating and updating every possible feature. Call Century 21, M.R.E.E. 1-800-864-3251. 3-12-20-2

1979 FAIRMONT mobile home, 14x55, good condition, 2-bedroom, expando on living room. Must be moved. \$4,000. Call 517-658-8257. 3-12-6-3

For Rent

FOR RENT - 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom apartments at Northwood Heights. Equal housing opportunity. Call 872-2369. 4-12-6-1f

FOR RENT - Spacious 1-bedroom apartment with appliances. Walk to downtown Cass City. \$325 per month plus \$325 security deposit, plus one-half utilities. Call 872-2722. 4-10-25-1f

FOR RENT - 3-bedroom mobile home in country setting. No pets. Call after 5 p.m. 872-3534. 4-12-6-3

STARTING A NEW business? Need office space with reasonable rent? All utilities furnished, good traffic area. Call before noon 872-5448. 4-7-12-1f

FOR RENT - 1-bedroom apartment, hot water included. \$275/month, \$275 security deposit. Call 872-4654. 4-12-6-3

FOR RENT - Hillside North 2-bedroom apartment, coin operated laundry, \$360/month, \$360 security deposit. Call 872-4654. 4-12-6-3

FOR RENT - Hillside North 1-bedroom apartment, coin operated laundry, \$325/month, \$325 deposit. Call 872-4654. 4-12-6-3

FOR RENT - Small 2 bedroom house. Propane gas furnace, hot water heater and kitchen stove. References and security deposit required. No pets. Call 872-3222 mornings. 4-12-13-3

UPSTAIRS APARTMENT for rent. 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, garbage and water included. Main Street. Call 872-3935. 4-11-29-1f

FOR RENT - Masonic Temple Refreshment Hall - parties, dinners, meetings. No alcoholic beverages. Call Bob Hunter, 872-2836. 4-4-3-1f

IMMEDIATE OPENING
One-bedroom, upstairs duplex apartment. \$250/month, \$250 security deposit, plus utilities
Walking distance to downtown Cass City.
Seeger Street
Call 872-3410
leave message
4-12-20-2n

FOR RENT - Room for rent, Cass City area. 872-9971. 4-12-13-3

CASS CITY Mini Storage new building now available. Call 872-3917. 4-10-19-1f

Notices

Starting Dec. 11 WINTER HOURS will be
Weekdays - 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday 6 a.m. - 1 p.m.
We will be closed on Mondays in January, February & March till further notice
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all our customers & friends
Nel's Kitchen
Gagetown
Nel, Mike & Staff
5-12-6-4

To Place An Ad in The Action Guide
Call 872-2010

Notices
SINGLE, EDUCATED gentleman, non-drinker, physically fit, seeks serious minded educated lady, 40-50 years old. Write: P.O. Box 144, Deford, MI 48729. 5-12-6-3

TANNING SPECIAL - Unlimited month, \$25 at Classy Cuts. Offer expires Dec. 31. Gift certificates available. 87-CLASS, next to Erla's. 5-11-15-7

NEW YEAR'S EVE Gospel Sing at Cass City High School featuring the Calvarymen, Gospel Harmony Boys and Not Ashamed starting at 8 p.m. No admission charge. Free-will offering will be taken. Sponsored by Cass City Laymen's Club. 5-12-13-3

CONGRATS TO Bud McDonald on your recent retirement. Love, your family, Jeannette, Darren, Deva, Mark, Carol, Katie, Becky. 5-12-20-1n

FOR RENT - 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom apartments at Northwood Heights. Equal housing opportunity. Call 872-2369. 4-12-6-1f

FOR RENT - Spacious 1-bedroom apartment with appliances. Walk to downtown Cass City. \$325 per month plus \$325 security deposit, plus one-half utilities. Call 872-2722. 4-10-25-1f

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FOR RENT - Masonic Temple Refreshment Hall - parties, dinners, meetings. No alcoholic beverages. Call Bob Hunter, 872-2836. 4-4-3-1f

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All your tire needs from wheelbarrows to tractors See us today
Cass City Tire
Phone 872-5303
5-12-18-1f

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If you get drunk, please call. **DON'T DRIVE DRUNK DRIVE SAFELY**
If you oops, call us
24 Hours
Wrecker Service
872-2251 day
872-5606 night
Cass City Muffler & Brake
872-2251/5605
5-8-31-1f

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Private affordable sessions
M. Louise Wright
Professional Hypnotherapist can help you in all areas of your life.
Learn self-hypnosis to take charge and stay in control of your life
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8-9-13-16

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20 Years' Experience
Crushed Limestone & Excavating
Siding and Replacement Windows
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Jim Doerr 658-8625
8-12-7-1f

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All makes and models
Call 872-3092
8-3-15-1f

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REVIVE
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Licensed DuPont Stainmaster applicator
*Auto Interiors Cleaned in your driveway
*3-M protectors
*Flood removal
Don Dohn
4394 Maple #3
Cass City
Phone 872-3471 8-7-10-1f

Mrs. Claus visits area children

Mrs. Santa Claus came to Rawson Memorial Library in Cass City for a special pre-school story hour Dec. 12.

Mrs. Claus read stories, used puppets, sang songs and played games with 30 children gathered at the library. Each child received a book entitled "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Cookies were also served during the program.

Mrs. Claus also visited Campbell Elementary School to present a program in the developmental kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms, and to visit the first grade classrooms.

The special visits were sponsored by Debra Kranz of Little and Kranz Funeral Home in Cass City.

Sr. Citizens' Menu
Senior citizens are asked to make reservations on the day of the meal between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. by calling Berenice Sowden, 872-2397.

DEC. 26-29

Tuesday - Old Fashion Pot, Sliced Zucchini, Carrots, Onions and Potatoes, Variety Bread, Chocolate Cake.

Friday - Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Marinated Cukes & Tomatoes, Biscuit, Peach Cobbler.

Find the Service or Product You Need in This... Action Guide SERVICE DIRECTORY

APPLIANCE SERVICE

JOHNSON APPLIANCE & REFRIGERATION SERVICE
872-1101
Washers, Dryers, Dishwashers, Microwaves, Stoves, Refrigerators, All Brands
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Phone 872-2251
6597 Main, Cass City

CASS CITY TIRE
Hercules and Cooper TIRES
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FLOORING

Warju's Flooring
Carpet, Pad, Labor
1227 E. Caro Rd.
Caro, MI 48723
517-672-3563

FLOWERS

Buds and Blossoms by Sandy
Flowers - Plants - Balloons
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APPLIANCE SALES & SERVICE
FULL LINE OF MAGIC CHEF KITCHEN AND LAUNDRY APPLIANCES
FREE ESTIMATES ON DELIVERY, SETUP AND INSTALLATION
WE SERVICE WHAT WE SELL
CALL US TODAY
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(SHETLER)
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.
6528 Main
Phone 872-5084
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Fireplaces, Stoves, Chimneys
Chimney Sweeping & Repairs
Gas, Wood Fireplaces, Stoves & Fireplace Inserts
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Automotive Rust Proofing Systems & Waxing
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827 Van Dyke, Bad Axe

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SUPREME WINDOW CLEANING
• Storms - Screens - Windows
• Janitorial Service • Floors
• Eaves & Gutters Cleaned
• Hi-Riser Service & Rental
• Estimates on Commercial, Residential & Industrial Work
Complete Insurance Coverage
Security Services Available
1120 Gratiot, Saginaw
Call 790-7609

To Place An Ad in The Action Guide
Call 872-2010

Notices
LOST - large gray and white cat. He responds to the name Charlie. If found please call 872-3861. 5-12-13-3

BINGO - Every Wednesday night. Open 6:00-early bird 6:30 - regular bingo 7:00. Post 3644 VFW, Weaver St. 5-2-26-1f

A.L.L. HOME IMPROVEMENT

Factory Outlet Vinyl windows Roofing, Siding, and New Construction "FREE ESTIMATES"
517-872-2600
1-800-826-2801
5-7-21-1f

BINGO - Every Sunday at St. Pancratius Hall, S. Seeger, Cass City. Doors open 5:00 p.m., games start at 5:30. Phone 872-5410. Knights of Columbus Council No. 8892. 5-12-31-1f

Wanted to Buy

WANTED TO BUY - Standing timber or will cut firewood on shares. Call 872-1140. 6-12-20-1f

WANTED - Male Shih Tzu to buy or pay for stud service. Prefer champion blood line. Ask for Tanya, 872-3861. 6-12-20-3

To Give Away

FREE - Black Lab/beagle mixed puppies, 3 months old. Call anytime, 810-672-9959. 7-12-20-3

Services

Erla Packing
6233 Church St.
Cass City
Phone 872-2191
Custom Butchering
Fridays only
USDA Inspected Plant
Custom Curing, Smoking, Cutting, Wrapping and Freezing
We Make Venison Sausage
8-10-31-1f

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Puts you first
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Professional Hypnotherapist can help you in all areas of your life.
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Jim Doerr 658-8625
8-12-7-1f

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Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Licensed DuPont Stainmaster applicator
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Don Dohn
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Cass City
Phone 872-3471 8-7-10-1f

CALL 872-2010 TO PLACE AN ACTION AD

Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services
Simpson Excavating Dozer landscaping - All types of backhoe work House demolition & removal Footings - Waterlines - Complete septic systems Sand - Gravel - Topsoil Variety of fill - Any size fill job Free Estimates 872-4502 8-1-23-tf	MIKA'S CUSTOM MOLDINGS • Hardwood Molding • Furniture Repair • Woodworking • Reproduction Design • Kiln-Dried Hardwood 4556 Green Rd., Cass City 872-3976 8-4-13-tf	Ronold E. Palmer Builder <i>New buildings, old buildings, roofing, siding, pole barns</i> NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL 2805 Crawford Rd. Cass City, Mich. 48726 (517) 872-4780 8-9-30-tf	F.E. Franzel Well Drilling 2" to 5" wells drilled & repaired Pump Sales & Service (517) 843-5811 8-9-15-tf	Roofing Siding Gutter Downspout Fascia Soffit Cass City Siding 872-5082 * Licensed & Insured * Guaranteed Workmanship * Free Written Estimates * Over 20 yrs. Experience * Call Jim today Thank You! 8-5-12-tf	Call 872-3579 Robert Bliss Builder Licensed & Insured New Construction & Remodeling Homes & Businesses 8-5-31-tf	AL'S APPLIANCE. Experienced. Very low service rates! All appliances, microwaves, garage openers, water heaters, some household heating, hot tubs and whirlpools, remodeling, mobile home repairs, water conditioning, TV antennas and more. On 24 hour call. 269-8904. 8-5-31-tf



WANT A LOVE LIFE? Call now - hundreds of local singles are waiting to meet on the singles date line. \$2.95/min. - Avg/5 min. 18 or older. 1-900-443-0024 ext. 66. Information Brokerage Systems.

HAPPY JACK TRIVERMIDE: Recognized safe & effective against hook, round & tapeworms in dogs & cats. Available O-T-C at farm & feed stores.

DIABETICS! FREE SUPPLIES! For those who qualify, Medicare/insurance billed direct for test strips, insulin, glucometers. Satisfaction guaranteed. Liberty Medical Supply 1-800-762-8026. Mention #2070.

CASH LOANS!! \$500-\$5,000. Any purpose. Regardless of credit problems. No collateral. FAST & EASY. 24 hr. info. by phone, apply by mail. BMNI 1-800-215-6481.

COMPUTERS, CLERICAL and Nurses Training opportunities. Must be 16-24 years old and able to relocate for training. GED, College opportunities are available for those who qualify. Call Admissions at 1-800-774-5627.

DRIVERS/COAST TO COAST: FREE TRAINING, a GUARANTEED job, and the best pay in the industry! Southern Michigan only please. Call 1-800-597-CRST.

\$\$\$ CASH \$\$\$ Immediate \$\$\$ for structured settlements, annuities, lottery payouts, insurance claims and mortgages. 1-800-386-3582. J.G. Wentworth, the nation's only direct purchaser.

POSTAL, SOCIAL WORKERS, and Computer Trainees now hiring. \$21/hour plus excellent benefits. No experience necessary. On the job training. For application and information: 1-800-637-2792.

A BANK TURN YOU DOWN? HOMEOWNERS CASH FAST! 1ST and 2ND MORTGAGES, PURCHASE OR REFINANCE, LOANS BY PHONE, SAME DAY APPROVAL, First/Second Home, Income Property, Land Contract Refinancing, Home Improvements, Bill Consolidation, etc. Any Worthwhile Purpose, Slow Credit O.K. Fast Easy-Call 24 Hours. AAA Mortgage & Finance Corp. 1-800-968-2221. Statewide Services. Open Sat. 9-1; Sun. 1-4. Free Qualifying Appointment.

LOANS FOR HOMEOWNERS Closed in 7 Days. Self-employed OK. Slow Credit OK. Home or Rental property. Any worthwhile purpose. No Application Fee. Call today for a FREE ANALYSIS. 1-800-334-7038. MORTGAGE AMERICA.

DOCTOR BUYS LAND CONTRACTS and loans money on real estate. Fast closing. Immediate cash. Deal directly with Doctor Daniels & Son, 1-800-837-6166, 1-810-335-6166.

HOMEOWNERS GET CASH QUICK for bills, foreclosures, land contract payoffs, or any reason. Slow or poor credit no problem. 100% financing available for qualified applicants. We buy land contracts. Call your financial specialist NOW at Tamer Mortgage Company. NO APPLICATION FEE. 1-800-285-5284, 1-810-626-1296. LET US TAME YOUR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

WOLFF TANNING. New Commercial-Home units from \$199. Lamps-Lotions-Accesories. Monthly payments low as \$18. Call today. FREE NEW color catalog. 1-800-462-9197.

FREE DEBT CONSOLIDATION. Immediate Relief! Too many debts? Overdue bills? Reduce monthly payments 30%-50%. Eliminate interest. Stop collection callers. Restore credit. NCCS, non-profit. 1-800-955-0412.

PLACE YOUR STATEWIDE AD HERE! \$239 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.4 million circulation. Contact this newspaper for details.

EXTERIOR PAINTING - Barns, roofs, tool sheds, grain bins. Tree trimming. Hendrick Paint Services, Cass City, 872-2019. 8-5-3-tf

ELECTRIC MOTOR and power tool repair, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays. John Blair, 1/8 mile west of M-53 on Sebawaing Road. Phone 269-7909. 8-12-13-tf

KEEP COOL with All-Temp. Call for tune up on your air conditioner. Free in home estimate on new system. 673-5557. 8-6-7-tf

Steve Wright Painting

4842 Hemlock Lane
Cass City, Mich. 48726
Commercial - Residential
Custom Wallpapering
Airless Spray
"When it's worth doing right,
call us, we can do it all!"
Phone (517) 872-4654
8-1-18-tf

SHAGENE EXCAVATING

Sand - Gravel - Topsoil - Fill - Back-Hoe work
Trucking
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8-3-29-tf

Ken Martin Electric, Inc.

Homes - Farms
Commercial
Industrial
New and rewire
STATE LICENSED
Phone **872-4114**
4180 Hurds Corner Road
8-3-10-tf

Vintage House Beauty Salon

Open Mon.-Sat. (app'l. only)
Evening app'ts. available
KATHY SWEENEY
Owner/Operator
(517) 872-4898
4821 Huron Line Rd.
1/3 mi. east of Cemetery/Elkton Rd.
8-12-20-tf

Francis Builders

New Homes or Remodeling, Roofing, Siding, Barns, Pole Buildings
Licensed and Insured
Phone **872-2921** or **872-4696**
8-2-26-tf

John's Small Engine Repair

ALL MAKES & MODELS
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Across from stockyard
Reasonable Rates
Mon.-Fri. 4 - 9 p.m.
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8-6-22-tf

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Tree removal or trimming
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Free Estimates
Insured
517-673-5313
1-800-322-5684
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Bruce Brown Water Well Drilling and Pump Repair

Call **1-800-377-8050**

24 hr. service
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6501 MAIN STREET, CASS CITY, MI 48726

INSTRUCTORS BAKER COLLEGE - CASS CITY

Baker College - Cass City is searching for qualified applicants to teach the following classes beginning January 8, 1996:

- Day & Evening**
Accounting
Business Administration
Management
Marketing
- Evening**
Eng. Comp I*
Eng. Comp II*
Intro to Algebra*

Master's degree required. *Master's degree required in specific area taught. Prior teaching experience preferred. Please mail or fax cover letter and resume by December 27, 1995 to:

Rosemary Zawacki
Human Resource Director
Baker College
1050 West Bristol Road
Flint, MI 48507
Fax: (810)766-4049
AA/EOE

Work Wanted

WILL DO house cleaning weekly, very good, reliable references. 691-1025 after 5 p.m. 12-12-20-3

OSENTOSKI REALTY AND AUCTIONEERING

6501 Main St., Cass City
(517) 872-4377

Listings Needed
Buyers Ready

We have a waiting list of buyers for the town of Cass City. Thinking of selling? Give us a call!

Unlimited Possibilities!! 2 story, 4 bedroom home. Hardwood floors. Nice wood trim. Lots of closets and storage space. 2 full baths. Home has lots of potential, just a little TLC. 120+ acres. A-437

Beautiful Ranch Home - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, full basement. 2 pole barns. 40 acres+. CC-262

A Special Place to Live - All country atmosphere and quiet. Enjoy 3 bedrooms, bath, large deck. Lots of fruit trees, wildlife. Large barn plus toolshed 24'x28' - Not far from town, low traffic \$72,900. Kingston schools. K-114

Is This Your Special Kind of Place? Secluded on 5 acres, this 2 story home is solid, solid, with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, basement, walk up attic + greenhouse business with buildings, trees, river view and more. Caro C-735

WATER SOFTENER SPECIAL - 32,000 grain \$650, 24,000 grain \$575. Also salt-free conditioners. Call for water analysis or service. Paul's Pump Repair 673-4850 or 800-745-4851. 8-6-28-tf

LISTINGS NEEDED! We Have Buyers Waiting! Give Us A Call Today!

Happy Holidays from all the sales people at Kelly & Co. Realty

In Cass City - 3 bedroom home priced in the 40s. Nice sun room, lots of windows. Large storage room. Picket fence and privacy shrubs. TCC1139

2 Story Home you can move into the day of closing. 4 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, formal dining, 1st floor laundry. Natural gas heat. TCC1153

Country Ranch - Nice 3 bedroom home just outside of Fairgrove. Some remodeling done. Large living room and formal dining. Basement. Priced to sell. \$49,900 Cy1067

Just outside of Cass City - Nice 3 bedroom ranch home set on 9 acres. Lots of trees, pond, large 2 car garage with electric, heat and water. Call today. Cy1075

2,000 Square Feet of Living Space in this Cape Cod built in 1984. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1st floor family room. Basement, double garage. TCC1138

More Than the Eye Can See From the Outside - This home features 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, rec room, fireplace, patio, terrace deck, double garage. TCC1150

Cass City Cape Cod - This home features 3 bedrooms, a den that can be used as a 4th bedroom. Gas log fireplace, hardwood floors, 1 1/2 baths. Full basement. Call today. TCC1154

Caro Home - Set in town. Very nice 2 bedroom home with hardwood floors. Basement, natural gas heat. 1 car garage. \$43,900. TC368

Ideal Starter Home - Set in Caro with 1 acre for a large, nice yard. 3 bedroom ranch home. Basement, natural gas heat. Only \$32,000. TC375

Need Room? This home has it. Set in Sebawaing, this 2 story home features large rooms throughout. Basement, storage shed. Great investment. \$40,000. TO487

Cozy Little Ranch - 2 bedroom home in Sebawaing. Natural gas heat, 50'x100' lot. Small storage shed. Nice starter at \$28,000. TO491

Call
Cass City **517-872-2248**
or Caro **517-673-2555**
Kelly W. Smith, Broker
Farm • Commercial • Residential
Listings Wanted

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



'TIS THE SEASON for holiday home decorating. A trip through Cass City features a variety of festive displays throughout the village, including the Dean and JoAnn Rasmussen residence, 6360 Chestnut Blvd.

Legal notices

MORTGAGE SALE *** Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Dan B. McCrumb and Lucinda A. McCrumb, his wife, to Ross Mortgage Corporation, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Michigan. Mortgage, dated August 12, 1988, and recorded on August 18, 1988 in Liber 584, on page(s) 1383-1387, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgage to Government National Mortgage Association by mesne assignment(s) dated August 24, 1988, and recorded on January 17, 1992 in Liber 620, on page 1144, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety Four Thousand Four Hundred Three and 45/100 Dollars (\$94,403.45), including interest at 10.5% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Michigan, at 11 o'clock a.m. on January 12, 1996. Said premises are situated in the Township of Watertown, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing at a point 991.07 Feet South of Northwest corner of Section 25, T10N, Range 9 East, running thence North 88 degrees 42' East 1334.38 Feet, thence South 01 Degree 07' 39" East 322.77 Feet along existing fence, thence South 88 Degrees 18' West 1335.09 Feet, thence North 01 Degree West, 322.14 Feet along the West section line to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: November 29, 1995. Government National Mortgage Association Assignee of Mortgage. SHAPIRO & ALT, Attorneys 320 E. Big Beaver Rd., Suite 190 Troy, Michigan 48063 (810) 689-3900

11-29-5

Mortgage Foreclosure sale

TROTT AND TROTT IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Gary James Temple and Gloria J. Temple, husband and wife (original mortgagors) to First Central Mortgage Corporation, Mortgage, dated November 14, 1975, and recorded on December 10, 1975, in Liber 455, on page 500-503, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgage to FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION by an assignment dated December 11, 1975, and recorded on December 23, 1975, in Liber 455, on page 906, TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY EIGHT DOLLARS AND 82 CENTS (\$13,188.82), including interest at 8.500% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the front entrance Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. o'clock, on February 2, 1996. Said premises are situated in TWP OF TUSCOLA, TUSCOLA County, Michigan, and are described as follows, to wit:

A parcel of land in the Southeast 1/4 of Fractional Section 29, Town 11 North, Range 7 East, Tuscola Township, Tuscola County, Michigan described as follows: Commencing on the South line of said Section 29 at a point 151.40 feet, N. 90°-00'-00" W., of the Southeast corner of Section 29, thence N. 90°-00'-00" W., on the South line of said Section, 122.05 feet, thence N. 06°-15'-00" W., on a line which is parallel to and 275.10 feet, measured parallel to said South Section line, Easterly of the West line of a parcel conveyed by Dennis Harrison to John V. Harrison as defined in Liber 1, page 616, 251.50 feet, thence S. 90°-00'-00" E., parallel to said South Section line, 149.43 feet, thence S. 00°-00'-00" W., perpendicular to the South line of Section 29, 250.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to the rights of the public, and of any governmental unit in any part thereof taken, used or deemed for street, road or highway purposes.

The redemption period shall be 12 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: December 20, 1995

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: (810) 642-4202. Trott and Trott, P.C. Attorneys and Counselors 30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 201 Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025 File #95124797

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION 12-20-4

School board endorses 2 community projects

Two community projects received the endorsement of the Cass City School Board at its regular meeting Monday, Dec. 11. Neither will be funded by the school.

Linda Volz explained the FACTS (Facing Alcohol Concerns Together Sensibly) program. The group is concerned about the widespread use of Sidewalk improvements planned

Continued from page one

Village officials are planning no water, sewer or tax rate increases in the coming year. Assumptions made in drafting the budget include an estimated 2 percent increase in real and personal property taxes, set at a combined \$557,000.

Real property tax revenue is expected to be up by more than \$11,000 thanks to new construction, including expansion projects at Marshall Distributing, Walbro Corp. and Orbital Fluid Technologies.

On the expenditure side, major changes in the General Fund include spending \$34,500 to convert the village's computer system to DOS. There will be an additional \$8,000 in utility expenses tied to a planned move of village offices to the former Chemical Bank, and another \$62,000 representing furnishings and the first payment on the bank building.

No new major street construction is planned, and local street construction is budgeted at \$98,000, an increase of \$4,250 over 1995.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

In other business, the council:

• Adopted a resolution authorizing installment of a purchase agreement for the former Chemical Bank building.

Under the terms of the agreement, the village agrees to make 10 annual installments of \$20,000 plus interest, which will be calculated based on a rate of 5.66 percent annually.

• Voted to continue meeting on the last Monday of each month, starting at 7 p.m.

• Noted village Clerk-Treasurer Joyce LaRoche recently completed computer program training through Baker College, and a municipal league seminar on the roles and responsibilities of village clerks.

alcohol by minors. The members contend that alcohol is not just a teen problem, but a problem for the community.

FACTS members are circulating a flyer about the use of alcohol that acknowledges the legal use of alcohol and advocates strict enforcement of its prohibition for minors.

Along with a list of standards the flyer advocates is a statement of support of FACTS to be signed with permission for the signers to have names published.

CELEBRATING YOU

Dick Partlo and Sandi Smith received board endorsement for a program offered under the direction of the Mitten Bay Girl Scout Council called "Celebrating You."

The program is designed to build self esteem for girls 11-15 years old.

The program is seeking 25 girls and 25 mentors. Its purpose is to create confidence and self esteem and assist girls in problem solving. The girls will be selected from schools in Tuscola County.

Nine seminars are planned, each with an expert in the subject of the seminar, and will include substance abuse and teen suicide, money management, careers, information about sex and sexually transmitted diseases, nutrition and physical fitness.

Chinese biggest pork consumers

As much as Americans like pork, it is not the United States, but China, which is the number one producer and consumer of fresh pork in the world. In ancient China, fresh pork enjoyed royal status. Around 4,000 BC, the Chinese people were ordered by a royal decree to raise and breed hogs.

Ancient Chinese were so reluctant to be separated from fresh pork that the dead were sometimes accompanied to the grave by their herd of hogs.

The program is scheduled from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The cost is estimated at \$1,270, judging by similar programs in Beaverton and Saginaw.

Police project is successful

Continued from page one

believe that it will be more active due to the time of the year," he added.

The sheriff's department and Caro police are sharing a \$20,000 grant, and state police troopers have been given a separate grant to fund the Safe and Sober Campaign.

"The money is being used to fund additional patrol hours throughout the county, with officers concentrating not only on alcohol enforcement, but also speed and seat belt use."

"Unfortunately, we're one of 10 counties in the state who were selected for this grant, and that's because we have so many accidents, and a high percentage of those involve alcohol," Jashinski said during a news conference announcing the campaign.

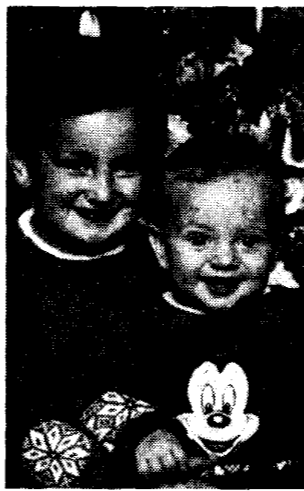
Tuscola County is ranked fourth in Michigan for reported crashes in which the driver had been drinking.

In 1994, Tuscola County reported 191 crashes involving alcohol, according to statistics compiled by the Office of Highway Safety Planning. In all, 100 of those crashes were property damage accidents involving 100 people; 87 were personal injury crashes, with 132 people injured, and 4 were fatal accidents that claimed 4 lives.

The county recorded 17 fatalities in 1994 — 14 of the victims were occupants in motor vehicles and 3 were pedestrians.

As of the start of the Safe and Sober Campaign last month, the county had already recorded 14 fatalities in 1995.

Santa letters



Drew and Spencer Guinther

Dear Santa,

We've tried hard to be good, but it's kind of hard because we're "active" boys.

I'd like a big truck, like I told you at the mall, and Spencer would like a little truck or a bus. He's only 9 months old and this is his first Christmas. I'm 3 1/2.

We moved to Pennsylvania this year, so we're hoping to have a "White Christmas." We never did in California.

If you can't find our house, you can leave our presents at Grandma and Grandpa Guinther's because we'll be there the day after Christmas.

I hope you find our house, because we're going to leave you some of Mom's good Christmas cookies.

Love, Drew & Spencer Guinther



Mason Doerr

Dear Santa,

My name is Mason. I'm 4 years old. I have been trying to be a good boy. For Christmas this year I would like a farm set, a game and a cassette player. My sisters, Christina and Melissa, would like something left under the tree for them. And I will be waiting for you with a treat. Thanks for the gifts you left last year. Merry Christmas.

Love ya, Mason Doerr Cass City, MI

Travis and Derek Mozdern

Dear Santa,

My brother and I would like a loader tractor, power ranger toy and a few surprises. We have been good boys and will leave a snack for you and Rudolph.

Love, Travis and Derek Mozdern

Case dismissed

Continued from page one

of Ross' 2-year-old stepson, Anthony James Ross, Dec. 8. Troopers at the Michigan State Police post in Caro state Ross apparently was disciplining the boy when she shook him too hard.

However, Ross and her husband, who have 7 other children, told investigators the boy had been a passenger in a car that had been involved in a traffic accident.

Anthony was taken to Hills and Dales General Hospital, Cass City, with head injuries Dec. 5, then transferred to St. Luke's Hospital in Saginaw, where he was placed on life support. He died Dec. 8 after life support was removed.



Nicholas & Alexandria Smith

Dear Santa,

My name is Nicholas Smith. I'm 6 years old. I have tried to be good this year, mom and dad say I'm a good helper. For Christmas I would like a Mary Kate and Ashley movie, a Barney movie, some new clothes and a game.

My sister Alexandria is 1 1/2 years old, she has also tried to be good. For Christmas she would like a new baby doll, some new PJ's and a doctor set. We will leave milk and cookies for you, and apples and carrots for your reindeer.

Have a safe Christmas.

Love, Nicholas and Alexandria

Holbrook Area News

Mrs. Thelma Jackson
Phone 658-2347

EUCHRE CLUB

The Euchre Club met Sunday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laming in Cass City.

High prizes were won by Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord LaPeer. Low prizes went to Mrs. Leonard Beulla and Jerry Decker, and Mrs. Ronnie Gracey won the traveling prize.

The group had dinner at Charmont.

The next party is scheduled Jan. 13 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Gracey.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Farrelly, Grant, Heath and Lee, and Allen Farrelly were among a group who attended a birthday party for Mike Farrelly at Harper Woods Sunday afternoon.

Bob Cleland Sr. of Waterford spent from Sunday until Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Alex Cleland and Carol Laming.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Glaza were Saturday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Glaza.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bredow were Thursday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt.

Beatrice Hundersmarck of Bad Axe was a Friday morning guest of Mrs. Earl Schenk.

Allen Farrelly was a Tuesday and Saturday guest of Laura Kulish.

Larry Silver of Cass City was a Sunday dinner and Friday supper guest of Reva Silver.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hagen spent Wednesday in Hamburg, N.Y.

Mrs. Melvin Particka was a Tuesday morning guest of Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Don McKnight and Jim Hewitt spent Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bredow.

Al Wagner, Jason Jackson and Krysta were Sunday guests of Don Jackson and A.J. Batie.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Depcinski attended the

grandparents' Christmas program at Ubyly High School Wednesday.

Mrs. Alex Cleland and Carol Laming spent from Thursday until Sunday with Bob Cleland Sr. at Waterford. They visited Blanche Clutz at Charter House Nursing Home at Novi Friday.

Doris Western, Robin Allen, Sheryl Allen and Allen Farrelly attended the Bad Axe K of C fish fry Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Corbushley, Charles and Christopher for pie and ice cream. Later Mrs. Hewitt visited Linda Wright in Bad Axe.

Mrs. Larry Glaza was a Friday lunch guest of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Glaza.

Mr. and Mrs. George McKee of Lapeer and Paul McKee and a friend from Cass City were Sunday afternoon guests of Reva Silver.

Mrs. Curtis Cleland was a Wednesday lunch guest of Mrs. Eugene Cleland and Mildred Edwards in Bad Axe.

Mrs. Bryce Hagen spent Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Ben Meske in Port Hope. Mrs. Meske fell in their home Monday.

John and Ken Sullivan and Mr. and Mrs. Don McKnight were Saturday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt.

Ray Depcinski and George Jackson were Tuesday guests of Don Jackson and A.J. Batie.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Schenk, Beth and John, and Mrs. Earl Schenk attended the Christmas program at Ubyly High School Wednesday evening.

Ruth Ann Regal of Royal Oak spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Evans Gibbard.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wallace were Wednesday morning guests of Mrs. Alex Cleland and Carol Laming.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

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RED HAWK Students of the Week

Courtesy of Board Chrysler/Plymouth/Dodge/Jeep/Eagle, Inc. - Downtown Cass City

Mandy Chappel & Rachel Hoard
The Student of the Week is selected by the Cass City Student Council

Cass City Red Hawk Students of the Week are Rachel Hoard, 10th grade, daughter of Dave and Christina Hoard, and Mandy Chappel, 9th grade, daughter of Paul and Susie Chappel. Both Rachel and Mandy are being recognized this week in appreciation for the fine job they do each school day in bringing the announcements to the staff and student population. These girls are also involved in many other activities including sports, church youth groups, and programs such as F.E.T.C.H., Toys for Tots and band. A swell job girls.

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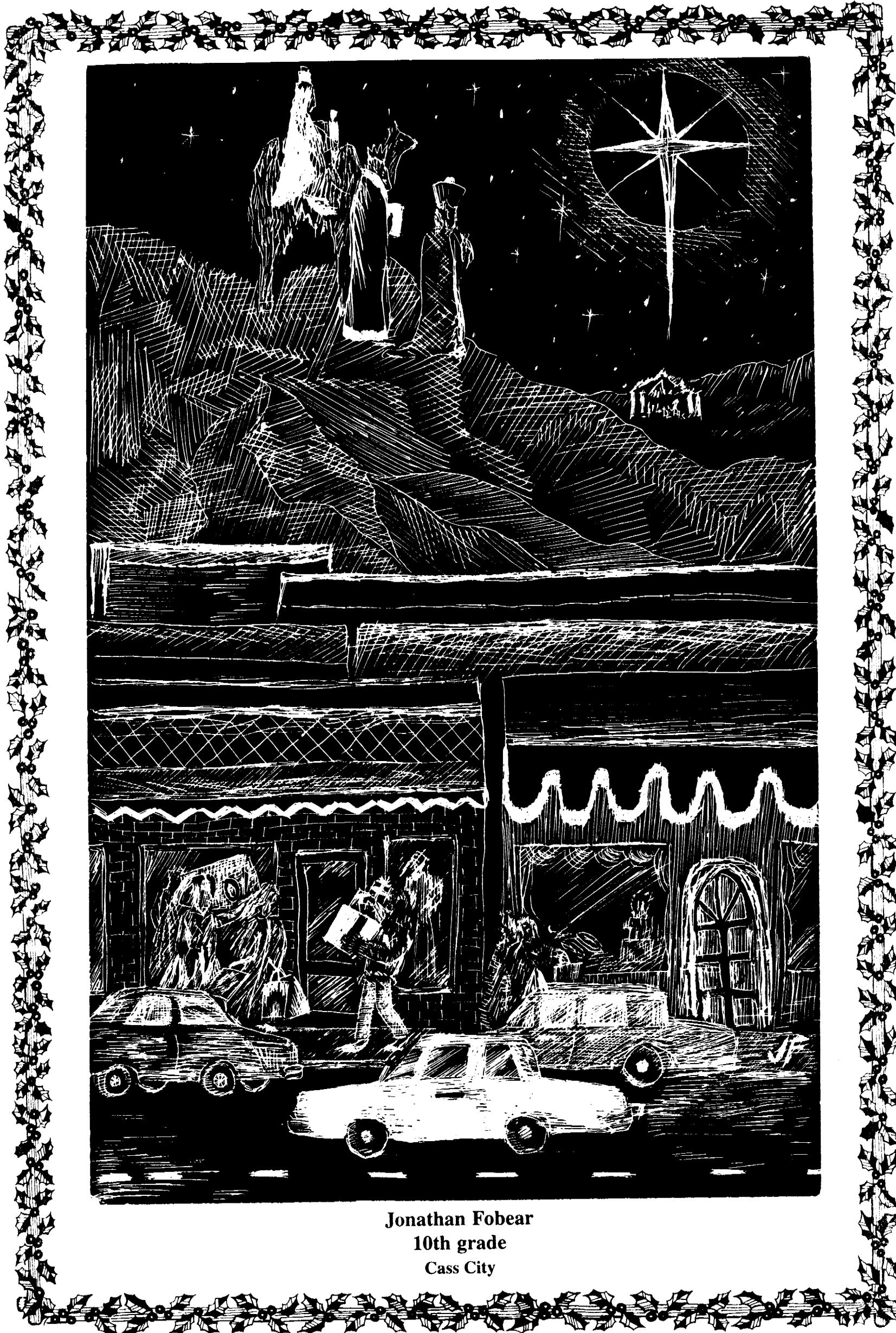
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Jonathan Fobear
10th grade
Cass City

He wasn't a thief

Jake needed a blanket

Jake sat in the middle of the room. He had nothing and, as far as he was concerned, he was nothing.

He sat waiting for dark. The room was empty, the house was empty. It was a condemned building. He wasn't supposed to be there, but during the day that's where Jake spent his time. At night he went looking for food or clothes—anything he could use. But he never took anything he didn't need; he wasn't a thief! Sure he broke into people's houses, but he only took what he needed.

Soon it would be time to leave...he would have to go into someone's house tonight. It was getting cold outside and he needed a blanket. The sun ducked behind the horizon just as he left the house. First stop: the dumpster behind Tony's. Maybe he could find some pizza tonight. Nope, just some cold spaghetti. He ate it anyway. The people who saw him thought he was just another sixteen-year-old kid. His clothes, while a little worn, still looked good; he took great care in washing them.

As soon as he got to the "right" neighborhood, he sat down by a tree and waited for the lights in the houses to go out. He noticed that some things had changed—he hadn't been to these houses in a long time. There were colored lights on trees and all kinds of decorations. Jake knew what time of year it was and he hated himself for what he was about to do, but he knew it was "steal or die"—he needed a blanket.

All the lights were out now. He would wait a little longer and then leave. He walked a little farther down the street and then went into someone's back yard. He looked around—no one watching. He moved quietly to the window and tried it. It was locked. He moved on to the next one. It opened. Jake lifted the sash quietly and entered. As soon as he was in he saw he was in a bedroom and he was not alone. He quickly turned and shut the window so the cold air would not wake the sleeper.

He moved quietly out of the room and into the kitchen to look in the fridge. A lot to eat; he filled his pockets. Suddenly he froze, thinking "I heard footsteps." He listened, yes there he heard them again. They were coming his

way. He dove under the table just before the light snapped on. He listened. The refrigerator opened and closed, then the cupboard, then the fridge again. He looked; a man was drinking milk. The man finished and turned out the light. The footsteps retreated.

Jake thought to himself "time to get the blanket and leave." He went back to the room. The person had rolled over. He could tell it was a girl of his own age. She was pretty, but he wasn't there to admire her. He took a blanket off the bed as he thought "It'll be alright, she's got another." But as he pulled the blanket away, she opened her eyes. "I saw you go through earlier," she said. Jake stepped back wide-eyed. He thought "I'm caught for sure this time." Looking around, he backed up until his back touched the window. The girl just watched him. He turned, opened the window, and jumped out, landing on his face. He jumped to his feet already running. As he neared the corner, he slowed his run to a walk. It was then he realized he still had the blanket.

Late the next afternoon, Jake woke up. He looked around. Something was very wrong. What had woken him so early? Then she stepped out of the shadows—the girl who had seen him the night before. "I followed you," she said.

Jake felt despair. "Are you going to turn me in?" he asked.

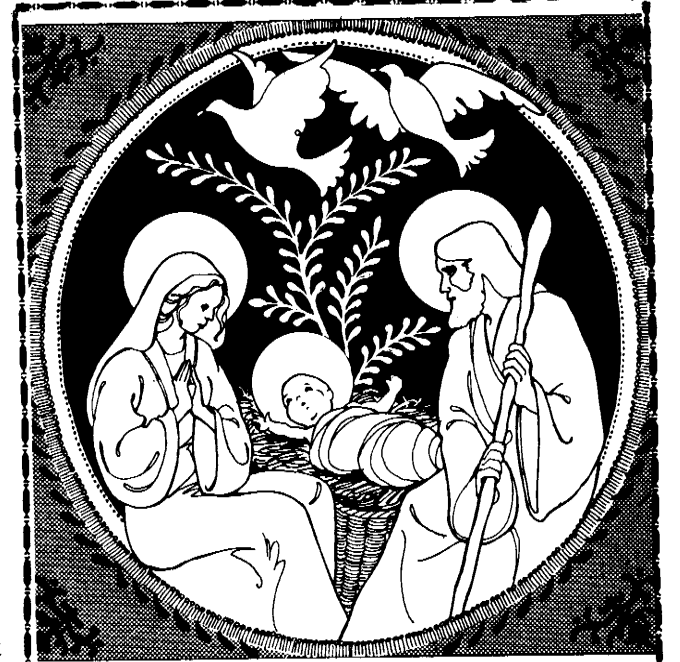
"No, I just want to help," she said.

"I don't need help." "Then why do you steal?" "I don't steal, I survive." "But I can help you."

"How? By giving me things, by making me feel like a beggar?"

"But..." "No buts, just leave me alone—please!" It wasn't until later that Jake found a basket of food she had left for him. He ate. There was another the next day and the day after. Once there was a pillow wrapped in colored paper. It was the first time Jake had ever received a Christmas present.

Rick Merchant
Grade 12
Owen-Gage



PEACE ON EARTH

May the radiance and gift of His love light your way to everlasting peace and contentment.

Best wishes for a joyous Christmas.

From The Family & Staff

Ken Martin Electric, Inc.

Cass City

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Merry Christmas

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Cass City

Santa letters



Carly Amanda Treiber

Dear Santa,
I would like My Size Princess Barbie and I would like a Baby Kelly's Mini van. I also would like you to give my friends Jacob and Joshua Sontag (they live far away in Washington) baseball stuff, like a bat, cap and a ball.

I am four years old and have been pretty good for mom and dad this year.

Thank-you Santa,
Carly Amanda Treiber
Unionville



Jessica Treiber

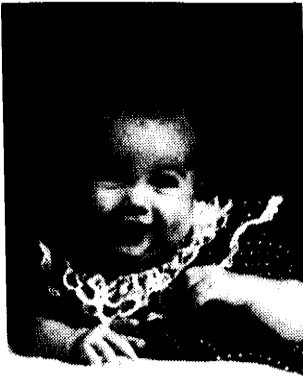
Dear Santa,
I would like "Teacher Barbie" and a radio. I would also like a "Jennie Gymnast" doll. I would like you to bring a ring and a rattle for my baby sister, Mackenzie. She is seven months old. I would also like a "Ring-Around-the-Rosie" doll. You can decide which doll to bring me.

I am six years old and I am in the First Grade. I live on a farm, so look for our yellow barn with the smile face on the end.

Thank you Santa Claus. Merry Christmas.

P.S. How do your reindeer fly?

From,
Jessica Treiber



Mackenzie Treiber

Dear Santa,
My name is Mackenzie Ann Treiber. I am seven months old. I really don't need anything for Christmas, but my sisters are really excited for your visit.

I will leave some cookies and milk for you and the reindeer. Merry Christmas to all my friends and cousins.

Hugs & Kisses,
Mackenzie Treiber



Meri Dzielinski

Dear Santa,
I just turned 1 year old and I am really spoiled or so mom says. I don't need much but I trust you to get me something wonderful. Please remember my big brothers cuz I love them bunches.

Hugs & Kisses,
Meri Dzielinski
Gagetown, MI



Chelsea & Cole Israelson

Dear Santa,
My name is Chelsea Israelson. Don't forget about me. I have been a good girl all year, except sometimes I get a little cranky. Be patient. My brother Cole has been good a lot. He is just a baby brother, and we bought him a present, but you can bring him one too.

For Christmas I would like a Barbie Christmas princess, Barbie gown, princess perfume, bean bag chair, Barbie van, Barbie cut-hair, and a new baby doll because I got my other baby all wrinkled up.
Love,
Chelsea Israelson



Justin Kerkau

Dear Santa!
Hi - My name is Justin Kerkau. I'm 14 months old! My Mom is writing this for me because I can't write yet. I've been pretty good this year. I only pull the cats tail once in a while! I would like my own chair, a rocking horse, books to read and lots of toys! My dad wants a puppy but my mom says NO because I already have two cats!
oxoxox
Love!
Justin

P.S. I'm going to leave you a pizza and a Dr. Pepper, save some for me!

Thomas LeValley

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy. I would like a big dump truck and back hoe so I can be just like my grandpa.

Since I was a firefighter for Halloween, I would like a fire truck, too.

Please remember all my cousins this year they have been very good boys and girls. I will leave you some gingerbread cookies and milk and I will leave some carrots and celery for your reindeer.

Love,
Thomas LeValley



Ryan & Ashley Simmerlein

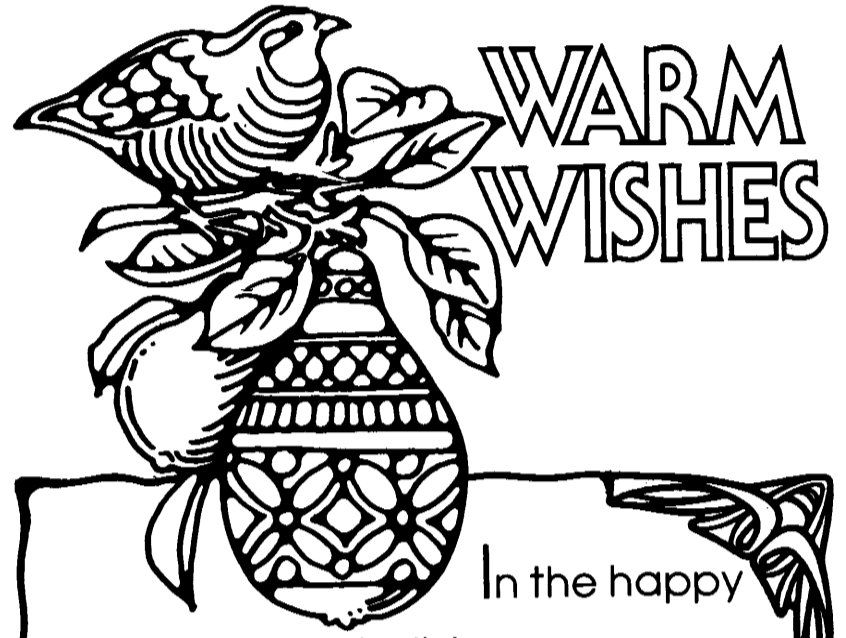
Dear Santa,
We've been good this year, just ask mom and dad. For Christmas Ryan would like a race track and walkie talkies. Ashley would like a grocery scanner and a doll. Thank you.

Love,
Ryan, 6, &
Ashley, 3, Simmerlein



**Jennifer Morell
Cass City**

Christmas: remember the true meaning



In the happy spirit of the holiday, we pause and count our many blessings. We'd like to extend our sincere thanks for your valued friendship.

ANROD
SCREEN CYLINDER CO.
Cass City

Kelli VanVliet
12th Grade
Cass City

BEST WISHES



Sincere Christmas thoughts to all, along with our thanks for your continued good faith.

From all of us at

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PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TO ALL MEN
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Santa letters



Jessica Mifsud
10th grade
Cass City



Kelsey Marie Pohlod



Morgan Justine Parrish

At Christmas

A present for all the family

I know that Christmas is a time of giving and receiving presents from the ones that you love. To me though it means a lot more than that. When I was twelve years old I had to spend it in the hospital. We knew it for a few months before hand. So to make it special so I could still have presents from Santa, we had Christmas at the end of November.

I was still kinda depressed for having to be in the hospital away from all my family and friends. So my parents and brother decided to bring Christmas to me. A few days before Christmas morning my dad and brother

Kendall brought down a shoe box with ornaments, tinsel and other things to decorate my I.V. pole with. It was my own personal little Christmas tree. It even had a star.

Another kid was on the same floor that I was on. The night before Christmas we stayed up and watched Christmas movies. Then we were sent to bed, because the night nurses said Santa wouldn't come if we were awake.

Well, unknown to me, my parents were bringing Christmas to me. They brought all my gifts from my family and friends and we ended up calling doctors and others at

home and wishing them a Merry Christmas.

I got out of the hospital the day after Christmas. It was like a Christmas present for my whole family. We all got to go home and spend the rest of Christmas at home. Going home I felt was the best present I had ever received. People get a lot of neat things at Christmas, but at times they take it for granted that they'll be at home and with their family, but at times it just can't be that way.

Karen Kretschmer
Grade 9
Owen-Gage

Dear Santa,
My name is Kelsey, and I am 22 months old. In getting into the Christmas spirit, I have been learning a new Christmas song, "Jingle Bells" that my Grammy taught me.

I have also made a new list this year for the things I would like you to bring me: play doh, crayons and coloring books, movies, a barn yard with lots of cows (like my Papa Roger's). Send my love to Aunt Andrea.

I will leave milk and cookies for you and sugar for your reindeer.

Love,
Kelsey Marie Pohlod



Emily & Andrew Martin

Dear Santa,
I would like two basketballs, an art set with pencils and some sports jerseys. My sister Emily and I have been extra good this year. Please bring Emily a dolly with medicine and some girl stuff.

My daddy and I will leave a light on for you when you come to my house, and please bring my mom and dad coats for Christmas.

Merry Christmas
Love,
Andrew Martin
age 7

Dear Santa,
Hello! As you already know my name is Morgan Parrish and this is my 1st Christmas. I will be 7 months old Christmas day, so you should know I am expecting a few extra gifts! I want you to know I have really, really tried to be good this year, but there is just so much stuff that gets me into mischief! Anyway, back to the point of my letter...presents! For me, I think toys that make lots of noise and help me to learn new things will be fine, and maybe a few outfits! Daddy really wants a remote controlled truck, and Mommy has everything, so I'll leave that one up to you. My kitty, Raisin, he needs some new toys and diet cat food! As for the rest of my family, I wish them all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Love,
Morgan Justine Parrish

P.S. Daddy will probably eat your cookies and milk before you get here, so the milk is in the fridge and cookies are in the cupboard, help yourself!

Ian Andrew

Dear Santa,
My name is Ian Andrew Wynn. I am 4 years old. I hope you are feeling good for your Christmas trip. Could you please bring me a train with a light on it, a tractor with a wagon and a shovel on the front, a big remote control truck, a fire truck and a Lion King Sega game and a berenstein bears Sega game. I will leave a light on for you when you come to my house, and please bring my mom and dad coats for Christmas.

Thank-you
I love you
Ian

What happened to Christmastown?

Years ago this lil town was a Christmastown with scenes of Christ and scenes of children's tales, people came from miles 'round to see the spirit of Christmas so abound

But as time went on, this spirit began to fade away as life continued, the life behind the magic passed away with-

out his spark, people stopped coming round, and lil Christmastown began to dim down

And now we are here, my young generation, listening to the stories of Christmas long ago and learning of the old Christmastown and wondering, How could it ever

have been let go?

Now I'm asking the folks of this town. Whatever happened to the Christmastown? Can we return to the town called Christmas? or has the magic been lost in the past?

Tammy Acker
10th grade
Cass City

Yuletide Greetings

We would like to extend our thanks to all the generous contributors to our ambulance service this past year. Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year.

Staff and Management
MMR-CASS CITY

THE GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

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O Holy Night

Jesus is the reason for the season.

To all our many friends go our wish for a happy and healthy Christmas.

From:
Maurice Dwyer,
Bob Hanes,
Bill Siems,
Bill Vroman and
Lee and Connie Hanes.

U-FOUN-DIT Corner of M-81 & Deckerville Rd.
Caro 673-5336

*A season for peace
...a season for joy
...a season for glory*

CHEMICAL BANK

IT'S CHRISTMAS!

Wishing the Cass City Community a Happy and Healthy Christmas Season
Best Wishes to One and All!

GENERAL CABLE COMPANY
6285 Garfield Cass City 872-2111



Jessica Mifsud
10th grade
Cass City

She got her wish

Alone For Christmas

It's Christmas Eve and Oaks Retirement Home is decorated for the holidays. Ruby Nelson lives in room 207. She spends most of her time there because it's not very often she gets visitors. But today will be different, after all it's Christmas Eve. Ruby opens her closet and places on her bed a new outfit she was allowed to buy for the occasion. It cost more money than she wanted to spend, but she figures it was worth it.

She can't wait for the family to see how good she looks. Ruby gets dressed with the help of a nurse, collects her gifts and the nurse wheels her to the lobby. (Time passes. 9, 10, 11 o'clock then noon). "Wow Ruby you sure are lookin' good in your pretty

hat and gloves. Big day today?" an intern asks. "Why, yes, as a matter of fact it is. My family is coming to take me home with them for Christmas." The intern smiles. Ruby sits there watching and waiting, but nobody comes. The clock keeps ticking as time goes on and Ruby just sits and waits. Ruby watches as the others leave with their families. The nurse comes up to Ruby and tells her it's time for supper. Ruby replies, "I'm expecting company, they're just running late." But the nurse knows a little too well how it will end up. She just smiles at Ruby with tears in her eyes and walks away.

"Come on Ruby, lights out, it's time for bed." "What will happen when my family comes and they don't see

me?" "Don't worry Ruby, when they come we will get you." The nurse wheels Ruby down the hall and helps her into her room and into bed.

The nurses gather around talking in the lounge and one nurse brings up Ruby. "Does she really believe her family is going to visit?" A voice came from behind and says, "Don't be a fool girl I know they ain't ever comin' to see me. I ain't no fool." I never realized it until tonight. You must think I'm silly for taking so long to figure it out but I'm an old woman and I needed something to believe in. All I wish for Christmas is for my family to all come see me at once." As the night progressed Ruby passed in her sleep. When the funeral came, Ruby's nurse was there and she went to the family with their Christmas gifts Ruby had bought them and said, "I guess Ruby finally got her one wish."

Heather Ross
Grade 11
Owen-Gage

To Mrs. Claus

O-G second graders write letters

Questions for Mrs. Claus from 2nd grade Owen-Gage Elementary School.

Mrs. Claus,
How are the elves? Is my name on your list this year? What goes on up there? Every one is getting up there Christmas stuff. We're making gingerbread men for Christmas and candy. I hope to see you soon because it's all most Christmas.

Your friend,
Lindsey Parth

Mrs. Claus,
How are the reindeer doing? Would you tell Santa that I would like a new computer game for Christmas? I have been good at school and at home.
I hope the kids are happy. I hope Santa will not get a cold.
My house is on Farver Rd. I hope the elves have a escer time.
I wonder how old Santa is?

Your friend,
Paul Dzielinski

Dear Mrs. Claus,
I have been good this year. Does your reindeer fly? Is Rudolph real? Does Rudolph have a red nose? Are elves real? What do you make for the elves? Is it cold there? Is Santa real?

Your friend,
Zachery Wells

Dear Mrs. Claus,
1. How many elves are there?
2. How many reindeer what?
3. Do you have any kids?
4. What is your real name?
5. How are the polar bears?
6. Where do the reindeer sleep?
7. What do polar bears eat?
8. What do reindeer eat?

Nicole Nowaczyk

Mrs. Claus,
How are you I am good tell Santa that I wish it was winter all the time and I wish that I could see you and Santa. I know that you are good you know if I was good. I have fun in winter I make snowmen. It is fun when I go sledding some times I go on a snowmobile.

Your friend,
Steven Anderson

Dear Mrs. Santa Claus,
I have been good.
How are you?
It is snowing outside. We all have a gift for each other.
Dear reindeer, I wonder if

you can really fly? It is snowing outside. Then when it was dark outside one night Mr. Santa Claus came by and we were asleep still.

Your friend,
Craig Strickland

Mrs. Santa Claus,
What do you do when Santa Claus is gone! The best thing I like of Christmas is the presents. What are the reindeers names.
How old are you. How are the elves doing in the work shop. I am very nice.
I have been good for the whole year.
I'm in 2nd grade.
When you come to my house I will have a present for you.

Your friend,
Trace Lopez

Dear Mrs. Santa Claus,
How hard are you working? What are you making for Santa Claus for lunch and supper? I like Christmas because you get lots of gifts from my family. God was born on Christmas. What is going on at your house?
I am vary good in school. Maybe Santa will give me something special this year. I am nice to evrybody. How do you get all the reindeers ready? What do the raindeers eat? and what do you do after Christmas?
I love you and Santa a lot.

Your friend,
Rochelle Lee Parth

Dear Mrs. Santa Claus,
How are you? What do you feed Santa? I went skiing to times. I had fun. How are the deer? The whole class is writing you a letter. I am sure the elves are working hard. We had lots of snow but it melted. What do you do when Santa is gone? Do you have a computer? Do you have cable tv? We don't have cable tv becaus I wold be glued to it.

Your friend,
Evan Laurie

Dear Mrs. Santa Claus,
I have been good.
I have been a girl.
We have our Christmas stuff up.
How is Santa Claus?
I can't wait til Santa Claus comes. I hope he gives me presents.

How are you? Is he good? How are the elves? Are they good?
What do you feed Santa?
I am doing good in school.
Is Santa ready for Christmas?
Your friend,
Nicole Albrecht

Dear Mrs. Claus,
How are the elves. I hope they are fine making toys.
What do you make for Santa. I now he is very busy taking toys to kids. Say hi to the deer for me. Please what is going on over there. I am very nice. How old are you?

Your friend,
Jeremiah Nuncio

Dear Mrs. Santa Claus,
What does go on there?
Are there a 100 elves?
Am I on your list this Christmas? Is Santa getting anofe sleep for Christmas?

Your friend,
Erica Czewski

Dear Mrs. Claus,
How are you?
How are the elves?
How is Santa?
How are the reindeers?
Christmas is the best!

Your friend,
Tiffany Lynn Glaza

Mrs. Claus,
Are the reindeer ready to fly the sleigh. Mrs. Claus I like you. I have been good. Are you ready for Christmas? I want video games. Could I have a monster truck? could I have cool tools. I am Richie. Mrs. Claus I am writing to you because I know Santa Claus is busy so wold you please put something in Santa's bag for me. My mom and dad and brother are putting up the Christmas tree for me.

Richie Sweatland

Dear Mrs. Claus,
How do you feed all the elves and Santa?
I have been good this year.
How do the elves make toys?
What do you do when Santas gone?
Are there baby reindeer?
What are the reindeers names?
How many elves are there?
How do you keep up with the kids letters?

Is there lots of snow?
How are the elves?
How is Santa?
How is the polar bears?
How is your self?

Whitney Brown

Dear Mrs. Claus,
How old are you? What do you do? The rein deer are so so cute. Tell Santa thank you for the gifts. My favorite rein deer is Rudolph. What is your favorit rein deer?
I am nice and good. How do the rein deer fly? I hope the elves are doing fine.
I live in Michigan. I love

Christmas.
What do you cook for Santa?
I love to read about Santa and rein deer to. I am glad you bring us gifts. I am making cookies and milk.
Your friend,
Amy Powell

Dear Mrs. Claus,
How is the reindeer and how are you and Santa? and here is some thing I need is some new boots please. Are there any animals then the reindeer. Is there any grass at the North Pole. I am 8 years old. Do you feed the elves? Do you have a girl reindeer? Why does the reindeer fly? How does Rudolphs nose shine?

I like sports, how much does Santa Claus weigh. You and I have the same initials. Please write back soon and I would like a computer.
Love,
Stacy Crandall

Dear Mrs. Claus,
How are you. I've been good. How is Santa. I miss Santa. Tell Santa that I sed Hi. Tell the raindeer I sed Hi too. I can't wait un till Christmas. What have you been doing. How are the elfs. How is Rudolph.
I can't wait. What did you make for Santa.
Your friend,
Nicole Wright

Mrs. Santa Claus,
How are you and Comet? Comet make shear that Mrs. Santa Claus puts me in the list. And I will leave you cookies on the table and how are the elves and tell Santa to stop on my house.

Peter Saenz

Dear Mrs. Claus,
What do you cook for Santa Claus? I have ben good. I like the elves and the reindeers. I even like you and Santa Claus. Tell Santa Claus that I like the presents that Santa Claus brings me. I like them very very much. I probably

ask my mom to bake chocolate chip cookies for Santa Claus. Do not tell Santa Claus that I will ask my mom to bake chocolate chip cookies. But tell Santa Claus I love him and you, your reindeers your elves too.

Love,
Cassie Plowman

Mrs. Claus,
I have been good. What do you make for Santa. Do you make cookies. Is the reindeers doing OhK. I hope the reindeers make the time. Is Rudolph OhK. Is Santa OhK?

Joey Babbit

Dear Mrs. Claus,
What do you feed Santa? I am doing good in school. I got a good report card. Do you have any children? What is the reindeer? Is Rudolph still there? How are the reindeer?
Is Santa getting ready for Christmas?
Are the elves doing good?

Your friend,
Nathan

Dear Mrs. Claus,
I hope Santa makes the children happy. How are the reindeer. I hope the children are happy. Is Santa gitting anuf sleep.
I hope the raindeer all make the team.

I am Michael. I live in Gagetown.

Michael Edler

Dear Mrs. Claus,
1. I'm having fun.
2. How are your elves?
3. How are you doing?
4. What are your reindeer doing?
5. I hope the children are happy.

6. Is Santa getting anof sleep?
7. Are you funny? My name is Drew.
8. I live on Rescue Road.

Your friend,
Andrew Eurich

May Santa find your home bright with cheer at this magic time. Thanks for your good will.

THE CHARMONT
Clare and Jeannie Comment and All The Staff

Holiday Spirit!

We appreciate and thank you for your patronage.

Ralph, Becky and Kim

Fort's Confectionery Store
6468 Main 872-2540

Happy Holiday Friends

You have our insurance of a Merry Christmas Season filled with Happiness!!!

Al Swiderski
GENERAL AGENCY
630 N. State St. Caro 673-1488

Best Wishes for a Happy Healthy, Holiday Season!

From the Staff and Volunteers at Hills & Dales Health Care

Bringing Quality Health Care to Michigan's Thumb.

Hills & Dales General Hospital 4675 Hill Street, Cass City (517) 872-2121	Tri County Medical Equipment Co. 4672 Hill Street, Cass City (517) 872-2121
Thumb Area Home Care Agency 6240 Main Street, Cass City (517) 872-2300	
Michigan Athletic Rehabilitation Center 4675 Hill Street, Cass City (517) 872-2084	Community Rural Health Center 4675 Hill Street, Cass City (517) 872-2121

Santa Claus: Real or fictional?

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Some do believe he comes on Christmas others say he doesn't. But what little Johnny saw on the eve he wasn't. Johnny blinked twice to explain what he saw. But what he did left him in awe. He looked around the corner of the stairwell with so much

glee; then he saw his mom underneath the tree. The presents were being stacked one by one, then Johnny came to his mom twiddling his thumbs. He asked "What are you doing mother dear? Santa is supposed to be delivering that kind of cheer." His mom looked down and started to speak. "I'm sorry

Johnny the truth is bleak, Santa isn't real, as you or I, but more like a spirit, not a lie. You see my child, Santa is here in our hearts and heads contrary to what people might have thought or said. Now go to bed and later we'll speak." So little Johnny left after kissing her cheek.

He fell asleep thinking his new thoughts, Looking deep in his mind for answers he sought. He dreamed of Santa, a red furry ball, with him and his reindeer decking the halls. His dream was suddenly stopped by a loud plop. Johnny then jumped to his feet and ran down the stairs in a heartbeat.

He turned around the corner expecting to see a colorful tree. Instead Johnny turned red with glee. There was the one he longed for, the one he loved dear, It was Santa Claus who make his eyes fill up with happy tears. Santa was a little startled, so he let out a happy giggle; while his bag of toys on his

back began to jiggle. Santa looked around once more and gave Johnny a wink, and as quick as that he was gone in a blink. While Johnny knew in his heart that Santa was real, he didn't tell his mother what he could reveal.

Laine Tetil
Grade 11
Owen-Gage

From All Of Us
To
All Of You

Merry Christmas
And A Happy
Holiday
Season

Santa letters



Kristen Kawecki



Ashley & Bobbie Keys

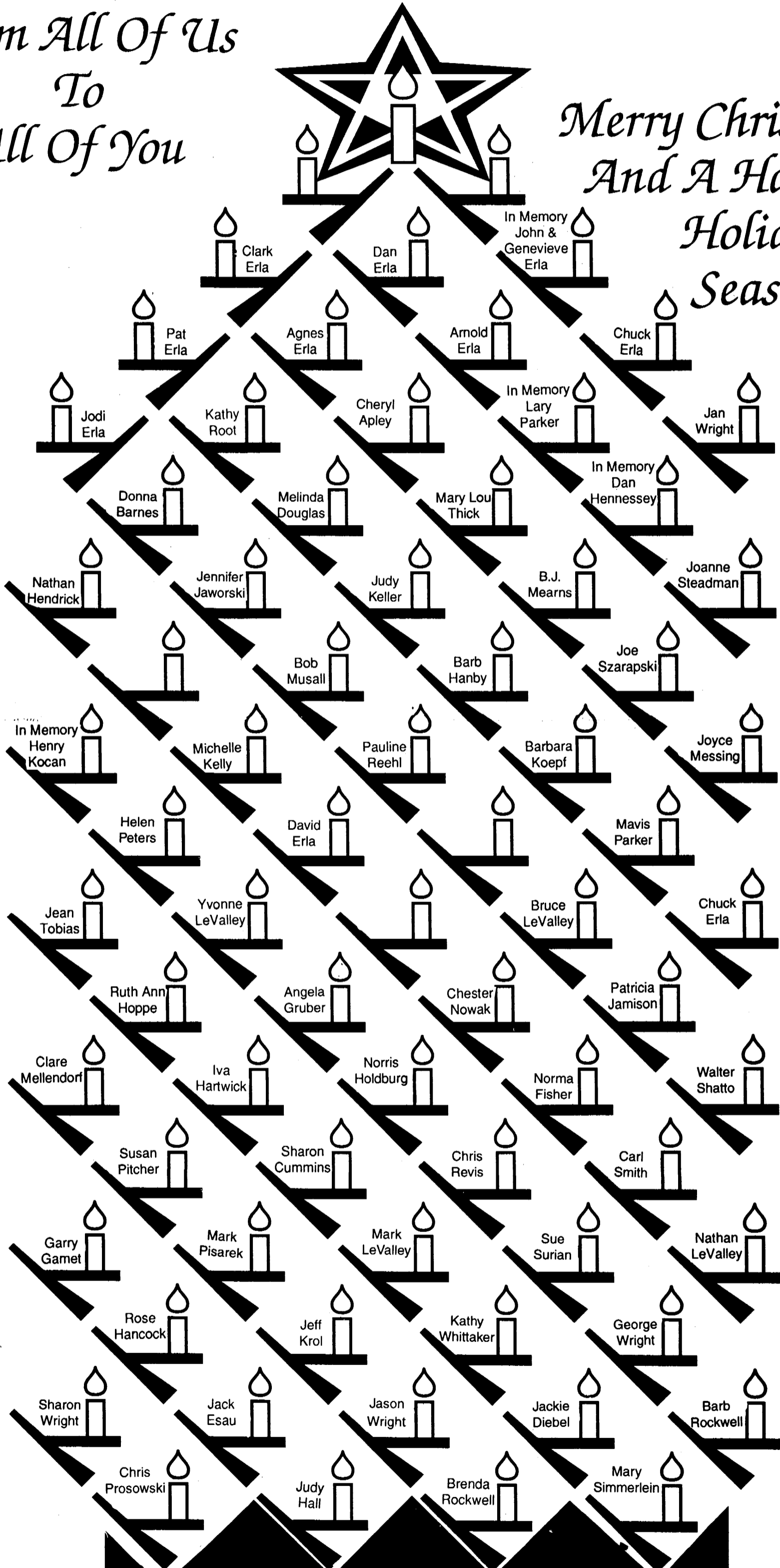
Dear Santa,
I have been a pretty good girl this year. I don't really want too much this year, but I'll tell you a couple of things. I want some more Kidsongs videos and one of those ball pits that you jump in. Don't forget to stop at my cousins (LeAnn, Jessica and Allie's) house and my Uncle's and Aunt's (Ashley, Ryan, Casey, Ross) house also. I'm sure I will want more next year. Don't forget about Mom and Dad too.

Love
Kristen Kawecki
18 months
Decker

Dear Santa,
My name is Ashley Keys. I'm 7 years old. This is my baby sister, Bobbie Jean, she's 5 months old. We've both been good this year. For Christmas I would like Baby So Real, mouse trap game, a big guitar, silly golf machine and Gator Golf. Bobbie would like a brown teddy bear and some toys.

Love,
Ashley & Bobbie

P.S. We will leave you some cookies and a diet Coke.



FA-LA-LA-LA
LA-LA-LA-LA

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SPECIAL SCENTS FLOWER SHOPPE

6459 Main St. Cass City 872-3434

WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

From everyone at...

CASS CITY OIL & GAS

CALL TODAY! (517) 872-2055 (517) 872-5351
9 A.M. - 5 P.M. after 5 P.M.

ERLA'S FOOD CENTER
-IN CASS CITY- Phone: 872-2191

My greatest Christmas gift

The greatest gift I have ever given was a Christmas ornament that I made for mom when I was in the first grade. I can remember it clearly, about four weeks before Christmas my teacher announced that we were to keep it a secret from our parents, that we would be making special Christmas ornaments.

I was very excited when the day came when our teacher gave us each a small lump of clay, from which to form our ornaments. While some of my classmates talked and played, I wasted no time, fast at work, trying to form a little angel for my mom. When I was finally finished I thought that my angel was a great work of art. Even though her head was lumpy and larger than her body, and her left wing was slightly deformed, I was still proud.

About a week later we got to paint our ornaments. While other children used delicate colors, such as pink, yellow and white, I had to be creative, and used black and red.

A bright red dress with black zig zags, polka dots, and stripes!

On Christmas morning when my mom opened her gift, her face shown a bright smile and she told me how much she loved it.

We still have the little angel, and put her up on the tree every year. But as the years pass you can tell the angel was made long ago, a chip out of her face, a peeling dress, but still a very special Christmas memory.

Jenny Loewe
Grade 9
Owen-Gage



Ann Hawley
11th grade
Cass City

Share the joy of Christmas

"Joyous Tidings"

As we watch the snowflakes fall we come together one and all

to share the joy of holiday cheer that only comes but once a year

from Paris to New York to Germany and back the spirit of Christmas will never lack

Choirs sing sweetly that heaven-born song knowing that nothing could ever go wrong

Beautiful trees we light up aglow seem glad to be in from that new-fallen snow

Family and friends join all around the Earth to enjoy another Christmas and to celebrate Christ's birth

Children are waiting and hoping to find the special new toy that they've had on their mind

this time of year, a special wish is spread throughout our hearts, and within our heads.

Happy Birthday Jesus

Amanda Salcido
Grade 11
Owen-Gage



Joie Humes
Cass City

Think about the real reason for Christmas

Christmas is never about just one holiday. It's about the gradual accumulation of anecdotes and memories, sometimes sad, that deepen the meaning of the season over time. Over time, religion has become a more important part of the holiday for people, who like to demonstrate this by attending Christmas services. People should feel the responsibility to really think about the real meaning of Christmas services. People should feel the responsibility to really think about the real meaning of Christmas. It's not just

enough to bake cookies, have gingerbread and give presents. You have to prod yourself toward a deeper sense of the holiday with excursions. You could attend the re-enactment of the Christmas story or you could go see "A Christmas Carol."

A lot of people don't have faith. They still don't believe. They're too analytical. They believe that death will be the end of it, dust to dust. But Christmas, when the whole family gathers together under one roof, is a time when the prayer is a little deeper and more somber to the point where people realize that Christmas is all about one

thing: the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Kareem Khoury
Cass City

Christmas morning conflicts

She awoke with a start on Christmas morn, She had forgotten this was the day that Christ was born.

As she ran toward the tree in a lurch Mom reminded her "Oh no, not till after Church"

Just as she thought her cares would be few, Now she had to go sit in a pew.

Underneath the tree in the church there were no presents This evergreen represented an everlasting presence.

Toward their row the minister turned a meaningful eye As she dreamed of the giant spread with blueberry pie.

With a prayer and a blessing they were sent down the aisle Free to run home and look through their pile.

With the dinner all finished and the wrappings a mess She decided to take a moment to reassess,

"Which message will serve us the most in the long run? Gods word or a morning of fun?"

Lisa Warack
Grade 11
Owen-Gage

I know I heard Santa Claus

One year at Christmas When I was young I swore I heard Santa- The sleigh bells had rung

I lay in my bed As thoughts whisked through my head About Santa, reindeer, all his elves And all the toys on the Christmas shelves

I thought about how I believed And how Santa could achieve All he does in one night All on one huge flight

And as I thought that Christmas Eve I drifted off to sleep And dreamed and wondered If I'd always believe

Every Christmas Eve since As I lay in my bed I think thoughts about that night and others in my head I can't help how old I'll get I'll always believe and never forget

That night not so long ago I don't care what they say In my heart I'll always know I heard Santa, his reindeer and sleigh

Melissa Albrecht
Grade 9
Owen-Gage

Christmas breaks down barriers

Christmas

Christmas is a time of warmth and closeness. It's one of the few chances we have to bond with our families. During the holidays people spend time together at home and other places. Shopping malls are filled with gift seekers and churches are filled with people seeking for truth and community. Christmas breaks down barriers and allows us all to smile.

Eric Hoelzle
Cass City

Christmas is loving, forgiving

Christmas

Christmas is snow, cold and blowing. Christmas is love, warm and snugly. Christmas is friends, laughing and having fun. Christmas is family, singing and sharing.

Christmas is Christmas. Loving and forgiving.

Rachel Hoard
10th Grade
Cass City

We would like to thank all our customers for making our new store a great success.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR
From Beth & Sandy

Buds & Blossoms
By Sandy
6476 Main 872-3935 Cass City

HO! HO! HO! and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

24 HOUR WRECKER SERVICE
CASS CITY MUFFLER & BRAKE
872-2251/day 872-5606/night

Christmas Blessings

In this season of wonder and celebration, we wish love and peace to all. We appreciate the blessings bestowed upon us, and look forward to wishing the happiest of holidays to each and every one of you, personally. Many thanks and best wishes, this most joyous of seasons.

MCH MARLETTE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
2770 MAIN STREET - MARLETTE

The staff at Caro Pharmacy wishes you and yours a Happy Holiday Season

CAROPHARMACY
DOWNTOWN CARO - (517) 673-2238

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From the Girls at Mr. Chips
HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY!!

Season's Greetings

We want to thank all of our loyal customers for bringing us cheer throughout the past 43 years.

Without you, the holidays just wouldn't be the same. All the best to you and yours this Christmas, and into the New Year and beyond. Happy Holidays!

Mr. and Mrs. B.A. Calka

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM ALL OF US AT

LAFAVE STEEL SUPPLY INC.

8260 Van Dyke
Cass City 48726

A Joyous Noel

SOMMERS'
Bakery & Restaurant
Closing at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve
872-3577
Cass City

The real Yule

CHRISTMAS

For some it's going to every mall to shop Others, it's finding a tree they can crop For some it's lights for the yard to be bright.

Others, it's caroling deep in the night. But of all the things of Christmas to savor, It's the little Christ child Born to be our Savior!

Jamie Luana
Cass City



Nathan Pawloski
12th grade
Cass City

Christmas is for children of all ages

As children we believe in so many things, like the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny, and everybody's favorite, Santa Claus. Then we get to be a certain age and it's not cool to believe anymore. We hit that age and we are told "Christmas is for children, you are not a child anymore, therefore you can't believe in all the magic of the season."

Why? Is it because we are all so eager to grow up and be adults that we forget that there's a little child in all of us, or is it because in today's fast paced society we no longer have time to believe? Christmas is hectic no doubt, but, some of us actually find the time to let the little child in all of us out to play, whether it be in the activities we do outside, or in the shopping for all the latest toys for our kids.

Yes, Christmas is the time of year we all can get away with acting like children.

We can toss snowballs at one another and not care that we are doctors, lawyers, truck drivers, cooks, and writers.

Christmas is the one time the magic actually changes us.

The Ebenezer Scrooge in all of us melts away, as the Tiny Tim smile shines in the faces of our children.

We watch our happy little

youngsters on Christmas day as they eagerly rip off the pretty paper of the gifts Santa mysteriously left for them, the night before, and for one brief moment everything seems beautiful and bright.

The magic of Christmas will always be there, in our hearts and in our minds as long as there are children to remind us that no matter how old you are, you can still believe because Christmas is not just for Children but for CHILDREN OF ALL AGES!

Cindy Copeland
12th Grade
Cass City

The 14 days of Christmas

(sung to the tune of The Twelve Days of Christmas)

On the first day of Christmas Dan Sherman gave to me a jump shot from the foul line. (and a jump shot from the foul line)

On the second day of Christmas Chad Z. gave to me a 3-pointer from the outside. (2 three-pointers)

On the third day of Christmas Corey Ullig gave to me a spin move from the base line. (3 spin moves)

On the fourth day of Christmas Bob Gengler gave to me a rebound with authority (4 rebounds)

On the fifth day of Christmas Jeff Little gave to me a swipe and steal underneath. (5 steals underneath)

On the sixth day of Christmas B.J. brought to us doughnuts for the whole team. (6 doughnuts)

On the seventh day of Christmas Chad Diegel gave to me a fast break lay-up underneath. (7 fast breaks)

On the eighth day of Christmas Iwankovitch gave to me a blocked shot from the inside. (8 blocked shots)

On the ninth day of Christmas Scott Wallace gave to me a 3-pointer from the left wing (9 three-pointers)

On the tenth day of Christmas Ray-Bob gave to me a big, bad, body underneath. (10 big bodies)

On the eleventh day of Christmas Matt Oesch gave to me a post move he's used since seventh grade. (11 post moves)

On the twelfth day of Christmas Jason Nicol gave to me a bank shot from 45 degrees. (12 shots)

On the thirteenth day of Christmas Dave Murphy gave to me a 3-pointer from Huron county. (13 3-pointers)

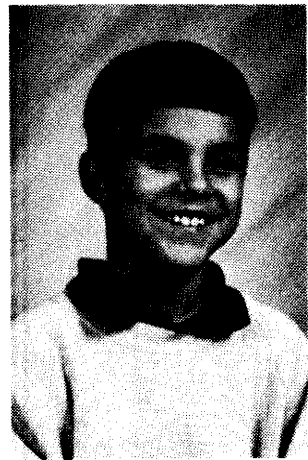
On the fourteenth day of Christmas Matt Klinkman gave to me a dunk from the top of the key? (14 dunks)

Jeff Little
Cass City

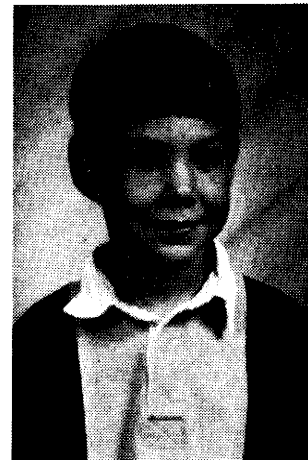
Santa letters

Lauren Meck

Molly Wynn



Jacob Newton



Anthony Langlois

Dear Santa,
Did you have a good summer vacation? I hope you got a lot of rest.
I would like a Water Baby, an Easy Bake Oven, a doll maker and Dr. Dreadful.
Please bring my cousins some presents too.
Love
Lauren Meck

Audrey Jackson

Dear Santa Claus,
I was being good and still I am because I want some toys. Thank you at the North pole.

to Santa Claus
From Audrea
Lynn Jackson

Dear Santa,
My name is Molly Ann Wynn. I've been a very good girl this year. I would like Sky Dancers, Lion King House, Bay Watch Barbie, and a kitchen set. I hope you have a safe trip around the world Christmas Eve and don't forget to wear your seatbelt. We will leave cookies for you and carrots for all your reindeer.

Thank-you
and I love you very much
Molly, 3 years old

**Advertise It In
The Chronicle**

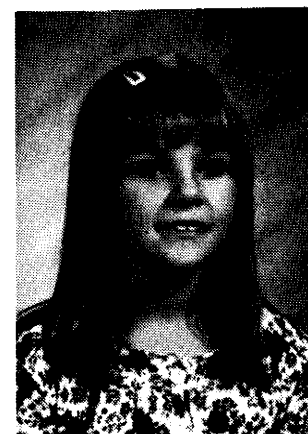
Dear Santa,
Have you filled your sleigh yet? Do you have any Legos in your sleigh? Well, I would like Micro Machine toys, the Simon game, Brain Bash, and Legos.
Is Rudolph's nose shiny? How are you and Mrs. Claus?
Merry Christmas
Jacob Newton

Dear Santa,
My name is Anthony Langlois and I am 7 years old. I think I've been a good boy this year! Please bring me a dairy barn, some miniature farm equipment and some baseball cards. There will be a special cookie and chocolate milk left for you and a pile of carrots outside for your reindeer.

Love,
Anthony Langlois

Haley Wynn

Dear Santa,
My name is Haley Elizabeth Wynn. I am 2 years old and I've been very good this year. My mommy and daddy told me so. I would like Rose the Baby Doll, a sled, and a Barney school house. I will leave hot cocoa for you with marshmallows in it. I love you very much
Fly safe
Haley



Bethany Langlois

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Travis Myers. I am 4 years old. I have been a pretty good boy this year. I would like a new truck, some clothes, roller blades and an airplane, and lots of other neat toys. Also bring my dog Max a new toy. I will leave milk and cookies too, and some sugar for your reindeer.
Travis Myers

Ashleigh Stoeckle

Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the toys you gave me last year. I have been good every day this year. I would like Dolphin Barbie, Talking Pony, Barbie mini van, Littlest Pet Shop, Polly Pocket Grand Champion Horse and anything else you would like to bring. I will leave you out some milk and cookies.

Love,
Bethany Langlois

P.S. I have been good this year.

**Thanks for
calling 872-2010
with feature
story ideas**

Love,
Ashleigh Stoeckle

Angela Stoeckle

Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the toys you gave me last year. I have been good every day this year. I would like a Sea World, Littlest Pet Shop, American Girl books or dolls, Doodle Bear, My secret Diary, Dream Castle. If your reindeer get tired they can rest with our reindeer.

Love,
Angela Stoeckle

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Thank You For Your Support
Cass City Servistar Hardware
6092 E. Cass City Rd. 872-2188

**Merry Christmas
and Thank You
for your patronage
throughout this
past year**
BIGELOW HARDWARE
Owners: Betty & Jerry Stilson
6549 MAIN ST. CASS CITY 872-2245

**Christmas
Cheer**
May your season be filled to brimming with many happy holiday moments.
**Copeland and Gornowicz Inc.
Insurance Agency**
6539 Main Cass City Phone 872-4006

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
*We bring you
Greetings
at
Christmas*
Sound the trumpet for a holiday that's a merry round of pleasures. We send a full measure of thanks to our loyal friends.
KRITZMAN'S, INC.
Cass City

We will be Closed Dec. 24 & 25, open Dec. 26, and Closed Jan. 1 & 2
We'd like to wish all our customers a joyous Christmas and every happiness this time can bring.
EICHER'S CLEANERS
Cass City Bad Axe Pigeon

**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year**
From the
EAT SHOP
6487 Main Cass City 872-2364

We're wishing you **LOADS** of **HOLIDAY CHEER!**
**DOUBLE D
GAS & DIESEL REPAIR**
7923 E. Cass City Rd. 872-4540

**Merry Christmas
from
Detroit Edison,
North Area
Energy Center**
**Detroit
Edison**
Cass City, Michigan



Jessica Mifsud
10th grade
Cass City

Grandma smiled at Christmas

In the winter of 1960 my dad took the whole family to the deep woods behind my grandmother's house. This would be the first time my grandparents wouldn't be going to cut down the Christmas tree because my grandfather passed away before Thanksgiving. My grandmother seemed to go down hill. We wondered if she wanted to live anymore.

We stopped by the barn to get the saw then continued on to get the perfect tree. Father cut down a beautiful blue spruce, we tied it to the car and headed to grandma's. She met us at the door with hot, steaming cups of cocoa. We kids shed our coats and hurried to the kitchen for freshly baked cookies and homemade apple cider.

It didn't seem like Santa would be coming in just a couple of days. I was so excited. I saw father making toys in his wood shop, little trucks and cars for his boys and dolls for the girls.

I was looking forward to attending church on Christmas Eve, so I could see my

aunts and uncles. Grandma was very sad, because this had been grandfather's favorite time of year. I wondered who was going to read "The Night Before Christmas." Grandpa had always told it to us since we were very little. I missed him terribly. Father decided to have Christmas at grandma's house this year. We hoped it would help to lighten her spirits.

Well it was finally Christmas Eve. Expecting Santa Claus to visit us over the night, we set out milk and cookies for him and hoped he would leave lots of presents. We kids would be up at the crack of dawn to see what Santa had brought us. We were not disappointed. Each of us had full stockings and presents under the tree. We played with our toys till our parents woke up and we all ate a huge breakfast of eggs, bacon and sausage. For the first time in a while grandma had a smile on her face.

Adam Metzger
Grade 12
Owen-Gage

Snow is falling

Snow is falling gently
The children gaily play
Presents wrapped in paper
Waiting for Christmas Day

Churches lit with candles
Hymns of Christmas cheer
Families gather closely
For this wonderful time of the year

Christmas Eve goes swiftly
Snuggled all warm in our beds
Thoughts of Santa's sleigh
Flying through our heads

We wake up oh so early
We race to the tree
We open all the wonderful gifts
That come from you to me

Snow is falling gently
The children gaily play
With all the unwrapped gifts
given on Christmas Day.

Whitney Osentoski
Cass City

Santa letters

Brandon Myers

Dear Santa,
Hello! My name is Brandon Myers. I am five years old. I have tried to be a good boy this year. I would like some trucks and cars, new clothes, roller blades, and a big semi. And lots of other surprises.

I will leave cookies and milk too!
Brandon Myers

Dear Santa,
I would like these for Christmas please...Baby Sip'n Slurp and Baby born. Thank you, I was a good girl.

P.S. I will leave you milk and cookies and carrots for your reindeer.

Love,
Carly



Stephanie Bock

Dear Santa:

I've tried to be a good girl all year, but it's been really hard because I'm only 3. I would like a tool bench, a robe and some games.

Mommy and I will leave some cookies and milk out for you.

Thank-you
XOXO
Love,
Stephanie Bock
age 3



Mitchell Langlois

Dear Santa,

My name is Mitchell Langlois. I am 2 1/2 years old. I would like a fold up barn, a game and some clothes this year. I've been trying to be real good! I will leave a cookie and milk for you and some sugar for your reindeer.

Love,
Mitchell Langlois



Nicholle Hartel

Dear Santa,

I am 8 months old and starting to explore this big world. Sometimes I get into things that my mama doesn't think I should. She says I really am a very good girl.

I would like a dolly and something from Winnie the Pooh and bring something for my cousins, Sean, Brad and Brent. They have been good too.

Love,
Nicholle Alizabeth



Joshua Edward Guigar

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Joshua, and I am eight months old. This is my first Christmas, and it is all very new to me. My momma and daddy say that I have been a very good little boy, and I should tell you what I would like for Christmas. So here is my list: a wagon, musical toys, a snow suit, clothes and anything that I can tear up.

I would also like to put in a wish for my momma: a bigger house for us to live in, my daddy: a bright red truck, and a special wish sent to my nanna: all my love, hugs and kisses, and may nanna get everything on her Christmas list.

Santa, I will leave you milk and cookies, just in case you are thirsty or get hungry, and lots of sugar for your reindeer, especially "Rudolph."

Love,
Joshua Edward Guigar



MERRY CHRISTMAS



We're glad to know and serve you

J & C Service

John and Connie Connolly
6268 Main 872-3488

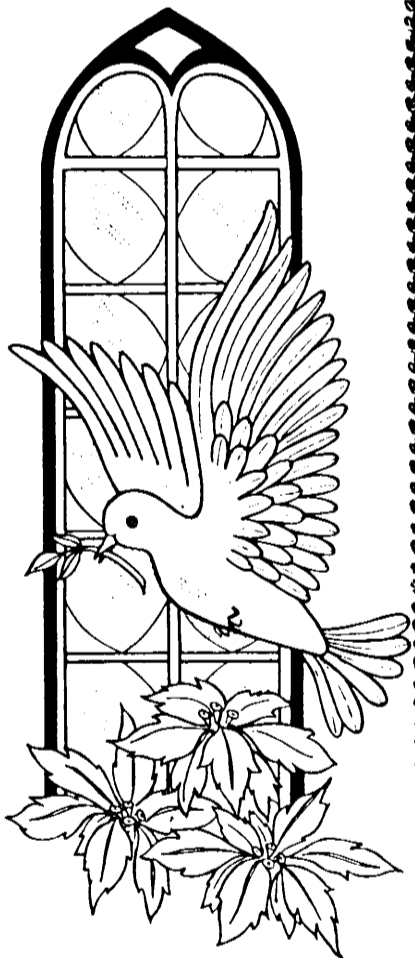
Wishing you peace and joy this Holiday Season

Merry Christmas

From Harry and Mabel Lenda And All The Employees at I.G.A.

IGA Cass City Foodliner

Cass City Rd. Cass City



In this time of happy thoughts and warm hearts, we wish you and yours a holiday season filled with love.

Merry Christmas

From all the salespeople at...

OSENTOSKI REALTY



872-4377

AUCTIONEERING

673-7777

Kayla Jamieson

Dear Santa,

I want a Barbie car and a Walky Talky Barbie and a stroller, Barbie a doddle bear, a turkey errings.

I try to be good at home, at Ruthies, and at school.

My name is Kayla Jamieson, I'm 5 years old.

Kelcie Sweeney

Dear Santa:

Thank you for last year's presents. I didn't write a list for you last year. This year I want some toys, but I want the telephone toy I was playing with at K-Mart when I was with my dad and stepmom. I would like hot-skating Barbie and I would like the Bubble gum Barbie. I would also like to have a planner like my mommy's.

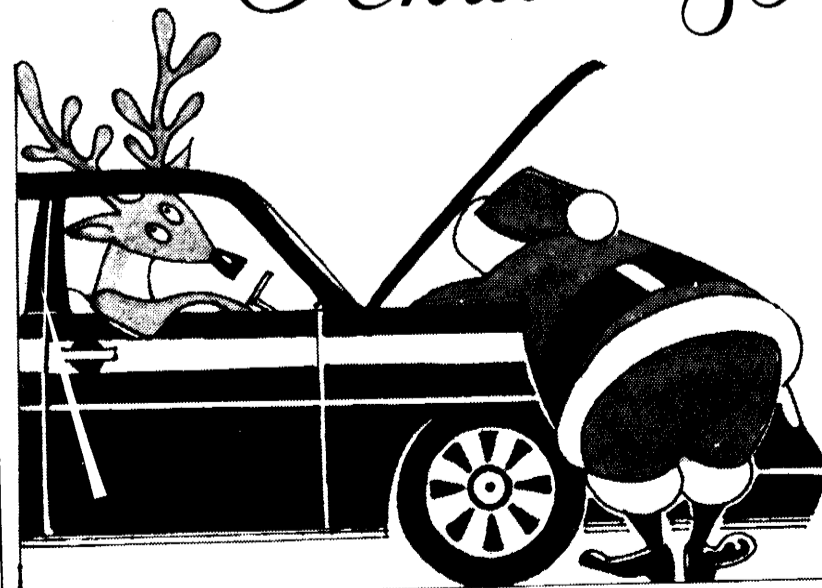
I have been trying to be a good girl this year and I hope you give all the poor kids toys and food.

I am going to leave you milk and cookies and I hope when I wake up in the morning, they will be gone.

Love
Kelcie Sweeney

We're tuning up to wish all our many customers and friends a very

Merry Christmas



CASS CITY TIRE

872-5303

6392 Main, Cass City