

Many issues face voters in Sanilac, Huron counties
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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 90, NUMBER 18 CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1996 FIFTY CENTS 16 PAGES PLUS ONE SUPPLEMENT



BLIND SINCE BIRTH, Nathan Sweet has not let that hold him back from being a musician or participating in many other activities such as canoeing, fishing and bowling.

For Cass City's Nathan Sweet blind is merely a nuisance

by Rebecca Messer Staff Writer

He sings and plays guitar from his heart and with passion; knows the latest hits and loves the applause when the song is over, not unlike any other musician. There is, however, one small difference between him and fellow musicians. He is blind. Nathan Sweet, blind since birth, can not see the music instrument he is playing. At age 4, Sweet's mom, Kathy, observed him taking an interest in music. Noticing that her son was walking around the house singing, Kathy, who wanted to encourage his interest, bought him a few instruments. Fourteen years later, Sweet is proficient on drums, keyboard and electric and acoustic guitar.

learns all of his music by ear and touch. When the teen first started playing guitar, he took a year of lessons to learn the chords. Since Sweet could not learn chords by looking at a music book or his instrument, he had to memorize everything as he was being taught. When he hears a song he wants to learn, Sweet said he breaks the song into 3 areas, words, drum beat and chords. He added it usually takes him a couple of days to learn a new song, once he sets his mind to it. "I usually pick the beat up pretty quick. The hardest part sometimes are the words and chords, learning the chord changes." In addition to singing and playing guitar on his own, Sweet sings in his high school choir and has performed with the Saginaw Orchestra during their Christmas program. He also wants to start his own country band. "I have played with friends' bands

and they like to play that White Zombie, heavy metal stuff. I'll play that for a while but I prefer sticking to my country." The Marlette High School junior has practically converted his small bedroom into a recording studio. He has electric and acoustic guitars, a keyboard, speakers, amplifiers, a mixing board, a digital delay processor and, of course, a microphone. Some of the 18-year-old's favorite musicians are Stone Temple Pilots, Pearl Jam, Garth Brooks, Elvis, Snoop Doggy Dog, Tracey Lawrence and Shania Twaine. "I like all kinds, really. I like switching around to different kinds, but I mostly stick to country." Calling his blindness a "nuisance" rather than a disability, Sweet refuses to let it hold him back. "There are no obstacles because I am blind." Even walking up and down the stairs at school doesn't

bother him. "People ask 'Is it scary?' I say, no not really." **SCHOOL** Being blind has not stopped Sweet from attending regular public schools either, instead of schools for the blind. "I wanted him to be around sighted people, not blind people all his life, because it is a sighted world," Kathy said. At school Sweet does have special instruments such as a braille and abacus to enable him to learn, but he receives no special privileges. "If he's late to class he gets a tardy just like anyone else. He doesn't get treated any differently," Kathy said. "All the kids at school are just like my family. They help me out a lot," he said. Unlike the rest of his classmates, Sweet spends 2 hours of his school day working with a braille and mobility

teacher. With his mobility teacher he works on learning how to walk with a cane and different techniques to open doors. When it comes time to take notes in class Sweet uses one of 2 methods. He will either type what the teacher is saying on his braille or use a pocket size tape recorder and listen to the lecture again later. Sweet uses an ancient Chinese method of counting for math problems. He carries an abacus. He also uses the same textbooks as his classmates, only his are a little different. They are on tape. According to Sweet, having books on tape does not make them any more exciting. "They're boring. It's the same boring voice saying 'page 49.'" The self-described class clown said he would like to go to college one day and then pursue music. "I want to be famous and go to Nashville and be a county singer."

County seeks 3 millages, surcharge Voters to decide nomination for 3 commissioner posts

The Aug. 6 primary election will feature races for the offices of Tuscola County drain commissioner and register of deeds, as well as seats in 3 county commission districts. In addition, voters will decide 4 countywide ballot questions, including 3 millage renewal requests. Locally, Edward C. Scollon and Stanley May, both Cass City Republicans, will square off for the District 2 commission seat representing Elmwood, Elkland, Novesta and Kingston townships. Barring a successful write-in campaign, the winner will represent District 2, as there is no Democratic candidate. Scollon, 60, is the incumbent. The longtime Cass City veterinarian is completing his first 2-year term in office.

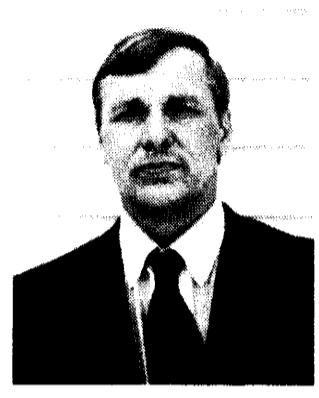
Aside from serving as a commissioner, Scollon has been a member of the Tuscola County Board of Health for the past 9 years, including 2 years as chairman. He is a former Cass City Board of Education trustee, having served 8 years as president of the local board. May, 71, has lived in Cass City for the past 3 1/2 years. He moved to the area following his retirement after 20 years of employment with the Oakland County Facilities and Operations Department. A licensed builder, this is May's first attempt to seek public office. Two other incumbent commissioners are being challenged in the primary. District One Commissioner James D. Schafer, Republi-

can, will battle Republican Thomas A. Baird for the right to represent Wisner, Akron, Columbia, Almer and Ellington townships. There are no Democratic candidates. In District 4 (Indianfields and Wells townships), incumbent Republican Susan A. Osborne will square off

Please turn to page 11.



Stanley May



Dennis Henry



Orvil A. Beecher



Edward C. Scollon



Sarah M. Pistro



Ginny McLaren

2 die in separate county car crashes

A Tuscola County man has been charged in the death of a Vassar teen who died after being struck by a car while walking in Vassar Township early Saturday morning. The accident was one of 2 fatalities reported in the county over the weekend. The victim was identified as Mitchell W. Kilbourn, 15, of Vassar. Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies reported Kilbourn was walking on Vassar Road north of Miller Road at about 1:30 a.m. when he was struck by a northbound car driven by Alan D. Worth, 32, also of Vassar. The victim was transported by Vassar Area Ambulance

personnel to St. Mary's Medical Center, Saginaw, where he died of his injuries. Worth was transported to the Tuscola County jail. He was later arraigned on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor — causing death. Bond in the case was set at \$20,000. Worth faces a preliminary examination Aug. 5 at 9:30 a.m. in Tuscola County District Court. If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and/or a fine of \$2,500 to \$10,000. Deputies are continuing their investigation into the accident.

2-CAR CRASH A Bay Port woman was killed in a 2-vehicle accident on Gilford Road near Ringle Road in southern Fairgrove Township Saturday. Troopers at the Michigan State Police post in Caro reported the victim, Mae E. Stalter, 53, Bay Port, was southbound on Ringle Road at 10:15 a.m. when she entered the Gilford Road intersection and was struck broadside by an eastbound vehicle driven by David D. Green, 42, of Essexville. Green was transported to Bay Medical Center for treatment of his injuries. The cause of the accident remains under investigation.

Confusion reigned, says Cass Cityan on duty at Olympics

Joe Meyer puts in 2 consecutive weeks of training each year as a National Guardsman, but this year's session will always stick out in his mind. The 19-year-old Cass City resident was wrapping up his duty at the Olympic Games in Atlanta, Ga., over the weekend when a bomb exploded at Centennial Olympic Park, killing a Georgia woman and injuring more than 100 others. Meyer, who returned home Sunday night, began duty July 12 as part of the First Battalion of the 125th Infantry. "We were deployed at the games to help with security," he explained. "Our mission was to be the eyes and ears for local law enforcement. I spent most of my time at Georgia State working security for the badminton venue.

It was always pretty busy," said the area resident, who also spent a couple of days at the swimming venue (Georgia Tech) and 2 days at the Wolf Creek shooting venue. At the time the bomb exploded at 1:25 a.m. Saturday, Meyer said he was standing on duty at an intersection adjacent to the badminton venue, which is a 20-minute walk from the new, 21-acre Centennial Olympic Park. "I and the other guys at the post heard it go off. We didn't know what it was," he recalled, adding the guardsmen learned what had happened through police radio reports. "We locked the facility down and didn't allow any traffic through except for people who were coming from the park. There was a lot of confusion, even as far away as we

were," he said. "Most of the people that came through were on their way to the nearest bus station. There were a lot of people who were shook up and crying." And a number of others wanted to enter the park in search of loved ones. However, Meyer said he and his fellow guardsmen had to turn them away in order to maintain security. Meyer, a National Guard medic and EMT employed by Mobile Medical Response in Cass City, said it wasn't long before he began to see ambulances on their way to Grady Memorial Hospital — the major trauma center in Atlanta — just one block away. "I was just real concerned, not so much that someone would try to bomb our facility, but disturbed that it happened," he said of his reaction to the early morning

blast. "It wasn't like a political thing where they tried to kill athletes. This was an attack on civilians for the sole purpose of killing civilians. That's what bugged me." The bomb marked the first terrorist attack at the Olympics since the Munich Games of 1972, when Palestinians seized Israeli athletes in an attack that left 18 people dead. As Atlanta officials prepared for Tuesday's official reopening of the Centennial Olympic Park, FBI officials reported they have been flooded with information and leads related to the bombing. "We are confident that we will solve this horrible crime," FBI spokesman David Tubbs was quoted as saying in an Associated Press story after the FBI completed its search for evidence in the park.



JOE MEYER of Cass City was on duty at the Olympic Games in Atlanta, Ga., when a bomb exploded at Centennial Olympic Park early Saturday morning. Meyer is the son of the Rev. Gerald and Susan Meyer of Cass City.

Sunday hunting in Huron County?

Huron County voters will decide next week whether to allow Sunday hunting in their county. The question will appear on the Tuesday, Aug. 6, primary election ballot, and will read: "Shall Act No. 396 of the local acts of 1994 which would result in the repeal of Act No. 3 of the local acts of 1937, which is an act passed in 1937 that prohibits hunting with firearms, dogs, or otherwise in Huron County on Sunday, be adopted?" Huron County Clerk Helen Lemanski said commissioners decided to place the measure on the ballot in accordance with a state bill passed nearly 2 years ago. The bill, introduced by State Rep. Kim Rhead, Sandusky, gave county commissioners 2 years to place a Sunday hunting question before voters. With the primary election less than a week away, Lemanski said she's heard very little discussion about the proposal. "We haven't

had anyone campaigning for or against it," she added. Rhead said Huron County is among about 11 Michigan counties, including Tuscola, Sanilac and Lapeer, that still prohibit Sunday hunting in one form or another. Rhead said he introduced the bill because repealing the county laws requires an act of the state Legislature. He said Sanilac County is also considering placing a question before voters in the near future, but with language that would confine hunters to pursuing game on Sundays only on their own property. To do that, Rhead said, another bill may have to be introduced because the existing bill expires this year. Sanilac County voters have twice turned down Sunday hunting proposals in recent memory, with the most recent vote, 5 or 6 years ago, defeating a measure that would have allowed bow hunting on Sundays.

Your neighbor says

No talent needed for horse events

For the last 2 weeks of July and the first week of August, most of America is caught up with Olympic fever, including Josh Ouvry.

Ouvry, a Cass City resident for the past year and a half, has been following the games in Atlanta since the opening ceremonies. But he added, "How can you not, they are on 40 hours a day."

Staying up late one night, Ouvry said he turned on the television and was "shocked to see the Olympics still on at 2 in the morning."

Track and field and swimming are among Ouvry's favorite events. Watching gymnastics has not been all that bad either. He said he enjoys track and field the most because "it takes talent (to participate)."

His least favorite events are the equestrian competitions. "I think the horse thing is the stupid one."

He said he does not like the equestrian events because he doesn't think it takes talent to "ride a horse and tell it what to do."

Furthering his contempt for the equestrian events Ouvry, who will attend Michigan State University in the fall, doesn't think they should even be in the Olympics. They are not alone though, Ouvry does not think synchronized swimming should be an Olympic event either.

While at MSU, Ouvry plans to study chemical engineering.



SOUTH AFRICAN Bev Van Wyk (seated left) recently enjoyed a month-long visit with friend Paula Byron (seated right) of Cass City. The pair, along with Byron's mother, Marie (standing left) and Marie's sister, Sue Love, spent much of their time on the road touring more than a dozen states.

Courtesy of Byron family

South African visitor enjoys whirlwind tour

Bev Van Wyk spent about 17 hours flying from her home in South Africa to Michigan, where she was reunited with friend and former exchange student Paula Byron of Cass City for a month-long visit.

But her travels hadn't even begun, thanks to the Byron family, which took the 21-year-old on a whirlwind tour of the country.

"I am tired. It was good, though. This is a very beautiful country," Van Wyk commented Friday as she prepared for the trip back home to Strubensvalley, a city of about 4 million people located west of Johannesburg.

Byron, a 1994 Cass City High School graduate who now attends Northern Michigan University, explained she met Van Wyk while both of them were exchange students in Australia 3 years ago.

Since then, the pair have written, faxed each other and made an occasional phone call, according to Paula's mother, Marie.

"Paula would mail her Oreos cookies and Bev would mail Paula jade bracelets," she said.

Which led to Van Wyk's arrival at the Byrons' Elmwood Road home a month ago.

The adventure began with a tour of the Cass City area, with stops at the Sanilac Petroglyphs and the Octagon Barn near Gageton. Van Wyk also toured other areas of the Thumb, and visited Frankenmuth, Saginaw, Birch Run and Mackinac Island.

Van Wyk, Paula and Marie Byron and Marie's sister, Sue Love of Eastpointe, then embarked on a cross country drive.

The group spent a day in Gatlinburg, Tenn., and en-

joyed a helicopter ride. Next up was a stop in Chattanooga, where they visited the Chattanooga Aquarium and Lookout Mountain.

Then it was on to Florida and Disney World, the Magic Kingdom and Epcot Center. Love noted it was an interesting trip in that the group arrived as Hurricane Bertha was approaching.

The group continued its adventure with a visit to a Cherokee reservation in North Carolina, followed by a trip to Virginia, where they saw the Natural Bridge, one of the 7 natural wonders of the world.

The travelers then drove to Detroit, where Love gave them a tour that included a ride on the People Mover.

Marie Byron said the second phase of the tour — the east coast — was made possible by her husband Mike's business connections and friends in Boston (his hometown) and in New York.

The group flew to Boston, then traveled to Salem, Mass., where they visited with trial museums, the Plymouth Plantation and a replica of the Mayflower.

Van Wyk and her companions then experienced their first New York cab ride and a ride on the subway, as well as visits to the Hard Rock Cafe, Planet Hollywood, the Statue of Liberty and Trump Tower.

Van Wyk indicated she thoroughly enjoyed her visit to the states, although she didn't know what to expect before arriving. "Before I left, I hadn't even thought about it," she said. "I just came over, and what I saw, I saw."

It was a study in contrasts for the South African, who

acknowledged Cass City is a far cry from the hustle and bustle of her hometown. "It's nice (here), but it's too quiet for me," she added.

Van Wyk hinted this probably won't be her last trip to America. In fact, she's considering returning to further her education, possibly to study law.

She said it's likely she would have eventually visited the United States even if she hadn't met Paula Byron. But it wouldn't have compared to her experiences of the past month.

"We had fun. Lots and lots of fun," she concluded. "It's always nice when you know somebody."

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Hartwick reunion held Sunday

The descendants of Edward and Ruth Hartwick met at the home of John and Ruth Jaworski of Owendale Sunday for their annual reunion.

Co-hosts were Charles and Kathleen Hartwick of Cass City. The first reunion was held in 1959 at the home of Jay and Elaine Crane.

This was the 38th get-together. The oldest member attending was Arlan Hartwick of Cass City and the youngest was 4-month-

VBS set Aug. 12-16 at church

Vacation Bible School is slated for Aug. 12-16, 9:30 a.m. to noon each day, at St. Pancratius Catholic Church, 4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City.

The program is open to all children ages 3 years to the fourth grade. To register, call the church at 872-3336, or contact Janeen Mills at (517) 665-2401.

Exports increase

U.S. exports of frozen potatoes to South America rose dramatically last year. About 90 percent of the frozen potatoes will be cut to satisfy the growing demand for French fries. The Department of Agriculture attributes the increased demand to increasing economic stability and a rise in the number of South American fast-food restaurants. The already-high number of eateries is expected to double in the next 10 years.

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Something to do for everyone

Attendance down at park

by Rebecca Messer
Staff Writer

Not as many area residents have been attending the programs offered by Cass City parks and recreation this summer.

Whether it be at the pool taking swimming lessons, joining arts and crafts or par-

ticipating in a summer recreational sports league, attendance has been down. Even though attendance is down, parks and recreation employees continue to work hard to provide activities for every interest and every age level.

Sarah Wright, director of the arts and crafts program, and her staff have been keep-

ing area children busy this summer with a variety of activities.

Although attendance has been down this year, plenty of children are still taking advantage of what arts and crafts have to offer.

In addition to offering normal arts and crafts such as basket weaving, copper tooling and plaster molds, the program has offered special days to keep area children busy.

T-shirt day was the first special day organized by Wright and her staff. More than 70 children had the opportunity to create their very own t-shirt by one of 2 methods. They could either color sand paper and iron it on their shirt or use a spin art machine donated by a local craft store that spun an array of colors onto the shirts.

About 21 children rode bikes in the Fourth of July parade. Two recent activity days were treasure hunt day and carnival day.

Twenty clues were hidden throughout the recreational park and the children were broken into groups of 9 to find the hidden treasure. Candy was passed out to the winning team.

The arts and crafts program has also offered activities for preschool age children, as well. Two of the special days were nature scavenger hunt, where the preschoolers had a bag and brought back any-

thing from nature they found interesting, and obstacle course day.

Upcoming events are summer Olympics day, Aug. 2, and an end of the summer picnic, Aug. 15.

Most of the activities are geared for children age 7 to 12. There is no fee to join and interested children can join activities at any time.

Also offered from the arts and crafts building is a summer recreational sports league. Coordinator Aaron Hewitt works with children age 7 to 16 throughout the summer, but he added he will accept all ages.

"Pretty much if they can shoot or play the sport we let them play," he said.

Five different sports, basketball, softball, soccer, inline skating and golf, are offered Monday through Thursday. Friday, Hewitt said, is mystery day.

"I try to come up with a different sport or activity to do for Fridays," he said.

All sports are offered from 3 to 4 p.m. with the exception of golf, which is from 9 to 11 a.m. at Northwood Shores Golf Course.

Hewitt said attendance has been low for him also. "We started out with 20 or 30 kids, but lately because of camps and vacation Bible school, we've had maybe 10."

Because of the low attendance, keeping the activities going has been difficult,

Hewitt said. "Even if the kids show up," he explained, "if they walk up and see no other kids there, they don't stay."

The sports program will be offered through Aug. 16.

Swimming is another popular activity for children during their summer break. Attendance, however, has been low also. Pool co-director Jennifer Freundt attributes the poor attendance to the weather.

"We haven't had as hot a summer as in past years," she said.

While attendance at open swim has been down, the swimming lessons and other activities offered at the pool have had good attendance, she said.

The pool offers Red Cross swimming lessons, levels one through 7. The swim lessons are offered in 4, 2-week sessions throughout the summer. The fourth session starts Aug. 5. Lessons cost \$10.

One of the more popular programs this summer, according to Freundt, has been the water aerobics offered from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. "We have actually had a pretty good following for aerobics."

Also offered are infant and preschool aquatics and private swimming lessons for children as well as adults. The pool will close for the summer during the week of Aug. 18.



DEAN MCBRIDE, 13, of Cass City spent Thursday afternoon at Helen Stevens Memorial Pool trying to cool off. The pool offers many sessions of open swimming as well as swimming lessons and water aerobics.



THE ARTS AND CRAFTS program in Cass City has offered a variety of activities for children of all ages this summer. Kyle Swanson, 7, of Cass City plays pin drop Friday afternoon during carnival day, while his friend, Kyle Hartwick, 8, of Cass City watches.

Several face charges

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

•Jonathan Swinton, 42, Vassar, was charged with carrying a dangerous weapon (shotgun) with unlawful intent and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony July 26 in Juniata Township.

Bond was set at \$3,000 and a preliminary examination was scheduled for Aug. 5 at 9:30 a.m.

•Maximo Sandoval, 43, Akron, faces one count of assault with a dangerous weapon (beer bottle) June 29 in Akron Township.

Bond was set at \$5,000 and a preliminary exam was slated for Aug. 5.

•Inmate Robert J. Engle, 51, was arraigned on a charge of extortion May 20 in Indianfields Township.

He faces a preliminary exam Aug. 5. Bond was set at \$5,000.

•Jeffrey S. Pritchard, 23, Vassar, is charged with malicious destruction of property valued at more than \$100 (1994 Chevrolet Lumina) July 5 in Vassar Township.

Bond was set at \$2,000 and a preliminary exam was

scheduled for Aug. 5.

•Edward M. Palmer, 18, Caro, was charged with 3 counts of conspiracy to commit breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny, 3 counts of breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny, and 2 counts of larceny in a building stemming from break-ins last December in Dayton Township.

Bond was set at a combined \$3,000. A preliminary exam will be held Aug. 5.

•Daniel J. Spencer, 36, Caro, faces charges of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, driving while his license was suspended or revoked, possession of an open intoxicant in a motor vehicle, driving without insurance, and unlawful use of a registration plate July 12 in Ellington Township.

His preliminary exam was scheduled for Aug. 5. Bond was set at \$2,000.

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FACT	SOURCE
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• \$2,326.50 in IRS Tax Penalties Paid From General Fund Without obtaining Board of Commissioner's approval.	IRS Letter and Voucher - May 1996
• "Illegal Investments" (Do not adhere to State Laws and Attorney General Opinions).	Auditor's Financial Statements Auditor's Management Letters - 5 years
• Mingled County Business with Political Activity.	Letters to Schools Disbursing Taxes - May 1996 - Asking for support on official letterhead.
• School Taxes Not Paid Out In a Timely Manner	Auditor's Management Letter - 1994

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Thursday afternoon Mrs. Mary Beardsley and Mrs. Elsie Blades visited their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Papp, Mr. and Mrs. John Shultz and John Cook, all of Frankenmuth.

Mr. and Mrs. Olin Bouck attended the Witherspoon family reunion at Lighthouse Park and later visited Mrs. Dorothy Sprague and Lynne Peterson at Lakeside Sunday.

Debbie LeValle and Lindsay of Vernon, and Tiffany Silver of Bay City were Sunday guests of Reva Silver.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt attended the Purdue family reunion Sunday at Fuller Park.

Mark Farrelly was a Monday afternoon guest and Cliff Ross was a Tuesday forenoon guest of Allen Farrelly.

Sharon Depcinski of St. Louis, Mo., spent a week and a half with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski.

Gladys Briolat and Arnold Grifka were Thursday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Glaza.

Sue Sofka of Davison and Winnifred Sofka were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Steven Sofka, Krysten and Thomas at Harrison. Other guests were Betty Cornett, Coleen Cornett and David Longuski of Bad Axe.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Terry of

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Elkton were Tuesday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Konkel and Marney.

Mrs. Curtis Cleland was a Friday guest of Mrs. Alex Cleland and Carol Laming. Art Morell was a Wednesday guest of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Shagena.

Ten members of the Wednesday Morning Breakfast Club met at Pat's restaurant in Ubyly.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Depcinski went to the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubyly Sunday evening to pay respects to Gerald Wills.

Mrs. John O'Henley was a Thursday afternoon guest of Mrs. Martin Sweeney.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Canham and Mr. and Mrs. Don Canham of Niagara Falls, Canada, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Wills of Port Austin and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wills of Las Vegas, Nev., spent the weekend with Mrs. Gerald Wills and Monday attended the funeral of Gerald Wills at the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubyly.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rumpitz were Wednesday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Rumpitz.

Bobbie Allen and Allen Farrelly were Tuesday guests of Cheryl Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Smith, Nicholas and Brian of Mansfield, Ohio, and Betty Depcinski and friend, Joe Myers, of Gladwin joined the rest of the Depcinski family for the weekend. Other Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Greg Krozek of Kinde.

Reva Silver was a Tuesday guest of Mrs. Gerald Wills.

Allen and Mark Farrelly spent Friday forenoon golfing at Verona Hills Golf Course.

Mrs. Alex Particka and Mrs. Melvin Particka went with a group from St. John's Catholic Church in Ubyly to Chesaning Wednesday to see the Roy Clark show on the Chesaning Show Boat.

Sue Sofka of Davison spent the weekend with Winnifred Sofka.

Mildred Porter and Bob McKay of Taylor visited Mr.

and Mrs. Glen Shagena Monday morning and later attended the funeral of Gerald Wills at the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home in Ubyly.

Mrs. Martin Sweeney spent from Saturday till Thursday with Dr. and Mrs. Tom Collins at their cottage at New Era and also visited Loretta Belsinger at White Hall. En route home Thursday she visited Mabel Gardener at Unionville.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Bouck of Pigeon and Mrs. Clarence Miller of Cass City visited Mr. and Mrs. Olin Bouck.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Silver of Taylor, Ohio, were Sunday guests of Reva Silver.

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Schultz, Shannon, Sabrina and Samantha of Canton were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Majeski of San Diego, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bezemek and Allen Farrelly were Saturday evening guests of Laura Kulish.

Mrs. Jerry Cumin, Janessa, James, Joey and Joshua of Fountain Hills, Ariz., spent 3 weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski and visited other relatives. Other relatives at the Ray Depcinski home were Nancy Carpenter, Dean Jr., Michael, Jessica and Timothy of Hay Market, Va. They also visited relatives in Caro and this vicinity. Dean Carpenter came later and returned home with his wife and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Glaza were Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Glaza.

Mrs. Curtis Cleland and Mrs. Hiram Keyser attended the Friends of the Library picnic in Cass City hosted by the librarians in Cass City.

Thirteen members of the Traveling Breakfast Club met at Pat's Restaurant in Ubyly Thursday morning for breakfast. The group will meet at the Crossroads Restaurant next Thursday.

Mrs. Kevin Robinson was a Wednesday guest of Ordean Michalski.

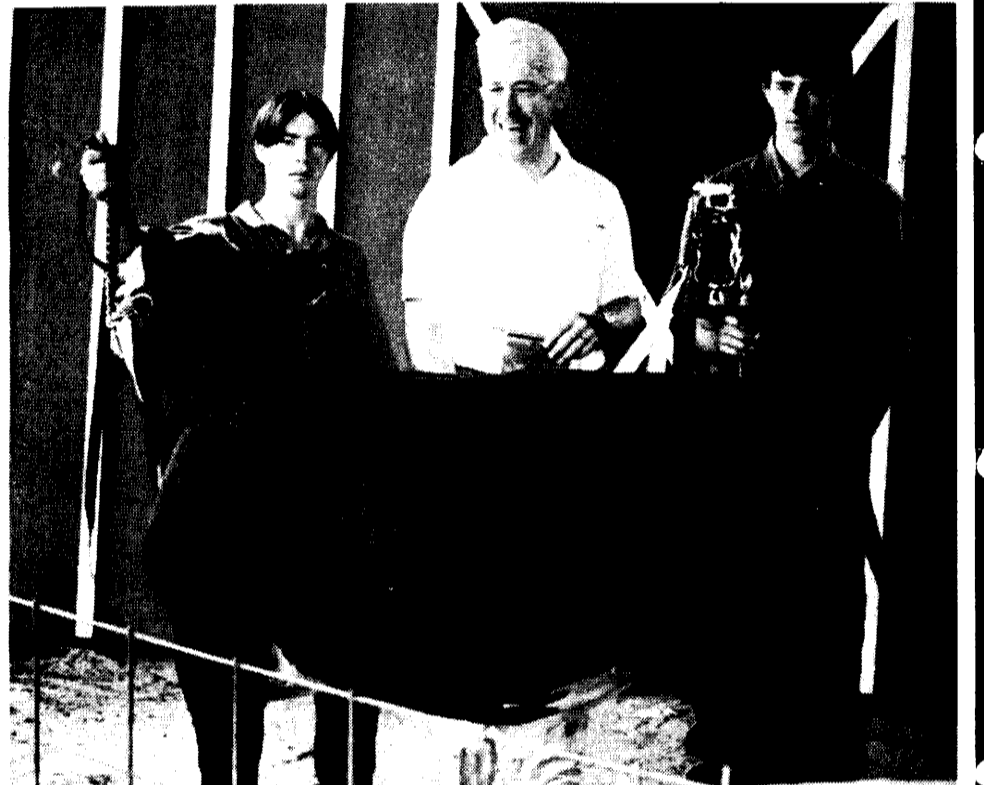
Mrs. Glen Shagena was a Tuesday guest of Mary Beardsley.

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New pastor Rev. Lee:

Laity leadership crucial to growth of Methodist Church

The United Methodist denomination has seen its congregations dwindle, but there is an effort underway to reverse the trend.

It's an area that is particularly important to the Rev. Kwang M. Lee, who recently began serving as pastor of the Kingston and Deford United Methodist churches.

"It's a strong movement. I think we're going to see some changes and grow," Lee recently commented in his office at the Kingston church. "I would like to see every church grow, and I hope to see that happening here."

"If you ask me to say one word to reflect my understanding of ministry, then I would say that it is discipleship," he said. "There are many things in our denomination that trouble me. But, one is the declining number of missionaries being sent out to many parts of this country, and many parts in the world.

"I believe the words of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Matthew 28:18-20 applies

not only to the clergy, but also the laity: And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age'.

LAITY LEADERSHIP

"We need to build up strong laity leadership (because) it's their ministry, their church," Lee continued. "When they think the pastor takes care of everything, there's no way, the numbers decline.

"I always believed that it is not the shepherd, but a lamb who gives birth to a lamb. There is no doubt that leadership of the laity is crucial for the growth of ministry."

A big part of Lee's ministry is encouraging people to express and use their own talents and spiritual gifts to build up the church as a

whole.

Towards that end, he is a strong believer that everyone should make a sincere effort not to make prejudgments about other people, including new pastors.

"I think we have to be aware of the fact that everyone has an opinion," he said. "We need to slow down and make some judgements, make some evaluations and make some observations" rather than prejudging someone.

Lee, who holds 2 services each Sunday — one for the 18-member Deford congregation and the other for the 114-member Kingston congregation — has served the ministry full-time since 1988.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, he moved to the United States as a teenager in order to join his parents, who were in the ministry in the Bay Area of San Francisco.

EDUCATION

He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1982 with a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science double major degree in philosophy and psychology.

He went on to earn his master's degree in religion from the School of Theology at Claremont, Claremont, Calif., in 1984, and his Master of Divinity Degree and Master of Theology Degree in socio-Christian ethics from the Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J., in 1988.

Lee is continuing work on his Doctor of Ministry degree through the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

Between 1974 and 1988, Lee served as a volunteer counselor at the Zion Korean United Methodist Church in Sunnyvale, Calif.; youth pastor at the West Covina Korean UMC in West Covina, Calif.; youth pastor at the Korean Community Church of New Jersey; and youth pastor at KUMC of Havertown, Penn.

In 1988, he entered the ministry full time as associate

pastor of the Ocean Pine Community Church in Maryland and local pastor of the Korean Mission UMC in Salisbury, Maryland.

A year later, he became associate pastor of an English speaking worship service and ministry in Troy, Mich., and in 1991, Lee was named pastor in charge of Bethel UMC in Centerline, Mich.

More recently, he served as pastor of the Sterling Heights UMC in Sterling Heights.

Lee, who was ordained by Bishop Judith Craig in 1993 as an elder in the United Methodist Church, is married. He and his wife, Mi Hyun Lee, have 3 children, Josephine Seung-Ah, 4, Jed Woo Jin, 3, and Janel Seung-Hyun, 6 months.

\$150,000 for farm help announced

Christine White, Acting State Executive Director, for the USDA Farm Service Agency announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved \$150,000 for the Emergency Conservation Program in Michigan.

This funding will be available to farmers in Berrien, Lapeer and Tuscola counties, several of the counties most severely impacted by excess rain and flooding during the planting season.

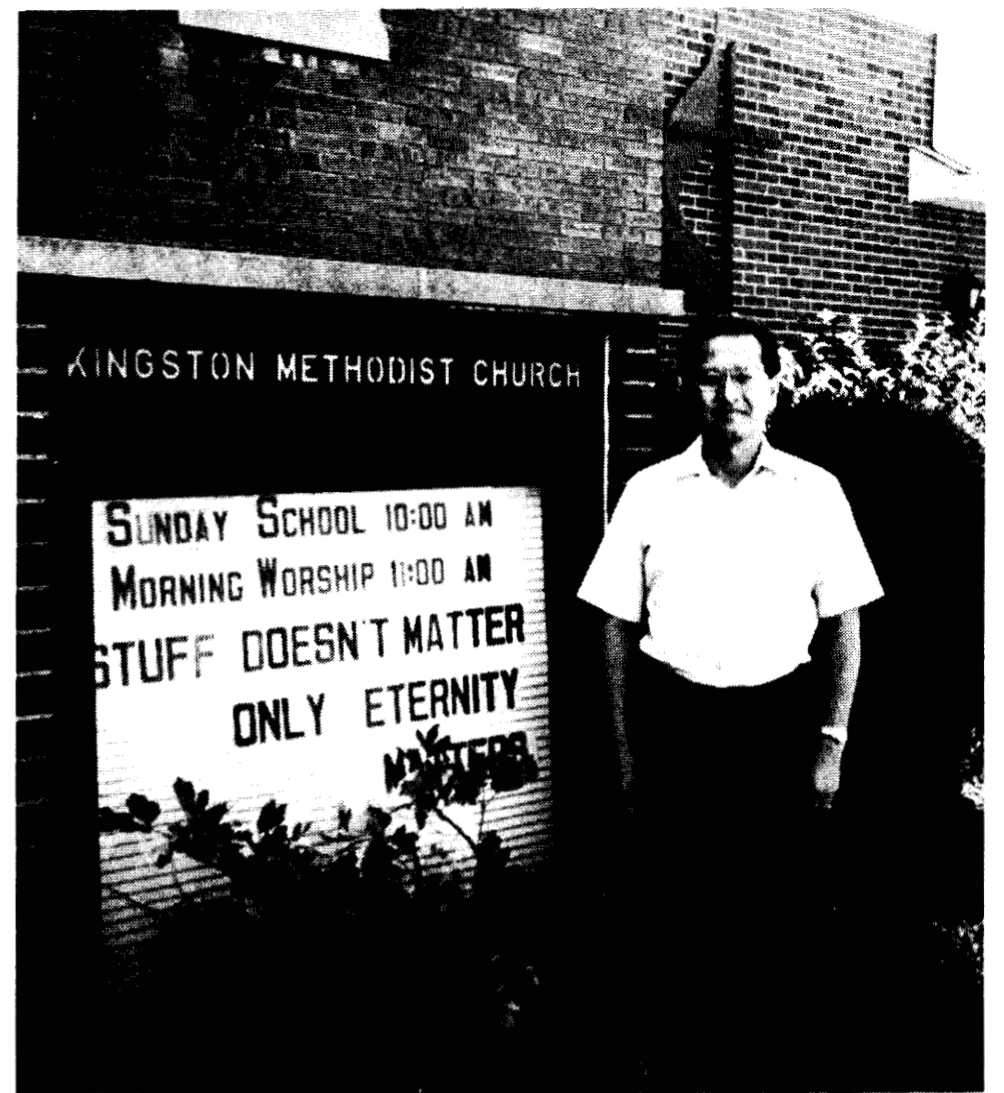
The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides financial assistance to agricultural producers to restore damaged cropland back to the prior cropping condition. Storm damage to cropland must adversely affect the productive capacity of the land and be so costly to rehabilitate that Federal assistance is or will be needed to return the land to productive agricultural use.

Eligible ECP measures include grading and shaping severely damaged farmland and restoring conservation structures and other similar installations.

A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost-share assistance not to exceed 64 percent of the eligible cost of restoration measures. No producer is eligible for more than \$200,000 per natural disaster occurrence.

White also stated Michigan has received funding under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for fiscal year 1996. This program includes practices which may be used to restore cropland where the damages are not so severe or may not qualify under the ECP program. This program is available in counties not included in the ECP designation.

Producers who have suffered cropland damages from excess rain and flooding may contact the local county FSA office and request assistance. To be eligible for cost-share assistance, practices must not be started until an application has been filed at the FSA office.



LAITY LEADERSHIP is crucial for the growth of a ministry, according to the Rev. Kwang M. Lee, who recently began serving as pastor of the United Methodist churches in Kingston and Deford.

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