

Merry Christmas!

CAS

VOLUME 90, NUMBER 39

SPRINGPORT BINDERY

SPRINGPORT MI 49284

GY CHRONICLE

ICHIGAN - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1996

FIFTY CENTS

18 PAGES

Inside

- Cass City Red Hawk wrestling team has Coach Don Marke smiling. Undefeated in the Thumb C League, the team is exceeding the most optimistic pre-season forecasts.

Page 6

- Owen-Gage and Cass City students depict Christmas with art and stories.

Pages 12-17

- The Kingston community works together to see that the children have warm coats, hats and boots.

Page 9

- County hires Dawn Adams to head Tuscola County Mosquito Control program.

Page 18

Grant enables village to hire cop

Cass City and Caro are among several Michigan communities who will receive grants to help put an additional full-time police officer on duty.

U.S. Department of Justice officials announced the grants as part of its Community Oriented Policing Services Universal Hiring Program.

The grants pay up to 75 percent of the total salary and benefits for new police officers.

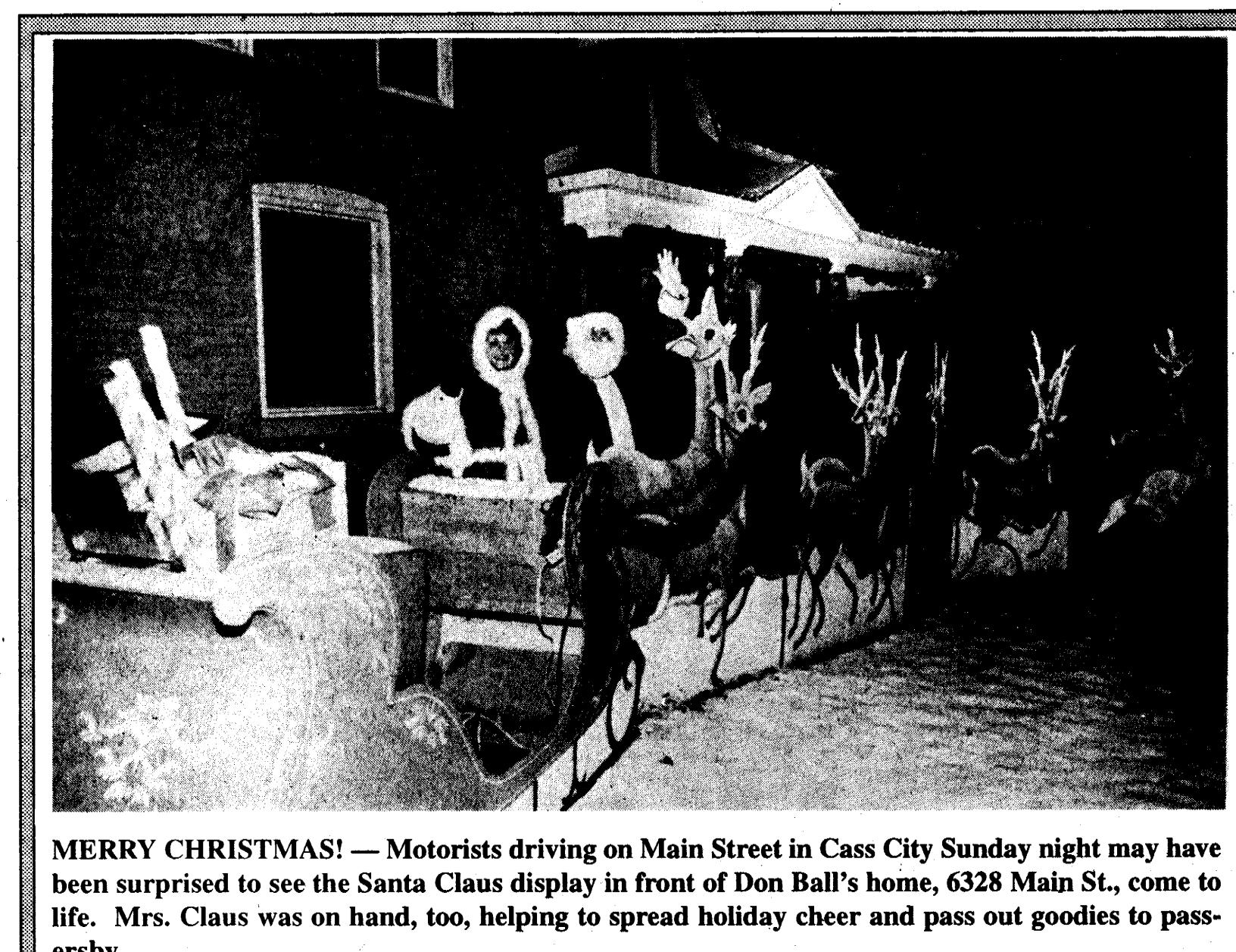
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Tractor - pickup accident

Passersby aid crash victims

Two people were hurt in a fiery crash Thursday morning about 9 miles southeast of Cass City in Sanilac County's Evergreen Township.

Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies said Lyle D. Martin, 15, 3320 Leslie Rd., Decker,



MERRY CHRISTMAS! — Motorists driving on Main Street in Cass City Sunday night may have been surprised to see the Santa Claus display in front of Don Ball's home, 6328 Main St., come to life. Mrs. Claus was on hand, too, helping to spread holiday cheer and pass out goodies to passersby.

Survey reveals

Most flu shots full strength here

Area residents who received a flu vaccination through a county health department clinic or at Hills

and Dales General Hospital can rest assured their immunization was full strength. Thumb health officials have

been bombarded with phone calls following news that 5.8 million weakened doses of flu vaccine administered in

the United States have been recalled by the manufacturer.

"There have been recent media reports about decreased potency, or weak, flu vaccine with suggestions that some people might need to have their vaccine repeated," acknowledged Christine Hoppe of the Huron-Sanilac-Tuscola Associated Health Departments.

However, she pointed out, "The vaccine manufacturer was Parke-Davis and there were 11 lot numbers identified, (and) the 11 lot numbers recalled had a decreased potency in only one of its components."

The recalled vaccine constituted only 5 to 7 percent of the Parke-Davis vaccine administered this year.

Hoppe said the Parke-Davis vaccine was not used at any of the clinics sponsored by the upper Thumb health departments.

"Any person who received their vaccine through the Huron, Sanilac or Tuscola County health departments should not be concerned about the potency of the vaccine they received," she added.

In Tuscola County, that assurance covers about 1,750

Please turn to back page.

Village of Cass City 1997 Wage/Fringe Benefits

	OFFICE	1996	1997
Manager	51,875	53,432	
Bookkeeper	26,737	27,540	
Secretary	26,737	27,540	
Start	23,297		
6 months	24,713		
12 months	26,176		
30 months	27,540		

	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	
Superintendent	41,193	42,429
Crew	27,316	28,136
1st year	28,816	29,681
2nd year	30,445	31,359
3rd year	32,109	33,073
4th year	34,600	35,638

	WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	
Superintendent	41,193	42,429
Chief Operator	35,443	36,507
Operator	27,316	28,136
1st year	28,816	29,681
2nd year	30,445	31,359
3rd year	32,109	33,073
4th year	34,600	35,638

	POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Police Chief	41,193	42,429
Sergeant	35,157	36,212
Officer	27,316	28,136
1st year	28,816	29,681
2nd year	30,445	31,359
3rd year	32,109	33,073
4th year	34,600	35,638



TWO PASSERSBY are credited with helping a pair of Sanilac County residents escape from their pickup truck after the vehicle collided with a tractor, skidded into a ditch and caught fire Thursday morning in Evergreen Township.

Village pays \$10,000 for access lot

The Cass City Village Council last week approved spending \$10,000 for a one-acre parcel in the industrial park.

The price tag raised eyebrows among some council members. However, trustees unanimously voted in favor of the purchase, citing 3 reasons: location, location, location.

Village President L.E. Althaver explained the parcel, owned by Daniel and Ellen Toner, 4117 Doerr Rd., is a 330-foot by 66-foot easement that extends from Division Street west into the center of 65 acres of industrial park property.

Althaver said the easement would "ensure the viability" of the now vacant industrial park land by ensuring an ideal right-of-way for potential purchasers. It would also provide direct traffic access to Seeger Street from Division Street, and it would be an advantage in terms of access to village water and sewer service.

Trustee Elwyn Helwig commented that he feels the price is too high. Trustee Matt Prieskorn agreed.

"It's (price) right in line with what we paid for the property," Althaver said.

It was noted the village made an offer of \$5,000 for the property 5 or 6 years ago, however, the Toners rejected the bid. Another attempt to purchase Doerr Road frontage in recent years also failed when the village was outbid.

Trustee Sandra Haley said she wasn't comfortable with the proposed one-acre purchase. The owner knows the village wants the property and, subsequently, the village has no bargaining power, she added.

"I think it makes a great deal of difference in the value of the (industrial park) property," Althaver said. "More than anything, we're buying a key location."

Trustee Les Karr's motion to purchase the property passed on a vote of 6-0.

1997 BUDGET

In other business during the Dec. 17 rescheduled meeting, the council reviewed and approved a proposed 1997 budget totalling \$1,988,900.

The plan represents a planned spending increase of \$147,140, or 8.1 percent over actual estimated 1996 expenditures.

Village officials will balance the budget with \$25,850.

Please turn to back page.

Village grants employees 3% pay raise

Cass City Village employees will earn a combined \$18,225 more in pay in 1997 following action during a rescheduled village council meeting last week.

The council's adoption of a proposed 1997 budget formalized across-the-board pay hikes of 3 percent for all full-time employees. The increase is the same percentage approved in 1996.

The village employs a total

of 15 full-time people, most of whom are at the top of the pay scale based on years of service.

The positions are: village manager, bookkeeper and secretary; department of public works superintendent and 5 crew members; wastewater treatment plant superintendent, chief operator and 3 crew members; and police chief and 2 sergeants.

Please turn to back page.

Worth-Kappen rites told

Jill Marie Worth and Robert Wallace Kappen were married July 20 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cass City. The Rev. Gerald Meyer performed the 2 p.m.



Jill and Robert Kappen

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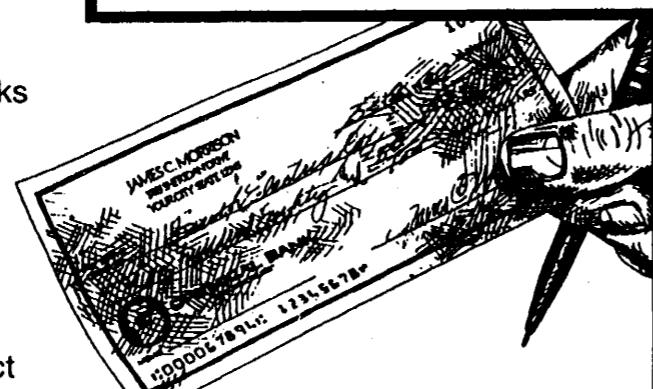
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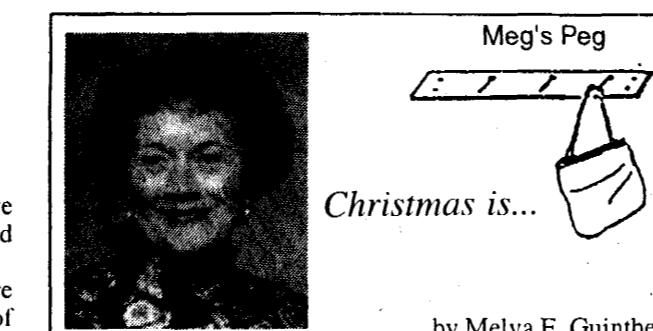
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by Melva E. Guinther

ceremony.
Parents of the bride are Jeanette Worth of Caro and Tom Parent of Reese.

Parents of the groom are Sherry and Rob Kappen of Cass City.

Maid of honor was Jody Worth of Caro.

Bridesmaids were Ronda Hultz of Millington, Lisa Parker of Mayville, Jaime Bill of Sebewaing, Kristen DeVine of Kingston and Laurie Harris of Millington.

Flower girl was Brianna Johnston of Millington.

Barry Brown of Cass City served as best man.

Groomsmen were Rich Rabideau of Caro, Doug Wilson, Bill Langenburg, Jeff VanAllen and Joe Janssen of Cass City.

Ushers were Lynn Lounsbury of Cass City and Jason Haslacker of Caro.

Soloist was Karen Powell of Cass City and Ruth Balzer of Cass City was organist.

A reception was held for 375 guests at the Knights of Columbus in Caro.

The couple visited Mackinac Island while on their honeymoon in northern Michigan.

Jill and Rob reside 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. 27-30-31, JAN. 3

Friday - Swiss steak, rice, corn, peas, peanut salad, Italian bread, blueberry cheese cake.

Monday - Oven fried chicken, lima beans, salad bar, French bread, pineapple tidbits, baked potato.

Tuesday - Roast beef/gravy, mashed potatoes, Harvard beets, tomato wedges, variety bread, apple pie.

Friday - Pork steak, baked potato, sauerkraut, tossed salad, roll, rice pudding.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

Christmas is memories.
Memories of years gone by,
of happy times spent with
those we love.

Memories of lean times
when gifts were scarce and
small, but appreciated.

Sometimes the memories
leave a feeling of emptiness.
There's a special place where
someone used to be that can't be
filled by anyone or anything else.

A loved one who's gone, children who've
outgrown us, grandchildren far away.

But even in the sadness of
being alone, we are grateful for
the memories.

It's traditions.
For us, it's playing table
games and listening to
Christmas carols.

The good-natured quibbling
and imaginative arguments
over whether to open the
stocking gifts on Christmas
Eve or Christmas morning.

It's Cherry Winks and Date
Balls, honey baked ham, turkey
and cranberry sauce, which no one particularly
likes but everybody eats because it's Christmas.

It's the box of Whitman
Samplers for the one who
can't eat coconut and
Frangos for the one who
can't get them where she
lives.

It's last minute shopping
when there's really no more
room under the tree.

Christmas is caring.
It's having a keener awareness
of those around us who are
less fortunate.

They're always there, but
they become more visible in
the light of Christmas.

The spirit of the season
somehow loosens our purse
strings as well as our heart
strings.

It's giving to make sure no
child goes without a gift and
no homeless person without
a meal.

Shopping when you're just
too tired, but determined to
find something that will truly
please that special person.

Christmas is magical.
It can be seen in the eyes of
a small child wondering at
the colored lights, the mag-

nificent toys, the Christmas
tree and Santa Claus.

The way a tin of cookies
softens the heart of even the
scrooges of the world.

Quarreling family members
setting aside their differences,
at least for the holiday.
At Christmas time miracles
seem more commonplace.
Even wars have been put on
hold for Christmas.

Christmas is awesome:

If we can just quiet ourselves amid the hectic activity
that the season has become and reflect upon its true meaning, we have to feel some of the awe the shepherds must have experienced that first Christmas.

To realize that God the Creator left the majesty and glory that was His to become a human baby, dependent upon mortals for care and sustenance is awesome.

That His ultimate purpose in doing so was crucifixion on a crude cross in order to save us is beyond human comprehension.

In a word, Christmas is love.

Humane Society to meet Jan. 6

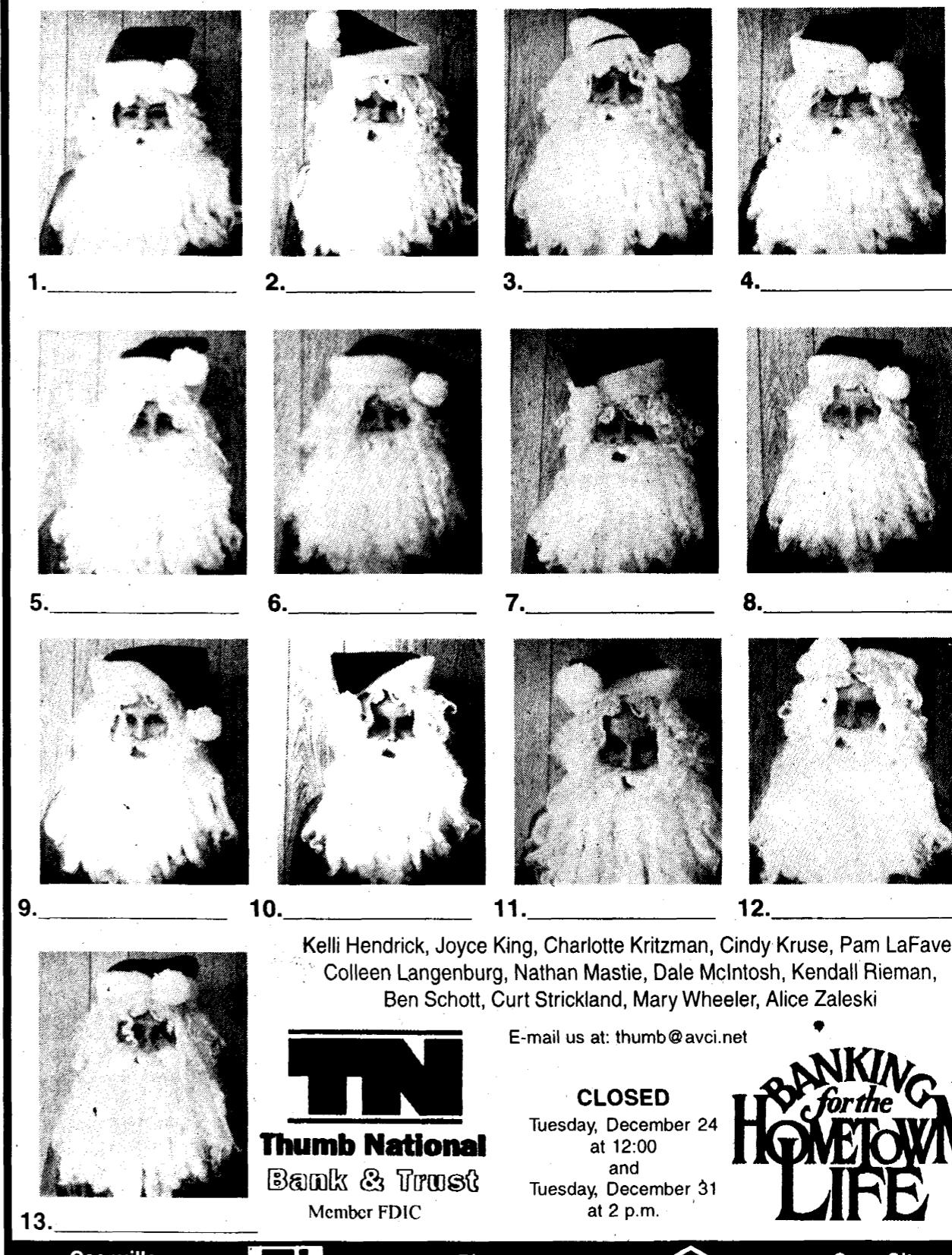
The next meeting of the
Humane Society of Tuscola
County will be held Jan. 6 at the
Brentwood Restaurant in
Caro.

Dinner is at 6 p.m. with a
business meeting and speakers
at 7 p.m. The guests will be
Barbara Bowes, president,
and Donna Richmond, secretary/membership, Humane
Society of Bay County.

Ho...Ho...Ho... Merry Christmas

Match the right Santa with the right name and qualify to
WIN A \$25.00 CHRISTMAS CLUB!

DEADLINE TO ENTER: Friday, January 3. Mail or bring this entry blank into any Thumb National Bank office to qualify. Watch for the January 8, 1997 Chronicle for Santa IDs and our winner!



Kelli Hendrick, Joyce King, Charlotte Kitzman, Cindy Kruse, Pam LaFave, Colleen Langenburg, Nathan Mastie, Dale McIntosh, Kendall Rieman, Ben Schott, Curt Strickland, Mary Wheeler, Alice Zaleski

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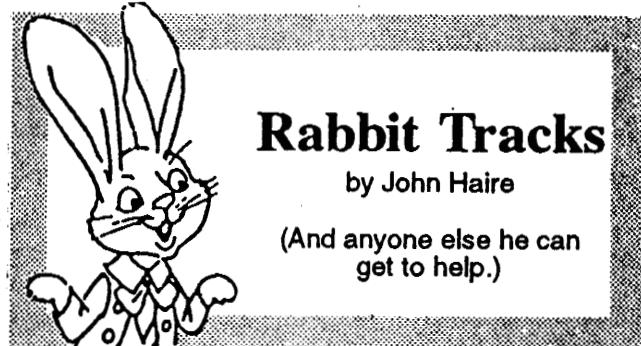
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Cass City
517-872-4311

**Rabbit Tracks**

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help.)

Dick Walsh from Gagetown called to say that he no longer can get delivery of the Detroit Free Press. It's a sign of the times. Papers continue to consolidate areas to cut costs. There was a time when the Port Huron Times Herald was carrier delivered in town, fighting it out with the Bay City Times and the Saginaw News. There will be more of that in the future as the cost of delivery continues to increase.

Every media depends on the help of the people it serves to help in disseminating the news. Weeklies such as the Chronicle are even more dependent, because the stories are always local and usually more in depth than that of mega-media.

A good illustration is the fire picture in this issue. We were on the scene because a passerby took the time to call us and report it.

Sorry, we didn't get her name but she has our gratitude, as do all the folks who help all year long.

Here's an item from the "Michigan Trivia" book. The question: Where does more than half of the garden seed used throughout the country come from? Answer, Detroit. Surprised?

For the New Year holiday the Chronicle will again be published on Monday. Deadline for news and advertising will be Friday. Our thanks for your usual good cooperation.

Eating out popular

The popularity of meals away from home continues to grow, according to a recent USDA study. American households spent nearly 40 percent of their food dollar on food away from home since the mid-1980s compared to only 20 in the early '70s.

The Weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	35	26	.28"
Wednesday	26	10	tr.
Thursday	18	6	0
Friday	25	9	.03"
Saturday	35	20	.03"
Sunday	39	32	.07"
Monday	--	--	--

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

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ACKERMAN'S BIKE REPAIR proprietor Scott Ackerman presents Cass City's Louise Ponder with a new 20" bike for her guess of 2,754 spoke nipples bottled during the store's in house Christmas give-a-way. Actual nipples in the bottle total 2,850.

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The
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I finished my Christmas gift shopping in about 10 minutes a couple of weeks ago.

I had strict orders from Esther that her gift had to be selected and purchased by me personally. I did it with trepidation and reservations, making sure that the gift came with exchange privileges, no question asked. Even with that safeguard, I may be in trouble. In casual conversation I learned she is a size 14, not the size 16 that I purchased.

If I get past that crisis I should have clear sailing. All of the rest of the presents will be purchased by my daughter, who then sends me a bill. Opening it brings an added thrill to the Christmas season.

Our family tradition calls for presents to be opened on Christmas morning, not Christmas Eve, which is the custom for many.

When young kids are involved, their first peek at the presents under the tree is the highlight of the season. Those all too brief moments when Santa Claus is real and the magic of the season is reflected in glowing faces alive with wondrous astonishment.

After that, the opening of the gifts among adults soon to have the floor covered with discarded wraps with piles of gifts beside each chair.

Does this happen in most families? Feeling that it's almost sinful that we have so much and so many have so little? Really, when you get past the kids, the gift exchange is fun but it's a distant second to what makes the day.

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**The back forty**

by Roger Pond

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Still, this little tree was hoping it would be the first one chosen when families came to select their Christmas trees.

A few weeks before the big holiday families began arriving at the farm. One by one trees were chosen and taken home for Christmas, until finally, the little fir was the only one left! The little tree was near tears with the prospect that he might not be chosen for a Christmas tree.

Then, just as this poor, little sapling was about to give up hope of ever amounting to anything, along came a big flock of woodpeckers and wiped him out!

The moral of the story? "Being cut for Christmas is not the worst thing that can happen to a tree."

Mr. Chips Food Store

Mr. Chips "BACK TO THE 50'S"

Mr. Chips Food Store

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Obituaries

Judy Hranec

Judy Darlene Hranec, 49, of Kingston, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1996.

She was born May 8, 1949, in Escanaba to William and Ruby (Shepley) Lockhart.

Mrs. Hranec was a graduate of Kingston High School and worked for a time at General Cable.

Judy is survived by her husband, Frank; step-children, Frank, Patricia, Cathy and David; 2 grandchildren; brothers, Ken, John and Joe; sisters, Betty, Eileen, June, Janice, Delores, Elaine and Vickie, and many nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, William.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 21, in Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston, with the Rev. David Ballard officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Family Discretionary Fund.

Interment was in Kingston Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston.

Michael Kostanko

Michael Kostanko, 81, of Cass City, died Sunday, Dec. 22, 1996, at Hills and Dales General Hospital after a brief illness.

He was born in Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 2, 1915, to Nikolas and Anna (Gaul) Kostenko.

He married the former Helen Herhager, May 22, 1944, in Rockwood, Mich.

Kostanko served his country as a member of the U.S. Army. He worked at General Motors, Steering & Gear in Saginaw.

He is survived by his wife, Helen, of Cass City; children, Patricia (Richard) Britt of Cass City, John (Terry) of Kingston and Maiga Cole of Port Huron; daughter-in-law, Marcie Kostanko of Cass City; a brother, Steve

Borushko of Sterling; a sister, Viola Skiba of Royal Oak; 8 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Thomas.

Funeral services were scheduled Tuesday, Dec. 24, at 11 a.m. at St. Pancratius Church, with the Rev. Paul Bala officiating.

Interment will be in the Novesta Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Memorials may be made to the family discretionary fund.

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

Stanley Van Vliet

Stanley A. Van Vliet, 71, of Decker, died Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996, in St. Luke's Hospital.

Born June 18, 1925, in Cass City, he was the son of Arthur and Iva (Fike) Van Vliet. He married Wanda Bard Oct. 25, 1943, in Napoleon, Ohio.

A dairy farmer, he was a sales representative for WKYQ radio and a real estate broker. He was also a member of the NFO, Caro, American Legion and VFW post #4837 in Marlette.

Surviving are his mother, Iva, of Caro; children, Kathy (Dallas) Nichols of Snover, Susan Hutchinson, Richard (Mary Jane) Van Vliet and Christine (Dennis) Little, all of Cass City; 9 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren, and great friends, Connie Booth and Brenda and Johnathan (Gizmo) Pollock.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Wanda; father, Arthur, and brother, Clifford Van Vliet.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 23, at Novesta Church of Christ, with Charles Emmert, pastor, officiating.

Interment was in Elkland Township Cemetery, Cass City.

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

Deer, crop damage dominates annual Farm Bureau meet

Wildlife crop damage, farmland preservation, increasing the state gas tax and reforming the dairy pricing formula dominated policy debate during the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting in Traverse City.

While the 450 delegates considered a total of 175 policy recommendations, wildlife crop damage was a major focus of the policy discussion, according to Michigan Farm Bureau Public Affairs Director Al Almy.

In addition to approving a January 1999 deadline for reducing the state's deer herd to 1.3 million before considering a possible class-action lawsuit against the state, delegates also approved numerous measures to help accomplish that objective.

"Delegates approved policy calling for extension of the firearm deer season, allowing the use of tree stands during regular firearm deer season, and the establishment of a quota system for each of the state's deer herd management units," Almy said.

Delegates also endorsed a 7-cent increase in the gas tax to raise revenue for dealing with the state's rapidly deteriorating road infrastructure and supported continuation of the current distribution formula. Almy expects the gas tax issue to be a priority in the next Legislature.

"At this point the Legislature has recessed for the year and will not reconvene until mid-January 1997, so obviously nothing will happen until then," Almy advised. "I think there will be considerable discussion of this issue by the next Legislature, but I would not predict much likelihood of legislation being passed to increase the gas tax until at least mid-1997 at the earliest."

Farm Bureau members also endorsed numerous farm-



CASS CITY TOYS for Tots officials distributed toys to about 110 families Friday. Above, (from left) program Coordinator Sue Werschky and volunteers Gail Hutchinson and Karen Smolarkiewicz look over the bagged up toys at the Cass City VFW Post.

Calendar of Events

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

Friday, December 27

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

Basketball, Cass City at Caro.

Tuesday, December 31

New Year's Eve Gospel Sing, Cass City High School Auditorium, 8 p.m. Free will offering.

Wednesday, January 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
No Duplicate Bridge this week. Next game will be Jan. 8.
Last week's winners: John Haire and Bill Dupuis.

Tempo Reg.

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2 liter bottles....79¢ plus deposit

Cass City IGA will be closed Christmas Day so our employees can spend the Holiday with their families. We hope you and your families have a Happy Holiday. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Down Memory Lane

From the files of the Chronicle

5 YEARS AGO

Elkland Township fire fighters were called to the Scott and Cathleen Bellanger home on Doerr Rd., shortly after 2 p.m. Monday. The Bellangers and their 3 young children lost everything, from clothing to furniture to Christmas presents when their mobile home was gutted by fire just 2 days before Christmas. Within hours of the fire, more than \$800 was donated to the family, and more help was planned.

Toys For Tots volunteers delivered toys to more than 435 kids from 154 area families Saturday. The number of

needy families was up this year and donations were down, according to Toys For Tots Coordinator Sue Werschky.

Stephen Agar, a navy petty officer 1st class, is working with Haitian migrants now living at the Navy's base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The 31-year-old is the son of William and JoAnn Agar of Decker.

Harold J. Spear, 30, of Kingston was listed in "serious" condition Monday at Hurley Medical Center, Flint, following a one-vehicle traffic accident Friday in Koytlen Township.

Angie Gruber was crowned Owen-Gage's 1991 Snowball queen prior to Friday's game against North Branch Wesleyan. Senior Chris Anthes was voted king.

10 YEARS AGO

The remains of the snowman that was stolen from the display at the Lloyd Vyse home have been recovered. It was found by police officials at the gravel pit on Kelly Road, south of Cass City. Vandals who took it from the display used it for target practice, Vyse reported.

Clyde E. Wells, 58, escaped serious injury Saturday afternoon when a fire ignited by gasoline fumes ripped through a garage at his residence on M St. Total damage estimates are estimated at \$12,000 for lost tools and equipment, a destroyed car

and damage to another vehicle. The garage is valued at another \$6,000.

The Red Hawks won the early season battle for the Thumb B Association league lead Friday with a victory over challenging North Branch Broncos, 66-55. Dave Miller and Mike Kelley both scored 16 points and Kurt Bliss had 12.

Pastor Eldred Kelley officiated at the christening in Evangelical Free Church Dec. 14 of 11-week-old Brian and Brenda, twin children of Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Wright of Bay City. They are the grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wright.

Walter Jezewski and Donald Greenleaf entertained with violin and piano at the senior citizen meal site Christmas party Friday afternoon.

25 YEARS AGO

The large Christmas decoration that has hung over the intersection of Main and Seeger Streets for the past 5 years was damaged beyond repair Wednesday night when strong winds tossed it about, breaking 2 brace wires on the frame and the electrical wiring.

A second annual Christmas party for 20 boys at Teen Ranch of Marlette was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Bauer last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Miracle received notice Tuesday that their son, Glen, 21, was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service in Vietnam from the period covering December 1970 to November 1971.

The Woman's Study Club met Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Ella Croft for their Christmas party. Mrs. Neva Zinnecker gave a talk on the "First Christmas" and Mrs. Virginia Chisholm and Mrs. Etta McLellan reported on their trip to the Holy Land.

35 YEARS AGO

It will cost the village over a quarter of a million dollars to revamp its water system and provide adequate service.

William T. Putnam, 51, Tuscola County deputy sheriff, died suddenly of a heart attack Christmas morning.

Honor was accorded a Cass City boy recently through his church activities. William Dobbs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Dobbs, was notified of his selection as president of the Port Huron District Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Mary Christmas of Brunswick, Ohio, great-granddaughter of Mrs. V.A. Spitler, was on television Sunday. She will be 2 years old Jan. 1 and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Christmas.

Members of the Art Club met at the home of Mrs. Zella Vyse following a turkey dinner at the Fraser Church recently. New officers elected were Mrs. Edna Asher, president; Mrs. Hazel Gallagher, vice-president; Mrs. Gertrude Goertzen, secretary; Mrs. Vyse, Mrs. Hetty Livingston, Mrs. Grace Moore, Mrs. Lily Landon and Mrs. Christina Goodall, sunshine committee, and Edith Ward, reporter.

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- Music
- Tee-Shirts

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Candy, Crafts, Boxes,
Sacks, Light Sets,
Christmas Plaster Craft,
Boxed Christmas Cards

10% Senior Citizen Discount Every Wednesday

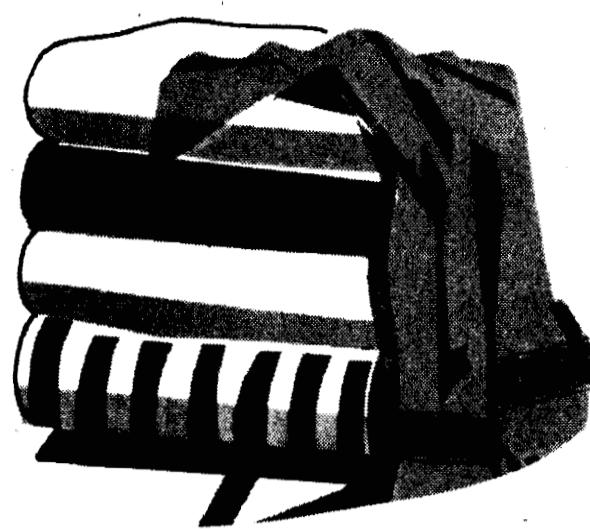
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1st Quality by Owens Ass't. Colors - While They Last



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Full	\$12.99
Queen	\$14.99

Mountain Made

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Ass't. Colors

24"x45"	\$1.99
24"x72"	\$2.99
24"x144"	\$6.99

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By Mountain Mist

45"x60"	\$2.99
72"x90"	\$4.99
81"x96"	\$5.99
90"x108"	\$6.99

20 oz. bags

Poly Fiberfill 2/\$5

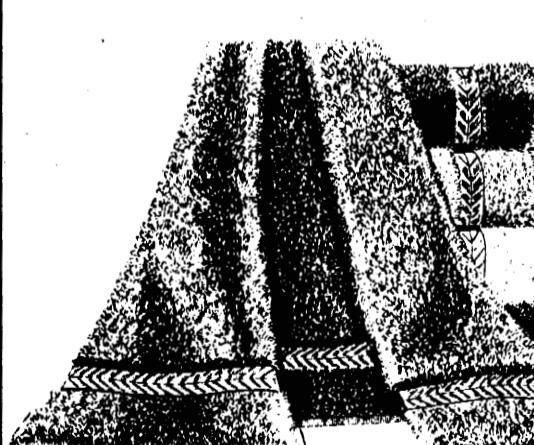
Terry KITCHEN TOWELS Slightly Irregular Only	99¢
Ass't. Patterns in 50 Poly/50 Cotton	

Cannon 180 count

PERCALE

SHEET SETS

Twin.....	\$9.99
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By Dundee Mills - First Quality

Bath Towels	\$2.99
Hand Towels	\$1.99
Wash Cloths	\$1.47



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Walbro: earnings likely to be less than anticipated

Walbro Corporation announced last week that fourth quarter and 12-month 1996 earnings are likely to be lower than analysts' estimates.

L.E. Althaver, chairman and chief executive officer, Walbro Corporation, stated that the lower earnings are due to several factors. "Weak passenger car sales in Europe, the strong dollar and continued insourcing of products by a major domestic automotive customer affected profits from automotive operations in the fourth quarter," he said.

"In addition, several factors that affected third quarter earnings continued into the fourth quarter as well. As previously noted, production at Walbro Automotive's new plastic fuel tank facility in Brazil did not begin in the

third quarter as planned. While production did begin in the fourth quarter, the customer-scheduled ramp-up was below expected levels and affected margins," Althaver said.

"Production at Walbro Engine Management's new carburetor plant in China is increasing more slowly than planned, with shipments remaining below scheduled levels in the fourth quarter," Althaver noted. "In addition, worldwide orders for lawn-and-garden products did not rebound as expected in the fourth quarter due to carry-over of customer inventory."

"Notwithstanding these issues, the outlook for 1997 remains positive based, in part, on new plastic fuel tank programs which will start in the second half of the year," the Walbro Chief Executive concluded.

In Tuscola County

Disaster aid totals \$3.26 million

Disaster assistance to 7 Michigan counties stemming from June 1996 flooding totaled \$24.7 million in grants and loans, including \$3.26 million for Tuscola County residents.

That's according to Tuscola County Emergency Manage-

ment Coordinator Deputy Patrick H. Finn, who noted the figure isn't final and may be higher as some cases have not been finalized yet.

The funding came in the weeks following a Presidential Disaster Declaration covering Bay, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, St. Clair, Sanilac

and Tuscola counties.

Of the total received in Tuscola County, Small Business Administration loans totalling \$694,900 went to repair 52 damaged homes.

The program provides 75 percent federal share of the costs of emergency services,

repair infrastructure damage (roads, bridges, public facilities and drains) in the county.

The program provides 75 percent federal share of the costs of emergency services,

debris removal and the repair or replacement of public facilities such as roads, bridges, buildings and utilities. Some private non-profit organizations also qualify.

Legislature okays recreational funds

The Legislature in its final session days approved funding to protect and enhance Michigan recreational and natural areas.

State Rep. Mike Green, R-Mayville, supported the nearly \$1.7 million appropriation to increase hunting opportunities, preserve natural areas and improve various recreational facilities statewide.

"Outdoor enthusiasts pump untold numbers of dollars into the state economy every year," Green said. "Whether they fish, hunt, snowmobile, sail or hike, ensuring that their experience is enjoyable is essential to their continued participation."

The Disaster Housing Program is federally funded and provides assistance to individuals and families whose permanent homes were damaged or destroyed by the storms and flooding. Types of aid include grants for alternate rental housing, emergency repairs, and mortgage or rental assistance in cases where disaster has caused extreme economic hardship.

Funds are also available for mitigation measures to minimize the effects of future flooding.

Finn said FEMA approved another \$1,487,129 to help

the following:

— Use only an approved gasoline container.

— Do not fill any gasoline container while it is inside any vehicle, in a vehicle trunk, in a pickup bed or on any surface other than the ground.

— Remove the approved container from the vehicle and place it on the ground a safe distance away from the vehicle, other customers and traffic.

— Keep the nozzle in contact with the gasoline can during filling.

— Never use the gasoline pump nozzle latch-open device to fill a portable gasoline container.

Doss says the alert comes from Chevron Oil Company, which reports several fires at service stations.

More information about agricultural safety news and practices can be obtained 24 hours a day from the MSU Department of Agricultural Engineering fax-back service by calling 517-353-7823.

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The supplement to the general government budget bill allocated \$1.5 million from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to develop nature sites and parks across the state. Areas under consideration for further enrichment include wildlife game areas in:

- Cass City
- Deford
- Fish Point
- Gagetown
- Murphy Lake

Other regions include several mini-game areas throughout Tuscola and Huron counties, the Quanicassee River at Saginaw Bay, and Port Crescent and Albert Sleeper state parks.

Area residents also benefit from a \$136,500 grant to develop Buschlen Park, located off of Buschlen Road at the intersection of Barrie Road and M-142. The city of Bad Axe will provide an additional \$58,500 for a total appropriation of \$195,000.

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- Cass City
- Deford
- Fish Point
- Gagetown
- Murphy Lake

Team wins 4 matches

Wrestlers have Coach Don Markel smiling

Suddenly it's no longer a rebuilding year for the Cass City Red Hawk wrestling team. The freshman and sophomore laden team has turned "wait till next year" to "this is the year."

Okay, it may be that the team will not win the Thumb C Conference this year, but right now Cass City is 2-0 in the league and 5-1 overall and Coach Don Markel is smiling, smiling, smiling.

He points to last Wednesday's win over Mayville as an indicator of how well the team is doing. Mayville, he says, along with Cros-Lex were pre-season favorites to win league hon-

ors and their team has mostly juniors and seniors.

Cass City has 6 or 7 freshmen on the team and only 3 seniors. John McNaughton, Dennis Pisha and Don Pisha.

What is especially encouraging, says Markel, is that each meet a different wrestler rises to the occasion with wins when really needed.

Chad Wolschlager pinned his opponent to help us defeat Vassar, Markel continued.

Nathan Matt pinned the wrestler who pinned him the previous week to help defeat Mayville. Phil Mathewson scored pins against both Mayville and Brown City to

help Cass City win both matches.

DOUBLE DUAL

In the double dual meet at Vassar, the Hawks defeated Saginaw Nouvel, 60-18, and Vassar, 46-36. In the meet at Cass City Wednesday, Cass City topped Mayville, 42-37, and Brown City, 44-35.

Eight wrestlers posted winning records in the meets.

Undefeated during the week were John McNaughton, 119 pounds; Adam Dorland, 125 pounds, 4-0; Phil Mathewson, 189 pounds, 3-0.

Compiling 3-1 records were John Williams, 103 pounds; Don Pisha, 130 pounds; Dennis Pisha, 135 pounds; Cory Mayer, 140 pounds, and Nathan Matt, 145 pounds.

Cass City Bowling

SUNDAY NO ROLLERS	MERCHANTS' LEAGUE
Dec. 15	Dec. 18
The S.H.L.	6
Schott's Accounting	6
D & J's	5
Ugly Buds & Blossoms	5
We'll Get Back To You	4
Half N Half	2
C B's	2
CWD's	2
New England Life	17
Charmont	17
Wickes	14
Soundz by Greg	13
Millettis Surveying	12
Cole Carbide	10
Brentwood	9
Charmont Motel	7
Cass City Sports	6
Homesteaders	6
Pro Temp	5
Independent Bank	4
Men's High Series: K.	
Schott 612.	
Men's High Games: K.	
Schott 226-213, R. Meredith 211.	
High Team Series & Game:	
Schott's Accounting 1862 & 654.	
High Series & Games: K.	
Pobanz 692 (249-237), T.	
Comment 683 (238-232-213), S. Hammert 675 (254-223), J. Krol 662 (258), D. Englehardt 656 (244), D. Orton 647 (224-218), J. Smithson 646 (225-222), J. Storm 642 (244-234), M. Jackson 628 (244), J. Mushenski 627 (226), M. Lutz 626 (225-221), P. Brown 610 (253), L. Tomaszewski 603 (213), J. Langenburg 601 (212), D. Johnston 596 (235-213), P. McIntosh 587 (252-216), R. Lewis 579, T. Potrykus 572, T. Davis 564, M. Bauerschmidt 558 (212), J. Millettis 556, R. Salcido 554 (225), D. Kirkbride 553 (213), R. Byrnes 552, P. Harmer 552 (236), L. McCready 550.	
500 Series: J. Morell 520, P. Little 517, D. Potrykus 514, N. Wallace 511.	
High Actual Team Series & Game: Heartland Home Care 1957 & 665.	
High Team Series & Game: New England Life 2979 (1051).	

MERCHANETTE LEAGUE Dec. 19

Caro Chiropractic	12
Nel's Kitchen	12
All Season Rental	11
J.B.'s Crew	11
Northwood Golf	11
Heartland Home Care	10
Form You 3	10
Detroit Edison	10
Rolling Hills	9
Thumb Auto Wash	8

500 Series: J. Morell 520, P. Little 517, D. Potrykus 514, N. Wallace 511.

High Actual Team Series & Game: Heartland Home Care 1957 & 665.

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30th Annual
Cass City High School Auditorium - 8:00 p.m.

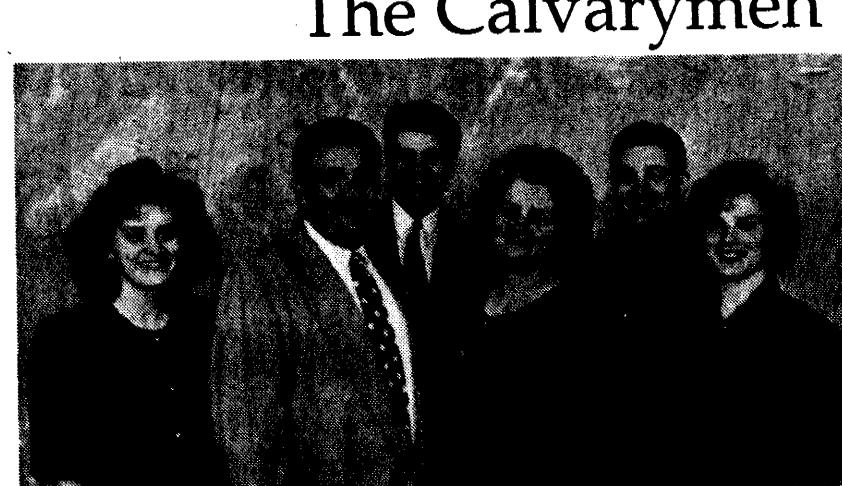


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CHAD LENHARD, right, and Chad Diegel close in on Yale guard Andrew Willard. A full-court press caused many turnovers and was instrumental in the win over the taller Bulldogs.

Lose at Brown City, Port Hope

O-G works hard but first hoop win still eludes team

The Owen-Gage Bulldogs fell to 0-4 Friday after suffering a 66-44 non-conference setback to visiting Brown City.

Coach Jim Brinkman's young - very young - cagers have now lost their opening 4 games by an average margin of 24 points. They have yet to score 50 points in any contest as they prepare for their annual journey to compete in the holiday Tom Thumb tourney.

The 'Dogs', whose top 3 players come from the class of 1999, will seek their first win Thursday when they square off against Caseville at Port Hope. Tip-off is slated for 5 p.m., and will be followed by the Carsonville-Port Sanilac/Port Hope tilt. The losers will meet Saturday at 3 p.m., while the Tom

Thumb tournament championship game will commence at 5 p.m.

The Bulldogs may not register a victory during the 1996 portion of their campaign. They may not win in 1997 either. But Brinkman believes their time will come.

"All I can ask is they work hard," said Brinkman. The 'Dogs certainly have done that.

"I've seen a lot of positive things on the court," says Brinkman. "I've told them this year is just for experience."

The Bulldogs' commitment was never more evident than during Tuesday's game against Port Hope when sophomore Justin Anthes played despite a temperature of 103 degrees. Owen-Gage

Friday, it was Brown City's Rawley Weaver who was on fire, pouring in 4 first quarter treys that gave Coach Tony Burton's squad a 17-9 edge entering the 2nd frame.

Brown City used a pressing defense to extend its advantage to 30-18 at the intermission. Unlike Owen-Gage's outing with North Huron, the Bulldogs weren't haunted by Brown City's pressure.

"I've told them not to push the ball and get back on defense. Our big guys are built for running," said Brinkman.

Owen-Gage used shots from behind the 3-point arc by Dan Dorsch and John Richmond to keep the score respectable during the 3rd frame. Owen-Gage trailed by 27 toshes from the stripe.

Anthes notched game scoring honors on the night with 18 points. Richmond registered 7, while Joel Bolzman and Dorsch each added 5. Jason Rocheft, who had a team high 4 assists, chipped in 2 for the hosts.

Weaver and Ed Tody split 24 markers to lead the winners.

POR HOPE

Owen-Gage fell to 0-2 in North Central Thumb League play Tuesday when visiting Port Hope downed Owen-Gage 51-34.

Owen-Gage trailed just 7-5 to start the 2nd period but lost its shooting eye during a 13-3 run by the winners to the intermission.

Senior Erik Pye sparked the 2nd quarter spurt by the Blue Stars with 9 of his game high 24 markers.

Pye added 10 more points during the 3rd frame, when the Blue Stars put any question of the game's outcome to rest. Coach Mike Murphy's squad enjoyed a 36-19 margin entering the game's final 8 minutes.

Owen-Gage got 10 tallies from Bolzman, while Anthes and Rocheft split 14.



OWEN-GAGE'S SOPHOMORE Joel Bolzman drives toward the hoop Friday as Brown City's Ed Toby tries to defend. Bolzman registered 5 points in the Bulldogs' 66-44 setback. Toby tallied 12 for the winners.

Candlelight service at Novesta church

Novesta Church of Christ, 2896 N. Cemetery Road, will host a Christmas Eve Candlelight service beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Amy Emmert will put the Christmas message to song and be accompanied by Don Greenleaf.

There will also be a communion service as well as the candle lighting.

The public is welcome and cordially invited.

Listless Hawks bow to Sandusky, defense brings win over Yale

There's an old axiom in basketball, if you are going to hold the ball to protect a lead in a basketball game, you better have players who convert free throws.

You can throw that out the window for the Cass City Red Hawks, at least for one game, as the team defeated Yale, 57-54.

The Hawks went into a controlled ball offense against the Bulldogs Thursday, leading 55-48, in a non-league game and did it successfully without a turnover in the last 2:47 minutes of the game.

The Bulldogs were forced to foul and Cass City went to the line 3 times and took 6 shots and missed them all.

That enabled Yale to bounce back to within a point, 55-54, with possession of the ball and 33 seconds left.

But the Bulldogs turned the

ball over with 7:4 seconds left. Cass City had trouble getting the ball in play on 2 attempts before Dave Murphy got the ball and was fouled. Quick thinking by the Hawks, who called time out after one of the in-bound passes went astray and one of the Hawks had the ball while prone on the floor and the team was within a mini-second of losing it for travelling.

That killed all but one second on the clock and Murphy sank both of his shots, but by that time the game was all but decided.

You can chalk the victory up

to the defense. The Bulldogs had a decided height advantage with Joel Lagore and Pat Watson, both 6-4, but it was negated when Coach Jeff Hartel put his charges into a trapping full court press and the Bulldogs had trouble handling it.

Cass City went from six points behind to within a point at the quarter, 17-15, and then shot ahead in the opening moments of the second quarter with 8 unanswered points, paced by Scott Wallace and Chad Diegel, who each scored 8 points in the period on their way to 17 and 20 points, respectively, for the night.

The Hawks were ahead by 10 points midway through the quarter when the Bulldogs rallied, closing the gap and finally taking the lead, 48-46, on a jumper by Andrew Willard as the quarter ended.

Cass City answered that challenge as Diegel scored,

Kurt Iwankovitsch added a free throw and Diegel added 2 more charity tosses to put the Hawks back in front 55-48 to set the stage for the tense last minutes of the game.

CC-YALE

CASS CITY - Murphy 0-0 (2-2) 2; Wallace 2-4 (1-3) 17; Lenhard 3-0 (0-4) 6; Oesch 1-0 (0-0) 2; Diegel 9-0 (2-4) 20; Edwards 0-2 (0-0) 6; Iwankovitsch 1-0 (2-4) 4. **TOTALS** - 16-6 (7-17) 57.

YALE - Pierce 0-0 (1-2) 1; Luppin 1-0 (0-0) 2; Minnis 4-0 (1-4) 9; Willard 1-1 (0-0) 5; Ostrander 1-0 (0-0) 2; Lagore 5-0 (2-2) 12; Watson 4-0 (10-14) 18; Ross 2-0 (1-5) 5. **TOTALS** - 18-1 (15-27) 54.

SANDUSKY GAME

If you are interested in competing or have any questions, please call Paul Chappel at (517) 872-2435 or John Maharg at (517) 872-4536.

pair of twos, each scoring more than Cass City did in the period. The Hawks netted just 6 points in the quarter.

Both the coaches and the players need to up intensity for the games, Coach Hartel said. We didn't get any easy baskets, no fast breaks for transition points.

Cass City shot 38 percent on 2-point attempts and hit just 3 of 13 treys for 23 percent. From the charity stripe they were a miserable 6 for 15 for 40 percent.

The Hawks will have to regain their shooting touch if they are going to compete at Cardo Friday. Cass City will need to find a way to hold all-state candidate Josh Asselin, 6 foot, 10 inches, in check to have a chance to win.

CC-SANDUSKY

CASS CITY - Murphy 2-0 (0-0) 4; Micklash 2-0 (1-2) 5; Wallace 1-2 (1-4) 9; Lenhard 0-1 (3-4) 6; Oesch 1-0 (1-2) 3; Klinkman 1-0 (0-0) 2; Diegel 2-0 (0-2) 4. **TOTALS** - 9-3 (6-15) 33.

SANDUSKY - Riner 6-1 (0-0) 15; Newton 2-0 (0-0) 4; Green 0-0 (2-2) 2; Reinkle 0-1 (0-0) 3; Hault 2-2 (0-0) 10; Myers 1-0 (0-0) 2; Delacruz 0-1 (1-2) 4; Kelly 2-0 (0-0) 4. **TOTALS** - 13-5 (3-6) 44.

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Holbrook Area News

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Phone 658-2347



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt were Sunday overnight and Monday forenoon guests of Pastor and Jauneta Kincaid at Owosso. In the evening they all attended the Owosso Free Methodist Church to hear the Barsch family from Center Lake and all were supper guests of the Kincaids.

Violet Holdwick of Harbor Beach, Karen and Amy Rutkowski, Reta Depcinski and Alice Depcinski were Saturday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Learman at Rochester Hills.

Grace and Paul Aaral of Howell, Jan Hagen and daughter, Diana of Grosse Pointe Woods, Fred and Myrtle Hagen of Ubly were Sunday afternoon and supper guests of Betty and Bryce Hagen. They had attended a tree remembrance for the 1996 deceased at St. John's Catholic Church hall given by John and Arlene Smigelski Sunday. Refreshments were served.

Cheryl and Bobbi Allen and Allen Farrelly had dinner Friday at Stafons in Bad Axe.

EUCHRE CLUB

The Euchre club met Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord LaPeer.

High prizes were won by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laming. Low prizes were won by Mrs. Arnold LaPeer and Jerry Decker. Mrs. Jerry Decker won the traveling prize.

The next party will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Beulla Jan. 11.

Beverly Rockefeller was a Monday evening guest of Reva Silver.

Eight members of the Traveling Breakfast Club met at Big Boy Thursday morning. They will meet at the Peppermill next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel, Doris Western, Dale Ignash and Allen Farrelly met at McDonald's for breakfast Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cleland, Wendy Rickett, Cory and Caitlyn, Tom Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Doerr and Mrs. Curtis Cleland were among relatives who attended a graduation open house for Mrs. David (Karen) Freebe of Saginaw at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cleland in Bad Axe. Karen is a recent graduate from Saginaw Valley State University.

Daryl Grifka and a friend from Kalamazoo, Mrs. Mike Grifka and friend Betty, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Grifka and twins and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rumpf were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Grifka.

Cheryl and Bobbi Allen and Allen Farrelly had supper at the China King in Bad Axe Thursday.

Dr. John Zauner of Los Altos, Calif., spent 5 days with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pelton.

Allen Farrelly spent Tuesday forenoon and Saturday afternoon with Laura Kulish.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

Don't let your Winter Wonderland turn deadly!



Now that winter is here, we ask everyone to pay special attention to the proper removal of snow. When shoveling or blowing heavy snow, avoid piling it onto gas meters or pipes. The added weight could cause stress, which may lead to leaks. And, in an emergency, quick access to a shut-off valve could be hindered due to built-up snow and ice.

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Cass City man faces up to 15 years in prison

A Cass City man charged in a carjacking/beating last September in Wells and Fremont townships was sentenced to 7 1/2 years to 15 years in prison last week in Tuscola County Circuit Court.

Gronewald, 19, of Caro, were each charged in connection with the Sept. 8 abduction of Jeremy Anderson, 22, of Caro, at knife-point from a parking lot in Fremont Township.

Police said the pair ordered Anderson to drive them to a wooded area in Wells Township, where Anderson was beaten, robbed and left behind as his assailants drove away with his 1986 Dodge Caravan van.

In other recent circuit court

proceedings:

• Daniel J. Spencer, 36, Caro, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, July 12 in Ellington Township.

Spencer's license was revoked by the court, which ordered a pre-sentence investigation and continued bond at \$2,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

• Larry Jenkins, 46, Silverwood, pleaded guilty to carrying a concealed weapon (revolver) Aug. 4, 1995, in Junia Township. Jenkins was ordered to pay \$341.50 in attorneys fees, and his delayed sentence was continued.

• Louis Mistura Jr., 36, Millington, was sentenced to 2 1/2 years to 15 years in prison for his plea of no contest to second degree criminal sexual conduct, involving a child at least 13 years of age but under 16 years, July 1, in Vassar Township.

• Lewis E. Henderson Jr., 39, Rowlett, Texas, received a one-year delayed sentence for his plea of guilty to failure to pay child support from Aug. 30 to the present.

He was ordered to pay \$300 in court costs plus \$469.75 in attorneys fee.

Laurie elected F.B. president

Following the completion of the 77th Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting, the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors elected Tuscola County dairy farmer Jack Laurie to his 11th term as president of the state's largest general farm organization.

Wayne Wood of Marlette, Sanilac County, was also elected as vice-president, while Jan Vosburg of Climax, Kalamazoo County, was elected as third member of the Executive Committee.

Laurie, a Tuscola County dairy and cash crop farmer, has been a member of the organization's board of directors since 1966 and served as that board's vice-president from 1977 until 1986.

The Laurie family operates a 1,600-acre farm near Cass City producing feed grains, wheat, alfalfa and sugar beets. They also have a 470-cow dairy herd. His sons are the third generation to operate the family-owned and managed farm.

Laurie has served as a member of various industry organizations and associations, including the Michigan Milk Producers Association, the Michigan Livestock Exchange, the Michigan Dairy Herd Improvement Association, and his local farmers' cooperative elevator.

In 1991, Gov. Engler appointed Laurie as chairman of the State Fair Council; in 1993, as member of the Michigan International Trade Coalition, and in 1994, as a member of the Task Force on Michigan Farmland and Agriculture Development.

On the national level, he has served as a member of the 7th District Federal Reserve Agricultural Advisory Council, and was appointed by the secretary of agriculture to

Tart cherries

An estimated 320 million pounds of red tart cherries were processed in Michigan this year. More than 85 percent of the state's cherries

serve on the National Commission on Dairy Policy and the Commission for the Improvement of Federal Crop Insurance Program.

In 1989, Laurie was elected to the board of directors of the American Farm Bureau Federation representing the Midwest Region on the 26-member board, and has currently been appointed to the AFBF Executive Committee as representative for the Midwest Regional States.

Letter to the editor

To "Letter to the Editor" Editor:

I read with interest that an HMO oriented gag law ban was passed in our state legislature this last week. Our legislators deserve praise for sticking up for the rights of patients. However, I have seen no leadership from our congressman, James Bacia, regarding a similar federal effort. In fact, the Federal Patient Right to Know Act of 1996 died last fall. I hope this letter will encourage you to ask Mr. Bacia to belatedly support it. It will be reintroduced next year.

When a patient sees his doctor, he or she needs to be told candidly their diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment options. Gag orders in medicine are contract clauses imposed on the physician by managed care insurance companies that limit full disclosure.

There may be a requirement that the physician receive permission from the HMO before discussing treatment options with the patient. Another gag is to threaten the doctor with financial penalty for openly discussing options. Some plans state that

the physician may be "disenrolled" (fired) for being forthcoming regarding physician financial incentives for holding down HMO costs. Yes, HMO participating physicians may financially benefit for "holding down costs" and be punished for not doing so. These notions may intimidate doctors or mismotivate them.

I do not support plans or contract provisions that try to keep patients from the care they need. It cannot be ethical to hide information from patients that help them make health care decisions.

Advocates of gag orders claim that informing patients constitutes improperly revealing trade secrets or marketing strategies. To this I reply as Hippocrates taught me and as have physicians for 2000 years: "In every house where I come, I will enter only for the good of my patients."

Sincerely,

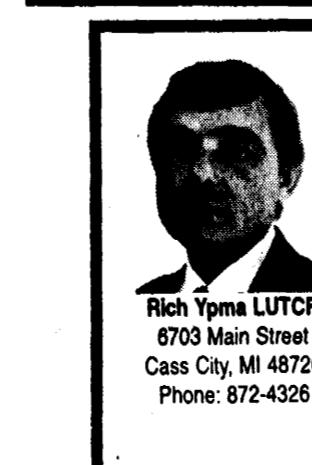
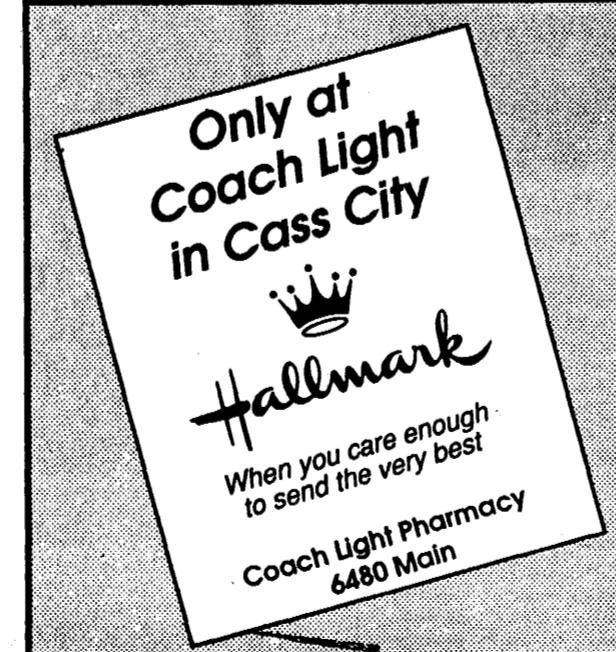
Roger N. Kahn, M.D.

Letters to the Editor
The Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. The latter is in case it is necessary to call for verification, but won't be used in the newspaper.

Names will be withheld from publication upon request, for an adequate reason.

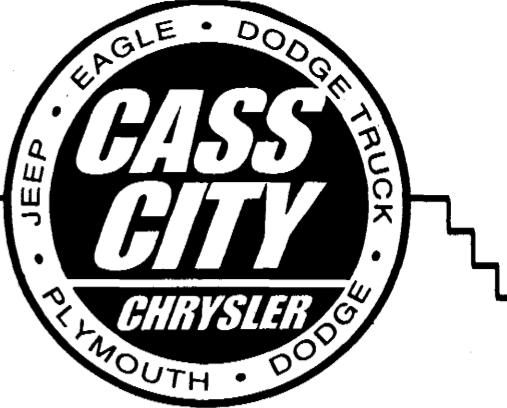
The Chronicle reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. We will not publish thank you letters of a specific nature, for instance, from a club thanking merchants who donated prizes for a raffle.



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magnum engine, 4-speed automatic transmission, air conditioning, tilt wheel, cruise control, power windows, power locks, AM/FM stereo cassette, power steering, power brakes, intermittent wipers, driver's side air bag, T-245/75 R16OWL tires, tachometer, sliding rear window, premium cloth 40-20-40 bench seat, light group, rear step bumper, tinted glass, premium decor group, aluminum wheels, plus much, much more.
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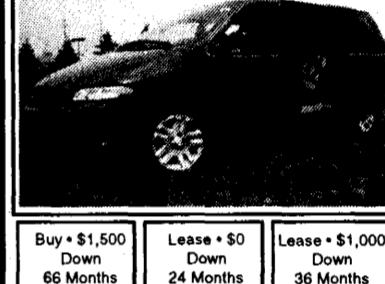


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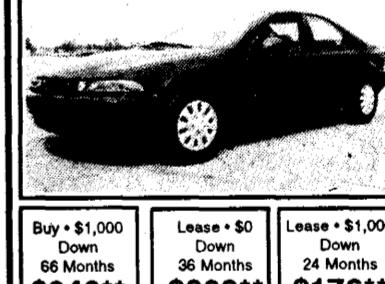


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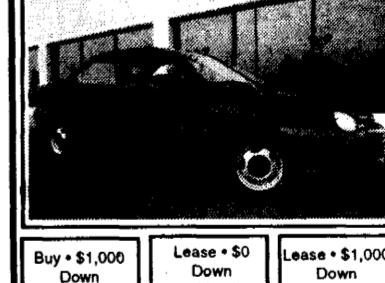


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Deford farm a centennial farm

Twenty-five farms, including 3 in Tuscola County, have been certified by the Michigan Historical Commission as centennial farms. Secretary of State Candice S. Miller, the state's official historian, recently announced.

The 67-acre cash crop farm located at 3966 Barnes Rd. in Millington, owned by Gerald and Judith Koeltzow; the 350-acre cash crop farm located at 6183 Sheridan Rd. in Unionville, owned by the Paul Treiber and Elmo Treiber families; and the 40-acre cash crop farm located at 5295 Shabbona Rd. in Deford, owned by Thomas McCaslin, are newly-certified Michigan centennial farms.

The farms have been continuously owned by the same families since before 1896.

"I congratulate the Treibers, Koeltzows and Thomas McCaslin as their farms join more than 5,000 other Michigan centennial farms," Secretary Miller said. "Centennial farm owners can be proud of their efforts to preserve Michigan's heritage and for reminding us of the important economic and social role that family farms play in our culture."

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

Farm owners receive a Michigan Centennial Farm Certificate from the Department of State's Michigan Historical Center and a metal

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

Centennial farm families are eligible for membership in the Michigan Centennial Farm Association (MCHA), established in 1955.

A centennial farm is a working farm of 10 or more acres that has been contiguously owned by the same family for at least 100 years. The Michigan Historical Commission has also established a Sesquicentennial Farm Program to recognize, upon request, certified centennial farms that have been owned by the same family for 150 years or longer.

For more information on the program contact the Michigan Department of State, Michigan Historical Center, State Historic Preservation Office, 717 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48918-1800, or telephone (517) 373-1667.

4-month sabbatical

Bishop Untener ready for break

For the past 16 years, ever since selling the official bishop's residence, Bishop Kenneth Untener has moved every 3 to 4 months to live in a different rectory throughout the 11-county Saginaw Diocese.

But his 54th move in January will be his longest drive. He will be driving to Menlo Park, Calif., where he will take a 16-week study sabbatical.

The sabbatical will provide a break in the bishop's normally heavy schedule.

For instance, in the past year, Bishop Untener has given priests' retreats and lectures throughout the continental United States, as well as Alaska and Australia, celebrated Mass at the diocese's 34 Catholic schools, and celebrated Mass almost every

weekend at a diocesan parish in addition to his duties and responsibilities as bishop.

But in the years ahead, he has said he plans to cut down on speaking engagements outside the diocese in order to do more writing. He says he hopes the sabbatical will give some momentum to his writing that will carry on when he returns to Saginaw.

The bishop said he plans to spend his sabbatical catching up on reading, fulfilling some writing requests for articles and books, and possibly auditing graduate courses at nearby universities.

Bishop Untener first told diocesan priests back in 1995 that he decided to take a sabbatical upon the suggestion of the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, a representative group of clergy that serves as

an advisory board to the bishop. In the Saginaw Diocese, diocesan priests are encouraged to take a study sabbatical after 10 years of service in the mid-Michigan diocese.

The council, who made the suggestion in 1992, said Bishop Untener would give a good example to priests by taking a sabbatical of his own.

The bishop also follows the lead of growing number of bishops who, like their priests, are opting for sabbaticals. These bishops include Bishop Matthew Clark of the Diocese of Rochester, N.Y., Bishop James Hoffman of the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio, Bishop Joseph Hart of the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wis.

Bishop Untener has been head of the Saginaw Diocese since 1980. Before that, he was rector of the former St. John's Provincial Seminary in Plymouth, and a priest for the Detroit archdiocese.

The bishop said that when he returns from his sabbatical he will resume his duties as bishop of Saginaw, a position he expects to continue until he turns 75, the normal retirement age of bishops.

"I've been looking forward to the sabbatical," says Bishop Untener. "I thoroughly enjoy what I am doing as bishop, but it will be fascinating to shift into a 4-month stretch where one can spend days at a time in the uninterrupted world of thought and reflection."

Investigate drop in beet yields

Many growers in Michigan's Saginaw Valley assert that their sugar beet per-acre yields have declined by 25 percent in the past decade.

Officially, the statewide average yield dropped from 20.5 tons per acre from 145,000 acres in 1987 to 15.8 tons per acre from 190,000 acres in 1995, according to the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service.

Once touted as the "mortgage lifter," sugar beets may be becoming a liability for farmers, and that could put Michigan's sugar beet industry at risk in the near future, according to the 25 people who met Dec. 4 in Frankenmuth to begin focusing on the problem.

The group consisted of Michigan State University Extension agronomists and agents, growers, and representatives from agribusiness and sugar beet processing companies. They are tentatively calling their effort the Sugar Beet Revitalization Initiative (SBR).

"Our discussion identified a profusion of possibilities, and even though we don't have a consensus on what may be the problem, I do believe we are off to a good start," says Steve Poindexter, MSU Extension crops agent in Saginaw County. "When you get an industry that pulls together, there is every good chance that the problem will be solved."

Poindexter co-chaired the meeting with Harold Rouget, Extension crops agent in Tuscola County.

Among the possible problems the group discussed were soil quality, possible soilborne pathogens, plant diseases, cultural practices,

seed quality and vigor, and potential chemical and mechanical injury to the plant.

"There does not appear to be a single factor affecting the decline, so what we will do is work together to prioritize the 2 or 3 biggest factors that may be contributing to yield decline while not overlooking other factors that are affecting production systems and management," Poindexter says.

He says that the group will split into composite teams that will work with MSU Extension specialists and Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station researchers to probe each of the primary factors suspected to be affecting the yield decline.

Poindexter says that the group intends to identify and begin working on its research priorities by spring. In the meantime, the group will be reviewing current production practices that may affect yield.

"It will be a 2-pronged approach: reviewing what we currently know about best management practices and getting that information to producers, and deciding what we don't know and beginning to research that," Poindexter says.

Among the educational activities planned is the Sugar Beet Symposium Feb. 25 at the Horizons Conference Center near Saginaw.

Poindexter says researchers and industry leaders from the nation's sugar beet-growing regions will be among the speakers for the program.

More information about the aspirations of the SBR and the symposium can be obtained by calling Poindexter at (517) 799-2233 or Rouget at (517) 672-3870.



A HOST OF Kingston children have warm coats, boots, mittens and hats thanks to a project sponsored by the Kingston Schools and community. Above, organizer Patty Rodenbo (far right) shops for winter boots at Kitzman's Clothing, Cass City, with the help of sales clerks Carol Tuckey (left) and Gayl Patera.

List connects hay buyers and sellers

Producers who have hay to sell or need to buy hay can obtain information from the Michigan Hay Sellers' List.

The listing contains the names and addresses of producers who have hay to sell according to cutting, mixture, quantity and quality.

The service is being sponsored by Michigan State University Extension and the Michigan Hay and Grazing Council.

"A recent survey conducted by MSU Extension in more than 30 counties shows that the state's hay inventory is generally lower than normal, the exception being the central and western regions of the Upper Peninsula," says Gerald Lindquist, director of MSU Extension in Osceola County.

"Someone looking to buy hay should focus on some areas of the central and northeastern regions of the Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula," Lindquist says.

He adds that in the U.P. and northeastern lower Michigan, average quality first cuttings of hay range from \$50 to \$60 per ton. High quality hay in the U.P. is running between \$60 and \$80 per ton. In the southeastern Lower

Peninsula, hay prices range from \$20 to \$180 per ton.

Producers who need to buy hay can obtain a copy of the current listing at their county MSU Extension office.

Hay sellers can mail the information to the Osceola Extension office or call. There will be no charge for listing hay or for a copy of the listing.

The address is MSU Extension Service, Osceola County Courthouse, Box 208, Reed City, MI 49677. The phone number is 616-832-6139.

To be included in the list, growers should provide the following:

- Name, address, phone number, best time of day to be reached and county.

- Number of bales or tonnage, type of bale (round or square), bale weight and cutting - first, second or third.

- Type of hay (alfalfa, alfalfa mixed, grass, etc.); test results, if tested; whether trucking is available and the asking price (optional).

For more information about the hay listing or hay quality across the state, contact Lindquist at the MSU Extension office in Osceola County.

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"Winter Warm-up"

Christmas spirit alive in Kingston

It doesn't take long to find some Christmas spirit in Kingston.

Sharing is a way of life in the community, and when the holidays roll around, that spirit of "neighbor helping neighbor" is even more evident, especially when it comes to children.

Which is why nearly 20 children are enjoying this winter dressed in warm coats, boots, mittens and hats, all donated by residents and businesses.

In its first year, the "Parent Teacher Organization Winter Warm-up" proved to be a bigger success than organizers had imagined, according to Patty Rodenbo, one of several Kingston Elementary School paraprofessionals who organized the clothing drive.

The idea came as the weather began to turn colder, explained Rodenbo, who works one-on-one with students on reading and math.

"One of the extra assignments this year for the paraprofessionals... is playground duty," she said. "We all enjoy being with the kids; recess is a happy time. It was until the cold weather set in."

"I had a hard time watching little children freezing because they were still wearing a spring jacket or a jacket with a broken zipper. There were students who didn't have boots or gloves. It was too much for me to handle," Rodenbo added. "I had to do something for these precious children."

With the help of the coordinators of the school annual talent show, Rodenbo and others organized a raffle featuring a host of prizes donated by local businesses.

"As soon as I sent letters home with all of the students about the raffle, I began receiving an overwhelming amount of committed parents to either help by donating a craft or to sell raffle tickets," Rodenbo recalled.

And the donations, including 20 pairs of mittens/gloves dropped off by Torrey's Masonry, began to roll in.

"I am so grateful to everyone who helped make this project such a success. I thought if I raised a couple hundred dollars I'd be doing good," she said. "Never did I ever dream that for a couple weeks worth of work we would earn \$1,004."

"I give the credit to all of

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General Merchandise

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FOR RENT - Upstairs 2 bedroom apartment. \$200 deposit. \$300 rent. No pets, no children. 872-4785. 4-12-11-3

NOTICES

Notices

VFW HALL available for rental occasions. Call Jim Ceranski at 872-4351. 5-2-21-1f

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

One Man's Observation

There is a star in the sky with her name on it, and it burns brighter than the rest

She has a soul that is passionate and intense. Her voice is not soft, but mysteriously magnetic to a man's desire. Her beauty is highlighted by her eyes, those eyes with their hypnotic stare

The mere thought of her provokes a smile. Embrace her, and cure all that ails you

Oh, what a joy she is! Look around and you will see her. 5-12-23-1

Certified Master Mechanic

Computer Alignments
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Front End parts
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Free Estimates

All your tire needs from wheelbarrows to tractors See us today

NOTICES

LOST - very large German Shepherd male. Collar with tags, healing wound on right side, weak back legs, needs medication, reward. (517) 872-4586. 5-12-18-3

LAMINATE those important papers. On the spot service. Cass City Chronicle, 6550 Main. (517) 872-2010. 5-12-4-tfn

Wanted to Buy

OLD ORIENTAL RUGS wanted. Any size or condition. 1-800-443-7740. 6-12-18-3

To Give Away

FREE - 16-week-old male yellow lab. Call (810) 672-9518. 7-12-23-1

Season's Greetings

from the staff at

Classy Cuts

Jodi Naegele
Sandy Kelly
Louise Wright
Kerry Palmer

Tina Esselmacher
Cheryl Osentoski
Sheila VanAllen
Thresa Burnette

• Make-up
• Nails
• Tanning
• Perms
• Color
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GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
Smoke-Free

Walk-in or Appointment
87-CLASS

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Downtown Cass City
5-12-25-1

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Bridal Parties
Mending, zippers, hems
Children and adults
No job too small
Free estimates
Call 872-2663

8-10-19-tfn

SALT FREE iron conditioners and water softeners, 32,000 grain, \$700. In-home service on all brands. Credit cards accepted. Call Paul's Pump Repair, 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 for free analysis. 8-9-25-tfn

Notices

LORDY, LORDY Look who's 40!

Notices

Happy Birthday
Mom & Dad
5-12-23-1

KAPPEN TREE SERVICE

Let **YOUR** tree problem be **OURS!**
We're insured for your protection
TREES BRUSH LIMBS STUMPS
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Repair all makes & models push mowers, riders, trimmers, chain saws & tillers

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CLEAN ROOMS
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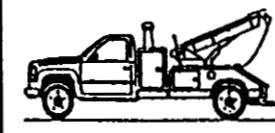
HIGH RISK

mortgages, refinance, purchases, homes, vacant land, mobiles on land, cash in hand, consolidation, slow payment, bankruptcy, foreclosures ok. Call Annette

CONTINENTAL MORTGAGE 1-800-561-5715 3-12-4-4

NOTICES

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excellent selection
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Cass City Chronicle
872-2010

December Special ANTIFREEZE

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Only **\$47.95**

Any other parts needed will be extra

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COLORADO RANCH BAR-GAIN - 43 acres - \$26,900. 1st time offered! Spectacular views of Pikes Peak, Greenhorns & Sangre De Cristo Mts. Beautifully rolling fields & woods - perfect horse country. Outstanding wildlife. Close to lakes & nat'l forest. Yr round access w/telephone & electric. Excellent financing. Call (719) 564-6367.

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Real Estate For Sale



OSENTOSKI

REALTY AND AUCTIONEERING

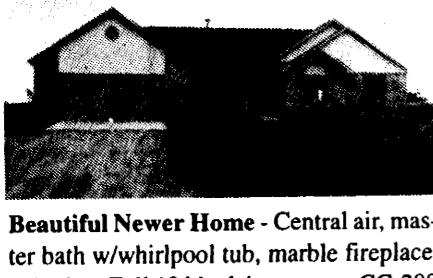
6501 Main St., Cass City

(517) 872-4377

Listings Needed

Buyers Ready

GIVE US A CALL!



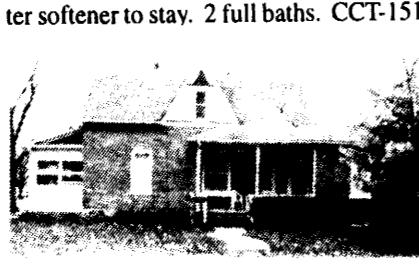
Beautiful Newer Home - Central air, master bath w/whirlpool tub, marble fireplace, oak trim. Full 12 block basement. CC-288



Condo with Large Open Rooms - Stone fireplace with gas log, bay windows, large deck. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, water softener to stay. 2 full baths. CCT-151



23 Acres - 4 bedroom home. Needs TLC. 1st floor laundry, large "L" shaped living room. K-121



Very Neat Updated Home - 4 bedrooms, 1st floor laundry. Upstairs all new windows. New carpet. Must see from inside. CCT-153

LOTS NEEDED IN TOWN AND OUT R M L S RURAL MICHIGAN LISTING SERVICE
LISTINGS NEEDED! We Have Buyers Waiting!
Give Us A Call Today!

Homes For The Holidays Merry Christmas Everyone!



New on the Market - Nice ranch home set outside the village limits. 3 bedrooms, basement, gas heat. 1 1/2 car garage plus a 30'x36' pole barn. Call today. \$84,900. TCC1195



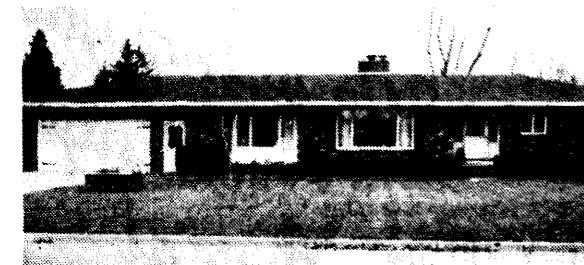
New on the Market - Very lovely Cape Cod home only a block from the schools and park. Well landscaped corner lot. 3 bedrooms, full basement. 1 car garage and storage shed. TCC1197



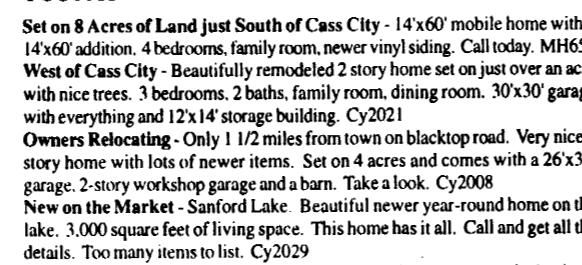
Beautiful 3 Story Home built to last at the turn of the century. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, library, large front foyer with a winding staircase. TCC1188



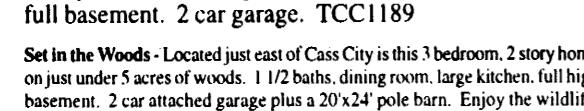
Beautiful Home Set on 1 3/4 Acres - Over 3,000 square feet with large master suite. 2 fireplaces, family room, den, music room, 2 1/2 baths. 2 car garage, blacktop driveway. TCC1185



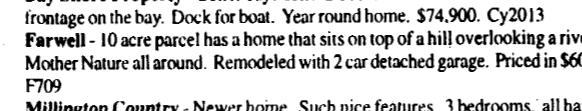
A Must See - Beautiful brick ranch set on an extra large lot. Over 2,000 square feet with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, family room with fireplace, sun room. 1st floor laundry, full basement. 2 car garage. TCC1189



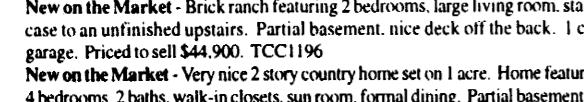
Set in the Woods - Located just east of Cass City is this 3 bedroom, 2 story home on just under 5 acres of woods. 1 1/2 baths, dining room, large kitchen, full high basement. 2 car attached garage plus a 20'x24' pole barn. Enjoy the wildlife. Motivated seller. \$69,900. Cy2013



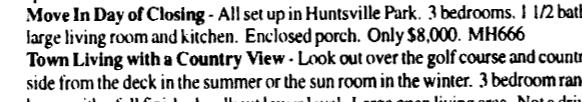
Here It Is! The ranch home just outside of Cass City. Beautifully landscaped 1 acre yard. Home features 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, main floor laundry, fireplace with gas log. Full, high nice basement. 2 car garage. Cy2019



New on the Market - Brick ranch featuring 2 bedrooms, large living room, staircase to an unfinished upstairs. Partial basement, nice deck off the back. 1 car garage. Priced to sell \$44,900. TCC1196



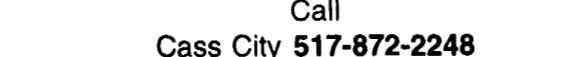
New on the Market - Very nice 2 story country home set on 1 acre. Home features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, walk-in closets, sun room, formal dining. Partial basement, 2 car garage. Call today to make an appointment to see this home. \$89,900. Cy2010



Millington Country - Newer home. Such nice features. 3 bedrooms, all have walk-in closets. Kitchen, L-shaped, just gorgeous, all newer appliances. Master bedroom has large bath. 24'x26' pool building. Cy2024



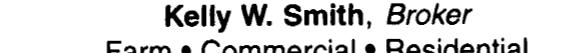
Mayville - Brick home with walkout basement, garage, on 40 acres. Sellers will split and sell home and 10 or 20 acres. Horse barn. F710



Move In Day of Closing - All set up in Huntville Park. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, large living room and kitchen. Enclosed porch. Only \$8,000. MH666



Town Living with a Country View - Look out over the golf course and countryside from the deck in the summer or the sun room in the winter. 3 bedroom ranch home with a full finished walkout lower level. Large open living area. Not a drive-by. TCC1190



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



R M L S
RURAL MICHIGAN LISTING SERVICE

VACANCY POSTING

Position: Junior/Senior High Business Education teacher. Terminating contract through remainder of 1996-97 school year.

Michigan Teacher Certification-GI, VB desired or 4000 hours vocational experience with computers and business management skills.

Available: Immediately

Salary: Per master agreement

Deadline: January 2, 1997

Apply To: Joanne Hopper, Principal

Owendale-Gagetown Jr./Sr. High School

7166 Main Street

Owendale, MI 48754

Telephone: 517-678-4141

Fax: 517-678-4284

EOE 11-12-23-1

Help Wanted

4-YEAR experienced house cleaner. Also will help the elderly with meals and laundry. Have lots of references. 691-5349. 12-12-11-3

Card of Thanks

WE WANT TO express our sincere thanks to our children, parents, brothers and sisters for the open house in Honor of our 25th Wedding Anniversary. We also want to thank all of our family and friends who helped us celebrate at our open house. And all those who sent cards. Rick and Deb Parrott.

13-12-23-1

THE ACTIVITY STAFF of Tendercare would like to thank its employees, families, outsiders, groups, churches, and the community for supplying gifts to our residents for their Christmas party. You have touched the lives of so many. A great big special "Thank-you" to our staff - without you guys - our department couldn't make it. We deeply appreciate everyone who volunteers their time weekly to our residents and the many groups who have been in for special events. God bless you all - Keep up the wonderful work. Love, Kim & Theresa, Tendercare Activity Staff.

13-12-23-1

Top Income Opportunity

PART TIME SALES

Hourly rate, plus commission

Position now earns over \$10 per hour.

Ideal for parent of school-age child

FULL TIME

Part time sales position can be full time for candidates qualified for 2 days in office.

Paid vacation, own vehicle a plus

Interviews being scheduled:

at the Cass City

Chronicle

Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

CALL 872-2010

for interview appointment

</

Memories are the best Christmas gift of all

It was early in the morning, there was snow outside on the ground and Charlie had just woke up. It was a week before Christmas but it was coming up fast. Charlie needed to find a gift for his

family, his sister Mary, his mom, and his dad. Charlie had saved money over the summer to buy each of them a Christmas gift. But he never decided what to buy for any of them. He had thought

about it every day and looked in every store, but couldn't decide what to buy any of them. He had thought about it every day and looked in every store, but couldn't find anything. Then he went to his uncle's house and asked him if he knew anything his family might want for Christmas. His uncle told him that sometimes memories are the best Christmas gift of all, and handed him a videotape he took out of a box under his bed. He told Charlie to give this to them for Christmas.

Early Christmas morning Charlie, his parents, and his sister opened their presents.

His sister got a doll, Charlie

got a video game, and his

parents got the videotape that

Charlie got from his uncle.

They watched the videotape,

it was Mary's first Christmas.

Charlie's uncle had recorded

it. His family loved the gift

and now Charlie understood

what his uncle meant.

Clint Sheufelt

9th grade

Owen-Gage H.S.



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

SPECIAL SCENTS FLOWER SHOPPE

6459 Main St. Cass City 872-3434

NOTE: We will be CLOSED Dec. 26, 27 & 28



Molly Stock
10th grade

Time spent together

Christmas means family

It's hard to believe that it's almost Christmas time. I mean, it seems like yesterday that our large family of six was putting away our old artificial tree and the lights that mom bought last year. Now we're getting them back out again.

Christmas time at our house is always memorable. Mom and dad always make it the best time of the year; and just when we think that they've outdone themselves, they always seem to top what they did last year. I remember the year that all we could ask for was a puppy, and mom and dad said that we couldn't have one because no one would take care of it. That cold Christmas Eve we opened all our presents and then mom and dad brought in a box and out jumped a little black lab puppy.

It's very hard for them to give us a great Christmas, because we've got such a large family, and when they say "Christmas won't be like it usually is every year due

to other expenses," it's always better than the year before.

Mom's always got our big farm house smelling as sweet as her famous Christmas cookies, and dad has always kept the fire roaring with the house as warm as warm can be.

I can honestly say that my most memorable Christmas would have to be any Christ-

*I'll always
see my
father*

My favorite family tradition is very special to me. Every year on Christmas Eve my dad reads "The Night Before Christmas" to my sister and me before we go to sleep. This tradition is very important to me because it is one of the few traditions our family still has. After my parents got divorced I thought our tradition was going to end, but I wasn't about to let that happen. Now my dad drives 12 miles on Christmas Eve even in bad road conditions to come see us and read to us. It really means a lot to me. I don't see my dad much, but I know I'll always see him on Christmas Eve.

Jessica Henderson
10th grade
CCHS

*Just a
few things
on my list*

Dear Santa,

My name is Brad Russell and I am 16 years old. This year I would like shotguns and shells. Also I want a 1997 Chevy 4x4 pickup and a good stereo system for the new truck. A new 1997 Arctic Cat Thundercat 900 snowmobile or a 1997 Yamaha Banshee 4-wheeler would also be nice.

Your #1 fan,
Brad Russell
10th grade
CCHS

Kate Powers
12th grade
Owen-Gage H.S.



*Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New
Year*

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



From All Of Us At
SUTTER'S
Bakery & Restaurant

Cass City 872-2570



*Best Wishes
to everyone for
the Holidays!
From everyone
at Coach Light
Pharmacy*

COACH LIGHT PHARMACY
MIKE WEAVIL Owner
Your Family Discount Drug Store
Ph. 672-3613



Sound the trumpet for a holiday that's a merry round of pleasures. We send a full measure of thanks to our loyal friends.



The greatest of gifts
are family and friends,
as the magic of the
season never ends!

To wish you...

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Walbro Corporation
Cass City

6242 Garfield

872-2131

KRITZMAN'S, INC.

Cass City

Helping others makes it a wonderful Christmas

WANTING TO HELP

It was a cold wintry night, the stars were twinkling. There was a thin dusting of white, fluffy, soft snow over the little town of Mel's Ville. Off the only main road in town was a huge mansion. The mansion had many windows and was made of brick.

In the mansion lived Mr. and Mrs. Mason and their daughter Alexandra. Alexandra was 5'1" and

about 110 lbs. She was 15 and was waiting for Christmas day to arrive.

"Mom, I can't believe Christmas is only one more day," Alexandra said excitedly.

"I can," Mrs. Mason answered, "Why don't you go watch some TV, Honey?"

Alexandra did what her mother wanted her to do and went into the living room. She sat on the soft carpeting in front of the TV and started

watching "It's a Wonderful Life."

A commercial came on and she was about to change the channel when she noticed what the commercial was about. It was about poor families with children that only got one present for Christmas.

Alexandra stood up, turned off the TV, and started for the spiral stairs that led up to her room. She opened her bedroom door. In her bedroom, she had two big bay windows, one tall bookcase filled with all kinds of books, and all the stuffed animals a girl could want. She also had a daybed and a long tall dresser packed with clothes.

"I wonder if I could give some of my presents to the children who don't have presents?" Alexandra thought. "I think I can start right now by wrapping toys that I haven't even used and give them out," she said out loud.

Alexandra finally wrapped the last toy and put it on top of the pile. She took all the presents to the church so they could pass them out.

In the church, there were people sorting through the piles of wrapped and unwrapped toys. The unwrapped toys were being wrapped by three of the workers. Alexandra could just imagine all the children opening up their presents and finding a new toy to play with. After she dropped off the toys, she went home.

"It's Christmas day!" Alexandra screamed.

"We know it is," Mr. and Mrs. Mason said, still wiping sleep from their eyes.

Alexandra smiled, imagining the children opening her presents she gave them. "I never would have thought," she said to herself, "that giving to others would make me so happy."

Sara Jo Kady
9th grade
Owen-Gage H.S.

SEE ME FOR YOUR MONEY INSURANCE NEEDS

Ernest A. Teichman, Jr.
6240 W. Main
Cass City, Mich.
Phone 872-3368

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State Farm is there.
State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Offices Bloomington, Illinois

IT'S CHRISTMAS!

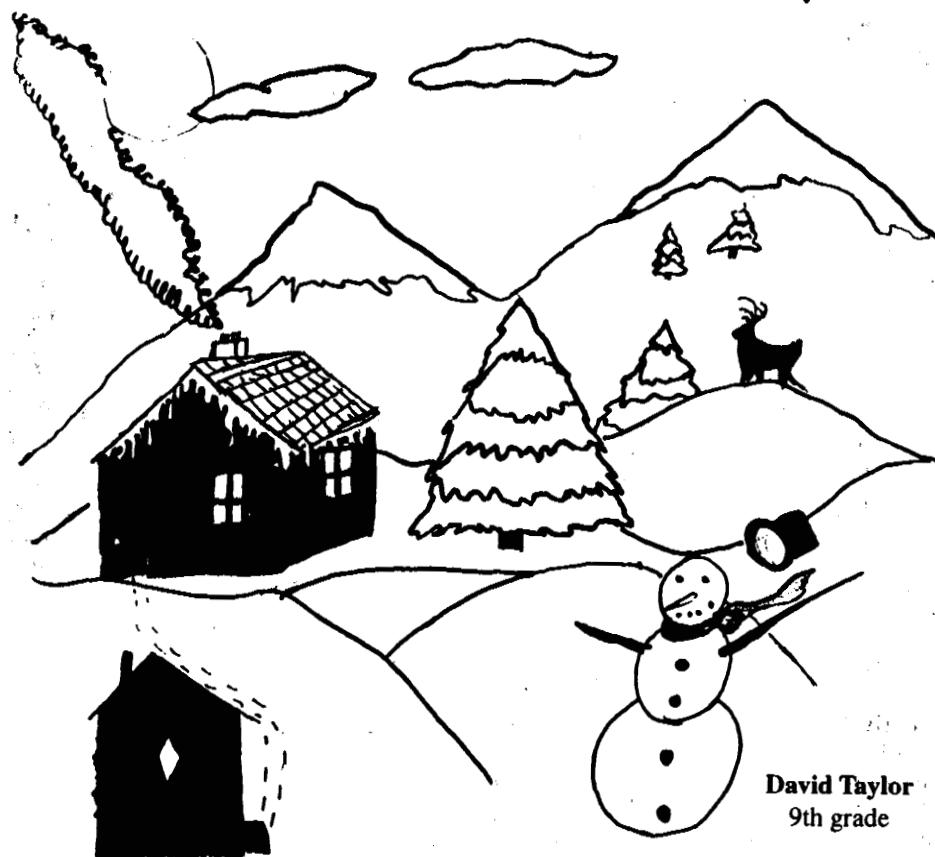
Wishing the Cass City Community a Happy and Healthy Christmas Season Best Wishes to One and All!

GENERAL CABLE COMPANY

6285 Garfield

Cass City

872-2111



David Taylor
9th grade

BEST WISHES



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

From all of us at

Schneeberger's
TV APPLIANCES FURNITURE
Cass City
Phone: 872-2696

Everyone rejoiced at the birth of the baby boy

'TWAS A BLUSTERY WINTER'S NIGHT

The snow continued to fall as the young maiden trudged on through the cold night. The sky was clear and unusually illuminated by the presence of a prominent star that guided the steps of the expecting mother. Up ahead, not far away, was the promise of warmth in a gently lit lodge where its inhabitants were obviously content in the comfort it provided.

As the young woman reached the lodge's entrance, she noticed it provided the necessities she would need for her night stay. She would have a bed, items for keeping warm, and it even provided some slight protection from the mysteries of the blustery night. As she settled and prepared for the night's activities, her traveling companion checked on the outside closures for the assurance of retaining the present warmth throughout the night. As he rejoined her, they settled down and rested from their long night's journey.

Within a short time, the expectant mother awoke suddenly with the assurance that this cold night would indeed mark the birthday of her first born child. As she and her companion prepared for the child-birth, the native inhabitants did their best in comforting the anxious mother. Before long, however, the couple had succeeded in giving birth to a beautiful baby boy. The response of the

spectators reflected the feelings of the new mother. Even nature seemed to be rejoicing in the new life as the winds gently whistled out lullabies. The star that had led them to the protecting haven seemed to be shining even brighter than it had before.

As the news of the birth spread, people began to swarm in to congratulate the new mother and to see the

Don't forget the real yule story

The Truth About Christmas

Everyone knows how Christmas began, A baby, a manger, an ox and a lamb. A simple but beautiful story that's told Of Bethlehem night, so dark, deep and cold.

But somehow this story, so loving and true, Turned into Santa and little elves too. And don't forget Rudolph and Frosty and friends The tinsel, the holly, it just never ends.

We rush to the mall to find a good deal.

We give tacky gifts and eat a huge meal.

The world becomes drenched in red and in green. We don't even stop to think what it means.

The truth about Christmas has been pushed aside. We only see Santa, his reindeer in stride. We shouldn't forget the story we know Of the baby who came to earth so long ago.

Rose Hoelzl
10th grade
CCHS

P.S. Is it okay for you to have 2% milk?

new miracle the shivering night had brought to them. The birth brought a sense of assurance that the cold darkness would not last forever, and that the new day would dawn with warmth and light for all.

As Mary and Joseph looked down at the child God had allowed them to care for, they realized the fresh possibilities that were now opened to them and thanked the Father with a grateful heart.

As we look back on the Christmas story year after year and hear the testimonial Christmas carols, we must remember that the Christmas story is REAL and is not a folktale that is only told out of tradition at the holiday season. The CHRISTmas holiday is celebrated so we can honor the birthday of the child whose time on Earth has made it possible for us to have the gift of everlasting life. This precious child of God whose name is Jesus.

Tammy Acker
11th grade
CCHS

Picture this, Santa, under the tree

Dear Santa,

Every since last year, I've always wanted a Super-Automatic-Ronco-Food Dehydrator. I know it sounds silly, but ever since I saw the infomercial on television, it's been on my want list. I knew you would come through for me, but to help you out, I've enclosed a Polaroid of it for you.

Becky Oesch
10th grade
CCHS

In this time of happy thoughts and warm hearts, we wish you and yours a holiday season filled with love.

It was a very poor Christmas

I remember a Christmas when all went wrong. The day was too short, the night was too long. Jimmy and I tried to be good, but I guess we hadn't tried as hard as we should. Let me tell you about that terrible night. It started out with a terrible fight. After the T.V. decided to blow, We had nothing to do, our spirits were low. We went to the kitchen, some cocoa to make, The pipes were frozen, the floor was a lake. The furnace went out, And the house was cold. We shivered and argued about days of old.

Dad got mad and sent us up to bed. He made a fire and scratched his head. I was all snuggled up in my bed, when I heard a cry "Help Help," someone said. Out in the hall my brother and I ran down the stairs and peeked with one eye. Jimmy and I tried not to laugh, As momma did first aid on Santa's back half. He took back his gifts and walked out the door And said he'd be back "never more!"

Amber Angle
10th grade
CCHS

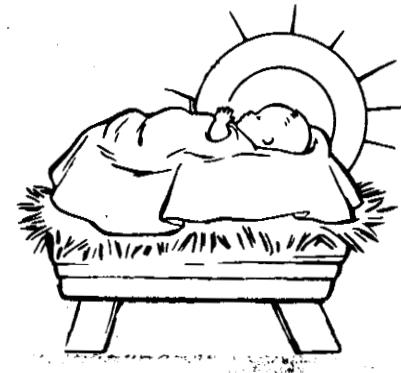
HO! HO! HO! and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



24 HOUR WRECKER SERVICE
CASS CITY WRECKER SERVICE

872-2251/day 872-5606/night

Jesus is the reason for the season



Fireplaces by Dan

Main St., Cass City 872-3190

Holiday Spirit!

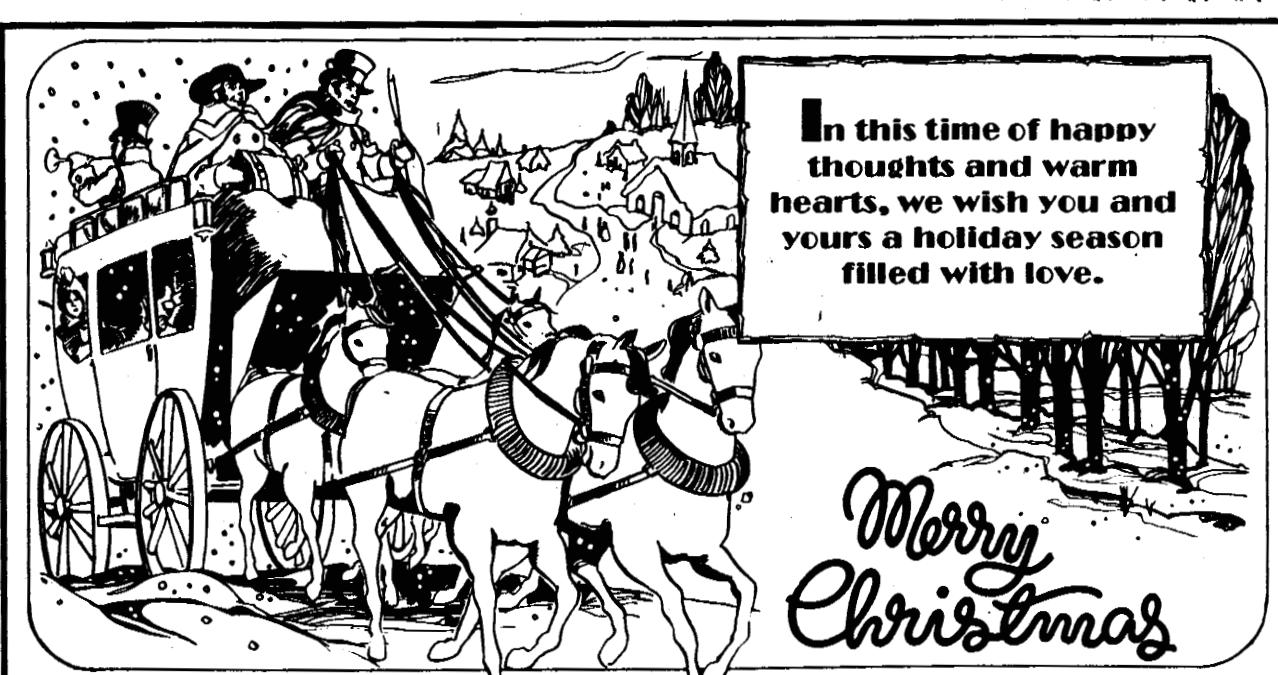
We appreciate and thank you for your patronage.



Ralph, Becky and Kim

Fort's Confectionery Store

6468 Main 872-2540



From all the salespeople at...

OSENTOSKI
REALTY

872-4377

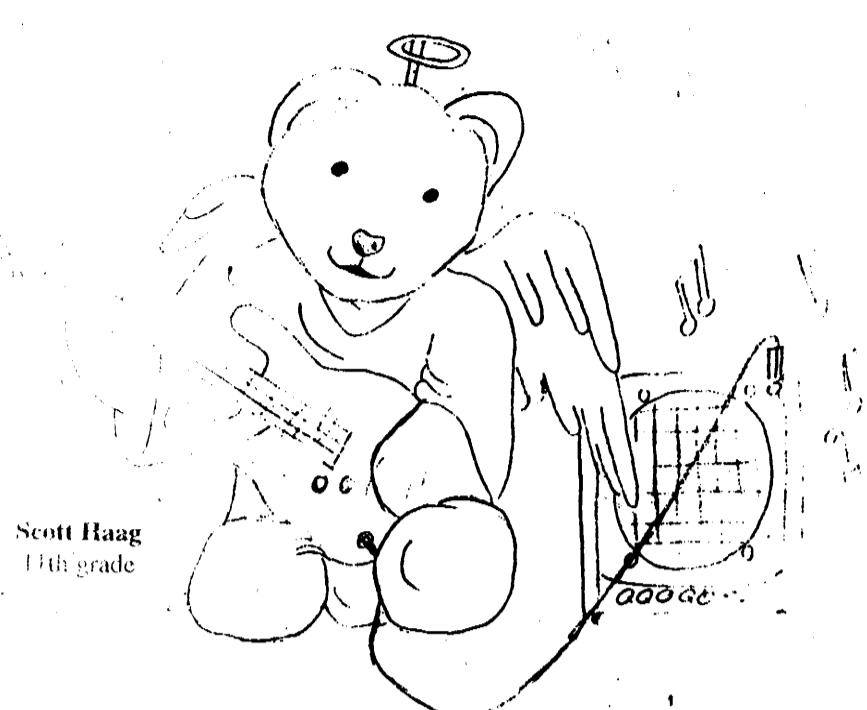
AUCTIONEERING

673-7777

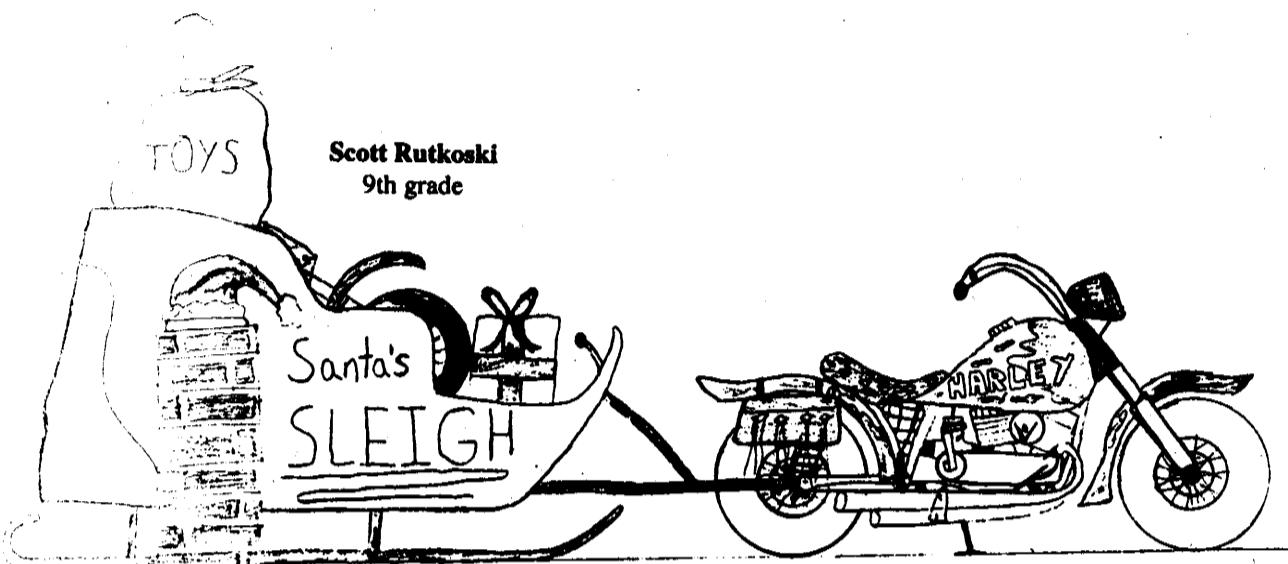


EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

MERRY X-MAS



Scott Haag
11th grade



Scott Rutkoski
9th grade

Going to grandma's

My favorite family Christmas tradition is when we go to my grandma's on Christmas Eve night for opening presents. Everyone in our immediate family attends: me, mom, grandma, great-grandma, Uncle Eric, Penny, Mandy and Paige. This year will be quite different though. My cousin Mandy and her baby Paige moved to Texas. Also, my grandma has been in the hospital for the past 2 weeks so she'll still be a little sick. There won't be nearly as many gifts under the tree either because grandma's been out of work. That's not what matters though. As long as grandma's okay, Christmas will be okay.

Ryan Downing
10th grade
CCHS

What has become of me?

What Has Become of Me?

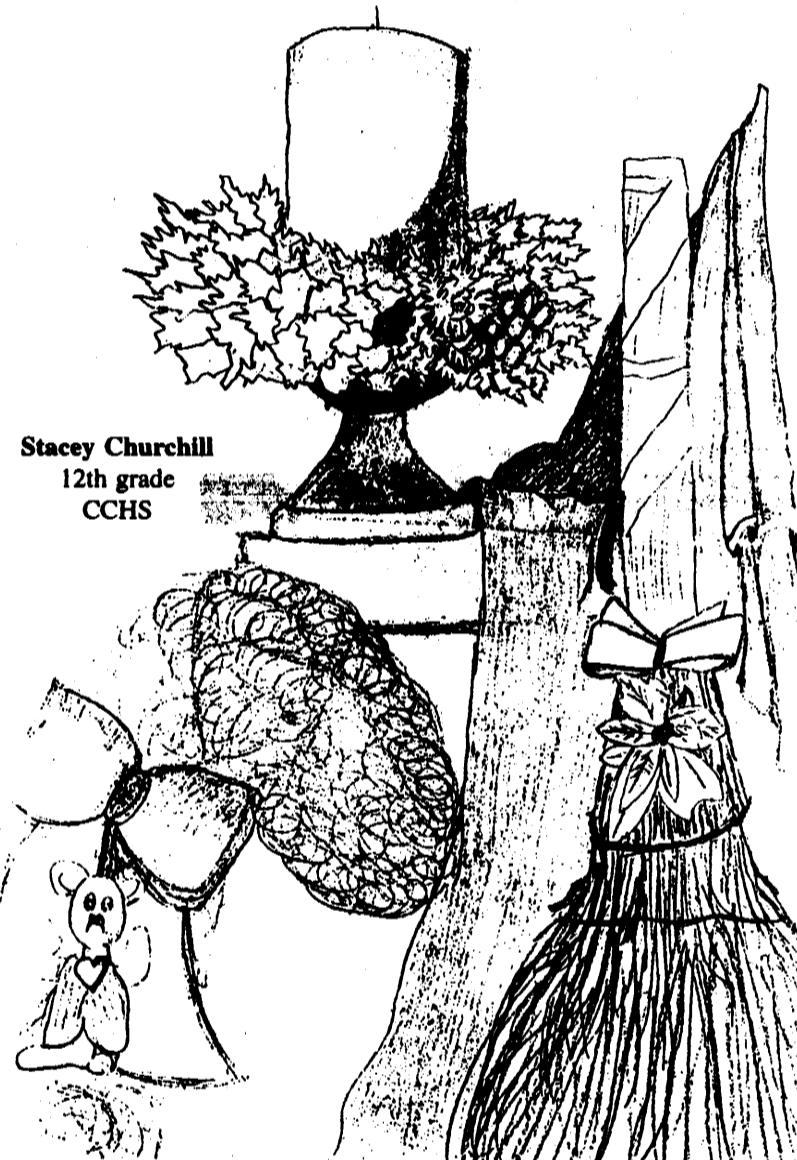
You get your lights and ornaments to lay upon your tree.
And never stop to wonder what I used to mean.

I used to be about rejoicing the birth of our new born king.
Now I am but nothing more than the presents people bring.

I cannot help but be angry for what has become of me, I mean so much more than your presents, your lights, and your tree.

I think my name is still Christmas and what I am about, Is to be thankful for what you have and pray for those without.

Heather Ross
12th grade
Owen-Gage HS



Stacey Churchill
12th grade
CCHS



Hope the magic and mirth of Christmas shower you with happy surprises! We thank you especially dear friends and patrons for your support.

BARTNIK'S SERVICE

Corner M-81 and M-53

Righting wrongs in the wee hours

One bright Christmas morn Before any presents were shorn,

Tommy awoke with a cry on his tongue
For today was Christmas, made for the young.

In a mountain of wrappings he was soon found
By parents he could no longer astound.

As always his greed was forgotten
For he was their only begotten

At the church Tommy turned to stare
At the beggars with their hands held out in despair.

Didn't everyone have stacks of gifts?

Who spent their Christmas in a snowdrift?

But look! Behind the beggars! There!
Don't they know Christmas is a child's affair?

In the pew, his face the picture of discontent, he realized, "They have not a single present."

Upon returning home he gazed at his heap
And thought of the children with nothing to do but weep.

As soon as his parents had returned to bed
Tommy loaded his new presents in a bright red sled.

Down the street he ran with only one thought on his mind
To give his presents to any child he could find.

Late into the night like a small Santa Claus
Tommy surrendered his presents, somehow knowing he was righting the wrongs.

In the wee hours of dawn he crept to his room, his conscience soothed, and his Christmas spirit truly abloom.

Lisa Warack
12th grade
Owen-Gage H.S.



Nicolette Zawilinski

Naughty boy unwraps rocks

Rocks in His Sock

The little boy woke up on Christmas day
Saw all the presents and had to say

"Ha Ha, He He, I've been bad this year
I still got presents, I had nothing to fear."

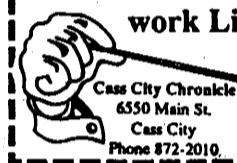
He went close to the tree and opened a box -
To his surprise all it was, was rocks.

He went to the next and the same he found -
Little toys and games were nowhere around.

with a big sigh -
A saddened teardrop fell
from his eye.
Question for Christmas:
"Will he be better next year?"

James Rienas
10th grade
CCHS

Chronicle Liners work Like Magic!



Cass City Chronicle
6550 Main St.
Cass City
Phone 872-2010

Cash an ideal gift

My favorite Christmas present I ever received is money. Money is a good present. It fits everyone, so you don't have to worry about what size to get. Money can also be redeemed at stores all over the country, which is convenient. You can exchange money for anything. In fact, the only thing you have to worry about when giving money is what president to choose. My favorite is not a president at all; he is Ben Franklin.

Steve McIntosh
10th grade
CCHS

Merry Christmas and Thank You for your patronage throughout this past year

BIGELOW HARDWARE

Owners: Betty & Jerry Stilson
CASS CITY

872-2245

We're tuning up to wish all our many customers and friends a very

Merry Christmas



CASS CITY TIRE

6392 Main, Cass City

me, it is the thought that matters." I know as well as everyone else that the day after Christmas you find yourself taking inventory of all your new treasures. One Christmas I would like to give gifts of love, hope, faith, and happiness instead of toys and clothes. Maybe, just maybe, the spirit of Christmas will fill the hearts of people this year and not just fill their arms with presents.

Shelly Hendrick
10th grade
CCHS

Make it a perfect wedding... beginning with your Invitation!

Select yours from Regency's fine collection of Wedding Invitations and Accessories.

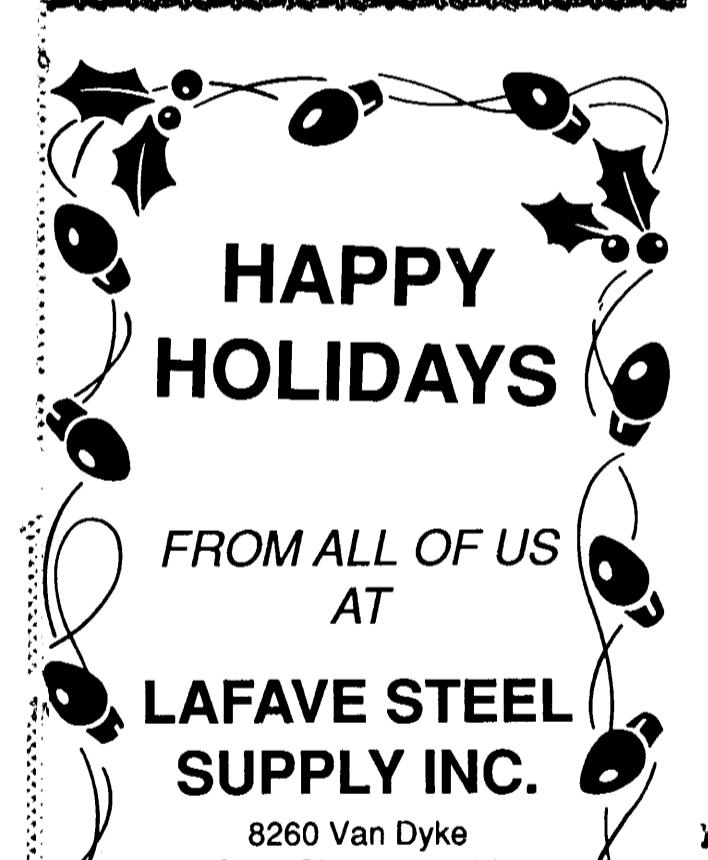
Cass City Chronicle
Phone 872-2010

Memorable Christmas

My most memorable Christmas was a couple years ago. I was 13 years old, and I really liked Joe Montana. I couldn't sleep the whole night I was so excited. It finally turned 7 o'clock, and I ran upstairs and into my parents' room. They acted like they were annoyed that it was Christmas, but I could tell they were excited too.

As I said, I really liked Joe Montana, so I opened my first gift, and it was an autographed football. I went nuts. I was stunned. I couldn't talk. I was so excited. That football is still my most prized possession.

Aaron Bell
10th grade
CCHS



Santa letters



Brennen Winter

Dear Santa,

Hi! My name is Brennen Winter and I'm 6 months old. My mommy and daddy said that I've been a very good little boy.

For Christmas I would like a Tickle Me Elmo, Pooh Bear and a Tigger.

I would also like you to bring my cousin Carley a new Barbie doll and an Elmo too.

Love & Kisses
Brennen Winter



Morgan Justine Parrish

Dear Santa,

First of all I want to say I'm sorry for screaming when I got my picture taken with you, but Santa, Halloween has got me all mixed up! I'm just not used to someone with such a bushy beard! Anyway, Mommy says I've started my terrible two's a year early, but as you know I've been a perfect angel! This year I would like a swing set, toy box, and one of those cages full of balls. I don't need any clothes, but mommy sure does! She'd also like a computer! As for daddy, well he's not picky, but I know he really wants a bed liner for his new truck. My kitty needs some new toys too!

Love,
Morgan Justine Parrish

P.S. This year daddy knows better than to touch your cookies and milk, so they will be by the tree along with some carrots for the reindeer! Have a Merry Christmas, Santa and see you next year.

Santa does not forget anybody on Christmas

Matt Carter
9th grade

To share

Christmas full of love

Hope

Little Suzy ran down the stairs with so much glee Hoping to see a colorfully lit Christmas tree

As she turned around the stair well, her eyes swelled up with tears. No tree, no presents, just some cookies on a table that was near.

Suzy didn't understand why, she had been good all year long. Then she started to think about last year and what had gone wrong.

The same thing: no presents, no tree and no Christmas feast.

It was all so sad to say the least.

Suzy ran to her mother and asked, "Why doesn't Santa love me?" Her mother looked down and replied, "It's not you, you see."

Suzy's mom kissed her and said, "I'm sorry dear," "Santa loves you so don't shed a tear."

"I can't explain now, so go to bed."

So Suzy kissed her mom on the cheek and said,

"O.K. mom, I won't ask anymore." Just then they heard a knock at the door.

Little Suzy ran to the door to see who had come. As she opened the door she saw presents, food, carolers and then some.

A caroler spoke and said, "We have dinner and presents for those who are in need, So have a Merry Christmas indeed."

As they left, Suzy's mother started to cry. But Suzy smiled as the carolers waved goodbye.

Suzy said, "Mom it's alright, I love you even more." "It doesn't matter to me that we are poor."

The gift I would like to give to everybody would be love. There are so many people in this world who have never been treated like a human being should be and have confidence in themselves because of it. People's actions are made from their past interactions with people

and words. If they've never been treated with loving words by loving people, they will never treat anyone else with love. Before you treat someone like dirt look at their past life and treat them accordingly.

Mandy Chappel
10th grade
CCHS

Santa letter



Kelsey Lynn Cooper

Dear Santa,

My mommy and daddy said I have been a very good girl. I am wishing for a stuffed Eor, Barbie High Stepper horse and a sled so daddy can pull me around with his new snowmobile.

I promise I will leave you some goodies on the table.

Love,

Kelsey Lynn Cooper
3 yrs. old

A prayer at Christmas

A Christmas Prayer

On bended knee I pray that on this Christmas day

A blanket woven tight with yarn of every race will melt the icy earth with its warm embrace

And that, stormy eyes so blackened, doomed, and grey will clear, star twinkling clouds drifted away

That the cries that echo within the hollowed tummies may be absorbed by nourishment and yummies

That fiery, fearsome wars that burn eternally the hearts and souls of every human being

May be smothered when time heals with forgiveness that forever seals.

That families clasp their hearts undone a necklace made of love surrounding everyone.

And that I may create a smile indeed upon the frowning face of some poor peasant in need.

But most of all I humbly pray that every heart may know the truth of this great day.

A gift most holy given upon one Christmas morn to save most every soul the Savior Christ was born.

Lily Leitermann
12th grade
Owen-Gage H.S.

It's the season to share

Christmas decorations lights everywhere everyone makes Christmastime

Seem like a fair. It's a time to share

A time to give A time to be happy

A time to live.

There's a day to be sad Christmas is a time to be glad Christmas magic makes sick people well.

Everyone is excited by the sights and smells.

All the joy gives hearts a lift. I love Christmas for all the peace

I love Christmas for the joy in hearts

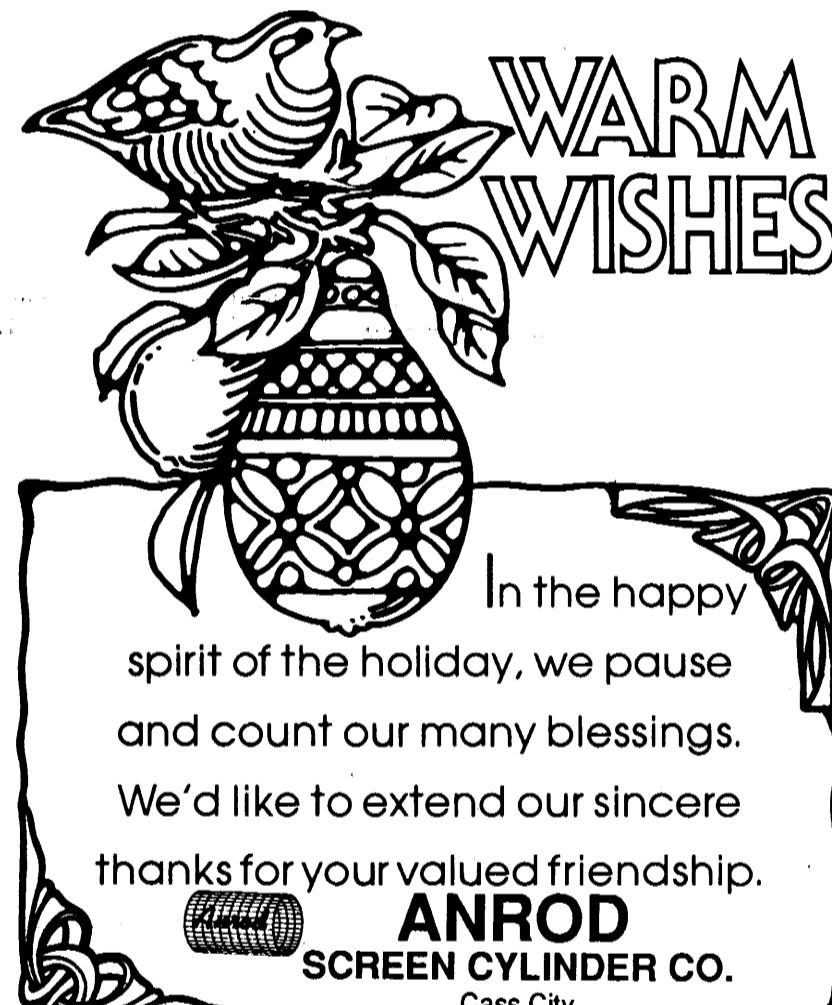
For the way people hug and never part

I love it most now I'll give it away

For a small baby in the hay.

Ashley Jade Carlisle
10th grade
CCHS

WARM WISHES



HILLS AND DALES HEALTH CARE CORPORATION WISHES YOU A HAPPY, HEALTHY, HOLIDAY SEASON!



Hills and Dales General Hospital
4675 Hill Street, Cass City
(517)872-2121

Community Health Clinics
Cass City Community Health Clinic
4675 Hill Street, Cass City
(517)872-2121

Unionville Community Health Clinic
6456 Center, Unionville
(517)674-8603

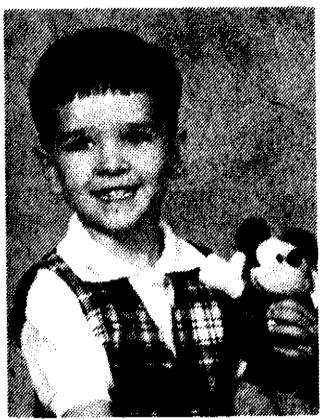
And Soon To Start: Ubly Clinic
2254 Main Street, Ubly
(517)658-9191

TriCounty Medical Equipment Co.
6528 Main St., Cass City
1-800-532-8063

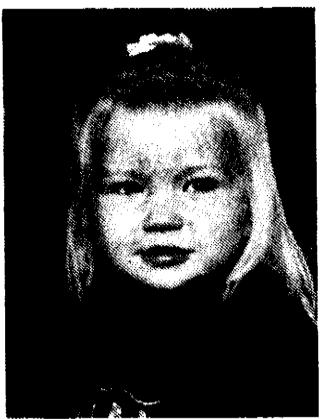
Thumb Area Home Care Agency
6240 Main Street, Cass City
1-800-358-4749

Michigan Athletic & Rehabilitation
4675 Hill St., Cass City
(517)872-2084
MARC/Caro
1186 Cleaver, Caro
(517)673-4999

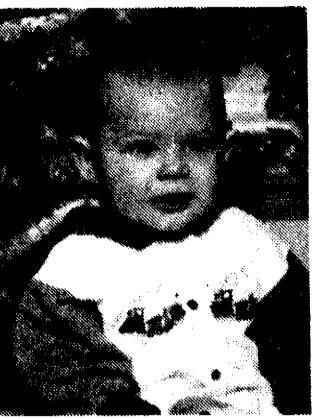
Letters to Santa



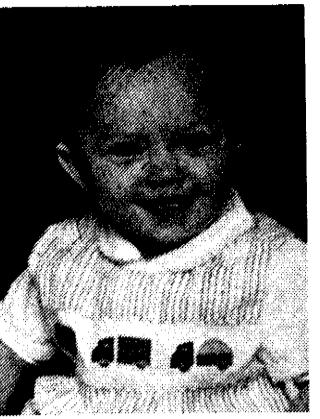
T.J. Marker



Meri Dzielinski



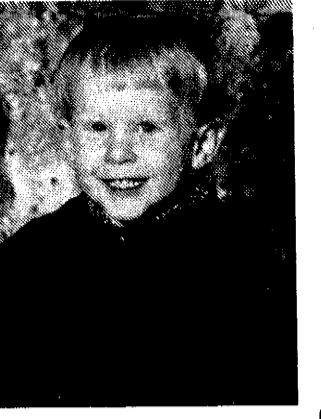
Thommy



Joshuah Edward Guigar



Ryan Koepf



Daniel Deering

Dear Santa,
I love you, Santa. Please bring me a junior dragster so I can race like my dad. Please bring Charity and Lindsey some new clothes, because they are picky. I'll leave you some milk and celery and sugar for the deer.

Love,
T.J. Marker
4 yrs. old

P.S. Don't forget to go to my friend Brittney's house.

Dear Santa,
My name is Meri and I'm 2 years old now. I have been a very good girl this year even with all the spoiling. I would like anything you bring me, but my older brothers want big things. Matthew would like a CD boombox and Paul would like a 15 speed bike. Please see what you can do Santa.

Thank you and love,

Meri Dzielinski
Gagetown

Dear Santa.
Mom says I've been a good baby and ya know what I think she's right, she's always giving me good things to eat. It would be great if you could bring me a pair of bib overalls a tractor and a Fisher-Price farm set. Mom will leave out some sugar cookies (my favorite) and hot cocoa for you.

Love,

Thommy
10 1/2 months
Cass City

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Joshuah, and I am 20 months old and this will be my second Christmas. Even though I love to get into mischief, my momma and dadda say that I have been a very good little boy, and I should tell you what I want for Christmas. Santa, I want a Fisher Price Monster Big Foot, a Hot Wheels Pre-School safety helmet, a PlaysKool 1-2-3 bike, a wagon, a car, a truck, a train, an airplane, clothes with Mickey Mouse on them, money to put in my Snoopy bank and anything that I can throw around the house. I hope I did not forget anything!

Please bring my momma and dadda an RCA camcorder so they can take videos of me, and I want to wish my nanna a "Very Merry Christmas" with all my love, hugs and kisses. Santa, I will leave you milk and cookies so you can have a snack and lots of sugar for your reindeer. Tell Rudolph everyone says, "I am cute," too.

Love,
Joshuah Edward Guigar

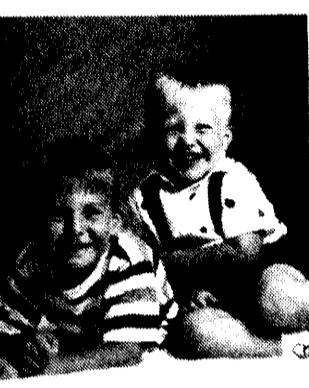
Hi Santa,
My name is Ryan. I'm only 3 1/2 months old but I know what I want for Christmas. I want lots of toys that make lots of noise, I would also like some new clothes, I'm outgrowing mine real fast. Could you also bring me my first Santa Bear.

Hugs & Kisses
Ryan Koepf
E. Lansing, Mich.

Hi Santa,
My name is Daniel Deering. I'm 4 years old. I have really been trying to stay good. But it is hard sometimes. I love to play outside so I would like some new tractors and trucks for Christmas. I will try not to tease my sister so much.

I will leave cookies and milk for you.

Thanks,
Daniel



Travis and Derek Mozden

Dear Santa:

I've tried to be a good boy this year. Santa, please bring some presents for my brother, Derek, and me. I would really like an electric train set, power ranger toys and a microscope. We will leave a treat for you and the reindeer.

Travis and Derek Mozden



Nicholle Hartel

Dear Santa,
My momma says I have been a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like a Tickle Me Elmo (along with every other kid in the US), a doll and books. Also please don't forget my cousins, Sean, Brad and Brent. They have been good too!!!

Nicholle Hartel
1 1/2 yrs. old

My thanks to you, Santa

Dear Santa,
My name is Jordan Kus. I am 5 years old. I have been a pretty good boy this year, so for Christmas this year could you please bring me a Woody and a Buzz Light doll. I also have a little sister, Tessa. She is 2 1/2. She would like a Shopping Barbie. Thank-you Santa for all the presents you brought us last year.

Love,
Jordan & Tessa Kus



May Your Holidays Be Bright!
From all of us at
QUAKER MAID DAIRY
Cass City 872-4600

Andrew & Emily Martin

Dear Santa,
My brother, Andrew, would like the computer that he saw at the store, the talking pen, and the computer game, Aladdin. I would like a Barbie Answering Machine, a nail polish set, and a stuff Dalmatian puppy named Lucky with a black eye.

We have been very good. We hope you find our new house. We will leave out cookies and milk for you and some carrots for your reindeer and Rudolph.

Merry Christmas
Love,
Emily Martin
Age 5



Carley Hendrick

Dear Santa,
I have tried real hard to be a good girl this year. I would like a Barbie doll and Tickle Me Elmo for Christmas. (I sure hope you have a Tickle Me Elmo). Don't forget my big sisters, Lindsey and Ashley and my new cousin, Brennen.

I will leave some milk and cookies for you and some sugar for Rudolph.

Merry Christmas!
Love,
Carley Hendrick
2 1/2 yrs. old



Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like Magic Cradle Megan Nibbles and his stable and the Toy Story Tape. I will try to be good until Christmas. We will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love,
Stephanie Bock
Age 4 1/2

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 & Gary

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR
from the Pine Cone Shop to All Our Great Customers

We will be closed December 25 thru January 1

6240 W. Main, Cass City, MI 48726
Elsie & Yvonne 872-2155

JOY

Good friends and a loving family make the holidays a special time to celebrate. And as your caring neighbors, we wish you the very best of the season.

Merry Christmas!

ARRIS
HAMPshire AGENCY, INC.
Established 1924
6815 E. Cass City Rd., Cass City, MI 48726

Season's Greetings

We wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Mr. and Mrs. B.A. Calka

Letters to Santa



Zachary Deitering



Kristen Kawecki



Stacey Gaszczynski



Ashley Keys



Drew Guinther



Mitchell Langlois

Dear Santa

I am 22 months old and my mother and father said that I am pretty good and my grandma and grandpa say that I am perfect. So for Christmas I would like a big dump truck and a movie with dogs in it. I live in Caro but I will be at my Grandma and Grandpa Smutek's house on Christmas Eve. We will leave you and your helpers cookies and milk by the Christmas tree.

Love,
Zachary Deitering

P.S. Please bring my Aunt Rebecca a boyfriend and my Uncle Chris a girlfriend.

Dear Santa,

I am a lot more interested in Christmas this year. Everything I see I say "I need this for Christmas!" I would like games such as Lucky Ducks and Barnyard Bingo. Also, any Barney or 101 dalmatian stuff and I need a Step 2 Creative Play Art Center so I can paint. Please stop at my cousins, LeAnn, Jessica, and Allie's house and also my uncles and aunts, Ashley, Ryan, Casey and Ross. I will leave some Christmas cookies and a little bit of my milk for you.

Love,
Kristen Kawecki
2 1/2
Decker

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl all year. I would like a puppy the most. The kind I want is a small puppy. I don't care what kind of dog, but just a small one that doesn't shed its hair all over. I'm 9 1/2 years old.

Thank you, Santa
Love Stacey Gaszczynski

P.S. There will be some milk and cookies for you.

Hi, my name is Ashley Keys. I'm 8 years old. I've tried to be good this year. For Christmas I would like the Ken Doll that shaves, a couple of games, sand arts and some new PJs. I will leave you some cookies and a diet coke.

Love you,
Ashley Keys

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year. For Christmas I'd like Buzz Lightyear, Woody and Rex the dinosaur. (He says "Roarrrr")

My little brother Spencer gets in trouble sometimes but most of the time he's pretty good. He likes Elmo a lot.

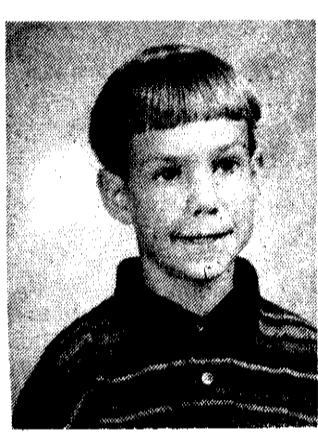
Thanks for all the presents last year. We love you.

Love,
Mitchell Langlois

Dear Santa,

My name is Mitchell Langlois. I am 3 1/2 years old and I have been trying to be good. For Christmas I would like some little tractors and a bulldozer. There will be cookies and milk left out for you and a bushel of corn for your reindeer!

P.S. Please bring something for my sister, Bethany!



Spencer Guinther

Hi Santa,

My name is Bobbie Jean and I'm a wild child. I'm in trouble all the time getting into everything. But I still want some new toys for Christmas. I would like Tickle Me Elmo, a new doll and some boots so I can go out and play in the snow. I'll leave you some popcorn and a pepsi.

oxoxox
Love & Kisses
Bobbie Jean Keys-Chappel

Drew Guinther, 4 1/2
(and Spencer too)
Cranberry Twp., PA

P.S. It's okay to leave some of our presents at Grandma's in Cass City.

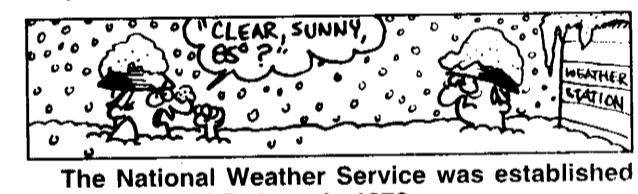
Santa Claus,
you were
very funny

Dear Santa,

I want a little baby kitten that is real. I will take care of it, if not maybe a real bear.

Love,
Abby

Thank you for the candy cane and lunch - you were funny.



Dear Santa,

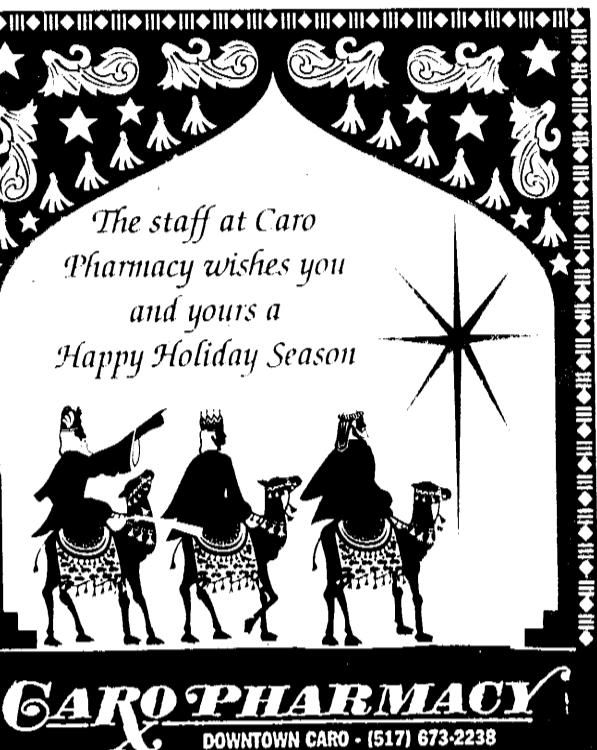
My name is Anthony Langlois. I am 8 1/2 years old now. I have been good all year. I would like the blue box of K-nex and some little semi-trucks. I will leave a piece of pumpkin pie and a glass of pop for you and corn for your reindeer.

Love,
Anthony Langlois

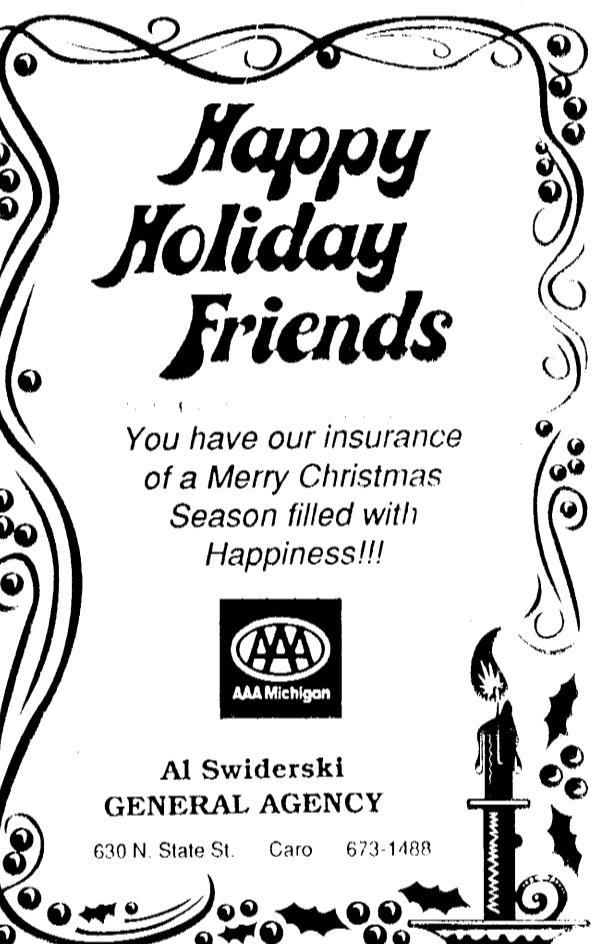
P.S. Don't forget my sister, Bethany!

The Paint Store
wishes everyone
A Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year

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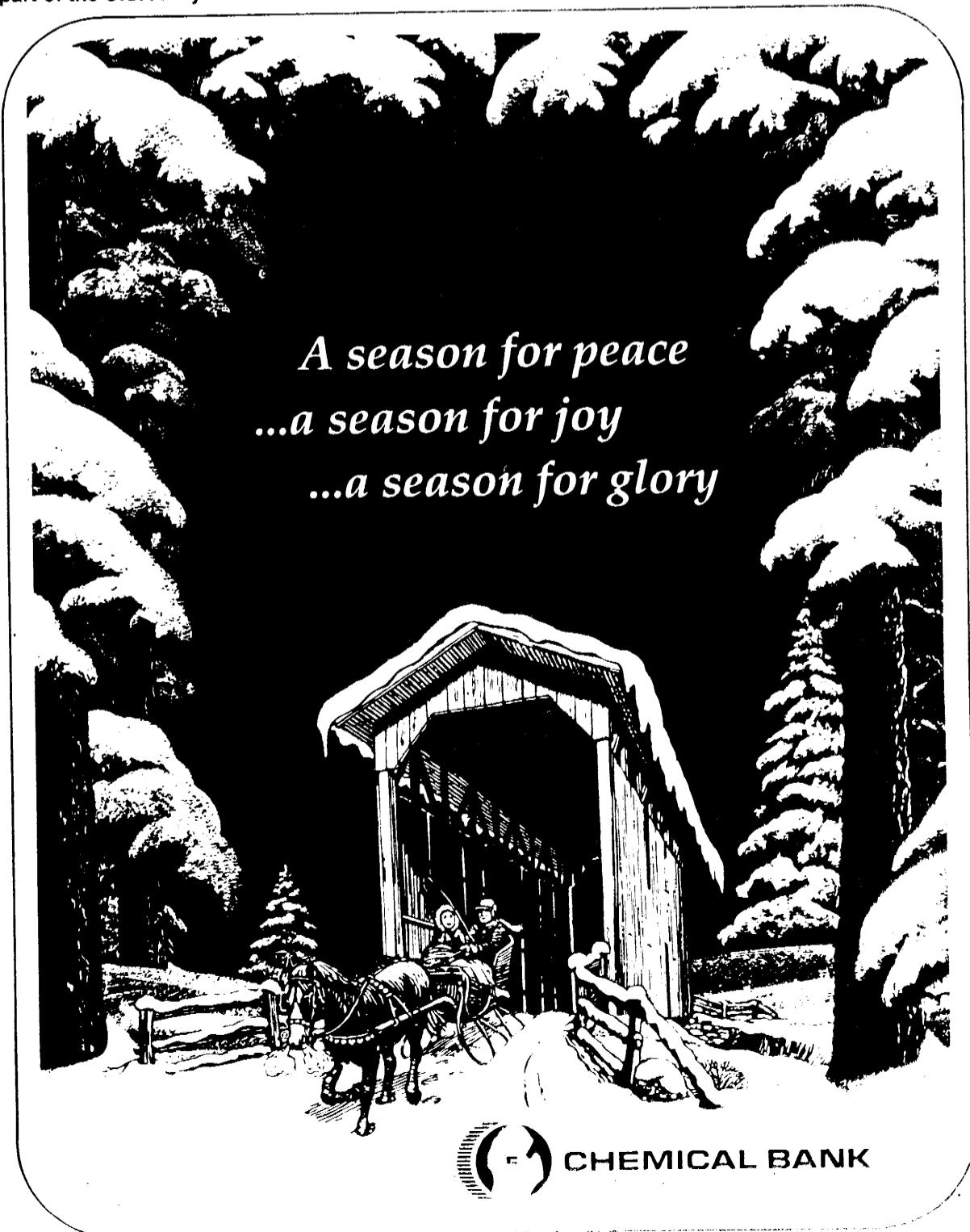
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At special meeting

Central dispatch, mosquito control directors hired

Tuscola County's newly formed independent central dispatch operation now has a director in place, as does the county's first mosquito control program.

County commissioners filled both positions during a Dec. 17 special meeting.

Dawn Adams, currently a lead shift supervisor for the city of Troy's dispatch operation, was hired to head up Tuscola County's independent dispatch operation.

Bill Wallace, a veteran of the Midland mosquito control program, meanwhile, was selected to guide implementation of the county's first-ever mosquito control effort.

Adams, who will begin her

new duties Jan. 6, comes to Tuscola County with a number of years experience and high recommendations from her current employer, according to county Controller Mike Hoagland.

She was one of 5 finalists vying for the job. Hoagland said there were originally about 18 applicants, which were narrowed to a field of 5 candidates. The finalists included one area resident, Bill Owens of the Unionville Police Department.

Adams will oversee a staff of 10 full-time dispatchers and one part-time support/clerical staff person.

Her salary has been set at \$39,000, the third step in a 5-step wage scale established by commissioners. The scale begins at \$36,000 and tops out at \$42,000 in the fifth year of satisfactory employment.

Tuscola County voters last August approved a 16-percent increase in the surcharge on base telephone bills to fund the new, independent central dispatch.

Residents now pay a total surcharge of 20 percent (about \$32 per year per one-party access line) which will remain in effect for 5 years, generating an estimated \$786,000 this year.

The funding will be used to cover the estimated \$2.2 million cost of the dispatch upgrade, including construction of a 400-foot communications tower and a 2,900-square foot building to house the operation. The building site is a county-owned parcel on Cleaver Road near the county health department.

Commissioners have already borrowed the \$2.2 million, which will be paid back over a period of 10 years.

The task of creating an independent dispatch operation is progressing, according to Hoagland, who said county officials are continuing to work closely with Communication Systems Inc., a Mt. Pleasant consulting firm that is providing technical advice.

The county is also working with 2 architect firms on the design of the new building, and internal layout of the facility has been approved by commissioners, although a contract for the construction has not been let yet.

Hoagland said a pair of major equipment contracts

have been awarded; one to E.F. Johnson totaling \$982,000, and other to Motorola, totalling \$521,000.

In addition, a 9-person dispatch authority board has been formed, and work continues on union dispatchers' transition from the sheriff's department to the new, independent dispatch. Hoagland said all but one of the dispatch positions will be filled by current sheriff's department dispatchers.

MOSQUITO PROGRAM

Turning to the new mosquito control director, Hoagland said Wallace was chosen from among more than 2 dozen candidates.

"It was a difficult decision. There were many excellent candidates," he said.

Wallace has been involved with the Midland mosquito control program for 13 years

Grant beefs up police force

(Continued from page one)

ers for a period of 3 years.

Both Cass City and Caro are slated to receive the maximum grant award of \$75,000. In order to receive the grants, village officials must approve spending the local matching funds.

The Cops Universal Hiring Program was established as part of the 1994 federal crime bill, providing a \$30 billion trust designed to help hire 100,000 new police nationwide.

Village pays 10,000 for access lot

(Continued from page one)

hiring an attorney who practices locally.

• Voted to continue various boards' meeting dates in the coming year — the last Monday of the month for the council, the second Tuesday for the Economic Development Corporation and Downtown Development Authority boards, and the third Tuesday for the planning commission.

and currently serves as operations foreman.

He will be paid \$28,000 to start. The position has a 4-step wage scale, topping out at \$32,500 in the fourth year.

Wallace's first task in Tuscola County will be to develop a schedule of activities and tentative dates. "There's a lot to be done right out of the blocks to get ready...to initiate a first-year program," Hoagland said.

The planning includes looking into various methods of insect control as well as equipment purchases, locating a facility to house the equipment, and determining staffing needs.

Funding for the program, estimated at \$530,000 in the first year, was assured in November, when voters approved a special millage of .65 of a mill for 4 years.

Obviously, Hoagland pointed out, the program will not eradicate every mosquito in the county. However, he said, the goal is to control the mosquito population.

"What they'll be doing is targeting those areas where there is a combination of mosquitos and people."

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

from the Chronicle Staff

Clarke Haire

John Haire

Melva Guinther

Tom Montgomery

Mary Damm

Joann Asher

Larry Bogart

Deb Severance

Janet Severance

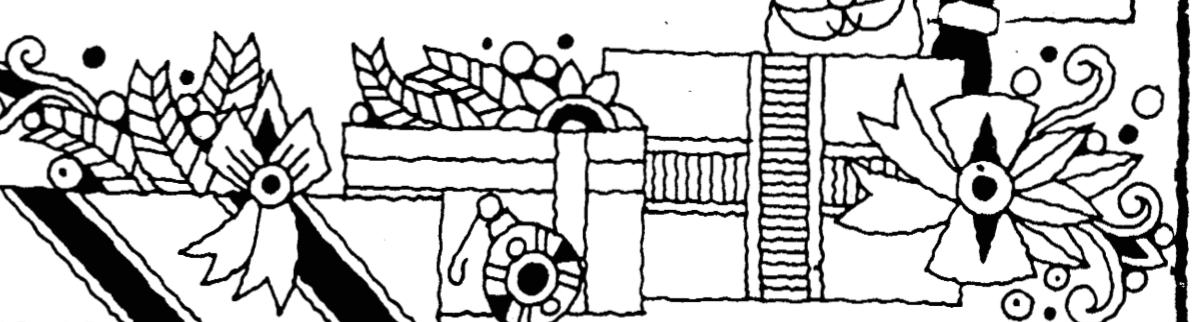
Lynn Adkins

Scott Ruggles

Justin Salas

A Special Thank You

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(Continued from page one)

Base wages in 1997 will total about \$625,500.

The figure doesn't include overtime and pay for part-time, seasonal employees hired each summer.

Life guards, arts and crafts workers, park and DPW employees are paid anywhere from \$6.35 to \$8 per hour depending on their position and years of service to the village.

Season's Greetings & Happy Holidays from Radio Shack

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Huron County Bean Day Jan. 8

Mark your calendars for the 1997 Huron County Bean Day scheduled for Jan. 8 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Bad Axe. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Greg Varner, Research Director for the Dry Bean Research Advisory Board, will kick off the program with his report on the 1996 Dry Bean Variety Trial Results. Following his report will be discussions on compaction in bean production and planting dates. Speakers for these topics will include Tim Harrigan, MSU Ag Engi-

neering Department, and Dr. Jim Kelly, MSU Crops and Soils Science Department.

The afternoon program will begin with Randy Judd, manager of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association. He will be speaking on the new amendments to Michigan's Seed Law.

The afternoon program will continue with a market report from John McGill, president of the Michigan Bean Shipper's Association.

Elections will also be held to replace the 3 Huron County Bean Board members whose terms will be expiring.

Village approves raises

(Continued from page one)

We're wishing you LOADS of HOLIDAY CHEER!

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