

Merry Christmas!

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 91, NUMBER 39

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1997

FIFTY CENTS

20 PAGES



CASS CITY MIDDLE School students did their part during last week's move by helping to carry what they could to their new classrooms. Thanks to the help of volunteers, 510 students and 50 staff members made the move to the new school in just 2 days.

Help of students, parents makes school move easy

Box by box, chair by chair and globe by globe, Cass City Middle School students enjoyed an early Christmas present last week as they moved into their spanking new school building.

The smooth transition from old to new was made possible thanks to the help of many hands.

More than 100 parents and other community residents pitched in to help, lending their backs as well as a small convoy of pickup trucks and trailers.

Students abandoned the 71-year-old school in shifts over a 2-day period, 21 months after voters approved a revised construction plan and bond issue to pay for the new building.

Fifth and sixth grade classes were the first to parade up the hill just north of the old school Wednesday, marching in nearly single file lines through the doors of the newly completed \$6.8 million, 78,000-square-foot middle school. The seventh and eighth grade classes followed on Thursday.

It was no small task, considering volunteers and staff members had to empty more

than 2 dozen classrooms as well as transfer some 510 students from one building to the other.

But the weather was picture perfect, and there was plenty of help and cooperation to go around, middle school Principal Jeanne Lohela said. "It

was excellent, just excellent," she said. Supt. Ken Micklash agreed. "It was very well organized. It went much better than I would have anticipated," he said. "I never dreamed we would complete (the move) in 2 days."

OK settlement for cash

Seek campgrounds on school property

The first step in what promises to be a lengthy process to establish a primitive camping area in conjunction with the Cass City Development Association and the village of Cass City was taken at the regular meeting of the Cass City School Board Monday night at the school.

Geraldine Prieskorn and Tom Herron appeared before the board with a rough drawn site for camps on school property north of the village park with access from Ale Street.

Prieskorn said that there

isn't a suitable site in the vicinity and that a campground might well draw people to the community.

The tentative plans call for the site to have electricity and water. It would be near the park facilities and the golf course. Herron told the board.

Superintendent Ken Micklash said that he would not be in favor of selling or giving the land away, but favored a lease arrangement to protect the interests of the district 20 years or so in the future.

Trustee David Knight said that he had concerns about a camp of strangers so close to the school when it was in session.

However, generally the board agreed that the idea had merit and agreed to study the camp prospects with other groups involved.

ACCEPT SETTLEMENT

The board voted to accept the Durant settlement from the state and accept the money offered as outlined in the Chronicle last week. While the settlement will not materially be a big financial boost to the district next year, long term it promises to deliver substantial monies to the district.

The settlement calls for a total payment of \$250,000, with half paid in November 1998, together with a reduction in retirement costs from 14.6 to 11.2 percent, which

Work on the new middle school is all but complete, according to Micklash, who noted the project contractor, R.C. Hendrick and Son, Saginaw, will be wrapping up some minor finishing

Please turn to back page.

saves the district \$190,000.

Because it will not receive its annual bonus from the state for operating for less than the money allotted per student to schools, Micklash said that the school could have \$176,000 less to spend next year. The school is expected to have the bonus payments resume in the 1998-99 school year.

OTHER BUSINESS

•John Cooper and Dean Hoag, of General Cable Corporation in Cass City, were presented with a letter of appreciation from the district for supplying wiring for the new middle school building.

Micklash said that a construction firm working on the building told him that the donation saved the district between \$15,000 and \$20,000 dollars. Cooper told the board that it is rare that the company sees its products in their end use. They are sold to suppliers.

We are happy that all the wire furnished was manufactured in our Cass City plant, he concluded.

•Bids for 2 new buses were opened. After the bids were examined to see if they meet the bid specification, they will be awarded. It is expected that the bid of Wieland Sales, Saginaw, will be accepted for \$30,436.99 for each bus and the low bid of the Squires Company of \$15,572 each for the chassis. Please turn to back page.

One of 5 in state

New MDOT center set for Cass City

Area residents who have questions about a road project underway in their area, or who just want to pick up a map will soon have a place to go for both and more, right in their own backyard.

Cass City is one of 5 cities and villages across the state that have been chosen as sites for additional Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Service Centers.

State Transportation Director James R. DeSana made the announcement last week. Aside from Cass City, the new centers will be located in Newberry, Jackson, Lansing and Cadillac.

DeSana noted the new transportation service centers are in addition to 12 others announced in October, and other restructuring efforts that support increased efforts to fix Michigan's roads and bridges.

DeSana said Doug Wilson will become manager of the Cass City Transportation Service Center, which will serve communities throughout the Thumb.

Wilson brings 13 years of MDOT experience to Cass City, ranging from field and soils engineering to materials, technology and construction. Most recently, he was responsible for overseeing construction in Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee counties as a member of the Davison Transportation Service Center.

State transportation officials are phasing in 25 new transportation service centers throughout Michigan as part of a reorganization of the department between now and the end of 1999. The new service centers are expected to increase efficiency and improve service for the movement of people and goods across the state.

"This new organizational structure is a new way of doing business, resulting in savings that can be put into road and bridge improvements while increasing flexibility and bringing MDOT closer to its customers —

those using Michigan's transportation network," Gov. John Engler said.

Officials said the service centers play a vital role in the governor's program to fix Michigan's roads and bridges, as they provide a full variety of multi-model transportation services within a designated multi-county area.

DeSana said the full service centers will focus on directing the delivery of services to extend pavement life and improve safety and drivability for motorists. The centers' responsibilities will

also include scoping and design of projects, construction oversight and coordination of maintenance.

"These responsibilities will be met with increased understanding of local community needs while also providing a wide range of walk-in and call-in services," DeSana explained.

"The walk-in and call-in services will include permits, construction and upcoming project information; transit, rail and air service availability; referrals, road maps and other information specific to the area."

"One of the top priorities

right now is to make state offices more accessible to the public," said Terrion Maxwell, communications representative for MDOT's 13-county Bay Region, which includes the Thumb.

"We've had a lot of success with these (transportation service centers). We've had a good response," she added.

The service center location for Cass City has not been announced yet.

"At this point, I don't think one has been selected," Maxwell said, adding the priority at this time was to choose managers for each of the new

Please turn to back page.

Budget adopted

Cass City site for dialysis center?

Cass City could become home to a tri-county dialysis center.

Sale of village land for the site was discussed during the Cass City Village Council's monthly meeting Monday night. The council also adopted a proposed 1998 spending plan.

Council Trustee Elwyn Helwig noted the village's Streets and Parking Committee recently met to discuss the sale of property to a consortium of 7 Thumb area hospitals that is interested in locating a dialysis center in Cass City.

The preferred site, he said, is the former Mort Orr property, 2 lots totaling 1.57 acres just north of Main Street at the east end of the village.

The village purchased the property for \$40,000 in the early 1980s, according to Helwig, who said Village Manager Jane A. Downing is in the process of having the land appraised to determine the fair market value.

The council approved a motion to pursue sale of the property.

BUDGET

Turning to the budget, the council approved a proposed 1998 spending plan totalling \$2,794,834, an increase of about \$137,000, or 5 percent, over actual estimated 1997 expenditures.

Village President L.E. Althaver briefly outlined the budget, noting the spending plan includes no change in the millage rate and assumes an increase in state equalized valuation of just 2 percent.

Additional revenue is expected in the form of water and sewer rate hikes approved Monday night (see related story). However, the village tax rate is expected to remain unchanged at 18.5 mills — 12.5 mills for general operations, 3.5 mills for streets and 2.5 mills for debt retirement.

On the expenditure side, the spending plan includes a 3-percent pay increase for full-time village employees.

Major expenditures in the coming year include: \$86,200 in street repaving

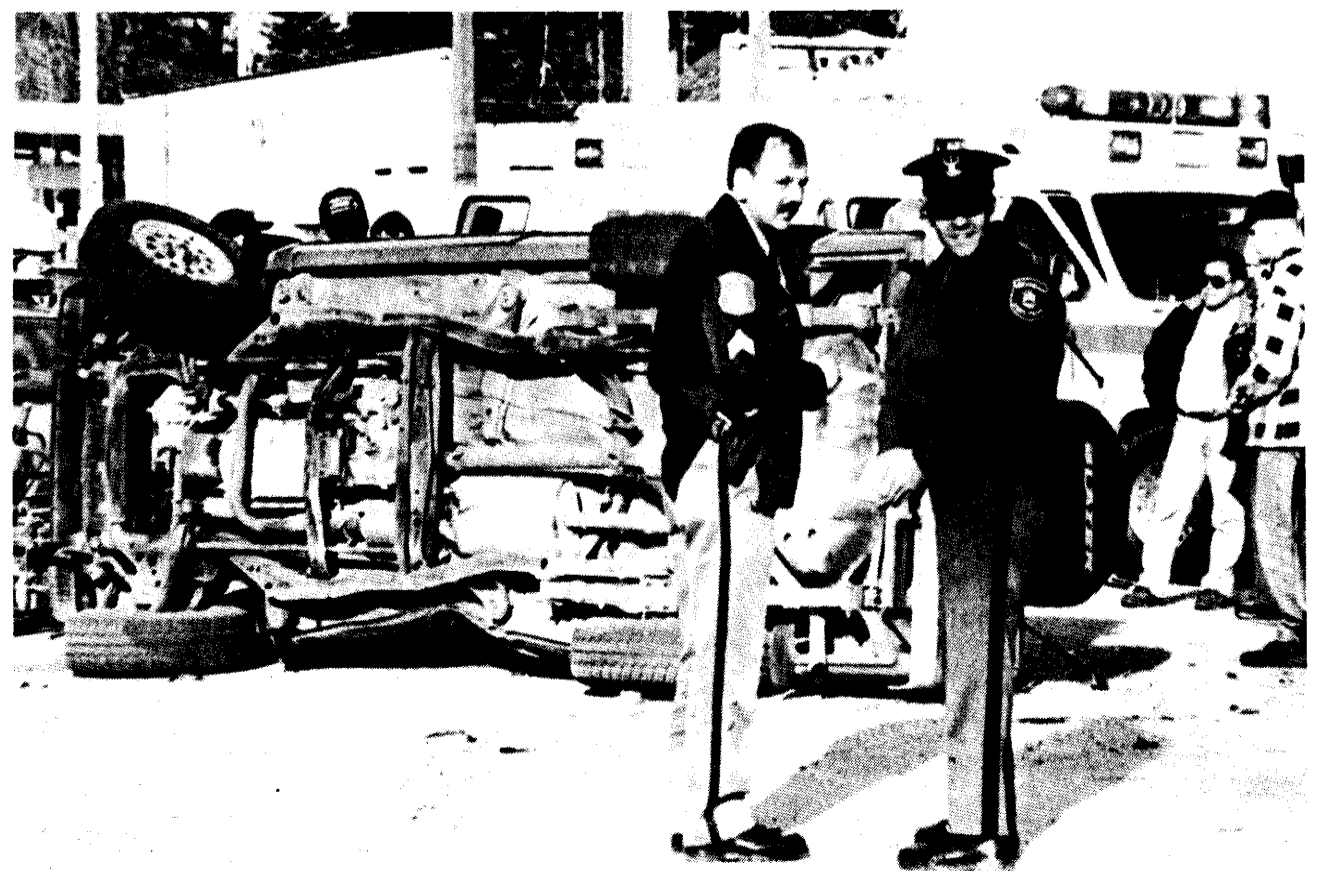
projects; \$56,000 to replace a water main that serves the Huntsville Mobile Home Park; \$43,000 for heating work and repairs at the municipal building as well as improvements to the arts and crafts and pool buildings; \$16,000 for computer upgrades in all departments; \$28,000 for maintenance and equipment purchases for the wastewater treatment plant, and \$32,000 for a new patrol car and communications equipment.

According to Downing, the village is expected to end the current fiscal year with a combined fund balance of \$761,438. She said the fund balance is expected to dip to \$526,044 by the end of 1998, largely due to plans to accelerate payment on the debt for the wastewater treatment plant, and an aggressive street improvement plan.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

In other business Monday, the council:

Please turn to back page.



CASS CITY POLICE Sgt. Craig Haynes (left) and a state police trooper look over the scene of Thursday's rollover accident in the village. The crash involved 3 vehicles, but all the drivers escaped serious injury. (See story page 4)

Inside

Cass City High School's hoop squad will start the year undefeated after posting victories over Ubyly and USA. Page 7.

Cass City and Gagetown students present Christmas essays and drawings in special section in this issue. Santa letters are included in the section and on page 9.

There were no objections to the increase in water and sewer rates, so the increases were adopted Monday at the village council meeting. It will cost the average family of \$451.43 more in the 5 years over which the increases are spread.

Story page 4.

Retiring village superintendent Lou LaPonsie was feted at a farewell party Monday with 50 guests attending. Page 4.

Accepting a letter of appreciation in behalf of General Cable Company in Cass City Monday were John Cooper and Dean Hoag. The company donated wire worth between \$15,000 and \$20,000 to the new middle school. Page 12.



Jim and Virginia Sweeney

Sweeneys mark 50th anniversary

Jim and Virginia Sweeney celebrated 50 years of marriage Oct. 26, 1947. The celebration began with a blessing from the Rev. Randy Kelly at mass at St. Columbkille Catholic Church. A reception immediately following was given by their children in the parish hall.

James B. Sweeney and Virginia Sowden were married Oct. 25, 1947, at St. Pancratius Catholic Church in Cass City with the Rev. Fr. John Bozek officiating. They have lived in Sheridan Town-

ship and farmed there all their lives.

The couple has 6 children, Ron (Joanne) of Bad Axe, Jerry (Barb) of Uby, Bernie (Mary) of Harbor Beach, Theresa (Tom) Polega of Kinde, Dean of Uby and Donna (Dale) Nunnaman of Middlebergh, N.Y. They have 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Many relatives and friends attended from the local and surrounding areas of Michigan, New York, Illinois, Indiana and Nevada.

Cass City Social Item
Call your local news to the Chronicle office 872-2010

Richard Kubacki recently graduated from ITT Technical Institute in Tampa, Fla. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electronics engineering. Kubacki has returned to Michigan and is employed at Jabil Circuit, Inc. in Auburn Hills.

Marriage licenses

Daniel Edward Wenzlaff and Carol Lee Adamczyk, both of Kingston.
Marc Harry Waske and Elizabeth Anne Spencer, both of Reese.
Andrew Christian Banks, Lapeer, and Angela Marie Curell, Mayville.
Duane Gerald Houghteling and Colleen Sue Easlick, both of Caro.

TEC names decorating winners

Thumb Electric Cooperative announces the winners of its outdoor Christmas light decorating contest. A total of \$450 was credited to 9 TEC member accounts throughout Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac Counties.

Tuscola county winners were: first place, Gladys Wilbur; 2nd place, Dale Fox, and 3rd place, Greg Raymond.

Huron county winners were: first place, Jerome and Alice Hessling, 2nd place, Martin and Lucy Kubacki, and 3rd place, Gene Kubacki.

Sanilac county winner were: first place, John Nicol; 2nd place, Don and Cleo Carter, and 3rd place, Ronald McCoy.

First place winners had \$75 credited to their accounts, second place \$50, and third place \$25.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

CASS CITY CHRONICLE
USPS 092-700
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT CASS CITY, MICHIGAN
6550 Main Street
Second-class postage paid at Cass City, Michigan 48726
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
CASS CITY CHRONICLE, P.O. BOX 115, CASS CITY, MI 48726
John Haire, publisher
National Advertising Representative.
Michigan Weekly Newspapers, Inc., 257 Michigan Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan.
Subscription Prices: To post offices in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac Counties - \$15.00 a year or 2 years for \$25.00, 3 years for \$35.00, \$9.50 for 6 months, and 3 months for \$6.50.
In Michigan - \$18.00 a year, 2 years \$31.00.
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For information regarding newspaper advertising and commercial and job printing, telephone 872-2010.



Meg's Peg

The faces of Christmas

by Melva E. Guinther

There are as many ways to celebrate Christmas as there are people who celebrate it. For a few, it's a deeply religious, devotional time. For others, it's parties, presents, food and festivities. Some go all out with decorating, while others don't even bother with a tree.

Obviously, Christmas means different things to different people.

To many, it's lost all meaning.

It's become too commercialized, they say.

People spend far too much on presents, decorations, etc.

Getting ready for the holiday has become hectic, with too much going on. And when it's over, it's just a big letdown.

Santa Claus and greed have taken the place of the Savior, whose birth is supposedly being celebrated.

Shopping is a nightmare.

Bah humbug!

Others actually enjoy the hustle and bustle of the season. They love the crowds, the shopping, wrapping, decorating and festive atmosphere. They look forward to the busyness of the holiday.

For some, it's that rare special time when all the kids and grandkids gather around. It's a season for remembering old times with those they love.

They admittedly spend too much money buying things they hope will please their special people. But it's only once a year.

Thankfully, there are those who make Christmas a time of service to others less for-

tunate. They provide food, clothing and toys for those in need. Perhaps these folks who give of themselves come closest to capturing the true spirit of Christmas.

However you choose to celebrate, our wish for each one is for a happy, healthy, blessed holiday.

And when the feast has become leftovers, when the beautiful, bright wrappings are just a colorful discarded heap and the carols have faded into memory for another year, may we take time to consider the real purpose of the celebration.

Jesus IS the reason for the season.

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 Berene Sowden, 872-2397.

DEC. 29-30

Monday - Stuffed cabbage with tomato sauce, parsley potatoes, baby carrots, variety bread, fruit cocktail

Tuesday - Chicken Ala King, herb stuffing, carrot curls/green peppers, roll, fruit gelatin.

Correction

In the birth announcement last week of Megan Badgley the Chronicle was misinformed when it stated Carol Nanny was great-grandmother. She is a cousin.

With veterinarian

Girl Scouts enjoy visit

Girls in Junior Girl Scout Troop 239 recently took a field trip to Dr. Susan Hoppe's veterinary clinic.

One of the requirements in order to earn the Pet Care badge calls for a visit to a local veterinarian hospital, and Dr. Hoppe offered her time to answer questions thrown at her during an hour-long visit.

Junior Girl Scouts Brittany Brinkman, Jessica Chappel, Allison Ellis and Elizabeth Hoxie toured the clinic and learned about animal behavior and how to tell whether a pet needs a vet's care. Each piece of equipment in the office was examined and its use explained.

The patient examination and surgery rooms brought so many questions that Dr. Hoppe spent time explaining each step of the process, from diagnosing a problem, containing the animal, taking X-rays, giving medications, and even surgery, beginning with sterilizing the instruments through the surgery itself.

In response to questions, Dr. Hoppe said the largest animal she has ever cared for was a horse (in the days when she worked at a large animal clinic), the smallest was a member of the rodent family, and the most exotic was a snake. She talked about exotic pets such as pigs, ferrets, birds and monkeys, and some of the special requirements they have. She spoke about the field of veterinary medicine and what a wide range of careers it includes, from zookeepers who deal only with exotic animals and are still collecting data on rare species, to research scientists.

The scouts asked whether there were any ways they could assist the clinic and Dr. Hoppe asked that anyone who wishes to help the clinic should do so by making a donation to the Tuscola

County Humane Society and mail it to P.O. Box 6, Vassar, MI 48768.

Junior Girl Scout Troop 239 also took a trip to a stable owned and operated by Carmen and Ed Longuski on Germania Road to earn their horse lover badge.

Carmen spent 2 hours teaching scouts Brittany Brinkman, Jessica Chappel, Allison Ellis and Elizabeth Hoxie about the care and feeding of horses. The differences between Western and English tack and riding styles were briefly explained, and the girls reviewed the parts of a saddle and bridle.

Miss No Frills, a chestnut mare, was taken from her stall and each girl was given a chance to comb and brush her. Because only one scout

had even been on a horse before, Carmen explained how the movements of hands, feet and legs guide the horse.

She saddled and bridled Frills while explaining the process, and each girl had a short ride on the horse.

The girls enjoyed the lesson and learned that owning a horse is a lot of work.



Up until 1830 when anyone purchased a bar of soap, the grocer simply hacked off a chunk from a large block.

Join us at The Charmont for

NEW YEAR'S

Special Buffet includes:
Prime Rib, Shrimp, Crab Legs, Salad Bar, Potato, Dessert and a glass of Champagne!
\$14.00 per person
Reservations Suggested

Scotch Doubles Bowling Tournament begins at 8:00 p.m. Fun and Prizes!

STARTING MOONLIGHT BOWLING
Jan. 2 - Call Bob for more information

Charmont food 'n' fun
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UBLY HEIGHTS GOLF COURSE
New Year's Eve Party
Wednesday, Dec. 31

Dance to DJ, B-Jammin - 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Buffet served 4 p.m. till reservations completed
CRABLEGS, PRIME RIB, LAKE PERCH, Stuffed Crab, Smoked Salmon, Peel-n-Eat Shrimp, Creamed Herring, Sauteed Scallops, Roast Pork & Escalloped Apples, Vegetable Lasagna, Cod Almondine, Salsa Cod, BBQ Ribs, Breaded Shrimp, Clam Strips, Battered Cod, Hawaiian Chicken Breast, Chicken Alfredo, Rice Pilaf, Swedish Meatballs, Beer Battered Mushrooms, Onion Rings, California Pasta, Fiesta Corn, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Redskin Potatoes, Spectacular Salad Bar, Breads, Desserts Galore! *NO MENU ORDERS*

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\$4.00 per person (must be 21 yrs. old for dance)

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New Year's Eve Party
EVERYTHING'S SET...
FOR A GREAT TIME!

Party starts at 7 p.m.
Featuring: **SNOVER BUNCH**
Band plays 9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Lunch served Party favors
Advanced Tickets \$8.00/person; \$15.00/couple
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We Have Decked Ourselves Out For The Holiday



Thumb National Bank employees, from left, front row: Kendall Rieman, Curt Strickland, Ben Schott and Dale McIntosh. Back row: Kelli Hendrick, Mary Wheeler, Barb Irrer, Alice Zaleski, Cindy Kruse, Joyce King, Colleen Langenburg, Carey Chard, Pam LaFave and Charlotte Kritzman.

Merry Christmas from the TN Gang!

Take our "Holiday Challenge". Can you find the 13 hidden Christmas/Winter items in our Photo? (Answers on page 8.)

TN
Thumb National Bank & Trust
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1. _____
2. _____
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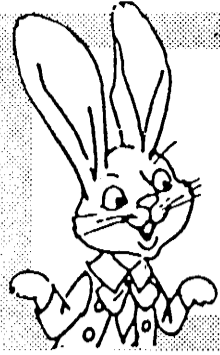
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MAGC UNCO

Pigeon
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LOCAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Cass City
517-872-4311



Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help.)

Newsweek magazine put out a special edition concerning improvements through technological advances. One fact listed I found astonishing.

In 1954 the first transistor was sold for \$49.50, \$300 in 1995 dollars. In 1997 a half billion were built. *Every second.*

The cost, .00001 each

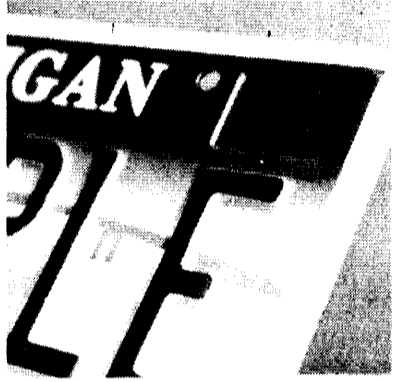
The Chronicle will have special holiday hours. The paper will close at noon Dec. 24 for Christmas and again at noon Dec. 31 for New Year's. We will not be open the day of the holiday each week.

Credit Jim Sherman, Oxford Leader, for these groaners. Sign seen on the church door: "This is the gate to heaven. Enter ye all by this door. (This door is kept locked because of the draft. Please use the side door.)"

An English sign in a German cafe: "Mothers please wash your Hans before eating."

The state of Michigan will issue a new license plate tab that incorporates the month and year of expiration numerically onto one tab. Example: A plate that expires on the owner's January birthday in 1999 will be shown on the tab as 01-99.

Authorities say that the tab will be more convenient and help deter theft by including the license plate number it is assigned to.



Red Hawk Recap

by Rachel Hoard

Over 40 volunteers showed up Thursday, Dec. 18, to pack toys for needy families in our area. The Toys for Tots program no longer exists in Cass City, but that did not stop generous donations from piling up.

The high school students collected an extensive amount of toys for the new program in Cass City, Christmas for Kids. The new program started after Sue Werschky, who headed the program, could no longer handle the job of collecting and distributing the toys to needy families without more help. The program was then down-sized, hence the U.S. Marine Corps would no longer be affiliated with our group. Senior Ryan Hutchinson and junior Jim Dale headed up the program with Werschky.

The VFW hall was packed with toys and volunteers un-

til about 7:30 P.M. Thursday night, including \$630 in toys donated by the high school students. Drop boxes were left in the English classes for anyone interested in donating a toy or two. Also, extra credit was given to students for their generosity during this joyous season. This year's total defiantly surpassed the total of 22 toys donated last year by the students.

Monday, Dec. 22, the United Way volunteers ventured out in the cold morning weather to deliver food baskets to the less prosperous families in our area. Several students from the high school also volunteered their time to help the United Way board members. In all there were 11 vehicles with routes spanning throughout Tuscola County.

The Weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	45	22	0
Wednesday	46	22	0
Thursday	47	35	0
Friday	40	33	1.2"
Saturday	34	24	0
Sunday	33	26	0
Monday	34	32	1.4"

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

TRY THE CLASSIFIEDS!



Cass City Public Schools
PROGRESS IN EDUCATION
from the desk of Ken Micklash, Superintendent
Generosity Is Appreciated

Six months ago we were very concerned about how we were ever going to be able to move all of our middle school items from the old to the new building. Well, our Cass City generosity and spirit of cooperation has been demonstrated again.

Because of the overwhelming number of community and parent volunteers, along with our dedicated staff and wonderful students, we were able to make this move in just 2 days. We cannot satisfactorily express our gratitude to all that helped make this transition go as smoothly as it did. The two words that we do want to pass on to everyone are

THANK YOU!

Questions can be sent to me at 4868 N. Seeger Street, Cass City, Michigan 48726. Thank you.



ABOUT 40 volunteers, including (from left) Andrea Rea and Melissa Homakie, gathered at the Cass City VFW Hall Thursday to pack toys for the Cass City Area Christmas for Kids project. At least 86 children from 35 families will have a merry Christmas thanks to the local effort.

Last week in village

Driver hurt in crash

A Cass City woman sought her own treatment for minor injuries suffered in a 2-vehicle accident last Wednesday in Cass City.

Cass City police reported the accident occurred at 1:50 a.m. when Beulah A. Craig, 85, 4811 Seeger St., was driving westbound on Pine Street and slowed for a yield sign at Sherman Street, but

failed to see a northbound vehicle.

The other driver was identified as Christopher E.

Smutek, 19, of Decker. He was not hurt.

Both drivers were wearing seat belts, reports state.

The Haire Net



Grinches damage lights

Christmas grinches have been busy in Cass City, judging by recent reports of minor vandalism.

Cass City police reported handling 4 such complaints, including one Sunday reported by Darren D. Wallace, Cass City. Wallace reported someone slashed the left rear tire on his vehicle while it was parked behind Cass City Floral.

Matthew Weippert, 4272 Woodland Ave., reported last Wednesday that Christmas lights valued at \$25 were taken from behind his residence and damaged.

On the same day, Elaine Proctor, 4797 Hospital Dr., told police someone damaged 3 sets of Christmas lights and ground stakes that had been placed in front of her home.

Also filing a report was Robert Piaskowski, 6645 Third St., who told police that Christmas display lights and garland were taken from a wooden fence at his residence and damaged Dec. 16.

A very happy holiday and a tip of the hat to the good folks who made the year more merry and bright.

Janet Severance, who not only knows most everyone, but also their family tree. You don't really know how much that helps in getting the story unless you've been there.

Cass City's varsity coaches, who were steadfast reporters for the paper, Paul Chappel, golf; Jim Mastie, girls' basketball; Tom Oesch, football; Jeff Hartel, basketball; Larry Robinson, track; Toby Wegener, baseball; Dave Hoard, softball.

While coaching is enjoyable for most of these guys, reporting to the paper is just a job they have to do. Thankfully, they do it well.

Keith Hanmmis, project engineer for the construction of the new middle school building. He went out of his way to keep us posted on the project so that we could do the same for you.

Al Klcio, whose concern for the less fortunate will probably result in the Cass City Rotary taking charge of the toys for tots program in the community.

Doug Hyatt for being Doug Hyatt, always interested in local sports and doing what he can to help.

Ken Micklash, superintendent of Cass City Schools, who stresses communication with folks in the district and has the entire staff on the same track.

Lambert Althaver, village president, for deciding to devote at least one more term to the affairs of the village.

Lou LaPonsie, retiring village manager. His job ranks right up there with the school superintendent as stress-filled. Lasting 25 years is an achievement, leaving the village in good condition with very few detractors is an outstanding achievement.

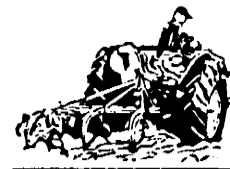
The staff at the Chronicle.

What can I say? How many places can boast of a crew that allows an ultra-loose management style. I almost never know when staff members will be absent or for how long.

I ALWAYS KNOW that the people left will get the job done.

A very extra tip of the hat to all of you, readers, contributors and advertisers for all the help that truly makes this paper possible.

Merry Christmas.



The back forty

by Roger Pond

© 1997 Roger Pond

I guess I'll never understand credit cards. How can companies continue issuing credit and encouraging folks to buy things they can't afford, without running into serious collection problems?

Yesterday I had 2 credit card offers over the phone and one in the mail — and that was a slow day. In recent weeks I've been offered gold, platinum, silver-plated, cadmium-coated and lead-alloy cards with affiliation to the National Rifle Association, Washington State University, Folks Against Wet Dogs, and who knows who else.

I gave them all the same answer, "We've got plenty of cards. Clank!"

It's easy to see why card companies want to extend credit to people like me. We're valued customers, members of a select group, persons of impeccable taste. (Besides that we're alive and breathing.)

I'm not sure when the concept of living within one's means became outmoded, but I think television advertising has something to do with it. I get a kick out of those commercials that suggest, "You need to buy this — not because you need it, not because you can afford it: You need to buy this because you deserve it."

Maybe I have a low opinion of myself, but I don't think I've ever bought anything because I deserve it.

Last weekend I watched a new commercial for the company that offers money to folks who didn't pay it back last time. This commercial features a former football player who has so much money I can't understand why he does these things.

The football player comes on the screen and asks folks with credit problems to call his company and find out how to buy things they can't afford. He suggests a new car is something they might need, but can't pay for.

"Just call 1-800-Loan-Yes and find out how you can buy the car you need and deserve," he says.

I was reminded of a story my brother told me last summer. My brother Kenny was sitting in the coffee shop chatting with an old timer who lives nearby — when a younger man stopped by their table.

The young man told them about his job and his boss and quite a few things that weren't going well at work. "First they changed my hours, then I got a new boss, and now I've got more responsibility, but I don't get paid any more than I did before," he said.

The young fellow described the benefits package his company promised the new

employees and all of the problems he was having with that. This man gave everyone within hearing the distinct impression he wasn't getting what he deserved.

When the young fellow walked away, the old-timer turned to my brother and said, "You know, each morning when I get out of bed, I pray to God this won't be the day I get what I deserve."

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Over the next 5 years

Water rates up 40%, sewer rates up 30%

Cass City residents probably won't see higher village taxes in 1998, but they will have to dig deeper into their pockets to pay for water and sewer service.

The Village Council Monday unanimously approved water rate hikes totalling 40 percent over the next 5 years — 10 percent in each of the next 3 years and 5 percent in each of the following 2 years.

Sewer rates will go up 10 percent in 1998 and 5 percent in each of the next 4 years.

In addition, water tap-in fees were increased from \$400 to \$750, and new customers will pay for their meter (\$85) plus a 15-percent administration fee.

Currently, residents with a three-quarter or five-eighths inch meter pay \$39.73 for a minimum 10,000 gallons per quarter for sewer service. Another \$2.92 is charged per 1,000 gallons over the 10,000 minimum.

Water service charges are based on a graduated scale starting at \$11.62 for a minimum of 5,000 gallons.

The new rates will be reflected on residents' February bills, covering the months of November, December and January.

The rate increases did not come as a surprise, as plans to do just that were discussed during a review of the village's proposed 1998

spending plan last month. However, the proposed hikes announced at that time were 5 percent in both water and sewer rates in each of the next 5 years.

The council received no public comment on the increases. In fact, the only persons in attendance Monday, aside from the council and Village Manager Jane A. Downing, were 3 village employees and Lou S. LaPonsie, retiring village manager.

Water and sewer rate increases have been a regular topic of discussion at the council table for a number of years, both during budget and audit discussions. Concerns have focused on the water and sewer funds requiring increasingly larger subsidies from other village funds in order to break even.

Both funds should support themselves, however, village officials say age and on-going maintenance costs have taken a toll, both in terms of the wastewater treatment plant and the village's water system.

Maintenance has included a number of major projects, including the recent addition of a third, back-up water well at an estimated cost of close to \$250,000.

Village President L.E. Althaver pointed out Mon-

day that both the water and sewer service facilities have been maintained throughout the years and continue to serve residents well, thanks largely to a top-notch staff.

He acknowledged the planned rate increases are substantial, but added he agrees they are appropriate

considering rates have not been adjusted in more than 10 years, and because both funds must again support themselves.

The rate increases translate into an additional \$36,157 in sewer fund revenues in 1998 and \$12,910 in water fund revenues.

How the water and sewer rate increases will affect a typical family of 4

	3rd quarter 1997	1998 INCREASE	1998	1999 INCREASE	1999	2000 INCREASE	2000	2001 INCREASE	2001	2002 INCREASE	2002
Water	\$36.98	10%	40.68	10%	44.75	10%	49.23	5%	51.69	5%	54.27
Sewer	\$101.34	10%	111.47	5%	117.04	5%	122.89	5%	129.03	5%	135.48
Total	\$138.32		152.15		161.79		172.12		180.72		189.75

- Projected increase per quarter - water/sewer combined \$13.83
- Projected annual increase \$55.32
- Projected daily increase \$ 0.15

Letter to the editor

Survivor: Always buckle up

Dear Readers:

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the help I received during the serious accident I was involved in last Thursday. First, let me give thanks to God for keeping me safe and letting me come out of it without injury. He and my guardian angel certainly were watching over me that day. I thank the lady who called 911 (I'm sorry I never got your name) and the good Samaritan, Jim Finkbeiner, who was at the scene and offered his kind assistance by crawling through the windshield and supporting my neck until the ambulance crew arrived. Next, the Cass City ambulance team who arrived quickly and gave their support until they could

remove me from the wreck. Once out, they transported me to the hospital quickly and checked on me periodically before they left. The Cass City fire department, for safely getting me out with the Jaws of Life and cleaning up the accident scene. The Hills & Dales emergency room personnel and X-ray department for their care and treatment. It was a very scary and traumatic experience for everyone involved, eyewitnesses included, but turned out so fortunately.

Now I would like to step upon my soapbox and urge everyone, especially young people, to NEVER put a car in drive unless you have your seat belt fastened. I firmly believe that if I would not have been wearing my seat

belt, I wouldn't be here to write this letter. Without a doubt, it saved my life, or at the very least, saved me from very serious injuries. I know a lot of people feel that when you're driving around town, a seat belt isn't necessary. I'm living proof that it is. You can be as careful a driver as you possibly can, but you can't control what the other person does. Driving way too fast down a side street and then missing the stop sign caused an ugly accident that should never have happened in town.

I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas and may God bless you. And remember, please, always buckle up!!

Helen Sweeney



MORE THAN 50 people attended an open house Monday in honor of retiring Cass City Village Manager Lou S. LaPonsie. Above, Police Chief Gene Wilson presents LaPonsie with a pocket watch and display case, both gifts from village employees. LaPonsie also received a plaque from the Village Council, and an aide to Congressman Jim Barcia presented him with an American flag flown at the nation's capitol.

Injuries minor in 3-car roll-over crash Thursday

Four Cass City residents escaped serious injury in a 3-vehicle accident in which one vehicle rolled onto another after being struck broadside.

The accident, which occurred Thursday at 1:48 p.m. at the corner of Pine and West streets in the village, left police officers shaking their heads at the fact that no one was seriously hurt.

According to Cass City police reports, a car driven by Jennifer L. Beckwith, 17, 6720 Severance Rd., Cass City, was westbound on Pine

Street when the driver ran the stop sign at the corner and struck a Chevrolet Blazer driven by Helen J. Sweeney, 43, 6325 Beechwood Dr., Cass City.

The Sweeney vehicle was northbound at the time, according to police, who said the impact of the collision caused the Blazer to roll onto the hood of a southbound car driven by Cathy L. Wooters, 27, 4455 West St., Cass City.

Elkland Township fire fighters used their Jaws of Life to extricate Sweeney from her vehicle. Elmwood-Gagetown fire fighters also

responded to the scene.

Sweeney, Beckwith and Wooters were all transported by Cass City MMR personnel to Hills and Dales General Hospital. A hospital spokeswoman reported all 3 were treated and released.

A child riding in the Wooters vehicle was not injured, according to police, who indicated all 4 occupants were wearing seat belts.

Police cited Beckwith for failing to stop at a signed intersection.

Cass City officers were assisted at the scene by Michigan State Police.



TIS THE SEASON — McDonald's employees in Cass City recently collected food for distribution in the area. Pictured above are (from left) employee and Cass City Student Council Secretary Tom Fulcher, Swing Manager Patti Arthur and Manager Roger Godinez.

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Down Memory Lane

From the files of the Chronicle

5 YEARS AGO

Now 5 years old, the tutoring program in Cass City is alive and well. The program has had 20-some tutors and between 70 and 80 students since it began.

The Cass City School Board has approved the expenditure of \$30,000 for the first stage of a planned update and networking of computers in the high school. The money would buy and equip 14 machines, about half of what are needed in the computer class.

Wendy Wheeler, 22, an aspiring singer from Cass City, will perform with the New York-based Rome Festival Orchestra in Italy, next summer.

Nadine Anne Hoppe, daughter of Melvin and Alicia Hoppe of Cass City, has qualified for the Navy's Mess Management Specialist program and will travel to the recruit training center in Orlando, Fla., to begin training. Hoppe, a 1993 graduate of Cass City High School, enlisted in the Navy in the delayed enlistment program.

High winds last week took their toll on Cass City's Story

Time display at the village's recreation park, toppling and damaging some of the papier mache figures.

10 YEARS AGO

Doug Englehart, Cass City, and co-worker, Dave Newbold, came up with a suggestion at Saginaw Steering Gear, where they work, that resulted in savings of nearly \$2 million for the company. The suggestion earned the top award of \$20,000 that is offered in the plant. The suggestion reduced scrap at the piston rod and rack press. Englehart and Newbold split the money.

Finding more volunteers willing to be trained as tutors was among the topics at a meeting of Cass City Literacy Council volunteers last week.

Cass City High School senior Jane Dickinson was recently named the 1987-88 "Good Citizen" by the Daughters of the American Revolution Piety Hill Chapter of Birmingham. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Harlan Dickinson.

The will of Ethel Collier of Cass City, a Snover native, is

being challenged by 5 heirs. The will leaves the bulk of her \$4.5 million estate to the University of Michigan Hospital and to the establishment of the Collier Foundation to award scholarships to Sanilac and Tuscola students.

25 YEARS AGO

Because of snow-clogged roads Saturday, Gloria Derengowski and Bill Sattelberg, both of Cass City, could not reach St. Michael's Church in Wilmot for their 4 o'clock wedding. Mrs. Josephine Ziemba came to the rescue with her snowmobile when she got the couple to the Delbert Krueger home. Mrs. Krueger called the Rev. Dan O'Sullivan and told him it was impossible to get to the church, so he drove as far as Mushroom and Lamton Roads, where the priest was picked up by Mrs. Ziemba on her snowmobile. The wedding ceremony took place at 4:30. The guests arrived via snowmobile.

Approximately 135 handicapped youngsters were guests of honor at the sixth annual free movie and luncheon last Thursday sponsored by several local businesses. The children were met at the Cass Theater by Santa Claus, who handed out candy donated by the Bauer Candy Company. The children were then treated to a show by Dick Hendrick, followed by luncheon at the New Gordon Hotel, courtesy of General Telephone. They also received coloring books from General Telephone.

Fire completely destroyed the trailer home of the Kerry Ball family, at 4290 Lampton Road, Deford, Thursday when fire apparently started under the trailer. One pair of boots was salvaged but everything else was lost in the blaze.

Newell Harris, a representative of AETna Life-Casualty at Harris-Hampshire Agency, was honored for his outstanding record in

AETna's 29th annual fall life insurance sales campaign Dec. 9-10 at Schuss Mountain, Mancelona.

Mr. and Mrs. James Evans and Brenda were honored at a farewell fellowship following the Sunday evening service at the Baptist church. They expect to leave Dec. 26 en route to the mission field in Peru.

35 YEARS AGO

Cass City High School's prettiest seniors are to be invited to a "coke party" Friday, Jan. 4, at the high school to see if they are interested in taking part in a Junior Miss Pageant slated to be held under the sponsorship of the Cass City Jaycees.

Eight teenage Cass City girls are members of a new nurses aide group, the Candy Strippers, at Hills and Dales General Hospital. Members of the group are Arlene O'Dell, Diane Repshinska, Peggy McConnell, Mary Ann Barriger, Lynn Searls, Vernita Partaka and Ann Starmann.

Keith Litle, Cass City, won the last bicycle given away in the Chamber of Commerce Christmas season drawing.

James A. Gallery and Douglas C. Gallery, co-owners of the Tuscola County Advertiser of Caro, announced this week that Rudy Petzold, news editor of the paper, has purchased an interest in the Advertiser.

At Erla Food Center - 10 lbs. potatoes, 29 cents; Sunkist oranges, 49 cents doz.; lettuce, 2 for 33 cents.; homogenized milk, 1/2 gal. 35 cents.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

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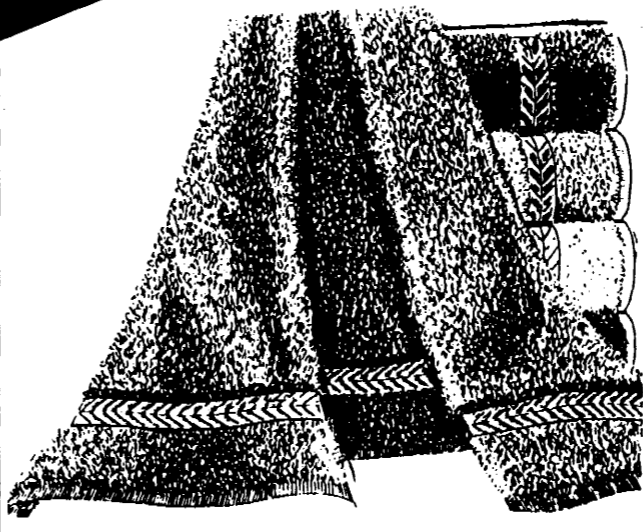
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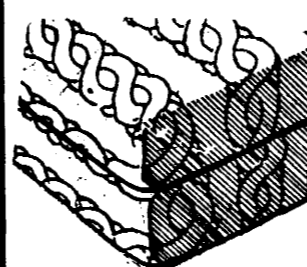
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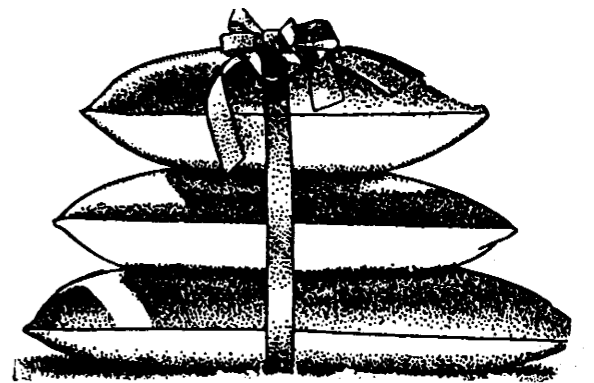
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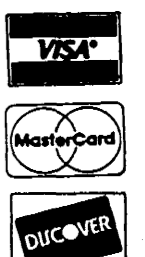
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KRITZMAN'S

Cass City - Bad Axe - Sandusky



O-G 1-0 in league play, 1-3 overall

Coach Jim Brinkman's Owen-Gage cagers wrapped up their 1997 hoop campaign with a disheartening showing Saturday at Caseville's annual Tom Thumb Tourney, dropping the consolation tilt 63-45 to Port Hope.

Heading into the new year, the Bulldogs stand at 1-3 on the season. Fortunately, however, Coach Brinkman's troops remain unblemished in North Central Thumb League play at 1-0.

"I've been pleased so far," says Brinkman. "Then Saturday's game. I hope it was just one of those games."

In Friday's tournament opener in Caseville, the host Eagles turned back Owen-Gage by the score of 62-55.

Both squads came out hitting from the perimeter in the opening frame, where Owen-Gage captured a 15-13 lead.

Derek Howard and Joel Bolzman paced the visitors, combining for 11 markers that included one from 3-point land by Howard.

"Derek is the team's most consistent outside shooter," says Brinkman.

Caseville's Ryan Guster helped the hosts keep pace with the visitors as he hit on a pair of treys in the initial frame en route to a game high 23 points.

The pace for both schools lagged in the 2nd frame, where Caseville used a 16-9 scoring advantage to capture a 29-24 edge at the intermission.

Owen-Gage traded hoops with the tournament hosts for much of the 3rd period and was able to shave a point from Caseville's advantage entering the final period. Justin Anthes registered 8 of his 12 points in the period that ended with Caseville claim-

ing a 43-39 margin.

Owen-Gage was able to draw even with Caseville midway through the final period but couldn't overcome a showing from Matt Bednorek, who tossed in 3 field goals down the stretch. Bednorek finished with 12 points.

Howard led all Owen-Gage scorers with 14 points.

CONSOLATION GAME

Port Hope avenged a loss 4 days earlier to Owen-Gage with a 63-45 win Saturday in the Tom Thumb Tournament consolation game.

The Blue Stars gained a 15-9 advantage after one period and expanded it to a 17 point spread by the intermission. Owen-Gage managed only 3 fields goals before the break.

PORT HOPE - Roggenbuck 0-0 (1-2) 1; Tice 1-0 (1-2) 3; Mausolf 1-0 (1-1) 3; Robb 3-1 (0-1) 9; Woodke 1-1 (0-0) 5; Bender 5-0 (2-2) 12; Iseler 4-0 (3-6) 11; Hunley 8-0 (3-5) 19.
TOTALS - 23-2 (11-20) 63.

OWEN-GAGE - Brinkman 0-0 (4-4) 4; R. Salcido 0-0 (3-4) 3; Howard 2-0 (6-6) 10; Anthes 1-0 (2-2) 4; Mellendorf 1-0 (7-8) 9; Bolzman 3-0 (3-8) 9; Rochefort 0-2 (0-0) 6.
TOTALS - 7-2 (25-32) 45.

OWEN-GAGE - Brinkman 1-0 (1-2) 3; Howard 5-1 (1-1) 14; Anthes 5-0 (2-2) 12; Mellendorf 4-0 (0-0) 8; Bolzman 4-0 (2-7) 10; Rochefort 1-2 (0-2) 8.
TOTALS - 20-3 (6-14) 55.

CASEVILLE - Herrin 1-0 (3-6) 3; Guster 5-3 (4-8) 23; Buczynski 1-0 (4-6) 6; Wroblewski 3-3 (1-2) 16; Bednorek 5-0 (2-3) 12.
TOTALS - 15-6 (14-27) 62.

Basketball Standings

GREATER THUMB WEST				
Team	W	L	W	L
Cass City	2	0	4	0
EPSP	2	1	3	1
Reese	1	0	4	0
BCAS	1	0	3	0
Mayville	0	2	1	3
Bad Axe	0	2	0	4
USA	0	2	0	4

GREATER THUMB EAST				
Team	W	L	W	L
Brown City	2	0	3	1
H. Beach	2	0	2	2
Uby	2	0	2	2
Cros-Lex	1	1	2	2
Marlette	1	1	2	2
Yale	0	2	1	3
Sandusky	0	2	1	3
Deckerville	0	2	0	3

NORTH CENTRAL THUMB				
Team	W	L	W	L
Kingston	1	0	3	0
Peck	1	0	3	2
CPS	1	0	3	2
Owen-Gage	1	0	1	3
North Huron	0	1	2	1
Port Hope	0	1	2	3
Caseville	0	1	1	4
A-F	0	1	0	4

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

EPSP 57, Bad Axe 39
 BCAS 74, Mayville 69
 Cass City 53, USA 42
 Reese 62, Vassar 50
 Brown City 36, Yale 33
 Marlette 81, Cros-Lex 62
 Uby 48, Deckerville 41
 Harbor Beach 72, Sandusky 35
 Kingston 73, A-Fairgrove 48
 Peck 71, North Huron 55

Tom Thumb Tournament

CPS 68, Port Hope 45
 Caseville 62, Owen-Gage 55

Volleyball outlook

Veteran O-G coach calls squad 'gutsy'

Owen-Gage volleyball Coach Judy Campbell has grown accustomed to winning in style over the past 4 years.

This year, however, she may have to get used to just winning.

That is, if Saturday's showing at the Vassar Volleyball Tournament is any indication of how her defending North Central Thumb League squad will perform throughout the 1997-98 season.

In the Bulldogs' first outing of the year, Coach Campbell's spikers glided through pool play, then slid past Vassar in the semifinals before bowing to Clio in the finals by the scores of 15-7, 15-10.

"It wasn't pretty," says Campbell of her team's winning ways. "(We) still have a lot of work to do."

Playing without superstars Kate Powers, Jennifer Winchester and Amanda Salcido for the first time since 1993, the Bulldogs defeated Reese (15-5, 15-6), Mayville (15-10, 15-2) and Vassar-B (15-9, 15-0), in the pool play rounds without suffering a single setback.

"We're not tall, but we're gutsy and don't quit," says Campbell.

In the semifinals, Owen-Gage rebounded from a 15-5 setback in the opening game to defeat Vassar in a tough 3 game match with wins of 15-7 and 15-10 in the

final 2 games. Several Bulldogs turned in fine showings on the day. Seniors Melissa Vargo and Tonya Smith had team high numbers in points and digs, respectively.

"We're not tall, but we're gutsy and don't quit"
-Coach Campbell

Owen-Gage also got plenty of help from freshman Erin Salcido, who chipped in with 20 kills and 19 points. Sophomore Melanie Lemanski recorded a team best 12 blocks.

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Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast	John Haire	Clarke Haire	Tom Montgomery	Doug Hyatt
December 29 St. Florian at N. Huron	St. Florian	St. Florian	St. Florian	North Huron
December 30 Harbor Beach at Lakers Brown City at Capac St. Florian at Kingston	Harbor Beach Brown City St. Florian	Lakers Brown City Kingston	Lakers Brown City Kingston	Lakers Brown City Kingston
January 2 Reese at Uby	Reese	Reese	Reese	Reese
January 3 New Haven at C-PS	New Haven	New Haven	New Haven	New Haven
Last Week's Totals Percentages	15-7 (22-11) 67%	17-5 (27-6) 82%	14-8 (24-9) 73%	14-8 (24-9) 73%

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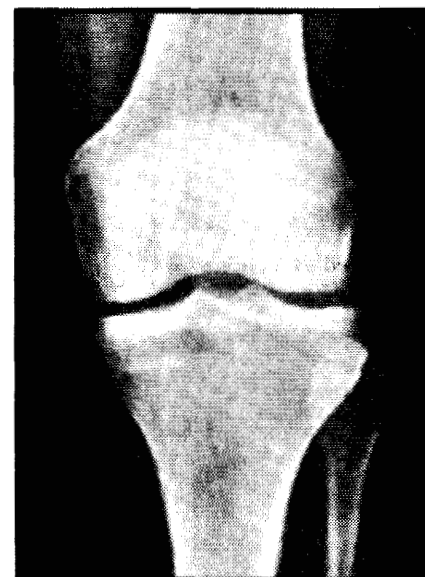
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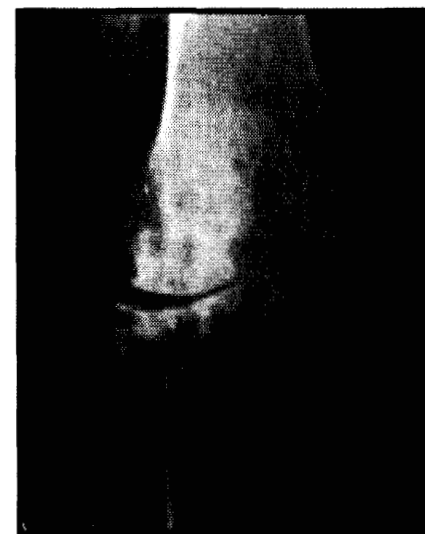
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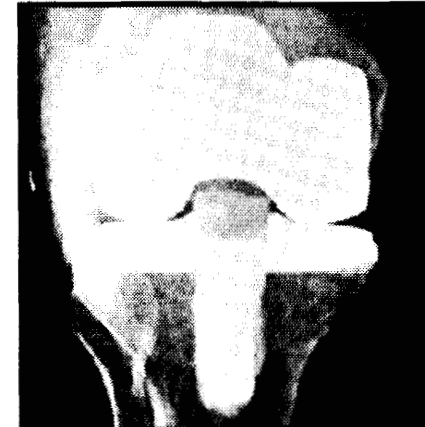
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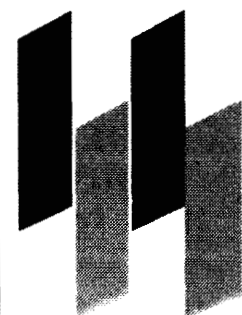
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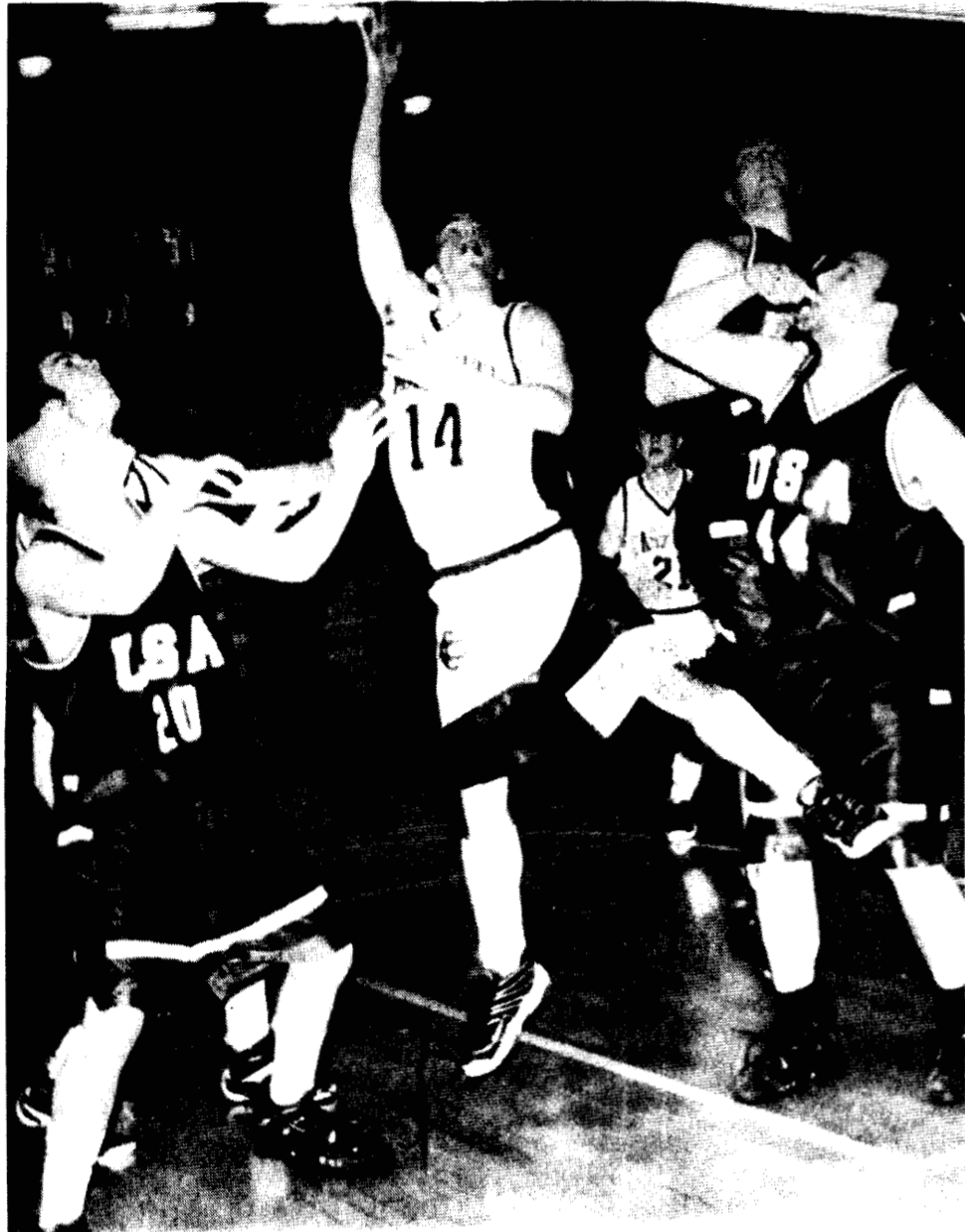
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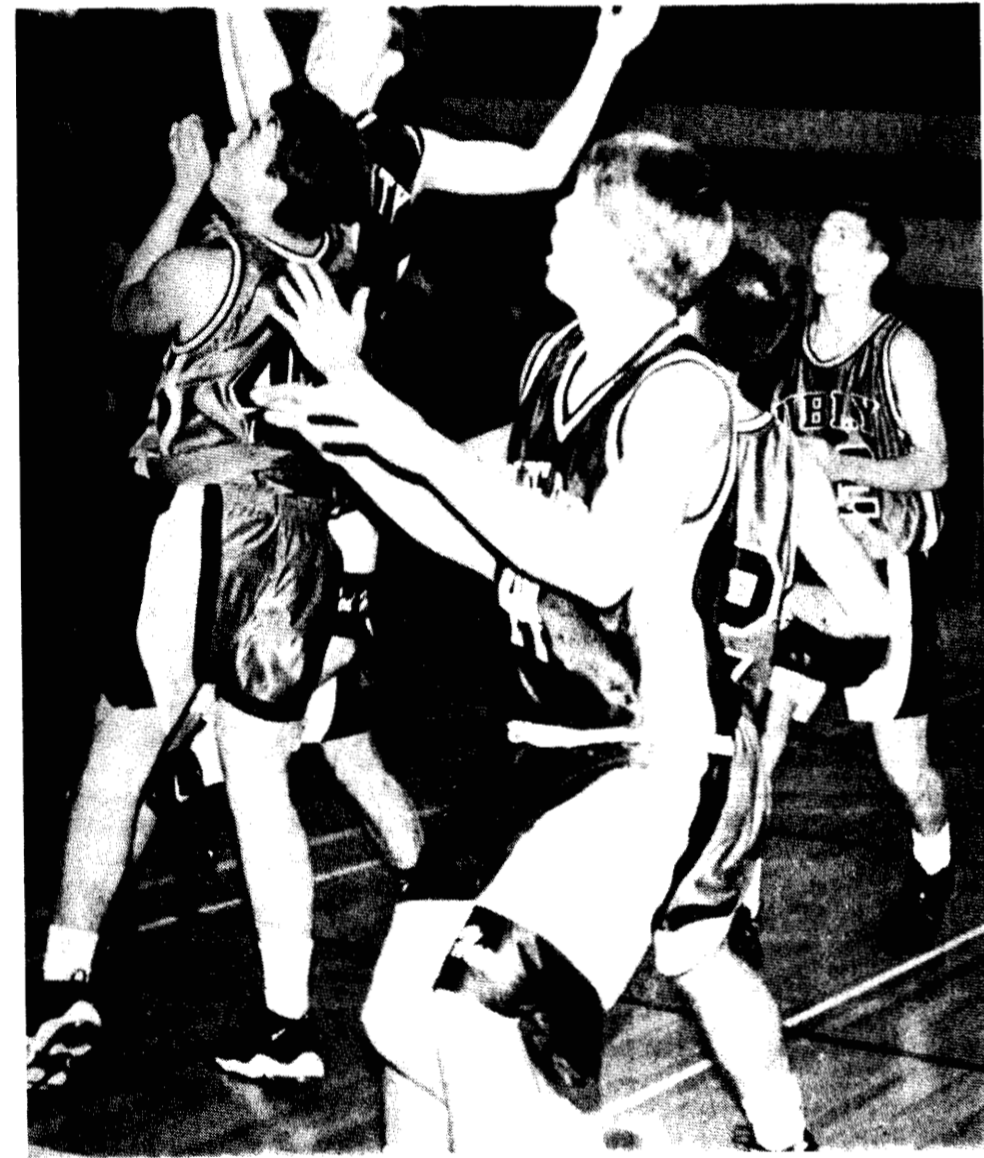


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TIM MICKLASH DRIVES to the basket with USA's Josh Sattler, 20, and Dave Spannagel, 44, defending.



DAN CUDDIE MADE several drives to the basket against Uibly. Waiting for a possible rebound is Ryan Brinkman.

Title drive ahead Hawks top Uibly, USA to protect undefeated record

The Cass City Red Hawks chalked up a pair of wins last week to protect the team's undefeated record and prepare for the drive to a possible Thumb B West League title.

The Hawks defeated Uibly Tuesday and topped USA to post their second league win and fourth of the season.

Uibly was a victim of what Coach Jeff Hartel termed a very well played game by his charges and bowed, 75-39.

The Hawks combined some excellent shooting and tight defense to earn the victory. Hartel had his team in a box and one to partially stymie the Bearcats' ace Joe Rutkowski, who still led Uibly's scorers with 11 points.

Uibly was the victim of Cass City's best team effort and shooting night of the young season. The Hawks were led by some outstanding outside shooting by Andy Edwards, who collected 6 treys on his way to 20 points, and Tim Micklash, who was 6 for 9 for 13 points.

The Hawks handled the ball well as indicated by their 26 assists and just 13 turnovers.

The game was all but decided in the first half. Using balanced scoring, Cass City jumped off to a 16-4 first quarter lead as Edwards scored 8 points.

The team exhibited balanced scoring in the second quarter while showing the team's depth that Hartel said will be one of the team's strengths this year. Dan Cuddie showed ball handling skills and penetrated well.

Leading 33-14 at the half, the Hawks continued to add to the lead in the third quarter.

Heath Zawilinski, the Hawks' leading scorer, was shut out in the first half, but came roaring back to score 7 in the third quarter to pace the Hawks to a 55-29 lead. In the final 8 minutes, both teams turned to their benches to finish the game.

USA GAME

Our defense kept us in the game, Hartel said after the Cass City Red Hawks overcame a cold shooting first quarter at USA to defeat the winless Patriots Friday, 53-42.

For the night Cass City shot a sub-par 33 percent and in the first quarter the team's entire output was a basket by Cuddie. The Hawk defense kept USA from pulling away and the team trailed 6-2 at the end of the period.

The Hawk offense shifted into high gear in the second period led by Zawilinski, who ripped in 11 points, and at the intermission Cass City was in front 26-24.

The Patriots were within 4 points of the lead early in the third quarter, but that was as close as they were to get and Cass City dominated the game the rest of the way.

Cass City led 42-30 at the end of three quarters and was never in danger of having its win string snapped after that.

While the team's shooting was poor, Hartel said the passing was good and helped the team to hold turnovers to 12.

Zawilinski had a strong game with 19 points and 8 rebounds. However the Hawks were out-rebounded for the first time this year, 28 to 34.

CASS CITY - Goodall 3-0 (1-2) 7; Cuddie 3-0 (0-0) 6; Micklash 5-1 (0-0) 13; Wright 0-0 (1-2) 1; Lenhard 1-0 (2-3) 4; Zawilinski 3-0 (4-6) 10; King 1-0 (1-2) 3; Edwards 1-6 (0-0) 20; Brinkman 2-0 (0-0) 4; Emmert 2-0 (3-3) 7.
TOTALS - 21-7 (12-18) 75.

UBLY - Mullet 0-1 (0-0) 3; Dekoski 0-1 (0-2) 3; Rutkowski 4-0 (3-4) 11; Tyll 2-0 (0-0) 4; Weber 2-0 (0-0) 4; Symonds 3-0 (0-0) 6; Main 1-0 (0-0) 2; Hagen 2-0 (2-3) 6.
TOTALS - 14-2 (5-9) 39.

CASS CITY - Goodall 0-0 (2-2) 2; Cuddie 2-1 (0-0) 7; Micklash 0-1 (3-4) 6; Lenhard 2-0 (1-3) 5; Zawilinski 7-0 (5-5) 19; King 1-0 (1-2) 3; Edwards 0-2 (1-3) 7; Emmert 1-0 (2-4) 4.
TOTALS - 13-4 (15-23) 53.

USA - Nitz 2-0 (0-2) 4; Singer 2-1 (0-0) 7; Sattler 2-0 (1-2) 5; Weinlander 2-0 (2-4) 6; McNeil 2-2 (2-3) 12; Arnold 1-0 (2-2) 4; Spannagel 2-0 (0-1) 4.
TOTALS - 13-3 (7-14) 42.

Mat men defeat Flint Beecher, Burton Bendle

The Cass City Red Hawks continued their strong performances in meets this year with a win over Flint Beecher and Burton Bendle last Wednesday.

Coach Don Markel's charges topped Bendle, 42-36, and Beecher, 54-30.

Six Hawks were double winners. Roy Davis, 103 pounds, pinned Beecher's Grey Price in :45 seconds of the first period and Jack Richards, Bendle, in 3:23 of the second period. Scott Moore, 119 pounds, pinned Joshua Moore. Beecher, in :41 seconds and Mike Sparkman, Beecher, in 1:57.

Adam Dorland, 130 pounds, won by forfeit and pinned Fluterio Gonzales.

Beecher, in :41.

Cory Mayer, 140 pounds, pinned C. L. Smith, Beecher, in :34 and won by forfeit over Bendle.

Wesley Gibbard, 145 pounds, pinned Scott Auld. Beecher, in 1:27 and won by forfeit over Bendle.

Jalal Khoury, 189 pounds, pinned Pars Wilson, Beecher, in 1:51 and Eric Bergeron, Bendle, in 1:53.

Jon Fritz, 125 pounds, pinned Kenneth White of Beecher in 1:59 before being decided by Chris Crandell of Bendle. Dave Sutter, 152 pounds, was decided by Bendle's Mike Abbey and pinned Beecher's Nate Moore in 1:29.

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Roger Parrish presents original music program

Roger Parrish, singer, pianist, composer, and arranger from Cass City, recently appeared "in concert" with a program of original music for the Cass City St. Pancratius Women's Council Christmas banquet, and also at the Cass City Missionary Church.

His original songs included "His Song of Love", "Music of the Master's Symphony" and 2 new Christmas songs entitled, "Christmas Bells are Ringing in the Chapel", and "Ring, Ring, Ring the Bells on Christmas Day" with music by Parrish and words by David Smith, elder and minister of the RLDS Church of Sandusky.

A special feature of the concerts was a song written by Parrish in honor of the late Mother Teresa, entitled "A Tribute to Mother Teresa", which lasts 9 minutes, and includes 6 verses, refrain, and a special ending - all portraying her life of sacrifice, service and dedication to the poor, sick and needy of Calcutta, India, and elsewhere.

Parrish has been presenting his original music at various churches and organizations in the area, and enjoys sharing his music with others.



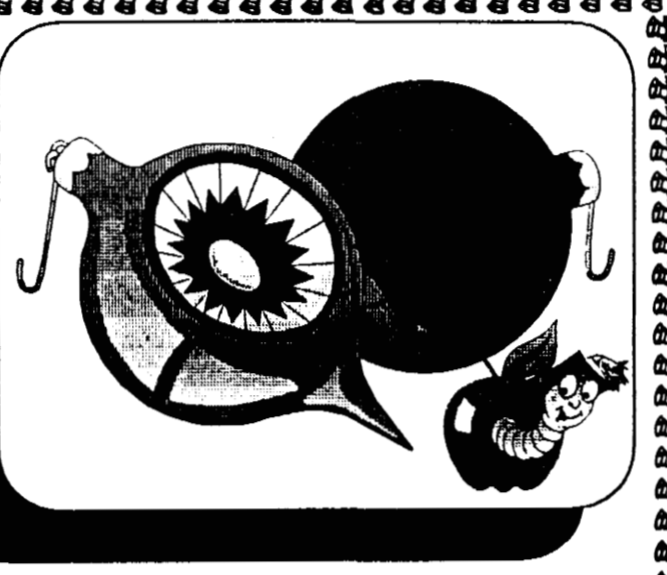
Cass City Bowling

MERCHANTS Dec. 17	167. C. Slaughter 163, M. Opanasenko 157, D. Mathewson 157, N. Rabideau 156.	J. Morell 201.
Charmont 25 Cass City Sports 22 Gemini Plastics 21 New England Life 18 R & H Body Shop 17 Brentwood 17 Independent Bank 15 Pro Temp 13 Wickes 12	MERCHANTS Dec. 18	CHARMONT LADIES
Team High Actual Series & Game: Charmont 3003 (1040).	MERCHANETTE LEAGUE Dec. 18 End of 2nd Round	Wild John's 19 Live Wires 16 1/2 J.B.'s Crew 16 Team #7 16 Cable-ettes 13 1/2 Cass City Tire 10 Pizza Villa 9 Dott Manufacturing 8 Dee's M.P. Rockets 6 Sister Act 6
Individual High Series & Games: J. Langenburg 791 (268-267-256), D. O'Dell 703 (268-222-213), M. Jackson 676 (247-224), J. Krol 644 (236-225), A. Reed 633 (229-211), M. Gettel 614 (223), L. Morgan 610 (224), M. Lutz 609 (234-213), B. Rutkoski 603 (228), T. Pattengill 602 (227), G. Robinson 600 (213-210), W. Guinther 599 (222-214), J. Storm 589, C. Zimmerman 577, B. Kingsland 570, C. Kelley 570, R. Roberts 568, D. Englehardt 560, K. Hatfield 214, S. Wright 211, C. Anthes 210.	Silver Birch Kennel 20 Thumb Auto Wash 19 Hills & Dales 18 All Season Rental 17 Caro Chiropractic 11 Health Mart Pills 10 J.B.'s Crew 10 Detroit Edison 7	High Team Series & Game: Sister Act 3060 (1075). High Series: W. Jensen 554, D. Mathewson 506, N. Davis 500, D. Sweeney 490. High Games: W. Jensen 228, D. Sweeney 196, D. Mathewson 192, D. Wilson 191, N. Davis 177, T. Skripny 177, D. Organ 172, M. Moore 175.
High Actual Team Series & Game: Caro Chiropractic 1945 & 690. 500 Series: L. Erla 544, K. O'Dell 530, J. Morell 525, J. LaRoche 519. 200 Game: J. LaRoche 215,	High Actual Team Series & Game: Caro Chiropractic 1945 & 690. 500 Series: L. Erla 544, K. O'Dell 530, J. Morell 525, J. LaRoche 519. 200 Game: J. LaRoche 215,	

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Good Luck, and Merry Christmas!

THURSDAY NITE TRIO
Dec. 18

General Cable	17
Martin Electric	17
Marlette Oil & Gas	13
NEIC	11
Pioneer Seeds	10
Hyatt Farms Two	10
Schmaltz Construction	9
Mycogen Plant Sciences	9
Babich Farms	7
Hyatt Farms One	7
Thumb Auto Wash	6

High Team Series & Game: General Cable 1763 (609).
High Series & Games: D. Beecher 639 (225-254), E. Schmaltz 609 (219), R. Pringle 224, Dennis Hyatt 223, J. Hacker 215, G. Robinson 218, G. Smith 213, Duane O'Dell 212.

THURSDAY MORNING COFFEE LEAGUE

KREW	4
Alley Cats	3
Golden Oldies	3
Dee's M.P. Rockets	1
STAR	1

High Actual Team Series: Alley Cats 1595.
High Actual Team Game: Dee's M.P. Rockets 568.
High Individual Series: N. Rabideau 446.
High Individual Games: M. Gjomory 173, M. Keller

Owendale club airs meeting

The December meeting of the Owendale Women's Club was a Christmas dinner outing at Northwood Restaurant, Cass City. Nine members were in attendance.

In lieu of gift exchange each member brought something for a newborn baby program that is being started in Huron County through the Health Department. This program will begin in January 1998 for each baby born that lives in Huron County.

The door prize was won by Alice Ricker and furnished by MaryLou Lorenz. The January meeting will be in the Owendale school for a program on Mary Kay products.

The evening concluded with a tour by the ladies viewing the Christmas lighting around the village of Cass City.

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2. Santa beard
3. Christmas bells
4. Christmas bulb
5. Christmas tree
6. Reindeer antlers
7. Santa hat
8. Christmas star
9. Elf shoes
10. Christmas present
11. Ice skate
12. Snow ski
13. Candy cane

Dry bean growers to meet

The Tuscola County Dry Bean Growers will hold its annual meeting at 7:15 a.m. Jan. 6 at the Brentwood Restaurant in Caro, states Tuscola County Extension Agricultural Agent Harold Rouget.

The meeting will begin with breakfast, followed by a short program. The program will include the results of the 1998 variety trials by Greg Varner; a discussion on the white mold detection kits by Tom Zink, Neogen Corporation, and the "Value Added Concept" for agriculture products by Jim LeCureux. The Michigan Dry Bean Commission will also report on its activities during the past year. A bean market update will be given by Neil Mosher, bean merchandiser for Agri Sales in Saginaw.

For more information, contact the Tuscola County MSU Extension office in Caro at 517-672-3870.

Santa Letters



Derek Mozden

Dear Santa,
I wish you a Merry Christmas. I would like a remote control car set, a hammer, a new Barney, and a dish for mom. I will leave you a snack of milk and cookies.

Derek Mozden



Mitchell Langlois

Dear Santa,
My name is Mitchell Langlois and I am 4 1/2 years old. It's not always easy being good but I'm trying! Please bring me a big semi-truck, a trencher-loader and some Lego's. Could you bring something for my brother and sister? I will leave you a piece of chocolate pie and a glass of chocolate milk. And M&M's for your reindeer.

Love,
Mitchell Langlois



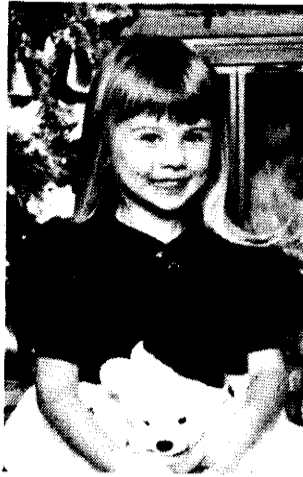
Joshua Edward Guigar

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Joshua, and I am 2 1/2 years old and this is my third Christmas. Remember, my mommy took me to see you at your house, and I told you that you were the "Best"! I have been mischievous, but mommy and daddy say that I have been a good little boy, and I should tell you what I want for Christmas. Santa, I would like a Rug Rat, Sing 'N Snore Ernie, Tweetie, Mickey Mouse, Elmo's Railroad, Sit 'N Spin, Huff 'N Puff vacuum, Crashback Radio control vehicle, Rev 'N Roar Workshop, Hotwheels Cargo carrier, service center and race set, a radio, an extra snow suit, and anything that is green, especially money! I really will not be mad if you bring me other presents too.

As for my mommy and daddy, they really don't need anything - unless, maybe you could get them another one just like me to keep mommy "double" busy? Otherwise, mommy could use a new vacuum and some new unbreakable ornaments since I probably broke them, and daddy could use a cordless drill/driver so I can help him fix things and a snow shovel so I can help shovel snow. I want to wish my nanna a "Merry Christmas" with all my love, hugs and kisses, but I will have to do that myself because not even you, Santa, can hug or kiss my nanna.

Santa, I will leave out some milk for you to drink and lots of cookies for you to eat. Also, I have seen most of your Reindeer during the year on my lawn, but I have not seen Rudolph yet. Tell him that I am waiting to see him and I will leave out extra sugar just for him to make his nose shine bright.

Love,
Joshua Edward Guigar



Kristen Kawecki

Dear Santa,
I have been growing up very fast these last couple months when mom was not feeling good. You see Mom is going to have a baby. I would like a baby sister. I would also like a Doodle Bear and Little Mermaid things. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Love,
Kristen Kawecki
Age 3 1/2 years
Decker



Breanna Nicole Frank

My name is Breanna Nicole Frank and on Christmas Eve I will be 11 months old. I have been a very good girl this year, at least that's what my daddy and mommy keep telling me. I would love a dolly to play with, one with eyes that blink. I will leave you milk and cookies and some carrots for your reindeer. Please go to all my cousins, they have been good too!

Love, Breanna



Andrew, Emily & Erika Martin

Dear Santa:
Please bring my baby sister, Erika, who will be one year old the day after Christmas, a Winnie the Pooh chair and some toys. My other sister, Emily age 6, would like Nails by Tyco and a purse with jewelry in it. I would like an old fashion boom box and a carry-along computer. We will put some carrots out for Rudolph. There will be cookies and milk on the kitchen counter for you.

Merry Christmas
Love,
Andrew Martin, age 9



Zachary Deitering

Dear Santa,
My name is Zachary Deitering. I am 2 1/2 years old. For Christmas I would like a bike and some tools! I'll leave some milk and cookies for you.

Love,
Zachary



Ryan Allen Koepf

Dear Santa,
Hello, my name is Ryan Koepf and I'm 16 months old. My Grandpa and Grandma Kessler say I have been a very good boy this year. I would really like a Pooh-Bear chair and a Big Bird that plays peek-a-boo. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Love,
Ryan Allen Koepf

P.S. My Grandma Fritz made you a key so you can come through the front door.

Farmers' share

Consumers spend \$547 billion for food originating on U.S. farms. Of each dollar spent on food, the farmer's share is 23 cents.

Obituaries

John Guc II

John Paul Guc II, 72, of Cass City, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 1997, at his home after a long illness.

Born Sept. 25, 1925, in Wayne, he was raised by his foster parents, George and Grace Thompson. He married Ruth Lucille Moody Sept. 24, 1949, in Warren.

A United States Navy veteran who served in the European and Pacific theaters during World II, Guc and Robert Ryland co-owned Ryland & Guc Plumbing and Heating for over 40 years. He was a member of the Cass City VFW Post #3644, the Cass City Masonic Tyler Lodge #317, and a former member of the Cass City Chamber of Commerce.

Surviving are his wife; 6 children, Susan Guc of Bay City, Sheila (Kim) Fritz of North Branch, Sheryl (Stephen) Shaw of Decker, John Paul Guc III of Cass City, Sandra (Randy) Kelley of Deford and Jamie Guc of Gaylord; 9 grandchildren; a sister, Julie (Cliff) Witkovsky of Clare, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his foster parents and a brother, Stephen Guc.

Funeral services were to be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Little & Kranz Funeral Home with Chuck Emmert of Novesta Church of Christ officiating.

Interment will be in Novesta Township Cemetery. Military rites will be under the direction of Cass City VFW Post #3644.

Memorials may be made to

the Cass City VFW Post #3644, Cass City Masonic Lodge #317 or Rawson Memorial Library.

Pauline Izydorek

Pauline A. Izydorek, 97, Decker, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 1997, at the Sanilac County Medical Care Facility, Sandusky, after a long illness.

She was born March 10, 1900, in Detroit to Andrew and Frances Izydorek.

Izydorek never married. She worked for Packard Motor Company for more than 20 years, and was a seamstress for many years, designing and stitching a number of wedding dresses.

She was a former member of Holy Name Catholic Church, St. Hyacinth Catholic Church, and currently St. Joseph Catholic Church in Argyle.

Izydorek is survived by her nieces and nephews, Charles

(Jo) Izydorek of Decker, Ann (Wayne) Johnson of Riverside, Calif., George (Barb) Izydorek of Metamora, Paul (Mary Ann) Izydorek of Decker, Eugene (Pat) Izydorek of Marlette, Sally (Larry) Wood of Deford, Bill (Edie) Izydorek of Decker and Steve (Paula) Izydorek of Springport, and many great-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by 2 brothers, Frank and Valerian Izydorek, and a sister, Cecilia Garras.

Funeral services were scheduled for today (Wednesday) at 10 a.m. at St. Hyacinth Catholic Church, Detroit, with the Rev. Francis Skalski officiating.

Interment will be in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Detroit.

Memorials may be made to the Sanilac County Medical Care Facility or St. Joseph Catholic Church, Argyle.

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

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Hope Christmas brings all good things for you.

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During this season, we rejoice and give thanks to you for your support throughout the year. We wish you and your family a blessed holiday and hope that you will be filled with the magical light of Christmas.

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THE STAFF WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE OF YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Travis Mozden

Dear Santa,
I've been very good this year. I would like a computer, a remote control car, a remote control train and some other surprises. I wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and hope you, Rudolph and all the other Reindeers have a good trip.

Travis Mozden

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3 plead, 6 sentenced

9 appear in circuit court

The following people appeared Friday in Tuscola County Circuit Court on various criminal charges:

•Robert D. Proctor, 19, Caro, pleaded guilty to armed robbery Nov. 11 in Denmark Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$30,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Becky J. England, 22, Cass City, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to deliver marijuana June 13 in Elkland Township, and having one prior felony conviction.

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

•Gary A. Sterling II, 32, Millington, pleaded guilty to

receiving and concealing stolen property valued at more than \$100 Nov. 19 in Arbela Township.

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

•David L. Tebedo, 18, Fairgrove, was sentenced to 18 months probation and 30 days in jail for his plea of guilty to home invasion, second degree, Aug. 6 in Gilford Township.

Tebedo was also ordered to complete his high school education and pay \$720 in court costs and fines plus \$500 in restitution, \$482.50 in attorneys fees, \$540 in oversight fees and a \$60 victim crime fee.

•Ronald C. Christian III, 22, Mayville, was sentenced to 270 days in jail (90 days deferred), with worksite privileges, for his pleas of

guilty to writing no account checks of \$25 and \$94.31, respectively, July 16 in Kingston and July 28 in Cass City.

He was ordered to pay \$385.19 in restitution within 120 days, or serve the full jail term imposed by the court.

•Dustin Browder, 18, Vassar, was sentenced to 14 months to 2 years in prison for his plea of guilty to stealing/retaining a financial transaction device without consent from the device holder July 23 in Gagetown.

Browder, who was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department, was also ordered to pay \$184.76 in restitution.

•Jerry L. DeMott, 37, Mayville, was sentenced to 2 years probation and 180 days in jail (90 days deferred), for his jury conviction on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Feb. 22 in Watertown Township.

DeMott was ordered to undergo substance abuse counseling/treatment, and pay \$1,000 in costs and fines plus \$1,318 in attorneys fees, \$720 in oversight fees and a \$60 victim crime fee.

•Lewis E. Henderson Jr., 40, Rowlett, Texas, was sentenced to 365 days in jail (6 months deferred provided his child support payments are up to date) for a plea of guilty to failure to pay child support Aug. 30, 1995, through the present in Caro.

•Chris L. Swinehart, 23, Unionville, was sentenced to 2 years probation and 90 days in jail (deferred) for his plea of guilty to attempted larceny of property valued at more than \$100 Oct. 4, 1996, in Columbia Township.

Swinehart was ordered to participate in mental health counseling and pay \$750 in costs and fines plus \$720 in oversight fees, \$182.04 in restitution and a \$60 victim crime fee.

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General Merchandise

FOR SALE - Glock 19mm pistol with two 15 round magazines. Owned by a woman. \$400 firm. 872-8700. 2-12-10-3

CANOPY BED - queen, green (verdigris), about one year old, includes mattress and foundation, asking \$275. Large bunny hutch, \$25. 872-5700. 2-12-10-3

ELECTRIC DRYER, \$100. Washer, \$100. Good condition. 872-9964 after 7:30 p.m. 2-12-10-3

FOR SALE - Microwave, new linoleum 4x11, large sofa cover with ruffle, Nurse Mate shoes 6 1/2 W, worn one time. 872-5014 after 7 p.m. 2-12-10-3

FOR SALE - Remington 12 gauge 11-87 deer gun. Free older gas furnace. Call 872-2766. 2-12-17-3

NOCONA COWBOY BOOTS for sale - like new. Light tan with stitching, size 9 1/2-10. 872-3051. 2-12-17-3

FIREWOOD - Ash, Maple, seasoned. \$45 a face cord picked up. One and a half cords delivered \$75. 872-3515. 2-10-29-tf

FOR SALE - 5' sofa with bed. Asking \$400. 872-3994. 2-12-24-3

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For Rent

FOR RENT - upstairs apartment in Cass City. \$200 plus utilities. Call 872-3410 after 5:00 p.m. for more information. 4-12-17-tfn

QUANICASSEE RIVER - 2-bedroom house for rent. \$425 per month. After 6 p.m., 517-686-1506. 4-12-10-3

1-BEDROOM APARTMENT for rent, on Main Street, \$275 security deposit, \$275/month rent. Call 872-3366. 4-12-17-tf

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Thumb to share in grants

Michigan's public land records and corners will continue to be restored, maintained and preserved, thanks to \$4 million in grants approved for 1998.

The grant awards include \$37,709 for Huron County, \$43,550 for Sanilac County and \$49,554 for Tuscola County.

Originally established in the 1800s to identify and enable land to be sold in Michigan Territory, the estimated 300,000 corners remain the basis of all property identification in the state today.

The cement and steel marker monuments are generally set in half-mile intervals across the state in east-to-west and north-to-south directions.

"In many cases, the original corner markers have been obliterated, because they were made of pipes, rods, stones, plowshares and even gun barrels," said Gov. John Engler.

"These Survey and Remonumentation grants will restore the corners that are reference points for surveyors, developers and the maintenance of roads and utilities, as well as the exchange and use of public and private properties."

The Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services (CIS) administers the Survey and Remonumentation program, which was established legislatively in 1990. CIS is charged with the administration of the statewide effort to preserve, maintain and re-establish the original property corners.

"These grants to restore public land records and corners will benefit all 83 counties," said CIS Director Kathy Wilbur. "Accurate information is crucial not only to all Michigan business and manufacturing, but to every individual who buys property."

Caro man charged with criminal sexual conduct

A Caro man was recently arraigned on 7 counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct allegedly involving a victim under the age of 13 years from Jan. 1, 1994, through Oct. 15, 1997.

Bond for the defendant, Christopher A. Perez, 33, Caro, was set at \$350,000. He faces a preliminary examination Dec. 30 at 1:30 p.m. in Tuscola County District Court.

In other recent felony arraignments:

•Rafael Ramirez, 24, Caro, was arraigned on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon and domestic violence Dec. 18 in Almer Township.

Bond was set at \$20,000 and a preliminary exam was scheduled for Dec. 30 at 1:30 p.m.

•Gary L. Nightser Jr., 28, Mayville, was charged with one count of non-aggravated stalking and two counts of aggravated stalking from Jan. 1, 1996, through Dec. 11, 1997, in Indianfields Township.

Bond was set at \$10,000 and a preliminary exam was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Dec. 30.

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Bond was set at \$10,000 and a preliminary exam was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Dec. 30.

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FOR RENT - 24'x40' storage unit available. 12'Wx13'H overhead door, with lights and cement floor. Contact Cass River Storage at 872-2248 or 673-2555. 4-12-17-3

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NO SMOKING Bingo - Every Sunday at St. Pancratius Hall, S. Seeger, Cass City. Doors open 5:00 p.m., games start at 5:30. Phone 872-5410. Knights of Columbus Council No. 8892. 5-4-24-tf

Celebrate New Year's Eve Wednesday, Dec. 31 at Colony House, Cass City Cash Bar \$45 per couple Tickets available at Mr. Chip's Party Stores, Bad Axe, Cass City, Sandusky, Sebewaing, Reimsnyder's, Bad Axe, Tubby's Spas & Pools, Caro Colony House 517-872-3300 5-12-10-3

BINGO - Every Wednesday night. Open 6:00-early bird 6:30 - regular bingo 7:00. NO BINGO December 24 & 31. Post 3644 VFW, Weaver St. 5-2-26-tf

ALL CHRISTMAS ornaments 1/2 off at Special Scents. 5-12-24-

SPECIAL SCENTS will be closed Dec. 26 and 27. 5-12-24-1

"MAGICAL MOMENTS" Bridal Show Sunday, Jan. 11, at the Knights of Columbus, 903 Ryan Rd., Caro, MI, 1-4 p.m. For more information call Linda Langley at 673-6400 or the Chamber office at 673-5211. 5-12-24-2

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1993 ranch on a 4 Acre Spread - 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, full finished basement. Deck with a hot tub. 2 car garage. Also, 24'x40' pole barn and 24'x24' add. barn. Possible extra 30 acres could be bought. K-136

TWO NEW COUNTRY LISTINGS

Don't Wait To Call On This Home - Beautiful ranch style home on 5 spacious acres. This home offers 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, large living room with a brick fireplace. Home is mostly carpeted. Patio doors off the dining room with a deck. Full basement. Very quality built home. Nicely landscaped. Located 1/2 mile off main road. Cass City schools. Central location to Cass City, Bad Axe, Uly. CC-317

Too New For Picture 3 bedroom ranch on an acre. 1 3/4 baths, poured full basement. New furnace, fall of this year, also has wood furnace in basement. Cass City schools. Occupancy at closing. Call for a showing. CC-318

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Comfortable & Cozy 3 bedroom house with 1 3/4 baths, sits on a corner lot. This home offers a hot tub room, a 24'x30' 2 car garage, full basement, natural gas heat, lots of storage. CCT-168

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PAUL'S PUMP REPAIR - Water pump and water tank sales. In-home service. Credit cards accepted. Call 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 anytime. 8-9-25-1f

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RED HAWK Tree Service - Trimming and removal of all trees. Quality workmanship, reasonable rates, free estimates. Call John, (517) 872-9804. 8-3-12-52

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 ALL MAKES & MODELS
 6426 Cass City Rd.
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 Across from stockyard
 Crankshaft straightening available
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 Let YOUR tree problem be OURS!
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QUALITY TECH
 Carbide and Ceramic Tool and Wear Parts Manufacturer has an opening for a Quality Technician with background in Lay-Out Inspection, GD & T, SPC, Etc.
 Full Benefits include:
 Company Paid Health/Life Insurance
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 Applications will be taken at 2710 W. Caro Rd., Caro between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
 11-12-17-3

MACHINE OPERATORS
 Accepting applications for Machine Operator Trainees
 Full Benefits include:
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 Applications will be taken at 2710 W. Caro Rd., Caro between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
 11-12-17-3

Carbide Cutting Tool Manufacturer has openings for experienced Machine Operators
 If you have experience in any of the following Machines:
 Centerless Grinder
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 Cam Grinder
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 Machine Repair
 Mill & Lathe
 Full Benefits include:
 Company Paid Health/Life Insurance
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 Paid Vacation/holidays
 Salary based on Experience
 Applications will be taken at 2710 W. Caro Rd., Caro between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
 11-12-17-3

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

LPN NEEDED in private duty care. Competitive wages, benefits available. Inquire Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at 1-800-378-8181 or 517-656-3867. Ask for Heather. 11-12-3-4

SEEKING AMBITIOUS individual for childcare position in our home. Must be willing to do extra activities with our 2 children, ages 1 and 3, light housework involved, immediate employment. Hours Monday-Friday, 9-5 p.m., excellent wages. Phone 517-872-5033 after 5 p.m. 11-12-10-3

ASSISTANT-COOK/driver/server - Part-time position at the Caro Kitchen. Experience in food preparation and kitchen operations preferred. Send letter of application and resume to the Administrative Assistant, Human Development Commission, 429 Montague Avenue, Caro, MI 48723. An Equal Opportunity Employer. Application Deadline: Dec. 30, 1997. 11-12-24-1

FULL-TIME SALESMAN for appliance, TV and furniture. Good salary. Send applications to Box SH, c/o Cass City Chronicle, Cass City, MI 48726. 11-7-30-1f

Card of Thanks

I WISH TO thank all who have remembered us during the time of Royce's illness. The cards, prayers, friendship and outpouring of love has been greatly appreciated. To our special neighbors, Maynard, Joan and Craig Helwig, for seeing our lawn was always mowed and our house was always cared for. I am thankful for the many friends and neighbors that visited Royce and encouraged him. I am very grateful for the special care the doctors and nurses gave Royce at the University Hospital, Bay Area Regional Dialysis Center, St. Luke's Hospital and Hills and Dales General Hospital. I would like to thank the employers of my children for their understanding of our need to be together during the time of Royce's illness and death. I am thankful that Rev. Morningstar was here for our family and for his personal service for Royce. I appreciate the care and concern Debra Kranz showed our family. Thanks to the Presbyterian ladies for the luncheon that followed the funeral and to the many people who brought food to the house. A big thank you to Geri Perry and Joan Helwig for taking care of the grandchildren during this time. I also want to thank Royce's sister and brother-in-law, Harriet and Jack, my kids and their families for always being there for us. Once again a special thanks to everyone. Betty Russell. 13-12-24-1

IN MEMORY of Tim Osentoski - You left us just a year ago. But in our hearts you stay. So young you were, so suddenly You had to go away. You were the youngest brother. You were the youngest son. A husband and a father. All those jobs you had done. I guess we'll never understand. We'll always question why. The void you left still fills our hearts. For you never said good-bye. Sadly missed by family. 15-12-24-1

We Need Homes to Sell - Buyers Looking. You may need a new home for the New Year. Give Us A Call - Morning, Afternoon or evening!

Merry Christmas to everyone from the Salespeople and Staff of Kelly & Co.

New on the Market - Snuggled into a hill, this Cape Cod features 2,000 square feet of living space, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1st floor family room, large deck and patio, full basement. A must see home. \$114,900. TCC1232

Price Reduced - Fantastic home for the price. Built in 1995, ranch home featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1st floor family room, beautiful kitchen, formal dining, basement. 2 1/2 car garage. Reduced to \$129,900. TCC1224

Price Reduced - Move in day of closing. Neat and clean ranch home. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. 1 1/2 car garage, newer furnace and central air. Fenced backyard. \$69,900. TCC1227

Owner Wants An Offer - Only 2 miles from town on 1 acre. Ranch home mostly all remodeled. 3 bedrooms, full basement. 2 car garage. nice home! Call today. Cy2060

New on the market - Stop renting and buy a home for only \$24,900. Nice lot in Owendale with mature trees. Neat and clean 3 bedroom home. Move right in. Owner needs to sell to settle estate. T0528

New on the Market - Call now, it will not last. 14'x70' Parkwood. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car carport, front & back decks, awnings, storage shed. Excellent condition. Priced to sell. \$24,900. MH698

6 ACRES IN THE VILLAGE LIMITS OF CARO - Water and sewer available. Possible split. Call today. A374

New on the Market - 2 unit apartment house. Each unit has 2 bedrooms, bath, 1 car garage, separate heat and electric. Great investment. TCC1241

Price Reduced - 1 1/2 story home in Cass City. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, large kitchen, open staircase. 2 car garage. Ideal for a young family. \$42,900. TCC1226

Country Living - Paved Road - This 1 1/2 story home has newer well, septic system, kitchen, upstairs windows. 30'x40' pole barn. Immediate occupancy. Priced in the 50s. Cy2067

Just Outside Village Limits - 2-3 bedroom ranch home. 1/2 basement, 1 1/2 car garage, 30'x36' pole barn, 10'x16' shed, 132'x165' lot, with nice trees. TCC1195

Immediate Possession - 2 story brick home featuring 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, 5'x8' pantry room, full basement. 4 car garage. 66'x264' lot with large trees. \$79,900. TCC1169

Between Cass City and Bad Axe - 3 bedroom mobile home with newer roof and siding. Remodeled interior. New deck, front and back. 24'x30' pole barn. Nice country setting. MH694

Carefree Living - Built in 1993, this condo has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, family room in lower level. Call and take a look. TCC1230

Very lovely 2 bedroom ranch home. Full basement, large deck, 1 1/2 car garage. Full unfinished upstairs, possible 3rd bedroom. TCC1229

3 unit apartment house. Great investment. Live in one and rent the others to make your payment or rent all 3 units. \$54,900. TCC1215

2 bedroom, 1 story home set in Cass City on city lot. - Nice size living room and dining room. Basement. \$42,900. TCC1223

Set on 10 acres with home. Features 3 bedrooms, family room, basement. 70'x100' shed on property. Set on paved road. F723

Set in Cass City on 3 lots, 1 1/2 story home with 3 bedrooms, basement, natural gas heat. 2 car garage. Corner location. TCC1222

New on the Market - Building sites between Vassar and Millington. Lots of trees. Possible land contract. A376

10 acres partly wooded, nice ranch home. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room with fireplace, laundry off the kitchen, central air. 30'x48' pole barn. Call today. F722

Just outside Cass City - 1.6 acre building site. Natural gas at the road. Call today.

Just south of Cass City. 20'x60' cement block building. Ideal workshop, garage or just extra storage space. \$9,500. COM989

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Kelly W. Smith, Broker
 Farm • Commercial • Residential
 Listings Wanted

Calendar of Events

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

Wednesday, December 24

No duplicate bridge games scheduled Dec. 24 and 31. Everyone welcome. Last week's winners: Don Warner and Jim Herndon.

Thursday, December 25

Have a safe and blessed Christmas.

Friday, December 26

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

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve Gospel Sing at New Cass City Middle School, 8 p.m.

SENIORS!

If you are age 65 or over — or turning age 65 soon — you may need supplemental insurance to help pay for certain health care costs Medicare does not cover.

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25135

TIME
Fortis company



RECEIVING A LETTER of appreciation Monday night for General Cable Company's generous gift of wire worth \$15,000 to \$20,000 were John Cooper, second from left, and Dean Hoag. At left is Superintendent Ken Micklash and right, board President Randy Severance.

Easy transition

Students move to new school

Continued from page one

work over the holiday break. The community is invited to an open house/dedication ceremony slated for Sunday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held Sunday, Feb. 1.

In the months that follow, school officials will continue

to salvage light fixtures, wiring, lockers, ceiling tiles and other items from the old middle school. Micklash said other items may be auctioned off next summer.

The old middle school totals 56,000 square feet, including the east annex, which will be renovated in the summer for use as a childhood center for preschool and kindergarten programs.

New MDOT center in Cass City

Continued from page one

service centers. "We're in the process of trying to decide the most cost effective way" to establish new office sites.

DeSana said the new MDOT structure will improve service while addressing attrition and retirements, which resulted in a 25-percent smaller MDOT since 1992.

In addition, he added, the service center staffs will work closely with local partners such as counties, cities, planning agencies, community groups and businesses to help deliver improved transportation services and facilities to meet communities' needs.

School board meeting

Continued from page one

will be awarded. Squires offered \$900 for a 1987 Chevrolet and \$800 for an 1986 Chevrolet if the district decides to trade them in.

The annex to the former middle school, which is scheduled for renovation, has a new name. It will now be called the Cass City Public School Early Childhood Center.

The school received another payment in a lawsuit started over price fixing of

bus bids. Its share of the damages received is \$4,700.36. George Fisher, custodian-bus driver, announced his retirement April 20. The board transferred Clayton Sawdon to his position in Deford. Mark Stover was hired to replace Sawdon. Wendy Dickson was hired as the p.m. custodian at the middle school. She has substituted at the school previously. Dorland Kuntz, principal, said.

Letters of appreciation were ordered sent to Mary

housing has been denied.

The old middle school served as a K-12 building when it was constructed in 1926. At the time, the building offered more space than was needed, but in time the student population outgrew the facility. In 1950, school officials undertook the first of several phases of construction of the Campbell Elementary School.

Consider land sale

Continued from page one

Approved a motion to pay retiring Village Manager Lou S. LaPonsie's share of cost for health insurance coverage for as long as he lives. Downing recommended the motion in recognition of LaPonsie's 25 years of service to the community. Endorsed a request to annex the Cass City IGA property. In a letter to the village,

IGA officials explained the water well at the store, located at 6121 Cass City Rd., has been condemned by the Michigan Department of Environmental Health.

The council will now petition the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners to formally approve the annexation.

Briefly discussed concerns

regarding newspaper and shopper carriers tossing papers on lawns and sidewalks in the village.

Downing told the council that village officials have the authority to cite offending papers/shoppers under local littering ordinances. Before taking any action, however, she recommended sending a notice to violating companies asking for their cooperation.



BONNIE FERRIS (seated) and her husband Ray have been the driving force in creating calendars commemorating the old middle school building. Proceeds from the sale of the 1998 calendars will help offset the cost of the school's annual trip to Washington, D.C.

Legal Notices

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. is a debt collector and we are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. is a debt collector and we are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by RALPH VETTRAINO AND LISA L. VETTRAINO, HUSBAND AND WIFE to STANDARD FEDERAL BANK, Mortgagee, dated July 21, 1993, and recorded on August 3, 1993, in Liber 644, on page 1384, TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of twelve thousand seven hundred ninety seven and 61/100 Dollars (\$12,797.61), including interest at 8.000% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and approved, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance of the Court-house in the Village of Caro, Tuscola, MI, at 11:00 AM on January 30, 1998.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF VASSAR, TUSCOLA County, Michigan and are described as:

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 32, Town 11 North, Range 8 East, described as beginning on the North Line of Section 32, at a point West 1670.00 feet from the Northeast corner of Section 32, Thence S 00 degrees 14 min 40 sec E 1337.67 feet thence N 89 deg 10 min 40" W 378.35 feet to the East Line of New York Central Railroad thence North 20 degrees 57 min 22 sec West 998.26 feet along said line thence East 401.33 feet thence North 00 degrees 14' 40" West 400 feet thence East 330 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241(a) in which case the redemption period shall be 90 days from the date of such sale.

DATED: December 17, 1997

STANDARD FEDERAL BANK
Mortgagee

ATTORNEY FOR: Mortgagee

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C.
401 South Old Woodward Avenue
Suite 300
Birmingham, MI 48009-6616
12-17-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by David CHURCH, a married man and Nina CHURCH, his wife, to MICHIGAN MORTGAGE LENDERS CORP., Mortgagee, dated October 4, 1996, and recorded on October 4, 1996, in Liber 698, on Page 728, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ten Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Three And 91/100 Dollars (\$10,863.91), including interest at 16.99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., on January 30, 1998.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF MILLINGTON, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Part of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 10 North, Range 8 East, described as: Beginning at a point which is N89°26'40"W, 1271.18 feet along the South line of said Section 9, and along the East line of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 (also the East line of Bostick's Addition to the Village of Millington) N00°08'49"E, 909.48 feet along the North line of said Bostick's Addition, N89°20'00"W, 334.38 feet to the Northeast corner of Lot 2 of Block B of Bostick's Addition and parallel to the East line of said West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, N00°08'49"E, 2.00 feet from the Southeast corner of said Section 9, thence parallel to the North line of said Bostick's Addition, N89°20'00"W, 127.62 feet; thence parallel to the East line of said West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, N00°08'49"E, 64.00 feet; thence S89°20'00"E, 127.62 feet; thence S00°08'49"W, 64.00 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 3, 1997

MICHIGAN MORTGAGE LENDERS CORP.

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: (248) 642-4202
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for MICHIGAN MORTGAGE LENDERS CORP.
30150 Telegraph
Suite 100
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025
File # 97064978

12-3-5

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by KENNETH J. BURROWS AND JANICE C. BURROWS, HIS WIFE to UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING THROUGH THE FARMERS, HOME ADMINISTRATION, U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE now known as USDA, RURAL DEVELOPMENT Mortgagee, dated July 23, 1982, and recorded on July 26, 1982, in Liber 526, on page 704, TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of seventy two thousand nine hundred ninety eight and 64/100 Dollars (\$72,998.64), including interest at 13.250% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and approved, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance of the Court-house in the Village of Caro, Tuscola, MI, at 11:00 AM on January 23, 1998.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF VASSAR, TUSCOLA County, Michigan and are described as:

TOWNSHIP OF VASSAR, LOT 11 WOODLAND ACRES SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS PAGE 11 TUSCOLA COUNTY RECORDS.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241(a) in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

DATED: December 10, 1997

USDA, RURAL DEVELOPMENT Mortgagee

ATTORNEY FOR: Mortgagee

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C.
401 South Old Woodward Avenue
Suite 300
Birmingham, MI 48009-6616
12-10-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jerry L. BOOTH a married man and Deborah S. BOOTH, his wife (Original Mortgages), to FIRST CHICAGO NBD MORTGAGE COMPANY, (f/k/a NBD Mortgage Company, a Delaware Corporation), Mortgagee, dated May 7, 1996, and recorded on May 20, 1996, in Liber 690, on Page 1098, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve And 55/100 Dollars (\$93,912.55), including interest at 8.60% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., on January 23, 1998.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF ELKLAND, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Beginning at the Southeast corner of the Northeast quarter of the Southeast quarter of Section 16, Township 14 North, Range 11 East, thence West 16 Rods; thence North 10 Rods; thence East 16 Rods; thence South 10 Rods to the point of beginning, except easements and rights of way of record.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 10, 1997

FIRST CHICAGO NBD MORTGAGE COMPANY

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: (248) 642-4202
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for FIRST CHICAGO NBD MORTGAGE COMPANY
30150 Telegraph
Suite 100
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025
File # 97032170

12-10-5

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Franklin Roosevelt:
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Your Family Discount Drug Store



Matt Carter - 10th grade

Happy
Holidays

- Letters to Santa Claus
- Drawings and messages from Cass City & Owen Gage Students
- Greetings from area businesses and professionals



Gordy Wills - 10th grade

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 91, NUMBER 39

CASS CITY CHRONICLE - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1997

SECTION 2, PAGES 1-8

Jesus is the reason for our Christmas

Christmas is the time of year when most everyone is full of cheer the lights are shining on the tree families singing joyfully Presents wrapped and there they sit while children beg to open it Relatives come to share the joy children smile as they open their toy Although everyone is busy

and there is so much to be done The true meaning of Christmas is Jesus Christ the son He was born in a manger he lived his life for us Jesus is the reason for our Christmas

Stacy Sullins
Cass City H.S.
9th grade

O Holy Night

Jesus is the reason for the season.

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

Bob Hanes
Lee and Connie Hanes

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

We will be open
Dec. 24 - 9-2 p.m.
CLOSED
Dec. 25
Open Dec. 31 - 9-2 p.m.
CLOSED
Jan. 1, 2 & 3

We'd like to wish all our customers a joyous Christmas and every happiness this time can bring.

EICHER'S CLEANERS
Cass City Bad Axe Pigeon

Season's Greetings

From Precise Auto Care

With heartfelt thanks to all for giving us so many reasons to celebrate this season.

"Where our customers send their friends"

PRECISE AUTO CARE
6597 Main St. CALL (517) 872-4778 Cass City

* Merry *
Christmas

Best Wishes from the Chronicle Staff

Joann Asher	Rachel Hoard
Larry Bogart	Thelma Jackson
Mary Damm	Tom Montgomery
Melva Guinther	Louise Ponder
Clarke Haire	Justin Salas
John Haire	Deb Severance
	Janet Severance

We would like to thank all our customers for making our 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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

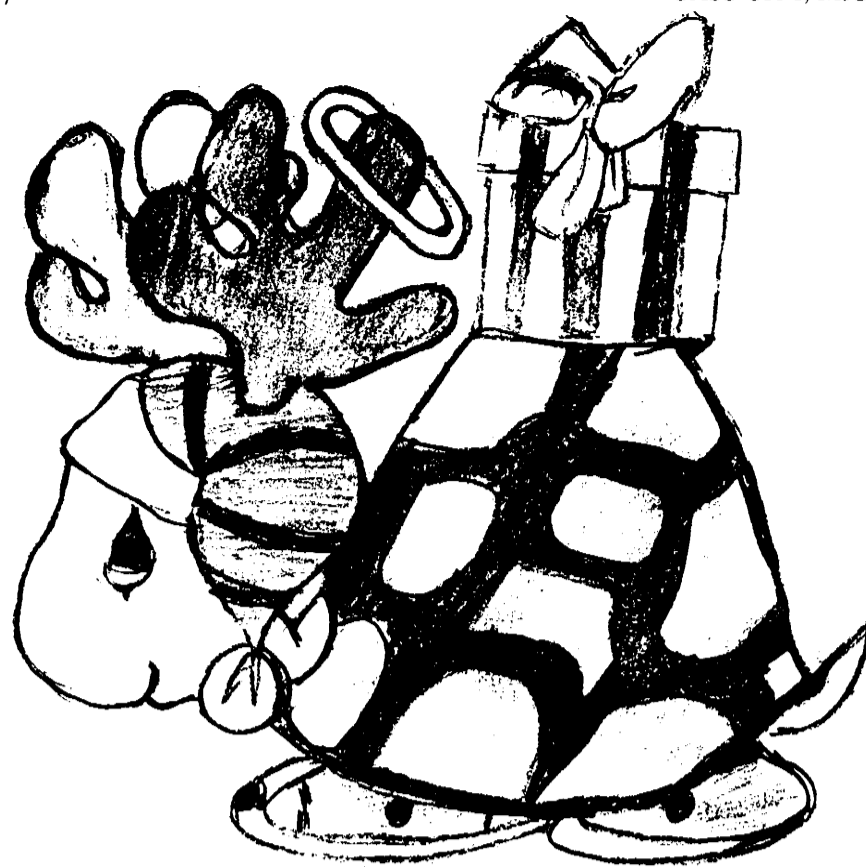
FROM ALL OF US AT

LAFAVE STEEL SUPPLY INC.

8260 Van Dyke
Cass City 48726



Mandy Chappel - 11th grade



MERRY CHRISTMAS To All

Amanda Franklin - 10th grade

Santa Letters



Thommy

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year and would like some special things for Christmas. A Little Tikes Picnic Table and a Fisher-Price School Bus, Puzzles, color books and lots of washable crayons! Please leave something special for Grampy, Grammy and especially mommy, mommy works real hard for me.

Thanks a bunch,
Thommy
22 months
Cass City



Meri Dzielinski

Dear Santa,

Thank you for everything you brought me last year. I am 3 years old now and Mom says I've been a precious angel. Could you please bring me anything Barbie, especially a sleeping bag. I would also like lots of candy, too.

Please remember my big brothers, Matthew and Paul, again this year. They can be real nice when they want to be.

I will leave you a treat. Remember that I live in Cass City, now.

Thank You,
Love,
Meri Dzielinski
XOXOXOXO



Alek & Arek Creason

Dear Santa,

My name is Alekzander Bryan-Daily Creason. I'm 4 years old. My little brother is 2 years old. His name is Arek Jonathon-Taylor Creason. We have been the best we could this year.

First, I would like a Big truck, Fishing pole, tractor and a Big Batman. My Brother would like a tractor, Batman car, a Pooh that wiggles his nose. Please bring Mom and Dad something nice. They've been great parents. We would also like our new cousin to come soon.

We'll leave you some cookies and milk. We'll also leave some sugar for the Reindeer.

Love,
Alek & Arek Creason

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas



Katie Elizabeth Tiseo
Blair Elise Tiseo

Dear Santa,

My name is Katie Tiseo and I am 3 years old. My sister Blair is 16 months old. For Christmas I would like a Sleeping Beauty book. I think Blair would like a talking rabbit. Thank you for the nice presents you brought us last year. We will leave you some cookies and chocolate milk for a snack.

We love you!

Katie Elizabeth Tiseo
Blair Elise Tiseo

P.S. Please remember to bring something nice for Uncle Mike and Aunt Kate in California because they can't come home this year.

Best Wishes for the Holidays Have A Happy & Healthy New Year

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CASS CITY, MI 48726 (517) 872-2075



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

ANROD SCREEN CYLINDER CO.
Cass City

MERRY CHRISTMAS

We're glad to know and serve you

J & C Service

John and Connie Connolly
6268 Main 872-3488

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

Merry Christmas

CASS CITY TIRE

872-5303 6392 Main, Cass City

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

We bring you Greetings at Christmas

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

KRITZMAN'S, INC.
Cass City

Santa Letters



Carley Hendrick

Dear Santa,

I have tried real hard to be a good girl this year. I would like a Pooh Bear and Tigger and a new My Lickity Treats doll. Don't forget my big sisters, Lindsey and Ashley and my cousin Brennen.

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

Merry Christmas
Love,
Carley Hendrick
3 1/2 years old



Ashley Keys

Dear Santa,

I'm 9 years old. I've tried to be good all year. For Christmas I want a CD Boom Box, a Chicago Bulls clock, Chicago Bulls Phone, Chicago Bulls clothes, the CD sound track from Toy Story and the movies Free Willy III and Lost World. Could you please leave a note under my Grandma and Grandpa Pomeroy's X-mas tree in Florida that we miss them very much.

I will leave you and the Reindeer a surprise on the kitchen table.

Love,
Ashley Keys

Dear Santa,

My sister and I try really hard every day to be good little girls. You can even ask our mom and dad.

Could you please bring my sister Kennedy a small sled and a doll. She'll be 11 mos. old at Christmas. I would like a stroller for my doll and a bigger sled. One for a 2 1/2 yr. old (that's how old I am). We will leave a treat for you and your reindeer.

Love
Taylor & Kennedy Brown
Cass City, MI



Taylor & Kennedy Brown

BEST WISHES



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

From all of us at

TV APPLIANCES FURNITURE

Schneeberger's

Phone: 872-2696 Cass City

Bobbie Jean Keys-Chappel

Hi Santa,

My name is Bobbie Jean. I'm 2 years old and I'm a busy little girl. I've given up on trying to be good this year. For Christmas I would like a sing and snore Ernie, a Little Tykes kitchen set, some pots and pans, some play food and a new stroller for all my babies. I would also like some new clothes and a Chicago Bulls T-shirt like my big sister Ashley's. Could you leave something special for my Aunt Joan and Aunt Connie in E. Lansing.

I will leave you a Pepsi and M&M's and a big carrot for the Reindeer.

Hugs & Kisses
Bobbie Jean Keys-Chappel



Andy Kolacz

Dear Santa,

My name is Andy and I am 8 years old. For Christmas I would like some jeans and some sweat shirts and pants. I sure could use some boots, too. Would you also bring me the rest of the stuff I ask for last year? Could I go to the north pole with you cause I would like to see your elves. Bring some toys for my cousins Erica and Sammy.

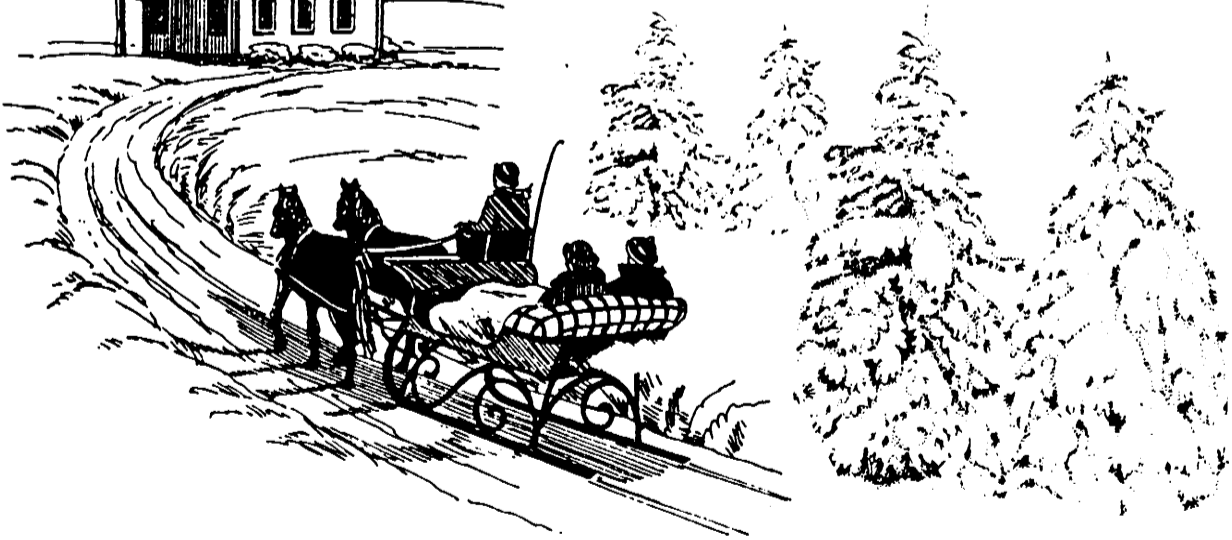
Thanks.
Your friend
Andy Kolacz

P.S. I will leave you milk and cookies

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas



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

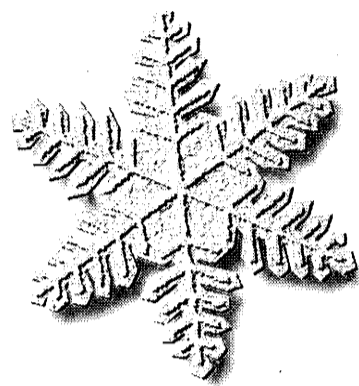
Cass City

872-2111

Everyone at



Chemical Bank

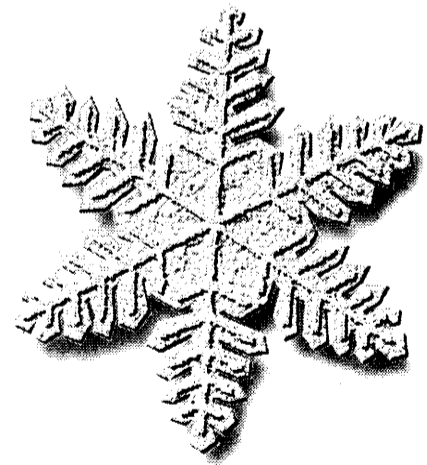


Wishes You



a Peaceful

and Joyous Holiday.



CHEMICAL BANK
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*Best Wishes
to everyone for
the Holidays!
From everyone
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Your Family Discount Drug Store



Jessica Apel-Mifsud - 12th grade

Preparation for this day

Lots of preparing in Heaven above,
In order to send out a Savior's love,
The angels have their cries of proclamation ready,
While Gabriel and his troops are holding steady,
To fend off the Evil One should he try to interfere,
with a birth of a child God holds so dear,
This child will be the salva-

tion of mankind,
Through Him, and Him alone, eternal life they will find,
As that day drew all the nearer,
To Him, His Son seemed so much dearer,
The angels waited in anticipation,
With ready shouts of acclamation,
Suddenly a single baby's cry echoed off the quiet walls,

And cheers of praise and joy rang forth throughout the halls,
In His chamber the Almighty sat quietly on this morn,
A single tear ran down His cheek,
"It's done" he whispered "my son is born."

Colleen Cartwright
Cass City H.S.
12th grade

What Christmas is about

Christmas Day

It was a cold December night,
The lights on the tree shown so bright.

We sat around with lots of cheer,
Christmas Day would soon be here!

As I crawled into my bed,
visions of gifts filled my head.

Out the window I did look,
a second of my time was all it took.

Snowflakes floated to the ground,
When they hit there was no sound.

I looked up and saw a star,
I remembered the Wisemen who travelled so far.

The shepherds had been in the field,
Until this time they did not yield.

Then an Angel appeared to them,
Jesus was to be born in Bethlehem.

Christmas Day is Jesus' birth,
the day He was brought to the Earth.

After 33 years of looking in,
He died on a cross to take away my sin.

That's what Christmas is about,
not the gifts or eggnog too,
It's about the birth of some-

one who died for you.
Amy DuQuesnay
Cass City H.S.
11th grade

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& Happy
Holidays
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& Electronics*
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*Peace
on
Earth*

May you and your loved ones have a safe and joyous Holiday Season, a healthy and prosperous New Year!

Call: Ernest A. Teichman, Jr.
6240 W. Main
Cass City, Mich.
Phone 872-3388

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STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES Home Offices Bloomington, Illinois

**Merry Christmas
from
Detroit Edison,
North Area
Energy Center**

Detroit Edison
Cass City, Michigan

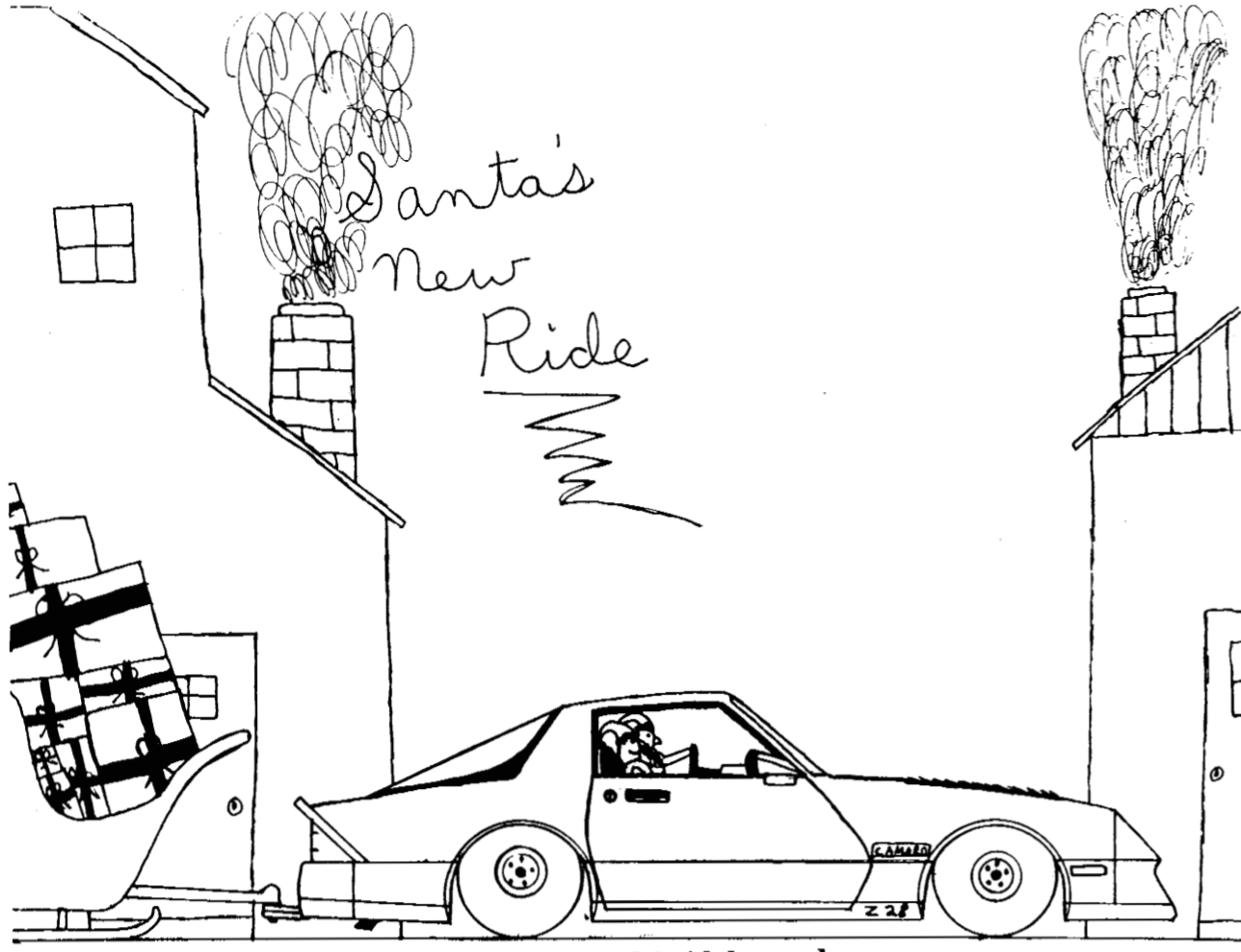
Merry Christmas

**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 Cass City

**Erla's Food Center
wishes everyone
Happy Holidays!**

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



Scott Rutkoski, 10th grade

Christmas is more than tree tinsel

Christmas, to me, is more than tinsel on a tree. It's more important than presents for me, me, me. It's more than carolers singing. It's more than sleigh bells ringing. Even more than someone calling you on Christmas day. A lot more than the cousins coming over to play.

It's about a lady and a man on a journey. On a journey to a stable. Where someone was able to give them a place to stay. The lady gave birth to a baby, and

layed him in a manger with hay. This baby is my Lord and Savior. Hope came into my life on this precious day. I feel sometimes that we forget the meaning of Christmas. How this could happen I do not know. For in this word Christmas is our reminder **Christmas**. It's not **Presentmas**. It's **Christmas**. That's what Christmas means to me. Christmas.

Andrew David Edwards
Cass City H.S.
12th grade

CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA
FRANKENTHUTH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

KC INSURANCE AGENCY
JIM PULASKEY, AGENT
6505 Main Street 872-4880

Toys made on time

Reindeer to the rescue

The Broken Machine

It was the night before Christmas and Santa's toy machine broke down. He still had to make toys for half of the world. Santa did not know how to fix the machine. The elves said, "There is no way to fix it."
"We have to get a new one," Santa said. "Round up the reindeer and get the sleigh

ready, we are going to get a new machine."
But, when the elves got to the reindeer they were gone. The elves said, "Santa, how are we going to get a new machine?"
Santa said, "We will have to walk to the store." The wind was so strong it blew Santa away. Mrs. Clause found Santa and took him inside. Both Santa and the elves

were too sick to make the trip. Santa said, "Call Nathan in Michigan and ask him to get a new machine for us."

Mrs. Clause called Nathan. He said, "Where do I get the machine from?"
"At Best Buy," said Mrs. Clause, "in Quebec."

"How am I supposed to get to Quebec?" he asked.

As he spoke he heard animal noises coming from the front porch. It was the reindeer and Santa's sleigh. Nathan got in the sleigh and went to Quebec. The reindeer were very tired from flying, so they had to stop often to get drinks. They finally reached Quebec and bought a new machine.

The reindeer dropped Nathan off in Michigan and hurried back to the North Pole. Santa and the elves

were able to finish making the toys on time. Aaron Faist Owen-Gage 5th grade

Peace to All
Kranz Funeral Homes
Debra L. Kranz, Director
Cass City & Kingdon
Phone 872-2195
683-2210

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WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY FROM THE STAFF
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PEACE ON EARTH
May the radiance and gift of His love light your way to everlasting peace and contentment. Best wishes for a joyous Christmas. From The Family & Staff
Ken Martin Electric, Inc.
Cass City 872-4114

We would like to thank all our customers for their business this year and are looking forward to "1998".
Call us for your free market analysis
Happy Holidays
Marty & Lola Osentoski

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!
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Established 1924
6815 E. Cass City Rd., Cass City, MI 48726

HILLS & DALES GENERAL HOSPITAL WISHES YOU A HAPPY, HEALTHY, HOLIDAY SEASON!

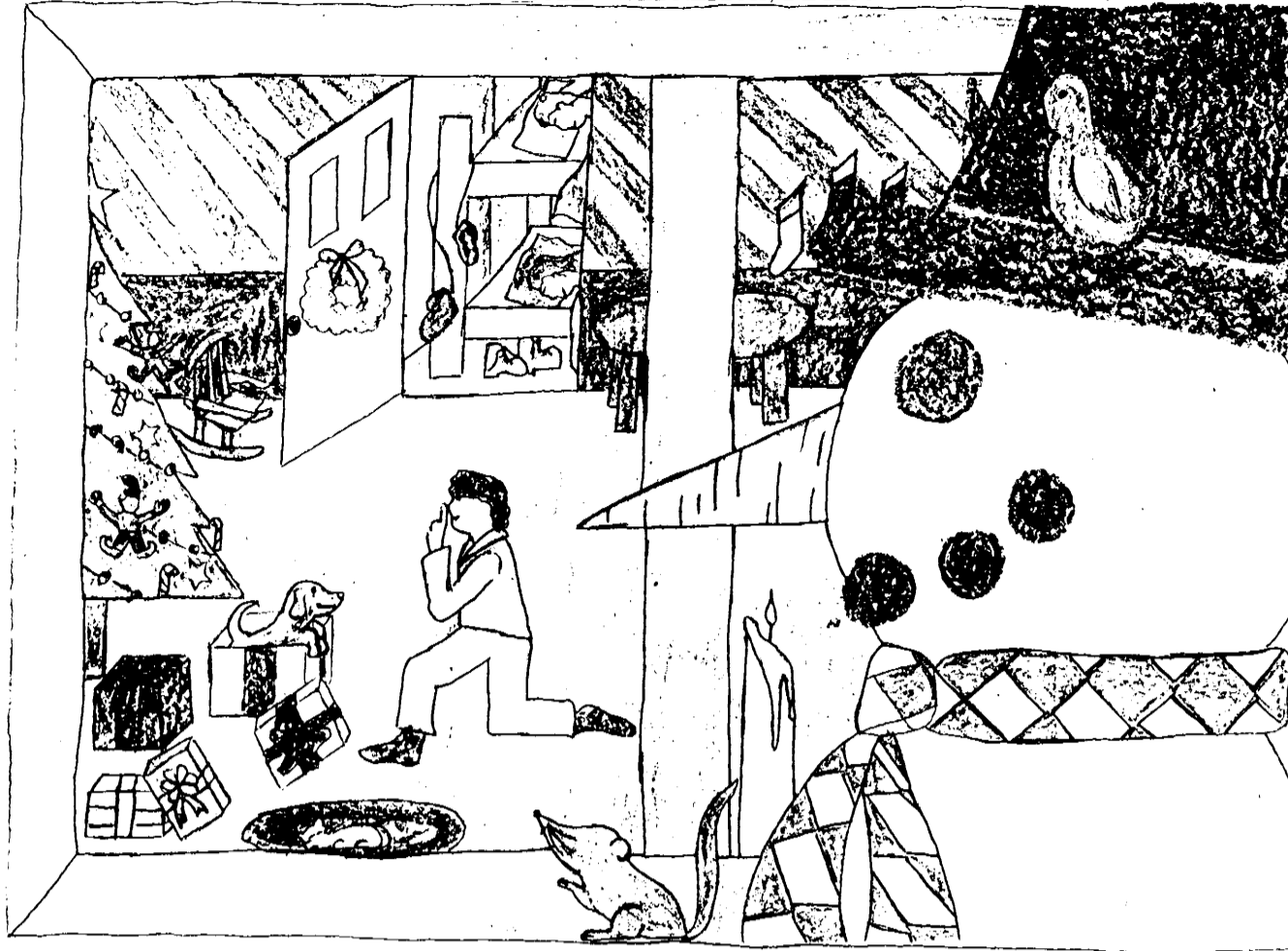
Hills and Dales General Hospital 4675 Hill Street, Cass City (517) 872-2121
Thumb Area Home Care Agency 6240 Main Street, Cass City 1-800-358-4749
Community Health Clinics Cass City Community Health Clinic 4675 Hill Street, Cass City (517) 872-2121
Michigan Athletic & Rehabilitation 4675 Hill St., Cass City (517) 872-2084
Unionville Community Health Clinic 6456 Center, Unionville (517) 674-8603
MARC/Caro 1186 Cleaver, Caro (517) 673-4999
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Danielle Laming, 11th grade

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Bakery & Restaurant

Cass City 872-2570

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
From the

EAT SHOP

6487 Main, Cass City 872-5553

Heidi Scott, 6th grade

Santa left a lump of coal

Long ago on Christmas eve night while parents were sleeping, kids from everywhere were sneaking out of their houses to see if Santa really existed, but what they didn't know is they had a surprise coming and most kids wouldn't like it. You know the saying that Santa

doesn't come to your house unless you're sleeping, well it's true. While the kids were looking for Santa, he was watching them. Santa didn't like it that they weren't in bed, so he decided to play a trick on them.

All the kids were getting tired and they still had seen

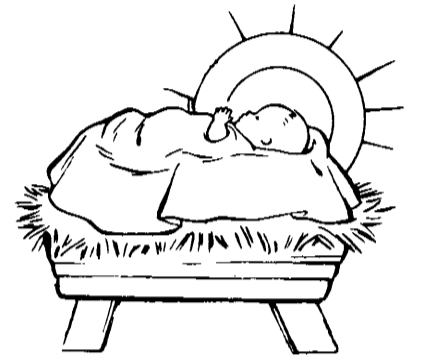
no sign of Santa. Most of them had went home by 11:30. And it was 12:30 now so all the kids decided to go home. When they got home they saw no presents under the tree for them, but they just thought that Santa hadn't come yet. So they went up to bed. When they got up in the morning they ran down stairs and saw presents under the tree and opened them, but

all that was in them was a lump of coal and a note from Santa. It said, "You should have been in bed instead of looking for me."

Ever since then no kid has ever waited up for Santa. So you better be good.

Heidi Scott
Owen-Gage
6th grade

Jesus is the reason
for the season



Fireplaces by Dan
Main St., Cass City 872-3190

We wish you all the fun this holiday brings!

SPECIAL SCENTS FLOWER SHOPPE

6459 Main St. Cass City 872-3434

Season's Greetings

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Larry Gaide Owner (517) 673-8482

George Messing Owner

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from our staff!

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PIGEON
Box 28, 44 S. Main - Pigeon, MI 48756 Tel: 517-453-3691 Fax: 517-453-3687

The innkeeper missed the greatest miracle of all time

A letter to the Keeper of the Inn

Dear Sir:

Your inn had no room for my King, so you offered what you could and housed my Savior in a stable. The stable was warm you said, and the animals would provide some company.

Why there is a Christmas

Christmas is here because Mary and Joseph had a baby named Jesus. First, an angel appeared and told Mary that she would have a baby. She was to name him Jesus. He would be the son of God.

Mary and Joseph traveled by foot and donkey. When they got to a town called Bethlehem they knocked on all the doors of the inns. All of the innkeepers said, "Sorry, we have no room." Finally, one innkeeper said, "If you want to stay in my stable, you are welcome." That night a baby was born and layed in a manger.

Soon the news had spread about Jesus' birth. Wisemen sought and found him. Soon everyone had seen Jesus. People everywhere were happy.

And that is why there is Christmas!

Wendy Errer
Owen-Gage
5th grade

But, dear sir, when you returned to your room, you missed the greatest miracle of all time. For on that Holy Night, the King of Kings was born in a manger. That manger's purpose was to feed the hungry, how wonderful for my Savior to be born there! For He would later also feed the hungry. On that night, you missed the heavenly host of angels proclaiming the birth of the newborn King. You missed the people come from world-round to adore God's child. The Child who would give them everlasting life. I do so pity you, sir, for on that night you missed the giving of God's greatest gift - his only son.

Tammy Acker
Cass City H.S.
12th grade

Holiday Spirit!

We appreciate and thank you for your patronage.

Ralph, Becky and Kim

Fort's Confectionery Store
6468 Main 872-2540

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

6544 MAIN ST. - CASS CITY 872-3445

the PAINT STORE

Thanks to our customers from Bob and Cindy Joseph and staff at the Charmont

6138 E. Cass City Rd. 872-4200

Christmas Cheer

May your season be filled to brimming with many happy holiday moments.

Copeland and Gornowicz Inc. Insurance Agency

6539 Main Cass City Phone 872-4006

Warm Wishes

Howard's Heating & Air Conditioning

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CASS CITY, MI 48726
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24 HOUR SERVICE 872-5351

Happy Holiday Friends

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

AAA Michigan

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

PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TO ALL MEN

MANY THANKS TO OUR LOYAL PATRONS WHO HAVE BEEN SO VERY KIND!

A Joyous Christmas

SUBWAY
WE BAKE OUR BREAD FRESH DAILY 872-4373
CASS CITY

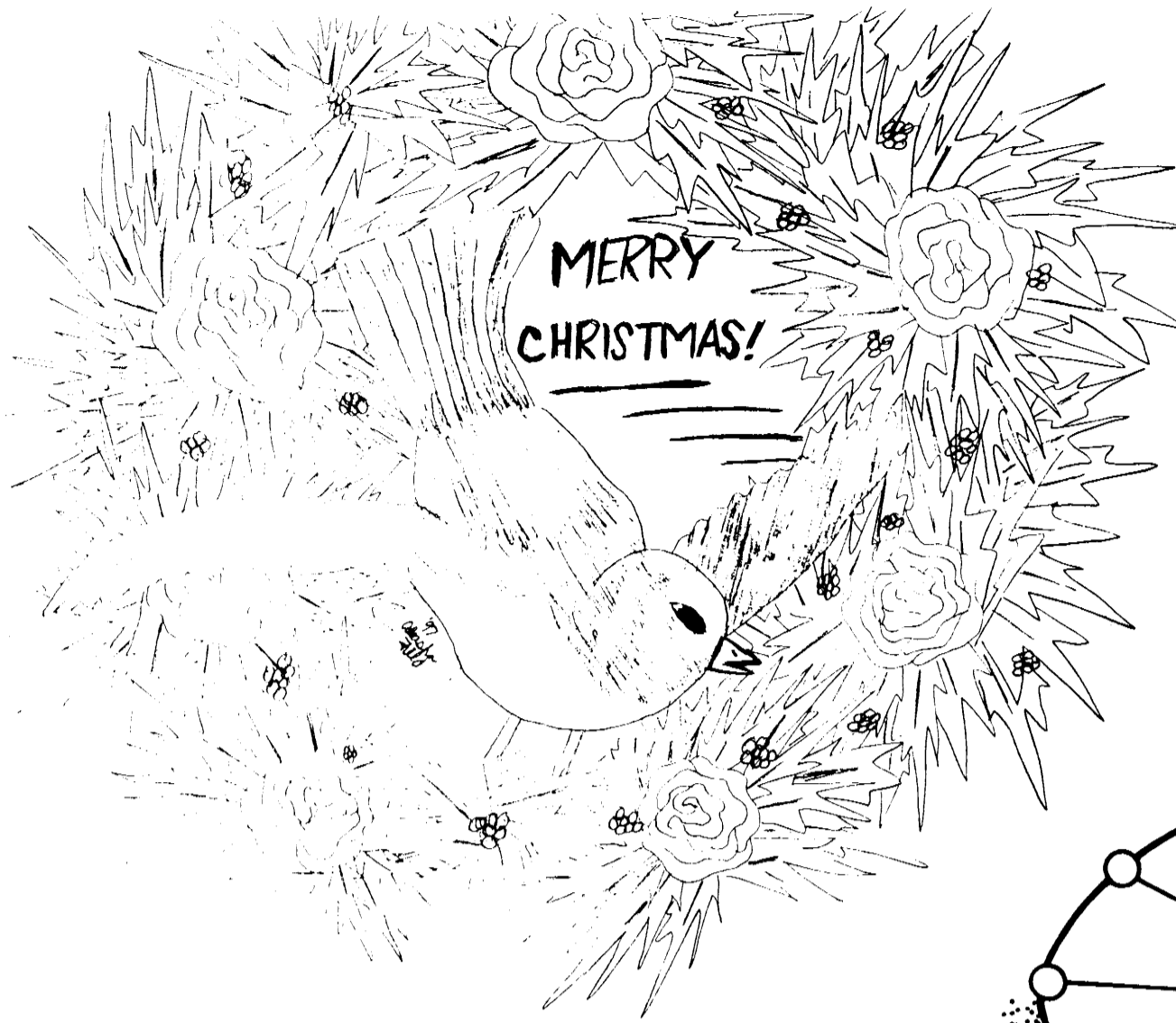
People's Choice Market
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WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

From everyone at...

CASS CITY OIL & GAS

CALL TODAY! (517) 872-2055 (517) 872-5351



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

Luke 2:10-11

American
MATTRESS & FURNITURE CO.

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Dennis and Bunny Porter would like to say Happy Holidays to everyone and a special Thank You to everyone that made our first month in business so great! We hope you will continue to visit us now and then as we will be changing almost as much as our Michigan weather. Again Thank You and have a safe and happy holiday.

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9:00-6:00
Sundays noon-4:00

Alcasha Field, 10th grade

Tommy made it a very Merry Christmas

To Give and Receive...

Though it was only November tenth, everyone's minds in New York were on Christmas-especially Tommy Sutherland's. All year he had wished for a Mighty Man Turbo Edition with Laser Gun attachment. Alas, Tommy was just an eight year old orphan who lived on the street. His intelligence, though, was as sharp as any eight year old. For you see, he made an effort to go to school and learn like the other children. So, like the other children, he also learned of the Mighty Man Turbo Edition with Laser Gun attachment and ever since had wanted it. Maybe because it was every eight year old's perfect toy, or maybe he could use it to impress his peers. If he had it, it might be enough to make up for his scabby looks and lack of money. It might be enough to get him a friend.

Tommy knew that if he wanted that toy, he was going to have to get it himself. He couldn't depend on his parents - he didn't even know where they were. Equally, he couldn't depend on Santa because, for all he knew, Santa was a dead-beat just like his parents (only in a red suit). So Tommy quickly came to the conclusion that if he ever wanted to shoot the Mighty Laser Gun, he would have to work to earn the \$29.95.

Tommy lay there, thinking in his box. "I have so much snow on my face. I could shovel it off," he chuckled to himself. Then, like the snowflakes that hit his face, so did an idea. "Wait, that's it!" he proclaimed to no one in particular. "I'll shovel snow for some money and before you know it, I'll have more money than Mighty Man can shoot at with his Laser Gun attachment."

After Tommy had his master plan, all he needed to do was to get started. It was very hard at first because no one knew him, nor the service he offered. But over time, Tommy acquired more and more customers. They were stopping him in the street asking, "Are you that kid who doesn't charge much but does a great job?" Tommy would answer with a modest nod. People all over wanted him to shovel their steps or sidewalks, and with every job well done, his savings would increase "two-bits."

Then, on Christmas Eve, he finally had enough money to buy himself the perfect toy. With his shovel still in hand, he marched down to the store and, trying to hold back a smile, told the clerk "I would like to buy the Mighty Man Turbo Edition with Laser Gun attachment."

"All righty then," the clerk said, "that'll be \$29.95. Would you like that gift wrapped?"

Tommy pondered this for a moment. Even though it wasn't for someone else, he still wanted it wrapped - for himself. So he answered, "Um...yes please."

Now his dream was reality and his tired legs ran him and his new gift all the way home. Once there, he placed his gift to himself underneath his twig tree and tried to go to sleep. However, he was so excited he couldn't sleep! So, to tire himself, he grabbed his tree in one hand and his gift in the other and walked around his neighborhood. Just as he was about to turn back he came across a young boy, even younger than himself, sleeping in an alley. He looked at the boy and thought of his life. He thought of all those Christmases when he had awakened and nothing was different from the night before. He thought of how he had to give in to "charity" and go to the Salvation Army for Christmas. All he got there was old things and bad memories. He hadn't wanted either, and he knew that neither did this kid.

So, he looked at the toy in his right hand, still wrapped with the laser gun unshot. Then he looked in his heart and he saw himself leaving his tree and gift for this boy. He followed his heart, and left the toy under the tree where it would be the first thing the boy saw when he opened his eyes. As he walked away, he felt himself wanting to cry, laugh, or run back and take the toy. But he didn't - he just kept walking and humming to the tune of "Jingle Bells."

The next morning he was awakened by the sound of a young boy running through the streets screaming, "Look, look everyone! Santa got me a Mighty Man Turbo Edition with Laser Gun attachment! This is the best Christmas ever!"

Tommy smiled, and even though it was only 15 degrees, he felt warmer than he had all year.

Nick Warack
Owen-Gage H.S.
9th grade

May Your Holidays Be Bright!

From all of us at

QUAKER MAID DAIRY

Cass City 872-4600

Merry Christmas from all of us at

McMahan's Auto Supply

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Buy \$20⁰⁰ worth of merchandise off this flyer and get an official Auto Value Hockey Stick for **Only \$9⁹⁹**

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HAPPY HOLIDAY FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS!

The Village of Cass City would like to thank its council, employees, boards and the community for their support in 1997 and to wish them Happy Holidays!

Be sure to pick up your red ribbon at the Village Hall and support the "Don't Drink and Drive" campaign thru the holidays

HAPPY HOLIDAY FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

OSENTOSKI REALTY

AND AUCTIONEERING

Call 872-4377

Christmas Blessings

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

United Hospice Service
1-800-635-7490
"Licensed through Marlette Community Hospital"

Santa Letters



Drew Guinther

Dear Santa,

I'd like a road grader, a coyote puppet, a pedal truck and a slinky. If the truck doesn't fit down the chimney maybe you could park your reindeer on the lawn and come through the front door. I'll be listening for you if you need me to unlock the door. Tell the elves thanks for the train!
Merry Christmas.

Love,
Drew Guinther, 5

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas



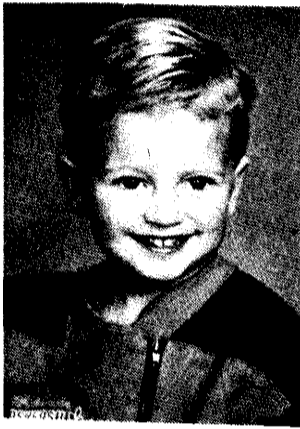
Paul Dzielinski

Dear Santa,

I would like a Giga Pet, a hockey stick, helmet and gloves, and a Tycos battery charger.
A new RC car would be nice and caps for my cap gun.

Thank you for everything you bring.

Love,
Paul Dzielinski
Cass City



Spencer Guinther

Dear Santa,

I want a trencher/backhoe, a slinky and a talking Bubba for Christmas. I want something else too, but I'm not sure what it is. Maybe a dalmatian chair. You pick for me.

I love you Santa.

Spencer Guinther, 2 1/2



Nicholle Alizabeth Hartel

Dear Santa,

I already told you at the mall what I wanted for Christmas, but Mama said I should write you a letter anyway.

I'd really like more babies to play with. I'd also like bottles, blankets and other things to go with my babies.

I've been really good this year even though sometimes I talk a lot.

Nicholle Hartel, 2 1/2

Christmas time is here

Christmas is filled with happiness and joys. It brings lots of toys. Christmas is a time of fun. A time without the sun. Snow on the ground. People all around. There are songs of tears, and songs of cheers. There was laughter in the air. Santa rushing everywhere. Lights are blinking. Bells are clinking. It surely proves. Christmas time is here.

Lisa Glaza
Cass City H.S.
9th grade

After Christmas Sale including Christmas Cards, Christmas Items All 1/2 Off

DISCIPLESHIP FAMILY BOOK STORE & CHRISTIAN SUPPLIES
Serving the Body of Christ
672-5005



Dance of the Candy Fairy (Nutcracker Suite)

Andrea Gohsman, 10th grade

Snowflakes are angels' kisses

SNOWFLAKES

Snowflakes are Angels' kisses,

The cool wet lace upon your face brings a smile.

Snowflakes are Angels' kisses,

Everyone, big and small frolics in their presence.

Snowflakes are Angels' kisses,

They sparkle and shimmer like a child's eyes.

Snowflakes are Angels' kisses,

They send you walking, they start you talking.

Snowflakes are Angels' kisses,

They are as diverse as the human race.

Snowflakes are Angels' kisses,

Mandy Chappel
Cass City H.S.
11th grade

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

S.H. RAYTHATHA, M.D., P.C.
(Dr. Ray)
4672 HILL STREET
CASS CITY, MI 48726
872-5010

Merry Christmas

We thank all of our patrons for the many years of business and we hope to continue to serve you at our downtown Caro location.

Happy New Year

McConkey Jewelry & Gift Shop
672-2070 N. State St. Caro

Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season

Rich Ypma LUTC
6703 Main Street
Cass City, MI 48726
Phone: 872-4326

from your Farm Bureau Insurance Agent

Merry Christmas from Dr. deBeaubien and Dr. Pankratz and the staff

Brian deBeaubien, M.D.
"WE WISH YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY"
Cass City 872-4320

Douglas Pankratz, M.D.
Bad Axe 269-3002

Parkway Manor and

PARKWAY DRIVE-THRU

wish to extend joyous holiday greetings to all of the Cass City Community

6703 Main St. 872-5448

Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

FROM THE WHOLE GANG AT MR. CHIPS

Lisa Kotenko
Jenny Chrzan
Heidi Cook
Mike Missovich
Angie Eckert
Suzanne Humpert

Mr. Chips Food Store
"BACK TO THE 50'S"
6553 Main St. Cass City, MI 48726 872-5688

Missing: Laura Wilson

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