

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 95, NUMBER 39

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2001

FIFTY CENTS

EIGHTEEN PAGES



FIRE GUTTED the Delbert Mathewson residence on Kingston Road, just south of Deford, Friday afternoon. There were no injuries and the family is insured.

No one injured Friday.

Blaze guts Deford home

There's never a good time for a house fire, but the loss of home is especially difficult during the holidays.

Still, Delbert Mathewson is counting his blessings after flames gutted his Kingston Road residence, about 1 1/4 miles south of Deford Friday afternoon.

"The family was out. That's the main thing," said Mathewson, who resided at the home along with his wife, Amy, and the couple's

children, Jean Luc, 5, Samantha, 4, Victoria, 3, and William, 2.

Mathewson said relatives, community members, friends and co-workers were quick to respond to his family's needs. "We've gotten a lot of support already. We've had a couple of churches out already," he added. "It's been non-stop phone calls and traffic in the driveway. We're going

through so many boxes of clothes right now."

Kingston fire fighters were called to the scene at 3:21 p.m. Mathewson was at work at Rochester Gear, Clifford, at the time, and his family had also left the house to do some shopping.

Kingston Fire Chief Larry Ross said a wood stove in the home is suspected to be the cause of the blaze. He described the house as a total

loss, but said no dollar figure is available yet.

The Mathewson family is insured. They are temporarily living with Delbert's mother, Delores, at her residence just north of the Mathewson home.

Ross said fire fighters remained at the scene for about 4 hours. Kingston firemen were assisted by the Elkland Township and Marlette fire departments.

Council says "no" to pool funding

Cass City Village Council members lauded the efforts of a committee in charge of raising donations for construction of a new indoor pool, but declined to support the project financially Monday night.

Committee members Kelly Smith and Bob Tuckey approached the council with a request to kick in \$30,000 a year for 7 years, or about 30 percent of the maintenance costs for the pool starting in 2003.

At this point, Smith explained, the committee is

some \$400,000 short of its fundraising goal. He added the committee was hoping to secure additional support from the school district as well as the village in order to take advantage of some \$750,000 in anonymous and foundation pledges, which will expire at the end of December.

The issue became a moot one Monday night when school officials declined to guarantee a loan for the project (see related story).

Council members indicated they could not support the

project at this time.

The council just spent 2 months trimming its own proposed budget, Trustee Kathy Kropewnicki said, adding she feels it would be irresponsible to spend \$30,000 a year on a new pool.

Other council members, including Village President Les Karr and Trustee Don Ball, expressed concerns that if the village contributed, residents would be "double dipped" because tax dollars from both the village and school would be spent on the project.

Still, Trustee Dale McIntosh said, the pool committee deserves a lot of credit for all of its hard work.

BUDGET

Turning to other matters, Village Manager Frank Sheridan presented a proposed 2002 spending plan with general fund expenditures of \$1.362 million and revenues totaling \$1.359 million.

The budget, which represents a planned spending increase of about \$85,000, or about 6.6 percent over actual estimated 2001 expenditures, relies on a small fund balance subsidy of just over \$3,000, leaving a fund balance of \$387,651 at the end of the fiscal year.

Combined with all funds,

village spending in 2002 is projected at nearly \$3.63 million, an increase of about 3.3 percent over 2001.

Budget projects are based on a state equalized valuation (SEV) of all real and personal property in the village of \$55,498,630.

Water and sewer rates will each increase by 5 percent based on a schedule approved by the council in December 1997. Tax rates, however, will remain the same at a combined 18.5 mills - 12.5 mills for general operations, 3.5 mills for streets and 2.5 mills for debt retirement.

Sheridan noted pay-off of the sewer debt service is expected to take place in December 2002, some 16 years ahead of schedule.

Also unchanged will be current staffing levels, although the council approved a salary increase of 2.8 percent across the board for full-time village employees.

Village officials initially trimmed the budget in an effort to offset some revenue losses as well as to prepare for future expenses.

For example, officials had anticipated an increase in population, based on the most recent census figures, to translate into additional state dollars. However, Sheridan said the current state deficit will actually result in Cass City receiving

Please turn to page 9.

It's over

Indoor pool project drowns as school rejects loan guarantee

It's over. There will be no indoor swimming pool built at Cass City Schools.

Pool Committee Chairman Ed Fox acknowledged regretfully that the year-long campaign and outstanding fund raising effort went down the drain when the Cass City School Board voted not to guarantee a loan of some \$400,000 that was needed to bring the pool to the school and the community.

The actual motion that sounded the death knell for the project came when Dave Knight's motion to reaffirm the district's promise to pay up to \$100,000 for maintenance and to give Durant funds to help construction was passed.

Knight said that he wanted the some \$12,000 a year to go to the fund to show sup-

port for the project. Actually the \$12,000 is mere window dressing and will never be paid if Fox is correct when he said without a loan guarantee the pool will never be built.

Knight's motion passed by a 5-2 vote. Voting no for diametrically opposite reasons were Randy Severance and Theresa Rabideau. Severance voted no because he didn't want to see Durant funds given to the pool fund. Rabideau wanted better support for the project. As a member of the pool committee, she realized that without school help it was impossible to build a pool.

In the discussion, trustee Danny Hagg said that he didn't feel the community was behind the project, a position that was seconded

by President James Turner.

Trustee Michelle Biddinger pointed out what the pool could mean to the community in the years ahead and appeared ready to support a financial aid program.

Supt. Ken Micklash said that as a finance officer he didn't feel it was prudent for the school to take on a financial obligation of a possible \$400,000. Principal Dorland Kuntz said that he believed building a pool could jeopardize the education of the students in the future. Fox presented figures that he believed the committee could raise to reduce the deficit to \$196,107.

With the vote, a magnificent fund raising effort by the pool committee and the outstanding support of many

supporters who contributed \$423,451.72 are lost. Together with the \$500,000 anonymous grant and another \$350,000 from the Pinney Foundation a total of over \$1.27 million was available for the project.

Everyone agreed that the school will never have another opportunity to build a pool as cheaply in the future.

OTHER BUSINESS

By a 4-3 vote the board authorized a waiver on the attendance policy for Josh Wark who will miss more than the 9 days of school allowed without penalty. His mother, Kim Wark explained that the absences were for him to investigate schools where

Please turn to page 9.

Hartel: ruling will cause some headaches

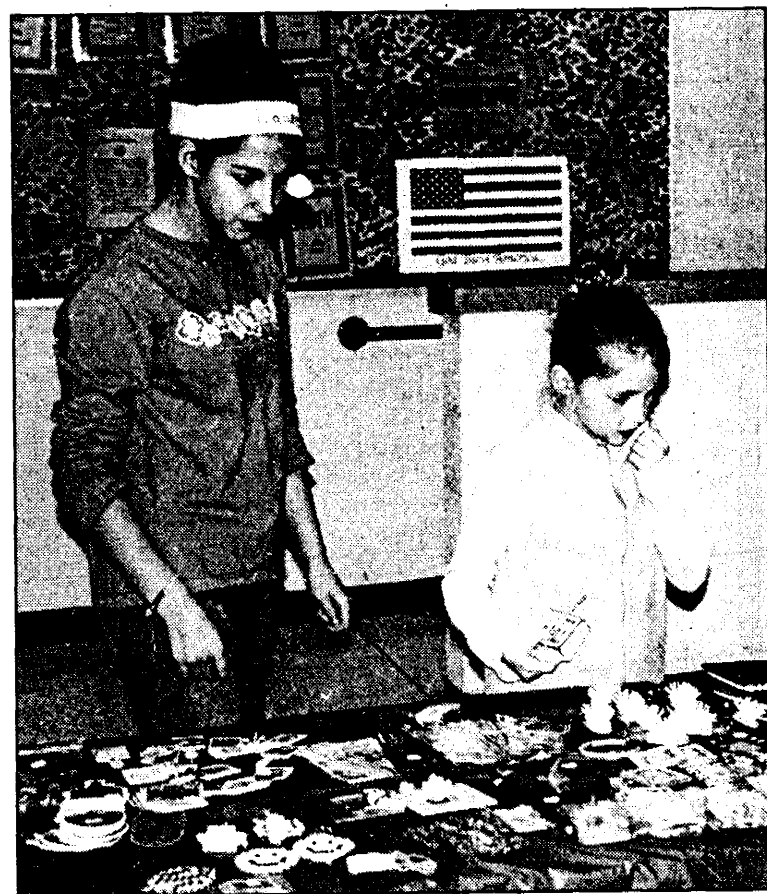
Cass City Athletic Director Jeff Hartel can see at least 2 major problems for the school if the United States Federal District Court decision establishing the same season for boys and girls sports is not overturned by appeal.

The decision, announced Monday by Judge Richard Ensen, marked the end of the trial phase of legal proceedings in a 3 1/2-year-old court case in which he required the Michigan High School Athletic Association to force the public, private and parochial schools in its state-wide membership to change the time of the year when they conduct sports seasons. An appeal of Judge Ensen's decision will be filed with the Sixth Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, Ohio. In essence it means that boys and girls will be required to play each sport in the same season. The case was filed because a parent thought it better for the players to receive college scholarships if the boys and girls played basketball in the same season.

Hartel's concerns are finding a way to schedule all the events and finding gym time for practices. Each of the boys and girls teams has 3 games nightly and play twice a week, that's 12 games a week for basketball alone. In addition there is wrestling and gymnastics.

The second problem will be securing coaches. In Cass City, he pointed out, Chuck Reed coaches both boys and girls soccer teams. Coaches

Please turn to page 9.



SANTA'S SECRET Workshop kicked off Monday night without a hitch at Cass City Middle School, where dozens of youngsters purchased special gifts for everyone on their lists. Above, volunteer Lauren Brzuchowski, an eighth grade student, lends a hand to Brooke Hartwick, 8, of Cass City. Below, several other helper elves did their part by wrapping each gift with care and a smile.



Holbrook Area News

Mrs. Thelma Jackson
Phone 658-2347



EUCHRE CLUB

The Euchre Club met for a potluck dinner at noon Saturday at the home of Thelma Jackson. Cards were played and high prizes were won by Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Decker. Low prizes were won by Mrs. Martin Sweeney and Ronnie Gracey. Mrs. Leonard Beulla won the traveling prize.

The next party will be Jan. 12 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Beulla.

Al Peruski of Parisville, Ron Wolschlager, Allen Farrelly and Jim Lewis met at McDonald's in Bad Axe for breakfast Wednesday morning.

Allen and Alice Depcinski attended the Uhly Elementary School Christmas program Wednesday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rumpitz and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson were Monday supper and evening guests of Thelma Jackson.

Bryce and Betty Hagen visited Donelda Meske at the Harbor Beach Long Term Care Tuesday.

Bob Cleland of Waterford spent from Sunday until Tuesday with Mrs. Alex Cleland and Carol Laming and was a Monday evening guest of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wallace.

Thirteen members of the Traveling Breakfast Club met at The Peppermill Thursday morning for breakfast.

They will meet at McDonald's Food and Family Deli next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rumpitz, Marie Grifka and Thelma Jackson were Thursday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson for cake and ice cream for Mrs. Bob Jackson's birthday.

Ray and Rita Depcinski went to the Franklin Inn in Bad Axe for dinner Sunday and later were afternoon and supper guests of Dean and Nancy Carpenter and family in Caro.

Allen Farrelly visited Dan Franzel at the Huron Medical Care Facility in Bad Axe Wednesday and Friday.

Bryce and Betty Hagen attended the grandchildren's Uhly Elementary School Christmas Program Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Horton were Monday evening guests of Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Hendrick were Sunday afternoon guests of Thelma Jackson.

Ed Schember, Ron Wolschlager, Allen Farrelly, and Jim Lewis met at McDonald's in Bad Axe Friday morning.

Rita Depcinski attended the Over 50 Club potluck Christmas dinner at Oswald Hall Tuesday. Gifts were exchanged.

Edith Jackson visited Mrs. Curtis Cleland Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Bell, Lauren and Katelynn of Cheboygan spent the weekend with Jim and Kay Sweeney.

EXTENDED HOME MAKERS

Fourteen members of the Greenleaf Extended Homemakers met at the home of Erma Van Tool for a Christmas potluck lunch. A short meeting was held and a gift was brought for a child at the Crisis Center. Santa came and brought a gift for everyone.

Geraldine Laming will be hostess for the next meeting.

Christmas services scheduled

Christmas worship services are slated at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church beginning Dec. 23 with the Christmas cantata, "The Advent of Hope, The Birth of Peace", presented by the adult and junior choirs Sunday, Dec. 23, at 9:30 a.m.

That evening, the children's Christmas program, "The Christmas Surprise", is set for 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve services are at 7:30 and Christmas Day at 9:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve service is at 7:30 p.m. Members of the community are invited to attend these services.

Pawelski Owen-Gage 'student of month'



Amy Pawelski

Amy Pawelski has been named Owendale-Gagetown Schools' "Senior Student of the Month" for December.

Pawelski has participated in various sports during high school such as basketball, volleyball and softball.

As a freshman at Pinconning Schools, Pawelski did volunteer work with their elementary students. During her sophomore year at Owen-Gage, Pawelski participated in band and received the "Good Dawg" Award. She served as class secretary her junior year and was named a "Focus" Student of the Month.

Pawelski has been on the honor roll each year since she has been at Owen-Gage. She was a homecoming representative her sophomore year and a homecoming queen candidate as a senior. She has been a member of the school newspaper and yearbook staff the past 2 years and currently serves as the yearbook editor and also serves as a teacher's aide.

Pawelski is the daughter of Dawn Groulx and step-father, Don Dorsch, of Owendale. She has enlisted in the U.S. Army and will report to Fort Jackson in South Carolina for basic training after graduation.

Sr. Citizens' Menu

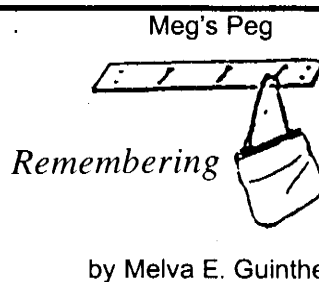
Senior Citizens are asked to make reservations before 8:30 a.m. on the day of the meal, by calling Lois Remsing, 989-872-5089. The dining center is located at 6106 Beechwood St. (K of C Hall), Cass City.

Dec. 26-28

Closed Dec. 24 and 25 for Christmas.

Wednesday - Hamburger on a bun, fruit salad, peas, pudding.

Friday - Swiss steak, baked potatoes, broccoli, fruit.



Remembering

by Melva E. Guinther

One of the most familiar greetings as you approach the holidays is "Are you ready for Christmas?"

Getting ready for Christmas can mean different things, depending largely upon family traditions. Some do very little, maybe buy a few gifts and put up a tree. Others go all out with decorations, baking, entertaining, etc.

Regardless of how you do it, psychologists tell us that observing traditions is important to the emotional health of family members.

It's particularly important in light of what happened to our country Sept. 11.

That ugly attack shook us to the core. It made us question our freedom and safety as never before. Things like that just don't happen here in America, and the fact that it did leaves us with the need to cling to something familiar, something that doesn't change.

Aside from 9/11, preparing for Christmas, getting out the old familiar ornaments and decorations, inevitably leads one to think about the changes that have taken place since they were put away the previous year.

As I hang the old gold bell in the doorway for the umpteenth year, I remember lifting our kids up so they could pull the clapper and hear it play "Silent Night." Now our grandchildren get lifted up, and soon our oldest won't even need a boost. We'll miss that bell when it eventually wears out.

Our family has undergone some drastic changes since the bell was packed away last year, not the least of which is my husband's stroke last spring. That changed all of our lives dramatically. Carrying out Christmas as usual will be a test of our faith and flexibility.

We're going to be a bit more crowded when the family comes home this year. We've converted the room where the Christmas tree used to stand to a bedroom, since climbing stairs is a challenge.

Our house is pretty big, but like so many older homes, it's divided up into a lot of small rooms and all the bedrooms are upstairs.

I wasn't sure where we were going to put the tree until our daughter used her engineering skills and rearranged some furniture to make a place in the dining room.

Now our California grandparents are concerned about whether there will be room for the presents. I'm sure we'll find the necessary space, but their wish for tons of snow, which they reveled in last Christmas, may go unfulfilled this year.

Other serious changes for

the family since last year include our son-in-law losing his father in August, and more recently our daughter-in-law's grandmother passed away.

On the plus side, there's the unexpected and delightful addition to the family of granddaughter Gretchen, who was born last May.

There were concerns about her health and well being during the pregnancy, but she arrived not only healthy, but the most beautiful girl baby that ever came upon the scene. (I'm sure we're not biased in believing this.)

So in spite of suffering setbacks and unforeseen difficulties, we are blessed. Blessed to have our family together again at Christmas to love, laugh and live the traditions that have made Christmas what it is at our house.

One of the usual Christmas preparations fell by the wayside. We didn't send cards this year, so I'll take this opportunity to express our sentiments.

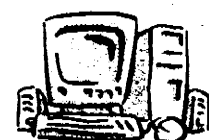
May you have a blessed, happy holiday that will give you many happy memories to recall next year, and may we all remember the Reason for the season.

New books at the library

John Hedgecoe's New Book of Photography (nonfiction): Covering all the ingredients necessary for taking perfect pictures, a professional photographer offers a behind-the-scenes look at photographic processes, techniques, and new computer technologies.

Digital Wizardry: Creative Photoshop Techniques by Bryan Allen (nonfiction): An idea book written for photographers and other creative people who want to learn the Photoshop program or improve their current skills in it. The book focuses on the creative process involved in producing stand-alone images.

Basic Scanning guide for Photographers and Other Creative People by Rob Sheppard (nonfiction): Scanners, features and basic techniques for their use are covered, from preparing images and adjusting resolution to manipulating scanned images and working with different formats.



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Holiday Happenings

at
Cass City United Methodist Church
5100 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City
1 1/4 miles north of stoplight
872-3422

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m.
Blessing of the Animals
(All animals except goldfish need to be either on a leash or in a cage.) This service is geared toward children but it is open to the families in our community and their pets.

7:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
Services of Communion and Candlelighting
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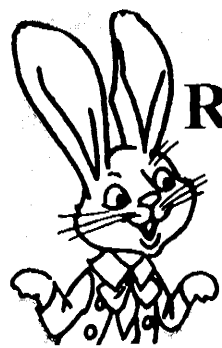
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Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Business is good at the post office and Cass City's postal chief, Stacey Middleton, says that business is up about 10 percent over last year.

It would be understandable if there were some delays in delivery as it's estimated that the Saginaw distribution center, in which all Thumb mail is processed, was expected to handle 800,000 pieces of mail Monday.

However, Stacey said, as busy as we have been at our office we have processed all mail when received with the help of our delivery staff that has done a great job.

The postal crew is one of a very few that will operate Christmas Day. We'll make delivery that day on priority and express mail, Stacey explained.

A veteran hunter we know was out near his home in Midland last week. He was after deer and found some tracks which were expected. What was not expected was the number of coyote tracks he saw. There just had to be about a dozen to make the tracks I saw in one spot, he maintained. More tracks than the total number I have seen in my life and that includes hunting out west, he said.

Are the coyotes increasing in the Thumb? Give us a call if you have found them more numerous than other years. We will pass it on in this column of trivia.

The Chronicle will be on the streets at its usual time Wednesday next week, and mail subscribers will receive their paper Thursday. The same schedule will be followed for the paper published before New Year's.

Seminar set Dec. 19

Huron Medical Center, Bad Axe, is hosting a seminar on "Bioterrorism-Risk & Threat and Hospital Preparedness" Dec. 19. Speaker will be Tony Rich, EMS Liaison, from Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo. This program is open to all healthcare workers, police, fire, and EMS personnel. Two sessions will be offered from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and

from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person and will be held at the Huron County Expo Center, 170 W. Soper Rd., Bad Axe. Refreshments will be served and seating is limited.

To register, please call the Huron Medical Center at 989-269-9521. Class size is limited.

BASEBALL HOLIDAY BOTTLE DRIVE

Second Annual
Cass City High School
Baseball Bottle Drive
Saturday, January 5, 2002

All proceeds will go to the
Cass City Baseball program.
YOU CAN HELP

by saving your returnable
bottles and cans over
the holidays.

All varsity and junior varsity
players are asked to participate.
The Booster Club, parents
and other volunteers will be
providing help.

The drive will be conducted from
Jim Turner's house. If you wish
to request a pick-up or make a
donation, please

call **872-2474**

or contact a player, coach or
Booster Club member.

In Novesta Township

Enforcement of junk ordinance is working

Enforcement of a junk ordinance is yielding results in Novesta Township.

Township Supervisor Ronold Palmer gave the Township Board a general update on enforcement efforts targeting several viola-

tors during a recent monthly meeting, according to township Clerk Karen Mozden.

"Two parties have conformed to the ordinance. Three individuals were taken to court and the judge ruled in favor of the township."

Employees raise cash for Alison

Employees from Independent Bank East Michigan held a "Casual Because We Care Day" to raise money for a local student who is battling cancer.

Alison Emmert, a sophomore at Cass City High School, has been diagnosed with Sarcoma, a rare type of cancer that attacks the bone marrow.

In November, Independent Bank employees and customers worked together to raise money for her treatment and battle against this horrible disease. Employees who made a donation to the program were able to dress casually for the day. Their efforts raised over \$500.

Each month, Independent Bank East Michigan holds a "Casual Because We Care Day" to raise awareness, interest, and funds for various national and community causes. The program originated more than 10 years ago at Independent Bank, and it continues to be a highly regarded employee program. In November, the Cass City office employees chose which cause their efforts would benefit.

"I am proud to see the amount of support from our

customers, employees, and members of the community for Alison," said Ron Long, president and CEO of Independent Bank East Michigan. "We wish the best to her during her courageous fight against cancer."

The
Haire
Net



The Tuscola County United Way drive is underway and you're forgiven if you forgot all about it. After the original story appeared several weeks ago nothing more was heard until last week when a solicitation by mail came to our house.

It almost made it to file 13 before it was resurrected and details of this year's drive examined. The goal for the entire county is \$65,000.

I couldn't help comparing this year's impersonal fund drive with that staged each year when it was headed by local people for mostly local projects.

It was first called the Elkland-Novesta Community Chest and later Novesta was dropped from the name. Call it what you will, it was a very effective fund-raising group. In 1996-7 and 1997-8 the drive raised \$45,000.

Certainly part of this success was due to the cooperation of local industry which was booming. A good many workers agreed to a payroll deduction.

But long before that the Elkland chest drive had posted an exemplary record and the community took pride in boasting that the fund drive never failed to meet its goal.

There may have been a few mail solicitations in those years, but the drive never depended on them.

It was a community drive and the community backed it and worked to make it go. Each fall the drive started with a community dinner sponsored by the family owned Pinney State Bank and the family owned Cass City State Bank.

Volunteers were feted and given assigned routes to ask for donations. The workers took the pledge cards and made personal calls to practically every household and business in the community.

A large thermometer was placed on the corner of Main and Seeger Streets to record the progress.

In its early days the Chest drive was billed as one donation for all worthwhile charities. It started that way, but it didn't last. The more recognizable charities such

Mozden reported, noting the residents at one location were sentenced to 7 months probation and ordered to clean up their property within 6 months. The other parties, she said, are awaiting sentencing.

In other business, the board: *Learned that letters are being sent out to individuals who have not paid fees owed for fire runs in the township.

*Noted the search is on for an individual willing to serve on the Novesta Township Board of Review for a one-year term. Anyone interested is asked to contact Mozden at 872-2373.

*Adopted a resolution naming Thumb National Bank as the township's financial institution.

as the Red Cross, March of Dimes, etc., refused to participate because they made more with their own drives than a share of what the United Way gave them.

That hurt the local effort and was one of the reasons why the fall drive is no longer a community happening.

Equally as important is the change in the community. Most businesses were locally owned and the population varied little from year to year. It's hard to imagine finding 50-plus persons today willing to do what the volunteers did then.

That's too bad, but that's the way it is and there's no chance, no chance at all, that it will change. The drive will never have the local impact and significance that it did when we went at it full tilt all by ourselves.



The back forty

by Roger Pond

© 2000 Roger Pond

Amid all of our preparations for the holidays, folks should pause for a moment and consider what we are doing to the children. Do we want them to grow up to be well-adjusted adults, or should they have to suffer like the rest of us?

Can the children of today survive the stress of living up to the traditions we are foisting upon them? Can they continue to open piles of presents on Christmas Eve and even larger heaps of goodies the next morning?

Will there be enough turkeys in the world 20 years from now to feed all of the families who want to cook a 40-pounder each holiday? These are sobering questions.

Responsible parents should understand their children are subjected to a double-hit of holiday traditions from both sides of the family. There is no way they can open presents Christmas Eve, eat a ham at Grandma's on Christmas Day, and be back home to roast a lamb for the evening meal. Something has to go!

We have traditionalized our holidays to the point where we need to split things up and assign each person a tradition — just to be sure everything gets done.

We could take the custom of roasting a turkey for example. This became traditional when the pilgrims survived their first harvest and wanted to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. It had nothing to do with Christmas.

Old history books say the pilgrims invited their Indian friends to the first Thanksgiving dinner. This was a good thing, because these were the Indians' turkeys the pilgrims were roasting.

The pilgrims also bought cranberries to this dinner and made the Indians eat some of them. This led to considerable animosity between the white man and Native Americans in later years.

After the Iroquois refused to attend any more of these dinners, someone decided it

would be a good idea to roast a turkey at Grandma's house instead. This way Grandma would have to furnish the turkey.

Soon it was learned many families had 2 Grandmas, and they would have to roast a turkey at one Grandma's for Thanksgiving and another at the other Grandma's for Christmas. This didn't solve the problem, but it led to considerable conversation.

No one suspected the effect holiday traditions were having upon the girl children. These young grandmas-in-training began to feel some-

how responsible for roasting a turkey for each holiday and got real upset if they didn't. So now we have folks roasting turkeys at the drop of a hat.

Today, with girl children comprising more than half the population, we have a real problem on our hands. This country has a stockpile of leftovers like you wouldn't believe.

What can we do to break this traditional guilt trip? I don't know about you, but I'm going to roast a quail for Christmas. It may not be traditional, but I only have to eat it once.

The Weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	47	22	.0
Wednesday	47	34	.22"
Thursday	48	35	.05"
Friday	40	30	.53"
Saturday	38	29	.0
Sunday	40	34	.19"
Monday	41	35	.09"

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

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Tickets are only \$10.00 apiece... or three for just \$25.00!!
Only 1250 tickets will be sold!

All proceeds to benefit charitable activities in the Cass City area.

Tickets and contest details available **now** from:
Cass City Lions Club... **Book Mart/Hawthorn Mart...**
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Please direct ticket inquiries/credit card orders to:
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bookmart@casscity.net

The contest winner will be determined on Monday
April the First, (no foolin'), 2002....

Good Luck...

The Cass City Lions Club
"Serving the Needs of the Cass City Area"
(989) 872 2075



We Serve



Cass City Public Schools PROGRESS IN EDUCATION

from the desk of Ken Micklash, Superintendent

Inclement Weather Information for Parents

Though we have been blessed with some wonderful weather lately, this is still Michigan, and things are bound to change sooner or later. As I have reported in the past, canceling or not canceling school is sometimes a no-win situation. Our school district's area is large and covers approximately 200 square miles. One part of our district, at times, can have snow or fog while other parts may be fine.

On days in question, regarding the opening or possible early closing of schools, I suggest you listen to one of the listed radio or television stations. Early morning decisions to close school will be made before buses are dispatched for the morning runs around 6:00 a.m., if possible.

Radio Stations

WKYO-AM 13.60 Caro
WLEW-AM 14.30 Bad Axe
WMIC-AM 6.60 Sandusky
WHNN-FM 96.1 Saginaw
WIOG-FM 102.5 Saginaw

TV Stations

WNEW TV-5 Bay City
WJRT TV-12 Flint

A final important piece of information for parents who have children riding our buses, is that our school has a staff member monitoring the bus radios each day until all the buses return. If your child's bus is late, it is most likely due to the weather or a mechanical problem. Keep this number handy - 872-4151. This is the number to call in the afternoon to find out information about late buses.

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

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For information regarding newspaper
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Down Memory Lane

From the files of the Chronicle

5YEARSAGO

Six persons are seeking the \$5,500-a-year fire chief job. They are Paul Fent, Dan Gee, Janet Hurley, Ross McCallum, Ron Pawloski and Mike Stec. All of the candidates serve on the Cass City department with the exception of Fent, who is chief of the Elmwood-Gagetown Fire Department.

Sanilac County Veteran's Affairs Director Harley W. Rich Sr. was notified Friday morning that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall will be coming to the Thumb in 1997.

A new screen at the Cass Theatre has been recently installed, replacing a 14-year-old screen. The project, costing an estimated \$2,000, complements new "surround sound" stereo and new projection equipment already in place at the local theatre.

Owen-Gage School Supt. Manuel Thies along with another local resident, Ron Jamieson, spent 10 days pursuing trophies in Alaska. Thies shot his best caribou of the hunt on the first day, a bull with a 30-point rack that measured more than 3 feet high and 30 inches wide. Thies shot a second bull at the end of the hunt, and Jamieson bagged a pair of bulls as well, including the best trophy of the hunt.

Work on a third water well in Cass City has begun. Layne Northern Co., Lansing, has started work on a pair of 70-foot test wells and will drill a 240-foot production well at a cost of \$45,406. The work is to be completed by May 1.

10YEARSAGO

Barring an unforeseen change in opinion before the January meeting of the Cass City School Board, the name of the Cass City Intermediate School will be changed to the Cass City Middle School.

Continued growth at Northwood Lake Condominiums in Cass City accounted for some 70 percent of new construction permits issued in the village this year.

After trailing by 17 points midway through the third quarter, the Cass City Red Hawks defeated Lakeville, 71-69, in this season's opener at Lakeville. Coach Jeff Hartel put his charges into a press that provided the impetus for a stirring comeback. Greg LeValley led all scorers with 29 points. Paul Ullig scored 23.

Scott Ackerman of Cass City is the owner of a new business in town. Ackerman's Bike Repair has opened in a newly constructed building behind the Hahn building on Main Street. He previously did his work at his home.

Cass City's Storytime display is now open for the public's enjoyment.

25YEARSAGO

Robert Rabideau's plans to expand his bumpshop on Maple Street came to a halt Wednesday night as Cass City Village Council ruled an addition to the building is a violation of Cass City's zoning ordinance.

Council gave its blessing to a request by Colonial Inn owner Don Stilson for a

dance permit. The permit would allow dancing by couples only and would not include entertainment.

Two Cass City Red Hawks have been named to the first team of the Thumb B all-conference Girls' Basketball squad. Named were Lisa Zimba and Elaine Stoutenburg. Named to the second team are Vicky Lapp and Beth Erla. Kim Witherspoon received honorable mention.

Winning prizes in the Lions Club Raffle were Nina Davis, a half of a steer; Sharon Dunn received a hindquarter, and Myrtle Rabideau received a front quarter.

Hills and Dales General Hospital Building Fund authorities announced this week the drive to raise \$500,000 to update the facility has been extended into January. Through Monday, a total of \$411,739 in gifts and pledges had been received.

35YEARSAGO

Winners in the annual Chamber of Commerce home decoration contest were announced this week. First prize of \$25 was won by Almer Kreuger. Second prize of \$15 was won by Orval Hutchinson and the third prize of \$10 went to Tim Knight. Receiving honorable mention were Mrs. Lucille Sommers and Lester Auten Sr.

It was a very merry Christmas for the family of the late Hutson McPhail of rural Cass City. The parentless family was deluged with presents from warm-hearted residents after they read about the family in a recent issue of the Chronicle.

Jim McCoy of Caro appeared before the council Tuesday night in the first step in a campaign to bring a special television cable to Cass City. McCoy said that he was planning a 12-channel system for the village. The system would be supported by users who would pay \$5 a month to hook onto the cable.

Leaving for Washington, D.C., Jan. 5, are Judy Weippert and Bonnie Weippert, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Weippert of Cass City, and Mary Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wilson of Cass City. All are graduates of Cass City High School and will be working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington.

Employees of the village submitted a written request for a substantial boost in salaries in 1967. Hourly men want a 35 cent an hour raise and salaried personnel a straight 15 percent raise. At the present time, wages for hourly rated employees range from \$1.85 to \$2.02 per hour and for salaried employees from \$105.77 to \$146 per week.

Elkland officials establish \$75 fine

Elkland Township officials are hoping a new fine will deter residents from starting building projects without first obtaining the proper permit.

The Township Board last week approved a \$75 fine for such violations, double the cost of a standard \$35 building permit. Previously, there was no fine, according to township Clerk Norma Wallace, who said officials have seen instances in which projects have been started without a permit.

"It's happened and we don't want it to happen. We're trying to nip it in the bud," she added.

In other business during the Dec. 10 monthly meeting, the board approved an appointment to the Elkland Township Board of Review. Gary Jones was appointed to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of Bob Wischmeyer, whose residency has changed. Dean Hoag will serve as an alternate for the term, which will expire in December 2002.

It's time to fill out applications

The start of a new year is quickly approaching and that means one thing. It's financial aid time again. Experts at ACT offer the following information to help families find the resources they need to complete their financial aid paperwork.

The most important form is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Beginning Jan. 1, students will be able to submit the form that determines eligibility for student financial aid from federal programs. Students will need family income statements from their 2001 earnings to complete the form. Colleges and universities also use the FAFSA, but may also require stu-

dents to fill out additional forms.

The FAFSA is available from high school counselors or at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Financial Aid tips from ACT:

- Apply early for admission and financial aid.
- Check with your college to determine if other financial aid forms are required.
- Apply for scholarships and grants.
- Look into Work Study programs.
- Surf the web for financial aid information.

Try these websites:

Financial Aid Need Estimator and financial aid information - www.act.org/fane

Free college scholarship search www.collegenet.com

The Financial Aid Information Page - www.finaid.org

The Federal Government Financial Aid Page - www.ed.gov/finaid.html

Free Application for Federal Student Aid - www.fafsa.ed.gov

Scholarship scams - www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship

For more financial aid specifics, please visit with your counselor or visit www.act.org.

Letter to the editor

School employees do a wonderful job with kids

I would like to respond to the letter to the editor written by Renate Davis. I can understand Ms. Davis being upset over the mix-up which occurred at the school involving her daughter and it is too bad that this happened; however, I am sure that the secretary felt bad for her error, just as I am sure the bus driver did. We are all humans and make mistakes.

I work at List Psychological Services for 15 therapists and we see an average of 400 clients a week. There are times it is difficult to keep track of which clients see which therapists. Yes, we make mistakes and we feel bad for those mistakes. So I can only imagine how difficult it is for a secretary to keep track of hundreds of students.

In today's society, children have different last names than their parents. They have stepparents, stepbrothers and stepsisters, etc.

Mrs. Zdrojewski does a great job knowing what children go with what parent. I am sure that she gets tons of calls a day from parents regarding their children and who's to pick up who on this day and that day. Of course she's going to make a mistake, she's human! However, I know that she cares for all the children and I am sure she felt bad for the mix-up involving Ms. Davis's child. Why must we as a society always be quick to pick out the mistakes and faults in people instead of the positive!

I was in school a few weeks ago with my son to order a T-shirt. Mrs. Zdrojewski had not seen Matt in over 2 years and yet she remembered his name and she also remembered that he would be in sixth grade. That made me feel good as a parent that she remembered my son, just as I am sure it made Matt feel good.

I also remember a time when Matt was at Campbell School and I had called to ask that he ride the bus because I had to work. Somehow the message did not get to him and he waited for me to pick him up; however, I never came. Mr. Miklovic took Matthew to his grandma's, which was over 10 miles out of town. He didn't have to offer, but he did, and I appreciated it. I could have called the school to complain about the mix-up but I realized that everyone makes mistakes and no one was harmed by this mistake.

I would hope that if someone can take the time to find fault in people, to complain, to gossip, that they could also take the time to find the good and positive in people. What's wrong with taking a moment to let someone know you appreciate his or her help, to say "thank you".

A PTA organization may be a good idea for the community, but let's remember to use it for a positive reason and not as a time to just get together and complain and find fault in our school system. Let's use it as a time to work together for the well being of our children.

So, I would like to take this time and say "thank you" to Mrs. Zdrojewski for the wonderful work that she has done. I know, as a parent, I will greatly miss her when she decides to retire (years from now!) I would also like to say thank-you to the teachers, bus drivers, and staff at Cass City Schools. You all do a great job and I, as a parent, appreciate all your hard work.

Helen St. Louis
mother of Matthew and Rachel Bartnik

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Error selected for band

Josh Error

Josh Error, a senior at Owen-Gage High School, recently was selected to participate in Central Michigan University's Honors Band. A trumpet player, Error sent in a taped audition and was selected to perform along with approximately 70 other students from throughout the state.

A concert was presented Sunday, Nov. 18, in the Recital Hall at CMU.

'Tis the...Coach Light Pharmacy

7 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS SALE

ALL Christmas merchandise and ALL GIFTS are on sale with savings getting better as Christmas draws near.

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Tuesday, December 18	Wednesday, December 19	Thursday, December 20
15% off	20% off	25% off
Friday, December 21	Saturday, December 22	Sunday, December 23
30% off	35% off	Closed
Monday, December 24	Tuesday, December 25	
40% off	MERRY CHRISTMAS!	

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School days recalled...


THE 3rd ANNUAL Sand Valley School Reunion was recently held. Class members are: (front row l-r) Bev Auten, Connie Schwaderer, Joe Windy, (2nd row l-r) Hank Nolan, Dorothy Taylor, Lawrence Bartle, Leatha Neruda, Marie DuRussel, (3rd row l-r) Lance Robinson, Ben Gruber, Bill Spaid, Margaret Springstead, Amy Stover, Helen Mellendorf, Carolyn Parker, Karen Wills, (4th row l-r) Ralph Robinson, John Spaid, Norm Coates, Richard Easton, Ken Klinkman, Jim Phelps, Clarence Churchill, Bill Hacker, Bob Shagena, Vernon DuRussel, Ray Windy. Next class reunion is scheduled for October 20, 2002.

**35th Annual
NEW YEAR'S EVE
GOSPEL SING**
8:00 p.m. - Cass City High School

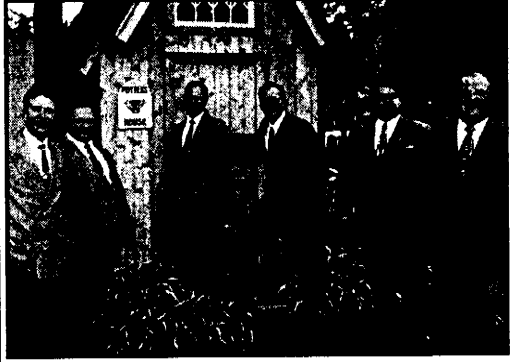
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Refreshments
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Hospital auxiliary airs meet

Hills and Dales General Hospital Auxiliary members met at the Charnont Nov. 26 for their luncheon and meeting. Dawn Maust, RN, MSN from Hills and Dales General Hospital was the guest speaker, and the topic was "Hospital Compliance".

A fund raising raffle by the Ladies Auxiliary was held Dec. 7, with a total of 948 tickets sold. Winners of 6 prizes were, first prize - framed painting won by Celia House; second prize - crocheted tablecloth won by Ron Rutkowski; third prize - \$50 certificate won by LouAnn Easlick; fourth prize was a lighted Lefton courthouse won by Cathy Hellow; fifth prize was a \$40 gift certificate to Woodland Cottage won by Betty Greenleaf, and the sixth prize was won by Pam Mowery, who received a large stuffed bear.

A memorial to Hills and Dales General Hospital was given by the auxiliary in memory of Laurence Bartle. His wife, Helen Bartel, is an honorary member of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Several appear in court

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

*Cody S. Sheridan, 19, Akron, pleaded guilty to 2 counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years July 29 in Akron.

The plea was taken under advisement by the court, which set bond at \$5,000, ordered a pre-sentence investigation and remanded the defendant to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Dominick A. LaLonde, 31, Midland, pleaded guilty to domestic violence, third offense, Nov. 22 in Indianfields Township.

The plea was taken under advisement by the court, which continued bond at \$3,500 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Jeffrey L. Greenleaf, 49, Reese, stood mute to one charge of possession of a narcotic (less than 25 grams), 5 counts of possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony, and 5 counts of possession of a firearm by a felon Nov. 27 in Denmark Township. He is also charged with being an habitual offender (3 prior felony convictions).

A pre-trial hearing was ordered scheduled, bond was continued at \$50,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department.

*Gareth M. Harris, 19, Millington, was sentenced to 60 days in jail and 18 months probation for his plea of guilty to attempted breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny Sept. 23 in Vassar Township. He was also ordered to complete his high school education and pay \$260 in court costs and fines.

*Michael S. Okorowski, 22, Vassar, was sentenced to 12 months probation and 180 days in jail, with worksite privileges, for his plea of guilty to delivery/manufacture of a controlled substance between Feb. 8 and March 14 in Vassar.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,220 plus \$450 in restitution.

*Matthew E. Kucharczyk, also known as Matthew E. Hagedon, 23, Uby, was sentenced to 90 days in jail for his plea of guilty to attempted third degree home invasion June 2 in Gagetown.

He was also ordered to pay \$260 in costs and fines plus \$345 in restitution.

*Eric P. Paquette, 19, Caro, was sentenced to 24 months probation and 90 days in jail, with work release, for his plea of guilty to resisting and obstructing a police officer June 20 in Caro.

He was also ordered to complete his high school education and pay \$1,480 in costs and fines.

*Joseph A. Humpert, 18, Caro, pleaded guilty to 3 counts of attempted second degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years Aug. 26 in Indianfields Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$40,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Duane R. O'Brien Jr., 19, Caro, pleaded guilty to second degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years June 21 in Almer Township.

The plea was taken under advisement by the court, which continued bond at \$100,000 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Mark E. Force, 39, Ann Arbor, pleaded no contest to third degree home invasion July 8 in Caro.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Troy A. Withers, 20, Cass City, was sentenced to 90 days in jail and 24 months probation for his plea of guilty to fourth degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim under the age of 13 years in March-May in Indianfields Township.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,380.

*Cory M. Mays, 24, Vassar, was sentenced to 24 months probation and 90 days in jail, with work release/worksite privileges, for his plea of guilty to attempted third degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years July 20 in Juniata Township.

He was also ordered to undergo mental therapy/counseling and pay \$1,980 in costs and fines.

*Aaron W. Kidder, 25, Flint,

was sentenced to 2 years to 7 years and 6 months in prison for his plea of guilty to larceny of \$1,000 or more May 7 in Millington Township, and to being an habitual offender (one prior felony).

*David M. Tallman, 34, Caro, stood mute to charges of resisting and obstructing a police officer and being a disorderly person Oct. 26 in Caro.

A pre-trial hearing was ordered by the court, which continued bond at \$10,000 and remanded the defendant to the custody of the sheriff's department.

*Daniel L. Bukoski, 22, Caro, was sentenced to 180

days in jail (90 days deferred) and 24 months probation for his plea of guilty to second degree home invasion Sept. 20 in Fremont Township.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,000 plus \$500 in attorney's fees.

*Jeremy M. Youmans, 23, Vassar, was sentenced to 24 months probation and 180 days in jail, with work release, for his plea of guilty to attempted breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny Aug. 12-14 in Vassar Township.

He was also ordered to pay \$2,060 in costs and fines plus restitution of \$1,000.

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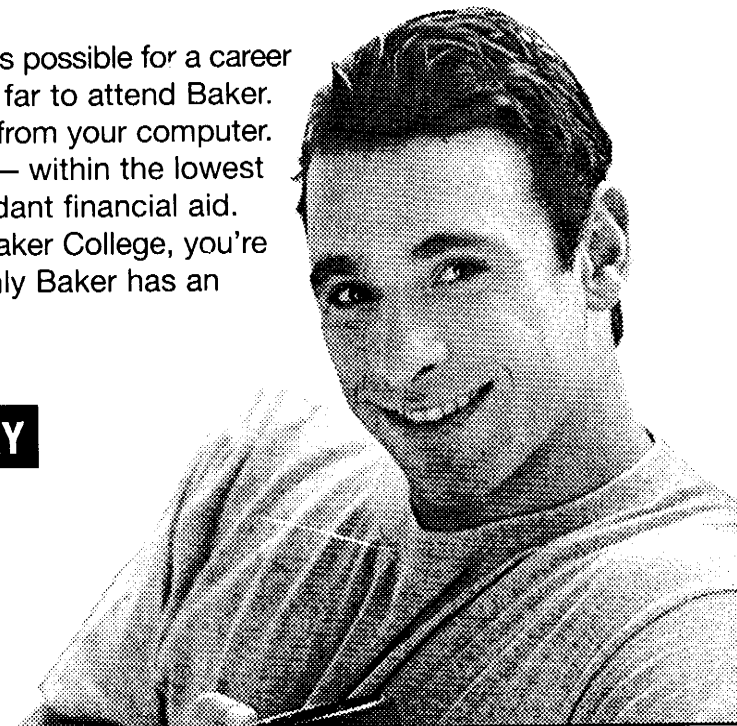
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Anthes Movers	11
Schewang Concrete	11
Trisch Septic	11
Hair-n-More	8
Lee Morgan Painting	8
Charmont	7
Stafono's	7
Locust Hill Farms	6
Muffler Man	6
R & H Body Shop	6
Patrick Flooring	3

THURSDAY NITE TRIO As of Dec. 13

Osentoski Farm Equipment	31
Cass Tavern	30 1/2
Schmaltz Construction	29
Thumb Auto Wash	26
Riverbend	25
Martin Electric	24 1/2
Mycogen Seeds	23
Wickes	22
Kelly & Co.	21
Marlette RV.	21
Marlette Oil & Gas	19
Chemical Bank	16

High Series & Games: M. Jackson 669 (214-215-240), C. Mauer 639 (213-246), M. Frappert 627 (210-223), T. Pattengill 625 (224), L. Morgan 622 (216-225), C. Anthes 622 (233), J. Gorkoski 611 (242), J. Krause 611 (234), J. Krol 607 (230), B. Rutkoski 607 (219), M. Lutz 598 (211), T. Kretz 597 (225), M. Gettel 596, T. Lis 593 (233), D. Schulz 588 (218), D. Salcido 588 (213), N. Berry 583 (210), T. Davis 579 (210), L. Prime 577 (215), R. Wright 576 (235), T. Sting 575, J. Anthes 233, S. Summers 222, C. Roe 221, R. Kessler 221, R. Hull 216, R. Koch 215, R. Ewald 214, B. Anthes 213.

High Team Series: Lee Morgan Painting 3126.

High Team Game: Stafono's 1109.

Individual High Series & Games: D. Roth 686 (246-237), D. Miller 621 (213-256), J. Roth 619 (236), K. Pichla 610 (237-225), R. Finkbeiner 609 (278), E. Schmaltz 607 (212), O. Beecher 606 (256), T. Summers 600 (221), D. Burkel 240, J. Krol 238, J. Hacker 237, R. Root 213, D. Dickinson 212.

High Team Series: Cass Tavern 1882.

High Team Game: Mycogen Seeds 663.

MERCHANTS LEAGUE As of Dec. 13

FBI Gals	21
The Chiropractors	19
J.B.'s Crew	19
Charlie's Angels	18
Adamczyk Masonry	17
Langenburg Plumb/Heat	15
All Season Video	13
Marlette Chrysler	12
Thumb Octagon Barn	6

High Team Series & Game: FBI Gals 2111 (774).

High Individual Games: M. Gettel 234-210-171, S. Buschlen 205, L. Pabst 192, L. Hanson 191-171, C. Davidson 189, N. Wallace 189, C. Wright 189, J. Dickinson 187, D. Williams 186, Pat Bauer 185-184, D. Potrykus 180, P. Helwig 179, M. Sieradzki 178, C. Wallace 177, J. Cleland 174, J. Morell 174.

High Individual Series: M. Gettel 615, P. Bauer 528, L. Hanson 527, S. Buschlen 495, D. Potrykus 492, N. Wallace 483, J. Bemus 482, J. Dickinson 474, J. Morell 470.

CHARMONT LADIES End of 1st round

JB's Crew	78
Cable-ettes	76
Cass City Tire	74
Dec's Girls	70
Loren's Lawn Care	62
Wild Johns	58
Dott Manufacturing	52

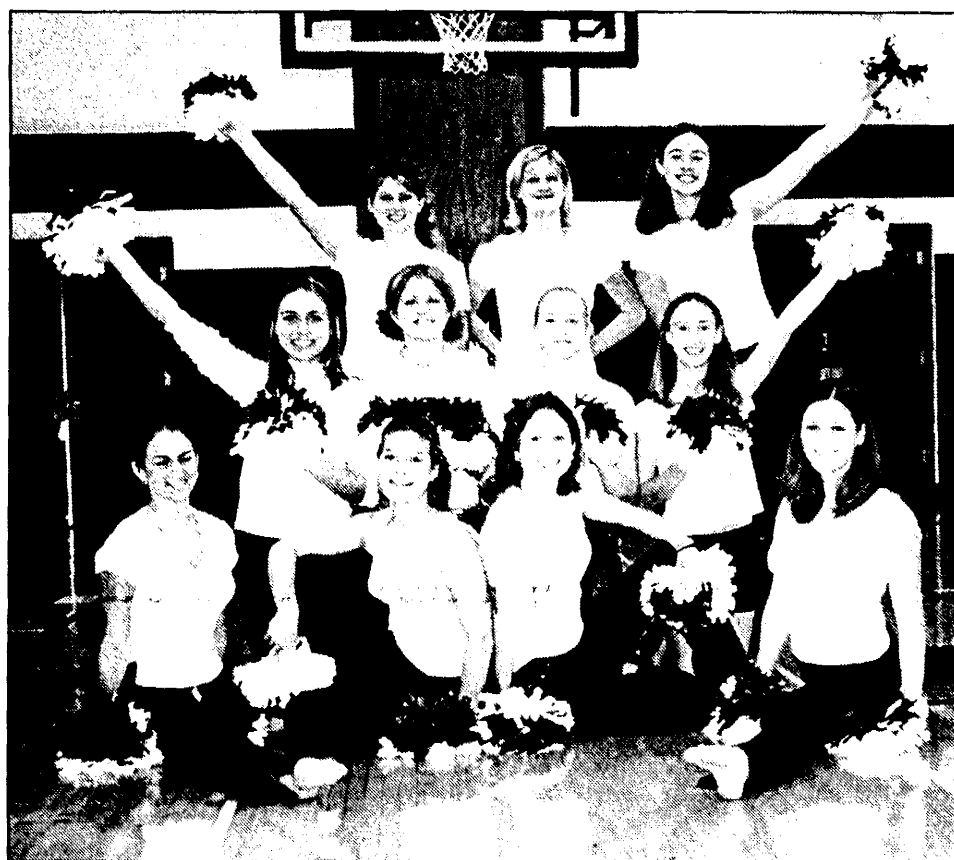
Team High Series and Game: JB's Crew 3057 (1060).

High Series: S. Smith 535, M. Haley 523, R. Finkbeiner 509, R. Linzner 501, D. Merchant 483, B. Ware 482.

High Games: M. Opanasenko 223, R. Finkbeiner 201, M. Haley 197, S. Smith 193, R. Linzner 188, M. Gussell 184, H. Karr 181, B. Ware 178, A. Skrent 177, T. Avery 174.



THE RED HAWK varsity cheerleaders are: (front l-r) Capt. Amanda Wright, Sarah Yax, Sara Gardner, Aime Warack, (middle l-r) Autumn Helland, Brandy Rabideau, Amber Middaugh, (back l-r) Tiffany Francis, Tiaja Lowrey.



THE RED HAWK Pom Pom Squad consists of: (front l-r) Kari Lowe, Elise Pasant, Kerry Shagene, Lyndi Trischler, (middle l-r) Erin Kanouse, Allyson Bell, Jessica Bellew, Carrie Hillaker, (back l-r) Erin Venema, Jessica Nicol, Tara Sherman. Missing: Stephanie Richards.

Santa Letter I've been good boy

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy. This year I want a toy jet pilot viper GI Joe, a German shepherd dog - a real one, and a GI Joe Command Post.

Merry Christmas.

Your friend,
Tim Finkbeiner
age 8

Zero-interest agricultural loans available to eligible farmers for crop losses

By a 102-1 vote, the Michigan House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed House Bill 4009 late Wednesday to make about \$200 million worth of zero-interest agricultural loans available to eligible farmers suffering from weather-related crop losses this past summer.

Producers across Michigan experienced various levels of yield reductions as a result of a frost and cool, wet weather in the spring, followed by drought conditions throughout the summer and an early frost during the harvest season.

The legislation now heads to the Senate for consideration in January 2002. The timing of the bill's passage will be critical, said Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) State Governmental Affairs Manager Ron Nelson. "Producers normally seek operating loans for the upcoming crop season from their lenders in January and February," he said. "This package would help producers pay-off operating loans from the 2001 crop year, and provide lenders added confidence to extend credit for 2002."

Nelson acknowledged that the bill's approval might be challenging, considering the state's financial troubles. "The state budget is stressed, but so are our farmers," he said. "Given the overwhelming support the package received in the House, we hope the senate will take this issue up as soon as possible and give it the same level of attention and consideration."

As passed by the House, the bill proposes a zero-interest, 10-year agricultural loan program similar to one established by the state in 1986 to help offset flood-related crop losses. A farmer could be eligible for up to a \$150,000 loan under the legislation. The state loans

would be administered through the Farm Credit System and traditional banks.

Farmers who prove yield losses of 25 percent overall, or a 50 percent yield loss on any single commodity, would qualify for the loan program. Individual loan amounts could not exceed 100 percent of the loss amount after applicable crop insurance indemnity payments are deducted. Because this is a loan program, producers will have to provide adequate collateral to qualify for the zero-interest financing.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced that all but one of Michigan's 83 counties were eligible for federal low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency as a result of the summer drought. USDA had also approved 27 counties for the same type of federal loan program as a result of cool weather and heavy rains in May.

The magnitude of last summer's drought has hit home and hit hard for Michigan farmers, as harvest season comes to a close and farmers take stock of their yields.

Caro-area farmer Carl Bednarski said drought conditions in the summer followed by freezing temperatures in October caused so much destruction in his dry bean crop that he did not harvest any of the 240 acres of dry beans he planted - a first for the third-generation farm.

In testimony before the House Appropriations Committee, Bednarski, who serves as a district director on the Michigan Farm Bureau state board, urged legislators to support a proposal to establish a zero-interest loan program. The measure passed the House Wednesday and now heads to the Senate for consideration in January 2002.

"We've never had a dry bean crop completely wiped out.

We've always harvested something. But this year the crop wasn't even worth attempting to harvest," he said. "These are circumstances no one has ever seen before."

According to the Michigan Bean Commission, the 2001 dry bean crop represents the state's lowest dry bean yield since 1936, and will likely mark the lowest total production since data was first recorded in 1909.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) figures released this week put Michigan's average dry bean yield at 600 pounds, a 60-percent drop from 1,500 pounds in 2000. Compared to a year ago, dry bean production is down a whopping 81 percent, NASS reported.

The Michigan Bean Commission pegs the state's total 2001 dry bean loss at \$81.75 million, or \$65.4 million in total grower loss and \$16.35 million in total elevator loss.

Bednarski considers himself fortunate in that his dry beans were insured. Some growers who contract their dry beans, he said, were forced to buy beans from others to fill contracts.

The severe weather also took a toll on Bednarski's other crops. His soybeans yielded an average 17 bushels an acre, down significantly from the standard 40 bushels, while his corn yielded an average 75 bushels an acre, half of the standard 150 bushels.

"In the past years, we were able to compensate for low markets with some of the above-average yields we had," said Bednarski. "But now this year when the prices we receive for our crops are still depressed and we get half a yield or, worse yet, no yield, it really eats into our equity."

"We're actually dipping into our equity to keep farming," he said. "If this keeps up, at some point the pot's going to be empty and there's going to be nothing we're going to be able to borrow against."

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Cass City, Michigan

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It's been three years since my hip replacement and I'm doing great! I'm still working out at the Michigan Athletic Rehabilitation Center in Cass City. It seems like the more exercise I get, the better I feel.

Thanks to Dr. DeSantis and staff, MARC and staff and Cass City Hospital, my golf swing is better and I'm back to walking.

Bill Fitzgibbon



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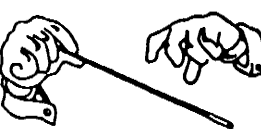
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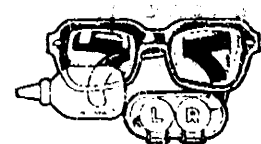
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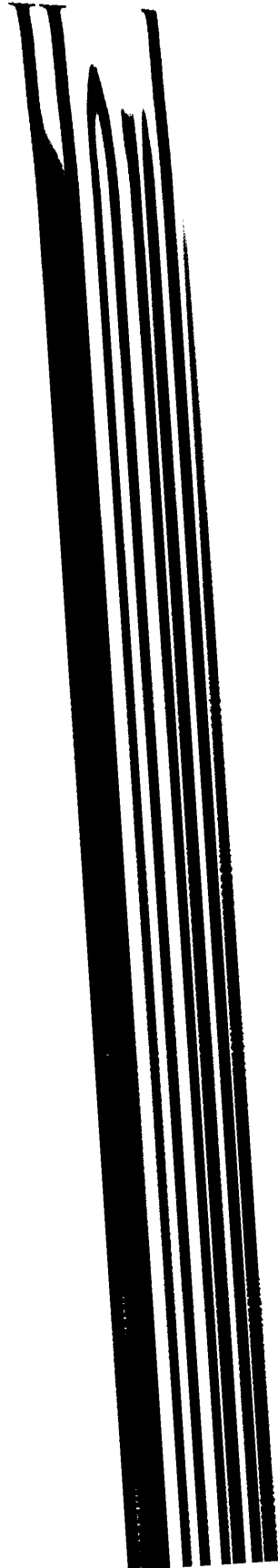
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CASS CITY, MICHIGAN



Harbor Beach hands Cass City first cage loss Friday

The Cass City Red Hawks lost their first game in 3 pre-holiday outings bowing to Harbor Beach, 48-41, Friday at home.

It was anybody's game through the first 3 quarters as the Hawks rode on the shoulders of Grant Frank to stay within a point of the Pirates after 3 periods of play. Jeff Storm, who played well defensively against the large Harbor Beach team, combined with Bill Thane each with a pair of hoops in the first period to stay within a point of the Pirates, 12-11.

Cass City moved into a brief lead shortly before the intermission as Frank scored 3 points the old fashioned way with a neat drive to the bucket. He was fouled and converted the free throw and the Hawks were in front 23-22 before the Pirates cashed

a 2-pointer and remained ahead by a point at the intermission.

The third period was a battle between Frank and Neil Schock. Each scored 4 hoops in the quarter. However Schock netted 3 of them from 3-point range and Frank had only a single trifecta among his hoops.

Both players cooled off in the last quarter, but Dave Volmering came alive for Harbor Beach with 7 big points and the Hawks were able to counter with only a trey by Jake Brinkman and a hoop by Bill Thane.

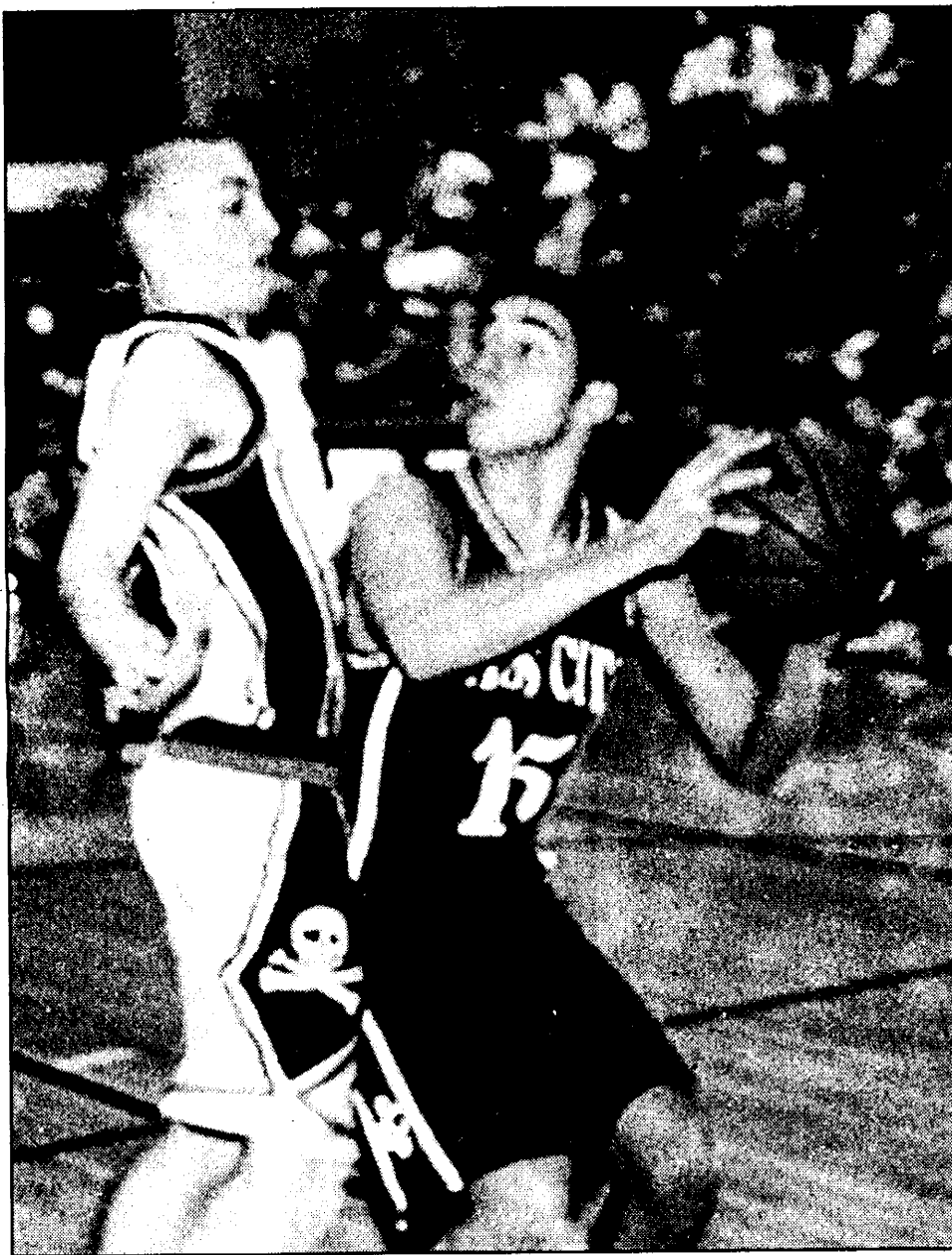
It was a very unusual game which may have set a record for the fewest fouls called. Cass City went to the line just 5 times and converted just one and Harbor Beach went to the line just 3 times, all in the last quarter, and failed to

score.

Frank paced Cass City with 15 points. Schock with 16 points and Volmering with 11 were in double figures for the Pirates.

CASS CITY - Maharg 1-0 (0-0) 5; Brinkman 0-1 (0-0) 3; Frank 4-2 (1-1) 15; Chappel 1-0 (0-0) 2; Stoutenburg 1-0 (0-2) 2; Storm 3-0 (0-0) 6; Thane 4-0 (0-2) 8.
TOTALS - 14-4 (1-5) 41.

HARBOR BEACH - Miller 1-0 (0-1) 2; Volmering 4-1 (0-0) 11; Schock 2-4 (0-1) 16; Roberts 0-1 (0-0) 3; Hurren 1-0 (0-0) 2; McCoy 3-0 (0-1) 6; O'Neil 3-0 (0-0) 6; Wruble 1-0 (0-0) 2.
TOTALS - 15-6 (0-3) 48.



CASS CITY JUNIOR Chris Maharg looks for a shot against Harbor Beach in Friday's cage action. The Pirates handed the Hawks a 48-41 defeat.

North Huron spoils Bulldogs' NCTL home opener, 54-50

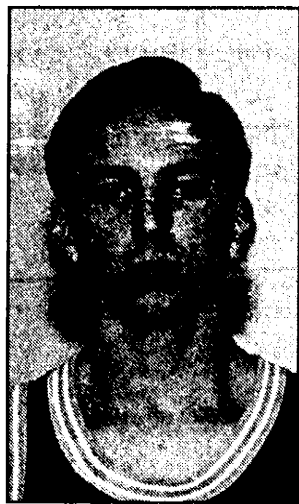
North Huron spoiled the Owen-Gage Bulldogs' home opener Friday, swiping a 54-50 decision in the North Central Thumb League opener for both schools.

The loss puts rookie coach Troy Perry's Bulldogs at 1-1 on the season with 2 games remaining before Christmas. Owen-Gage was to continue NCTL play Tuesday in Port Hope before Friday's rematch with visiting AuGres. The Blue Stars are coming off a triple overtime defeat to Caseville and will be looking for its first win of the season, while AuGres will seek to revenge a 61-47 defeat to the Bulldogs in the season's opening game tilt for both squads.

Brad Schmidt helped the visitors gain a 20-11 edge entering the 2nd quarter as he paced a balanced Warrior attack in the game's opening 8 minutes with 3 field goals in the paint. Coach Cas Jurek's Warriors had 7 players enter the score book in the maiden frame.

The Warriors continued to control the game throughout

the opening half and built a double-digit advantage, 33-23, by the intermission.



Corbin Swiastyn 17 points, including 3 treys and 6-6 at foul line

Both schools tightened their defense in the final half, as the hosts held their guests to just 3 field goals in the 3rd stanza. However, North

Huron applied its own defensive pressure and limited the Bulldogs to solo hoops from Earl McKee and Adam Kain that resulted in a 41-33 margin entering the final period.

Owen-Gage opened the final period with an 8-2 spurt and knotted the game at 45-all with just over 3 minutes remaining. Bulldog senior Corbin Swiastyn, who led all scorers with 17 points, calmly converted a pair of charity tosses to give the host a 50-49 lead with under a minute remaining. Swiastyn was perfect in 6 tries from the foul stripe in the closing period.

Dean Elliot provided the game winner for the guests when he answered Swiastyn's free throw with an old fashioned 3-point play in the closing seconds.

Beside Swiastyn, the Bulldogs had Zack Fritz with a dozen markers that included a 7-8 showing at the stripe.

North Huron had Jacob Gorkowski and Schmidt in double figures with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

Several gymnasts earn regional qualifying marks at Troy Invite

The Cass City-Deckerville gymnastic team competed in its first invitational of the season Saturday in Troy during the Troy Athens Invite.

Coach Heather Spencer sited several team members for turning in fine early season efforts, led by Deckerville junior Randee McGregor who recorded 2 regional qualifying marks.

McGregor registered team high marks on the vault and on the bars where she had record scores of 8.0 and 7.0, respectively.

Also posting regional qualifying scores were Cass City's Ashley Ouvry, Elise Pasant

and Chelsea Zimba.

Pasant and Zimba registered marks of 7.7 and 7.75, respectively, on the vault, while Ouvry produced a 7.0

score on the bars.

The team's first home meet of the season is tonight (Wednesday) with visiting Cadillac and Hartland.

Hawks past maiden road test of season over Brown City

It was 3 points or no count for Grant Frank as the Cass City Red Hawks racked up their second straight win of the young season, defeating Brown City, 59-55, last Tuesday.

Frank scored all 5 of his baskets from outside the 3-point line to carry the offensive load for the Hawks. As good as it was Frank's outstanding shooting was eclipsed by Ryan Hoag of the Green Devils. Hoag burned the hoops for 6 trifectas, 4 regular hoops and a pair of free throws to net 30 of Brown City's 55 points.

The Hawks jumped off to a first period 17-10 lead behind 3 treys by Frank and 5 points by Bill Thane.

Brown City closed the gap slightly in the second quarter as Hoag netted 10 points countered by a pair of hoops by Jeff Storm.

Trailing 32-27 going into the second half the Green Devils tied it at the end of the third quarter behind 11 points by Hoag.

Rob Havens netted 3 of his 4 hoops in the crucial last period to pace the Cass City

win. Brown City was held to just 11 points and the Hawks netted 15 to take the close decision.

The Hawks were helped by some outstanding rebounding. The Hawks picked off 27 boards to 16 by Brown City. Storm with 10 and Frank with 5 were the leaders.

Cass City spread it's scoring among 7 players with Frank with 15 points and Storm with 10 in double figures.

Cage Standings and Results

GREATER THUMB WEST				
Team	W	L	W	L
Reese	0	0	2	0
Laker	0	0	2	0
USA	0	0	2	0
Cass City	0	0	2	1
Valley Lutheran	0	0	1	2
Bad Axe	0	0	1	0
BCAS	0	0	0	2
Mayville	0	0	0	2

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

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

CASS CITY - Maharg 1-1 (2-5) 7; Brinkman 1-1 (0-2) 5; Frank 0-5 (0-0) 15; Chappel 2-0 (1-2) 5; Stoutenburg 0-0 (3-5) 3; Storm 5-0 (0-0) 10; Thane 2-0 (2-2) 6; Havens 4-0 (0-0) 8.
TOTALS - 15-7 (8-16) 59

BROWN CITY - Campbell 3-0 (0-0) 6; Bissett 0-1 (0-0) 3; Frey 1-0 (0-0) 2; Abel 1-0 (1-1) 3; Jones 3-0 (2-2) 8; Loutzenhiser 1-0 (0-0) 2; Hilgendorf 0-0 (1-2) 1; Hoag 5-6 (2-4) 30.
TOTALS - 14-7 (6-9) 55.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Harbor Beach 48, Cass City 41
USA 63, Deckerville 43
Laker 53, Brown City 52
Ubyly 61, Mayville 35
Reese 66, Marlette 49
Novel 65, Valley Lutheran 54
Peck 56, CPS 46
Caseville 74, Port Hope 71 3QTs
North Huron 54, Owen-Gage 50
Kingston 74, A-Fairgrove 18

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

	John Haire	Clarke Haire	Tom Montgomery	Doug Hyatt
Tuesday, December 18				
Vassar at Reese	Reese	Reese	Reese	Reese
Caro at Bridgeport	Caro	Bridgeport	Caro	Bridgeport
Birch Run at Linden	Linden	Birch Run	Birch Run	Linden
Millington at Lakeville	Lakeville	Millington	Millington	Millington
V. Lutheran at Swan Valley	Swan Valley	Swan Valley	Swan Valley	Swan Valley
Lakers at Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Lakers	Lakers	Harbor Beach
Ubyly at USA	USA	USA	USA	USA
Bad Axe at Brown City	Brown City	Brown City	Bad Axe	Bad Axe
Cros-Lex at C-PS	Cros-Lex	Cros-Lex	Cros-Lex	Cros-Lex
Akron-Fair. at Grace Baptist	Grace Baptist	Grace Baptist	Grace Baptist	Grace Baptist
Caseville at Peck	Peck	Peck	Peck	Peck
North Huron at Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
Owen-Gage at Port Hope	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
Thursday, December 20				
Marysville at Yale	Marysville	Marysville	Yale	Marysville
Friday, December 21				
Birch Run at Millington	Birch Run	Millington	Millington	Millington
Garber at North Branch	Garber	Garber	Garber	North Branch
Vassar at Frankenmuth	Vassar	Frankenmuth	Frankenmuth	Vassar
C-PS at Akron-Fairgrove	Akron-Fairgrove	C-PS	Akron-Fairgrove	C-PS
AuGres-Sims at Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
Last week's results	20-2	18-4	20-2	19-3
Season's results	20-2 (91%)	18-4 (82%)	20-2 (91%)	19-3 (86%)

Hawk grapplers bow to Davison, Lapeer

Cass City was unable to fill 3 weight classes and the loss of the 18 points proved to be decisive as the Hawks lost to Davison B team, 42-36, and Lapeer East, 42-38. The meet was held Wednesday at Lapeer East.

We actually won more of the matches that we wrestled, but were unable to overcome the 18 points by forfeit, coach Don Markel pointed out. However on a more positive note, Markel continued, our first year wrestlers continued to show improvement. Seven of the 11 starters are first year wrestlers.

With the loss, Cass City's season record fell to 1-3.

Double winners for the Hawks were Sam Moore, 119 pounds; Don Spencer, 125 pounds; Aaron Dorland, 160 pounds; and Travis Jensen, 189 pounds.

In a junior varsity tournament at Yale Saturday, in a meet with nearly 30 schools and over 300 wrestlers, Cass City had 3 medal winners. Jeff Tenbusch, placed 4th at 152 pounds, Sean Cole was third at 112 pounds, and Marcel Helland, 2nd at 103 pounds.

No team scores were kept.

Wedding Invitations

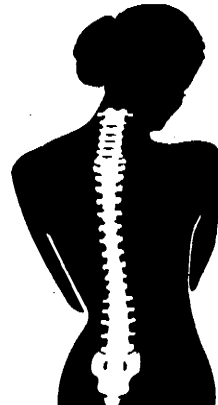


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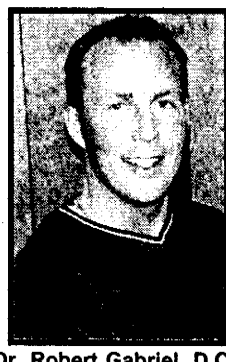
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AAUW, KLINK**Moms, daughters unite**

Tuesday, Dec. 11, the American Association of University Women and KLINK co-sponsored a mother and daughter night at Cass City Middle School from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The event started off with a dinner donated by the AAUW from 6 to 6:30. After the dinner, the mothers and daughters worked on a variety of projects in the KLINK lab. They had the choice of 4 centers to work in. A web site center, a Power Point center, a desktop publishing and a digital video productions center. All of these centers were taught by KLINK High School Assistants Jeff McMahon, Erik Helwig, Eric Hanby and Jesse Johnson.

The night was concluded with an award celebration. The top presentation from each center won an award for excellence in technology.

The desktop publishing award winner was Cassidy Frank. She received a \$5 gift certificate to Videomation. The web site award winners were Cassie Parker, Jenny Thorp, Kimberly Proctor and their mothers. They received a \$20 gift certificate to the Charmont. The Power Point award winner was Courtney Rabideau and her mother. They received a \$5 gift certificate to Videomation, and the digital video award winner was Brittany Loomis and her mother. They received a \$5 gift certificate to Videomation. All of the gift certificates were donated to KLINK from the AAUW.



TAKING PART in the KLINK mother and daughter night were: (top l-r) Deanna and Brittany Loomis, Sue Simpson, Lysa Knight (bottom l-r) Theresa and Courtney Rabideau.

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11	Brown City	Away	5:00
14	Harbor Beach	Home	5:00
Jan. 3	Valley Luth (F)	Away	6:00
4	Valley Luth (V/JV)	Away	6:00
8	Marlette	Away	5:00
11	Lakers	Away	6:00
15	Caseville (V/JV)	Home	6:00
18	Bad Axe	Away	6:00
22	Deckerville	Home	5:00
25	USA	Away	6:00
29	Reese	Home	5:00
Feb. 1	BCAS	Away	5:00
5	Mayville	Home	5:00
8	Valley Lutheran	Home	5:00
12	Lakers	Home	5:00
15	Bad Axe	Home	5:00
19	USA	Home	5:00
22	Reese	Away	5:00
26	BCAS	Home	5:00
March 1	Mayville	Away	5:00
4-9	District	TBA	TBA
12-16	Regional	TBA	TBA
19	Quarterfinal	TBA	TBA
21	Semi-Final	Breslin	TBA
23	State Final	Breslin	TBA

WRESTLING 2001-2002

Nov. 29	Caro/Sandusky	Home	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 1	Cros-Lex Invite (V)	Away	10:00 a.m.
8	Marlette Invite (JV/V)	Away	8:00 a.m.
12	Lapeer East (Quad)	Away	6:00 p.m.
15	Yale Invite (JV)	Away	9:00 a.m.
20	Pinconning	Away	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 3	Sandusky/V. Lutheran @ Brown City	6:00 p.m.	
5	Yale Invite (V)	Away	9:00 a.m.
9	Lakers/Yale	Home	6:00 p.m.
12	Cass City Invite (JV/V)	Home	10:00 a.m.
16	Bad Axe/Mayville @ Sandusky	6:00 p.m.	
19	Mayville Invite (V)	Away	8:30 a.m.
23	Cros-Lex/Brown City	Home	6:00 p.m.
26	Imlay City Invite (V)	Away	8:30 a.m.
30	Marlette	Away	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 2	Standish-Ster. Invite (V)	Away	9:00 a.m.
9	League Invite @ Marlette	10:00 a.m.	

VOLLEYBALL 2001-2002

Dec. 17	Akron/Ubly V	@ Akron	6:00 p.m.
17	JV	@ Ubly	6:00 p.m.
20	Brown City/Mayville V	@ Home	6:00 p.m.
20	JV @ Mayville		6:00 p.m.
20	F	@ B. City	6:00 p.m.
29	SVSU Invite (V)	Away	9:00 a.m.
Jan. 3	Caro	Away	6:00 p.m.
4	Bad Axe Invite (JV/F)	Away	3:30 p.m.
5	Bad Axe (V)	Away	8:30 a.m.
10	Valley Lutheran	Away	6:30 p.m.
12	Laker Invite (F)	Away	9:00 a.m.
14	Brown City (JV/F)	Away	6:30 p.m.
17	Lakers	Home	6:30 p.m.
19	Cass City Invite (V)	Home	9:00 a.m.
19	Laker Invite (JV)	Away	9:00 a.m.
24	Bad Axe	Away	6:30 p.m.
31	USA	Away	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 2	Northwood Invite (V)	Away	TBA
2	USA Invite (F)	Away	9:00 a.m.
4	Sandusky	Home	6:30 p.m.
7	Reese	Home	6:30 p.m.
9	USA Invite (V)	Away	8:30 a.m.
9	Fenton Invite (JV)		TBA
14	BCAS	Away	6:30 p.m.
16	League Invite (F)	@ Bad Axe	8:30 a.m.
16	League Invite (JV)	@ Bad Axe	8:30 a.m.
21	Mayville	Home	6:30 p.m.
23	Northwood Invite (JV)	Away	TBA
23	League Invite (V)	@ USA	8:30 a.m.
27	North Branch	Away	6:00 p.m.
March 2	Districts	TBA	TBA
9	Regionals	TBA	TBA

**Catch
the
Hawks
at
Home**

VOLLEYBALL
December 20
Brown City/Mayville

GYMNASTICS
December 19
Cadillac/Hartland

GYMNASTICS 2001-2002

Dec. 5	Midland Dow	Away	6:00 p.m.
15	Troy Athens Invite	Away	10:00 a.m.
19	Cadillac/Hartland	Home	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 5	Traverse City Invite	Away	Noon
10	Midland Dow/Vassar	Home	6:30 p.m.
19	Hartland Invite	Away	TBA
21	Midland	Home	6:30 p.m.
26	Vassar Invite	Away	Noon
Feb. 9	St. John Invite	Away	10:00 a.m.
14	Vassar	Away	6:30 p.m.
20	Midland	Away	6:30 p.m.

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Winner!

KIMBERLY Sweeney of Uby is the latest lucky winner in the Cass City Chamber of Commerce's Christmas in the Village drawings. Sweeney's prize was an American Girl Doll.

Council says "no" to pool funding

Continued from page one.

\$596,216 in State Shared Revenues, the same level of funding received in 2000. The decrease, nearly 3.6 percent, will translate into an overall loss of \$20,000.

Another factor will be the impact the village's new Renaissance Subzone will have on tax revenues. The zone was recently approved by the state, enabling Millennium Industries to move into the former General Cable Co. building and operate virtually tax-free over the next several years.

Sheridan and the council have also begun to discuss the implications of setting up a drinking water treatment system to reduce arsenic levels in compliance with tougher federal guidelines lowering the minimum acceptable levels from 50 to 10 parts per billion.

In other business during the monthly meeting, the council:

• Agreed to look into concerns expressed by Smith regarding a village decision to

stop plowing snow at the Huntsville Mobile Home Park.

Smith said village officials offered to provide the service several years ago during negotiations in which Smith

agreed to annexation of the property. He said he had recently received a letter from Sheridan stating the practice would no longer continue because the park is private property.

The council agreed to continue plowing snow at the park over the next 30 days with a "hold harmless" agreement in place while both Smith and the village research the issue further.

1.68 million plan to travel

An estimated 1.68 million Michiganians - 17 percent of state residents - have travel plans for the upcoming Christmas/New Year's holiday period, according to a AAA Michigan survey.

That's a 16-percent increase over last year, when an estimated 1.4 million planned a Yuletide car, train or plane ride.

The estimated number of travelers for Christmas 2001 ties the record for this time period set in 1999. AAA Michigan has been tracking holiday travel intentions since 1996.

The majority of Michiganians - 87 percent - will travel at least 100 miles from home, an increase of 7 percentage points over last year. Nearly two-thirds of those traveling (64 percent)

will be leaving the state, and the number of people intending to fly is up over last year. In 2000, 68 percent traveled by car, truck or van and 25 percent flew. This year, 64 percent said they will travel by car and 30 percent will fly.

Based on projected requests for Trip Tik® routings and AAA Travel air reservations, the most popular destinations outside Michigan are: By air: 1) Las Vegas, 2) Orlando, 3) Tampa, 4) Ft. Myers, 5) Phoenix. By land: 1) Orlando 2) Myrtle Beach, 3) Washington, D.C., 4) Atlanta, 5) Nashville.

Other survey findings:

- The average amount travelers expect to spend is more than \$2,000, double last year's average cost of \$1,000.
- Florida (40 percent) and

Ohio (10 percent) are the most popular out-of-state destinations cited by respondents, followed by California (8 percent) and Illinois (6 percent).

• Upon arrival at the destination, plans for accommodations are:

- With relatives (53 percent).
- Hotel/motel/resort (22 percent).
- House/cabin (10 percent).
- Condo (6 percent).

Michigan motorists can expect to pay about 40 cents less for a gallon of gas this year (\$1.15 as of Dec. 3).

The official 102-hour Christmas holiday period begins at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, and runs to midnight Tuesday, Dec. 25. The 2001-2002 New Year holiday period (also 102 hours) begins at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, and runs to midnight Tuesday, Jan. 1.

During last year's 78-hour Christmas holiday period, 11 persons died in Michigan in 10 fatal traffic crashes. Of the 10 fatal crashes, 2 (20 percent) involved alcohol. Restraints were not used by 4 of the 9 victims who had them available (44.4 percent).

During last year's 78-hour New Year holiday period, 14 people died in 13 fatal crashes statewide. Of the 13 fatal crashes, 5 (38.5 percent) involved alcohol. Restraints were not used by 4 of the 12 victims who had them available (33.3 percent).

Calendar of Events

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

Thursday, December 20

Free Senior Citizen Bingo, 1-4 p.m., VFW Hall, 4533 Veterans Dr., Cass City. Prizes & refreshments. Sponsored by Post 3644 Ladies Auxiliary.

Friday, December 21

Alcoholics Anonymous, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 23

Everyone is welcome to attend the Christmas program, "Christ the Messiah from Eternity Past to Eternity Future" at the Calvary Bible Fellowship, 4446 Ale St., Cass City at 11 a.m.

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!
Free Community Christmas Dinner, VFW Hall, 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Pool down the drain

Continued from page one.

he could advance his dance career. He is currently spending 5 days in New York looking at schools and another day was missed when he went to Interlochen. Wark was given an extra 2 days in the semester without penalty.

Voting in favor was Biddinger, Haag, Beverley Auten and Rabideau. Voting no were Turner, Severance and Knight.

Wayne Dillon, school work program director and counselor presented statistics to show that on-hand

training has proved valuable to students both on the job and attending 2 and 4-year colleges. He thanked the board for its support and for not insisting that new avenues of education be tried before they were proved to be effective.

Four bids were received for the purchase of a new bus. Low bidder for the chassis was Osentoski Equipment of Pigeon for \$31,617.48. Midwest Transit of Eaton Rapids was low bidder for the body at \$17,209. Together with the only bus trade-in the new unit will cost \$45,626.48.



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Federal sports ruling

Continued from page one.

such as Reed, active on teams in different seasons, would automatically not be available when the seasons are joined.

Finding coaches for teams, especially under the varsity level, is a problem that schools face today.

"We have maintained all along that schools have the best interests of all student athletes at heart, and have made decisions that have maximized participation by girls and boys. John "Jack"

Roberts, MHSAA director said. "We appreciate the ongoing support of our member schools, administrators, coaches and officials' associations which have stood strong in favor of sports seasons the schools have established." The court ruled that the MHSAA must submit a plan to bring the scheduling of sports seasons into compliance with the law by May 24, 2002, to take effect for the 2003-4 school year.

The submission of such a plan, however, may be delayed pending the appeal of the court decision.

Cass City Area Church Directory

First Presbyterian Church
6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-5400
Sunday School - Sept.-May 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Pastor - Dave Blackburn

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2770
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Evening Prayer for our Nation Wed. 7:30 p.m.
Pastor - Gerald Meyer

Living Word Worship Center
(Where the Word is Life)
6536 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-4637
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wed. (Family Training hour) 7:00 p.m.
Senior Pastors - Michael & Carla Arp

Novesta Church of Christ
2896 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
872-3658 or 872-1195
Bible School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Minister - Chuck Emmert
Youth Minister - Brad Speirs
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

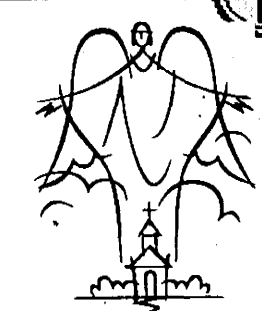
Potter's House Christian Fellowship Church
Corner of 6th and Leach, Cass City, MI 48726
872-5186
Thursday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Pastor - F. Robert Tucker

St. Pancratius Catholic Church
4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-3336
Saturday Liturgy 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
Pastor - Father Steve Fillion

Shabbona United Methodist Church
4045 Decker Rd., (in Shabbona) Decker, MI 48426
810-672-9929 or 810-672-9992
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
UMW Monthly 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.
Youth Program
Pastor - Ellen Burns
Visit our website at: www.dasuparish.com

I Bring You Good News

Everyone enjoys receiving good news. We can just imagine how the shepherds must have responded when an angel of the Lord appeared before them to announce that their Savior was born. The Gospel of Luke tells us that they were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord!" The shepherds then went to Bethlehem to see Jesus with Mary and Joseph, and they told them what the angel had said about the child. Then they went back singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen. After two thousand years, the good news of Jesus Christ is still available for everyone who embraces God's love and mercy. Our Heavenly father has given us His Son so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life. Good news is something that we can never get enough of. The reality that Jesus was born for all mankind is an indication of how much we are loved by God.



She will have a Son, and you will name Him Jesus because He will save His people from their sins.

Good News Bible
Matthew 1:21

Cass City Church of Christ
6743 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
Building phone 872-5440
Contacts 872-2367 or 872-3136
Worship Service Sunday 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Bible Study Sunday 10:00 a.m. & Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Cass City Church of the Nazarene
6538 Third St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2604 or 872-5201
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study & Children Activities 7:00 p.m.
Pastor - Rev. Darold Ward

Cass City Missionary Church
4393 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2729
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: David Edwards

Cass City United Methodist Church
5100 N. Cemetery Rd., P.O. Box 125, Cass City, MI 48726
872-3422
Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School - Sept.-May 9:30 a.m.
Community Dinner - Monthly (2nd Wed. at noon)
Pastor - Dr. Philip Rice

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City
6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726
Phone: 872-5060 Fax: 872-8855
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Midweek Bible Studies
Biblical Counseling
Pastor - Rev. Todd R. Gould



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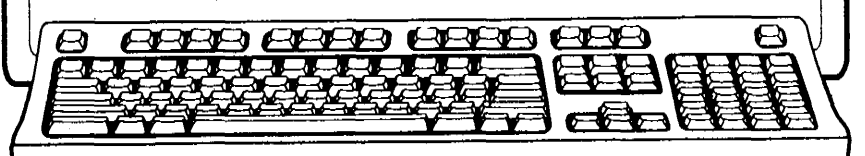
Holiday Greetings

from the
Staff of the Cass City Chronicle

We wish each and every one of you
a Safe and Blessed Holiday Season
filled with love and laughter.

John Haire
Clarke Haire
JoAnn Asher
Larry Bogart
Mary Damm

Thelma Jackson
Tom Montgomery
Deb Severance
Janet Severance
Harmony Yanowski



Obituaries

Ubly to host check-off meeting

Martha Hammerle

Martha Mary Hammerle, 89, of Ruth, died Saturday, Dec. 15, 2001, at her residence under hospice care.

She was born May 10, 1912, in Parisville, daughter of Adam and Rose (Warchuck) Helewski. She married Walter Hammerle Sept. 24, 1929, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Smith Corners. He preceded her in death Sept. 17, 1956.

She was a graduate of the Maurer Country School. She farmed with her family and raised her children. She was a member of the Altar Society at Holy Trinity Church and was a lifelong parishioner of Holy Trinity Church.

She is survived by 6 daughters, Delores Talaski of Bad Axe, Mildred O'Parka and her husband Irvin of Ruth, Jeanette Danielski and her husband Leo of Ubly, Rose Ann Bullock and her husband Jerry of Ohio, Elaine Varosi of Sandusky, Darlene Gornowicz and her husband Rodney of Ubly; 5 sons, Harold Hammerle of Bullhead City, Ariz., Elwood Hammerle and his wife Marlene of Bad Axe, Kenneth and Wayne Hammerle, both of Ruth, and Gary Hammerle of Ubly; 32 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; one sister, Edna O'Shea of Ruth, and one sister-in-law, Rita Helewski of Ubly.

She was preceded in death by her son, Frank, and her daughter, Ardis Wrubel; 3 grandsons and one granddaughter; 7 brothers, Mike, Pete, Joe, Anthony, Bill, Stanley and Bernard Helewski; 2 sisters, Regina Schmitt and Frances Schmitt, and her sister-in-law, Annie Schmitt.

Funeral Mass was held Tuesday, Dec. 18, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Smith Corners. The Rev. John Weis, pastor, officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home of Ubly.

Wedding Announcements



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Winter 2002

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- Introduction to Computers
- Got Internet?
- Microsoft Word I
- Microsoft Word II
- Microsoft Excel I
- Microsoft Excel II
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft Publisher
- Using a Digital Camera

Senior Citizen Classes

- Computing for Seniors I
- Computing for Seniors II
- E-Mail for Seniors
- E-Mail Attachments for Seniors
- Safe & Secure Seniors!
- Home & Personal Security
- Surfing the Web for Seniors

Career-Technical Classes

- Automotive Test & Tune
- Basic Machining
- Blue Print Reading for Machinists
- Certified Nurse Aide Training
- Computer Numerical Control
- GED Preparation & Testing
- Drafting & AutoCAD
- Welding and Cutting

Personal Growth Classes

- Cardio Kickboxing
- Cope With Crime Personal Security Seminar
- Floral Wedding Design
- Infant & Child CPR
- Sign Language
- Tiny Tots Swim
- Water Exercise
- Women's Self Defense

Brochure coming to your newspaper the week of January 1st. Registration begins January 7th!

Walk-In: Tuscola Technology Center - EES Office Room 108 (straight-down hallway and last door on right)

Phone: Charge-a-Course (Visa or MasterCard only) 989-673-5300 Ext. 345

Payment is due upon registration. Registration should be completed at least one week before class begins. Some classes have limited space, so register early. Schedule receipts will be mailed.

Detroit Edison for 37 years - retiring in 1973.

He is survived by a son, Lyle (Shirley) Ludlow of Greenville, Ohio; 2 daughters, Ilene (Dale) McCoon of Cass City, and LaDonna Lessman of Las Cruces, New Mexico; 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; a brother, Thomas (Orille) Ludlow of Bad Axe; 2 sisters, Willo (Carl) McLachlin of Port Hope, and Evelyn Bensinger of Ubly, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife Myrtle; a son-in-law, Koert Lessman, and a great-grandson, Brett Sullivan.

Memorial services are pending and will be announced at a later date.

Donations may be made to the Baptist Church, or any community organization.

Stanley McArthur

Stanley Basil McArthur, 98, of Cass City, died unexpectedly Saturday, Dec. 15, 2000, in his home.

He was born June 20, 1903, in Port Huron to Dougal and Lydia (Ball) McArthur. He was a lifelong resident of Cass City. He married Pauline Myrta Squiers June 4, 1927, in Flint. She died Oct. 18, 1999.

He worked at Nestle Milk for 22 years. In 1944 he and his brother-in-law, Leo Ware, began the Mac and Leo Service Station in Cass City, which they operated together for 20 years. He was a very active member of Cass City First Baptist Church. He became a member Feb. 6, 1921.

He is survived by his son, Robert (Joyce) McArthur of Cass City; 3 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; sister, Mardell Ware of Cass City, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Margaret; great-grandson, Philip Robert Adams; sisters, Martha Clement and Grace Law, and brother-in-law, Leo Ware.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 19, at Cass City First Baptist Church with the Rev. Eric Holmgren officiating.

Interment was in Elkland Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Memorials may be made to Cass City First Baptist Church.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

Giovanni Veggian

Giovanni Veggian, 95, of Detroit, died Sunday, Dec. 9, 2001, at Oakwood Commons Nursing Home, Dearborn.

He was born Jan. 24, 1906, in Rovigno, Italy, to Giuseppe and Margherita (Pagliaga) Veggian. He married Concetta Buttiri June 12, 1932, in Rovigno, Italy. She died March 25, 1993.

After their marriage, Giovanni and Concetta had 5 children together. When their last child was born, World War II was in full force. In order to escape communism the family fled their home and Giovanni and his family became refugees. While being shuffled from camp to camp the chance of coming to America presented itself. In 1956 they left Italy for a better life in the United States.

Giovanni worked for General Motors for 18 years, retiring in 1975.

He is survived by his sons, Primo (Joyce) Veggian of Warren, Bruno (Cynthia) Veggian of Troy, Silvano (Dolores) Veggian of Cass City, Tullio (Ruth) Veggian of South Carolina, Frank Veggian of Ann Arbor; 6 grandchildren; 2 brothers and 3 sisters, and many nieces and nephews. A daughter, Rita Veggian, preceded him in death.

Funeral services were held Dec. 12 at Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City, with the Rev. Steve Fillion of St. Pancratius Catholic Church officiating.

Interment was in Ellington Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

The Corn Marketing Program of Michigan is partnering with the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee and Michigan State University Extension to bring check-off funded research results to producers across Michigan.

The organizations are partnering to provide producers with new information gathered by MSU researchers who received funding from either the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) or the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee (MSPC). The meetings begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. The locations include Jan. 10 at Ubly

Heights Country Club in Ubly.

This is the second year CMPM and MSPC have partnered to present results from check-off funded research. Areas of discussion will include rotation resistant rootworm, site specific nitrogen in corn, yield limiting factors in soybeans and

producers will continue to make educated production decisions that will positively affect their farming operations by using these research findings."

For more information about the Michigan Corn and Soybean Winter Meetings, contact the Michigan Corn Office at 888-323-6601.

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Cass City Middle School

Student Spotlight

for the month of November

Teachers select students who possess the following:

1. 6 Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, Citizenship
2. Good grades
3. A positive attitude
4. Regular attendance
5. Shows improvement (academic and/or behavior)



Front row: L to R - Justin Hool, Carly Howard, Travis Mabe, Alex Magiera, Roger McKee, Carly Rabideau, Vicki Seasny, Andrew Teller, Krysta Timko and Megan VanVliet.

Second row: L to R - Andrew Bock, Allen Bussard, Samantha Currier, Shane McFarland, Brandi McKee, Lauren Meek, Cassie Simpson, Jerry Sweeney and Derek Weidman.

Third row: L to R - Brent Becker, Brandy Brown, Tyler Mabe, Katie Pine, Ashleigh Rabideau, Becky Sweeney, Sheila Wasserman and Jason Wilder.

Back row: L to R - Jennie Brinkman, Sarah Childs, Vanna Lor and Brandi Talaski.

Missing: Tommy Burns, Kendra Bitzer and Ryan Storm.



Winner!

KIMBERLY Sweeney of Uby is the latest lucky winner in the Cass City Chamber of Commerce's Christmas in the Village drawings. Sweeney's prize was an American Girl Doll.

Council says "no" to pool funding

Continued from page one.

\$596,216 in State Shared Revenues, the same level of funding received in 2000. The decrease, nearly 3.6 percent, will translate into an overall loss of \$20,000.

Another factor will be the impact the village's new Renaissance Subzone will have on tax revenues. The zone was recently approved by the state, enabling Millennium Industries to move into the former General Cable Co. building and operate virtually tax-free over the next several years.

Sheridan and the council have also begun to discuss the implications of setting up a drinking water treatment system to reduce arsenic levels in compliance with tougher federal guidelines lowering the minimum acceptable levels from 50 to 10 parts per billion.

In other business during the monthly meeting, the council:

• Agreed to look into concerns expressed by Smith regarding a village decision to

stop plowing snow at the Huntsville Mobile Home Park.

Smith said village officials offered to provide the service several years ago during negotiations in which Smith

agreed to annexation of the property. He said he had recently received a letter from Sheridan stating the practice would no longer continue because the park is private property.

The council agreed to continue plowing snow at the park over the next 30 days with a "hold harmless" agreement in place while both Smith and the village research the issue further.

Calendar of Events

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

Thursday, December 20

Free Senior Citizen Bingo, 1-4 p.m., VFW Hall, 4533 Veterans Dr., Cass City. Prizes & refreshments. Sponsored by Post 3644 Ladies Auxiliary.

Friday, December 21

Alcoholics Anonymous, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 23

Everyone is welcome to attend the Christmas program, "Christ the Messiah from Eternity Past to Eternity Future" at the Calvary Bible Fellowship, 4446 Ale St., Cass City at 11 a.m.

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas! Free Community Christmas Dinner, VFW Hall, 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Pool down the drain

Continued from page one.

he could advance his dance career. He is currently spending 5 days in New York looking at schools and another day was missed when he went to Interlochen. Wark was given an extra 2 days in the semester without penalty.

Voting in favor was Biddinger, Haag, Beverley Auten and Rabideau. Voting no were Turner, Severance and Knight.

Wayne Dillon, school work program director and counselor presented statistics to show that on-hand

training has proved valuable to students both on the job and attending 2 and 4-year colleges. He thanked the board for its support and for not insisting that new avenues of education be tried before they were proved to be effective.

Four bids were received for the purchase of a new bus. Low bidder for the chassis was Osentoski Equipment of Pigeon for \$31,617.48. Midwest Transit of Eaton Rapids was low bidder for the body at \$17,209. Together with the only bus trade-in the new unit will cost \$45,626.48.



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Federal sports ruling

Continued from page one.

such as Reed, active on teams in different seasons, would automatically not be available when the seasons are joined.

Finding coaches for teams, especially under the varsity level, is a problem that schools face today.

"We have maintained all along that schools have the best interests of all student athletes at heart, and have made decisions that have maximized participation by girls and boys. John 'Jack'

Roberts, MHSAA director said. "We appreciate the ongoing support of our member schools, administrators, coaches and officials' associations which have stood strong in favor of sports seasons the schools have established." The court ruled that the MHSAA must submit a plan to bring the scheduling of sports seasons into compliance with the law by May 24, 2002, to take effect for the 2003-4 school year.

The submission of such a plan, however, may be delayed pending the appeal of the court decision.

Cass City Area Church Directory

First Presbyterian Church

6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-5400
Sunday School - Sept.-May 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Pastor - Dave Blackburn

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2770
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Evening Prayer for our Nation Wed. 7:30 p.m.
Pastor - Gerald Meyer

Living Word Worship Center

(Where the Word is Life)
6536 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-4637
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wed. (Family Training hour) 7:00 p.m.
Senior Pastors - Michael & Carla Arp

Novesta Church of Christ

2896 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
872-3658 or 872-1195
Bible School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Minister - Chuck Emmert
Youth Minister - Brad Speirs
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

Potter's House Christian Fellowship Church

Corner of 6th and Leach, Cass City, MI 48726
872-5186
Thursday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Pastor - F. Robert Tucker

St. Pancratius Catholic Church

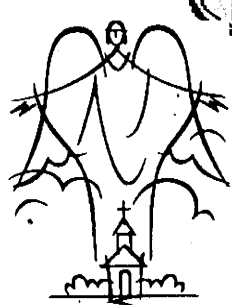
4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-3336
Saturday Liturgy 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
Pastor - Father Steve Fillion

Shabbona United Methodist Church

4045 Decker Rd., (in Shabbona) Decker, MI 48426
810-672-9929 or 810-672-9992
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
UMW Monthly 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.
Youth Program
Pastor - Ellen Burns
Visit our website at: www.dasuparish.com

I Bring You Good News

Everyone enjoys receiving good news. We can just imagine how the shepherds must have responded when an angel of the Lord appeared before them to announce that their Savior was born. The Gospel of Luke tells us that they were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord!" The shepherds then went to Bethlehem to see Jesus with Mary and Joseph, and they told them what the angel had said about the child. Then they went back singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen. After two thousand years, the good news of Jesus Christ is still available for everyone who embraces God's love and mercy. Our Heavenly father has given us His Son so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life. Good news is something that we can never get enough of. The reality that Jesus was born for all mankind is an indication of how much we are loved by God.



She will have a Son, and you will name Him Jesus—because He will save His people from their sins.

Good News Bible
Matthew 1:21

Cass City Church of Christ

6743 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
Building phone 872-5440
Contacts 872-2367 or 872-3136
Worship Service Sunday 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Bible Study Sunday 10:00 a.m. & Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Cass City Church of the Nazarene

6538 Third St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2604 or 872-5201
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study & Children Activities 7:00 p.m.
Pastor - Rev. Darold Ward

Cass City Missionary Church

4393 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2729
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: David Edwards

Cass City United Methodist Church

5100 N. Cemetery Rd., P.O. Box 125, Cass City, MI 48726
872-3422
Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School - Sept.-May 9:30 a.m.
Community Dinner - Monthly (2nd Wed. at noon)
Pastor - Dr. Philip Rice

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726
Phone: 872-5060 Fax: 872-8855
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Midweek Bible Studies
Biblical Counseling
Pastor - Rev. Todd R. Gould



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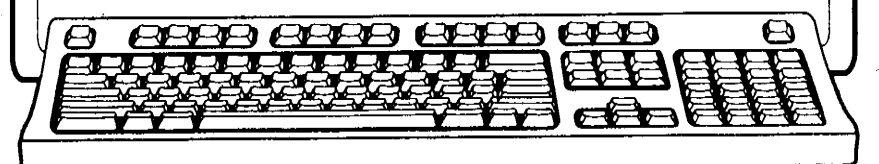
Please Call - 872-4351
6240 W. Main Street, Cass City

Holiday Greetings
from the
Staff of the Cass City Chronicle

*We wish each and every one of you
a Safe and Blessed Holiday Season
filled with love and laughter.*

John Haire
Clarke Haire
JoAnn Asher
Larry Bogart
Mary Damm

Thelma Jackson
Tom Montgomery
Deb Severance
Janet Severance
Harmony Yanowski



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.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by WAYNE AND JANE JENKINS, HUSBAND AND WIFE TO ALLIANCE FUNDING, A DIVISION OF SUPERIOR BANK FSB, Mortgagee, dated June 21, 2000, and recorded on July 18, 2000, in Liber 806, on page 224-34 TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, UNDER THE INDENTURE DATED AS OF 10/01/00 SERIES 2000-3, by an assignment dated and recorded on November 28, 2001, in Liber 849, on page 1108 TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of seventy eight thousand one hundred thirty four and 58/100 Dollars (\$78,134.58), including interest at 12.050% 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 of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI, at 11:00 AM, on January 25, 2002.

Said premises are situated in VILLAGE OF MAYVILLE, TUSCOLA County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing on the 1/4 line at a point 11.6 rods North of 1/4 state between Sections 25 and 36, Town 11 North, Range 9 East, Village of Mayville, Tuscola County, Michigan, thence at right angles running West 10 rods, to a point which shall be taken as the Place of Beginning, thence at right angles running North 5 rods, thence at right angles running West 10 rods, thence at right angles running South 5 rods, thence at right angles running East 10 rods to Place of Beginning.

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

DATED: December 19, 2001

LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE
Assignee of Mortgagee

ATTORNEY FOR: Assignee of Mortgagee

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C.
401 South Old Woodward Avenue
Suite 300
Birmingham, MI 48009-6616
For Information please call:
(248) 540-7701

12-19-4

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 Frank E. Page and Andrea M. Page, his wife, to United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, mortgagee, dated September 26, 1985 and recorded September 26, 1985 in Liber 553, Page 1223, and re-recorded on January 9, 1986 in Liber 556, Page 1360 TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, there is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Four and 34/100 Dollars (\$65,410.34) including interest at the rate of 10.625% 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 of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on January 4, 2002.

The premises are located in the Township of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 21 of Davidson Subdivision, according to the plat recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 10, Vassar Township, Tuscola County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower.

Dated: November 21, 2001

ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC
Attorneys for United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture,
As Mortgagee
2501 Rochester Court
Troy, MI 48063
(248) 457-1000

File # 202-0048

11-21-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Rick Lohorn, a married man and Michelle Lohorn, his wife (original mortgagors) to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., f/k/a a Norwest Mortgage Inc., D/b/a Directors Acceptance, Mortgagee, dated August 31, 1999, and recorded on September 7, 1999 in Liber 781, on Page 476, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE AND 33/100 dollars (\$81,351.33), including interest at 11.000% 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 AM, on February 1, 2002.

Said premises are situated in VILLAGE OF VASSAR, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of Lot 13, Block 4 of Morse's Addition to Village (now City) of Vassar, thence East 136.00 feet; thence South 50.00 feet; thence West 136.00 feet; thence North 50.00 feet to the place of beginning, city of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan, Section 12, Town 11 North, Range 7 East.

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

Dated: December 19, 2001

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
Dolphins 248-593-1309
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200022107

Dolphins

12-19-5

STATE OF MICHIGAN
71B JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION

CASE NO. 01-114-SP

TUSCOLA County Courthouse
440 North State Street
Caro, MI 48723
(989) 672-3800

Plaintiff
GARY C. GOHSMAN
6658 Houghton Street
Cass City, MI 48726

Defendant
PATRICIA G. LITTLEBEAR
13216 N. 99th Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351

Plaintiff's Attorney
Michelle P. Biddinger P39162
4431 S. Seeger Street, P.O. Box 122
Cass City, MI 48726
(989) 872-5601

TO: Defendant, PATRICIA G. LITTLEBEAR

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in this court to forfeit the land contract you entered into with Plaintiff, Gary C. Gohsman, on August 20, 1998. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 12/20/02 at 10:00 a.m. (court hearing date). If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in Cass City Chronicle for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

3. Michelle P. Biddinger, Attorney for Plaintiff, shall post a copy of this order in the courthouse, and at 6733 Sixth Street, Cass City, Michigan (property address) for three consecutive weeks, and shall file proof of posting in this court.

4. A copy of this order shall be sent to Defendant, Patricia G. Littlebear at the last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested, before the date of the last publication, and the affidavit of mailing shall be filed with this court.

Dated: December 5, 2001

Kim David Glaspie,
District Judge
Bar No. P31610

12-12-3

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 Phillip W. Little, a single man and Harold W. Little, a single man, to Option One Mortgage Corporation, mortgagee, dated November 8, 1999 and recorded November 15, 1999 in Liber 787, Page 1001, Tuscola County Records. Said mortgage is now held by Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association, FKA, Norwest Bank Minnesota, National Association, as Trustee, for the Registered Holders of Option One Mortgage Loan Trust 1999-C, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 1999-C, without recourse, by assignment dated November 12, 2001 and submitted to and recorded by the Tuscola County Register of Deeds. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Fifty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixteen and 16/100 Dollars (\$57,916.16) including interest at the rate of 9.99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the 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 AM, on January 18, 2002.

Said premises are situated in Village of Tuscola, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 6 of Matheson's Addition to the Village of Tuscola, According to the recorded Plat thereof, as Recorded in Deed Liber 15, Page 566, Tuscola County Records.

The premises are situated in the Township of Dayton, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel 1: Land Commencing 60 rods West of the Southeast corner of Section 35, Town 11 North, Range 10 East; thence West 5 rods; thence North 7 rods; thence East 5 rods; thence South 7 rods to the Point of Beginning. Being part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 35, Town 11 North, Range 10 East.

Parcel 2: Commencing 7 rods North and 10 rods East of the North Quarter Stake of Section 1, Town 10 North, Range 10 East; thence North 2 rods to P.M. Railroad; thence East 10 rods; thence South 1 rod; thence West 10 rods to the Point of Beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 19, 2001

ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC
Attorneys for Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association, FKA, Norwest Bank Minnesota, National Association, as Trustee, for the Registered Holders of Option One Mortgage Loan Trust 1999-C, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 1999-C, without recourse.
2501 Rochester Court
Troy, MI 48063
(248) 457-1000
File No. 221-0317

12-19-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Howard T. Young and Diane M. Young Husband and Wife (original mortgagors) to First Alliance Mortgage Company, A Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 21, 1999, and recorded on September 21, 1999 in Liber 782, on Page 1078, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and was assigned by mesne assignments to Alliance Mortgage Company, Assignee by an assignment dated April 1, 2000, which was recorded on April 6, 2000, in Liber 798, on Page 403, Tuscola County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY AND 90/100 dollars (\$108,720.90), including interest at 8.500% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on January 11, 2002.

Said premises are situated in VILLAGE OF AKRON, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

The West 6 rods of Lot 1, Block 13 of the Assessors Plat of Akron, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 78-80, now being Pages 288-30B. Also Lots 1 and 2, Block of Cook's Subdivision to the Village of Akron, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 67, now being Page 17B, of Tuscola County Records.

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

Dated: November 28, 2001

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
Wolves 248-593-1312
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200025694

Wolves

11-28-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kevin W. Conner, Sr., a married man and Corliss J. Conner, his wife, who joins in the execution of this mortgage solely to subject her homestead and dower interest to the lien of this mortgage, (original

mortgagors) to Royal Mortgage, Mortgagee, dated May 14, 1998, and recorded on August 11, 1998 in Liber 747, on Page 617, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and was assigned by mesne assignments to The Chase Manhattan Bank, as Indenture Trustee of JMC Home Equity Loan Owner Trust 1998-6 under the Sale and Servicing Agreement dated as of September 1, 1998, assignee by an assignment dated September 7, 2000, which was recorded on October 18, 2000, in Liber 813, on Page 766, Tuscola County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX AND 90/100 dollars (\$66,676.90), including interest at 12.250% 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 AM, on January 18, 2002.

Said premises are situated in Village of Tuscola, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 6 of Matheson's Addition to the Village of Tuscola, According to the recorded Plat thereof, as Recorded in Deed Liber 15, Page 566, Tuscola County Records.

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

Dated: December 5, 2001

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
Tigers 248-593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200126537

Tigers

12-5-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by James L. III a single man (original mortgagors) to Flagstar Bank, FSB, Mortgagee, dated May 24, 2001, and recorded on May 31, 2001 in Liber 833, on Page 1056, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-SEVEN AND 70/100 dollars (\$53,687.70), including interest at 6.875% 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 AM, on January 4, 2002.

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

The North 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of Lot 10, Block 16 of the Plat of Village of Millington, excepting therefrom the West 48 00 feet thereof, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 41, now being Page 2A.

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

Dated: December 19, 2001

First Bank, N.A. as Trustee, Assignee of Mortgagee

Attorneys: Postestivo & Associates, P.C.
36150 Dequindre Rd., Ste 620
Siering Heights, MI 48110
(810) 795-4400 Ext. 110
Our File No. 100.5630

12-19-5

Hawks

11-21-5

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Russell V. Motter and Carol Ann Motter, husband and wife of Tuscola County, Michigan, Mortgagee to Advanta Finance Corp., dated the 21st day of December, A.D. 1999, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan, on the 13th day of January, A.D. 2000, in Liber 792 of Tuscola Records, on page 762, which said mortgage was thereafter, on-to-wit the 12th day of December, A.D. 2000, assigned to Banker's Trust Company of California N.A. as Custodian or Trustee, by assignment and recorded on January 17, 2001 in the office of Register of Deeds in Liber 819 for said County of Tuscola Records, on page 818, of which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of \$106,302.72 (one hundred six thousand three hundred two dollars and seventy-two cents) including interest there on at 11.75% (eleven point seven five percent) per annum.

And no suit proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on Friday, the 11th day of January, A.D. 2002, at 10:00 o'clock said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front entrance of the Courthouse in Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan, of the premises described in said mortgage. The pre-

said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece of land situated in the Township of Wisner, in the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan and described as follows to wit:

COMMENCING AT THE EAST QUARTER CORNER, SECTION 22, TOWN 14 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, WISNER TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA CO., MICHIGAN, THENCE SOUTH 103 DEGREES 44 MINUTES EAST 454.3 FEET ALONG THE EAST SECTION LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, RUNNING THENCE SOUTH 56 DEGREES 39 MINUTES WEST 299.0 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 103 DEGREES 44 MINUTES EAST 259.27 FEET, THENCE NORTH 03 DEGREES 44 MINUTES WEST 165.0 FEET ALONG THE EAST SECTION LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING PART OF THE SOUTH-EAST QUARTER, SECTION 22, TOWN 14 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, WISNER TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

Tax ID: 79-023-022-000-1800-00

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

Dated: December 5, 2001

WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., L.P.A.

By: Daniel E. Best (P-58501)
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee
Welman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A.
755 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. 310
Troy, MI 48068

12-5-5

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Fred Dickerman and Louise Dickerman, Husband and Wife as tenants by the Entirety to New Century Mortgage Corporation, a California Corporation, Mortgagee, dated October 25, 1999 and recorded on November 4, 1999 in Liber 786, on Page 1189, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said Mortgage was assigned to First Bank N.A., as Trustee by an assignment dated November 5, 1999 and recorded August 14, 2000 in Liber 808, Page 668, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Three and 40/100 Dollars (\$51,433.40), including interest at 8.99% 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 o'clock a.m. on Friday, January 25, 2002.

Said premises are situated in City of Kingston, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing 612 feet West of the North-east Corner of the West 1/2 of the North-east 1/4 of Section 27, Town 12 North, Range 11 East; thence West 168 feet; thence South 1050 feet; thence East 780 feet; thence North 435 feet thence West 312 feet; thence North 390 feet; thence West 300 feet; thence North 225 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: December 19, 2001

Attorneys: Postestivo & Associates, P.C.
36150 Dequindre Rd., Ste 620
Siering Heights, MI 48110
(810) 795-4400 Ext. 110
Our File No. 100.5630

12-19-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Michelle R. Burch an unmarried woman (original mortgagors) to First Chicago NBD Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated July 10, 1998, and recorded on July 16, 1998 in Liber 744, on Page 1452, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and was assigned by said mortgagee to the Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Assignee by an assignment dated June 1, 1999, which was recorded on November 15, 2000, in Liber 787, on Page 965, Tuscola County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR AND 76/100 dollars (\$29,154.76), including interest at 7.300% 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 AM, on January 25, 2002.

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

Commencing at a point 21 rods North of the Southeast corner of Section 33, Town 14 North, Range 8 East, thence West 11 1/2 rods, thence North 6 1/2 rods to the point of beginning. Right of way for Ringle Road over the Easterly side thereof.

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

Dated: December 12, 2001

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
Jaguars 248-593-1311
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200129625

Jaguars

12-12-5

tion line, 210.00 feet; thence North 88 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds East, 210.00 feet to a point on said East Section line; thence South 01 degree 15 minutes 00 seconds East, on said East Section line, 210.00 feet to a point of beginning. Right of way for Hards Corner Road over the Easterly side thereof.

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 12, 2001

Professional and Business DIRECTORY

ACCOUNTANTS

**Anderson, Tuckey,
Bernhardt, Doran & Co., P.C.**
Certified Public Accountants
Gary Anderson, CPA (Caro)
Robert Tuckey, CPA (Cass City)
Jerry Bernhardt, CPA (Caro)
Thomas Doran, CPA (Caro)
Valerie Jamieson, CPA (Cass City)
715 E. Frank St., Caro, MI
Phone 872-3137
6261 Church St., Cass City, MI
Phone 872-3730

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2-12-12-3

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2-9-13-1f

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Friday, January 4, 2002
OPEN HOUSE
December 18th 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
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The sale will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the front entrance
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S.E.V. is \$31,400 "Property Sells "AS IS"
The home is a ranch with 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, on a
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MISSING - Female black
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M-81 on Van Dyke Rd.
Please call 872-4502 if you
have seen it. 5-12-12-3

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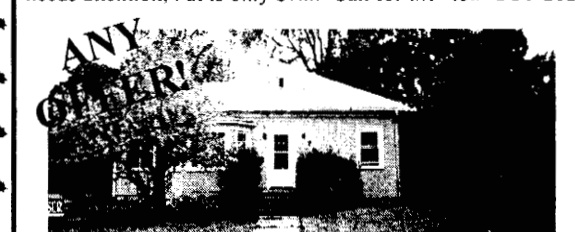
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Who do you put your hope in?



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Dear Friends,
As I write this I wonder how many are dreaming about a white Christmas? Or winter wonderland? Or chestnuts roasting on an open fire? Christmas is a time for dreaming. I still have the radio and fishing tackle box I dreamed about and wished for in 1964.

Remember Clark Griswold (Chevy Chase) in the movie Christmas Vacation? He had a vision of what the perfect Christmas tree would be like. He also had a picture of what the perfect light display would be like. But sometimes all your dreams go up in smoke, don't they?

It wasn't just the tangled lights and blown fuses that ruined Clark's perfect Christmas. He had annoying, no class relatives on his hands. Remember cousin Eddie with his RV? And then there was the disappointment of the already-spent Christmas bonus that never materialized and the police raid that literally destroyed his house.

What a Christmas vacation it was for poor Clark and his family.

You've been there, haven't you? Your business or job starts to go sour... your marriage starts to fall apart... your unmarried daughter announces she is pregnant... a family member commits suicide... the doctor sits on the edge of your bed and with a very solemn face says, "I'm sorry, there is nothing more we can do"... a pink slip greets you at work... a drunk driver crosses the line... and suddenly answers become questions and your hope dies. Your dreams are all up in smoke.

Well, that's how it was for

the friends and followers of Jesus. For hundreds of years these people had been dreaming. The Jewish nation dreamed of the coming Messiah. He would be their Savior. Now their dreams were finally coming true in the person of this little baby born in Bethlehem.

For a while everything was picture perfect. Things were going great. He proved deity over and over again. But after 3 years, the tide of public opinion turned on Him almost over night.

Did their dream die? Who had they put their hope in? Who do you put your hope in?

Some hope chest? We humans are incurable hoppers. We hope all the time. Hope is why kids go nuts on Christmas morning. Hope is why we get married. Hope is why we have children. Hope is why people pay to send their kids to college. Hope is why people buy those ab machines. Hope is why we are still Lions fans. We all have hopes, high hopes, and exciting hopes. I see it at graduation time every year.

When darkness covers your whole land (life), who will you put your hope in? When you have to stand at a distance, powerless to control the situation you are in, who will you put your hope in? When that happens where will you find the power to battle depression, disillusionment and deep discouragement? How will you find the strength to get up and live again? How will you find the courage to ever dream again? IT DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU PUT YOUR HOPE.

As it turns out, those dreamers who followed Jesus and put all their hope in Him - had put their hope in the right place after all. Luke 24:1-2 says, "But very early on Sunday morning the women came to the tomb... but couldn't find the body of the Lord Jesus."

Then they remembered what He had said about rising from the dead and living forever.

That changed everything. Dreams CAN be resurrected. Darkness will not always cover you land. God does not stand at a distance and helplessly watch your life. He has power to give you back your life... He has power to help you dream new dreams. He has power to pull you out of that deep dark pit of doubt and despair... He has power to dry your tears.

Santa - we'll leave you cookies, milk



Seth and Breanna Frank

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Breanna and

Santa - I've been soo good



Tori Davis

Santa,

My mom and I are going to make you great cookies this year. I have been sooo good. I would really like a bubbles swimming doll, a toy puppy, a Mary Kate & Ashley movie, and a "Nutteracker" Barbie. Thanks for everything.

Love,
Tori Davis

I am almost 5 years old. My brother Seth is 7 months old so I am the one to write this letter for the both of us. I would like sparkly nail polish, roller skates, and a pinky bear because I gave mine to my grandma who is up in heaven this year.

Seth would like a racecar like my daddy has, except a smaller version, and also some other toys. We have been pretty good this year. Please don't forget about our cousins, I am sure they have been good this year too!

We will leave you cookies and milk and carrots for your reindeer. I wanted to leave you cheese like on the commercial, but dad said you like cookies better.

Love,
Breanna and Seth Frank

Merry Christmas



Christmas day is almost here
It's the happiest of events
May yours be filled with love and cheer
From all of us at Special Scents

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Just a note: I've been good

Dear Santa

Just a note to say...I have been waiting for you for a long time. I have been good! I would thank you if you bring me: a doll, radio, four wheeler, monopoly game and some surprises! Can you say hi to Mrs. Santa and the reindeer for me?

I would thank you if you could bring my brother some toys too! I went to your cousins house last night. We have our tree up. Well I suppose I should go...bye. See you next year!

Love, your friend
Alexis Fetterhoff

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MERRY CHRISTMAS



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I'd like something special

Dear Santa,
I live in North Carolina and can't wait to visit my Grandpa and Grandma Decker in Cass City this Christmas. I have been a good

girl this year. Please bring me something special. My brother, Danny, would like a dinosaur or a train. He's been pretty good this year. Don't forget to bring some-

thing for my baby brother, Matthew.
My Grandma makes the best cookies! I'll make sure she leaves a lot of them for you.
Love,
Cassidy, Danny & Matthew Decker

P.S. I have the world's greatest Mom and Dad!



Cassidy Decker

*Do you
have room
for him?*



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Christmas a time for all to rejoice

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Cass City is known as the Christmas Village and celebrates this wonderful holiday in grand style every year. But the original Christmas village was a community located in north central Judea about 5 miles south of Jerusalem called Bethlehem.

In the familiar Christmas story taken from Luke, chapter 2, the writer gives details surrounding Christ's birth from Mary's perspective and lists Bethlehem as the city of David. Joseph and Mary, in obedience to the decree to register for the Roman census at the place of their ancestry, traveled to Bethlehem because they were both of David's lineage.

Most of us who are familiar with this story are enthralled with the miraculous events accompanying the birth of the Savior there. But in Luke 2:7 there is a phrase that we sometimes forget, one that foreshadowed the future of earthly life of God's only Son: "And she...laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Certainly, between our motel and the bed and breakfasts in Cass City, we doubtless turn few guests away. But the little inn at Bethlehem was full and there was nothing else from which to choose. When Mary's time came to deliver, the stable was the only thing offered - an indication of the way the world would begrudge Jesus Christ His rightful place among us.

Later, in His public ministry, the Lord Himself said, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." Luke 9:58.

The Pharisees had no room for Jesus when they begrudged Him His power and said He casts out demons by the prince of the demons (Matthew 12:24). They begrudged Him the right to His Father's house when they questioned, "By what authority do you do these things?" (Matthew 21:23). They even begrudged Him, Lord of the Sabbath, the right to the Sabbath Day when He healed the sick and made whole the withered hand (Matthew 12:10). In addition, they begrudged Him the homage of harlots and publicans and murmured in Luke 15:2, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

Judas begrudged Him the sweet perfume of the alabaster box (John 12:3-8) and the priests begrudged Him the sweet hosannas of the children (Matthew 21:16). And, finally, at the cross, Jesus Christ was even begrudged a dignified death.

Certainly, when Jesus came to His own, His own received Him not (John 1:10) and the fact that there was no room for Him at the inn in Bethlehem was only the first indication of it.

But today, if Christ came to Cass City, the town known as the Christmas Village, could He find room here? Friends, He is here! At this wonderful holiday celebration given in His honor, do you personally have room for Him in your heart?

Merry Christmas and God bless!

Christmas is a time to rejoice! A time of joy and laughter with family and friends, as the spirit of giving and celebration penetrate the air leading up to Christmas day. Yet much of the apparent rejoicing rings hollow.

In the midst of this season of joy, many think they can spend their way to happiness, or find joy in a bottle, or cover over an empty spirit with sparkling tinsel and colorful wrapping. However, Christmas only produces real joy for those who understand the meaning of the manger. The only true rejoicing is found in God and His provision for us.

Centuries before the birth of Christ, the prophet Isaiah pointed ahead to a day when God would do something remarkable to save His people, something we will celebrate at Christmas. We rejoice because of what God has done through Christ.

There is nothing more heart-breaking at this time of year than people who do not understand the miracle of the manger, who cannot truly voice the praise, "Joy to the world, the Lord has come, let earth receive her King". Only when we recognize the glory of God can we truly move beyond the "desert" of sin and aimlessness and be moved into the "garden" of God's presence.

In Matthew 11:4 where Jesus sends words to John the Baptist: "The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor". Jesus lays claim to Isaiah's prophecy to demonstrate that in his own person, the compassion of God has been revealed.

If we believers have a right to ask questions, and we do, then it must also be the case that the Lord Jesus has a right to ask us some questions. Perhaps He is asking today, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" Possibly, He is asking today, as He asked the apostle Peter so long ago, "Do you truly love me?" Show him in how you live. Through Christ, God's glory is revealed. Embrace it, rejoice in it, and help reveal it to others. The joy of this blessed Christmas season will truly bring you into the garden of God's presence.

Here's my list Santa

Dear Santa,
I've been a good girl. This year I want a doll stroller and a slide and a shirt. I will leave you cookies.
I love you.

Your friend,
Geneva Morris
age 8

Please bring a Jeep for Barbie

Dear Santa,
I've been a good girl this year. I want a Barbie Jeep with Barbie dolls in it. I want a new hat, coat and mittens. I want a candy cane on my tree.
I will leave you chocolate milk and cookies.
Merry Christmas!

Your friend,
Christa Irvin
age 9

Hometown Holiday Greetings...



THE THUMB NATIONAL Bank staff members are: (from left) Dale McIntosh, Joyce King, Ben Schott, Michelle Hill, Pam LaFave, Mary King, Cindy Kruse, Curtis Strickland, Deb Deering, Kelli Hendrick.

*Pam
Happy Holidays*

*Have a Blessed
Holiday Season!
Cindy*

*Ben
Happy Holidays*

*Seasons Greetings!
Kelli*

*Peace on Earth
Good will to men.
Mary*

*Wishing you,
Good Health & Happiness
Curtis*

*Debbie
Merry Christmas!*

*Wishing you
The Season's Best
Mae*

*Merry Christmas
Michelle*

*Happy New Year
Joyce*

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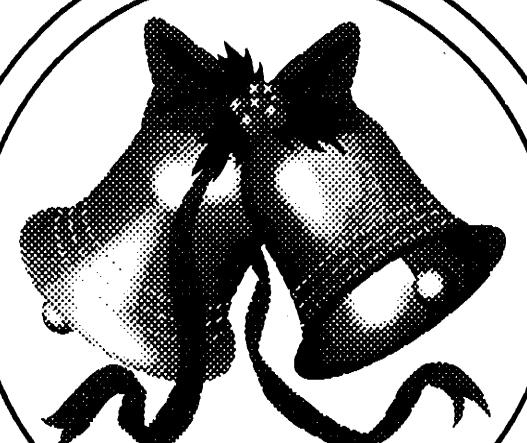
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Christmas tree a symbol of hope

Rev. Darold Ward
Cass City Church of the Nazarene

During the holiday season every year, a great symbol of hope is seen everywhere around the world. That unlikely symbol is the Christmas tree.

From the humble beginning of a tiny seed, a young tree begins to grow. It struggles to survive against powerful winds and pelting rain and manages to stay green even during times of intense heat and terrible cold weather. Eventually its roots grow deeper and its base widens and it is able to withstand the deadliest forces of nature.

Yet, it is at just this point someone comes along and violently cuts the pine tree from its rich soil from which its life-blood comes. The

trunk is pierced so that it can stand on display for all to see. Eventually, the green life fades away, the branches hang low and the dead tree is cast aside.

Many years ago, in the humble setting of a stable in a tiny village, a poor child was born. He struggled to survive against opposition from a powerful king and religious authorities and managed to stay true even during times of intense temptation and the terrible, cold abandonment of his closest friends. Eventually he had grown in wisdom and in stature and in the knowledge of God.

Yet, it was just when he seemed to reach the peak of his career, his life was violently cut short. His body was pierced so that he could be hung, of all places, on a tree outside Jerusalem for all to see. Before the night was over, his life faded away, his corpse hung limp and the dead Jesus was cast aside in a borrowed tomb.

The Christmas tree's story is not over, for its seeds are scattered and grow to have new life. Jesus' story is not over either for, unlike the tree, God raised his body to life through the power of the Holy Spirit. If we believe this and accept Jesus as the ruler of our life we become like the seeds that are scattered and are as beautiful on the inside as the Christmas tree is on the outside.

Let the hope of Jesus bless you and fill you this season. May the Spirit remind you of this every time you see a pine tree. Merry Christmas and God bless.

Our wish for you this Christmas

Rev. Gerald A. Meyer
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The original Christmas Village was the little town of Bethlehem located in a region of the world quite often called Palestine at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea.

It was not decorated with lights, in fact it was so unprepared for the Christ after whom "Christmas" is named, that when He did appear on the scene there was no room for Him in any form of conventional housing. He was born in a stable and laid in a manger.

The hymn writer Phillips Brooks latches on to that fact when he writes the prayer:

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin And enter in,

Be born in us today."
Jesus came to Bethlehem being carried there by His mother. Likewise Jesus comes to us today nestled in the Words of the Holy Scriptures as they are read and proclaimed. He comes to us in the message of the angels: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ, the Lord."

Our Christmas wish for you: May the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.

O come, let us adore him

Rev. Phillip Rice
Cass City United Methodist Church

Winter officially begins Dec. 21 this year, at 2:22 p.m. E.S.T. We may have ice and snow before then, but it's not officially winter until Dec. 21 at 2:22 p.m. That's the winter solstice. From that time, the sun will arise a trifle earlier in the morning and set a tad bit later in the evening.

The irony of the winter solstice is that while it is the official beginning of winter, the season of ice and snow, it also signals the beginning of the process that will bring spring. So the day that sees the least sunshine of the year (in the northern hemisphere) is the day that brings the

guarantee that the cold will not last forever, and that the flowers will grow again.

The birth of Jesus was like that, a "winter solstice" that showed the world how dark it had really become - where oppression, hopelessness, and loneliness held sway. And at the same time, his birth signaled the eventual end of these evils, just as surely as winter must give way to spring. That is the promise of the kingdom of God.

Of course, just as there is a lot of ice and snow to come after the winter solstice, there was (and is) plenty of darkness after the coming of Christ. Still, the winter solstice guarantees the end of winter, and the coming of the Holy One of Bethlehem spells the eventual end of the world's wickedness, suffering, and pain.

This is what we celebrate at Christmas. It is a wonderful truth to embrace as we endure winter, the recession and our war with terrorism. The truth of Jesus will be a treasure in our hearts and minds, and we can be people of faith, hope, love, and joy.

"O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord."

Receive the gift

Pastor Michael Arp
Living Word Worship Center

When I think of Christmas, my mind is immediately drawn to the Christmas Story. I am not referring to Santa, a sleigh, or 8 tiny reindeer, but the birth of a newborn baby. The child's name is Jesus, the only begotten Son of God.

The Bible tells the story with flair and great detail. We can read of His miraculous conception, the virgin mother's shock, and the rejection of His earthly father. But the story quickly shifts from Nazareth to a small village called Bethlehem. We read about a stable, shepherds in the fields, and Angels singing, "Glory to God in the Highest. Peace on Earth, Goodwill to men". The story concludes with the Wisemen bearing gifts for this amazing child. But, now the rest of the story...

I understand that we cannot neglect the wonderful setting of Christ's birth, but Christmas came for a reason. God wasn't thinking about Christmas sales and Santa Claus when He gave us His son.

Christmas can be summed up in one verse: John 3:16; For God so loved the world,

that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Humanity needed a savior, so God gave us His one and only son, Jesus Christ. The reason was love, and the result was eternal life. It's just that simple. This year remember, Jesus was your gift. Please receive him.

Were you sick before, dear Santa?

Dear Santa,
I've been a good girl. This year I want a calculator and lots of crayons and coloring books. I want a stuffed lion and a poem book and a stuffed monkey. I want lots of flash cards. I am putting out cookies and milk. Were you sick last year?

Your friend,
Renae Janssen
age 10

Say hi to Rudolph for me

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy. I want 2 dirt bike toys, a stuffed monkey, and a stuffed lion too. I would like a new bike and a Playstation Motorcycle game. Say Hi to Rudolph for me.

P.S. I want a Mongoose bike that has pegs.

Your friend,
Matthew Todd
age 9 1/2



Katie & Blair Tiseo

Dear Santa,

Our names are Katie and Blair Tiseo and we are 7 and 5 years old. How was your summer? We've been good girls this year. For Christmas we would like a My Size Sugar Plum Fairy Barbie, a Junie B. Jones book, My Size Starlight Barbie, some clothes for Kit, and some ornaments for our Christmas tree.

Please help Uncle Mike,

Denise and Addison have a safe trip home. We will leave you some milk and cookies and some carrots and water for your reindeer.

Don't forget, Santa



Bobbie Jean Keys-Chappel

Hi Santa,

My name is Bobbie Jean and I'm 6 1/2 years old. I've been really good this year!

Love,
Katie & Blair Tiseo
P.S. Thank you for the gifts we got last year. We loved them!

For Christmas this year I would like the Sugar Plum Princess Barbie and the Ken doll Prince Eric. I would also like some new games and a talking Boo Doll and the Movie Jurassic Park III. You could bring my sister Ashley some clothes and CDs. That's all she wants this year.

Don't forget to stop by and see my Grandma and Grandpa Chappel in Marlette.

I will leave you some cookies and a coke!

Love,
Bobbie Jean Keys-Chappel
Kingston



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Here's our list, Santa



Joshuah Edward & Tiffanie Kay Guigar

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Joshua and this is my seventh Christmas. I am 6 1/2 years old and in the first grade. Maybe I

could have tried a little harder to be a real good boy, but I am doing very good in school and that should count?

My sister's name is Tiffanie and this is her third Christmas. She is 2 1/2 years old and tries to be a good little girl, but loves to get into everything, especially my things. Mom says that she takes after me. She always goes to the bus stop with mom to wait for me to get off the bus and hollers "Joshy" with a big smile and open arms for a hug.

What I would like for Christmas is a Lava Lamp, money, lots of books because I love to read, cool tennis shoes, shirts and pants, ten muscle machine cars, a portable CD player with head

phones and CDs to go with it (Aaron Carter, Britney Spears and Nsync) and all the other things I had on my list and anything else you may think I need or would like. After all, you gave me the best gift ever when I was 4 1/2 years old, "my cute little sister".

Please bring my sister a dolly, even though she would rather have a car, Yano, shoes, clothes, especially dresses, nice hair pieces to show off her pretty, curly hair and money, since she loves it too. Oh, and don't forget her jewelry!

Our mom doesn't want anything, but hopes we get everything we want. Our dad, well, he always wants something.

We want to wish our nanna a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with all our love, hugs and kisses.

Santa, we will leave out a glass of milk and a plate of cookies. I just hope some of it doesn't disappear because

Tiffanie loves milk and a late night snack. For your reindeer, we will leave a big bag of sugar. Tell Rudolph to get plenty of rest so his nose is in good working order on Christmas Eve. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love,
Joshuah Edward & Tiffanie Kay Guigar

Merry Christmas, Santa

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy. Please bring me a flashlight, a light for my hard hat, a fire truck I can ride in, and toy tools.

I will leave you cookies, but no milk.

Merry Christmas!

Your friend,

Jeremy Ross
age 8

Dear Santa I've been good

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year. I want a drum set, dirt bike, Playstation 2 and dirt bike clothes with fox on them. I want a Rottweiler too. Merry Christmas. ho-ho-ho

Your friend,
Ethan Kucharczyk



RICK AND Michelle Salcido, pictured above with their daughter, Abbey Nichole, portrayed the Holy family in the Cass City United Methodist Church's Christmas Pageant, held Sunday evening.

We'll leave goodies for the reindeer



Erika Martin

Dear Santa:

My name is Erika Martin. I am 4 years old. My brother, Andrew, my sister, Emily, and I have been extra good this year. Please bring Andrew some neat stuff and bring Emily a new two-teeth doll. I would like a Miracle Baby, Cinderella, and some Barbies.

My family will leave out cookies and milk for you and carrots for Rudolph. Have a good night.

Love, Erika

Do you like chocolate chip?

Dear Santa,

I've been a good boy this year. I want a sled, a train, a robot, a hug, and some army men.

Would you like chocolate chip cookies?
Your friend,
David Clemens
age 10

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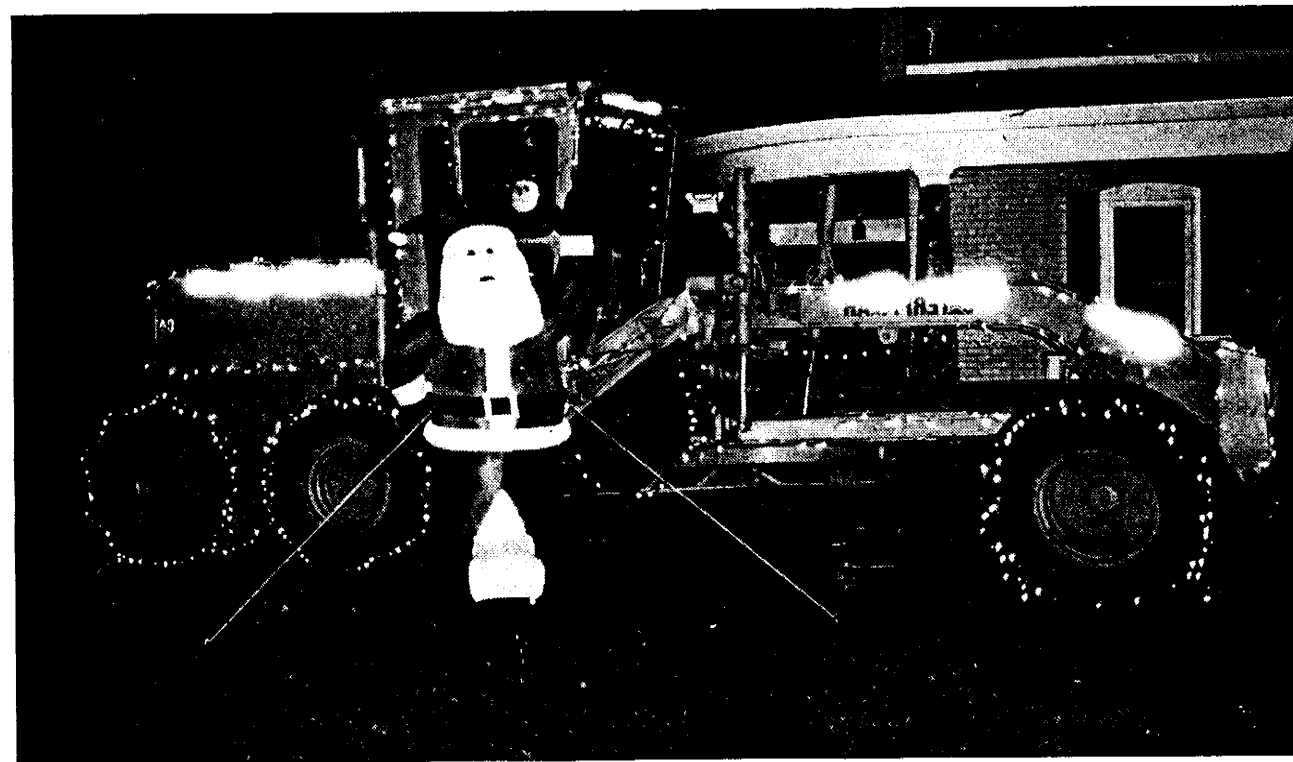
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Cass City Chronicle 872-2010

Meyer urges quick response

QDM surveys going out

Selected landowners and hunters will begin receiving survey letters during the next 2 weeks to gauge support for the Quality Deer Management (QDM) plan proposed for Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac counties.

State Rep. Tom Meyer reminds those receiving the surveys to return them to the Department of Natural Resources as quickly as possible to ensure the Michigan Natural Resources Commission has a complete picture of local attitudes.

"The QDM proposal has been very controversial for the Thumb area," said Meyer, R-Bad Axe. "Nothing ever pleases everyone, the best that can be done is to do what the majority of the people desire."

The plan was submitted by the Thumb Area Branch of QDM, which emphasizes the need to protect yearling bucks, allowing more to reach maturity, and at the same time harvest an adequate number of adult does in order to reduce the deer density and improve the

buck-to-doe ratio as well as overall herd health. The group's goal is to increase the number of bucks in the 2 1/2- to 3 1/2-year class.

Opponents of the measure, however, say the proposal is trophy management and violates the rights of all hunters to decide which deer to harvest. Some residents have also questioned whether hunters will be willing to harvest does, and they say the QDM plan would adversely affect the genetics of the deer herd by moving more younger bucks into the breeding cycle.

A number of hunters have also criticized the DNR's survey method because only a select number of hunters and landowners will decide the issue.

Meyer, who describes the survey as short and simple, urges all residents who receive a survey to take the time to complete them and mail them back promptly.

The mailing will be sent to 1,000 random owners of Thumb area property (at least 5 acres). Another 1,000 forms

will go to deer hunters who have answered surveys in the past.

The forms include a letter from the DNR explaining the QDM proposal and the survey process, a 3-question survey with a map of the affected region and a postage-paid return envelope.

There are 2 yes/no questions - one asks if the respondent hunts deer in Huron, Sanilac or Tuscola counties, and the other if the respondent owns property in any of those counties.

The third question, which asks if the respondent supports the QDM proposal, reads as follows:

"A proposal has been submitted to the DNR to modify deer harvest regulations in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola counties (Deer Management Units 032, 076 and 079). The proposal requires that: 1) a legal buck be defined as a deer with at least 4 antler points on one antler; 2) an adequate number of antlerless deer be harvested annually to meet population goals and to achieve an

adult-buck-to-adult-doe ratio of 1:2 or lower; and 3) the regulation be in place for 5 years beginning with the fall of 2002 deer hunting seasons."

Respondents can answer "yes", "no", or "no opinion", which will result in a "no" vote, or "don't care", which will not count as supporting or opposing. A majority of 66 percent of the hunters and landowners must support the plan to enact the change.

If the proposal is approved, violating the 4-point rule would be subject to fines similar to taking illegal game - a \$1,000 restitution fee, loss of hunting privileges for 3 years, 5 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

"The commission's meeting agenda calls for a discussion of the proposal in February and a decision to be rendered at its March meeting," Meyer said. "I will present all the written comments people have sent me since October, but it is important for survey recipients to get them mailed in as soon as possible."

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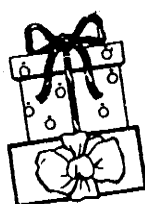
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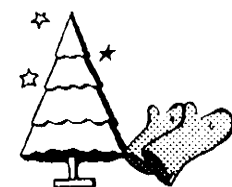
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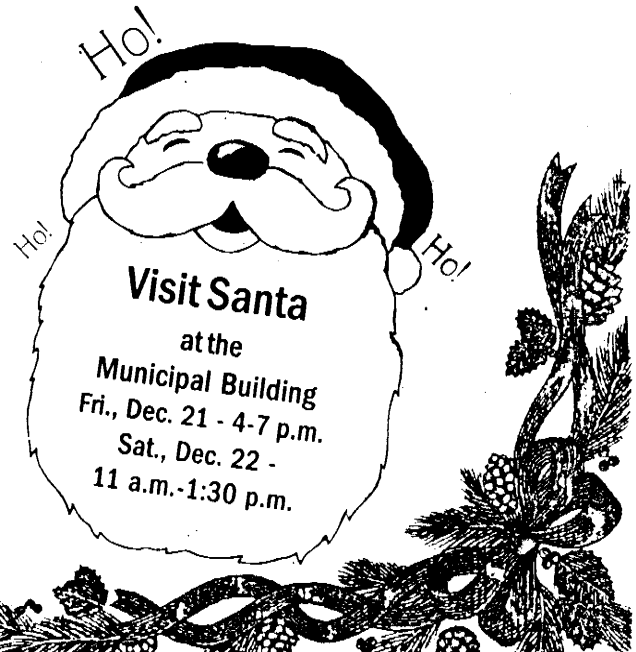
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