



CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2004

FIFTY CENTS

14 PAGES PLUS 2 SUPPLEMENTS

Gruber mending after gun shot accident

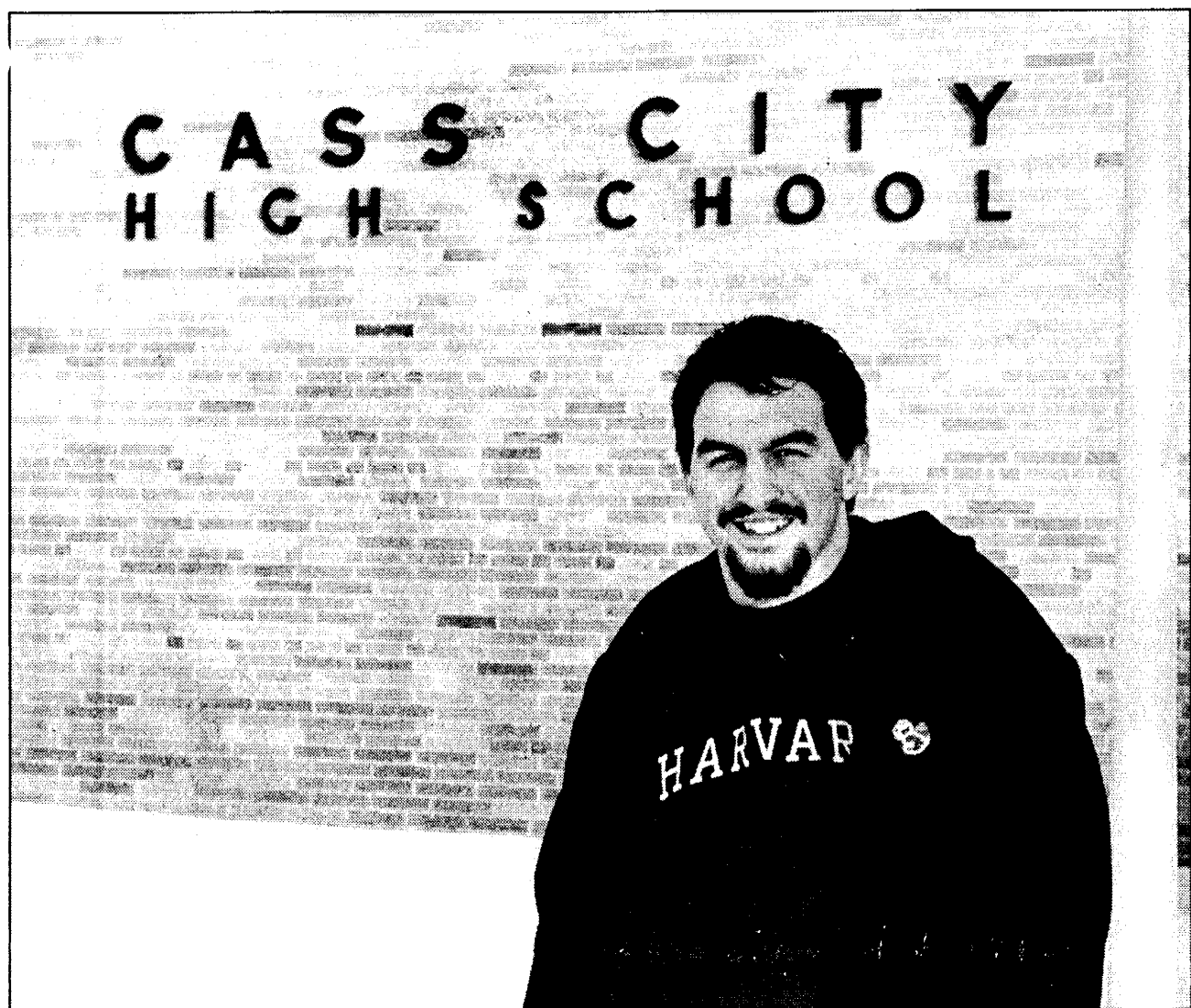
A Cass City area man is continuing to recover from a shotgun wound he suffered in a hunting accident near his Elkland Township residence.

Troopers from the Michigan State Police post in Caro reported the accident occurred Saturday, Dec. 18, on private property near Elmwood and Cemetery roads.

According to reports, the victim, William J. Gruber Sr., 49, 6787 Elmwood Rd., told troopers he was leaving his tree stand at about 5:30 p.m. when he bent over to pick up his backpack. The pistol, a .50 caliber single shot muzzleloading handgun, was holstered in his bandoleer, which fell when he bent over. The weapon struck the stand and discharged, hitting Gruber in the lower torso.

Williams was able to walk to his vehicle and drive to his home, where he honked his horn to get his wife's attention.

Williams was transported to Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City for emergency treatment. He was then transferred to Covenant hospital in Saginaw, where he underwent surgery to repair his stomach.



CASS CITY HIGH School senior Jesse Rader will walk the halls of Harvard University next fall. Harvard recently accepted the 17-year-old Cass City area resident for admission with the Class of 2009.

Harvard University bound

Jesse Rader awarded rare scholarship

A couple months ago Jesse Rader wasn't sure if he had what it takes to attend just about any school he chooses after accepting his high school diploma next year.

A Cass City High School senior, Rader knows it now.

The 17-year-old was recently accepted for admission at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. He'll start attending classes there next fall.

"I've shaken a lot of hands, gotten a lot of congratula-

tions," Rader said of the reaction he's received since Harvard officials sent him an e-mail Dec. 15 and a confirmation letter a couple days later, congratulating him.

Rader has reason to be excited.

Harvard is the oldest and perhaps most prestigious institution of high learning in the United States. Founded in 1636 - 16 years after the arrival of the Pilgrims at Plymouth — the university has grown from 9 students with

a single master to an enrollment of more than 18,000 degree candidates, including undergraduates and students in 10 principal academic units. An additional 13,000 students are enrolled in one or more courses in the Harvard Extension School.

The university employs some 14,000 people, including more than 2,000 faculty. The school has many distinguished alumni, including presidents John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Theodore

and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Rutherford B. Hayes, John Fitzgerald Kennedy and George Bush. The university's faculty has produced 40 Nobel laureates.

Rader, who plans to study engineering in either the medical or science fields, has been thinking about his college plans for some time. "Quite awhile," he said, "but not Harvard."

It was a university information book he received in the mail before school started this year that got him thinking about Harvard.

"At first I didn't think much about it because I didn't really think I had a chance," he recalled. "Then I did some research and I found out I'm not too far off, and I thought, okay, I'll send it (admission application) in."

"I didn't know what would come of it, so I didn't really worry about it."

Rader has maintained a near perfect grade point average at about 3.9 and earned at least average scores on the American College Test (ACT).

The application process included a personal interview with an alumnus who resides in the Flint area. Rader also had to secure 2 teacher recommendations and another from a counselor. He indicated the written application itself was a bit of a surprise.

"Actually, it was easier than most of the schools I looked at. There was only one essay, whereas with University of Michigan there were 3."

Rader also completed 3 SAT subject tests, earning average scores in chemistry

and biology and an above average score in math.

"I just waited after that," he said, adding an e-mail confirming his status arrived from Harvard by Dec. 15, just as school officials had promised. "It just said, congratulations, you've been accepted."

Interestingly, the prospects for financing an education at Harvard — about \$42,000 a year — didn't enter the picture until after Rader was accepted. In fact, he pointed out, university officials didn't ask because they have programs to ensure students can afford to complete their education.

"Their financial aid package should make it fairly easy for me," Rader said. "They pay for what you can't, and if a family makes less than \$40,000, the family isn't expected to contribute."

"They will put him to work and (there are) scholarships and things. Whatever it takes, they will get you educated," said Rader's mother, Susie, who has 3 other children at home; Alex and Ivy Hiatt, both juniors at Cass City High School, and Michael Rader, 6.

Rader is looking forward to experiencing Harvard, and there are plenty of others that share his enthusiasm, including officials at Cass City High School, where Rader has been active in a number of activities, including Student Council and band.

School Supt. Ken Micklash said he can't recall another Cass City student being accepted by Harvard.

Please turn to back page.

LaPonsie withdraws from village manager position

The Cass City Village Council took a step back in its quest to replace Frank Sheridan as village manager Monday night in a special meeting at the municipal building. Lou LaPonsie, Cass City, who was hired by a 6-1 vote, withdrew his name from consideration as a village manager for what was expected to be a one-year term.

LaPonsie withdrew, president Bert Althaver explained, after reading in the Chronicle that he did not have the unanimous support of the village council.

The council then turned its attention to hiring a temporary and permanent village manager.

Sheridan suggested that the council hire the Michigan Municipal League (MML) to conduct a search.

He said that there are 12 persons who would take a part-time 20 hours or so a week job on a temporary basis. Most of these qualified persons are retired and are

not looking for full time employment, Sheridan said. Two of the persons available are within reasonable driving distance.

It is expected that the council will be ready to act on another special meeting slated for Jan. 10.

It is estimated that the search for a permanent manager will take several months and the MML fee for conducting the search will be in the neighborhood of \$5,500. The budget for conducting the hiring search and filling the manager role for the year has been set at \$100,000, trustee Jeff Gillig said.

Trustee Don Richards, who will be one of the persons involved in recommending a candidate to the council, asked what the committee should be looking for. Discussion revealed that it should be someone familiar with the paperwork required to meet the demands for a water treatment plant.

On a temporary basis, Sheridan said, there isn't a

great many qualified people who would accept the job and the village may have to accept the most qualified person available, although they might not have all the qualifications desired.

The council then discussed tax abatement for personal property to be installed in the building at the corner of Dorr and Garfield streets. He said that the tax abatement is for personal property only and does not include the real estate. Of course, if the company moves the equipment out before the end of the tax abatement period, they must pay the money that the plan saved the company.

The tax abatement reduces the company's tax from 50 percent of true cash value to 25 percent. It appears that there is a consensus to approve the tax abatement at the Jan. 10 meeting.

By a voice vote, the council expressed appreciation for the work that Sheridan did as village manager and thanked him for his efforts.

Year 2004 in review

The year 2004 was not unlike any other year in that the only constant was change.

For some, the past 12 months will be remembered fondly, while others will mourn events that shaped the year in their lives. For most, it was a continuing journey of living and working together, celebrating new life and grieving the loss of loved ones, basking in each success, and struggling with the challenges.

And all the while the community in which they live has continued to change and evolve.

Many of those changes were reflected on the pages of this newspaper, just as they have been for many years.

Although one person's opinion of the most important stories invariably differs with those of another, we feel it's appropriate to take one more look back at the top stories in the Cass City area in 2004.

ECONOMY

Michigan's economic woes continued to trickle down to local government in 2004, with state officials reducing red ink on the backs of counties, villages, townships and schools.

For area schools, that meant broken promises of full pupil funding, with the state finally promising \$6,700 in funding per student - the same amount promised 3 years earlier. During that time, Cass City Schools' funding was reduced by about \$255,000. The belt tightening meant significant increases in fees for driver's education.

At the county level, the loss of a half-million dollars in state shared revenue prompted Tuscola County

commissioners to ask voters for additional tax revenue to fully fund the sheriff's department road patrol. Voters rejected the request in August and again in November.

The end result will be reduced man power for Sheriff Tom Kern, who outlined cuts, including the loss of 4 of his 16 road patrol officers, effective at the start of the new year.

The future prospects for county finances remain gloomy. The state formulated a plan to provide counties with state revenue sharing they are no longer receiving by shifting tax collections from December to July over a 3-year period, creating a pool of money that counties can draw on. However, for Tuscola County, that well will run dry within 4 years.

TRAGEDIES

Few years are unmarked by tragedy, but 2004 was particularly deadly for young people in the Cass City area.

Among the deaths were those of Michael Wark, 19, Cass City, Drew DeLong, 22, Kingston, and James Morell, 16, Bad Axe, who were killed in a head-on collision in Huron County's Verona Township last April.

Another 2-vehicle accident claimed the life of 17-year-old Cory Merz, of Gagetown. The Cass City High School senior died when his car struck a vehicle at the corner of Dodge and Milligan roads in June.

More recently, Cass City High School senior Andrew Haas, 18, of Uby, died as a result of head injuries he suffered in a fight during a weekend party in Elmwood Township in November. The Tuscola County Prosecutor's Office is expected to issue charges against the as-of-yet-unnamed suspect.

FACELIFT

The year was certainly unequalled in terms of change in the make-up of Cass City Village government.

A virtually complete facelift took place. The spring elections saw incumbent village President Les Karr along with trustees Cathy Kropewnicki, Steve Wright and Matt Prieskorn all opt not to seek reelection. Trustee Don Ball was also gone, having previously resigned.

Coming on board were former longtime village President Bert Althaver and newcomers Dwight Thabet, Jon Zdrojewski, Jenny Zawilinski and Don Richards. In July, Trustee Dale McIntosh was forced to resign when he moved out.

Please turn to page 9.

Gifts await first newborn of 2005

The arrival of a new year will have special meaning to couples that also welcome their own little arrivals, but just when the first baby of 2005 will be born is impossible to predict.

Will the birth take place just minutes or hours after the bells start ringing at midnight, Jan. 1, or will several days or even weeks pass before the blessed event?

Regardless, the first baby of the new year born to a Cass City area family will be showered with gifts and well wishes from local merchants, a tradition that has continued for many years.

The only question mark each year is timing. In 2002, the first baby, Anthony James Gamet, did not arrive until Jan. 18, and in 2003, Michelle Smith of Cass City gave birth to the area's first baby, Ian Matthew Vasquez, Jan. 23. In 2004, the first baby, Trinity Marie Middaugh, was born Jan. 8 to Brenda and Chad Middaugh of Deford.

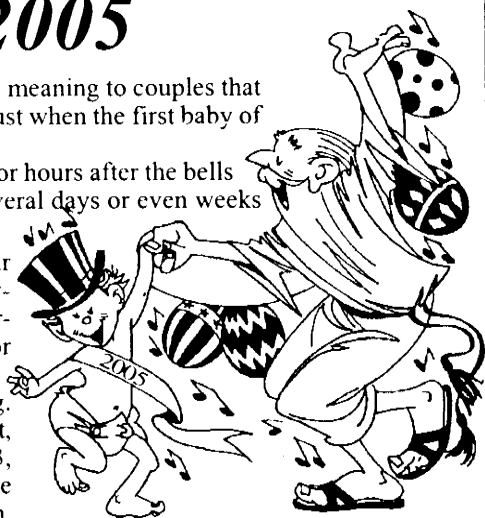
As was true in 2004, this year's proud parents will receive an evening out with 2 free passes and free refreshments at the Cass Theatre.

Coach Light Pharmacy will give \$10 towards any prescription needed by the family, and Erla's will send best wishes to the new arrival with a \$10 gift certificate.

Special Scents Flower Shoppe has a \$20 floral bouquet to help the family, while Book Mart Photo Studio and New Sheridan Health Mart Pharmacy is donating a free photo session package.

Also, 2 banks in the community will start the baby off with a savings account. Thumb National Bank and Chemical Bank each has a \$10 Savings account waiting, while Independent Bank will present the newborn's parents with a \$50 savings bond.

Finally, the family can read about the new arrival and the other local news all year long with a free one-year subscription to the Chronicle.



INSIDE

News highlights and photos of 2004.

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Brzuchowski joins Sea Cadets.

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Annual New Year's

Eve Gospel Sing.

Page 2

Happy New Year, don't drink and drive.

Page 10



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Karr

Hollis-Karr exchange vows

Dawn Lorinda Hollis and Michael Dennis Karr were married Nov. 26 at an intimate candlelight ceremony at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Cass City. Pastor Gregory L. Cavette Sr. officiated. The bride is the daughter of Linda and Tom Herron of Cass City. The groom is the son of Doris and the late Edwin Karr of Cass City. The bride, wearing an ivory gown covered in lace appliques and pearls, was given away by her son, Eric Hollis of Cass City. Maegan LeValley of Cass City, niece of the bride, was the flower girl. Kristie Karr of Cass City, niece of both the bride and groom, was the guest book attendant. The best man was Scott Karr of Claremore, Okla., son of the groom. After a personal ceremony where the bride's sister, Paula

LeValley, presented a letter to the bride and groom and a touching video, the couple greeted their guests. Music was supplied by Tommy Fulcher and Mindy LeValley. The couple honeymooned in New Orleans, La. The couple resides in Cass City.

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Dec. 29-31
Friday - Closed in observance of New Year's.

Scheduled at school

New Year's Eve Gospel Sing

Area residents are invited to welcome the new year in with a full evening of song and fellowship in Cass City. The New Year's Eve Gospel Sing is a tradition spanning nearly 4 decades in the village, and this year's 38th



Holbrook Area News
Mrs. Thelma Jackson
Phone 989-269-6994

Jim and Kay Sweeney and Alex and Mary Beth Ritter attended the funeral of Helen (Garety) Sweeney at St. Clements Catholic Church in Romeo.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Morley, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kennedy, Claude Mestack, Ron Wolschlagier, Jean Talaski, Josephine Green, Mrs. Rapson, and Allen Farrelly were Wednesday morning guests of Margaret Cook for coffee and donuts. Those who visited Thelma Jackson last week were Mr. and Mrs. Larry Robinson of Caro, Becky O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Hurford, and Clara Bond of Cass City, Dick Jackson of Bad Axe, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stirett of Bad Axe, Mrs. Ray Depcinski and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson.

Allen Farrelly spent Wednesday in Flat Rock. The Bad Axe Over 50 Club met at Oswald Hall in Bad Axe Tuesday for their Christmas party. Card bingo was played. Mrs. Martin Sweeney and Brian went to the Henry Malberg Funeral Home in Romeo to pay respects to Helen (Garety) Sweeney on Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski attended the K of C and D of I potluck and Christmas party Thursday evening. The Young Ideas held their Christmas party at Cousins in Bad Axe Friday evening.

program once again promises a variety of Gospel music styles to suit just about everyone. The sing is scheduled to get underway at 8 p.m. Friday at Cass City High School and continue until just after midnight. A free-will offering will be taken and refreshments will be served at intermission.

As always, the featured group will be "Michigan's Goodwill Ambassadors", the Flint-based Calvarymen Quartet, whose traditional southern Gospel sound is a perennial favorite. Although the members' faces have changed over the years, the group's faithfulness to Cass City has never waned - the Calvarymen appeared at the first New Year's Eve Sing and have returned every year since.

The Calvarymen have represented Michigan many times at the National Quartet Convention in Louisville, Ky., and are featured guests on Gospel Music Television satellite network. From close harmony to accapella to traditional southern Gospel, the group today is continuing a legacy dating back to 1956.

Also scheduled to appear are Sammons Brothers and Company from the Woodhaven area, and the Grimshaws from Vassar. The annual Gospel music program was organized and has been sponsored by the Cass City Laymen's Club, a small group of area men dedicated to serving God as laymen. The group was officially formed Oct. 23, 1967, with the late Lloyd Severance serving as the first president.

The club organized the New Year's concert in an effort to offer residents an alternative to traditional New Year's celebrations. The goal was, and still is, to provide a full evening of Gospel music for the whole family. The program typically costs about \$2,000 annually, most of which is covered by free-will offerings. Attendance averaged some 400 people during the first few years, with those numbers climbing to 800 or more people in recent years.

Caleb Hanby earns scholarship

Cass City resident Caleb Jeffrey Hanby has received a Faculty Scholarship at Cedarville University, Cedarville, Ohio. Cedarville University awards Faculty Scholarships to first-year students who have high ACT/SAT scores and a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.0 or higher. The renewable scholarship ranges from \$1,000 to \$2,200.

Hanby, a senior at Cass City High School, is a member of the National Honor Society. The son of Jeff and Michelle Hanby of Cass City, he plans to major in athletic training.



Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Klein

Klein-Ulfig united Sept. 18

Shelly Rae Ulfig and Nathan Daniel Klein were married Sept. 18, 2004 at St. Pancratius Catholic Church, Cass City. Celebrant Father Paul Bala officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Danny and Peggy Ulfig of Cass City. The groom is the son of Marvin Klein and Lezlie Kanyak of Cass City. The organist was Connie Iwankovitch and soloists were Tom Fulcher and Mindy LeValley. The bride was escorted by her father. She wore a Maggie Sottero dress, Victoria Lee jewelry, and carried a cascade bouquet of white roses, lilies, and daisies.

The matron of honor was Amy Lowman of Cass City, friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Cindy Franks of Waterford, cousin of the bride; Megan Smith of Cass City, Amber Thelen of Pewamo, and Keri Klein of Cass City, friends of the bride; and Lindsay Fetterhoff of Cass City, sister of the groom. Junior bridesmaid

was Alexis Fetterhoff of Cass City, niece of the groom. The flower girls were Kaitlyn Fetterhoff and Riley Klein of Cass City, both nieces of the groom.

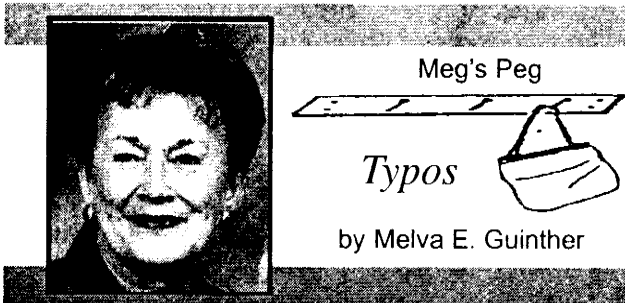
The bridesmaids wore Alfred Angelo strapless, floor length, buttercup yellow dresses.

The best man was Ryan Lowman of Cass City, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Michael Sweeney of Grand Rapids, friend of the groom; Corey and Paul Ulfig of Decker, brothers of the bride; Jason and Matthew Klein of Cass City, brothers of the groom; and Jeff Ouvry of Cass City, friend of the groom.

The ushers were Joshua Klein of Cass City, brother of the groom; and John Lindman of St. Clair, friend of the groom.

After the ceremony, a reception was held at Verona Hills Golf Course, Bad Axe, for 250 guests.

The couple took a honeymoon trip to Aruba for 7 days. They reside in Center Line.



Once again Deb Severance has come through with some of the typos caught in proof reading the Chronicle:

- * While she was not in the business community, she was far from ideal. [Would being in business have helped her shape up?] (idle)
- * There will be a 4-H and open diary show. [Who wants to be first to open up their diary?] (dairy)
- * At least 500 people spectators attended. [The rest were animals!]
- * "I was one of the most incredible things I have ever experienced, my mind was in awe." [I like me!] (It)
- * One of the popular events at the Halloween party was face painting. [Another left to the jaw!] (painting)
- * ...along with their defensive presents. [Unwrap this one in a sack for the quarter-back!] (presence)
- * The losing streaking was going to end. [If you're going to run naked, you've gotta do it fast!] (streak)
- * Landlords are required to sing up. [Let's hear that falsetto!] (sign)
- * Red Hawk grapplers fall in duel meet. [First they wrestle, then they take up pistols.] (dual)
- * The teams maid it a clean sweep. [That's what maids do best.] (made)
- * A polka mess was celebrated. [Those dancers should eat after, not before they polka.] (mass)
- * The minister found a lot of moral mushrooms. [You know a preacher wouldn't eat anything immoral.] (moral)
- * The Shabbona ladies' cheery pie sales... (Those Shabbona gals not only make good pies, they're also a good-natured lot.) (cheery)
- * He witnessed the sighing... [When they finished sighing, they signed.]

- * They sell cheap goods... [Baby chicks?] (cheap)
- * Make sure there are no leaks in the duck work. [If there are, keep those birds

- outside.] (duct work)
- * In the case of rabies, veterinary car should be sought. [Thank goodness our neighbor is a veterinarian! Do you think we could borrow the car?] (care)
- * Getting the right think to the right place... [No sense wasting a think where it's not appreciated.] (thing)
- * The huge flee market... [Women tend to flee there when their husbands are out of town.] (flea)
- * The Hawks will host their first meet as Mayville and Marlette evade the park track. [Must have scared them off!] (invade)
- * The win was the deciding factor in the game. [That's usually what does it.] (wind)
- * They went to the fist fry at the K of C Hall. [Is that anything like frog legs?] (fish)
- * Officials tap champagne for board seat. [A new form of toasting?] (Champagne)
- * ...the ministers have been pasturing since last fall. [That's carrying vegetarianism to the max!] (pastoring)
- * A hot water hater... [Let me tell you, after going without hot water for a couple days, you learn to love it, especially in the shower!] (heater)

Engaged



Nichole McComas and Jeffrey McMahan

Lisa and Dennis McComas announce the engagement of their daughter, Nichole, to Jeffrey McMahan, the son of Brian and Linda McMahan. A summer wedding is planned.

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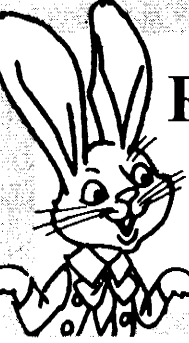
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Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

A few items from the 1890 Cass City Enterprise came across the Internet. The Enterprise was one of the Cass City newspapers of the time.

It was loaded with trivia: "J. D. Cosby is painting his barn red. William Ostrander's threshing engine came into port Saturday night for repairs. George Killands is talking of moving into town for the winter season."

And finally this commercial, "The Enterprise and the American Farmer one whole year for \$1.00"

Each year when the Chronicle publishes its Christmas edition I'm always amazed at the talent of the students.

I leafed through this year's art pages to find which was the best of the best this season. Thinking about it, my conclusion is that like most art what impresses me may not excite you.

This year my vote goes to Angela Stoeckle, a senior, for artistry and to Logan Gaymer for commentary on the affairs of the day. Both of my favorites appear on page 13 of the Dec. 22 Chronicle.

A happy New Year to all, with a special tip of the hat to: everyone who called in news tips. To athletic directors, coaches, police officials and village officers. To our student columnists and the administration at both Cass City and Owen-Gage Schools.

That's a partial list, of course. What it boils down to is that help from the entire community makes the Chronicle what it is now.

Ready to face the New Year with confidence that next year at this time we can look back and find our community as good or better than it is today.

French lessons set at library

Are you interested in learning the beginning basics of another language? How about French? Rawson Memorial Library will be hosting "Beginning French" with Alice Lincoln Ward.

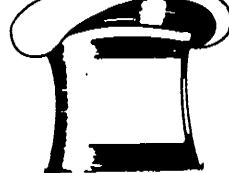


Ward has 20 years of experience teaching French at the high school and college levels. She has a B.A. in English and French from the University of Michigan and an M.A. in Linguistics from Stanford University. She has also studied French and linguistics in France and Switzerland.

The first session is Wednesday, Jan. 12, and the class

runs for 4 Wednesdays. The class will include topics such as greetings, how to introduce oneself, and expressions useful to travelers. Cultural information and current events in the French-speaking world will also be shared.

The cost of the program is \$25 for the 4 weeks: Jan. 12, 19, 26, and Feb. 2. The class will meet from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Pinney Room at Rawson Memorial Library. Payment will be due at the time of registration, which begins Dec. 28 and runs through Jan. 12.

Call the library at (989) 872-2856 for more information.



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DISPLAYING CERTIFICATES and ribbons as Red Hawk Award of Excellence recipients are, from left: Audrey VanAuken, Stephanie Richards and Elise Nicol.

3 students earn Red Hawk awards

Three students, one from each building in the Cass City School District, were honored by the Cass City School Board Monday, Dec. 20, as Red Hawk Award of Excellence recipients. They are among 12 students that will be honored before friends and relatives at 4 special meetings during the school year.

The students are honored for their leadership role in the school and the community. It is not necessary to be a valedictorian or the top student in the class to be selected, although many students selected have earned top scholastic honors.

The students are selected by teachers and administrators. Chosen from Campbell Elementary School was Audrey VanAuken, daughter of Joseph and Catherine VanAuken of Cass City.

In the third grade, she is an all-A student well liked by her peers. She has proven to be a strong mentor in helping her classmates and has been a good role model for all, her teacher says.

VanAuken is very self-confident, honest and respectful and can be counted on to be responsible in completing any task that she is given.

Elise Nicol, daughter of Jerry and Karen Nicol, Cass City, was selected from the middle school. Her teachers say she exemplifies characteristics of a model student. An all-A student, she goes out of her way to be helpful to students and teachers. She is friendly with everyone. She is a reliable member of the student council advisory committee and is a strong,

positive member of the seventh grade.

Stephanie Richards, daughter of Scott and Janet Richards, Cass City, is the honoree from the high school. As a student she "exemplifies daily the pillars of character that our school district promotes," principal Jon Good says.

She is captain of the forensics team and has been a member of the state championship team in the past 2 years. She is a member of the national honor society and has

worked on many volunteer projects. She is in her second year on the student council and currently is secretary of the board. She has been active in several events including Christmas dances and homecoming halftimes. She has taken classes at Excel Dance Studio and has been in dance classes since fourth grade.

She plans to attend Central Michigan University, working towards receiving a Master's degree in speech and language pathology.

Free seminar

A free financial aid seminar will be presented at the Huron Area Technical Center in Bad Axe by St. Clair County Community College (SC4), on Thursday, Jan. 13, at 6:30 p.m.

The presentation will provide information on applying for college funding through financial aid, types of financial aid available, and tips for obtaining maximum financial aid.

SC4 Financial Aid Director Josephine Cassar said the

main focus will be about applying for aid for the 2005-06 academic year. "It is important to apply early for financial aid to tap into the most resources available," she said.

The Huron Area Technical Center is located at 1160 S. Van Dyke in Bad Axe. To reserve your seat for the free presentation, call St. Clair County Community College at (810) 989-5530 or (800) 553-2427 (ext. 5530).

The Haire Net

Very little sympathy around here



This is no way to start the New Year. No, it's not the snow that is drifting across the road as this was written Thursday.

That's not too bad. To tell the truth, I kind of enjoy it except when shoveling the path to the house, something that I could abandon without a second thought. Not as much as previously when with every flake I imagined skiing down one of the runs at Boyne Mountain. Every once in a while I get the urge to take a run, then brag about "something to do when 82". Chances are that won't work out, but you never know.

But I digress. The topic is the start of the New Year and why what's happening isn't the way to start operating in 2005.

What's bugging me is that I'm without a clue about a topic for this column. That doesn't sound like much, but it turns a couple of hours work into a frustrating afternoon. You have to have been there to know about this. I suspect if you talk with Leah Sherman, Cass City school columnist, or Mary McKee, Owen-Gage columnist, they will confirm that finding a topic every week is the hardest part of the excellent job they do each week. If not, they will be the first school reporter to say that it isn't.

You get very little sympathy around here. Sitting in front of the computer yesterday not doing anything physically visible while staring at the screen, Harmony Doerr piped up, saying no wonder it takes you so long, just sitting around doing nothing won't get it done.



The back forty

by Roger Pond

© 2000 Roger Pond

The Washington state Governor's election should be a lesson to the entire country. Nearly three million votes have been counted three times, and we're still hassling over 130 votes.

The truth is we can count three million votes as many times as we like — and get a different answer every time. This is true whether we count with machines, humans, or a certified team of chimpanzees.

Washington law requires a machine recount for extremely close elections. After that, either candidate (or political party) can request a complete hand recount, if they are willing to pay for it.

That's what happened this time. The Republican candidate won the first count by 261 votes out of 2.9 million cast, and this triggered a machine recount.

The Republican won again, by 42 votes this time. This triggered a predictable response from the Democrats. They said, "The voters deserve to have every vote counted." (This time by hand.)

Now we've had two machine counts and a human recount, and the Democratic candidate won the human count by 130 votes. The last recount included more than 700 ballots King County and a few others found under their furniture.

Republicans are saying, "Wait a minute, some of the counties didn't look under the furniture! Just give us some time and we'll find more ballots."

I think the state of Washington has the whole thing backwards. Election law was written under the assumption that humans are better vote counters than machines. I kind of doubt that premise.

The whole thing reminds me of the Florida debacle a few years ago. Folks were staring at ballots, trying to decide if they had a hole in them.

I got a call from a pollster a few months after that election. The pollster asked, "If the hand recount had continued in Florida, who do you think would have won, Al Gore or George W. Bush?"

"Gore would have won," I said. "That's why he was still

counting for heavens sake!"

The funny thing about the Washington election is that counties keep finding ballots that haven't been counted yet. The two campaigns are calling election boards and saying, "Are you sure you've got them all? Did you look under the copy machine?"

Maybe we should X-ray the dog? Who knows how many ballots he might have eaten? The whole thing might be

over by the time you read this, but who knows. Any registered voter could challenge the results in court.

I'm not exactly unbiased, of course, but I think either of these candidates deserves to win. I'm afraid some of us will be facing what Red Green might call the Political Prayer, "I am a Republican (or Democrat), but I can change, if I have to, I guess."

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Cass City Village Council PUBLIC NOTICE

The Cass City Village Council will be holding a Public Hearing at the Municipal Building, 6506 Main Street, Cass City, Michigan, as follows:

Monday – January 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is consider approval of an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for TI Automotive Systems, for equipment to be located at 4144 Doerr Road, Cass City, MI.

Nanette S. Walsh
Clerk/Treasurer

POSTED AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING ON Wednesday, December 22, 2004 AT 10:53 AM

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at

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5:00-9:30 p.m.

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Red Hawk Talks

by Leah Sherman

Lauren Brzuchowski joins Sea Cadets when 11 years old to start naval career

Several months ago I made the insane decision to schedule the removal of all four of my wisdom teeth for two days before Christmas. Yes, on December 23 I was obligated to stay on the couch, drink plenty of fluids, and get lots of rest. Normally, this situation would seem ideal. My parents were willing to bring me anything that I wanted, and I was warranted as much sleep as I could ever hope for. Unfortunately, Christmas is the time when my house is filled with unendingly pleasurable smells of delicious foods, traditional foods, foods that I wasn't allowed to eat because of my surgery.

One of the most prevalent traditional foods in my house is the making of coffee cake for Christmas. My mom makes it perfectly! The combination of warm bread, cinnamon and sugar, and smooth, creamy frosting is perfect on a snowy Christmas morning. The absence of my ability to indulge in this treat this year was quite unsettling. It felt like Christmas wasn't really Christmas. It made me wonder if some of my friends are fully aware of the importance of the traditions that they and their families have.

Evidently, not everyone has to have a tradition taken away before they know how much they would miss it. Senior Ashley Barragar has a specific time that she definitely enjoys: playing dominoes with her entire family. She claims that even if she loses, it's still a great time!

Sophomore Katie Kleo also spends a lot of time with family during the holidays. Every year, on the weekend before Christmas, her brothers and sisters and their children come home and they all enjoy games, food, and time together. Katie then spends the weekend after Christmas with her mom's family, having fun.

Andrew Whittaker, a senior this year, goes to church on Christmas Eve and his grandparents spend Christmas day at his house. This year he's excited about finding something to do for New Year's Eve. He is hoping to have fun with friends or go to a lock-in at his church.

Another senior, Danny Mittlestat, goes to Brown City every year with his family for Christmas. Also, Danny said, "This Wednesday a friend and I are going to a Ted Nugent concert for some holiday fun." I wish that my Christmas break had that kind of "holiday fun" in it. Besides those key points, Danny said that he's happy there has been so much snow this winter, since he spends most of his free time snowmobiling.

It was fun hearing what people do during their Christmas break, and I wasn't surprised when I couldn't find the one answer that I was looking for. Not one of my contacts told me that they planned to spend their break getting ready for their semester exams. The exams are only three weeks away and while many of my friends didn't say that they would be studying during their breaks, a few did admit to a slight feeling of anxiety toward the thought of the approaching preparation for these tests.

Since I was unfortunately bedridden for a couple days and exams were the last thing that I wanted to think about, I spent my time filling out papers for college. Due dates are quickly approaching for dorm applications, down payments, and meal plan decisions. It's hard to believe that there is only one more semester left before many of my friends and I leave for college. People aren't joking when they say that the senior year flies by. I just hope that it slows down enough in the next three weeks to give me time to study for those pesky semester exams!

When it comes to activities outside of school, Lauren Brzuchowski has never let what others think keep her from diving right in.

Take Girl Scouts, for example. Brzuchowski, 17, has been involved in scouting for a number of years, eventually becoming a senior scout and earning the Gold Award, the highest honor possible in the Girl Scouts.

So it shouldn't be a surprise that the Cass City High School junior is also a petty officer second class in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps and that she's shooting for a career in the Navy, with plans to eventually become a medical doctor.

Sea Cadet organizations exist in most of the maritime nations of the world. In this country, the Navy League of the United States formally established the Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Navy League Cadet Corps in 1958.

The basic objectives of both programs are to help young Americans become more patriotic and responsible citizens, and to help them understand the role of the maritime services in national defense and in maintaining the economic viability of the nation.

The groups operate through organization and cooperation with the Department of the Navy to encourage youth "to develop, train them in seagoing skills, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance and kindred virtues."

"The Sea Cadets is kind of like a youth group," explained Brzuchowski, who joined when she was just 11 years old. "It's junior Navy and it's for people who are interested in going into the naval or other military service after high school. It's to give them a little taste of what the Navy or any of the armed services is like."

Brzuchowski's interest in the Sea Cadets was sparked by her father, Ronald, who checked into the program after seeing a television commercial. The next thing they knew, they were visiting the HR Doud Division, one of

about 11 Sea Cadet units in Michigan, based at the Saginaw Reserve Center. The unit has 35 members, ages 9 to 18.

"I was quite nervous because I didn't know anybody and I thought it was going to be hardcore," she recalled. "But I liked it actually a lot. They teach you, basically, everything the Navy would. I caught on pretty quickly."

Brzuchowski said the training includes basic physical training, marching, military terminology and knot tying.

Brzuchowski attended a 2-week boot camp at the U.S. Naval Base in Great Lakes, Ill. She later attended other 2-week training camps, including basic medical training at another naval base in Jacksonville, Fla., and annual one- to 2-week trips on a Sea Cadet ship.

She explained the training is required for a member to advance in rank from seaman recruit (E1) to seaman apprentice (E2) to seaman (E3) to petty officer third class to petty officer second class to petty officer first class to chief.

Along the way, Brzuchowski has earned dozens of awards for her performance in training and testing.

Her future plans include attending Eastern Michigan University, where she will enroll in the Recruit Officers Training Corps (ROTC), and then enter the U.S. Navy as an ensign.

The Sea Cadets have become a family affair for the Brzuchowskis. Lauren's father, Ronald is a lieutenant junior grade and serves as the Sea Cadet's Michigan regional recruiter. Her mother, Susan, is an ensign and administrative officer for the Navy League Cadet Corps.

Brzuchowski, a co-op student employed at Knight Insurance in Cass City who is also involved in volleyball and the pom squad at Cass City High School along with dance, said her experience in the Sea Cadets has been a great way to prepare for the



BRZUCHOWSKI'S advanced medical training included one day of Fleet Marine Force exercises in which Sea Cadets buried each other in the sand in order to hide from an approaching enemy. Brzuchowski is pictured at the far left.

Navy as well as grow personally.

"I've changed, definitely. I've become more mature about everything and it's taught me leadership," she added. "It definitely taught me not to take things for granted."

"The Sea Cadets looks so good on a college resume. I think the Sea Cadets is a great opportunity for anybody who's interested in the military or even anybody who's not interested."

"Most teenagers don't want to join because they think it's stupid," Brzuchowski said. "But it's not my fault if 10 years down the road they're sitting on a cardboard box and I've made something of myself because I got a head start."



CASS CITY'S LAUREN Brzuchowski, 17, a U.S. Naval Sea Cadet since she was 11, graduates from advanced medical training.

Cass City Area Church Directory

Calvary Bible Fellowship

4446 Ale St., Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-4088
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Pray/Bible Study & Youth Group 7:00 p.m.
Pastor - Chuck Carr
Transportation available

Cass City Church of Christ

6743 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
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's Activities 6:00 p.m.
Pastor - Rev. Darold Ward

Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-2729
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Youth Group & Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting & His Kids Bible Club 6:30 p.m.

Cass City United Methodist Church

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

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.
Pastor: Gerald Meyer

Deford Community Church

1392 Kingston Rd., Deford, MI 48729
989-872-4051 (parsonage)
989-872-4055 (church)
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:45 a.m.
Contemporary & Traditional 6:00 p.m.
Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
Pastor: David Mercer
email: dcdca@band.net
website: defordcommunitychurch.org

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

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



First Baptist Church

6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-3155
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study,
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Pastor: Eric Holmgren
Youth Pastor: Bryan Heller
Website: www.fbcc.us

First Presbyterian Church

Barrier Free
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

Living Word Worship Center

(Where the Word is Life)
6536 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-4637
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wed. (Family Training Hour) 7:00 p.m.
Pastor: Keith Misany

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.
Youth Group & Sunday Evening
Services 6:00 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. Agatha's Catholic Church

4618 South St., Gagetown, MI 48735
665-9966
Sunday Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Parish Administrator: Joan Wyskiel

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

4455 North Decker Rd., Decker, MI 48426
810-672-9929 (parsonage)
989-872-8094 (church)
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
UMW Monthly 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.
Youth Group Sunday Evenings 5:00 p.m.
Pastor: Ellen Burns
Visit our website at: www.dasuparish.com

Obituary

Virginia Seroka

Virginia Marie Seroka, 79, of Decker, died Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004 in the Sanilac Medical Care Facility, Sandusky.

She was born March 3, 1925 in St. Clair, the daughter of the late Edward and Grace (Dutton) MacDonald. She married Harry Anthony Seroka July 19, 1958 in Georgia.

Seroka was owner and operator of the former C.C. Shop on Van Dyke. She is survived by her husband, Harry; a daughter, Judy (Ron) Bauer of Texas; 4 grandchildren; 3 great-

grandchildren; 3 sisters; 2 brothers; and several nieces and nephews.

Seroka was preceded in death by several brothers and sisters.

Cremation has taken place. Arrangements were made by Hacker Funeral Parlors, Sandusky.

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Offer first aid class

Huron Medical Center, Bad Axe, will be offering a Red Cross Certified First Aid class Thursday, Jan. 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Huron Medical Center's West Campus, 1142 S. Van Dyke. The cost of the class is \$20 and will concentrate on how to recognize when professional assistance should be called and the appropriate action to take until professional help arrives. This course has been approved by the state and meets the requirements for licensure of day care providers. Pre-registration and pre-payment is required to attend class. To register for the class, call Huron Medical Center at (989) 269-2882 before Tuesday, Jan. 4. Class size is limited.

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2000-2003 Chevy Silverado - 6 in stock - from.....	\$15,995
1999-2002 Chevy Blazer 4x4 - 2 in stock - from.....	\$9,895
2003 Chevy Suburban LT 4x4, leather, pewter.....	\$24,995
2002-2003 Chevy Avalanche 4x4 - 2 in stock - from.....	\$20,895
2001 Dodge Grand Caravan, blue.....	\$11,995
2000 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4, Quad cab, blue.....	\$14,995
2001 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4, Reg. cab, white.....	\$12,995
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2000-2003 Olds Silhouette - 2 in stock - from.....	\$11,250
2002 Olds Bravada AWD, leather, pewter.....	\$15,995
1999-2004 Pontiac Grand Am - 7 in stock - from.....	\$5,995
2000-2001 Pontiac Bonneville - 3 in stock - from.....	\$9,495
1999-2002 Pontiac Grand Prix - 3 in stock - from.....	\$8,495
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RICK AND DONNA Hartwick of Cass City were among those who recently attended the third annual "Caring Tree Ceremony" at Hills and Dales General Hospital. Donna Hartwick is holding a Christmas ornament in memory of their son, Ryan Hartwick. The event raised \$250 in donations.

Sanilac Medical Services receives \$185,000 grant

Ambulance staffing in Huron and Sanilac counties will benefit from a federal grant recently awarded by the U.S. Office of Rural Health Policy.

Sanilac Medical Services, which will receive \$185,000, was one of just 3 agencies across the country to be awarded the funding.

"The grant is a Rural EMS Training and Equipment award," explained Kay Balcer, project consultant for the Huron-Sanilac EMS Task Force. "Funds have been approved for 3 years totaling \$555,000. Grant funds for year 2 and 3 depend on future federal appropriations." In addition to federal money, Balcer said, more than \$83,000 will be contributed to the project from various local sources during the first year.

The grant was submitted on behalf of the Huron-Sanilac EMS Task Force and Medical Control authorities.

"The project goal is to increase the number of EMS volunteers in Huron and Sanilac counties," Balcer said. "It will increase the ability of Sanilac Medical Services to provide EMS training."

Grant funds will be used hire an additional EMS instructor and purchase a mobile training trailer and supplies, according to Balcer, who noted the staff will use distance learning to hold EMS continuing education classes.

"A mobile computer lab will also be used to train students in on-line testing and electronic record systems. Education on EMS management and communication will also be added to programs," she added.

The task force has submitted a second grant to recruit EMS volunteers, implement a high school EMT course, and expand community support of EMS providers. The second grant application is through the Rural Health Care Services Outreach program, and awards will be announced in the spring.

"Both grants relied on the input of the 113 EMS volunteers who completed an 8-page survey in the spring of 2004," Balcer said.

"The survey indicated that

28 percent of Huron County and 44 percent of Sanilac County EMS volunteers plan to quit in the next 4 years. That could mean that 34 Huron County and 55 Sanilac volunteers would retire or resign, leaving some ambulance services short handed.

Both projects were planned to help fill this need, which is critical to maintaining EMS service."

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer is asked to contact Sanilac Medical Services at (810) 648-3092.

Calendar of Events

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

Friday, December 31

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

Monday, January 3

Novesta Township Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 4

Aftercare Program for Grief Counseling, 6:30 p.m., VFW Annex Building, 4530 Veterans Dr., Cass City. Everyone is invited to attend. Sponsored by Thabet Funeral Home, Inc.

A 4 session Diabetes Self Management Class, 9-11 a.m., Hills and Dales General Hospital, Cass City. For additional information or to register, contact Dotty Korth, RN, BSN, CDE at (989) 872-2121 (ext. 342).

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Read Meg's Peg



THE CASS CITY GYMNASTIC team members are (front, l-r) Val Scasny, Nicole Heronemus; (middle, l-r) Hansu Haverinen, Caitlin Sorenson, Karissa Elie, Coach Heather Spencer, Danielle Johnson, Brittany Laethem, Katie Stephens; (back, l-r) Tara Whittaker, Allie Richards, Leah Whittaker, Allie Hillaker and Holly Angle. Missing: Assistant Coach Christina Swiderski.

Red Hawk gymnasts open season at Vassar

The Cass City gymnastic team kicked off its season last week, Tuesday, traveling to face Vassar.

Despite suffering a 113.15 - 107.25 defeat, veteran coach Heather Spencer received several solid efforts.

Recording first place finishes for the Hawks were Allie Richards, Tara Whittaker and Brittany Laethem.

Richards won the floor exercise with a score of 8.0, while Whittaker took top honors, along with Vassar's Kristi Fisher, in the vault with a mark of 8.4. Laethem captured both the bars and beam for Cass City with scores of 8.45 and 6.75, respectively.

Also earning points for the Hawks were Valerie Scasny with a mark of 6.05 on the bars, resulting in third place and Caitlin Sorenson who placed fourth in the vault with a score of 8.2.

The Hawks will swing back into action January 12th at Midland.

Cass City Red Hawks 2004-2005 Gymnastics		
Date	Team	Time
Jan. 12	Midland	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 22	Vassar Invite	12:00 p.m.
Jan. 29	Troy Athens	9:00 a.m.
Feb. 1	Midland	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 8	Vassar	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 19	Midland Invite	12:00 p.m.
* Home games are bold		



BIG BULL. Decker resident Corey Ulfig bagged this huge 5-year-old elk in northern Michigan. The 6x6 bull field dressed over 600 pounds.

Ulfig harvests big bull elk

Christmas came a little early this year for Decker resident Corey Ulfig.

On December 7th, the Cass City graduate bagged a huge 5-year-old bull from northern Michigan's managed elk herd. The impressive 6x6 trophy field dressed at over 600 pounds.

Actually, Ulfig's Christmas gift came weeks earlier when he found out that he had drawn a precious Michigan elk tag.

"Out of 40,000 applications, they issue only 120 permits, 40 bulls and 80 cows," said Ulfig.

And as with the giving of most good presents, it came with a little work and some help from friends.

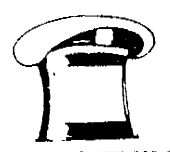

One of the first to offer a hand was Cass City resident Brian Kelley. Kelley hooked Ulfig up with elk guide Gary Haskell. Hunting with his father, Dan, and brother, Paul, the 4 men quickly got on the trail of some elk signs on the Tuesday morning opener.

"It was pouring rain that morning," recalled Ulfig. "We tracked this elk for about 3 1/2 hours."

Persistence paid off, however, as the group finally caught up with the trophy, around 11 a.m., which was hanging out with 2 other bulls. Ulfig waited for an opening through the heavily wooded area and dropped the biggest of the 3 animals with a 150-yard shot. Ulfig said the shot was made easy thanks to family friend Scott Kelley.



"Scooter said he had the gun for me. He let me use his 30-378 Weatherby, it had some awesome optics."

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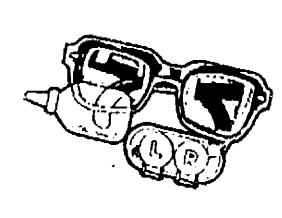
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Cass City Chronicle

Dec. 29, 2004

5-Day Local Forecast

Wednesday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 36 Low: 28

Thursday
Few Showers
High: 38 Low: 34

Friday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 44 Low: 30

Saturday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 37 Low: 28

Sunday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 30 Low: 25

In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 36°, humidity of 47% and an overnight low of 28°. The record high temperature for today is 64° set in 1984. Thursday, skies will remain mostly cloudy with a 50% chance of showers, high temperature of 38°, humidity of 33% and an overnight low of 34°.

Upcoming Moon Phases

Last 1/3 New 1/10 First 1/17 Full 1/25

Sunrise/Sunset Times

Sunrise today 8:05 a.m.
Sunset tonight 5:05 p.m.

Last Week's Local Almanac

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Sunday	18	1	31/20	0.00"
Monday	22	11	31/19	0.00"
Tuesday	34	18	31/19	0.00"
Wednesday	25	12	30/19	0.00"
Thursday	25	1	30/18	0.00"
Friday	10	-8	30/18	0.00"
Saturday	12	-8	30/18	0.00"

Precipitation 0.00"
Normal precipitation 0.49"
Departure from normal -0.49"
Average temperature 12.4°
Average normal temperature 24.7°
Departure from normal -12.3°
Data as reported from Bad Axe, Michigan
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Weather report courtesy of your friends at

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Doerr Landscaping 11
Mycogen Seeds 11
Schmaltz Construction 10

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Team High Game & Series: Martin Electric 656 (1884).

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AN ESTIMATED record of some 12,000 people - a new record — attended this year's 2-day Fall Family Days celebration at the Thumb Octagon Barn. The event netted an estimated \$48,000.

Year in review

Continued from page one.

side the village limits, and his seat was filled by another newcomer, Jeff Gillig.

The year also saw village Clerk-Treasurer Joyce Bemus retire after more than 26 years on the job.

The latest vacancy came in December with the resignation of village Manager Frank Sheridan, who has accepted a job in the city of Sheridan, Oregon, after 3 years in Cass City.

CONSOLIDATION

With student numbers continuing to fall and red ink growing, Owen-Gage School officials have been faced with many tough decisions in recent years. Perhaps none were as difficult, however, as the decision to consolidate by closing Gagetown Elementary School and moving the young students to the junior-senior high building in Owendale.

That move came after several other cost-cutting measures, including retirement incentive packages, a downsizing of the administration, a general spending freeze and the sale of a district-owned home.

The school board voted to close the elementary school last May, and followed that decision with related lay-offs and hour reductions for school staff.

In August, the board voted to sell the building, and a month later they had a buyer willing to pay the \$95,000 asking price. However, the deal has since gone sour due to financing troubles for the purchasers, who had hoped to transform the school into a reception hall and meeting facility.

ELECTION

Presidential election years typically draw larger voter turnouts, but 2004 was a record-breaker for Michigan, including the Thumb area, where 60 to 80 percent of voters cast ballots in the general election.

While Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry took the state's 17 electoral votes, residents in the traditional Republican Thumb area stood with President George Bush.

State Rep. Tom Meyer, who represents much of the upper Thumb, won another term in spite of a challenge from Tuscola County resident Steve Montle.

Among county elections, Drain Commissioner Sarah Pistro emerged the victor in battle with former longtime Elkland Township Treasurer Art Randall, and Huron County Prosecutor Mark Gaertner survived a tough battle with challenger and Tuscola County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Tim Rutkowski.

Locally, Cass City area farmer Dave Milligan won the right to replace Ed Scollon as District One Commissioner after defeating John Hunter, while Kingston Police Chief Dave Lich failed in his bid to unseat in-

cumbent District 3 Commissioner Donald McLane.

SHORTAGE

A nationwide shortage of flu vaccine announced in October created some anxious days for residents locally and across the country.

The shortage was created when a major vaccine manufacture in Britain was unexpectedly shut down due to a contamination problem, which led to the loss of some 46 million doses earmarked for the United States.

Michigan and local health officials acted quickly, following an emergency order to provide flu shots only to those most at risk for the illness, including the young, the elderly and the chronically ill.

By December, the situation had improved drastically and restrictions were lifted on who was eligible for a vaccine. Area hospitals and the health department have secured enough vaccine to offer shots to any healthy adult who wants one.

COMMUNITY

A pair of community projects have drifted in and out of the newspaper pages during the year, and both are likely to continue to receive attention into 2005.

The most ambitious is a proposed state-of-the-art performing arts center spearheaded by a group of band parents and other residents and led by Doug Burtch, director of bands at Cass City High School.

Cass City School officials have been considering the project and recently discussed a possible \$12 million bond issue vote in May to build the facility and make necessary repairs on existing school buildings.

The other project - a community center for teens and adults alike - has seen less progress, but volunteers have renewed their efforts in the wake of the death of a local high school senior who died in an altercation at a week-end party.

The volunteers hope to purchase a building on Main Street formerly used by Millennium Industries, and turn the facility into a center with activities and games.

HIGHLIGHTS

There were many other highlights in 2004 that deserve a mention, including:

- For the second year in a row, the Cass City High School Forensics Team walked away with the state Class C-D forensics title.

- A trio of Cass City Senior Girl Scouts rolled up their sleeves and organized a local food pantry last spring. Organizing and running the pantry was part of an effort to earn the Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting. The girls have since earned the award, but have vowed to continue opening the pantry each month.

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Wishing a Happy and Blessed New Year
The holidays are difficult enough. If you have suffered the loss of a loved one this past year, the holidays become even more difficult. You are not alone, you can talk to somebody. Consider our...

AFTERCARE PROGRAM FOR GRIEF COUNSELING
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Legal Notices

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY US AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Calvin Michael Sochocki, a single man, Mortgagor, to Investaid Corporation, Mortgagee, dated the 17th day of December, 1999 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan, on the 22nd day of December, 1999 in Liber 791 of Tuscola County Records, Pages 163-169, said Mortgage having been assigned to Wachovia Bank of Delaware, N.A., f/k/a First Union National Bank of Delaware by merger with First Union Home Equity Bank, N.A., said assignment dated the 22nd day of December 1999, and recorded with the Tuscola County Register of Deeds, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, the sum of Forty Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Four & 14/100 (\$40,854.14), and no suit or proceeding 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 statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of August, 2004 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. Local Time, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, front entrance of the Courthouse in Village of Caro, Tuscola County (that being the building where the Circuit Court for the County of Tuscola is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, as aforesaid on said mortgage, with interest thereon at 12.4900% per annum and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises.

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

The East 660 feet of the West half of the Northeast quarter of Section 12, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, EXCEPT: the North 330 feet thereof, AND ALSO a parcel described as the West 2 Rods of the following described property, to wit: Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 12, Town 12 North, Range 9 East; thence West on the North Section line 16 Rods; thence South parallel with the North and South quarter line of said Section, 20 Rods; thence East parallel with the North Section line, 16 Rods; thence North 20 Rods to the place of beginning. Right of Way for Gun Club Road over the Northerly side thereof. During the twelve (12) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed during 30 days immediately following the sale.

Dated: July 28, 2004

Wachovia Bank of Delaware, N.A.
Mortgagee

FABRIZIO & BROOK, P.C.
Jonathan L. Engman (P56364)
Attorney for Wachovia Bank of Delaware, N.A.
888 W. Big Beaver, Suite 1470
Troy, MI 48064
248-362-2600

7-28-4

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.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Gerald T. Vanderpool, a married man, and Heather Vanderpool, a married woman, original mortgagors, to Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated December 4, 2003 and recorded on December 8, 2003 in Liber 967 on Page 1462, and assigned by said Mortgage to Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation as assignee by an assignment in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty-Nine and 62/100 Dollars (\$58,739.62), including interest at 6.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 27, 2005.

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

Land commencing at a point 75 feet North of the Southwest corner of Lot 5, Block 1 of the Plat of the Village of Newberry, (now Kingston), according to the plat recorded in Liber 24, Page 304; thence North 44 feet; thence East 171.5 feet; thence South 44 feet; thence West 171.5 feet to the point of beginning, now known as Lot 15 of Assessor's Plat No. 1 of the Village of Kingston, according to the plat recorded in Liber 4, Page 70.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless 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 29, 2004

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #043310F01

12-29-4

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.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Charles Taylor, a married man, original mortgagors, to Flagstar Bank, FSB, Mortgagee, dated September 21, 2001 and recorded on November 8, 2001 in Liber 847 on Page 1207, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Chase Mortgage Company, an Ohio Corporation as assignee by an assignment dated March 1, 2002 and recorded on March 5, 2003 in Liber 918 on Page 112 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Six Thousand Seven Hundred Seven and 56/100 Dollars (\$106,707.56), including interest at 7.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 20, 2005.

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

Part of the South half of the Southeast quarter of Section 29, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, Indianfields Township, Tuscola County, Michigan. Beginning at a point on the South line of said Section 29 that is 316.56 feet, North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West by the Southeast corner of said Section 29; thence continuing North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West on said South line of Section 29, 200.00 feet; thence North 0 degrees 28 minutes 40 seconds West 380.00 feet; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 200.00 feet; thence South 0 degrees 28 minutes 40 seconds East, 380.00 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 MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 22, 2004

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Chase Mortgage Company, an Ohio Corporation
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #005922F02

12-22-4

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ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Timothy A. Jansen, a single man, and Valerie D. Blackner, a single woman, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated August 9, 2002 and recorded on August 21, 2002 in Liber 890 on Page 1066 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety-One and 35/100 Dollars (\$57,191.35), including interest at 6.25% 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 at 10:00 AM, on January 20, 2005.

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

Commencing at a point on the Section line 330 feet East of the Northwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Town 11 North, Range 9 East; thence South at right angles 208 feet; thence East 208 feet; thence West to the point of beginning. Subject to easements, restrictions, and reservations of record, if any.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless 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 22, 2004

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC R (248) 593-1305
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #042836F01

12-22-4

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.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jodi Ann Quick, a single woman,

original mortgagor, to Homeowners Loan Corp., a Delaware Corporation, Mortgagee, dated April 12, 2003 and recorded on August 4, 2003 in Liber 947 on Page 268 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Three and 03/100 Dollars (\$58,233.03), including interest at 10.67% 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 at 10:00 AM, on January 6, 2005.

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

Lot 8, Block 2, of W.E. Sherman's Addition to the Village of Caro, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 11 of Deeds, Page 491, except 1 Rod off the North-west end of said Lot 8. Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless 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 8, 2004

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #029379F02

12-8-4

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 SUE ELLEN WOOD, A SINGLE WOMAN, to HOME LOAN AND INVESTMENT BANK FSB, Mortgagee, dated January 23, 2001 and recorded on February 15, 2001 in Liber 0821 on Page 1235 in TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR THE HOLDERS OF MERRILL LYNCH MORTGAGE INVESTORS TRUST SERIES 2002-AFC1, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of twenty one thousand seven hundred sixty five and 63/100 Dollars (\$21,765.63), including interest at 13.100% 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, MI, at 10:00 AM on January 20, 2005.

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

LOT TEN (10), BLOCK ONE (1), OF PHILLIPS ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF FAIRGROVE, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT 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 22, 2004

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

ATTORNEY FOR: LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR THE HOLDERS OF MERRILL LYNCH MORTGAGE INVESTORS TRUST SERIES 2002-AFC1
Assignee of Mortgagee

For More Information Call: (248) 540-7701

12-22-4

Chase Manhattan v. Maschke Legal

STATE OF MICHIGAN
54th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR THE COUNTY OF TUSCOLA

Case No. 04-022620 CH-J

ORDER FOR ALTERNATE SERVICE:

Chase Manhattan Bank, as Trustee of IMC Home Equity Loan Trust 1998-1 Plaintiff

v.
Norval Maschke and Hazel Maschke Defendant

Howard & Howard
Stephanie M. Smith (P66526)
11th Floor Buhl Bldg., 535 Griswold
Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 962-0643

THE COURT FINDS: Service of process upon defendant Norval Maschke and Hazel Maschke cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.105, and service of process may be made in a manner which is reasonably calculated to give defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED: Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order may be made by the following methods: first class mail to 9032 Helen Road, Vassar, Michigan 48768 and via publication.

Dated: November 24, 2004

S/Patrick R. Joslyn, Judge
Bar No. P15613

12-22-3

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY (248) 362-6100 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Randall S. Valentine and Angela Valentine, husband and wife, of Tuscola County, Michigan, Mortgagor to Flagstar Bank, FSB, dated the 1st day of November, A.D. 1999 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan, on the 8th day of November, A.D. 1999 in Liber 786 of Tuscola County Records on Page 1450, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of \$59,718.04 (Fifty-Nine Thousand, Seven Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Four Cents), including interest thereon at 7.12% (Seven Point One Two 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 the 20th day of January, A.D. 2005 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 the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan, of the premises described in said mortgage.

Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Village of Mayville in the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan and described as follows to wit:

Commencing at a point 12 Rods North of the Northeast corner of Block 9, Village of Mayville; thence West 8 Rods; thence North 4 Rods; thence East 8 Rods; thence South 4 Rods to the place of beginning, being a part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 25, Town 11 North, Range 9 East.

Tax ID: 79-040-025-000-0800-00

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 22, 2004

WEITMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., L.P.A.
By: Daniel E. Best (P58501)
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee
Weitman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A.
755 W. Big Beaver Road, Suite 1820
Troy, Michigan 48064
WWR#04019889

12-22-5

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.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Brian Riley, a/k/a Brian K. Riley and Twila Hart, as Joint Tenants, a Single Man and a Single Woman, original mortgagors, to Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated May 4, 2001 and recorded on January 8, 2002 in Liber 855 on Page 1159 and assigned by said Mortgagee to Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation as assignee by an assignment dated May 4, 2001 and recorded on February 20, 2002 in Liber 865 on Page 977 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand One Hundred Three and 16/100 Dollars (\$127,033.16), including interest at 7.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 20, 2005.

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

Land beginning 8 Rods South of the Northeast Corner of Block 33; thence West 8 Rods; thence South 4 Rods; thence West 10 Rods; thence South 9 1/2 Rods; thence East 18 Rods; thence North 13 1/2 Rods to the place of beginning. Excepting the East 33 Feet thereof the Plat of the Village Forsoria according to the Plat thereof as Recorded in Liber 1 of Plats on Page 45 A

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless 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 22, 2004

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #043114F01

12-22-4

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the condition of a mortgage made by Lonny N. Miles and Kimberly A. Miles, husband and wife, to Household Finance Corporation III by a mortgage dated December 19, 2002 and recorded on December 27, 2002 in Liber 908 on

Page 1184. Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and 00/100 (\$153,200.00), including interest at 10.8% 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, front entrance of the Courthouse in Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI on January 6, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.

Said premises are situated in the Township of Millington, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing 231 feet North of the Southeast corner of Section 9, Town 10 North, Range 8 East; thence West 297 feet; thence North 88 feet; thence East 297 feet; thence South 88 feet to the point of beginning.

Tax map or Parcel ID No.: 041-009-000-1000-00

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 22, 2004

Michael M. Grand, Esq.
GRAND & GRAND, PLLC
31731 Northwestern Hwy., #151
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 538-3737
66941

12-1-5

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.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Mary D. Gibbs, a single woman, original mortgagor, to Icon Financial Group, Inc., Mortgagee, dated February 14, 2001 and recorded on February 21, 2001 in Liber 822 on Page 113, and re-recorded on April 23, 2001 in Liber 829 on Page 457, and assigned by said Mortgagee to ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc. as assignee by an assignment dated February 19, 2001 and recorded on February 21, 2001 in Liber 822 on Page 128, and re-recorded on April 23, 2001 in Liber 829 on Page 472 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Forty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Three and 95/100 Dollars (\$43,773.95), including interest at 8.125% 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 at 10:00 AM, on January 6, 2005.

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

Lot 9, Block 3, Wilmot and Walker's Addition to the Village of Caro as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 9, Tuscola County Records, AND commencing at the Southeast corner of said Lot 9, Block 3, thence South 2 rods, thence West 4 rods, thence North 2 rods, thence East 4 rods to the place of beginning, Section 3, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, Tuscola County Records

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless 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 8, 2004

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC C (248) 593-1301
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc.
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #035874F03

12-8-4

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Arnold L. Chema and Stacey R. Chema, Husband and Wife, to Ameriquest Mortgage Company, a Delaware Corporation Mortgagee, dated August 6, 2001 and recorded October 22, 2001 in Liber 844, Page 384, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars and Twenty-Eight Cents (\$123,189.28), including interest 9.75% 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, front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI at 10:00AM, on Thursday, January 6, 2005.

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

Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 12, Township 10 North, Range 7 East, described as the East 100 feet of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Southwest 1/4, except the North 60 rods thereof, and the West 106 feet of the South 20 rods of the Southeast 1/4 of said Southwest 1/4 of said Section 12, Commonly known as 6388 West Millington, Millington MI 48746.

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

Dated: NOVEMBER 29, 2004


Ameriquest Mortgage Company
Mortgagee
Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C.
811 South Blvd., Suite 100
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 844-5123
Our File No: 04-29964

12-8-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED 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 Rose Marie Cook and Harry J. Cook, husband and wife, to EquiVantage, Inc., Mortgagee, dated November 10, 1998 and recorded December 11, 1998 in Liber 758, Page 297, Tuscola County Records. Said mortgage is now held by JP Morgan Chase Bank, as Trustee under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2004, among Credit-Based Asset Servicing and Securitization LLC, C-BASS ABS, LLC, Litton Loan Servicing LP and JP Morgan Chase Bank, C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset Backed Certificated, series 2004-RP1 by assignment submitted to and recorded by the Tuscola County Register of Deeds. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Fifty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Nineteen and 29/10

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FOR SALE - a large selection of new appliqué designed sweatshirts at reduced prices. S-XXXL. 872-4687. 2-12-15-3

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Real Estate For Rent

ATTN: LAND OWNERS! Looking for farmland to rent. 989-872-2680. 4-11-24-tf

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2-BEDROOM HOUSE - village of Cass City. No pets! \$450/month. 989-872-5628. 4-12-22-3

HOUSE FOR RENT - 3-bedroom, located on N. Van Dyke, Cass City Schools. \$575/month plus deposit. 872-4766. 4-12-22-3

2-BEDROOM HOUSE for rent in Cass City. Taking applications, call 872-3315. 4-12-8-tf

2-BEDROOM downstairs apartment at beautiful Hillside Apartments. Fully carpeted, refrigerator, range, water softener, air conditioner, storage units and laundry. Near grocery store, beauty shop, hospital, doctors. Call 872-3315. 4-12-8-tf

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Real Estate For Rent

600 SQUARE FEET of front office space is available - 6240 W. Main St., Cass City. Heat, electric and trash pickup is included in rent. Please call Mark at 872-4351 for more information or inspection. 4-3-10-tf

FOR RENT - Cass City Mini Storage. Call 872-3917. 4-3-13-tf

VFW HALL available for rental occasions. Call 872-4933. 4-4-1-tf

WE ARE NOW TAKING applications for 1-, 2-bedroom and studio apartments at Northwood Heights Apartments in Cass City. Rent is based on income. For rental information, call 989-872-2369 or Crest Property Management at 989-652-9281. Some units barrier free. TTY for hearing or speech impaired, 1-800-649-3777. Equal Housing Opportunity. 4-8-4-tf

DUPLEX IN TOWN - stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer, central air/heat, 1 car attached garage. Phone 989-872-3917 4-12-29-3

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Real Estate For Rent

2-BEDROOM HOUSE for rent in town - \$500/month. First & security deposit. 872-3917. 4-12-15-3

APARTMENT FOR RENT - Coach Light Pharmacy. 872-3613, ask for Barb M. 4-12-15-3

Notices

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Dinner 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

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First Friday of the month

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Take-outs Available
5-10-20-tf

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K of C Hall
6106 Beechwood Rd., Cass City
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5-9-8-tf

Notices

NO SMOKING BINGO - Every Sunday at new Knights of Columbus Hall, 6106 Beechwood Dr., Cass City. Doors open 5:00 p.m., games start at 5:30. Phone 872-8892. Knights of Columbus Council No. 8892. 5-9-30-tf

FOUND - BLACK, white and brown dog. Must describe to claim. 665-0013. 5-12-29-1

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Notices

REWARD. \$1,000 cash reward for information leading to the arrest of the person(s) responsible for shooting of a deer in my pen on Kelly road. 989-872-5600. 5-12-15-3

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

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Certified Public Accountants
Gary Anderson, CPA (Caro)
Robert Tuckey, CPA, (Cass City)
Jerry Bernhardt, CPA (Caro)
Thomas Doran, CPA (Caro)
Valerie Hartel, CPA (Cass City)
715 E. Frank St., Caro, MI
Phone 673-3137
6261 Church St., Cass City, MI
Phone 872-3730

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Phone: 872-4725


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Phone 872-2935
4849 N. Seeger St., Cass City

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4438 S. Seeger St.
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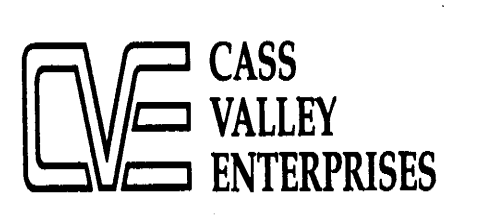
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Interested applicants may mail/fax/email a resume to or apply in person at:

Huron Medical Center
Human Resource Department
1100 S. Van Dyke Rd.
Bad Axe, MI 48413

Fax: (989) 269-5202
Email: edarr@hurmcom.com
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Surround Yourself With Nature - Newly built log home with 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, full walk out basement all on 10 acres with additional acreage available. This home screams charm and space. Call Marty O. for a nature walk today. K-293



ONE OF A KIND!!! This 4 bedroom, 2 bath log home sets on 40+ beautiful acres. 2 ponds and lots of trees and wildlife. Enjoy your evenings sitting on one of 2-tier decks overlooking the property. Call today for your personal showing on BA-150



Reduced to \$52,500! WANTED! Someone to live in this 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with a new kitchen. Also includes an attached garage and basement. The lot is big but the price tag isn't. Call to see today. HB-103



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Sales Associate
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Sales Associate
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Barb Osentoski
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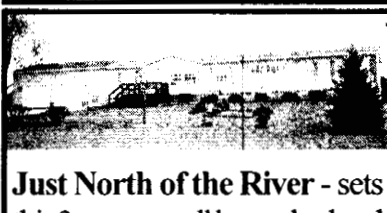
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Beautiful Section on the Waterfront at The Point - Oak trim, walk-in closets, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, handicap ramp. \$52,900. MH874



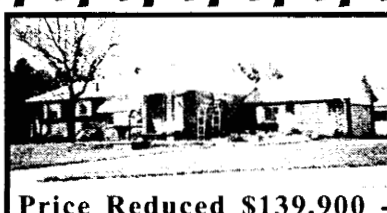
Just North of the River - sets this 3 acres, small barn, shed and 2,200 sq. ft. home with full basement, 2 bathrooms, 2 1/2 car attached garage. Less than 10 years old. Call today for your personal viewing! Cy2410



1968 2 Bedroom Mobile Home with Attached Garage - well kept, partial vinyl windows, fenced in back patio, set up in Huntsville. \$9,999. MH876



Price Reduced - 5 acres with a 2 car detached garage and barn. The house is completely redone. New roof, plumbing, electric, dry-wall. All this plus an apple orchard. \$139,900. Cy2418



Price Reduced \$139,900 - LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION - Yes, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath beautiful country brick home with a full basement, attached garage, workshop, 2 acres with garden spot and lots of trees. Caro schools. Cy2412



Price Reduced - Smaller home in Cass City. 2 bedrooms, basement, garage, extra deep lot with privacy fence. \$38,500. TCC1428

All of us at Osentoski Realty and Auctioneering would like to extend to all...
Best Wishes for a Healthy and Prosperous New Year

Pictures that made the news in 2004



ASSISTANT CASS City Football Coach Josh Stern celebrates after the Red Hawks stunned the Birch Run Panthers, 22-8, in the first round of playoff action last fall.



CASS CITY School Supt. Ken Micklash was named the 2004 Region 5 "Superintendent of the Year" by the Michigan Association of School Administrators.

Harvard bound

Continued from page one.

"I don't really know of anyone ever being accepted or even applying," he said. "I know we've had some students who were certainly capable, but to have one who is accepted and plans to attend...it's special, it's very special."

Micklash added he has known Jesse throughout high school and was aware he's a good student. "He's quite a bright young man. I guess I didn't realize his ultimate capabilities until he was accepted into Harvard."

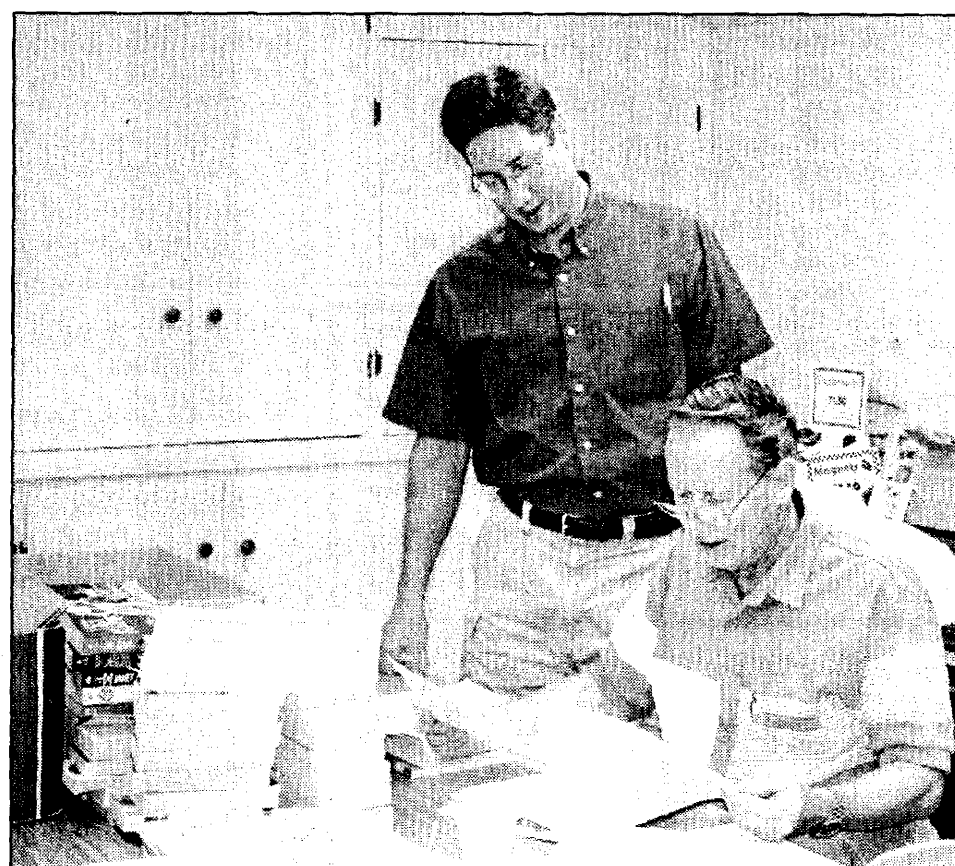
"We're proud of Jesse," he said. Naturally, Rader's mother agrees.

"I'm just so proud of him," Susie Dennis said. "He's worked hard for a long time in everything; he's held jobs and all the extracurriculars. He's a pretty amazing kid."

Rader, meanwhile, has set his sights high. "I think I'm

going to go as far as I can go. I'd like to get a doctorate," he said. "I enjoy school, so I might as well stay as long as I can."

"I think it's just because I enjoy learning," he added. "I don't like getting up in the morning, but I enjoy the pay-off."



THE FATHER AND son team of Dave and Al Eicher completed work recently on the Cass City Historical Society's historical video documentary on Cass City.

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