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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

Complete coverage of the Cass City community and surrounding areas since 1899

VOLUME 99, NUMBER 47

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2006

FIFTY CENTS

14 PAGES PLUS ONE SUPPLEMENT

## Director bound over after exam in Tuscola

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Tuscola County District Court Judge Kim D. Glaspie bound Cass City Public Schools Band Director Doug Burch over to circuit court Friday on 8 counts of criminal sexual conduct following a 25-minute preliminary exam.

Burch's next court appearance will be in Tuscola County Circuit Court, Monday, Feb. 13, at 8:30 a.m., when he will be formally arraigned on 2 counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct - a 15-year felony - and 6 misdemeanor counts of fourth degree criminal sexual conduct, which is punishable by up to 2 years in prison. Burch is currently free on a \$25,000 personal recognizance bond.

The bulk of Friday's preliminary exam was dominated by testimony from a former Cass City High School student, who testified that she and Burch engaged in sexual contact and penetration during an hour-long meeting at Burch's Cass City residence.

During questioning by Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark Reene, the alleged victim, who was 17 at the time, told the court the meeting took place on a Sunday during the fall of 2004. Although not a student of Burch's, she stated Burch had previously suggested that she attend a carnival at the high school that day, and that they spent roughly an hour together, riding rides and talking.

She testified that Burch invited her to his home, and that at some point they began kissing while seated on the couch in his living room. She also stated she told Burch she would not have sex with him, but testified that the pair later went to Burch's bedroom and engaged in sexual contact and penetration.

The woman testified that she told Burch to stop, and that he did stop. He told her not to tell anyone about their encounter, and he then took her back to the carnival, according to her testimony.

Under cross examination by Burch's attorney, Walt Salens of Bad Axe, the teen acknowledged that Burch never threatened, forced or coerced her. She also acknowledged that in an earlier interview with the

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## Breaking ground...

**HILLS AND DALES General Hospital officials broke ground Monday on a 3-phase expansion/renovation project that will cost nearly \$8 million over the next 3 years. Above, hospital board Chairman Dan Hittler digs in while (from left) Chief Operating Officer Jean Anthony, CEO Mike Falatko and Chief Financial Officer Dave Oehring watch.**

## By as much as 50%

## U-W: donations way down

United Way of Tuscola County officials figured contributions might be down when they launched their 2005-06 campaign last fall with a goal of \$75,000, an increase of \$1,000 over the previous year.

They had no idea just how tough a campaign this would be.

"Currently, it appears that overall donations were down substantially from the previous year, perhaps by as much as 40 to 50 percent," United Way of Tuscola County President Ray Bates said Friday. "However, the board is hopeful that contributions will continue to arrive throughout the

year to help meet the goal.

"We've had some considerable hits in our economy, locally, and (Hurricane) Katrina, and I think - I'm hoping - a lot of people sent funds" to the storm victims on the Gulf Coast, Bates said.

"It looks like the pledges are down considerably - payroll deduction," he added, noting the payroll deduction program accounts for a bulk of the contributions United Way receives. Bates said the mail-in campaign to residents, which typically nets \$7,000 to \$8,000, was down a little less than \$1,000 from last year.

"With the payroll deduction, it comes in essentially quarterly, and we sometimes get money we didn't expect, which is always nice," he continued.

However, Bates said, "Right now, unless this picks up considerably, we're expecting we might have \$35,000 or so throughout the year to distribute, (although) that could increase."

Which means many county organizations can expect significantly less help when the United Way of Tuscola

Please turn to page 10.

## School board: proposed cuts total \$645,400

Supt. Ken Micklash outlined possible cuts in teaching costs, bus service, sports, and teaching staff to cut \$645,400 from the 2006-07 school budget and balance the budget.

Micklash and the board committee stressed that the proposed cuts are for consideration and the board has not yet approved most of these economy measures.

At the regular meeting of the board Monday, Feb. 27, these cuts will be considered again.

A complete list of the proposed economy measures is published in this issue. It should be explained that full time equivalent (FTE) means that the duties of one teacher could possibly be spread among several teachers and the staff reduced by one person.

Micklash said that in his 18 years at the school he has not had to lay off

one teacher and reductions were made through attrition, but that may not be possible during the present cash crunch.

Most of the items suggested are self-explanatory. However the reduction of a bus route is one of 2 that travel to the skill center in Caro. This year 2 busses are needed. Next year with one of the new larger busses, Micklash pointed out, all the students can be accommodated. In addition, consolidation of 2 bus routes and a consolidation of stops for children are suggested.

Considerable savings in fringe benefits are achieved by the resignation of the superintendent and Campbell Elementary principal that now work for a firm that contracts for their service. Fringe benefits for these staff

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## Micklash seeking political office

Ken Micklash has made education a lifelong career, but he's always considered the idea of pursuing politics at some point in his life.



Ken Micklash

"I have. I've been interested in the political world since I was a kid. This might sound kind of corny, but I can remember as a child - I was 10 - on the family farm, watching the Kennedy-Nixon debates," he recalled.

Micklash, who recently formally retired as superintendent of the Cass City School District after 18 years, is now ready to follow his dream of seeking public office.

Micklash Monday formally announced his intention to seek the Republican nomination for the state representative seat in the 84th District, which represents Tuscola and Huron counties. The seat is currently held by Tom Meyer, R-Bad Axe, who cannot seek another term due to term limits.

"We are in a time of great change. Global competition makes us look at situations differently, but I believe our local values of family, education and hard work will serve us well in the future," Micklash said in making his announcement.

Micklash boasts a background that includes education and business leadership over the years.

He had experience in economic development as the chief executive officer of Thumb Industries, Bad Axe, in the 1980s. In addition to being a candidate for office, he will also serve as part-time executive director of the Tuscola County Community Foundation.

Micklash says he sees his campaign as an opportunity to create jobs in the area of Michigan where he grew up, and he plans to meet with citizens throughout the district in the coming weeks.

Micklash's resume includes a host of positions in education. Prior to being named superintendent

in Cass City, he served 18 months as Cass City High School principal. His previous positions also include: 6 years as administrator/principal with the Huron Intermediate School District (ISD), 2 years as executive director of Thumb Industries, one year as supervisor of the Tuscola ISD's Regional Curriculum Program, one year as K-12 principal of Port Austin Public School, 2 years as a speech therapist with the Huron ISD and one year with the Michigan Association of Better Hearing and Speech of Lansing, and 2 years as a speech therapist with Alpena Public Schools.

Micklash, who was named Region V Superintendent of the Year in 2004, also boasts a lengthy record of community involvement.

He is a member of St. Pancratius Catholic Church and has served on the parish council. He was a Cass City Little League coach for 19 years and has been a member of the Hills and Dales General Hospital Board of Directors (11 years), Cass City Rotary Club (18 years, currently serving as president), Cass City Gavel Club (12 years), Cass City Chamber of Commerce (3 years), Cass City Board of Education (2 years), and Michigan Association of School Administrators (19 years).

Micklash grew up on the family dairy farm between Ubyly and Bad Axe. A 1968 graduate of Ubyly Community Schools, he received both his Bachelor of Science Degree and master's degree from Eastern Michigan University, where he majored in special and elementary education.

In 1986, he earned an Educational Specialist Degree from Central Michigan University in public school administration.

School Socha, Tuscola Intermediate School District, said she regrets seeing Micklash retire from education, but she's also confident he would serve the 84th District well.

"Ken has what it takes to do well in Lansing and will represent the people of both counties with honesty and integrity," Socha said. "He accomplished many important things for the taxpayers. Every school in his system has been graded by the state as

Please turn to back page.



**CASS CITY area resident Nancy Howard stands in front of where her and husband Don's barn stood before fire leveled the structure, killing 2 of the couple's dogs last month. At the time, Nancy was in the process of training the animals to be search and rescue dogs.**

## In mourning Howard won't let loss keep her from her goal

Nancy Howard's goal of training a pair of search and rescue dogs that could one day help local law enforcement agencies find a missing and lost senior citizen or child was put on hold recently when a barn fire claimed the lives of 2 of her dogs, "Riley" and "Belle".

But Howard, a Cass City area resident who works in the Aftermarket Division at T.I. Automotive, isn't giving up.

Howard recalled the fire, which engulfed the barn behind the Warner Road home she shares with her husband Don. Aside from the couple's loss, the Jan. 24 blaze brings back bittersweet memories of some Elkland Township and Elmwood Township-Gagetown fire fighters who went above and beyond the call of duty that day.

"Several of them recovered the bod-

ies of our dogs and carried them gently to their gravesites," Nancy recalled. "I just wanted to thank them for helping Don bury them. They didn't have to do that."

The Howards had already begun training both animals as search and rescue dogs.

"Don and I had trained with a guy from Elkton for almost 5 years. We trained guard dogs," Howard said, adding she decided to use her skills as a trainer to teach her own dogs in search and rescue techniques. Her hope was that area law enforcement agencies would call on her to help find missing persons in the future.

"I love horses and dogs. I've shown horses since I was 8 years old. I've had several champion horses - I accomplished that," the Caro native

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## Holbrook Area News

Mrs. Thelma Jackson  
Phone 989-269-6994



Over 200 family members and friends attended the wedding ceremony, reception and dinner of Rebecca Rumpitz and Robert Trea at Ugly Heights Saturday. Rebecca is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Rumpitz of Ugly and Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Trea and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schank of Caro. They are both currently in the Army and will return to Germany where they are stationed. Guests came from various parts of Michigan and Washington state.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryce Hagen's families met at their home Sunday night for birthday cake and ice cream for Mrs. Bryce Hagen's birthday.

June Rutz of Sterling Heights and Allen Farrelly were Saturday afternoon and supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel.

Mrs. Dale Hind, who had spent 3 weeks at Courtney Manor in Bad Axe following surgery, went home Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski attended the mass and breakfast that followed at the St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church Hall Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Depcinski and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski went to the Sports-Griffin Funeral Home in Lake Orion to pay respects to William Peters.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel, Doris Western, June Rutz and Allen Farrelly were among a group who attended a benefit breakfast for Lois Dekoski at the Ugly High School Sunday morning.

Carol Fibrantz and Mrs. Ray

Depcinski visited Thelma Jackson Tuesday.

Seven members of The Traveling Breakfast Club met at the Coffee Cup Plus Thursday morning. They will meet at the same place next week.

Mrs. Bryce Hagen visited Joyce Zulaf Thursday at Courtney Manor.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Krohn, Lori, Donelda and Eleanor Carribeau, and Ashley, Ian and Heath Harris visited Mrs. Dale Hind Sunday.

Myron Wruble, Allen Farrelly and June Rutz spent Monday in Flint and Allen and June were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cleland were Sunday evening guests of Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Mrs. Bryce Hagen visited Joyce Zulaf Monday at Courtney Manor in Bad Axe.

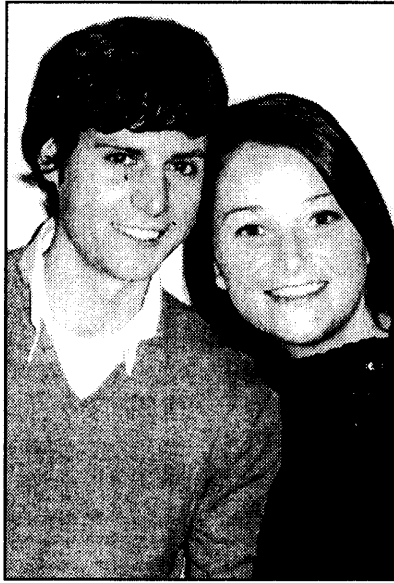
Mrs. Allen Depcinski and Mrs. Dale Laming went to see the ice sculptures at Frankenmuth and later visited Wilford Depcinski at Tendercare in Cass City.

Allen Farrelly took June Rutz back to her home in Sterling Heights after she had spent a week here.

Dennis and Sharlene Hagen, Mary Hagen and friend Jim, Ellen and Mike Moorman, and Jim and Doreen Hagen and 2 children took Mr. and Mrs. Bryce Hagen to Lumber Baron Restaurant Saturday for Mrs. Bryce Hagen's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Stirrett of Bad Axe, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Hurford of Cass City, Beverly Puvulowski and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson visited Thelma Jackson.

## Engaged



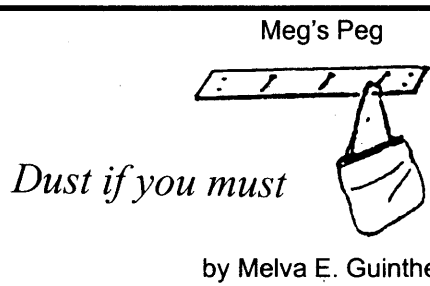
Amanda Chappel and Christopher Kuzak

Dr. Paul and Suzanne Chappel of Cass City announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda Marie, to Christopher Donald Kuzak, son of Donald and Pam Kuzak of Bad Axe.

Amanda is the granddaughter of Marjorie and the late Daniel Orr of North Branch, and Jane and the late Lawrence Chappel of Marlette. She is a graduate of Cass City High School and Alma College, where she received her B.A. in political science. Amanda is currently employed as a marketing consultant for Interlab, Inc. in Ann Arbor.

Christopher is the grandson of the late Alfred and Lucy Gulda of Waterford, and the late Victor and Joann Kuzak of Livonia. He is a graduate of Bad Axe High School and the University of Michigan, where he received his B.S. in computer science. Christopher is in the masters of accounting program at the University of Michigan. He is planning to work for Ernst and Young in Chicago in the fall.

The couple is planning an August 2006 wedding at the Cass City United Methodist Church.



by Melva E. Guinther

I heard a cute story last week about a woman who was not a meticulous housekeeper.

Her husband walked into the kitchen one day and told her, "You know, I can write my name in the dust on the mantel."

She turned to him and said sweetly, "I know, Dear, that's why I married a college graduate."

Touche!

Lest I get in trouble again with immaculate housekeepers, let me say that I admire them and their orderly domiciles. I used to aspire to that status. However, advanced age has mellowed me, or I've simply given up on having a neat, uncluttered home.

It's more the disorder than dust that has been my nemesis.

Clutter and I haven't really become good friends, but I'm slowly learning to accept the inevitability of its presence at this stage of our lives.

We've lived in our present home for 38 years, and I shudder to think of trying to clear out all the stuff we've accumulated. It just seems to keep piling up.

At any rate, other virtues have become more important to me than keeping an immaculate house.

I regret that I can't include the cute graphics, but a friend who apparently shares my view sent the following via email:

"Remember... a layer of dust protects the wood beneath it."  
"A house becomes a home when you

can write 'I love you' on the furniture."

"I can't tell you how many countless hours I have spent cleaning!"

"I used to spend at least 8 hours every weekend making sure things were just perfect 'in case someone came over.' Then I realized one day that no one came over; they were all out living life and having fun!"

"Now when people visit, I find no need to explain the 'condition' of my home. They are more interested in hearing about the things I've been doing while I was away living life and having fun."

"If you haven't figured this out yet, please heed this advice: Life is short. Enjoy it!"

Dust if you must...  
But wouldn't it be better, to write a letter,  
Bake cookies or a cake or plant a seed,  
Ponder the difference between want and need?

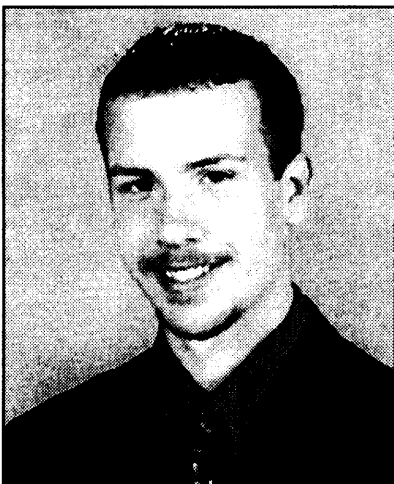
Dust if you must, but there's not much time,  
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,  
Music to hear and books to read,  
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,  
Old age will come and it's not kind,  
And when you go - and go you must

You yourself will make more dust.

If the biggest worry you have is a bit of dust or a few cobwebs, I know a whole lot of people who would gladly trade burdens with you.

## Rogers 'student of month'



Nathan Rogers

Nathan Rogers has been named Owendale-Gagetown School's "Senior Student of the Month" for January.

Rogers has been an active participant in sports while at Owen-Gage. He has been a member of the football and basketball teams all 4 years. As a junior, he was a member of the Caseville-Owen-Gage Track Team, and plans to participate in track again this year. Rogers also helped coach the fifth grade junior Bulldogs basketball team during his junior year.

Rogers has excelled academically as well. He has been on the school's honor roll and has been a member of the 3.0 Club each year. He has been a member of the National Honor Society since his sophomore year and currently serves as the chapter's secretary. Rogers also has been named a "focus" student of the month for 3 years.

The past 2 years he has served as the Owen-Gage Student Council secretary. Rogers was a member of the French Club in his freshman year and participated in the school play in his sophomore year. Also as a sophomore, he was a class representative for homecoming and, as a senior, was chosen as homecoming king. He is also a member of the school's yearbook/newspaper staff and serves as a teacher's aide.

Rogers is the son of Patti Rogers of Gagetown and Brian Rogers of Unionville. He has joined the U.S. Marine Corps and will leave for training in September.

## Owen-Gage Honor Roll

Owen-Gage Public School announces the first semester honor roll.

### Grade 3

Sidney Bencheck, Joey Littlepage\*, Andrea McCreedy, Rachel Mroz and Adam Retford\*.

### Grade 4

Ben Good and Richelle Scharf.

### Grade 5

Andrew Fahrner, Jeremy Jamieson, Tiffany Jamieson, Danny Jeffery, Megan Lester, Michael Mandich, Courtney McCreedy, Chelsea Miller, Justin Miller\*, Miranda Radabaugh, Eric Rievert and Sarah Volk.

### Grade 6

Jacob Fuller, Christin Harris, Erica Mroz, Amanda Muntz, Lacie Prich and Carli Warack.

### Grade 7

Holly Errer, Christy Fields, Lauren Mandich, Megan McLaren, Dylan Powell and Clyde Rhodes.

### Grade 8

Amanda Franzel, Zach Mroz, Devin Prich, Kelsey Quick\*, Ashley Rockefeller, Christine Schmidt\*, Carin Seibel\*, Erin Seibel and Jordan Sprague.

### Grade 9

Derek Bucholtz, Stacie Dorsch\*, Amanda Faist, Mariah Francis, Drew Howard, Alisha Kovach, Cole Mroz, Brandy Plowman, Lucas Powell, Samantha Radabaugh and Katie Rhodes\*.

### Grade 10

Ken Brown, Kevin Bucholtz, Branden Edler, Bethany Kovach, Courtney Lester, James Lyman, April Nowaczyk, Brittany Parks, Josh Starks, Joshua Volk\* and Matthew Volk.

### Grade 11

Grant Champagne, Heather Collon, Andy Dronsella, Mindy Errer\*, Rose Faupel, Kendra Guilds, Josh McLaren\*, Amber Pillsbury and Rebecca Schmidt\*.

### Grade 12

Racheal Biebel, Michelle Brown\*, Whitney Brown, Tiffany Glaza, Barbie Littlepage, Trace Lopez, Floyd Morrish, Nicole Nowaczyk, Cassie Plowman, Nathan Rogers and Ashley Shepherd.

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**J. Wilder named to dean's list**

Jake L. Wilder of Cass City has been named to the dean's list at the University of Northwest Ohio, Lima, Ohio.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.5.

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## Cass City Quiz Bowl teams shine in January

**THE CASS CITY High School Varsity A Quiz Bowl Team recently captured the Ubyl Invitational crown. The squad defeated Deckerville and the Sandusky B Team in the preliminary rounds before defeating the Sandusky A Team in the finals. The win qualifies Cass City for the state meet to be held in April. Team members are (from left) Lysa Knight, Philip Nahernak, Adam Kranz and Ashley Puterbaugh.**



**THE CASS CITY JV Quiz Bowl Team also finished first in its division at the Ubyl Invitational. It was the squad's third title of the season. Members of the team, currently 9-0, are (kneeling, from left) Joe Packard, Ben MacGown, (standing, from left) Andrew Deering, Evan Bushong, Rob Packard and C.J. Warmbier.**

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## Down Memory Lane

By Harmony Doerr



### 5 YEARS AGO

United Producers Inc. (UPI) and Southern States Cooperative Inc. announced Thursday a strategic alliance in which UPI will lease and operate Southern States' livestock marketing facilities, including Michigan Livestock Exchange (MLE). Officials predict the transition will be completed by March 1.

"While the MLE flag will no longer be flying in Michigan, this should strengthen MLE's position in the livestock marketing and livestock financing arena," said Ernie Birchmeier, Michigan Farm Bureau dairy and livestock specialist.

The Owen-Gage cage team displayed marked improvement Saturday in Au Gres during a lopsided 81-55 non-conference win. Unlike the 2 schools' opening season overtime tilt, Coach Leon Westover's Bulldogs built a double-digit advantage and cruised to its 11th win in a dozen starts. The Bulldog team opened the contest outscoring its host 20-11 in the game's opening frame. Corbin Swiastyn hit 3 quick jump shots and Nick Warack tallied 6 of his team's season best 22 markers during the visitors' initial period run. "They couldn't stop Warack," said Westover.

Gerald Whittaker stopped at the office and presented me with a calendar notebook that his company, Whittaker Timber Corporation, is passing out to customers. Each page is highlighted by quotes from public figures. Just in case you can't find anything to write about, he grinned. Here's a couple that caught my eye. "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some hire public relations writers", Daniel J. Boorstin. (An apt quote in an election year.) (From Rabbit Tracks)

### 10 YEARS AGO

The familiar sight of cars lined up on Cass City's Main Street in preparation for a funeral procession will be but a memory in a couple of years. Jim and Debra Kranz, who took over Little's Funeral Home from Roger and Bev Little more than a year ago, are planning to build a new funeral home just east of the village, on a 4.5-acre parcel located between Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and the former Sherman's Restaurant. The couple, who also operate Kranz Funeral Home in Kingston, hope to break ground in the spring of 1997.

This is really a column of trivia this week, so let's conclude with an item from the Michigan trivia book. It's one that I never heard about in my 45 years in the Thumb. "What Huron County community was known during the era of wildcat money for its production of large quantities of

counterfeit U.S. and Mexican currency?" Answer: Harbor Beach. (From Rabbit Tracks)

McDonald's officials, along with representatives of local government, schools, chamber of commerce and other organizations, took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Cass City restaurant last Wednesday.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Cass City kept its hopes alive for a share of the Thumb B Association title Friday with an overtime decision over league leading Caro Tigers, 69-66. It was the third overtime game in a row for the Hawks and their second victory in the extra period outings. The game, before a near capacity crowd, had the fans on the edge of their seats from the opening whistle. Cass City was in front by eight points midway through the first period as Todd Comment sank four shots in a row from 20 feet to get the Hawks off and running.

Cass City wrestlers are co-champions of the Thumb B Association with Caro following the league meet held Saturday in Bad Axe. The Hawks won a share of the coveted trophy by finishing second in the conference meet, which accounts for 50 percent of the score, and going undefeated in dual conference meets this season. Caro won the conference meet with a score of 171. Cass City netted 165 1/2 points.

After 30 years of public service, Lloyd Severance has decided it's time to spend more time on other matters. "I kind of hate to give it up, but I just have too many things to do," said the ex-school board member, township official and Sanilac county commissioner. "I've just got too many irons in the fire." His biggest iron is dairy farming with sons Art and Les. "Farming is my first love. I've been doing it all my life." Severance was elected to the Evergreen Township Unit School board in about 1950. The

district was a consolidation of the seven one-room schoolhouse districts in the township.

### 35 YEARS AGO

Authorities at Hills and Dales General Hospital today revealed plans to launch a \$300,000 fund raising campaign to completely pay for a \$600,000 modernization and enlargement program due to start this spring. The hospital has \$300,000 put away for the project now. Board President James Bauer said that the plan would provide space to operate the hospital more efficiently and bring the facility up to State and Blue Cross requirements. The major stress in the re-vamping of the hospital will be in the service area. It will also provide a surgical suite that will be efficient.

If finding a penny brings good luck, Joe Gruber had to be the luckiest guy in town last week. He found about 15 of them while emptying the meters on Main. What happened was that, fumble fingered drivers dropped them in the snow trying to feed the meters and didn't bother to look for them. When the snow melted last weekend they came to the surface and were easily visible. And this should tell you something about our inflation. A penny isn't even worth looking for anymore. (From Rabbit Tracks)

Clifford Croft of Croft-Clara Lumber Co., Cass City, was named treasurer of the Michigan retail lumber dealers at the group's 82nd annual convention last week at Grand Rapids. Over 2,000 dealers, wholesalers and manufacturers attended the three-day show.

## Read Meg's Peg

### Rawson Memorial Library Presents

## Women's Health Issues

**Feb. 10 - Eat your Way to Better Health**  
*Bring a list of all foods eaten each day for 5 days*

**Feb. 17 - Disease Prevention & Natural Treatments**  
*Bring your family health history*

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## Cass City Area Church Directory

**Calvary Bible Fellowship and Independent Baptist Church**  
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.  
Sunday Evening Service & Youth Group 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Meeting & His Kids Bible Club 6:30 p.m.  
Pastor - Robert Sweeney

**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

**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.  
AWANA 6:45 p.m. Wednesdays  
Pastor: Eric Holmgren  
Youth Pastor: Bryan Heller  
Website: www.fbccus

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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872-5400  
Sunday School - Sept.-May 10:45 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.  
Pastor: Dave Blackburn

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726  
872-2770  
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.  
Pastor: Gerald Meyer

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872-4637  
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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**  
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872-5186  
Thursday Evening 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Pastor: F. Robert Tucker

**St. Agatha Catholic Church**  
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665-9966  
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.

**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)  
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Worship 11:00 a.m.  
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# Hawk grapplers defeated in GTC showdown match

Coach Don Markel's Red Hawk wrestlers suffered their first Greater Thumb Conference setback in over 2 years Wednesday night falling to guests Mayville 56-20 during a triangular meet in Cass City.

With the win, the Wildcats, 9-0 in conference play, captured the dual meet portion of the GTC title race while Cass City, 8-1, slips to second.

Despite the loss, the hosts could still defend their 2005 GTC title with a solid effort this Saturday in Sebewaing during the GTC league meet.

"Placement in the league meet accounts for half of the conference standings with the other half determined by the dual meet portion of the season," explained Markel.

Preceding the showdown match up Wednesday, Cass City improved to 8-0 in GTC play with an easy 69-8 win over Sandusky.

According to Markel, there were many well wrestled matches on the night and 4 Hawks recorded double wins including Travis Mabe (103

lbs.), Kyle Reif (140 lbs.), Kyle Sieradzki (160 lbs.) and Scott Meeker (275 lbs.).

## STANDISH - STERLING INVITATIONAL

On Saturday, the Hawks traveled to Standish-Sterling and returned home with the runner-up trophy at the 6-school invite.

Cass City recorded a 4-1 mark on the day with victories over Beaverton, 72-9, Sanford-Meridian, 40-36, Standish-Sterling, 57-22 and Mio 43-29. Champion Midland High delivered the Hawks' only defeat on the day by the score of 41-33.

The complete team standings and their records were: Midland (5-0), Cass City, Mio (3-2), Sanford-Meridian (2-3), Standish-Sterling (1-4) and Beaverton (0-5).

A trio of Hawks went perfect on the day with 5-0 records including Reif, Gavin Mills and Meeker.

Cass City's season mark now stands at 26-15.



KINGSTON'S LISA Daily deflects a shot during Thursday's NCTL battle in Owendale.

# Kingston rallies for NCTL win over Bulldogs

## Bulldogs' reign in NCTL near end

The Owen-Gage volleyball team stumbled against Kingston Thursday and came up short during a 4 game North Central Thumb League match up in Owendale.

The hosts came out with intensity in game one and the result was a 25-17 win. But the Cardinal defense was able to hold Owen-Gage to less than 20 points in each of the final 3 games, recording decisions of 25-19, 25-18 and 25-16.

Individually for Kingston, Amanda Easlick had 14 points; Courtney Clinesmith, 12 points and 12 assists; Kayla Campbell, 7 kills; Lisa Daily, 4 kills; and Monica Sullivan, 13 digs.

For the Bulldogs, the loss takes the steam from Monday's win over Peck heading into this Thursday's NCTL outing at Port Hope and Saturday's Caseville tourney.

The Bulldogs had an easy time grabbing game one, 25-12, but received all they wanted from the Vikings in the final 2 games that ended 25-23 and 25-24.

Individually for Owen-Gage, Michelle Brown had 10 aces and 10 assists; Becky Schmidt, 6 aces and 7 kills; and Amanda Faist, 5 aces and 4 kills.

# Lakers tame Cass City spikers

The Red Hawk spikers will look to rebound from their first Greater

Thumb West Conference setback this Thursday when Unionville-Sebewaing invades Cass City.

Coach Beth Howard will be looking for a better effort from her lady Red Hawks against the Patriots than the one her youthful squad delivered Thursday in Pigeon.

The Lakers rolled to one-sided victories of 25-21, 25-6 and 25-15 in a battle of unbeaten contenders in a critical GTW match.

Cass City came into the match riding high from its excellent showing at the Northwest Invitational that included wins over state ranked power Breckenridge and Frankenmuth. However, Howard felt like she was watching a different team against the defending GTW co-champion Lakers.

"This wasn't the same team that played on Saturday," commented Howard. "We weren't doing anything right."

Uncharacteristic for Cass City was a lack of strong net play and numerous unforced errors that led to the victory in straight games for the hosts.

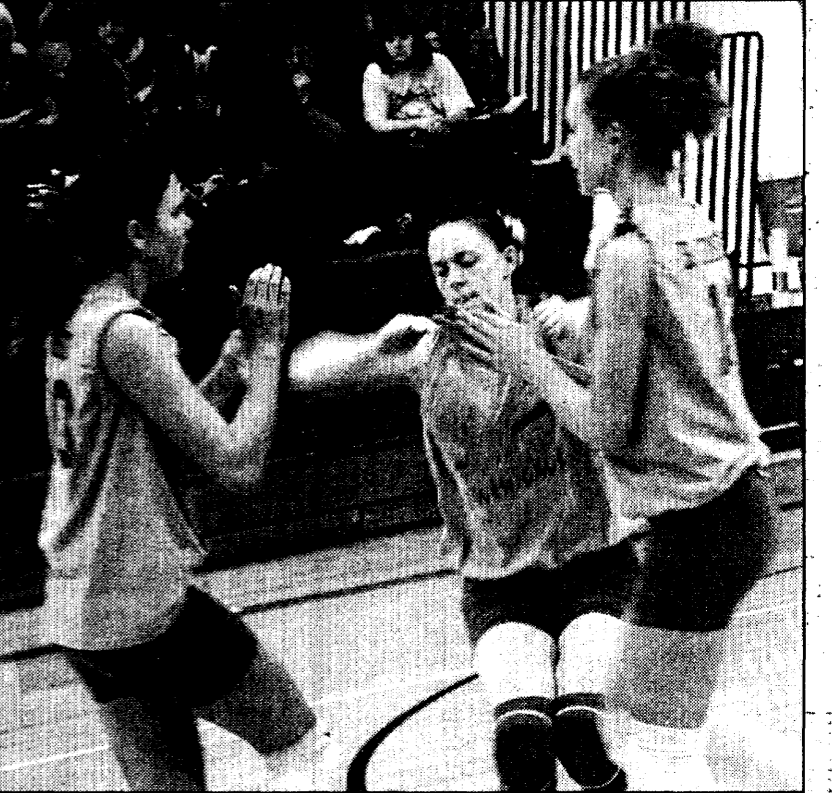
"We hit the ball out of bounds the entire night and only had 2 blocks for the entire match. Usually we are strong at the net but not Thursday night. I felt the girls played scared and mentally took themselves out of the game."

Individually for Cass City, Sara Meeker had 9 kills; Ashley Hendrick, 5 kills, 9 digs, 14 receptions; Amanda Langenburg, 16 assists, 4 kills; Carly Howard, 3 aces, 10 digs, 13 recep-

tions; and Courtney Rabideau, 11 digs.



CASS CITY COACH Shawn Papp's Lumberjacks are: (front, l-r) Jordan Papp, Derek Ricker, Taylor Boshart, Chris Clifton, William Stinson (middle, l-r) Andrew Shagene, Deric Murphy, Alex Papp, Chris Brown, Kevin Ouvry, Tom Mittlestat (back, l-r) Chris Landrith, Nick Bader, coach Papp, Devin Roth and Brandon Otulakowski. The Lumberjacks compete each Saturday at the Expo Center in Bad Axe.



OWEN-GAGE SPIKERS (l-r) Amanda Faist, Michelle Brown and Rebecca Schmidt celebrate a point during the hosts' setback to Kingston.

## Schneeberger's ATHLETE of the WEEK



JUSTIN GLAZA

Senior guard Justin Glaza helped Cass City's cage team return to the win column last week after 3 straight losses.

On Tuesday, Glaza poured in 28 points in the Red Hawk's 62-49 victory over Bay City All Saints and followed his season high performance with a team high 13 tallies in Friday's 69-37 win over Deckerville. Justin's parents are Arthur and Suzette Glaza.

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## CASS CITY BOWLING

Individual High Games & Series: B. Watson 254-188 (589); K. Maurer 177 (497); D. Williams 173-171 (486); L. Riddle 186 (485); C. Wallace (474); M. Harris 178; P. Hellwig 176; J. Krol 175.

Split Conversions: D. Sweeney 3-6-10-7

Team High Game & Series: Thumb Octagon Barn 855 (2432).

Thursday Nite Trio as of Feb. 2

Doerr Landscaping	16
United Building Centers	16
Martin Electric	15
Mycogen Seeds	14
Jebco Consulting	12
Schmaltz Construction	11

Individual High Games & Series: G. Robinson 230-217 (629); K. Martin 232-211 (612); M. Frappart 242 (611); E. Schmaltz 222 (600); D. Doerr 220-214 (597); D. Beecher (592); R. Doerr 215 (586); T. Summers 225 (576); P. Regnerus 218.

Team High Games & Series: Jebco Consulting 626; Martin Electric (1747).

Youth Bowling League High Game as of Jan. 31

Ages 10 & under: Alliah Riddle	106
Ages 10-15: Cody Orbin	186
Ages 15 & up: Garret Wichert	185

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# With Love, On Valentine's Day

Roses are red  
Violets are blue  
We love you  
Carrie  
At GVSU  
M, D & A

Mrs. Kemp  
is cool!  
PJH

My Parents  
Rock!  
Kacey



Paul, Whenever I've needed someone to listen, someone to laugh with, or just a warm hand to hold, you and your love have been there. I hope you always know how much our life together means to me, and how very much I love you. Your wife, Sechenia



You're the  
Best Mom!  
Gracie

Go  
MSU!  
Parker

Karen,  
You're so  
good looking!  
Clarke

Dad  
You're #1!  
Maddie

## Tuscola 4-Hers recently honored

Tuscola County 4-H members have worked all year long on their 4-H projects, exhibited them in various competitions and gained valuable knowledge and learned skills.

Tuscola County 4-H members who exhibited exceptional performance within their project areas were honored recently at the annual Tuscola County 4-H Recognition Banquet, held Jan. 28. Members were recognized for accomplishments in several individual project areas. They include:

Cloverbuds (5-8 years old)—Braddock Baalerud of North Branch, Corynn Diedrich of Vassar, Evan Hoard of Millington, Luke Middleton of Mayville, and Teddy Wingert of Vassar.

Junior Project Award Recipients (9 to 12 years)—Samantha Baalerud of North Branch for horse project, Rachel Buckmaster of Mayville for sheep project, Eryn Diedrich of Vassar for horse project, Morgan Gray of Vassar for crafts & fine arts projects, Adrienne Heeke of Silverwood for gardening & horticulture and goats projects, Emily Middleton of Mayville for dog project, and Lorna Steff of Caro for dog project.

Senior Project Award Recipients (13-19 years)—Amanda Barber of Mayville for goats and photography projects, Megan Barber of Mayville for community service, goats and rabbit projects, and Jennifer Manwell of Cass City for dog project.

Each year 2 Tuscola County 4-H members are honored as Outstanding 4-H Members for their exemplary achievements in the county 4-H program. The Junior Outstanding 4-H Member for 2005 is Lynette Jackson, daughter of Gale and Lisa Jackson of Caro. She is an active member in the Caro Horizons 4-H Club and many 4-H projects. Each year she exhibits sewing, crafts, beef, swine and dairy at the county fair.

The Senior Outstanding 4-H member for 2005 is Karmen Jackson, of Caro, daughter of Gale and Lisa Jackson and resides on her family's farm, where she raises her beef, dairy and

swine 4-H projects. She is a member of the Caro Horizons 4-H Club and is active in many 4-H project including livestock, crafts and sewing, among others.

"To become a better citizen to my club, community, country and my world" is a verse from the 4-H pledge and each year the Tuscola County 4-H Council recognizes a 4-H club who

strives to make the best better through service to their community.

The Thumb Area Tail Waggers, a Caro based dog 4-H club, has done just that by organizing and participated in many community service and awareness projects, including demonstrations, pet visiting at local nursing facilities, donating to local charities and hosting a dog fun match each year.



EARNING SENIOR awards at the Tuscola County 4-H Recognition Banquet were (from left) Megan Barber, Amanda Barber and Jennifer Maxwell.



THE 4-H CLUB Citizenship Award went to the Thumb Area Tail Waggers 4-H Club, represented above by (from left) Lorna Steff, Amanda Bellor and Jennifer Maxwell.

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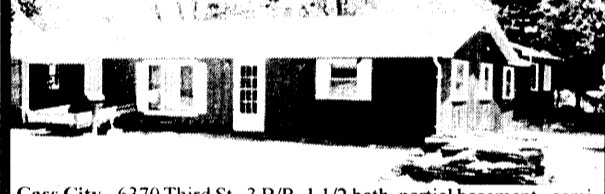
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**Cass City - Northwood Estates Subdivision - 6315 Beechwood Dr. 1,700 sq. ft., 3 B/R, 1 1/2 plus bath, ranch home with 2 car attached finished and heated garage, finished basement. 1st floor laundry, family room & H/W heat new in '94. Beautifully landscaped yard with front & backyard sprinkler systems. Must see to appreciate. \$144,000. TCC1448**



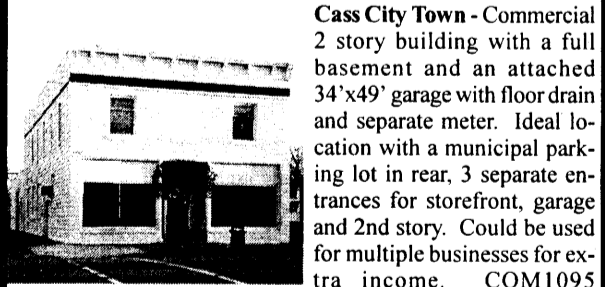
**Cass City - 6370 Third St. 3 B/R, 1 1/2 bath, partial basement - semi-finished, natural fireplace, ready to move in. Many updates within the last few years. Quiet neighborhood. Seller is motivated. TCC1385. \$84,900**



**Deford Country - 3 B/Rs, 1 bath, attached garage on 2 acres. Home has had many updates inside and out within the last 5 years. Solid home, easy to heat. Cy2475**



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**Country Charm City Convenience - 2/3 bedroom, 1 bath class home** Featuring new shingles, appliances, all brick, 1.5 car finished garage. Priced for quick sale, but made to last forever. Call for a showing, ask for Marty. CCT-353

**The Price is Right!** This isn't a game show. We are offering this 3 bedroom, 1 bath cutie for an unbelievable price. Setting on a village lot and half, with new roof, siding. There are some appliances included. So come on down and be the winner of CCT-344.

**Dreams Do Come True -** Open the front door to this storybook: 3 bedrooms, 1 full and 1 half bath, semi-finished basement for extra living space. Deck off the dining room leads way to the yard, and a great view of the park within walking distance. Call and ask to own CCT-354

**SOLD!** Investor's dream! Buy this one low with some elbow grease, sell it high. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Features are hardwood floors and clean. All offers will be considered. Call and ask to see V-156.

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**Card of Thanks**

THE FAMILIES OF Jerry and Normaleen Root would like to thank all our family and friends for all the flowers, cards and food you sent during our time of sorrow. Thank you to the ladies of Shabbona Methodist Church for the luncheon after the services. Thank you to Pastor Ellen Burns for the service and all the time she spent with us during Jerry and Normaleen's illness. Thank you to the Veterans for the special salute you gave our father and also to the Cass City Fire Department. Thank you to Kranz Funeral Home and staff for the kind words and help you gave us. Very special thanks to Northwood Meadows and Home & Hospice Advantage for all the help and wonderful care they gave our parents and their families.  
13-2-8-1

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,  
Or sat quietly in a chair,  
Perhaps you sent a floral piece,  
If so we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,  
As any friend could say;  
Perhaps you were not there at all,  
Just thought of us that day.  
Whatever you did to console our hearts,  
We thank you so much whatever the part.  
*The family of Fred R. Francis*  
13-2-8-1

Thanks for calling  
872-2010  
with feature story ideas

# School board reviews proposed cuts

**Continued from page one.**  
 members are eliminated. Before he outlined the cost cuts that the school board will consider, Micklash outlined the reduction in students and the cut in promised state aid that sent the district spinning into

a \$600,000 deficit for the 2005-06 school year. He pointed out that in 2001-02 the student count was 1,594 and then decreased for 3 straight years, remained steady in 2004-05 and then decreased by 38 students to 1,483 in the blended count for this year. That

decrease resulted in a loss of \$261,250 in anticipated revenues. None of the proposed cuts have been authorized by the school board, but the cuts will be on the agenda Feb. 27.

**SUPERINTENDENT HIRED**  
 The board officially hired Ronald

Wilson, middle school principal and curriculum director at Harrison Community Schools, to replace the retiring Micklash as superintendent. The agreement calls for a 3-year term and a first year salary of \$105,000. In addition, he was granted a tax sheltered \$5,000 annuity and a \$150,000 life insurance policy. He will be given \$5,000 for moving expenses. He will start to draw his salary April 17, but plans to be on the job April 3. It is expected that Micklash will be on the job at least to April 17, but the school will not pay a double salary for the position. The contract calls for Wilson to be evaluated once a year, similar to the one that Micklash had each year.



**CASS CITY SCHOOLS'** new superintendent Ronald Wilson (right) receives congratulations from retiring superintendent Ken Micklash at a special meeting Monday where he signed his contract with the school. Watching are the school board members, from left, standing: Michelle Biddinger, Teresa Rabideau, Danny Haag, James Turner, Doug Lautner, Cathy Kropewnicki and Randy Severance.

## Mourning

**Continued from page one.**

said. "I got to the point where I wanted to do something different. "I think what (influenced) me the most was 9-11. There were search and rescue dogs brought in from all over the country. I know it's expensive to bring them in, and I thought, if I could do this for my own community...That would be the ultimate high, to be called on once. "It was just sort of a personal goal, to accomplish something special. "It doesn't happen overnight," Howard said of the training process, which begins with basic obedience. She estimated she spent 15 to 20 minutes a day training the dogs in skills such as tracking, and getting them used to carrying a backpack filled with a first aid kit, water and other items. "You have to make it fun and rewarding for them," she added. Riley, a 2-year-old German Shepherd Howard had purchased in the fall of 2004, was well into his training when the fire cut his life short, according to Howard, who described him as a skilled tracker, but not yet comfortable enough around strangers. Belle, a 4-month-old bloodhound, she said, "was going to be exceptional. She loved people. She had kind of a drive in her to do something with you and she had a good nose on her." Although Howard misses Riley and Belle, she plans to forge ahead with her goal. "Absolutely. I already have an opportunity," she said, noting a friend is giving her another bloodhound. "This (fire) was really a setback because I'm still heartbroken," Howard added. "But to me, there's only one direction - forward."

## Micklash

**Continued from page one.**

straight A - they were run well." Micklash acknowledged education issues are important to him, but emphasized his campaign will focus on all issues that are important to citizens in his district. "Obviously that (education) would be close to my heart, and it's the largest sum of funds within the state budget," he said. "But the other issues, certainly, are jobs, agricultural issues, senior citizens. They're all very important. I'm not going to be a single-issue candidate." Micklash and his wife, Theresa, have resided in Tuscola County for 30 years. They have 3 grown children, all graduates of Cass City High School.

## Students set to jump for association

The students of Campbell Elementary School in Cass City are jumping at the chance to fight heart disease and stroke, the nation's number one and number 3 killers. Tuesday, Feb. 14, the school will hold its fourth annual Jump Rope for Heart event. Students will jump rope to raise funds for the American Heart Association, which funds cardiovascular disease research and public and professional education programs. Jump Rope for Heart is co-sponsored by the American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Jump Rope for Heart has been teaching kids the importance of a healthy heart and raising funds for heart disease and stroke research for more than 25 years. When a student asks you to be a sponsor, support Jump Rope for Heart with whatever you can afford to give. If you would like to help more, call your nearest American Heart Association office at 1-800-965-2425, or call 1-800-AHA-USA1.

PROPOSED SCHOOL CUTS 2005-2006	
Changed health ins. (admin. & support staff)	\$21,000
Campbell prin. On contracted service	\$20,000
Cut half time prin. Position and contracted for Spec. Proj. Coord.	\$37,000
The above 3 items have been implemented and are in place for 2005-2006.	
No substitute for accounts payable clerk when paying bills	\$2,700
Improve climate control in rooms where needed/dial down a couple of degrees	????
Limit purchases in all departments	\$20,000
Fill Campbell sec. with interim from within	\$12,000
Reduce district newsletter	\$3,500
Interim supt. savings	\$10,000
Reduce support substitutes when possible	????
Reduce field trips	????
Reduce conference expenses	\$4,000
This second group of items results in approximately \$52,200 in savings.	
2006-2007	
Limit purchases for entire year	\$40,000
Reduce capital outlay	\$25,000
Reduce newsletter	\$3,500
Reduce textbook costs (\$100,000 used in 05-06 due to K-12 Reading & Lang. Arts update)	\$80,000
Reduce technology costs (final equipment lease paid off in 05-06)	\$40,000
Reduce field trips	????
Reduce conference/training costs	????
Reduce support substitutes when possible	????
Do more outdoor work with existing staff	????
No athletic uniform replacement	\$5,000
Eliminate coaches clinics	\$3,500
9th grade team sports	\$10,500
Obtain appraisal for Deford School and list by owner	????
The above listed items result in savings of approximately \$207,500 plus the unknown amounts.	
2006-2007	
No substitute for accounts payable clerk	\$5,400
Campbell secretary from within	\$30,000
Consolidate tech. center routes to 2	\$8,500
Reduce two bus routes & consolidate some trans. stops	\$17,500
Reduce one FTE teacher assistance position	\$19,000
Reduce one half to one FTE library clerk position	\$7,500
Section of 5th grade to be reduced	\$70,000
Reduce section of 2nd grade (smaller class 72 students, 4 to 3 sections leaves 24 per section)	\$70,000
Reduce one high school FTE teaching position	\$70,000
Reduce one middle school FTE teaching position	\$70,000
Reduce one special ed. FTE teaching position	\$70,000
Page one saving of approximately \$207,500	
Page two savings of approximately \$437,500	
TOTAL PROJECTED REDUCTIONS - \$645,000	

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