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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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12 PAGES PLUS 3 SUPPLEMENTS



FRIENDS, FAMILY members and supporters wipe away tears and embrace former Cass City Schools Director of Bands Doug Burtch after a Sanilac County Circuit Court jury acquitted him of criminal sexual conduct charges Thursday. Burtch resigned from his position during a special Cass City Board of Education meeting Friday night.

Not guilty

Jury deliberates 35 minutes, acquits band director

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Both attorneys in the Doug Burtch criminal sexual conduct case agreed on one point from the beginning of last week's trial in Sanilac County Circuit Court: the outcome would rest on the credibility of the witnesses.

In the end, the jury of 7 women and 5 men made it clear they believed the credibility of those called to testify on behalf of the popular Cass City Schools band director outweighed that of his accusers.

It took the jury just 35 minutes to acquit Burtch Thursday following a 3-day trial. Circuit Court Judge Donald A. Teeple's courtroom

erupted in an emotional mix of cries and applause when the jury foreman announced the verdicts.

Burtch had been charged with 2 counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct (penetration) stemming from allegations he engaged in sex with a former choir student, then 17 years old, in December 2003. The jury also had the option of finding him guilty on one or 2 counts of fourth degree criminal sexual conduct (contact).

More than 2 dozen of Burtch's supporters, including family members, former students, band boosters and former Cass City teachers, attended the trial and all agreed justice was served.

"I think he's a good person. He has good character," said Dustin Mallory, a 2004 Cass City High School graduate who was a student of Burtch's, served as his band assistant, and testified on his behalf. "I didn't think everything added up," he said of the testimony offered by the prosecution's witnesses. "It just didn't mesh together."

Jessica Chappel, another Cass City graduate who also testified for the defense, agreed.

"It (verdict) was fair. It was definitely fair," she said. "I've known Doug Burtch very well since the day he started teaching, and if I wasn't absolutely sure (he's innocent), I wouldn't be here today. When people love their job as much as Doug does, they don't do something to screw it up. I believe that."

Burtch's attorney, Walt Salens of Bad Axe, spent the majority of his closing argument Thursday pointing out inconsistencies in the statements made by Sanilac County prosecutor James V. Young's witnesses regarding the alleged victim's alleged meetings and sexual encounters with Burtch. He also emphasized the victim's repeated statements admitting and then denying that she and Burtch had been intimate.

But perhaps the most compelling testimony came from Burtch's grandparents, who told the court they were at their grandson's home and staying in the bedroom on the first night that Burtch had allegedly engaged in sex with the victim.

"I thought his attorney was awesome. I think he's brilliant," said retired Cass City pharmacist Tom Proctor, who attended the entire trial to show his continued support of the band program and of Burtch. "There's nobody like him in the band program," he said.

"It's a great victory. It's a great thing for Doug. I'm glad he's vindicated, and now we'll go on from here in Tuscola County," said Salens, referring to Burtch's scheduled trial in Tuscola County Circuit Court next fall on 8 counts of criminal sexual conduct.

"This was a long and very difficult case. We've been going at it since July of last year," Salens added.

"He did a very, very fine job," Burtch, 29, said of his attorney. "I

feel good, I feel really good. It's going to take some time to settle in. This was a life-altering event that I wouldn't wish on anyone."

During the course of the trial, Burtch admitted he and the victim did develop a romantic relationship after she turned 18, but said that relationship never included sex. He has maintained his innocence all along and indicated he's looking forward to getting the next trial behind him so he can put his life back together and return to the career he loves.

"That's the bottom line. The bottom line is it did not happen," he said of the allegations. "I have no intentions of leaving the field of education."

TRIAL DAY ONE

The trial began with more than an hour and a half of jury selection during which 13 prospective jurors were excused on the basis of their knowledge of the case, their familiarity with prospective witnesses or their personal opinions.

In his opening statement, Young briefly outlined the allegations, saying Burtch was charged with engaging in sexual intercourse with the victim at his then-Greenleaf Township residence in northern Sanilac County, and that at the time she was 17 and a student at Cass City High School.

Young acknowledged Burtch's popularity as an educator, but emphasized his professional accomplishments are not relevant.

"He is a good teacher. He has done exceedingly well with the band program," he told the jury. "(But) the fact that he is a popular and good teacher has no bearing here."

Please turn to back page.

Burtch resigns at special meet Friday evening

Supporters of Doug Burtch who attended the special meeting of the Cass City School Board Friday night, ready to do battle for the former Cass City Director of Bands, were disarmed when Burtch resigned.

port for Burtch, while one person backed the board's decision.

The board listened to the comments, but declined to get into any discussion about the resignation that took effect April 28.

The criminals won. There was not a single iota of evidence presented against him.

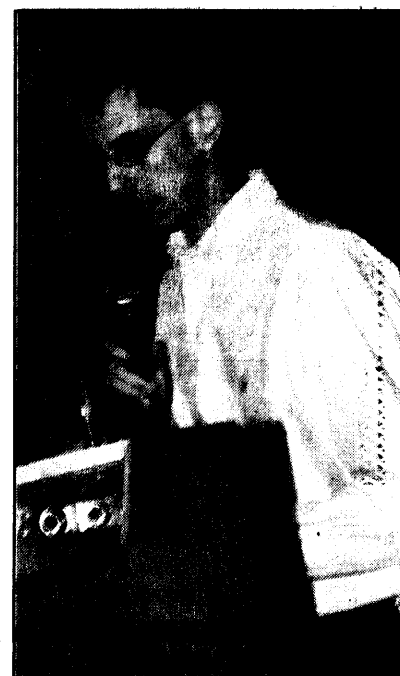
--Bob Gengler

Burtch told the crowd that packed the Cass City High School cafeteria that a long year of agony, pain and suffering was ending and it was very hard to say good-bye.

I am proud of the achievements we made and hope that the band can carry on the fine tradition that we have established, Burtch said.

The surprise resignation negated some of the points that supporters came armed to present, said Dave Knight, who added that Burtch was simply a wonderful teacher.

Bob Gengler, who spent 26 years teaching in Cass City, was bitter. The criminals won, he said, and the crowd applauded. There was not a single iota of evidence presented against him, Gengler said. It's very hard on the teaching staff.



BURTCH addresses the crowd during Friday's special school board meeting.

Teachers in this system have no board backing and never have had, he maintained.

Several other spectators voiced sup-

Financial picture improves at O-G

It's no secret Michigan's stalled economy is affecting everyone, including local school districts, which are struggling to make ends meet and at the same time keep up with new state and federal mandates.

So a little good news is always welcome, and the Owen-Gage Board of Education enjoyed some during its monthly meeting last week.

School Supt. Dana Compton reported the board amended its 2005-06 budget, and the figures revealed general fund revenues at \$1.938 million, up from the preliminary projection of \$1.785 million.

School officials had projected a deficit of some \$287,000 when the fiscal year began. Now, Compton said, that deficit is estimated at \$87,500 thanks a variety of measures implemented by school officials, including staffing adjustments. The sale of the former Gagetown Elementary School also provided a \$75,000 boost, he noted.

"The bottom line is we're looking at a \$143,000 fund balance that should be about \$303,000 at June 30, 2006," he said.

In a related matter, new Huron Intermediate School District Supt. Bob Colby met with the board to discuss the ISD budgets.

"They were showing a deficit in each of their funds for next year, working against their fund balance, but they're working towards having each of the budgets at or near balanced next year," Compton said. He noted local districts, including Owen-Gage, are asked to approve the ISD's

general fund budget.

The ISD plays an important role by providing local districts with a variety of services. Those services are under the headings of General Education, which includes professional development and curriculum design and delivery; Vocational Education, which offers students training in a number of fields, from cosmetology to hospitality services to drafting and auto mechanics; and Special Education, which covers a myriad of services such as speech pathology.

Compton said it appears the ISD financial outlook will not significantly impact the services provided to Owen-Gage in the coming year. "At this point I think the only thing we're going to see is a little tightening of the belt," he added.

IN OTHER BUSINESS

In other business last week, the board:

*Approved the purchase of a new reading/language arts/writing series for students in pre-K through sixth grade.

The series is expensive and will cost some \$18,000, according to Compton, who said school officials are confident the new materials will help to improve student scores on state tests, including the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) exam.

"It will help what we're already doing with the reading," he said, add-

Please turn to page 10.

Cass City man flirts with contempt charge

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Sanilac County Circuit Court Judge Donald A. Teeple was dead serious when he warned spectators in his courtroom not to approach jurors or witnesses in an effort to discuss the Doug Burtch trial during the proceedings last week.

A Cass City man learned that the hard way Wednesday. It was mid-morning during the second day of the trial for Burtch, who faced 2 counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct stemming from allegations he engaged in sex with a former choir student at Cass City High School in 2003.

Attorneys were wrapping up about 90 minutes of questioning Burtch on the stand when Teeple announced a brief morning recess, then paused for a minute and cleared the courtroom of the jury.

Moments later, Homer Bailey of Cass City found himself being escorted into the nearly full courtroom and in front of Teeple by a bailiff.

A perturbed Teeple said he had been informed by a witness that a man in the hallway was approaching witnesses, saying that Burtch is guilty, and he demanded to know if Bailey, 65, was that man.

Bailey denied approaching any witness, saying 2 individuals walked up to him, and one of them asked his opinion about the case. "I didn't know they were witnesses. They came to me. I didn't go to them," Bailey told the judge.

Bailey told Teeple he frequently "writes articles" for the Cass City Chronicle and the Tuscola County Advertiser. In fact, he is not employed by either newspaper, but has been a frequent contributor to both papers' Letters to the Editor columns.

While prosecution witnesses are not exposed to spectators during a trial - they wait for their turn to testify in the prosecutor's office - defense witnesses are left to "fend for themselves" in the hallway outside the courtroom, said Teeple, who ordered that defense witnesses be allowed to wait in a separate room for the remainder of the trial.

He then turned his attention back to Bailey, who apologized and said he had

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Holbrook Area News

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The Young Ideas Farm Bureau group met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bouchard Thursday evening. Cards were played and high prizes were won by Mrs. Joe Wolschlagler and Stanley Heleski. Low prizes were won by Stanley Wolschlagler and Mrs. Ray Depcinski. After the meeting, the hostess served a lunch. The next meeting will be May 25 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Wolschlagler.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Doerr and Mrs. Curtis Cleland were Sunday evening guests of Leone Doerr of Argyle. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Garety of Saginaw were Sunday guests of Jim and Kay Sweeney.

Easter Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Evans Gibbard were Mr. and Mrs. Greg Moore and family of Snover, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Taylor and Brian, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Thick of Lake Co., Dan Gibbard, Theresa Gibbard, Cheryl Laming, Mrs. Marty Wagoner and son of Caro.

Mrs. Ray Depcinski and Mrs. Allen Depcinski visited Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Holdwick of Ruth where they celebrated Mrs. Ray Depcinski's birthday.

Mrs. Gerald Wills and Mrs. Curtis Cleland visited Mrs. Hiram Keyser Friday.

June Rutz of Sterling Heights, Mary Catherine Nicol and Sharon, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel and Allen Farrelly attended the funeral of Jim Somerville at the Cooloch Randall Funeral Home in Port Huron Wednesday.

Eleven members of The Traveling Breakfast Club met at the Franklin Plaza Thursday morning. They will meet at the Coffee Cup Plus next week.

Allen Farrelly came home Thursday after spending 3 days with the June Rutz family of Sterling Heights.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski attended the Ruth K of C Card Party Sunday. Jerry Muter won first prize and Ray Depcinski won second prize. A lunch of sloppy joes, beans, potato chips and lots of deserts was served. Edith Jackson visited Mrs. Curtis Cleland Saturday.

Visitors of Thelma Jackson last week were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson, Mrs. Gerald Wills, Mrs. Harold Ballagh, Mrs. Ray Depcinski and Mrs. Martin Sweeney and Brian. Allen Farrelly spent Wednesday at Flat Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel and Doris Western attended the K of C Fish Fry in Cass City Friday and Thursday had dinner at the Cass City Stockyards.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Depcinski, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Depcinski were Wednesday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski where they celebrated Mrs. Ray Depcinski's birthday. Birthday cake and ice cream was served.

Bill Cleland of Bad Axe was a Wednesday guest of Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

Around 45 relatives and friends attended a bridal shower for Kate Toma of West Bloomfield at Uby Heights Sunday. Kay Toma and Wayne Sweeney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Sweeney, will be married July 8, 2006.

Kay Toma of West Bloomfield, Pat and Sally Bell, Katelynn and Lauren of Elkton, and Mr. and Mrs. Eric Sweeney, Heidi, Brandon, Nicole, Brett and Larry of Port Huron, were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sweeney where they celebrated Alex Ritter's 18th birthday with cake and ice cream.

Mrs. Dan Franzel, June Rutz and Allen Farrelly took Cindy Rutz to Big Boy for Cindy's birthday in Sterling Heights Monday.

Engaged



Tiffany Mae Jean Spencer & Steven Allen Ball

Kenneth and Karen Spencer of Cass City along with Kim and Sharon Ball of Caro announce the engagement of their children, Tiffany Mae Jean Spencer and Steven Allen Ball.

Tiffany is a 2003 graduate of Cass City High School and Steven is a 2000 graduate of Caro High School.

A July 15, 2006 wedding is being planned in Caro. The couple plans to reside in Caro.

Rinnert top student



Nickie Rinnert

Nickie Rinnert has been named Owendale-Gagetown Schools' "Senior Student of the Month" for April.

During high school, Rinnert has been on the honor roll. As a junior she was a member of the prom committee. Currently, she serves as a teacher's aide.

For the past 2 years, Rinnert has attended the Huron Area Technical Center in Bad Axe studying child education. Her plans are to attend Baker College and become an elementary teacher.

She is the daughter of Thomas and Tammy Rinnert of Gagetown.



Meg's Peg

Grilling season

by Melva E. Guinther

My husband's been urging me to get a tank of gas for our outdoor grill. We will, I'm sure, but if it were left to me, I'd never haul the thing out of the garage.

I never learned the art of outdoor grilling. Lighting one can be tricky and I simply don't trust gas. I refuse to own a gas range, and if anything goes wrong with the gas furnace or water heater, I call a professional.

Besides, what's the big deal about cooking out in the yard?

I have a perfectly fine George Foreman grill that sits conveniently on the counter and does a dandy job of grilling whatever we choose. All you have to do is plug it in. No fear of explosion or setting yourself on fire.

There must be something about the great outdoors or the element of danger that makes grilling appealing to a man.

For whatever reason, the male of the species feels qualified to do the cooking when an open fire is involved. It doesn't matter that he can't pour milk on a bowl of cereal in the kitchen.

Someone who has observed the phenomenon sent me this apt description of what ordinarily takes place when a man offers to barbecue:

* The woman buys the food.

* The woman makes the salad, prepares the vegetables and makes dessert.

* The woman prepares the meat for cooking, places it on a tray along with the necessary utensils and sauces and takes it to the man, who is lounging beside the grill - drink in hand.

(Here comes the important part): * THE MAN PUTS THE MEAT ON THE GRILL.

* The woman goes inside to organize the plates and cutlery.

* The woman comes out to tell the man the meat is burning. The man thanks her and asks if she will bring him another drink while he deals with

the situation.

(Important again):

* THE MAN TAKES THE MEAT OFF THE GRILL AND HANDS IT TO THE WOMAN.

* The woman prepares the plates, salad, bread, utensils, napkins, sauces, and brings them to the table.

* After eating, the woman clears the table and does the dishes.

(And most important of all):

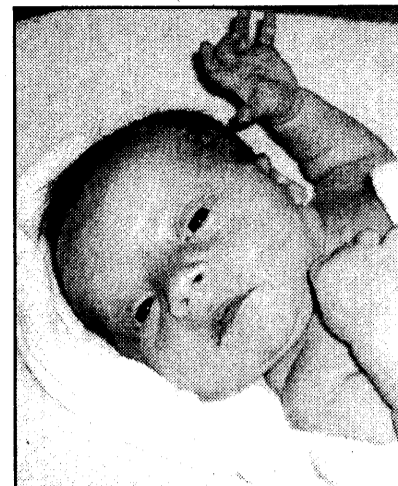
* EVERYONE PRAISES THE MAN AND THANKS HIM FOR HIS COOKING EFFORTS.

* The man later asks the woman how she enjoyed her "night off" and seeing her annoyed reaction, concludes that there's just no pleasing some women.

Add to this the fact that if the man insists on eating the food outside, the woman has to carry the whole works out and back in again. Plus you have to eat fast while fighting the bugs off.

I'm not sure we're ready for all this fun.

It's a boy!



McLean Liam Davis

McLean Liam Davis was born at 2:55 a.m., April 1, 2006 at Northern Michigan Hospital, Petoskey. He is the son of Jennifer and Tim Davis of Harbor Springs.

McLean weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long.

He is the grandson of Alan and Kathy Milligan of Cass City and John and JoAnne Davis of Harbor Springs. Great-grandparents are Jim and Stella Ballagh of Ubyly and Anna Davis of Petoskey.

He is joined at home by a big brother, Ian, 3.

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Church to host percussion group

The Maranatha Percussion Ensemble from Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Watertown, Wis., will present a concert at First Baptist Church, 6420 Houghton St., Cass City, Thursday, May 18, at 7 p.m.

The public is invited. For further information, call Pastor Eric Holmgren at (989) 872-3155.

Musical on tap

The Junior Choir of the Novesta Church of Christ, 2896 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, will perform the youth musical, "Down By the Creek Bank," Sunday, May 7, at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

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Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

We are often bailed out in this column of trivia and it happened again this week. Regular readers will recall that I praised the hotdogs at Mega Coney Island last week, but couldn't pinpoint its location.

Now I can. It's on the U.S. 23 Owens Road exit about halfway between I-96 and I-69.

Lee Hartel passed on this information to me at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church turkey dinner Sunday. He said that he ate at the Mega perhaps once a week when his job took him past the exit.

The turkey dinner was a treasurer trove of trivia. The church has installed a new organ, played for the first time in the Sunday service. The organ was purchased in this country, but many of the parts came from England.

So many that the company representative came from England to help with the installation. That's not trivia, but this information qualifies. The service representative's family history included living in the Thumb area.

Sorry, I can't really pinpoint anything closer than this as my turn at the takeout counter came up. I'm sure that Fred Matthews will be happy to supply details if asked.

To take the picture inside the courtroom at the Doug Burtch trial took a bit of doing. It requires that the media representative (Tom Montgomery) secure an application and submits it to the judge.

Then the lawyers for both the plaintiff and the defendant were notified. Finally an order is issued by the judge (Donald A. Teeple) outlining the photo area and eliminating the use of flash, pictures of the jury and any recording devices.

Cass City bands earn state honors

The Cass City High School Concert and Symphony Bands recently performed at the District Band Festival held at Laker High School.

Both bands received Division I ratings (the highest possible), which qualified them to perform at the state band festival.

The state band festival was held Saturday at Walled Lake Northern High School. After each band had performed the 3 pieces they played

at districts, and completed the sight-reading segment, ratings were posted. The concert band received a division II rating and the symphony band received a division I rating.

The symphony band received top ratings from each of the 3 judges for its performance and also from the sight-reading judge. This is the second year in a row that a Cass City High School band has received state honors.

The Haire Net

The kids still the bottom line



One of the goals that the Cass City School Board has stressed as important to the operation of the schools is to constantly improve its relations with the community.

In the last several years there has been marked improvement in this area and the school's marketing as "the Friendly School" has been more than just a successful slogan.

Despite this success, the school board continued to retain better public relations as one of its long-term goals.

Better public relations took a step back Friday, probably put on the backburner by the Doug Burtch controversy, but not the reason why we feel that public relations has taken a blow.

Certainly his case split the district, but given the circumstances it was a no-win situation and it's hard to devise a better plan than the one that was followed.

The announcement of the retirement of 7 top-of-the-pay scale teachers was dismal. It was almost like a choreographed chorus line with each board member playing his or her prescribed part.

It was done better in the past, when teachers with long service were noted with a few of their contributions at the end of their school careers.

Teachers leaving the system and receiving a retirement bonus of \$30,000 payable at \$10,000 a year are:

Peggy Gogola, 1978-79, fourth grade.

Michael Gogola 1978-79, sixth grade.

Mary Jo Mantey (1978-79) fourth grade.

Marilyn Mastie (1972-73) fifth grade.

Linda Gray (1979-80) fourth grade.

Jacque Zawilinski (1972-73) high school library.

Daryl Iwankovitsch (1984-85) eighth grade.

It should be remembered that when Todd Thamer was hired to take over the band program it was with the stipulation that it was a temporary replacement and now that the post is vacant it is posted as open for all candidates, including, of course, Thamer.

Hiring the new director will be a big first step in getting the school back on an even keel. The quicker the differences between the teachers and the administration and the school and the community can be laid to rest the better it will be for the kids.

Let's not forget that this remains the bottom line.

Douglas H. Herringshaw, Community Bank president of Chemical Bank-Caro, announced recently that Jane Luana has earned her state of Michigan Life Insurance License.

"As a licensed insurance representative, Luana can provide fixed annuities, as well as traditional bank products to better assist our customers with achieving their financial goals," said Herringshaw.

Luana is the branch manager at the Marlette office at 2592 South Van Dyke. She began her career with Chemical Bank in 1996. She volunteers her time as a Sunday school teacher and is a member of the Christian Education Committee at Novesta Church of Christ.

Chemical Financial Corporation is the fourth largest banking company headquartered in Michigan. The Company operates through a single subsidiary bank, Chemical Bank, with 124 banking locations spanning 31 counties in Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

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The back forty

by Roger Pond

The hardest thing about writing a newspaper column is answering questions from readers. Even routine queries like, "How long does it take to write a column?" never seem to have a simple answer.

Does a column take a couple of hours, a couple of days, or a couple of years? I don't know. I'm not sure I've ever finished one.

One of my grandson's classmates stumped me recently when she asked, "How many books do you write in a day?"

The most vexing question I ever got was, "Do you write that column yourself?"

"What did she mean by that?" I thought. "Does she think I'm too dumb to write it, or too smart to write it?" It's a no-win situation as far as I can tell.

The toughest question of all is, "How did you get started writing?" I've mulled that one around for years, and my mind always skips back to my early years in grade school.

Readers need to understand I grew up in an era before creative writing was taught, or even encouraged in the lower grades. Students who tried to be creative, or refused to color between the lines, generally wound up in the boiler room talking with the janitor.

My old school wasn't the most progressive, even for that era, so most of my writing was terse and to the point.

"Roger was sic yesterday. Probably had the flew. Signed, Dad." That kind of stuff.

As I advanced through the grades my teachers began comparing my

writing with more famous authors. "This reminds me of Steinbeck," Miss Arbutck would say.

"You and Bubba Steinbeck are staying after school until we find out who's copying from whom."

Soon my teachers were comparing my writing to that of my sister, then my older brother; and finally they said they didn't care where I was getting it as long as it wasn't hurting anybody.

By the time I reached junior high I realized that humor wasn't taught at my school, either. It seemed to be discouraged, if anything.

If Miss Arbutck saw something humorous, she did everything she could to squelch it. Whereas most humorists have people encouraging them,

I've had to go it pretty much alone.

When David Letterman was a boy his teachers probably said, "Oh, Dave, that's so funny! I'll bet your mother is very proud of you."

That's why he grew up to be such a smart aleck.

My teachers didn't see things that way. My teachers were what Garrison Keillor calls "humor impaired."

Miss Arbutck, in particular, was death on young humorists. We'd come up with something especially hilarious, and she'd say, "You may have thought that was funny, but I certainly didn't."

"Oh, don't be so hard on yourself," we told her. "Just hang in there, and you'll probably catch on right away next time."

This seemed to cheer her up, but I've always wondered about a woman who grinds her teeth like that when she smiles. That must be hard on the molars, if nothing else.

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Cass City Chronicle

May 3, 2006

5-Day Local Forecast

Wednesday
Isolated T-storms
High: 70 Low: 48

Thursday
Partly Cloudy
High: 62 Low: 41

Friday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 57 Low: 37

Saturday
Mostly Cloudy
High: 54 Low: 35

Sunday
Partly Cloudy
High: 51 Low: 34

In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 70°, humidity of 52% and an overnight low of 48°. The record high temperature for today is 86° set in 1955. The record low is 25° set in 1966. Thursday, skies will remain partly cloudy with a high temperature of 62°.

Last Week's Local Almanac

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Monday	63	43	56/36	0.00"
Tuesday	48	30	56/36	0.00"
Wednesday	64	25	57/36	0.00"
Thursday	48	28	57/37	0.00"
Friday	54	25	58/37	0.00"
Saturday	61	30	58/37	0.00"
Sunday	68	46	59/38	0.00"

Upcoming Moon Phases

First 5/5 Full 5/13 Last 5/20 New 5/27

Sunrise Sunset Times

Sunrise today 6:22 a.m.
Sunset tonight 8:38 p.m.

Precipitation	0.00"
Normal precipitation	-0.67"
Departure from normal	-0.67"
Average temperature	45.2°
Average normal temperature	47.0°
Departure from normal	-1.8°

Data as reported from Bad Axe, Michigan
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Weather report courtesy of your friends at

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All services are confidential.

P.O. Box 239 • Caro, MI 48723



Red Hawk Talks

by Donna Bushong

For Cass City High School band students, An American Elegy by Frank Ticheli was more meaningful than ever when they played it at State Band Festival on Saturday. The song was written for the tragedy that happened at Columbine High School and says good-bye to those who were lost while offering hope to the survivors.

For our bands, it serves as a way of saying good-bye to their beloved band director Doug Burch, who resigned Friday evening.

Bands under the direction of Mr. Burch.

It upsets me that in the past year we have created an atmosphere that will no longer allow Mr. Burch to be our director. Although his knowledge and passion for what he does will be passed on to other students at whatever school Mr. Burch finds himself at next, the students of Cass City schools will never have the chance to learn and appreciate the music the way Mr. Burch taught us.

The bands will finish off their year with heavy hearts. They have their spring concert, band banquet, and commencement ceremony to continue on with. After that, the future of the band program is uncertain.

My message to all current and future band students is: You cannot let this hold you back. You all have the ability to achieve greatness. All you can do now is remember everything you learned from Mr. Burch and play your best the way he always demanded of us. It is the best gift that we can give him.

On behalf of the band I would like to thank all those who have shown us support during this difficult year. It helps to know that there are people cheering you on when you think you can't go any farther. Thank You.

I have been drum major for 3 years and worked side by side with Mr. Burch for 3 years. In my 13 years of schooling I have never had a teacher who could give confidence, pride, respect, responsibility, and hope to their students the way Mr. Burch did. He was our director and our friend and his absence in the years to come will have an effect on former students, current students, and students who are yet to come.

This was my senior year and my last year as drum major. It should have been exciting for the band and me. Instead, band lost all life. It was not a fun year for us, and the music program did not meet the expectations of anyone who has ever seen or heard any of the Cass City High School

Farmers right on track this spring

A stretch of exemplary spring weather and ideal moisture levels have Michigan farmers right on track early in the 2006 planting season. Producers are in the fields only slightly behind the pace of last year's unusually early start, and so far are content with conditions there.

With its customary head start on the growing season, a promising crop of winter wheat has 2006 off to an optimistic start.

"The winter wheat is doing great," said Bob Boehm, manager of Michigan Farm Bureau's Commodity and Marketing Department. "It came through the winter well, so now the only outstanding concerns are conditions during the flowering period,

and of course good harvest weather."

Despite the prospect of a burgeoning in-state market, Michigan farmers anticipate planting less corn this year. According to survey results recently released by the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service, the state's corn growers expect to plant 2.15 million acres this spring - down about 100,000 acres from last year.

"At the time of the survey," Boehm said, "producers were looking at rising input costs, mostly due to the cost of natural gas, which affects both the price of nitrogen fertilizer and the projected expense of grain dryers come harvest time."

With several ethanol production facilities expected to be operational by

the end of the year, increased in-state demand for the grain should mean new marketing opportunities for Michigan corn growers.

"Everybody's excited about the ethanol industry here," said Boehm, who anticipates increased profitability for producers looking at several new buyers closer to home.

Acres planted to Michigan's other major field crops - soybeans, sugar beets and dry beans - are expected to conform closely to market trends.

A 3 percent increase in sugar beet

plantings, to approximately 153,000 acres, reflects higher global sugar prices, attributable in part to last year's hurricane season and the diversion of some Brazilian sugar cane to ethanol production.

Soybean plantings are expected to increase somewhat this year to total approximately 2.1 million acres. Edible dry bean plantings are expected to dip about four percent from last year to approximately 225,000 acres, a reflection of lower prices and pressure from Asian imports.

Several appear in circuit court

The following people appeared in Tuscola County Circuit Court last week on criminal charges:

•Jesse R. Smith, 18, Mayville, pleaded guilty to fleeing a police officer, operating a motor vehicle with an expired license, and operating an off-road vehicle on a highway or highway right-of-way March 6 in Wells Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case and bond was continued at \$8,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Sheila L. Bolger, 43, Gagetown, pleaded guilty to 5 counts of obtaining a controlled substance (Darcovet) by fraud from March 2005 to February 2006 in Caro.

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

•David W. Robinson, 55, Vassar, pleaded no contest to possession of a firearm by a felon Feb. 9 in Vassar Township.

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

•Janet S. Baker, 58, Vassar, was sentenced to 60 days in the county jail and 36 months probation for her pleas of guilty to 10 counts of fraudulent insurance acts from February 2002 to May 2004 in Vassar.

She was also ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,160 plus restitution of \$15,000.

•James A. Normandin, 17, Caro, was ordered to serve 2 to 15 years in prison for his pleas of guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon, disturbing the peace and alcohol consumption by a minor Jan. 6 in Caro, and to unarmed robbery and larceny in a building Feb. 22 in Caro.

He was also ordered to pay \$1,800 in costs and fines.

•Nicole A. Hess, 33, Vassar, was sentenced to 36 months probation and 72 days in jail, with work release, for her plea of guilty to assaulting a police officer Jan. 30 in Vassar.

She was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$820.

•Lorne M. Depelsmaeker, 43, Yale, was sentenced to 60 months probation and 180 days in jail, with work release for his conviction on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor - with an occupant under the age of 16 years

Dec. 7 in Millington Township. He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,620.

•Ronald J. Michalski, 56, Port Huron, received a one-year delayed sentence for his plea of no contest to 3 counts of embezzlement of more than \$50 by a public official from April to July 2002 in Vassar.

He was also ordered to complete 100 hours of community service and pay \$3,240 in costs and fines plus restitution of \$3,500.

•Kyle T. Rahn, 19, Caro, received a 90-day delayed sentence for his pleas of no contest to malicious destruction of fire/police property, assaulting a police officer and consumption of alcohol by a minor Aug. 28 in Fairgrove Township.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$960 plus restitution of \$2,357.39.

•Marcos A. Garcia, 17, Caro, pleaded guilty to obstructing a police officer and possession of marijuana Nov. 11 in Caro.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$3,500. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•John C. Howland, 24, Unionville, pleaded guilty to violating the Sex Offender's Registration Act by failing to verify his registration information with law enforcement in January 2006.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$2,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Justin Moreau, 18, Bay City, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny Jan. 3 in Akron, arson of real property Nov. 28 in Fairgrove, breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny Dec. 21 in Fairgrove, and breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny Dec. 14 in Fairgrove.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at a combined \$450,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be set.

Hospital laboratory accredited

Hills and Dales General Hospital Laboratory, Cass City, has been awarded an accreditation by the Commission on Laboratory Accreditation of the College of American Pathologists (CAP), based on the results of a recent on-site inspection.

The laboratory's director was advised of this national recognition and congratulated for the "excellence of the services being provided." The Hills and Dales General Hospital Laboratory is one of the more than 6,000 CAP-accredited laboratories nationwide.

The CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program, established in the early 1960s, is recognized by the federal government as being equal to or more stringent than the government's own inspection program.

During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors examine the laboratory's records and quality control of procedures for the preceding 2 years. CAP inspectors also examine the entire staff's qualifications, the laboratory's equipment, facilities, safety program and record, as well as the overall management of the laboratory. This stringent inspection program is designed to specifically ensure the highest standard of care for the laboratory's patients.

The College of American Pathologists is a medical society serving nearly 16,000 physician members and the laboratory community throughout the world. It is the world's largest association composed exclusively of pathologists and is widely considered the leader in laboratory quality assurance.

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NOTICE

TO USERS OF VILLAGE WATER SERVICE

During the flushing of the hydrants Wednesday and Thursday, May 10 & 11, starting at 4 a.m. there may be an abundance of crystallized iron (rust) in the water supplied to your area of the village.

This condition does not render the water unfit or harmful for consumption; however, clothing washed in this water will probably become discolored.

Check the color of your water before placing your clothing into it.

The village is not liable for damage caused by this condition.

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Letters to the Editor

Burtch won battle, school lost the war

To the school board and school administration:

With the events of the last year in this community you have accomplished two things.

You have told students for whatever reason they may find, all they have to do is make a sexual accusation and they can get rid of a teacher even before the case is investigated. The sad part of this situation is that these girls were no longer in school.

Second, you have sent the message to teachers that you will not support them when they need protection from such "accusations." Teachers beware. Thank goodness that Mr. Burtch had such a strong following of supporters to get him through this ordeal.

Douglas Burtch brought class to a band program, he brought excitement to the sports events, he brought pride to the competitions, and he put Cass City on the "music map." His enthusiasm was contagious.

I would like to commend Randy Severance, board member, who took the time to sit through the trial and see the truth for himself. Mr. Burtch won the battle, but Cass City Schools lost the war.

I want to wish him well, and thank him for all he did for this community. I only wish we could give him back some of what was taken from him, but we can never do that. Well done Doug, good luck and God bless you.

Betty Laurie,
Cass City

Resignation a real loss to the kids

The resignation of Doug Burtch is a real loss to the kids, to the school and to the community.

Mr. Burtch is so superior at all aspects of music. He taught our sons and daughters not only music, but pride in appearance, behavior and responsibility. It is obvious the kids respect him.

Well, we blew this one. We wish him well. I am already jealous of the next community he goes to. God's speed, Mr. Burtch, and thank you.

Elaine Proctor,
Cass City

Letters to the Editor

The Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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

The Chronicle reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.



DISPLAYING BADGES and certificates indicating they were selected for the Red Hawk Award of Excellence are, from left, Ashley Puterbaugh, Lauren Potter and Mishelle Powell.

Potter, Powell and Puterbaugh receive award

Four times a year, a student from each of the 3 Cass City school buildings is honored as a recipient of the Red Hawk Award of Excellence. The award is for contributions the students have made to the school and the community, including service in the various volunteer organizations such as the churches or the hospital.

The award does not automatically go to the student with the best academic record, authorities point out, but those that have displayed leadership roles during their school years.

School board members note that the honor is significant in that only 12 persons are selected from among the school's 1,489 students.

Selected from Campbell Elementary was Lauren Potter, daughter of William and Paula Potter of Cass City.

Her teacher reported that Lauren excels in all academic areas and is very hard working, conscientious and dependable. She is very artistic and one of the top point getters in the second grade "Reading Counts" program. Lauren is a wonderful role model for students and consistently helps others and works to make the classroom and school a better place.

Selected from the middle school was Mishelle Powell, daughter of Morris Powell, Cass City. Her teachers report that she is hard working and never settles for less than her best. She sets goals and works toward meeting these goals.

She is an excellent role model for her peers and her excitement and love for learning are contagious.

In class discussions, Mishelle always adds interesting information. She has background knowledge on many topics. Mishelle is helpful to teachers and classmates and always has a warm and welcoming smile, her teachers say.

Selected from the high school was Ashley Puterbaugh, daughter of Denise Puterbaugh and Larry Puterbaugh. Ashley is a senior and

has been involved in a galaxy of events and programs. She is a member of the Varsity A Quiz Bowl team, the English Academic Games team and is co-captain of the English team. She participated in a mission trip to Honduras and was active in service projects for 4-H and the National Honor Society. She worked as a tutor and also helped with the blood drive. She is involved in softball and track and qualified for the state finals in the shot put last year. She was one of the students nominated for Junior Citizen of the Year honors. She plans to attend Michigan State University, majoring in engineering.

Art show slated

It is time for local artists to start getting their art work ready for Rawson Memorial Library's 16th annual art show set for May 8-20.

The show will include items from a variety of media including sculpture, pottery, stitchery, photography, etc. Paintings will be exhibited in the Pinney Room and other types of art throughout the library.

Please submit work that has not been previously shown at the library. If you plan to participate in this year's show or have any questions about what you may exhibit, contact Ann Craig, 872-2856.

Down Memory Lane

By Harmony Doerr



5 YEARS AGO

Construction is underway on 2 handicap accessible bathroom facilities at the Tuscola County Fairgrounds in Caro. The men's and women's buildings, which will include showers, are being built at the east and west ends of the fairgrounds - one near the sugar factory entrance and other near the Brentwood entrance.

Total cost of the project is estimated at \$180,000. Completion is slated for June 15. The project has been 3 years in the making, according to fair board officials, who noted the support of former State Rep. Mike Green and State Sen. Joel Gougeon was key in securing a \$150,000 state arts and culture grant.

The Owen-Gage Bulldogs visited Uby Saturday and disposed of the Greater Thumb East Bearcats 11-2 during a qualifying contest for the Huron County Invitational baseball tournament. The victory pits Owen-Gage against North Huron this Saturday in a semi-final meeting in Bad Axe. The winners will face the victors of a Harbor Beach and Laker clash for the tourney crown. Both schools squandered scoring opportunities in the opening frame, where the Bulldogs grabbed a 1-0 lead.

While the Cass City Red Hawk softball team's overall record (5-9) is not as good as Coach Dave Hoard would like, the team's record in Greater Thumb West play is a fine 3-1. This happy turn of events came after Cass City split a doubleheader with Bad Axe and swept the Lakers last week. That's the good news. The bad news is the schedule this week. Cass City was to meet USA at home Monday and then play at potent Reese Thursday. Those 2 teams, along with Bay City All Saints, whom Cass City meets next Monday, figure to be the teams to beat in the league.

10 YEARS AGO

Walbro Automotive was awarded General Motors Corporation's prestigious 1995 Supplier of the Year Award in ceremonies that began recently in Vienna, Austria. Walbro Automotive was one of just 158 suppliers to receive the award, selected from a field of over 30,000 GM suppliers worldwide. Walbro Automotive was selected based on its plastic fuel tank programs with GM in North America and Europe. "The winners are truly best of the best," Harold Kutner, GM vice-president for worldwide purchasing, said in announcing the award winners. "To be singled out for this award says to the whole world you are truly an outstanding performer. You are an industry leader."

Kimberly Downing, formerly of Gagetown, recently received her Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in

political science from Rutgers University, New Jersey. Dr. Downing is the daughter of Jack and Harriet Downing of Gagetown and a 1976 graduate of Cass City High School. Dr. Downing's doctoral research focused on the relationship between the mass media and electoral politics and its influence on citizen decision-making. Her research findings have been presented at national political science and public opinion conferences and at a national policy conference on "Improving the Electoral Process" televised by C-SPAN.

Four Cass City girls, Kara Mellendorf, Lindsay Maharg, Janis Mastie and Shelly Ulfig, advanced with their team to state finals in the Girls' AAU Basketball Tournament in the 15 and under class. The team, Thumb Area Connection (TAC) recently competed in the regional tournament at Birch Run and finished third to qualify for the state finals in Grand Rapids April 12-14. In regional play, TAC came out of the losers' bracket to earn the third and final qualifying spot for state.

25 YEARS AGO

Retirees from General Cable in 1980 were honored by members of United Steel Workers Local 6222 at their annual banquet Saturday evening at Sherwood on the Hill in Gagetown. Honored were, Albert Weppert, Cass City, 20 years; Bernard Molloy, Palms, 14, and Ed Hillaker, Uby, 14112. Back row, Neil Volmering, Harbor Beach, 13; Leonard Schumacher, Ruth, almost 12, and Robert Henry, Argyle, 15. Absent were Clem Danielski, Uby, 12 years, and Delbert Smith, 11 years, who has since moved to Arizona.

Did you catch that article the other day that said that the cheapest car sold at the end of this decade will be over \$26,000. Those type escalating price stories are not that unusual. The difference is when I read them a few years ago I tended to laugh it off as

pie in the sky thinking. But now I believe, I believe. Unfortunately. (From Rabbit Tracks)

Peggy Breclaw of Dickinson County has been appointed a part-time (60 percent) extension 4-H youth agent for Tuscola County, effective May 1, pending approval of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. She will be responsible for planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating youth development programs relevant to the needs and interests of Tuscola County young people. She will also be responsible for identifying, recruiting and motivating local volunteer leaders in an attempt to strengthen the Tuscola County 4-H youth program.

35 YEARS AGO

Cass City High School has adopted an "unlimited" dress code. All the students have to do is keep within the bounds of decency and anything goes. The first couple of days there were some girls in hot pants and tight jeans...but we'd be willing to bet that after the novelty wears off the students will return to wearing about what they did all year. To me, the new ruling makes a lot of sense. (From Rabbit Tracks)

The Cass City JV Baseball team overwhelmed Sandusky Monday night, 25-2.

Before an estimated 200 members and guests of the Cass City Chamber of Commerce Thursday, C. R. Hunt was honored as Citizen of the Year and Cindy Strickland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Strickland, and Anne Bulen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Bulen, were feted as co-junior Citizens of the Year. The awards highlighted the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at Cass City High School Thursday night. Hunt became the ninth Cass Cityan to receive the award. It was presented by Audley Rawson, last year's honored resident.

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Calvary Bible Fellowship
an 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 Family Night 6:30 p.m.
Pastor - Bob Sweeney
www.casscitymc.org

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.fbccc.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

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

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

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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 Catholic Church
4618 South St., Gagetown, MI 48735
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)
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
UMW Monthly 1st Wed., 7:00 p.m.
Youth Group Sunday Evenings 5:00 p.m.
Pastor: Ellen Burns
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Calendar of Events

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

Wednesday, May 3

Cass City High School Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m., at the high school. Both jazz bands along with the choir will perform with the concert and symphony bands.

Thursday, May 4

Friends of the Library meeting, Rawson Memorial Library.

Friday, May 5

Dance with the Denny Ewald Band, 7-11 p.m., VFW Hall, 4533 Veterans Dr., Cass City. \$7 per person.

Monday, May 8

Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Uby. For additional information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.

Artists Reception, 7 p.m., Rawson Memorial Library.

Art Show, Rawson Memorial Library. (May 8-20)

Elkland Township Board meeting, 7 p.m.

AYSO Board meeting, 7:30 p.m., Charmont.

Tuesday, May 9

Thumb Octagon Barn meeting, 7 p.m., fire hall in Gagetown. Tuscola County Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Family Support/Education Group meeting, 1:30 p.m., Adult Day Services building, 435 Green St., Caro. For additional information, call (989) 672-2273.

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society meeting, 7:30 p.m., Watrousville United Methodist Church (on M-81, east of Ringle Rd.). The public is invited. Light refreshments will be served. There is no admission charge.



CASS CITY'S junior varsity softball team held a 12-2 record entering Monday's contest with visiting Valley Lutheran. They are: (front, l-r) Megan VanVliet, Chelsea McCallum, Madeline Dooley, Lauren Dillon, Lacey Morrish, Ashley Hutchinson; (back, l-r) Coach Robin Diaz, Aleigh Kappen, Lauren Bennett, Sarah Howard, Amanda Langenburg, Carly Rabideau and Cassie Frank.

Lady Hawks shine on road

The Cass City Red Hawk softball team prepped for the challenging games ahead on its schedule last week with 5 wins and one loss, all on the road.

Cass City split games with Harbor Beach Monday and defeated Cros-Lex Wednesday and Sandusky Thursday in doubleheaders.

Cass City is expected to be tested as it was scheduled to dip into Greater Thumb West competition Monday at Valley Lutheran. Thursday the team will face Lakers at home.

The Hawks got off to a flying start against the Pirates as Courtney Rabideau threw a perfect game to win and her mates backed her with an 8-hit attack for an 11-0 win.

of the fifth and sixth innings.

The long ball helped pile up the winning margin for the Hawks. Renee Czekai lashed a home run and a double to score twice and drive in 2 runs. Heather Moore and Sara Meeker also hit for the circuit, and Brandi Talaski had 2 hits.

The second game was a different story. The Pirates won a tight pitching duel, 2-1, as Brittney Braun earned the decision over Emily Schinnerer. The Pirates scored a pair of runs in the fourth inning on a pair of hits and a walk. Jenny Titus and Katie Bush had 2 hits each for the Pirates. Three Hawks had one hit each.

CROS-LEX GAMES

The game was close for 3 innings before Cass City broke through with a 5-run rally in the fourth to lead 7-0, and then added 2 more runs in each

Courtney Rabideau spun a neat 3-hitter and her teammates lashed out 9 hits as Cass City rolled over Cros-

Lex in the first game of the Wednesday doubleheader, 15-1. It was a close game for the first 4 innings, with the Hawks leading 2-0 before the scoring fireworks started in the fifth when Cass City scored 3 times. In the sixth inning 4 more markers were chalked up and the deluge ended as the Hawks scored 6 more times in the 7th. Renee Czekai contributed 2 hits and drove in 3 runs and Meeker also pounded out a pair of hits and drove in 3 runs.

Cass City unleashed its power in the second game and made it easy for Ashley Hendrick to register a 9-1 decision. Hendrick tossed a neat 5-

hitter and walked a pair. Bolsby took the loss.

Ten Hawks cracked out hits, led by Courtney Rabideau with 2 hits and an RBI and 2 hits to drive in 3 runs by Renee Czekai.

SANDUSKY GAMES

It took just one big inning for the Hawks to salt away a win in the first game at Sandusky, 6-0. The Hawks racked up 5 hits and a walk in the fifth inning to break a scoreless tie with a 5 run splurge and then coast in for a 6-0 victory.

Courtney Rabideau allowed just 4 hits and struck out 14, including the entire side in the last inning. Jenni Brinkman showed the way at the plate with 3 hits, including a double, and drove in 2 runs. Schinnerer rapped 2 hits in 3 attempts and Courtney Rabideau also notched 2 hits.

Hale rapped out 2 of Sandusky's 4 hits.

The Hawks rolled easily past the Redskins in the nightcap, taking the game 12-0 in 4 1/2 innings. Schinnerer yielded just 4 hits while her teammates rapped out 15 hits. Renee Czekai showed the way with 3 hits in 3 trips, including a pair of doubles and a huge 5 runs batted in. Two other Hawks had a perfect game at the plate. Courtney Rabideau was 3 for 3 and Moore was also 3 for 3 with a pair of runs batted in.

Hawks fall in soccer matches

Cass City is still searching for its opening win following a pair of home Greater Thumb Conference matches with Bad Axe and Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port.

On Wednesday, the Lakers scored 10 unanswered goals to improve to 5-0 in GTW play.

Kaycee Damm led the way with 4 goals and 2 assists while Kayla Avalos collected the shutout for the Lakers.

Earlier in the week, on Monday, the Hawks held the Hatchets scoreless for the opening half, before falling 5-2. Jenna Timko led the Hawks with 10 saves. Whitney Braun and Mirrissa Curtis recorded goals for Cass City, while Kalen Trischler had the lone assist.



Chip Shots

Early Division

Iwankovitsch/Stickle	19
Chappel/Pasant	17
Burns/Kritzman	15
Dillon/Tonti	14
Burns/Hutchinson	14
Davis/Leeson	13
Henn/Peters	12
Berwick/Greenlee	10
Herron/Tuckey	9
Jones/Marshall	8
Craig/Knight	8
Warner/Wallace	7
Gaspie/Strickland	5
Bliss/Baker	3
Medalists - Individual: Paul Chappel	37; Team: Chappel/Pasant 75.

Late Division

Tamlyn/Langley	19
Bliss/Krol	18
deBeaubien/Patrick	15
Martin/Robinson	14
Hillaker/Murphy	14
Bellew/Curtis	13
Osentoski/Schott	13
Hartel/Hartzell	9
Prieskorn/Repshinska	9
Biddinger/Smith	8
Hool/Toner	8
Doerr/Haire	7
Corey/Paul Ulfig	4
LeValley/Morgan	3
Medalists - Individual: Erik Tamlyn	36; Team: Tamlyn/Langley 77.

Cass City remains perfect with non-conference wins

Powerful hitting and superior pitching in the doubleheader, last week Monday, made it easy for the Cass City Red Hawks to continue undefeated this spring. The host Harbor Beach team lost to the Hawks, 6-0 in the first game and 6-2 in the second.

Brad Hartel flirted with his second no-hitter in his last 2 starts as he pitched a complete game shutout and Harbor Beach's lone hit came in the last inning with one out.

The hit was a single by Jason Volmering. The Hawks made Hartel's mound stint easy by banging out 10 hits in the 6-inning game. He struck out 7 and walked 3.

Hartel helped his own cause by collecting 2 hit in 2 tries, stealing a base, scoring a run and driving in a pair.

Cass City broke the game open in the fourth with a 3-run rally and then added single runs in the fifth and sixth. Deryll Schenk collected 2 hits in 3 trips and Andrew Martin doubled and collected a pair of RBIs.

Brandon Miller, Jeff Stoutenburg and Brad Langenburg cracked base hits out.

In the nightcap Cass City continued the offensive onslaught, rapping out 9 hits in 5 innings while taking a 2-1 lead after the first inning and adding to the margin in each inning but the second.

Schenk went the distance and limited the Pirates to just 3 hits and no walks while striking out 6 and not allowing an earned run.

Langenburg keyed the assault with a home run, a double and 3 runs batted in. Justin Glaza had a perfect game at the plate with 3 hits in 3 at-bats, 3 runs scored and a stolen base.

Austin Babich was 2 for 2 and Jeff Stoutenburg posted a double, a run,

a RBI and stole 2 bases. Chris Childs added a hit and a run.

Volmering was charged with the loss. Ryan Brown rapped 2 hits and scored a run and David Hanson posted the only other hit for Harbor Beach.

CROS-LEX GAMES

It's rare in spring baseball that high schools play a full regulation nine-inning game, but Cass City and Cros-Lex went the regulation distance Wednesday and the Hawks kept alive their undefeated season with a 6-2 decision.

It was a tight game, pitting some fine pitching by the Pioneer's Grandman and the Hawk ace Langenburg. Langenburg pitched a complete game and allowed 4 hits and 2 walks while striking out 10. Grandman allowed 3 runs in 7 innings and Barr gave up 3 runs in 2 innings. Cass City totaled 6 hits.

Cass City broke open a scoreless game in the fourth inning with a 3-run rally. Cros-Lex moved to within a run with single tallies in the fourth and sixth innings. One of these runs was scored by Grandman, who cracked a circuit clout.

Cass City scored insurance runs in the last 2 innings, 2 netted in the eighth and the other in the ninth.

Leading stickers for the Hawks included Cody Halasz, 2 hits in 3 tries with a double, an RBI, a walk and a stolen base, Langenburg doubled and drove in a run and Hartel had a hit and drove in a run.

Cameron Lautner doubled in 3 trips and was credited with a run on a suicide squeeze in the ninth to net the final Cass City run.

Call Us at 872-2010 With Ideas For Feature Stories

Schneeberger's ATHLETES of the WEEK



Brad Hartel



Deryll Schenk

Hurlers Brad Hartel and Deryll Schenk helped run Cass City's record to 9-0 with complete game wins over Harbor Beach.

Hartel tossed his second one-hitter on the season, yielding the Pirate's lone hit in the final frame. He fanned 7 and issued 3 walks.

Schenk recorded 6 strike outs and retired the final 10 batters in order. Schenk didn't allow an earned run and surrendered 3 hits and no walks.

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Orthopedics surges "full-steam ahead" at Caro Community Hospital...

as we welcome Dr. Richard A. Moyer, D.O., Orthopedic Surgeon!

Dr. Moyer joins the Caro Community Hospital family of health care professionals on May 9, 2006. His practice involves general Orthopedics, focusing on hips, knees, and scopes. He embraces the conservative approach to Orthopedics, viewing surgery as the ultimate resolution to pain or injury.

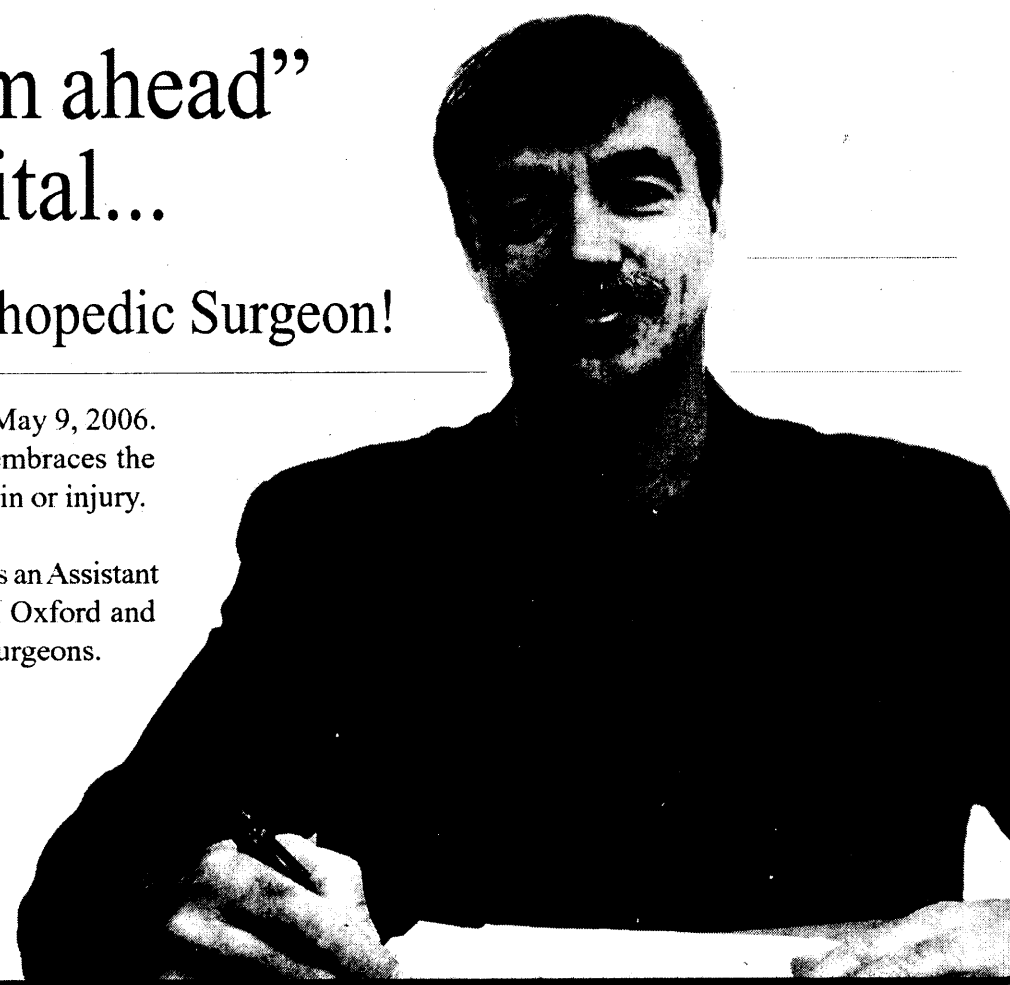
Dr. Moyer completed both residency and internship at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, and is an Assistant Clinical Professor at Michigan State University. He has operated a private-practice in Oxford and Lapeer, and is a member of the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

For further information, please contact Caro Community Hospital at (989) 673-3141.

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•Caro Medical Clinic
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•Hill Medical Center



Hawk thinclads host home opener Monday in park

Warm temperatures and sunny skies greeted thinclads Monday to the recreational park for the Red Hawks' home track opener.

And after the sun set, Mayville escaped with the boys' team championship at the quadrangular meet, racking up 89 points. Following the Bearcats were Cass City with 76 points, Ubyly with 56 and Bad Axe with 35.

"We were a little short handed," Coach Scott Cuthrell noted. "Some of my distance runners have a baseball game tonight."

Nonetheless, the hosts received an outstanding effort from distance runner Kyle Reif. Reif captured 3 events, winning the 800-meter run in 2:11, the 1,600-meter in 5:04 and the 3,200-meter run in 10:52. Cass City also had Gavin Mills with a winning time of 11:83 in the 100-meter dash.

Finishing as runners-up at the 4-school meet were Scott Meeker in the shot put, 47' 6", Brian Burk in the 3,200-meter run, 10:57, and Mark Koepf with a season best height of 12' in the pole vault.

The hosts also placed second in both the 400 and 1,600-meter relays. The 400-meter relay team included Levi Adams, Derek Ricker, Kyle Sieradzki and Mills. Running legs on the 1,600-meter relay were Thomas Parrish, Ben Pettit, Mellendorf and Mills.

In the girls' competition, Ubyly secured the team title with 103 points and was trailed by Bad Axe with 72 points, Mayville with 42.5 and Cass City with 39.5.

Ashley Puterbaugh recorded a pair of second place finishes to lead the Hawks. Her distances of 98' 3" in the discus and 32' 9.5" in the shot put, highlighted the hosts' efforts in the field events.

In the running events, Ashley Weiss recorded runner up finishes in both the 100 and 200-meter dash.

"Ashley was a wonderful surprise," coach Laura Schinnerer said. "She is pretty impressive as a freshman."

Also finishing in second place for Cass City was Jennica Richards in the

300-meter hurdles.

FRANKENMUTH INVITATIONAL

Cass City faced several of the state's top thinclads last week, Monday, during the Marco Marcet Invitational in Frankenmuth.

The host Eagles captured the 10-school meet with 89 points, holding off Bay City Central, which finished as the runner-up with 80 points. The complete team scoring had Freeland with 72 points, Nouvel, 66, Perry, 55, Valley Lutheran 55, Cass City, 42, Caro, 35, Flint Beecher, 22, and Birch Run, 11.

Meeker and Lukas Varney earned a pair of top finishes to lead the Red Hawks. Meeker won the shot put with a season best effort of 49' 3" and is expected to challenge for the Cass City school record currently held by Jason Morgan.

Varney turned in a time of 4:37 to claim the top spot in the 1,600-meter run and added a third place finish in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:06. Koepf finished in a tie for second place honors in the pole vault at a height of 11', while Reif placed fourth with a time of 10:35 in the 3,200-meter run.

In the girls' field, Bay City Central took the team competition with 124 points. Next was Freeland with 110 points, Valley Lutheran, 73, Birch Run, 54, Perry, 45, Caro, 44, Nouvel, 28, Frankenmuth, 25 and Cass City, 24.

Puterbaugh led the lady Hawks with a fine effort in the field events. Puterbaugh took second place in the discus with her toss of 103' 5" and finished 4th in the shot put with a distance of 32' 3".

The Hawks recorded a trio of individual fifth place finishes in the running events. Richards posted identical finishes in the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles with times of 17:86 and 51:21, respectively. Weiss' time of 28:32 in the 200-meter dash resulted in the Hawks' other top 5 solo performer.



RED HAWK Becca Doerr (left) takes the baton from Ashley Weiss during the 800-meter relay Monday in Cass City.



SCOTT MEEKER prepares for the shot put competition during a 4-school meet in Cass City. Meeker recorded a runner-up finish for the Hawks.

O-G girls have eyes on NCTL-N crown

Owen-Gage continued its trek towards a North Central Thumb League division title last week, splitting doubleheaders with league foes Carsonville-Port Sanilac and Akron-Fairgrove.

On Thursday, the Bulldogs traveled to face Carsonville-Port Sanilac and returned home with their first NCTL defeats, falling 7-1 and 7-3.

Coach Doug Hyatt said high winds led to shabby fielding and proved costly for the visitors.

Mariah Francis handled the Bulldog pitching duties and struck out 3 and walked 6 over 11 innings of work.

Katie Rhodes accounted for the Bulldogs' lone run in the opener and notched a pair of stolen bases.

In the nightcap, Michelle Brown knocked home a pair of RBIs and April Nowaczyk added 3 stolen bases.

Earlier in the week, on Monday, the Bulldogs posted wins of 8-7 and 13-7 over visiting Akron-Fairgrove to improve to 4-0 in NCTL action.

In game one, the Bulldogs rebounded from a 3-1 deficit with a 5-run 5th inning and then held on for an exciting 8-7 victory.

Barbie Littlepage and Brown each had 2 safeties to lead Owen-Gage at the plate, while Rhodes added a double.

"We hadn't played in over a week,

it took us a while to get going," Hyatt said.

Game 2 saw Owen-Gage explode for 12 runs by the 3rd frame en route to the one-sided decision.

Nowaczyk had 3 singles and Amanda Faist added 2 hits, including a triple to fuel the Bulldog offense.

KINGSTON TOURNEY

On Saturday, the Bulldogs squared off against tourney hosts Kingston and earned a dramatic 8-5 win.

Owen-Gage struck for an early 4-1 margin only to see the Cardinals answer with a 3-run 5th inning to help dead lo the contest at 5-all entering the final frame.

That's where Owen-Gage scored 3 times against Cardinal hurler Leah Wilmot who fanned 15 and issued just 3 free passes. Francis earned the win on the hill of Owen-Gage, striking out 7 and walking 3.

At the plate, Amanda Faist had a home run and triple to lead Owen-Gage.

"That's our biggest win of the season," Hyatt said. "After that (game) we lost a heartbreaker to Dryden 3-4, and came out flat against Memphis and lost 3-16."

Owen-Gage is 5-11 overall and 4-2 in NCTL play. They meet Peck Thursday in Owendale.

Owen-Gage trades sweeps with CPS, Akron-Fairgrove

Owen-Gage suffered a pair of North Central Thumb League setbacks Thursday against host Carsonville-Port Sanilac.

The Tigers broke open a tight 3-1 contest with 3 markers in the 4th inning and then added 2 insurance tallies in their next at bats.

Owen-Gage's Trace Lopez was tagged with the loss, striking out 3 and yielding 8 hits in 5 innings of work.

At the plate, Ryan Francis punched 2 safeties while Grant Champagne, James Harris and Brandon Edler each contributed solo hits.

In game 2, the Tigers exploded for 7 runs in the 4th inning on their way to an easy 18-4 victory.

Eric Zaleski started on the rubber for Owen-Gage and suffered the loss. Zaleski whiffed 3, walked 2 and allowed one hit in 3 innings of work.

Owen-Gage bats were silent, as they were limited to only 4 hits, including singles by Zaleski and Lopez.

On Monday, the Bulldogs earned

their maiden wins of the season at Akron.

After trading runs to a 10-10 score, Mike Mentor belted an RBI double to lift the Bulldogs to victory in the 5th and final stanza.

Starter Lopez worked 4 1/3 innings on the hill for the winners, but reliever Zaleski earned the decision with just 2/3 of an inning on duty. Lopez fanned 8 and allowed 12 hits.

Mentor and Zaleski each slugged 2 hits and Zaleski added 3 stolen bases to the Bulldog attack.

In the nightcap, Owen-Gage hung on for an 8-6 win to complete the sweep.

Zaleski tossed a complete game to earn his second decision on the day and struck out 6.

Lopez had the big stick in the victory, recording a double and home run.

The Bulldogs stand at 2-9-1 overall and 2-4 in NCTL play with Peck scheduled to invade Owendale on Thursday.



MATHEO LYNCH, Cass City, shot this jake turkey east of Cass City last week, Wednesday. It was his first year hunting for turkeys and his second attempt of the season. He shot the bird after about 3 1/2 hours in the woods when 3 jakes came into range. It weighed, Lynch said, 15 1/2 pounds and had a 3 1/2-inch beard.

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MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Timothy J. Kern and Darlene J. Kern, to TCF National Bank, A United States of America Corporation Mortgagee, dated May 10, 2000 and recorded May 16, 2000 in Liber 801, Page 61, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars and Forty-Seven Cents (77,994.47), including interest 9.5% 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 May 18, 2006.

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

Parcel I: The North 125 feet of the following described land, commencing at a point 362.5 feet North of the Southeast corner of Section 11, Town 11 North, Range 7 East, thence North 232 feet, thence East 199 feet, thence South 232 feet, thence East 199 feet to the point of beginning, except the North 125 feet thereof. Subject to the right of way for Cottrell Road over the Easterly side thereof.

Parcel II: Commencing at a point 362.5 feet North of the Southeast corner of Section 11, Town 11 North, Range 7 East, thence North 232 feet, thence West 199 feet, thence South 232 feet, thence East 199 feet to the point of beginning, except the North 125 feet thereof. Subject to the right of way for Cottrell Road over the Easterly side thereof. Commonly known as 4950 Cottrell Rd., Vassar MI 48768.

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: March 27, 2006

TCF National Bank
Assignee of Mortgage

Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C.
811 South Blvd., Suite 100
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 844-5123
Our File No: 06-45806

4-5-5

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

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 Harold D. Sprague and Denise I. Sprague, husband and wife, original mortgagors, to Advanta National Bank, Mortgagee, dated February 23, 1999 and recorded on April 3, 1999 in Liber 768 on Page 155 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Seven and 62/100 Dollars (\$71,267.62), including interest at 11.625% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on June 1, 2006.

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

Commencing at a Point on the Section Line 1148.2 feet North of the Southeast Corner of Section 4, Town 12 North, Range 9 East; thence West at right Angles to the Section Line 143 feet; thence North 119 feet, thence East 143 feet; thence South 119 feet to the place of beginning, Village of Caro, Township of Indianfields, 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: May 3, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #091045F01

5-3-4

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 Jeffrey S. Woodbury, a single man, and Leroy D. Woodbury, a married man, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated August 6, 2003 and recorded on August 12, 2003 in Liber 948 on Page 547 in instrument 200300835881, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Washington Mutual Bank as assignee by an assignment, on which

mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Eighteen Thousand Sixty and 52/100 Dollars (\$18,060.52), including interest at 6% 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 May 18, 2006.

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

Part of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 26, Township 10 North, Range 7 East, described as beginning at a point on the North line of said Section 26, which is West 661.17 feet from the North 1/4 Corner of said Section 26; thence continuing West 661.17 feet along said North Line of said Section 26 to the West Line of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 26; thence South 00 Degrees 43 Minutes 15 Seconds East, 1022.03 feet, along said West Line of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 26; thence East 664.20 feet; thence North 00 Degrees 53 Minutes 25 Seconds West, 1022.07 feet, to the Point of Beginning, except the North 363 feet of the East 60 feet of the Subject Property.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale.

Dated: April 19, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC R (248) 593-1305
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #090198F01

4-19-4

CIRCUIT COURT SALE BELOW WILL BE ADJOURNED WEEK TO WEEK FROM MAY 4, 2006 TO MAY 11, 2006.

Case No. 04-22743-CH
CIRCUIT COURT SALE

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

In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of the Circuit Court for the County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, made and entered on the 4th day of November, A.D., 2005, in a certain cause therein pending, wherein MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. was the Plaintiff, and ANTHONY DICKENSON, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE, and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS, OWNERS, HEIRS, DEVISEES, OR ASSIGNEES OF UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS OR OWNERS TO THE MANUFACTURED HOME LOCATED AT 7118 DOWN CREEK ROAD, VASSAR, MI 48768, were the Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I shall sell at public auction to the highest bidder, at the Front Entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan, (that being the building where the Circuit Court for Tuscola County is held), on the 2nd day of MARCH, A.D., 2006 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, Local Time, the following described property, To-Wit: All that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the City of Vassar, County of Tuscola and State of Michigan, described as follows:

City of Vassar, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, which is legally described as follows:

Commencing at a point 933.00 feet South of the Northwest corner of the West half of the Northeast quarter of Section 33, Town 11 North, Range 8 East; thence East 200.00 feet; thence South 150.00 feet; thence West 200.00 feet; thence North 150.00 feet to the point of beginning. Also described as proposed Lot 5 of Harry & Loreta's Estate. Together with an easement for ingress and egress to and from said premises over and across an existing road in the East 66.00 feet of the West 266.00 feet of the Northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 33, Town 11 North, Range 8 East. More commonly known as 7118 Down Creek Rd., Vassar, MI 48768 ("Subject Property").

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant Dickenson's interest in the manufactured home, a 1972 Parkwood and identified by the serial MBS05894 (hereinafter Mobile Home), that is affixed to the real estate comprising the Subject Property, is extinguished.

This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale.

Dated: January 11, 2006

THOMAS T. KERN
Sheriff

TROTT & TROTT, P.C.
By: Christopher S. Astfalk, P53129
Attorneys for Plaintiff
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
(248) 723-6595
T&T #200118929

5-3-2

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 Michael L. Jenkins and Jeanette M. Jenkins, his wife, original mortgagors, to Advanta National Bank, Mortgagee, dated January 22, 1999, and recorded on January 27, 1999 in Liber 761 on Page 509 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Sixteen and 76/100 Dollars (\$78,516.76), including interest at 8.25% 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 May 25, 2006.

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

Lot 13 and 14 of Lake Hill Farms, Recorded Liber 4, Pages 18 through 20.

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: April 26, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #020390F06

4-26-4

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 Terry Labombard, a married man, original mortgagor, to DMR Financial Services, Inc., a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 2, 1999 and recorded on September 3, 1999 in Liber 781 on Page 321, and assigned by said Mortgagee 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 Forty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Thirteen and 03/100 Dollars (\$49,113.03), including interest at 8.5% 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 May 25, 2006.

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

Part of the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of section 30, Township 14, North, Range 9 East, Columbia Township, Tuscola County Michigan beginning at a point on the South line of said Section 30 that is 182.00 feet east from the South Quarter corner of said section 30; thence continuing East on said south line of section 35 253.00 feet; thence North 193.50 feet; thence West 253.00 feet; thence South 193.50 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: April 26, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #042555F03

4-26-4

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has occurred in a mortgage made by Daniel T. Gilmore, a single man, to First National Bank of America, dated August 30, 2004 and recorded on September 21, 2004 in Liber 1009, Page 305, Tuscola County Records. The mortgage holder has begun no proceedings to recover any part of the debt, which is now \$17,978.89.

The mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on Thursday, May 11, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the front steps, Tuscola County Courthouse, Caro, Michigan. The property will be sold to pay the amount then due on the mortgage, together with interest at 11.99 percent, foreclosure costs, attorney fees, and also any taxes and insurance that the mortgage holder pays before the sale.

The property is located in JUNIATA TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN, and is described in the mortgage as:

Commencing at a point 86.46 feet North of the Southwest corner of the North half of the Northwest quarter of Section 22, Town 12 North, Range 8 East, thence East 18 rods; thence North 5 rods; thence West 18 rods; thence South 5 rods to the point of beginning, Township of Juniata Also a 1972 Skyline Mobile Home, Serial #SE1455F.

The redemption period will be six months from the date of sale, however, if the property is abandoned, the redemption period will be one month from the date of sale.

Dated: April 4, 2006

Joseph B. Backus
Attorney for Mortgage Holder
P.O. Box 794
East Lansing, MI 48826
(517) 337-1617

4-12-4

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.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Edward C. Bates, a single man, to DMR Financial Services, Inc., a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated December 15, 1998 and recorded December 18, 1998 in Liber 758, Page 1411, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Chase Home Finance, LLC, successor by merger to Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Eighty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Three and 22/100 Dollars (\$83,833.22), including interest at 7.25% 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 of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on MAY 11, 2006.

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

Lot 7, Block 15 of the original plat to the Village of Caro, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1, Page 59A.

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.

TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: April 12, 2006

Orlans Associates, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 310.0735

4-12-5

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Timm E. Ames and Kelly Ames, d/a Kelly Pappenfuss, husband and wife, to Option One Mortgage Corporation, a California Corporation, Mortgagee, dated November 11, 2004 and recorded December 13, 2004 in Liber 1020, Page 619, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust, Series 2005-OPT1, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Five Thousand One Hundred Two and 86/100 Dollars (\$95,102.86), including interest at 8.80% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on MAY 11, 2006.

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

Part of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Town 10 North, Range 7 East, described as beginning at a point on the West line of said Section 22 that is South 475.00 feet from the Northwest corner of said Northwest quarter of the Southwest Quarter (West Quarter Corner), thence East 250 feet; thence South 200 feet; thence West 250.0 feet; thence along said West Section Line North 200 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.

TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: April 12, 2006

Orlans Associates, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 221.3020

4-12-5

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 Timothy J. Korpi, Sr., a/k/a Timothy J. Korpi, and Krystal K. Korpi, a/k/a Krystal Korpi, Husband and Wife, original mortgagors, to Household Finance Corporation III, Mortgagee, dated February 5, 2003 and recorded on February 10, 2003 in Liber 914 on Page 995 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thousand Ninety-Three and 76/100 Dollars (\$100,093.76), including interest at 9.47% 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 May 11, 2006.

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

Commencing at the Southeast Corner of the Southwest 1/4 of Southeast 1/4 of Section 32, Township 12 North, Range 9 East; thence West 10 rods; thence North 16 rods; thence East 10 rods; thence South 16 rods to the Point of Beginning. Except Land Deeded to the State Highway Commission recorded in Liber 344 of Deeds, Pages 484 and 485, 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: April 12, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC H (248) 593-1300
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #089461F01

4-12-4

McDONNELL, CONLEY, ARSLANIAN & NEVEUX, LLP BY: RICHARD L. McDONNELL, 38500 Woodward Avenue, Suite 300 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-5051

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

SHARP / 250051653 - MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Eugene R. Sharp an Jean M. Sharp, Husband and Wife, of Akron, Michigan, Mortgagors to Household Finance Corporation III, a Delaware Corporation, dated May 7, 2002 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, on May 10, 2002 in Liber 877, Page 875, Tuscola County Records on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice the sum of \$117,601.78 including interest at the rate of 10.48% per annum together with any additional sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or 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 the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of May, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., the undersigned will, at the front entrance of the Courthouse in Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan foreclose said mortgage by selling at public auction to the highest bidder, the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amounts due on said mortgage, and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorneys 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: Land situated in the Township of Akron, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, is described as follows:

Land commencing at a point in the centerline of Bay City and Cass River State Road, 400 feet Northeastly from the intersection of said centerline of said road with the West line of the Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 18, Town 14 North, Range 8 East, and running thence South 150 feet; thence Northeastly parallel with the centerline of said Bay City and Cass River State Road 100 feet; thence North 150 feet; thence Southwestly along the centerline of said road 100 feet to the place of beginning.

Tax ID #001-018-000-2500-00 Commonly known as: 5841 M-25

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

DATED: April 5, 2006

Mortgage Household Finance Corporation III

Richard L. McDonnell (P38788)
Attorney for Mortgagors
38500 Woodward Avenue, Suite 300
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-5051
(248) 540-7500
ASAP# 764957

4-12-4

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.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Theodore L. Kabat, II, a unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated December 30, 2004 and recorded January 3, 2005 in Liber 1022, Page 1239, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Sixty and 56/100 Dollars (\$109,340.56), including interest at 6.13% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on MAY 11, 2006.

Said premises are located in the Township of Denmark, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of the East half of the Southeast quarter of Section 27, Town 12 North, Range 7 East; thence running North 16 rods; thence West 10 rods; thence South 16 rods; thence East 10 rods to the place of beginning, EXCEPT the North 90.00 feet thereof.

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.

Legal Notices

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Thomas E. Bills and Joyce M. Bills, husband and wife, to HomeAlliance Mortgage Company, a Florida Corporation, Mortgagee, dated October 12, 1999 and recorded October 20, 1999 in Liber 785, Page 137, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by CitFinancial Mortgage Company Inc., f/k/a Associates Home Equity Services, Inc. by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Nineteen Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Three and 21/100 Dollars (\$119,383.21) including interest at 10.09% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on JUNE 1, 2006.

Said premises are located in the Township of Wisner, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Beginning at a point 33 feet North and 257.7 feet West of the East quarter corner of Section 29, Town 14 North, Range 7 of East, Township of Wisner, County of Tuscola, and State of Michigan; thence Southwest parallel with the centerline of State Highway M-25, 165 feet, North 528 feet; thence Northeast parallel with the centerline of said highway 165 feet; thence South 528 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.

TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: May 3, 2006

Orlans Associates, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 201.3039

5-3-5

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 John W. Homakie, a married man, and Julie Homakie, his wife, a/k/a Julie L. Homakie, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated May 31, 2002 and recorded on June 18, 2002 in Liber 882 on Page 133 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWBMS 2002-28, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2002-28 as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Two Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Three and 62/100 Dollars (\$72,653.62), including interest at 8.75% 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, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on June 1, 2006.

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

Lot 4, and a piece of land commencing at the Southwest corner of Lot 3 and running East 1 rod; thence North 4 Rods; thence West 1 Rod; thence South 4 Rods to the place of beginning, all being in Block 7 of the Plat of the Village of Cass City, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 15 of Deeds, Page 276.

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: May 3, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #052903F02

5-3-4

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 Richard W. Frederick and Norma L.

Frederick, Husband and Wife, Tenants by the Entirety, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Solutions of Michigan, Mortgagee, dated April 29, 1998 and recorded on April 30, 1998 in Liber 737 on Page 1419, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Nations Banc Mortgage Corp., a Texas Corp. 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 Sixty-Five Thousand Thirty-Five and 71/100 Dollars (\$65,035.71), including interest at 7.125% 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 May 11, 2006.

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

Commencing at a point on the South line of Section 19, Town 13 North, Range 10 East that is 128 feet West of the Southeast corner of the West 1/2 of Southwest fractional 1/4 of said Section 19; thence West on South Section line 195 feet; thence North 150 feet; thence East 323 feet; thence South 38 feet; thence West 128 feet; thence South 112 feet to 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: April 12, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC G (248) 593-1310
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #089053F01

4-12-4

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 Inelda White and Stephen C. Renkiewicz, wife and husband, original mortgagors, to Ameriquist Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated December 19, 2003 and recorded on February 20, 2004 in Liber 980 on Page 1280 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee of Ameriquist Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset Backed Pass through Certificates, Quest Trust Series 2005-X1, under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement Dated as of March 1, 2005, without recourse, as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Nineteen Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Six and 87/100 Dollars (\$119,366.87), including interest at 7.65% 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 June 1, 2006.

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

Commencing at a point 767 feet South of the Northeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 6, Town 11 North, Range 9 East, Fremont Township, Tuscola County, Michigan; thence West 16 rods; thence South 10 rods; thence East 16 rods; thence North 10 rods 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: May 3, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC H (248) 593-1300
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #075872F02

5-3-4

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.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Richard J. Eddy and Joni M. Eddy, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc, Mortgagee, dated December 23, 2004 and recorded April 4, 2006 in Liber 1076, Page 301-322, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage, is now held by Bank of New York, as Trustee for Encore Credit Receivables Trust 2005-1 by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Five Thousand One Hundred Forty-Seven and 15/100 Dollars (\$95,147.15), including interest at 9.07% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front

entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on JUNE 1, 2006.

Said premises are located in the Village of Fostoria, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 1 and 2, Block 23, of Village of Fostoria as recorded in Liber 1, Pages 44-45, now being pages 45A-46A, of Plats 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.

TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: May 3, 2006

Orlans Associates, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 221.2808

5-3-5

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 Jeffrey D. Schlink, a married man, and Carol Schlink, a married woman, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated September 24, 2004 and recorded on November 15, 2004 in Liber 1017 on Page 563 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Wells Fargo Bank, NA as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Four and 07/100 Dollars (\$141,904.07), including interest at 6.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on May 18, 2006.

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

Part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 27, Town 11 North, Range 10 East, described as beginning at a point on the West line of said Southwest Quarter which is North, along said West line 1387.00 feet from the Southwest corner of said Section 27, thence continuing North, along said West line 320.00 feet; thence East perpendicular to said West line 544.50; thence South, parallel with said West line 320.00 feet; thence West perpendicular to said West line 544.50 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale.

Dated: April 19, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
FC D (248) 593-1309
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys for Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #089387F01

4-19-4

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Meg's Peg



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Come in and browse through our large selection of Wedding Invitations, Accessories, Gift Items and much more!
CASS CITY CHRONICLE
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ARTIST RENEE KACZYNSKI displays one of the 5 acrylic paintings created as a tribute to the late Alice Guernsey that will be on exhibit at Rawson Memorial Library May 8-20.

Art show May 8-20 at library Artist to showcase children's literature

The late Alice Guernsey's love of children's literature will be reflected in 5 acrylic paintings by Renee Kaczynski that will be on display at Rawson Memorial Library during its annual art show, May 8-20.

The paintings by the 41-year-old Decker resident were made possible by funds provided by memorial gifts from friends of Guernsey.

Each of the paintings and illustrations were selected because the books and the illustrations were written by authors that were among Guernsey's favorites.

Three of the 5 paintings were from children's books written by Marguerite DeAngeli - "The Lion in the Box", "Thee, Hannah!" and "Copper-Toed Boots".

The 2 others on display will be from "A Little Book of Poems & Prayers", by Joan Walsh Anglund and "Babette" and "Mittens", by Clare

Turley Newberry.

There's a bushel of work entailed in each of the paintings before the acrylic paint is applied. The first step is to carefully read the story that forms the basis for each painting.

Then pencil sketches of illustrations are drawn that in Kaczynski's opinion reflect the book the best. Ordinarily, she explained, I switch the sizes and the locations of the people and items in the background until I get the affect that I want.

When the drawing satisfies, the acrylic painting begins. You can't erase or change it and once it sets, it is impervious to water.

Kaczynski estimates that each painting requires about 40 hours to finish. It's easy to see that the paintings are a labor of love. She has been an artist from day one, she said. My first work was created together with my father. I have probably close to 100 paintings that were sold. I started drawing for fun with pencils when I was 10 years old.

While acrylic painting is her specialty, she has worked with katchinas, a staple of the Hopi Indians in the southwest. The charms are used to help bring rain and make crops bountiful.

Kaczynski will be available to meet and talk with interested visitors during the artists' reception May 8 at 7 p.m. at the library.

A group of area artists have a page on the Internet. Go to www.ruralartisans.com for examples of their work.
Marilyn Biefer
Aaron Biefer
Jenny Lester
Brian Mallory
Dave & Mimi Nicol
Pat Smith
Renee Kaczynski

National Hospital Week

May 7, 2006 - May 13, 2006

To Celebrate, Hills and Dales General Hospital is hosting a Health Screening. Discount screenings will be offered on

Thursday, May 11 from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the hospital

Screenings offered will include:

- Lipid Panel: \$20
- Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA): \$10
- Glucose (Blood Sugar): \$5

Free bone density screens!

Questions, please call Community Education at (989) 872-2121, ext. 365.

Hills & Dales General Hospital

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4675 Hill St., Cass City www.hillsanddales.com An affiliate of Hills & Dales Healthcare

Police beefing up patrols this month

Law enforcement agencies in 21 counties will begin conducting safety belt enforcement zones the week of May 15, a week before the statewide campaign starts. The other 34 participating counties, including Sanilac County, will join the campaign from May 22-June 4, which includes Memorial Day weekend.

The additional week of safety belt enforcement is part of a regional, multi-state project to increase safety belt use in rural communities. In Michigan, rural roads account for 52 percent of unbelted fatal crashes, but only 31 percent of the miles driven.

"The purpose of increasing enforcement is to remind motorists that it is highly likely they will receive a citation if they do not wear their safety belts," said Michael L. Prince, OHSP division director. "By buckling up, drivers and passengers will save their money and, most importantly, their lives."

The state's goal is to reach 95 percent safety belt use, a 2 percent increase from last year's record high of 93 percent.

Safety belt enforcement zones are conducted on roadways where crash problems are prevalent or belt use is low. Special, portable "safety belt enforcement zone" signs will alert motorists they are entering an enforcement area. One officer will serve as a spotter who will radio unbelted motorist information to nearby marked patrol cars or motorcycles that will pull over offending motorists.

Michigan law requires all drivers and front seat passengers to be buckled up and children under age 4 to be in an approved child safety seat. It also requires passengers 10 or younger to be buckled up in all seating positions.

Owen-Gage

Continued from page one.

ing writing scores should improve. "The goal is to get all of our kids ready."

*Approved extending the school year to make up for "snow days". The district had a total of 10 snow days this winter and will have to make up 4 of them, extending the year to June 8.

*Received an update on the planned purchase of \$15,000 worth of playground equipment for the preschool program.

Compton said USDA officials have announced that \$5,600 in grant funding is available for Owen-Gage, and the Huron County Community Foundation is kicking in another \$800. School officials hope to have the new equipment installed by next fall.

*Recognized a student at each grade level, all nominated for best exemplifying the district's April "adult role focus" of having a positive self-image.

The students, in grade K-12, are: Aaron Fahrner, Kelcie Autry, Jacob Wright, Brandon Crandall, Brandon Cook, Andrew Fahrner, Hunter Champagne, Lauren Mandich, Amanda Franzel, Amanda Faist, James Lyman, Heather Collon and Racheal Biebel.

*Approved the nomination of Nickie Rinnert as the "Senior Student of the Month" for April.

Micklash open house Saturday

A retirement open house is scheduled Saturday at the Northwood Meadows, 6086 Beechwood Drive, for Ken Micklash, who retired as superintendent at Cass City Schools April 1.

The open house will be from 4 to 6 p.m. and appetizers will be served. There is no charge.

A dinner party is also slated at Shabbona United Methodist Church, 4455 Decker Road, following the open house. The \$25 a plate dinner will be served from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. A program follows from 7:45 to 9 p.m.

Transit (nonbusiness) rates, 10 words or less, \$3.75 each insertion; additional words 10 cents each. Three weeks for the price of 2-cash rate. Save money by enclosing cash with mail orders. Rates for display want ads on application.

Automotive
FOR SALE - 1991 Chevy pickup. Runs great. V8. \$2,500 O.B.O. 872-4192. 1-4-19-3

General Merchandise
1998 SHASTA 26 1/2 ft. 5th wheel camper. 989-872-2829. 2-4-26-3

DETROIT PISTON Playoff tickets. 989-551-8692. 2-4-26-3

FOR SALE - IH510 21-hole drill; Gleaner 430 corn head; 4x6 round bales - 1st, 2nd and 3rd. 872-3549. 2-4-26-3

FOR SALE - 18' dovetail car hauler. Treated deck, tandem axle with 4-wheel brakes. \$2,095 with warranty. 989-670-5795. 2-3-15-1f

FOR SALE - 1946 John Deere tractor. Narrow front, original paint, clutch rebuilt. 665-2536 or 553-0226 in the area of Gagetown. 2-5-3-1

USED RIFLES & shot guns for sale; vehicles for sale. Call between 9 a.m. and noon. 989-872-3988. 2-5-3-1

FOR SALE - travel wheel chair. Like new, used less than 1 year. \$150. Phone 989-872-3190 (days), 989-872-2421 (evenings). 2-5-3-1

FOR SALE - 12' single axle utility trailer with drop gate/ramp, 3,500-pound axle. \$1,195 with warranty. 989-670-5795. 2-3-15-1f

1985 HONDA 200 EX 3-wheeler, \$950 O.B.O.; 2001 Honda 300 EX 4-wheeler, \$3,500 O.B.O. Call 872-4482 or 551-1509, leave message. 2-4-19-3

USED PUSH LAWN mowers for sale. 872-2369. 2-5-3-1

EHRlich's FLAGS AMERICAN MADE
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E. Ehrlich, Sr. 665-2568 Bill Ehrlich, Jr. 665-2503 2-4-16-1f

Household Sales
GARAGE SALE - May 6-7, 10-5 p.m. Infant clothes, 2 infant car seats, men's and women's clothing, women's shoes and more. 4262 N. Hurds Corner Rd., Cass City. 14-3-5-1

GRACIA HERGENREDER Estate Sale - 6815 E. Sanilac Rd., Kingston (2 miles east of Kingston on M-46). Thursday and Friday, May 4 & 5, 9-5 p.m.; Saturday, May 6, 9-2 p.m. Saturday all items 1/2 price. Freezer, dressers, beds, couch, recliners, table and chairs, glassware, linens, bedding, along with other miscellaneous furniture and items. Sale by the Wonder Women. 14-5-3-1

BASEMENT SALE at Cass City Antique Mall - May 6, 10-5 p.m. 14-5-3-1

GARAGE SALE - Lots of newborn-3T girls' clothes, infant boys' clothes, household items. Thursday & Friday, May 4 & 5, 8:30-5 p.m. 4393 Koepfgen (1/4 of mile south of M-81). 14-5-3-1

ESTATE SALE - Jerry and Normaleen Root, 6245 Pringle Rd. (4 east, 2 south, 1/4 east of Cass City). Friday, May 5, 9-5 p.m.; Saturday, May 6, 9-3 p.m. Glassware, linens, knickknacks, patio set, furniture and lots of miscellaneous household items. Number drawing May 5 starts at 8:30 a.m. 14-5-3-1

Household Sales
GARAGE SALE - May 4 & 5, 7:30-9 Recipe and craft books, cup racks and coffee mugs (40), pictures and frames, Tupperware and much more. Stilson, 6375 Third St. (W). 14-5-3-1

GARAGE SALE - May 4-6, 9-5 p.m. Having retired from the craft show business, we are selling all of our inventory. Craft books, magazines, also some craft supplies. Marion's Crafts, 1662 Van Dyke, Decker (Hemans). 14-5-3-1

HUGE GARAGE SALE - Thursday and Friday, May 4 & 5, 8-5 p.m. 6839 Herron Dr., Cass City. 14-5-3-1

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE - Cass City First Presbyterian Church. Thursday, May 4, 9-5 p.m. (includes bake sale); Friday, May 5, 9-4 p.m. (half price). 14-4-26-2

Real Estate For Sale
HOUSE FOR SALE by owner in town (Cass City) - 3-bedrooms, 1 bath, basement, 1 car garage, deck. \$77,000. 989-553-2512. 3-4-26-3

FOR SALE - 1973 12x60 mobile home. Vinyl windows, 12x8 porch, 8x8 shed. Repainted inside & out. Stove, refrigerator, washer & dryer, air conditioner. 2-bedroom, 1 bath. \$7,200. 6265 Lakeside Dr., Huntsville Trailer Park. 872-2218. 3-3-29-6

Real Estate For Rent
LARGE 1-BEDROOM downstairs - Includes electric, sewer, water & garbage pickup. First month's rent plus security. 989-872-3363. 4-5-3-3

FOR RENT - K of C Hall, 6106 Beechwood Drive. Parties, dinners, meetings. Call Rick Kerkau, 872-4877. 4-2-3-1f

FOR RENT - 2-bedroom mobile home in country in Cass City. \$350/month. No pets! 670-4442, between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. (weekdays), anytime on weekends. 4-5-3-2

SATCHELL'S CHRISTIAN Retirement Home - We have an opening for a lady resident. Come in and see our caring staff and home anytime or call 989-673-3329. We are 6 miles east of Caro. 4-3-15-1f

WE ARE NOW TAKING applications for 1 & 2 bedroom 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. 4-3-1-1f

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

TOP RENT PAID for quality tiled farmland. 989-674-2464. 4-4-26-3

2-BEDROOM downstairs apartment at beautiful Hillside Apartments. Fully carpeted, refrigerator, range, water softener, air conditioner, storage units and Laundromat. Near grocery store, beauty shop, hospital, doctors. Call 872-3315. 4-11-30-1f

Real Estate For Sale
For Sale in the village of Cass City - This home features many amenities including 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, screened porch, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors and spacious rooms throughout. Has large partially finished basement and sets on 2 landscaped acres with a 30'x50' shed. Country living within the village and priced for immediate sale. "No agents please." Call 989-872-4890. Serious inquiries only. 1-4-26-2

Real Estate For Rent
FREE CABLE TV installation and first month's cable when you rent 1 bedroom apartment. \$325/month. 550-8608. 4-12-7-1f

Real Estate For Rent
UPSTAIRS APARTMENT for rent - \$375/month, 1st and last months. No children, no pets. 872-4785. 4-4-19-3

Real Estate For Rent
HAZZARD'S GREENHOUSE is now open (closed Sundays), 1545 N. Kingston Rd. (just north of Deckerville Rd.) in Deford. 989-872-5057 or www.hazzardsgreenhouse.com. 5-4-26-1f

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VILLAGE OF CASS CITY
Municipal Building Roof Replacement Project
Bids will be received by the Village of Cass City at the Cass City Municipal Building, 6506 Main Street, Cass City, Michigan 48726 until 2:00 PM on May 12, 2006 for the project of replacing the roof on the municipal building for the Village of Cass City.
Plans, proposal forms and specifications may be obtained by qualified bidders at the office of the Village of Cass City Wastewater Treatment Plant, 3998 Doerr Road, Cass City, Michigan 48726. No plans will be mailed.
Nanette Walsh, Clerk Village Clerk 5-5-3-1

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Planting of trees or shrubs is prohibited unless permission is given by sexton.
No decorative stones around markers or monuments.
One arrangement per grave site.
All flowers must be in containers.
All glass jars or bottles used for arrangements are prohibited.
Monuments and markers are to be installed by sexton.
All lots will be cleaned off on April 1st, and remain clean until May 1st.
The township shall not be financially responsible for damage to flowers, shrubs, lots, stones, objects or articles removed from any grave in this cemetery.
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(989) 872-5684
8-2-15-tf

Card of Thanks

WE, THE FRIENDS OF Michael Kropewnicki, and organizers of his benefit on April 8, 2006 would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the Knights of Columbus Council #8892 for the hall, to the community for the donations of money, contributions of baked goods, to the many people who volunteered their time to help at the benefit and all the many efforts that came forth. And, to all the friends, relatives and the community who came to the dinner and supported the benefit. Without any one of you, this would have not been the success it was! Our heartfelt thanks: Pauline and Tom Reehl, Carol and Bill Ehrlich, Linda and Jim Roe, and Liz and Norbert Reehl.
13-5-3-1

Card of Thanks

I WOULD LIKE TO thank the people who came and thank you for the gifts and cards. Vera Hoadley's daughter
13-5-3-1

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK everyone for all the prayers, cards, letters, words of encouragement and phone calls to Mary while I was hospitalized after my accident, and since I've been home. Also, the Cass City United Methodist Church for the flowers and the nice prayer quilt, the VFW for the basket of fruit, and the Caro Michigan Sugar Co. employees for the basket of fruit, nuts, cheese and crackers. And, special thanks to Jim Nicol for building the ramp. It's so nice to know that all of you care. May God bless you all. Dale Damm
13-5-3-1

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11-5-3-1

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Sanilac jury acquits band director

Continued from page one.

Young said the case revolves around a high school senior who noticed Burch paying special attention to her from the first day she was in his choir class.

"As that relationship grew, they began to talk about sexual things," he continued, adding the conversation turned to romance, love and even talk of wedding plans. "She thought they were developing a relationship that meant something to both of them, and it did not."

Young alleged the relationship took the next step after a winter concert Dec. 11, 2003, at Cass City High School. Burch and the victim made plans to meet at his home, he said, and the victim was dropped off by a friend in the victim's car because she didn't want her vehicle seen in Burch's driveway. That evening, he alleged, Burch and the victim engaged in sex in Burch's bedroom, and early the next morning the same friend picked up the victim and took her back to her home to get ready for school.

A week or so later, Young continued, the victim and Burch arranged to meet at a Saginaw mall and made plans to get together and have sex at his home that night.

Young claimed the relationship continued after the victim turned 18 and included dinners together, trips to concerts, visits to his parents' home in Standish and an overnight stay in Mackinaw City. Over a period of months, he said, she and Burch made "hundreds" of phone calls to one another.

Young said the pair began to drift apart, and last year the victim reported her allegations to school officials after learning that Burch allegedly had engaged in sexual activity with another Cass City student at his Cass City home during a school carnival in the fall of 2004.

In his opening remarks to the jury, Salens said Burch maintains that he had no sexual relationship with the victim and that, in fact, on the night the victim claims they first had sex, Burch was entertaining his grandparents as overnight guests.

Salens said the victim told a number of friends that she did or did not engage in sex with Burch, only to turn around and recant her claims. "She's changing her story all the time," he said.

The claims of the second victim were not on trial in this case, but Salens said there are witnesses who back Burch's statements that he did not have the opportunity to meet her at his home during the carnival.

Salens asked the jury to keep in mind that Burch is not criminally liable for any relationship he might have had with the first victim after she turned 18, and that much of the prosecution's evidence points to incidents that took place after her birthday in March 2004.

TESTIMONY

Early testimony included questioning of Cass City Schools administrator Aaron Fernald, who was first approached by the victim regarding the allegations, and former Supt. Ken Micklash, who along with other administrators met with the girl and subsequently called in police.

More than 2 1/2 hours were spent questioning the victim, a 2004 Cass City graduate who claimed Burch paid special attention to her from the first day they met in class, complimenting and encouraging conversations with her. She said the 2 talked on the phone "hundreds" of times, and eventually planned to meet at his home to consummate their growing relationship after a holiday concert Dec. 11, 2003.

She said she arranged for a friend to driver her to Burch's home that night after the concert, and that Burch gave her the code to a keyless mechanism on his garage, enabling her to let herself into his home. When he arrived later that night, she said, they talked and eventually went to his bedroom and engaged in sex.

She told the jury that Burch allegedly told her not to tell anyone that "my career is in your hands."

The next morning, the woman, now 20, said her friend picked her up, and she testified that her friend entered the home briefly, and that Burch joked that he was "having an affair with my student". The woman said

she told her friend what happened, but later that day, after hearing rumors circulating in school, told her that nothing had happened.

A week or so later, the victim testified, she and Burch made plans to "accidentally" meet at a Saginaw mall and to spend that night together.

The victim said the relationship continued through early 2005, but she eventually broke it off because the age difference bothered her.

TRIAL DAY 2

The woman's friend was questioned on the second day of the trial, and she confirmed the victim's account of the Dec. 11 meeting with Burch, although she told the court that she did not enter Burch's home the morning she picked up the victim. Instead, she said she called Burch's home from her car with a cell phone.

She also told the jury she had been to the home before and had witnessed the victim and Burch sitting together, holding hands.

Also testifying was a teenage cousin of the victim who allegedly was with the victim when she met Burch in the Saginaw mall, and the trio subsequently went out for lunch.

The girl stated that later that night, she had received a call on her cell phone, and when she dialed the number, a man who "sounded like Mr. Burch" answered the phone.

Much of the day's testimony, however, focused on Burch himself. After taking the stand, he denied paying any special attention to the victim, saying they had a teacher-student relationship only, although he said the woman began to approach him more frequently to talk about problems in her life.

He acknowledged that the victim and a friend had previously stopped at his home, but the visit was unannounced, and that he didn't invite students to his home with the exception of a post-marching band season party attended by both students and adult members of the band boosters.

Turning to the first alleged meeting with the victim at his home after the holiday concert, Burch testified the meeting could not have happened because he had invited his grandparents, John and Dorothy Burch, to stay at his home that night. After the concert, he said he gave his grandfather the garage door opener to his home so the couple could let themselves in while he wrapped things up at the school.

Burch told the court he arrived home that night around 11:30 p.m. to find his grandparents watching television. They talked briefly and then went to bed.

Turning to the Saginaw mall meeting, Burch acknowledged seeing the victim, but said the meeting was not planned. In fact, he told the court, he had previously planned to do his Christmas shopping and then travel to his parents' home in Standish for the holidays.

As for the phone calls, Burch said the victim called him numerous times to discuss her problems, but that he did not initiate "hundreds" of calls to her.

Asked about his trips with the victim after she had turned 18 and graduated, Burch acknowledged they had dinners together, spent time with his parents at their home, and spent the night together during a trip to Mackinaw City.

"I would say we began to develop feelings for each other," said Burch, who denied ever having sex with her. The day's testimony also focused on the allegations of another former Cass City High School student who alleged Burch attempted to have sex with her at his home in Cass City after leaving a carnival-fundraiser at the school in the fall of 2004.

The woman stated Burch had invited her to the carnival, then invited her to his home because he needed to let his dog out. She said she went with him, they sat down together and he allegedly asked if she "felt there was something between them." She said they began to kiss and eventually went in to the bedroom, although she told him she would not have sex with him. The woman testified that most of her clothes and those of Burch came off during the encounter, but said she refused to let Burch go any further.

INVESTIGATOR

Also on the stand Wednesday was Detective Sgt. Brian Ferguson of the Michigan State Police post in Sandusky, who investigated the allegations.

Ferguson discussed the case and told the court that Burch denied the allegations and did not divulge his later dating relationship with the victim.

He produced cell phone records from both the victim and Burch between Dec. 2003 and Dec. 2004, although the victim did not have a cell phone until late December 2003, and Burch did not have his phone until February 2004.

The records show Burch had 292 dialed calls to the victim totaling 1,104 minutes, with 107 of those calls placed between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. The trooper acknowledged that dialed calls means a call was placed, not necessarily that a conversation took place each time. Ferguson said the victim, meanwhile, placed 509 calls totaling 2,622 minutes, with 145 those calls placed at night.

During cross-examination, Ferguson said that a clear majority of the calls took place after the victim had turned 18.

TRIAL DAY 3

The final day of the trial saw both Salens and Young wrap up their cases.

Salens called to the stand some former Cass City students, one of whom testified that the victim told her that she had lied to police about her sexual relationship with Burch.

Also taking the stand was Burch's "mentor" teacher at Cass City High School, Marilyn Walsh, who said Burch had an "excellent rapport with his students".

Burch's grandparents both testified that Burch had invited them to stay at his home the night of Dec. 11, and they confirmed his testimony, saying he had given them his garage door opener to let themselves into his home. Burch's parents, Doug and Peggy Burch, offered similar testimony, and told the court their son was at their home from the early evening hours after his meeting with the victim at the mall until 3 days later.

The prosecutor called 2 final witnesses. Cass City faculty members and union representatives Chad Daniels and Jane Reif, who were questioned about any discussions they had had with Burch regarding his conduct around students.

Both said they had spoken to Burch about the importance of proper conduct with students, especially in his position as a band director who would be regularly working one-on-one with students. But they both indicated those talks were in the form of advice and not the result of witnessing inappropriate conduct by Burch.

Help plan gardeners' July walk

Residents of Huron County can help with the planning for the July 8 Master Gardener's Walk. They are being invited to nominate their neighbor's special garden.

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If you have a nominee or have some questions on what is involved in a garden walk, call the MSU Extension office at (989) 269-9949, or email msue32@msu.edu before the weekend of May 6.

Obituaries

Rita Zimba

Rita Delores Zimba, 75, of Deford, died Thursday, April 27, 2006 in her home.

She was born June 3, 1930 in Dearborn Township, the daughter of Coy and Dorothy (Noeske) Mathis. She married William E. Zimba Sept. 9, 1950 at Our Lady of Grace Mission Church, Dearborn Township. He died March 4, 2004.

Zimba and her husband moved to

their Deford farm Sept. 9, 1950. She was a lifetime member of the St. Michael Catholic Church.

Zimba is survived by her children: Bernadette (James) Walters of Bay City, Rita (Eugene) Kaake of Gageton, W. Jesse (Sally) Zimba of Deford, Lisa (Victor) Johnson of Saginaw, Jennifer Zimba of Gageton, Edward (Melanie) Zimba of Deford, and Matthew (Jan) Zimba of Deford; and 5 grandchildren.

Funeral mass was held Sunday, April 30, at St. Michael Catholic Church, Wilmot, with the Rev. George Serour and Sr. Riccardina Silvestri officiating.

Interment was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to United Hospice of Marlette.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

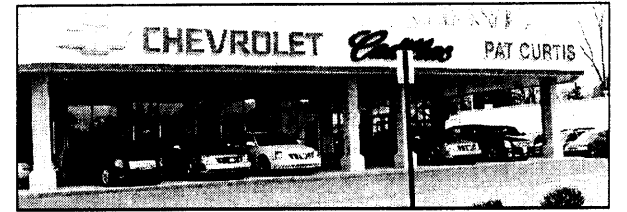
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Cass City man flirts with charge

Continued from page one.

no intention of talking to any witnesses in the case.

"You'd be more than sorry if I hear you did it again," Teeple told Bailey. "You'd be in contempt and you'd be in jail. If that's where you want to be, keep it up."

Later, outside the courthouse, Bailey said he was first approached by prospective witness Jim Hobbs, a Cass City Schools music teacher who asked why Bailey was at the courthouse. A short time later, Bailey said another gentleman approached him and asked if he knew much about the case, and Bailey said he did and had conducted research involving Burch.

"He asked 'how do you feel?' 'Do you think he's (Burch) guilty?'" And I said, 'yes, I do think he's guilty'. And he said, 'oh, by the way, I'm Doug's dad,'" said Bailey, a retired department of corrections worker.

Bailey insisted he had no intention of interfering in the trial. "If a person can't have their own personal opinion..." he said. "I wasn't out of line, I don't believe. I just wanted to come down and see justice served."

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