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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 43

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2007

FIFTY CENTS

18 PAGES PLUS 3 SUPPLEMENTS



**DECKER RESIDENT Les Phillips (right) visits briefly with Decker Post Office Officer in Charge Clayton Chisholm while picking up his mail Friday. The post office has been moved from Decker to a new location in Hemans, on the east side of M-53.**

## Change of address: Decker Post Office now in Hemans

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

If you're looking for the Decker Post Office, don't look in Decker.

Just ask Les Phillips, who used to walk from his home in Decker to the local post office, just off the corner of Decker and Snover roads, to pick up his mail. Phillips isn't exactly thrilled with the recent move of the branch to Hemans, just about 2 miles to the west in Sanilac County's Lamotte Township.

"I didn't like it, but what can you do. They were going to do it," said Phillips, who is good natured about the minor inconvenience of driving to Hemans. He smiled and added, "I can't go up and bother him (Officer in Charge Clayton Chisholm) as much now."

Chisholm, who has served as temporary postmaster since June 2005, said he's pleased with the new location, on the east side of M-53 across from the Family and Farm Supply Center in Hemans.

"It used to be a store owned by Bill

Dorman. It was a general store, a seed and feed thing," Chisholm said. "Well, he still owns it - we're just leasing it."

The change in location was prompted by several factors, according to Chisholm.

"Convenience is part of it, but the building down there (in Decker) was getting old and dilapidated," he explained. "It was broken into a couple of times, and it was hard to heat. And the utilities...you'd turn on a coffee pot and half the office would go

black."

Chisholm didn't have an estimate, but indicated the postal service invested several thousand dollars into construction of a new heating system and new walls in the Hemans office.

"We started here - made the move - on Sept. 8. A lot of the response has been favorable. Actually, we're providing service to more people now because it's (location) more convenient."

Please turn to back page.

## Terry Brown sworn into first term

Surrounded by family, friends and supporters, new state Rep. Terry Brown (D-Pigeon) was sworn in to his first term in the Michigan House of Representatives during a ceremony at the state Capitol last week.

Last Wednesday marked the first day of the 94th Legislature, in which Democrats control the House for the first time since 1998.

"I'm honored to represent the people of Huron and Tuscola counties, and truly humbled that they have put their trust in me to serve them," said Brown, who represents the 84th District. "We have a lot of work to do in the House, and I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and dive in. It's time to bring about positive change for our residents, and for all residents throughout Michigan."

Please turn to back page.

*During special meeting Monday*

## School reinstates one teaching job

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

The Cass City Board of Education met in special session Monday night - this time to restore a teaching job after months of cost cutting that slashed expenses by \$1.6 million and eliminated 25 jobs, including 17 teacher/librarian positions.

Board President Michelle Biddinger told the estimated 70 residents in attendance that district officials have figured out a way to maintain 4 sections of third grade, rather than eliminate one third grade teacher.

The decision means classroom sizes will remain at roughly 22 students, compared to 28 or 29 students.

School Supt. Ron Wilson explained that Cass City Schools was one of 7 districts in the county to successfully apply for a state grant through the Tuscola County Intermediate School District (ISD) that will fund a program focusing on positive behavior, with a language arts emphasis. However, he noted, ISD officials don't have the personnel to provide adequate consulting services to get the program running in all of the districts.

Long story short, Wilson said, the county's superintendents recently met and agreed that Cass City Schools could offer 2 or 3 of its laid-off teachers the opportunity to contract as consultants for the remainder of the school year.

He pointed out that those teachers will receive their daily pay rate, but no benefits. At the same time, their employment will cut Cass City's unemployment expenses by up to \$15,000. That will cover the majority of the cost of keeping a third grade

teacher in the local school district, according to Wilson, who said there will also be savings by not increasing class size through the elimination of a teacher.

In addition, Wilson said he met with union officials Monday afternoon. "We have a proposal on the table, I think, that would allow us to add some minutes and cut some days" from the school year, which will also save money, he explained.

The bottom line, Wilson added, is that the district can maintain a full complement of third grade teachers this school year at a cost of less than \$10,000.

Although the financial aspect is critical at this time, Wilson said concerns voiced by parents over consolidating third grade classrooms in the middle of the school year also played a role in Monday night's decision. "Of all the cuts the board has made, this was the one that bothered them the most," he added.

Biddinger pointed out that the union - not the board or administration - will determine who will fill the reinstated third grade teaching position.

During past meetings, a number of parents protested the elimination of Lori Kemp's job, saying their third grade students were upset by the idea of having another teacher and different classmates. Biddinger again acknowledged that concern Monday, but said it appears Kemp will not be re-hired based on the rules in the current teachers' contract.

The board approved a motion to reinstate the position on a vote of 4-0. Board members Cathy Kropewnicki, Jim Turner and Danny Haag were

unable to attend the special session, which was called because the current semester is scheduled to end Friday.

The board also authorized Wilson to negotiate with union officials the proposal involving adding additional minutes to each school day.

Biddinger attempted to adjourn the brief meeting, but was interrupted by parent Sloane Stimpfel, who protested the board's voting without inviting input from the audience.

A time for public input is provided for at all regular meetings, Biddinger responded, adding Monday's session was called specifically for the purpose of reinstating a teaching job. However, Biddinger said the board would hear comments.

Stimpfel indicated she was pleased to hear the third grade position will be saved, but she wondered why it came at the last minute. "You don't understand how we've prepared our children for this move (from 4 classrooms to 3 when the job was first eliminated)," she said.

Stimpfel said the teacher selected for the job will now have just a weekend to prepare a curriculum. She asked how that will affect the students.

"We're trying to save jobs," responded Biddinger, who said district officials learned just last week that there would be a way to save enough money to keep the third grade intact.

**School board  
members are  
being honored.**

See story, page 5



**KRISTY AND BRAD Speirs of Cass City welcomed their first child Friday, Jan. 5, at 5:15 p.m. at Covenant Hospital in Saginaw. Although premature, Emily Grace Speirs is healthy and home with her proud parents. The Speirs were the first area couple to report a New Year's baby to the Chronicle, so they will be receiving a host of gifts courtesy of local businesses.**

## Happy birthday!

**Cass City couple faces tense moments before daughter arrives**

As new parents-to-be, Kristy and Brad Speirs were understandably anxious about welcoming their first child.

The Cass City area couple's wait ended Friday, Jan. 5, when Emily Grace Speirs was born at 5:15 p.m. at Covenant Hospital in Saginaw.

It was worth the wait, of course, but nothing could have prepared them for the tense moments that came after a routine doctor's appointment a few weeks ago. At the time, Kristy was just under 28 weeks along.

"I just felt yucky the night before, and we had a doctor's appointment the next day, so I thought, we'll just keep the appointment," said Kristy, who noted the pregnancy had been routine up until then. After examining her, she recalled, "they said, 'oh, you need to get to the hospital right away.'"

"It was a routine visit that went scary really fast," Brad said. "It's kind of a blur, looking back at it. It was kind of a shock."

Kristy explained that her contractions had started. "I could just barely feel them, but they were there - every 6 minutes, and then by the time we got to the hospital, they were every 2 minutes," she said.

Her doctor was able to stop the con-

tractions with medication, but Kristy would spend the next 54 days on total bed rest.

"She (Emily) was 2 pounds, 13 ounces when we went in, and we came out with a 5 pound, 12 ounce baby," she said. "She was born at 35 weeks and one day."

Emily spent the first few days in the hospital's neonatal unit. The couple said their daughter had some difficulty breathing at first, but quickly improved.

The Speirs are both area natives - he's the son of Dave and Karen Speirs of Cass City and she's the daughter of Fred and Carol Hicks of Deford. And, they have plenty of other "family" members at the Novesta Church of Christ, where Brad has served as youth pastor for the past 8 years and Kristy is a part-time secretary when she isn't substitute teaching at the middle or high school in Cass City.

"It's been nice," Brad said as he lifted up a small basket on the couple's kitchen table that was piled high with dozens of cards wishing them all the best. "We've had a lot of people taking care of us."

Kristy nodded. "We're very blessed," she said.

"We knew all the factors that can lead to heart disease."

"We didn't know that a simple CT scan could help determine if we were at risk."



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Angela and Joseph Lounsbury

## Stoeckle and Lounsbury wed

Angela Mae Stoeckle and Joseph Paul Lounsbury were married June 17, 2006. Pastor Todd Gould performed the outdoor ceremony on the dock overlooking the pond at the home of Thomas and Virginia Lounsbury.

The bride wore a romantic gown of crinkle organza with sweetheart neck with delicate beaded straps, off-the-shoulder butterfly sleeves, a draped bodice with an A-line skirt, and attached chapel train. Her full-length veil edged with crystal beads was handmade by the bride and her mother. She carried a cascading bouquet of white roses attached to the Bible carried by her mother and grandmother at their weddings.

The maid of honor was Stephanie Richards. Bridesmaids were Jaclynn Steele, Ashley Barrigar, Rose Lounsbury and Ashleigh Stoeckle. All wore satin strapless, full-length

dresses with a beaded draped bodice in pastel colors.

The best man was Eric Hanby. Groomsmen were Jake Lounsbury, Joshua Lounsbury, Adam Stoeckle and Andrew Stoeckle.

The vocalist was Tara Gould, the guitarist was Andrew Schmidt, and the keyboardist was Cathy Steele, aunt of the bride.

The outdoor reception was also held at the Lounsbury's for 300 guests.

Angela is the daughter of Mark and Carol Stoeckle of Cass City, and Joseph is the son of Thomas and Virginia Lounsbury of Cass City. Grandparents are RosaMae Krohn of Elkton, Helen Stoeckle of Bay Port, and Wilbur and Betty Norrington of Caro.

Following a honeymoon on Mackinac Island, the couple resides in Big Rapids where they both attend Ferris State University.

## Holbrook Area News

Mrs. Thelma Jackson  
Phone 989-269-6994



Visitors to see Thelma Jackson last week were Mr. and Mrs. Don Hanby of Cass City, Mrs. Ronnie Gracey of Bad Axe, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson.

June Rutz of Sterling Heights went home Sunday after spending a week with Allen Farrelly.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cleland, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cleland of Bad Axe, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Anzel of Sterling, Maine, Nicole and son William Alexander, and niece Elizabeth visited Mrs. Curtis Cleland last week.

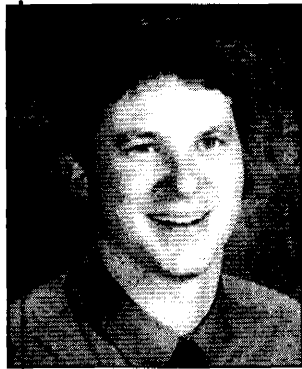
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Filor of Washington, Mich., and John Pechette visited Veronica Dolinski and Thelma Jackson last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski met at the K of C Hall in Bad Axe for the Daughter's of Isabella and Knights of Columbus meeting and lunch Thursday evening.

Dick Peterson, Leonard Morley, Allen Farrelly and Jack Kennedy met at McDonald's in Bad Axe Wednesday.

June Rutz and Allen Farrelly had dinner at the Franklin Inn Sunday.

A family get together was held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Booms of Harbor Beach. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Booms, Carl Booms, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski of Bad Axe, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Learman and daughter, Sue, of Dexter, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Holdwick of Harbor Beach, and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Depcinski. The afternoon was spent visiting and playing cards.



Cason Harris

Cason Harris graduated from Northern Michigan University Saturday, Dec. 16.

He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree, majoring in English education and minor-ing in history education.

Present for the graduation in Marquette were grandparents Don and Delores Harris, parents Ken and Ruth Harris and family, Denise Sutherland and Dennis, Marla, Jessica and Emilee Steele.

## It's a girl!



Kaitlyn Reehl

Norbert and Elizabeth (Acker) Reehl of Cass City announce the birth of their daughter, Kaitlyn Elizabeth.

Kaitlyn was born Oct. 10, 2006 at Huron Memorial Hospital, Bad Axe. She weighed 7 pounds, one ounce and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Her grandparents are Tom and Pauline Reehl of Gagetown, and Jim and Sally Acker of Cass City. Paternal great-grandparents are Lois and the late Tom Wolschlagel, and Millie and the late William Reehl, both of Bad Axe. Maternal great-grandparents are Deward and Marion Acker of St. Louis, Harold and Elaine Rausch of Alma, and the late Bernice Rausch.

## Senior movies slated

**The Alaska Pipeline:** In the early weeks of 1968, after a decade-long search for oil in Alaska's frozen wilderness, gas burst up out of an exploratory well on the North Slope with such force the crew thought it was about to blow. Geologists soon calculated that as much as 10 billion barrels of oil lay below the frozen tundra of Prudhoe Bay - the largest oil find in North America. The pipeline built to bring that oil to market was one of the greatest engineering feats of the 20th century. This American Experience program explores the impact the pipeline had on culture and society in Alaska as well as the environment, featuring the men and women who worked on the line as well as long-time Alaska residents, members of the Native Alaskan community, environmentalists, government geologists, congressional supporters and foes of the project, and local Alaska politicians. (60 minutes)

**Swamp Tigers:** This enthralling film brings you face to face with the beautiful, yet terrifying, man-eating tigers that stalk the mangrove swamps of the Bay of Bengal, striking fear into the heart of every living being. Marvel at the skill and courage of cameraman Mike Hard in his amazing quest to capture these elusive creatures on film for the very first time. This extraordinary footage gives a fascinating glimpse into the private lives of two tiger families - bringing you so close you won't dare to breathe! (50 minutes)

Refreshments will be served. This Older Adult Program is offered free of charge.

## Homakie on dean's list

Krista Homakie of Cass City has been named to the dean's list at Hope College, Holland, Mich., for the first semester of the 2006-07 school year. She is the daughter of Michelle Homakie of Cass City.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must earn a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

## Down Memory Lane

By Harmony Doerr



### 5YEARSAGO

Chances are good Dr. James Thomas won't have any trouble remembering how he celebrated New Year's 2002. Thomas, who has shared Dr. Paul R. Chappel's dental practice in Cass City for nearly 6 years, took part in a week-long mission outreach in a poor area of Jamaica, where he and other volunteers provided free dental care to dozens of residents. "There was a group of 9 of us - 4 from this office: myself, Lynnae my wife, and 2 assistants," Thomas said, adding they were joined by 5 members of the community Wesleyan Church in Washington, Mich., which sponsored the mission trip. "I happen to know the pastor of that church, and that's how we got hooked up," said Thomas, who resides in the Deford area. He noted this was the fourth trip for one of the church members, Dr. Kevin Murrell, who also volunteered his dental skills.

The Cass City High School Forensics Team fared well at a weekend tournament featuring more than 500 competitors and hosted by Henry Ford High School. "We took 40 kids down. We had 9 break the semis and we had 3 in the finals," Coach Chad Daniels said of the tournament held Saturday. Daniels said sophomore Sarah Hobbs finished third overall in sales speaking, senior Autumn Helland finished sixth overall in prose interpretation, and 4 other students - sophomore Dorothy McFarland, juniors Noel Powell and Amanda Sullins and freshman Nicole McComas - were ranked second overall in the multiple event.

This year's Olympic Games should prove unforgettable for a Cass City woman. Sandi Wright, 31, not only plans to attend the games, she was among the select groups of runners who were chosen to carry and accompany the torch on its 13,500-mile "Carry the Flame" journey.

### 10YEARSAGO

Here are a couple of items from the Michigan Trivia book, of no particular significance, but maybe surprising. The question: On what date did the Stars and Stripes fly for the first time over Michigan soil? Answer: July 11, 1876. The first electric starter to appear on an automobile line came in 1912 on a Cadillac. (From Rabbit Tracks)

The Owen-Gage volleyball team is picking up right where they left last season. Winning. And winning often. Coach Judy Campbell's defending North Central Thumb League champion Bulldogs have registered wins in their first 14 contests of the 1997 season and remain unblemished heading into Thursday's tilt at Carsonville-Port Sanilac. The 'Dogs were to have faced Kingston Monday. The Bulldogs stand at 3-0 in the NCTL and 14-0 overall. They have one tournament championship under their belts (Bad Axe Invitational) that included wins over Kingston, Mayville, Bad Axe, Uby and Croswell-Lexington.

While many area residents who travel this time of year are visiting or planning to visit a warmer climate, Richard Shemko is gearing up for a different kind of vacation. Shemko is leaving Feb. 4 for a 2-week excursion to Antarctica, where he plans to see "places where humans have never been." The trip will be a special one for the 1986 Owen-Gage High School graduate, who has already visited the world's other 6 continents.

### 25YEARSAGO

Cass City rolled to a one-sided de-

cision over the visiting Marlette Raiders Tuesday night to chalk up a must win to stay in the Thumb B Association race. The Hawks raced to an early lead and coasted in with a 74-52 decision before a sparse crowd of Cass City fans. The game with Marlette is the first of what should be three easier games in Thumb B competition. Friday the Hawks journey to Vassar to meet the tail-end Vulcans and next Tuesday start the second round with Bad Axe, a team that Cass City handled easily in the first meeting.

Though it has an area of more than one million square miles, less than 10 square miles of the Antarctic continent is free from a permanent blanket of ice.

Thumb Electric Cooperative (TEC), which serves over 9,100 members in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola counties, will be shown in a portion of an NBC documentary celebrating the 100th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's birth.

### 35YEARSAGO

Tonight, Thursday, could be a big night in the life of all the Robert Alexanders, and especially for son, Rob. Rob meets with top management of the Milwaukee Brewers to discuss signing. He was the Brewers' number one draft choice. Rob came very close to signing with a representative of the Royals but the negotiations fell through at the last moment. No figures have been released but it's probably a good guess that the discussions will be in the five figures. One thing sure. If attitude counts, Rob should be worth whatever it

takes to sign him. All he ever wanted to do was play baseball professionally. (From Rabbit Tracks)

Veronica C. Mullin of Gagetown was honored for 45 years of service for Michigan Bell Telephone last week. She received a necklace and gold wristwatch, presented by Warren B. Alexander, Northern area general manager. The veteran operator started working for Bell in Gagetown when just 13 years old in 1927 and for 30 years was a dependable operator at the switchboard at Gagetown. She moved from Gagetown to Detroit for nine months after Bell closed the Gagetown office. She returned to Gagetown when she had the opportunity to work at the Bad Axe exchange. She had worked her way to chief operator before leaving the Gagetown office.

When you walk into Eula Gruber's home, if you have a good imagination, you can forget the cold, blowing winds and snow outside and transport yourself to a warm, dry desert. As you step into the door of the large home on Elmwood Road south of Cass City, one of the first things visible is a low table with hundreds of tiny cactus plants, reminiscent of the southwest. The cactus plants were all planted from seed about one year ago. Mrs. Gruber, who has been growing the spiny plants for about four years, said she buys packets of seeds from various companies. Each package contains about 1000 seeds of mixed variety. Sometimes she buys a plant if it's strange looking or different, but she prefers to grow them from seed.

## Quilt Fabric & Supplies Sale

Saturday, Jan. 20, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Rawson Memorial Library

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TEEN AND HIS FLYING DRAGON



Dear Editor and Community Members,

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS) would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their generous donations of gifts and non-perishables food items during this past 2006 Holiday season. Our thanks and admiration to everyone. The thoughtful contributions assisted a number of people receiving services in ways that you cannot imagine. Your kindness to a stranger was very much appreciated.

- Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems Staff Members
- Dollar Daze
- Saginaw Correctional Facility - James Pryor, Special Activities Director
- St. Pancratius Catholic Church, Cass City
- Sherwood Elementary School, Saginaw
- Bob and Jackie Isenberg
- Ken and Diane Kueffner
- Sherri Yaklin
- Rotary Club of Caro
- Lisa M. Blanton, Attorney
- Buckley Shoes, Caro
- Barb and Bob Buckley
- St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Church, Vassar
- St. Michaels Lutheran Church, Richville
- Good Samaritan Fund
- VG's Food Center
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Caro

Sincerely,  
Sharon Beals  
Sharon Beals  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems

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# Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Since the Chronicle started honoring couples married for 25 years or more in its annual wedding section, there has always been at least 4 couples featured.

It's noteworthy to mention that among the 4 pictured in this year's section, 3 are celebrating 50 years together.

Caro Schools is participating in the renovation program that guarantees it will be installed with no net cost to the school. The new lights in the gym have made a world of difference. The lights brighten up the entire floor and, incidentally, make action photo shots much easier.

Cass City is slated to get the new lights as part of its current no cost to the school renovations.

Spotted at the basketball game Friday against USA was a couple of former Cass City players. They played during the glory years of the 1950s for the Hawks, but my guess is that they attended not as rabid fans of Cass City anymore, but as hoop fans that enjoy seeing a potentially good game.

We are speaking of Gary Cummings, now of the Bay City area, and Clare Comment, now of Sand Point.

## Calendar of Events

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

### Thursday, January 18

AYSO Board meeting, 7 p.m., Charmont.  
Genealogy Group meeting, 7 p.m., Rawson Memorial Library.  
Multiple Sclerosis and Fibromyalgia Support Group meeting, 7 p.m., Northwood Meadows, 6086 Beechwood Dr., Cass City. For more information, call Deb at (989) 872-2121 (ext. 216).

### Friday, January 19

Christ-centered 12-step recovery: pain management, addictions, divorce, "Celebrate Recovery," 7-9 p.m. New Creations Church, 114 N. Almer St., Caro (across from Caro Post Office). For more information, call (989) 673-3274 or visit [www.colwood.org](http://www.colwood.org).  
Closed Al-anon meeting for family and friends of alcoholics, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, Elkton. For more information, call (989) 872-4042.  
Senior Citizen Movies, 1:30 p.m., Rawson Memorial Library.

### Saturday, January 20

Quilt Fabric & Supplies Sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Rawson Memorial Library.

### Monday, January 22

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.  
Cass City School Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.  
Owen-Gage School Board meeting, 7 p.m.  
Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gilligan's.  
Tuscola County Right to Life Organization meeting, 6:30 p.m., Caro Library.  
National Sanctity of Life Day Commemorative Service, 7 to 8 p.m., Caro First Baptist Church, 1535 Gilford Rd. Sponsored by the Tuscola County Right to Life.

### Tuesday, January 23

Traveling Place for Peace, 10-2 p.m., Cass City United Methodist Church. For additional information, call (989) 325-0024.

### Wednesday, January 24

Thumb Retired Officers of Police Service (TROOPS) meeting, 11:30 a.m., Franklin Inn, Bad Axe.  
Ravenous Readers' Book Club, noon, Rawson Memorial Library.  
"A Quilting Journey," 6 to 7:30 p.m., Rawson Memorial Library.

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Must Present Coupon

# Pinney grant to equip new fire department truck

Elkland Township fire fighters will be able to fully equip their new pumper thanks to a grant from the Pinney Foundation.

Fire Chief Ron Pawloski, addressing the Elkland Township Board during its regular meeting last week, reported that several pieces of equipment have been ordered from Apollo Fire Equipment with the grant, which totaled more than \$14,000. The equipment, he said, includes color-coded hoses, flashlights, axes and spanner wrenches.

In other business, the board reappointed Pawloski chief for another year. Pawloski, of Cass City, has served the department for 34 years, including the past 10 years as chief.

The board also approved the slate of 2007 fire department officers. They are: Steve Osentoski, assistant chief;


Scott Wright, first captain; Jeremy Somerville, second captain; Mark Tomlinson, first lieutenant; Don Root, second lieutenant; and Janet Hurley, secretary-treasurer.

In other business during the monthly meeting, the board:

- \*Appointed Mimi Nicol as the township's representative on the Rawson Memorial Library Board. She will serve a 4-year term.
- \*Set the meeting dates for the township's board of review. The board will meet March 5 for an organizational meeting, and then hold open sessions March 13 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., and on March 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. In a related matter, the board appointed Dean Hoag as an alternate board of review member.

## The Haire Net

A little of this and that



A little of this and that, seen from the corner of Oak and Main streets.

The Cass City Main Street traffic passes by the Chronicle office and Chronicle office manager Harmony Doerr, who is in the office for 8 hours each working day, says that the trucks drive by consistently, but not at a consistent speed.

They creep along or race along in order to time the traffic light at the intersection of Main and Seeger streets. It gets annoying after a few hours, she points out.

I recalled our conversation a few days later then 2 semis came barreling down Main Street side-by-side traveling east. The one in the middle lane was traveling at what appeared to be near the top of the normal legal speed. The cowboy in the right-turn lane was putting the pedal to the metal in an attempt to pass on the right.

I can't tell you how the race turned out, but one driver or the other had to give way before the end of the four-lane highway about 4 1/2 blocks away.

The good news, of course, is that there were no cars parked on the street and the kids were in school.

Given these circumstances, it's reasonable to assume that there would be plenty of tickets available from street vendors. Wrong, says MSU fan Roger Marshall, a season ticket holder, who needed extra tickets for others in his group.

There weren't the usual ticket sellers on the street a half hour before the game. There was one vendor with tickets and to get them it was necessary to pay a premium price, well above the \$30 face value.

Cass City fans didn't do so well financially at this game. A week previously I attended a game and decided that I couldn't make the last pre-Big 10 game and offered choice seats (lower deck, 12 rows up).

I sold them quickly—at half price.

I can do without shoveling snow and the white stuff makes walking a little less enjoyable. Still, it would be nice if a blanket of white came our way and made it seem more like January than October.

Sure, that is a minority opinion, probably shared only by the snowbirds in Florida. Most folks are applauding the weather we have experienced that has occurred probably once before in the last 20 years.

In the last Michigan State basketball game at Breslin Center before the start of the Big 10 Conference season there were empty seats in the gym, although all the seats had been

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# The back forty

by Roger Pond

A story about robotic milking machines reminds me of the many changes in dairy farming. It wasn't that long ago when someone talking about milking with robots would be fitted with a jacket that buttons up the back.

Milking was much more personal when I was a kid. You had to know the cows on a first name basis or they would kick the snot out of you. Even if you were lucky enough to survive what the cows could dish-out, the equipment would finish you off.

nearly every day.

When we opened the milking-barn door, Susie would jump through it like a lion bounding through a hoop, and then she would slide about halfway down the concrete alley behind the stanchions. By the time she calmed down and got into a stanchion the cow was panic stricken. It was like she had never been milked before.

Our milking was done in stanchions where a guy had to sidle up next to a cow and convince her he was pretty much harmless before he could even think about putting the milker on her. In those days we used the old Surge milkers that hung from a strap over the cow's back.

The person doing the milking had to squeeze in between two cows and hang the belt over the one to be milked, while trying to convince the cow behind him she would be hamburger if she so much as lifted a leg. Then he would hang the milker on the belt, attach the cups to the udder, and adjust the belt for that particular cow.

It worked remarkably well for most cows, but there were always exceptions. The exception I remember best was an old, brown cow named Susie. Susie had a trace of Ayrshire blood in her, giving her those big, brown eyes with an inordinate amount of white around the edges. Susie always looked frightened, and she had good reason: We threatened to kill her

You would think an animal that had entered the barn twice-a-day for four years could find a stanchion without getting lost, but Susie never perfected it. She would run to the other end of the aisle and whirl around before the other cows got halfway into the barn. Then she would jam her head between the stanchion and the frame holding it, and remain stuck until someone belted her in the nose to back her out.

These contraptions worked fine until a cow figured out how to kick with both feet, and then you had a bovine jackass on your hands.

When I look at a modern dairy barn I'm always amazed that a dairyman works all his life for a nice milking parlor and some civilized equipment. Then he retires and gets someone else to do the milking. Somehow it doesn't seem quite fair.



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### Cass City Chronicle

Jan. 17, 2007

#### 5-Day Local Forecast

**Wednesday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 23 Low: 17

**Thursday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 30 Low: 19

**Friday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 25 Low: 16

**Saturday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 24 Low: 13

**Sunday**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 24 Low: 15

#### In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 23°, humidity of 69% and an overnight low of 17°. The record high temperature for today is 47° set in 1973. The record low is -13° set in 1982. Thursday, skies will remain partly cloudy with a high temperature of 30°, humidity of 86% and an overnight low of 19°.

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Monday	34	27	27/14	0.00"
Tuesday	28	21	27/14	0.00"
Wednesday	27	18	27/14	0.00"
Thursday	41	27	27/14	0.00"
Friday	43	30	27/14	0.00"
Saturday	30	25	27/14	0.00"
Sunday	31	25	27/14	0.00"

#### Upcoming Moon Phases

	New	First	Full	Last
	1/18	1/25	2/2	2/10

#### Sunrise/Sunset Times

Sunrise today ..... 8:02 a.m.  
Sunset tonight ..... 5:24 p.m.

#### Last Week's Local Almanac

Precipitation ..... 0.00"  
Normal precipitation ..... 0.42"  
Departure from normal ..... -0.42"  
Average temperature ..... 29.0°  
Average normal temperature ..... 20.5°  
Departure from normal ..... +8.5°

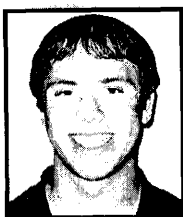
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**FIVE STAR**



## Red Hawk Talk

by Kyle Swanson

It's everyone's favorite time of the year, or perhaps it is everyone's least favorite time of the year. Today marked the beginning of semester exams at Cass City High School.

Today students take their second hour exam. Tomorrow students will take exams in first, third, and sixth hour. Finally, on Friday, students will finish the semester off by taking their fourth and fifth hour exams.

Everyone seems to prepare for exams a little differently, so I talked with several students last week to see if they have been preparing for the exams.

For freshmen, exams may be a scary time, as most freshmen have never taken a high school exam before. Despite some of the uncertainty, freshman Emily Martin didn't seem too worried. Martin told me, "I've been preparing material from each class for the exams so I can be ready and do my best."

However, for some students that have taken exams before, it doesn't seem to be as big of a deal. Sophomore Sarah Howard commented, "I'm only worried about one of my exams, but if I study I'm sure that I'll do fine." Senior Nick Sattelberg added, "I've always done well on the exams, so I'm not stressing out. I'm pretty confident."

Talking with Brandon Hartwick, it was clear that he was busy preparing. He told me, "I'm reading over material to make sure that I know everything I can." Another student,

Courtney Hacker said, "I've been preparing for my exams for the past week because I think two of them will be hard."

I also talked with students about how they are preparing for exams. Many told me that they were simply reviewing the book or filling out study guides and worksheets that they had. Others said that they were busy making flash cards. And yet there were some who told me that they were waiting until exams are closer and then they will try to cram for the tests.

Another unique thing that was pointed out to me is that for most seniors this will be the last exam they will ever take at Cass City High School. Although there are exams at the end of the year, students are allowed to opt out of them as long as they do not have too many absences and are maintaining an acceptable grade.

Certainly it is not anyone's favorite time of the year, but I am sure that everyone will survive. And look on the bright side, exams mean that half of the school year is done. Also, a reminder that students will have Friday afternoon off, as it is the end of the semester.

So whether you have been busy preparing for exams or decided to procrastinate, hopefully you will do your best and everything will turn out all right. Good luck!

# Reese man convicted of CSC

A Reese man faces several years in prison following his jury convictions on charges of criminal sexual conduct last week in Tuscola County Circuit Court.

The jury handed down verdicts of guilty to 3 counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct against Maximo Sandoval Jr., 26, following a

2-day trial. Court records state the crimes involved injury to the victim and took place Aug. 20 in Denmark Township. Second degree criminal sexual conduct is punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

Sandoval was also convicted of being an habitual offender (3 or more prior felony convictions).

The jury found Sandoval innocent on 2 counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct, which carries a maximum penalty of life in prison.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case, and Sandoval was remanded to the custody of the Michigan Department of Corrections. A sentencing date is to be scheduled. In other circuit court proceedings last week:

•Ronald T. Sieradzki, 48, Cass City, was sentenced to 90 days in the county jail (45 days deferred), with work release, for his plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance Jan. 27 in Juniata Township.

He was also ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$720.

•Gregg A. Taggett, 41, Caro, received a one-year delayed sentence for his plea of guilty to assaulting a police officer April 27 in Caro.

He was ordered to pay \$1,300 in costs and fines.

•Michael A. Manning, 31, Flint, received a one-year delayed sentence for his plea of no contest to unlawful use of a motor vehicle May 27 in Vassar Township.

He was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,220.

•Travis A. Chapin, 21, Mayville, pleaded guilty to delivery/manufacture of a controlled substance Oct. 24 in Mayville, and to being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$4,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•T.J. W. Maule, 33, Flint, pleaded guilty to failure to pay child support from Nov. 1, 2004, through Nov. 16, 2005, in Caro.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$3,150 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•David M. Neahusan, 60, Caro, pleaded no contest to 2 counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim under the age of 13 years in the fall of 2002/spring of 2003 in Indianfields Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$100,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Daniel Buco, 33, Avoco, pleaded no contest to larceny of property valued at \$1,000 to \$20,000 Oct. 22 in Arbel Township.

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

•Terrence D. Reh, 25, Caro, pleaded guilty to delivery/manufacture of a

narcotic/cocaine (less than 50 grams) Dec. 6 in Caro.

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

•Kyle E. Metiva, 28, Freeland, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Oct. 27 in Reese.

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

•Charles P. Burnette, 27, Millington, pleaded guilty to domestic violence, third offense, Oct. 8-9 in Watertown Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was set at \$3,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Joshua Trudeau, 19, Vassar, pleaded guilty to 2 counts of delivery/manufacture of marijuana last July-August in Denmark Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$20,000. Sentencing is to be set.

•Glynn P. Wilson, 23, Millington, pleaded no contest to assaulting a police officer Sept. 9 in Millington, and to being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$10,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

•Patrick A. Sapient Sr., 61, Mayville, was sentenced to 180 days in jail (deferred) and 60 months probation for his pleas of no contest to 3 counts of possession of a firearm by a felon June 15 in Fremont Township, and to being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

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

•James D. Hill, 27, Caro, received a one-year delayed sentence for his pleas of guilty to third degree child abuse and domestic violence last August in Caro.

He was also ordered to pay \$865 in costs and fines.

•Thomas D. Grosso, 25, Mayville, was sentenced to 60 to 90 days in jail (60 days deferred), with work release, and 18 months probation for his pleas of no contest to domestic violence and interfering with electronic communications (telephone or telephone line) Aug. 27 in Fremont Township.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$765.

•Louis Surles Jr., 50, Saginaw, was sentenced to 2 to 15 years in prison for his pleas of guilty to possession of a narcotic/cocaine (less than 25 grams) and furnishing false information to a police officer Aug. 22 in Caro, and to being an habitual offender (3 or more prior felony convictions).

He was also ordered to pay \$460 in costs and fines.

## Letters to the Editor

## Cass City School Board responds

To the editor and the Cass City School District,

This school year has been a difficult one, and we thought that we should address some of the issues that have affected our school system.

Perhaps the most common question being asked is: Why is Cass City Public Schools in this financial crisis and what caused it? The simple answer is that we have been living on our savings instead of cutting services. Our income since the 03-04 school years has actually declined overall, while our expenses have risen over \$1.3 million dollars over the same period.

The fact is that we did not have enough money in fund equity to pay for the current teacher contract after the state cut back on our promised funding.

We want to emphasize that we are not blaming the teachers for our problems. We agreed to the contract in good faith that the state of Michigan would, at a minimum, maintain funding. We are completely at the mercy of the state for our funding, with the exception of some federal dollars. We are not at liberty to ask the community for additional funds, so when the state cut back on its obligation, we were in trouble.

As the current school year began, the state of Michigan informed us that our district would receive an increase of \$210 per student. Because of the financial problems in Michigan, schools are now being told that as much as \$160-\$200 of this increase per student will probably be withheld. We will not know how much will be withheld for at least another month.

In addition, the state has withheld over \$100,000 in at-risk funding to date. When you take all of this into account, coupled with the loss of over 100 students from the district over this same period, mostly due to smaller kindergarten classes compared to graduating classes, it becomes apparent why cuts are necessary.

We have attempted to make cuts as far away from the classroom as possible, but eventually the cuts did reach our teachers. Over \$1.2 million in cuts were made in areas of maintenance, busing, supplies, athletics, extra-curricular, administration, clerical and through attrition (including retirement

incentives). These cuts account for over 82 percent of the cuts made by the board.

When we were still dealing with a budget deficit this year after all of these cuts, we were faced with having to cut teaching positions. When cutting teaching positions, the board is tied to the teaching contract with some restrictions. The board or administration does not decide which individual is laid off; it is based on not only seniority, but also certification and "highly qualified" language set forth in the No Child Left Behind legislation. We as a board are disappointed that some of our best teachers were caught up in this circumstance.

The board has worked with the teachers' association to try to save some of the teaching positions, but could not reach agreements on concessions.

The board would like to thank the union leadership of the support staff for coming up with some solutions to save dollars and positions within the support staff.

It was stated best at our last board meeting that although we are in a difficult situation, we can and will get through this by working together to make sure that our school system continues to be the best in the Thumb.

Cass City Public Schools Board of Education:

Michelle Biddinger, Danny Haag, Cathy Kropewnicki, Doug Lautner, Teresa Rabideau, Randy Severance, James Turner

## Where's the support for the troops this time?

Dear Editor,

Today is the 16th anniversary of Desert Storm and our nation is fighting back in Iraq. But 16 years ago there were outward signs of support for our troops that were fighting miles from home.

There were ribbons with the name of each serviceperson hanging from some trees near the park, several merchants had a wall display filled of the names of those serving overseas, yellow ribbons were wrapped on every tree downtown and the newspaper listed the names and mailing addresses so that we could write and send care packages to these service people.

Where is the support for our troops during this war? Is it something that comes out only after a family gets that dreadful visit from someone in the military announcing the death of a family member?

It is not just the service person who is fighting in the desert that needs our support, but the families who have to sit here, worry about a loved one and still meet the daily struggles we all face everyday.

Whether you believe in this war or not is not the problem. Our service people are fighting and dying over there, and they need to know that the people they leave behind support them.

As a mother of a Desert Storm veteran, I remember the days waiting for a letter, a phone call and praying that I did not get a visit from someone in the military. It was the support from other service person's families that helped me through that time.

I really wish they could all come home and I believe every service person fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan also wishes they could come home. But they are over there doing a job. The least they should be able to expect is that we here at home show our support and concern for them and their families.

Sincerely,  
Kris Gamet  
Cass City

## Parents - get involved in school

"For a long time there were many reasons to be proud of this district, but this is rapidly changing." That's what I read in last week's paper.

I attended the last school board meeting as well and I was also disappointed by the board's ability to answer Teresa Deering's questions. In a perfect world, they would have all the answers. Perhaps it would be helpful if they made written statements to, at least, ease some tensions. I appreciate Mr. Wilson's statement that he is going to get us all through this. Hopefully he is a man of his word and in good health.

To get to my point, sometimes being a taxpayer isn't enough. Get involved any way you can, not just board meetings. Taking your children out of this school does not solve this problem. A school is also a community and we need each other's support. And our teachers are just as qualified as they were before our bank went broke.

I don't have all the answers either (don't tell my kids) but I ask that all parents and teachers be a part of the solution. There is a newly formed parent-teacher organization, and while they also don't have all the answers, it's a start to something that can be wonderful, even when our school becomes bountiful again. Don't let the kitchen get too hot for you.

Still proud,  
Stazha Hartsell  
Cass City Red Hawk PTO member



Cathy Stacer

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# January honors school boards

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Randy Severance and his fellow board of education members have seen the full spectrum of ups and downs in the Cass City School District.

They've enjoyed growth and a healthy fund balance. They've also faced harsh criticism in the wake of sexual misconduct allegations leveled against a popular local band director, and the fallout of deep cuts in the face of a sea of red ink.

And, they've continued to serve on the board, volunteering their time and expertise, in spite of a lack of pay.

The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) is honoring school board members like Severance and others who serve in Cass City - Michelle Biddinger, Doug Lautner, Teresa Rabideau, Jim Turner, Danny Haag and Cathy Kropewnicki - for their dedication this month, which has been designated School Board Recognition Month.

The theme of this year's observation is "School Boards Make a World of Difference".

According to MASB officials, more than 4,000 school board members in 552 local and 57 intermediate school districts across the state manage a combined education budget of some \$12 billion each year and make decisions that affect 1.7 million K-12 students.

"They face tough public scrutiny, difficult financial times and increased pressure to improve student achievement," said MASB spokeswoman Jennifer Rogers.

"School board members invest countless hours of their already busy lives to make tough decisions about budgets, personnel, curriculum and other matters to help improve student achievement," Rogers said. "January is a time to recognize and appreciate school board members for the tough decisions they make, their commitment to receive board training, and working tirelessly to share their vision and voice about the future of Michigan's children."

Although members of the Cass City Board of Education are a diverse group, they share some common beliefs and goals.

"I've always been one that wanted to be a part of the solution rather than the problem. It's not fair to sit back and complain if you're not going to do something about it," said Severance, a Sanilac County dairy farmer who has served on the board for more than a dozen years.

"The year I came on was when Proposal A passed. From there, for the next 8, 9 years, we were in a catch-up mode (receiving more state funding), so we were putting money in buildings," he recalled. "We had money. There was excitement."

In contrast, Severance acknowledged, the past 18 months have been difficult, with band director Doug Burtch charged with having inappropriate relationships with students (he was never convicted), and a variety of factors forcing school officials to make a whopping \$1.6 million in cuts, including 25 teaching and support staff positions.

"The last year and a half - since

then, every school board meeting, you've got hostility," he said.

Severance had planned to end his service on the board at the end of his last term, but opted to run again when it appeared no one else was interested in serving.

"I guess I regretted running (for another term) this past summer. I was ready to get off, but I didn't want it to look like I was bailing on the district," Severance added. "I didn't realize how bad it was going to be for the district. It's been tough."

Biddinger, who is in the middle of her second term and is currently serving as board president, agreed.

"The past year has been tough, obviously, for a lot of reasons, but there's always going to be ups and downs in any organization," said the Cass City attorney. She added the district's financial crisis "has certainly made it much more difficult. You have to be a lot more innovative and you have to make tougher decisions."

Board members have also put in more time as they weighed options for cutting expenses this past year.

Still, Biddinger indicated she, like Severance, volunteers her time because she wants to be involved in the decision-making process.

Rabideau, who is employed as corporate services leader for the Scheurer Healthcare Network, expressed the same desire. "I thought it was a good way to stay active in the district," she said.

"Even though there are some tough times going on, there are some positive opportunities in what I consider to be one of the best school districts

in the area," Rabideau added. "There's the challenge of knowing, in tough times, people need to work together."

Biddinger said serving on the board "takes a lot of time. It's an aggravation sometimes, but you want the community to have the best school district you can have. If our school district is good, that's a reflection on the community," said Biddinger, who noted that's a goal every Cass City School Board member shares.

"They all have the best interest of the kids and the community at heart," she said.

## "Walk for Warmth" scheduled

Human Development Commission (HDC) officials are gearing up to organize Tuscola County's 17th annual Walk for Warmth in an effort to assist residents with fuel and utility emergencies.

This year's event is slated for Saturday, Feb. 24, with registration at 9 a.m. and one-mile walk set to get underway at 9:30 a.m.

Walk for Warmth is a voluntary effort on the part of area citizens, who gather pledges and walk a predetermined one-mile route. The funds raised go to assist residents with fuel and utility emergencies. Those assisted in the past include senior citizens, the handicapped and the "working poor".

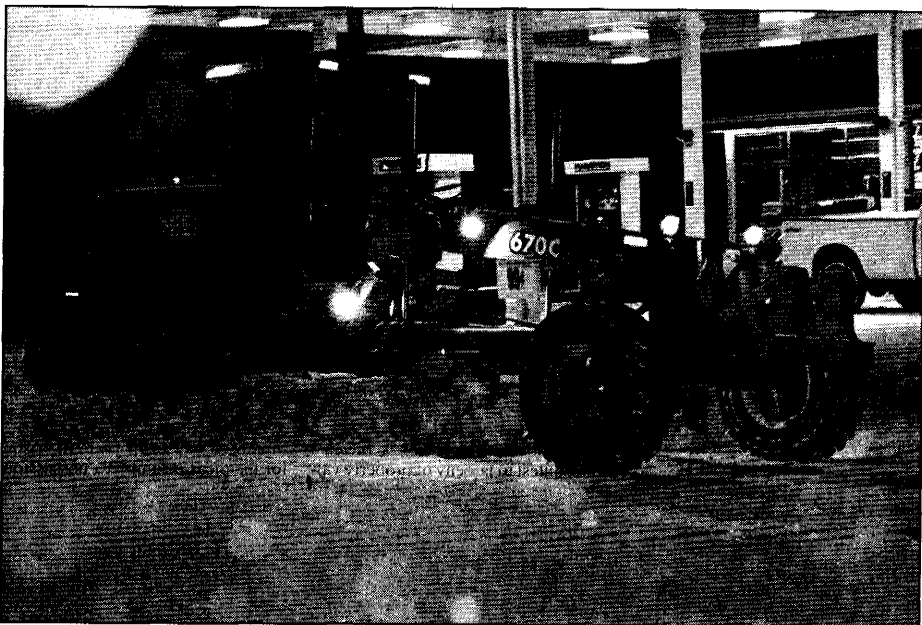
More than 75 percent of those who seek HDC help with fuel payments receive no public assistance, and nearly 40 percent are employed or have become recently unemployed.

The typical Walk for Warmth funding recipient is a 2- or 3-person household with less than \$6,000 in annual income - 40 percent are elderly, 20 percent are handicapped, and 35 percent live below poverty level in the 4-county Thumb area.

"Last year, with the support of community volunteers, the Human Development Commission was able to raise over \$37,000 in Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac and Tuscola counties to help a number of local families heat their homes," said Julie DeGuise, who along with Pat Ehlers coordinates the Walk for Warmth event.

"In Tuscola County last year, HDC assisted 210 families trying to make ends meet and seniors who are struggling on fixed incomes and are ineligible for other resources," DeGuise added.

Area residents can get involved by donating directly to Walk for Warmth by sending a check to: HDC/Walk for Warmth, 429 Montague Ave., Caro, MI 48723. Residents can also commit to seek pledges and/or walking the day of the event Feb. 24.



**OLD MAN WINTER** finally made an appearance in the Thumb Sunday night and Monday morning, dumping a few inches of snow. Most area schools closed their doors for the day, although Cass City students didn't get a snow day.

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Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
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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 - Judy A. Esckelsen

**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: 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. Paul G. Donelson

**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  
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Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
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Prayer Meeting & Bible Study,  
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.  
AWANA 6:45 p.m. Wednesdays  
Pastor: Eric Holmgren  
Website: www.fcccc.us

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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872-5400  
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Pastor: Keith Misany

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Worship Service 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
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# ON TOP

*Cass City remains only unbeaten team in GTW play after beating Patriots*

Friday was a glorious day for Cass City Red Hawk fans. The surging Hawks moved into the lead in the Greater Thumb West as Cass City upset Unionville Sebewaing, 51-45, and previously undefeated in the league Reese fell to the Lakers.

Before the season started Coach Aaron Fernald said that this year the race for the league title is wide open and he proved to be accurate. Now that the Hawks are perched on the top of the league all alone, Cass City will be the target for the challenging teams.

"The first will be Friday when Reese comes to Cass City. The Rockets are almost in a do or die situation if they are to stay in contention for the league title.

Cass City jumped off to a lead in the first quarter and never trailed the rest of the game. With the score tied at 4-all, Cass City went on an 8-2 run spearheaded by Andrew Martin with a pair of hoops and Cass City was in front, 12-6 at the end of the first 8 minutes.

In the opening moments of the second quarter the Patriots rallied to close the gap to 2 points, as Brandon Bitzer connect for a 3-pointer. For the night, Bitzer led USA with 15 points.

After that brief flurry the Hawks went on a 10-0 run sparked by Brad Hartel, who connected for 6 points in the rally.

USA had trouble from the free throw line and misfired on 4 of 5 shots from the charity circle. Austin Babich then took charge of the Hawk offense in the last minutes before the half. He started it with a pair of free throws and added a pair of hoops and at the half the Hawks were in front, 31-18.

Helping keep the Patriot offense in check was some great rebounding by Cass City. Most of the game Cass City limited USA to just one shot. The re-

bounding by the Hawks was especially effective in the rally in the second period.

The Patriots opened the third quarter with 7 unanswered points to close the gap to 6 points before the Hawks bounded back with a 10-3 run to move back in front, 42-29, going into the final quarter.

USA cut the gap to 4 points with 1:55 left to play, but some fine Cass City free throw shooting protected the victory. At crunch time Cameron Lautner converted 3 for 4 and Hartel was 2 for 2.

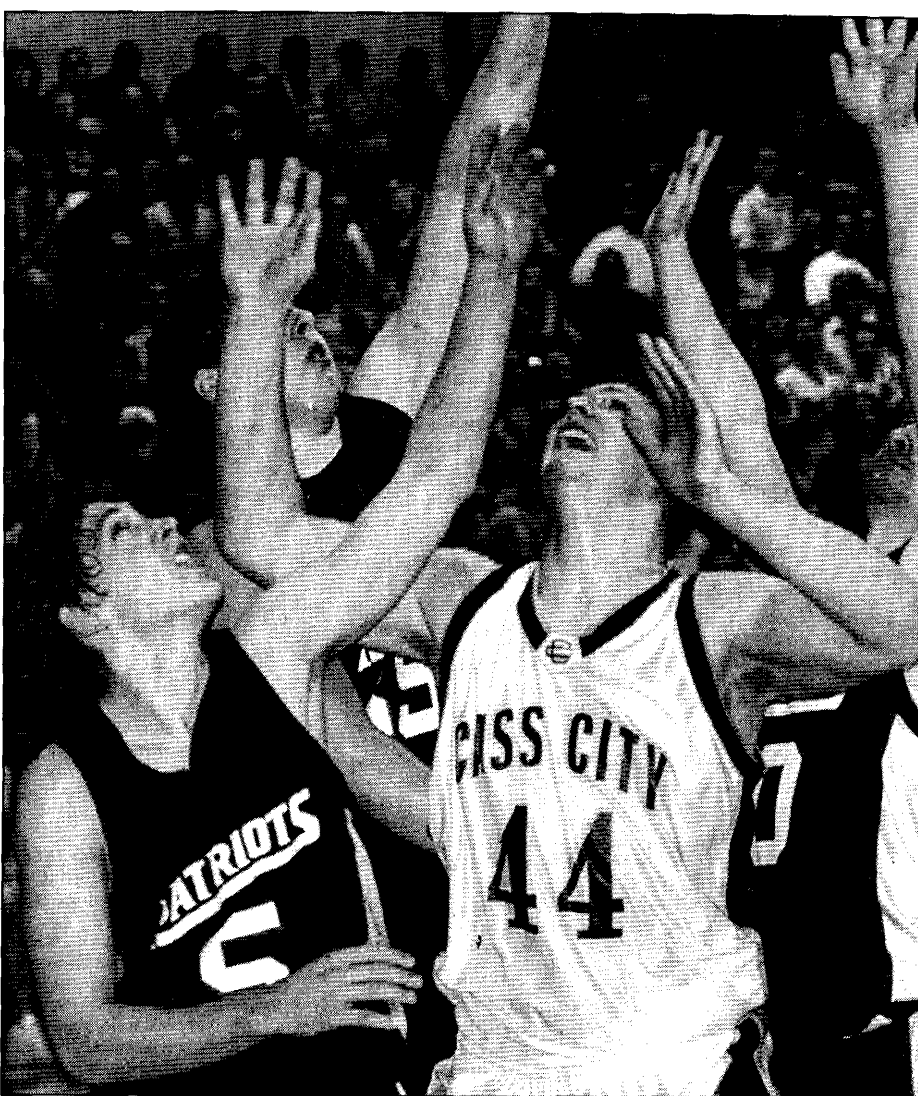
Fernald was especially pleased with the Cass City defense. USA had been scoring in the sixties and we held them to 45. One of the reasons was our rebounding. Martin collected 12 and Hartel, 10, he continued. We committed just 7 turnovers and were able to score several easy baskets when we beat their press.

Despite the win, Fernald cautioned. It was still just a win of a league game and we have 7 more to play and all the teams in the league will be looking for us.

## Box Scores

**CASS CITY** - Hartel 3-2 (4-6) 16; Lautner 2-0 (4-6) 8; Babich 4-0 (3-4) 11; Martin 3-0 (2-2) 8; Halasz 1-0 (1-4) 3; McFarland 2-0 (1-2) 5.  
**TOTALS: 15-2 (15-24) 51.**

**USA** - Bitzer 3-1 (6-10) 15; Schmidt 0-1 (0-0) 3; Jackson 3-0 (0-0) 6; Cramer 1-0 (0-0) 2; Gettel 1-0 (1-2) 3; VanHoost 1-0 (0-0) 2; VanBevern 2-0 (0-0) 4; Holland 2-0 (6-8) 10.  
**TOTALS - 13-2 (13-20) 45.**  
USA won the junior varsity game, 63-58.



## BASKETBALL STANDINGS

GREATER THUMB WEST				
Team	W	L	W	L
Cass City	3	0	8	1
USA	2	1	7	1
Reese	1	1	6	1
Lakers	1	1	3	6
Bad Axe	0	2	3	4
BCAS	0	2	3	5

GREATER THUMB EAST				
Team	W	L	W	L
Brown City	3	0	7	1
Harbor Beach	2	0	5	2
Ubyly	2	1	5	4
Sandusky	1	2	5	3
Marlette	1	1	3	4
Mayville	0	2	0	9
Deckerville	0	3	1	6

NCTL NORTH				
Team	W	L	W	L
Owen-Gage	5	1	5	2
North Huron	4	2	4	3
Port Hope	2	6	3	6
Caseville	0	6	0	6
Akron-Fairgrove	0	8	1	8

NCTL SOUTH				
Team	W	L	W	L
Kingston	7	0	9	0
CPS	5	1	5	2
Memphis	4	2	5	3
Dryden	3	3	3	4
Peck	3	4	3	5

**CASS CITY'S** Dereck Halasz is surrounded by a trio of Patriot players under the glass in Friday's Greater Thumb West showdown.

## M-81 Clash trophy stays in Cass City

Heavily favored Cass City was severely tested last week, Tuesday, by the Caro Tigers before the Red Hawks notched another in their string of single digit victories, 66-58, and held on to the M-81 Clash trophy for the 7th year in a row.

The long win string and an upcoming game against undefeated and defending league champion USA may have been a factor in the very slow start by Cass City.

Early in the first quarter with Tyler Pokley leading the way with 2 hoops and a free throw and 6 Tigers sharing in the scoring surge, the Tigers jumped off to a 17-10 lead before the Hawks counted 7 unanswered points to tie the game after the first 8 minutes. The rally was led by Andrew Martin, who counted 7 of his game-high 19 points for the night. It was his best game of the season and earned him "most valuable player" honors. He had missed the first month of the season due to an injury.

The Hawks went in front to stay with a 15-11 edge in the second period. The Hawk offense in the quarter was helped by Chris Childs and the rest of the Hawk bench.

Keeping the Tigers in contention was Travis Thompson who netted a trey, 2 regular hoops and 2 of 3 free throws.

The Cass City bench did most of the damage in the second quarter and was responsible for 10 of the 15 points that earned Cass City a half-time lead of 32-28.

It was heartening to have Childs register a pair of treys, Ryan Biddinger contributing 2 free throws and Shane McFarland adding another hoop, coach Aaron Fernald pointed out.

Martin took charge again in a free-scoring third period with 4 buckets and the Hawks entered the last quarter with a comfortable 55-48 lead.

Fernald was pleased with a reduction in turnovers by his team. We had just 14 and Brad Hartel and Cameron Lautner produced 11 assists with just 2 turnovers.

Despite moving its record to 7-1, Fernald is far from pleased with the defense that the team has shown in the first 8 games. We need to work on our defense to remain a factor in the Greater Thumb West, Fernald believes. Games against the stronger teams in the league are on deck and the next 4 are on the road.

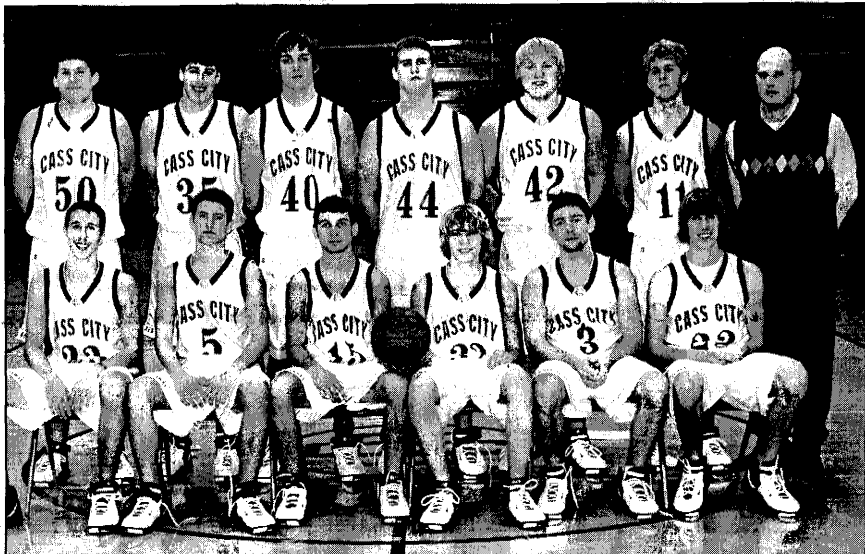
## Box Scores

**CASS CITY** - Childs 0-3 (0-0) 9; Hartel 2-1 (1-2) 8; Biddinger 0-0 (2-2) 2; Lautner 1-1 (2-5) 7; Babich 3-0 (2-5) 8; Martin 9-0 (1-2) 19; Halasz 2-0 (1-2) 5; McFarland 4-0 (0-0) 8.  
**TOTALS - 21-5 (9-18) 66.**

**CARO** - Oedy 1-0 (2-2) 4; Sakuta 2-0 (0-0) 4; Rieck 2-3 (0-0) 13; Thompson 6-1 (2-4) 17; Pokley 2-0 (0-0) 4; Juracek 1-0 (0-0) 2; LaPointe 5-0 (4-6) 14.  
**TOTALS - 19-4 (8-12) 58.**

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## Schneeberger's ATHLETES of the WEEK



*Schneeberger's salutes the entire Cass City basketball team for capturing a pair of valuable wins last week.*

*On Friday, the Hawks handed USA its first loss of the season while climbing to the top of the GTW standings.*

*Tuesday, Cass City defeated Caro for a 7th straight year to retain the M-81 Clash trophy.*

*The Cass City 2006-07 varsity basketball members are: (front, l-r) Austin Babich, Brad Hartel, Cameron Lautner, Chris Binder, Chris Childs, Chris Zawilinski (back) Shane McFarland, Darrin Howard, Andrew Martin, Dereck*

*Halasz, Shane Bloomfield, Ryan Biddinger and coach Aaron Fernald.*

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## Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

### This Week's Forecast



John Haire



Clarke Haire



Tom Montgomery



Doug Hyatt

Tuesday, January 16	Marlette	Bad Axe	Marlette	Marlette
Bad Axe at Marlette	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
Lakers at Mayville	USA	USA	USA	USA
USA at Deckerville	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City
Cass City at Harbor Beach	CPS	CPS	Memphis	Memphis
CPS at Memphis	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron	Port Hope
Port Hope at North Huron	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
Owen-Gage at Caseville	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
Dryden at Kingston				
Friday, January 19				
Bad Axe at BCAS	BCAS	BCAS	BCAS	BCAS
Cass City at Reese	Reese	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City
Marlette at Ubyly	Marlette	Ubyly	Ubyly	Ubyly
Sandusky at Deckerville	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky
Harbor Beach at Mayville	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach
Peck at Caseville	Peck	Peck	Peck	Peck
CPS at Owen-Gage	CPS	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
Memphis at Akron-Fairgrove	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis
Dryden at North Huron	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron
Last Week's Results	13-4	13-4	11-6	12-5
Season's Results	55-22 (71%)	62-15 (81%)	57-20 (74%)	61-16 (79%)



**RED HAWK** Ryan Biddinger faces defensive pressure from Caro's Trent Vella during the 2007 M-81 Clash. Cass City extended its win streak in the annual event to 7 consecutive years with the 66-58 decision.

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# Cass City gymnasts clipped at Midland

Oh, so close.

The Cass City gymnastic team narrowly fell to hosts Midland, Monday, Jan. 8th, 103.1 - 102.35. A Red Hawk upset over the Chemics, would have provided second year coach Kathy Bouverette with her first career victory.

Despite the loss, Bouverette likes what she is seeing from her Red Hawk gymnasts.

"It's exciting when you have a good group of girls who are willing to work towards their goals," Bouverette said. "The girls are doing great, they know what their flaws are and they are working at them."

The Hawks recorded a trio of first place finishes at Midland; including 2 from team co-captain Caitlin Sorenson.

Sorenson took top honors in the vault with a score of 8.3, edging out co-captain teammate Allie Richards who turned in an 8.2 performance, finishing as the runner-up.

The vault was the visitors' best event on the night as Ashley Weiss and Theresa Imgraben placed in a tie for 4th place with scores of 8.0. Cass City's Taryn Vatter place 5th with a mark of 7.8.

Sorenson also earned first place on the uneven bars with a mark of 6.2, while Imgraben finished second with a mark of 5.5 and Leah Whittaker was third with a score of 5.1.

Richards earned the Hawk's other first place finish in the floor exercise with a mark of 7.9.

On the balance beam, Allie Hillaker placed second with a score of 7.45.

"Hopefully we can beat Midland on our own turf," Bouverette said. The Hawks will get that chance Jan. 30th in the team's final home match of the season.

## Bulldogs remain on top of NCTL volleyball race

Owen-Gage rookie coach Ashley Pawlak was nervous heading into Thursday's North Central Thumb League match with guest Akron-Fairgrove.

A 2003 Bulldog graduate, Pawlak was a bit uneasy facing her former coach Judy Campbell, who now heads the Viking volleyball program.

"She was my coach during most of my playing career," Pawlak said, explaining Campbell was her mentor through her sophomore season at Owendale. "I was able to beat her (team) during my junior and senior years as a player, but I was very nervous going up against her as a coach."

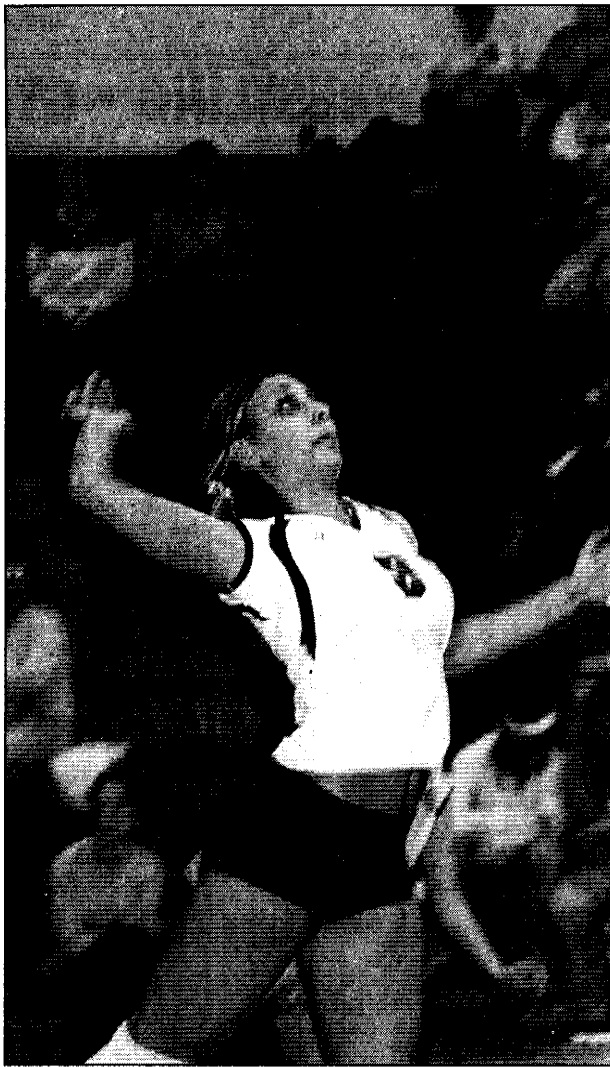
Although Pawlak entered the contest feeling troubled, her Bulldog spikers had no problem cruising to victory in straight games.

The Bulldogs ran their NCTL mark to 3-0 with wins of 25-14, 25-13 and 25-21. On the year, Owen-Gage has yet to drop a single conference game. "We came out and were talking and moving. We came ready to play."

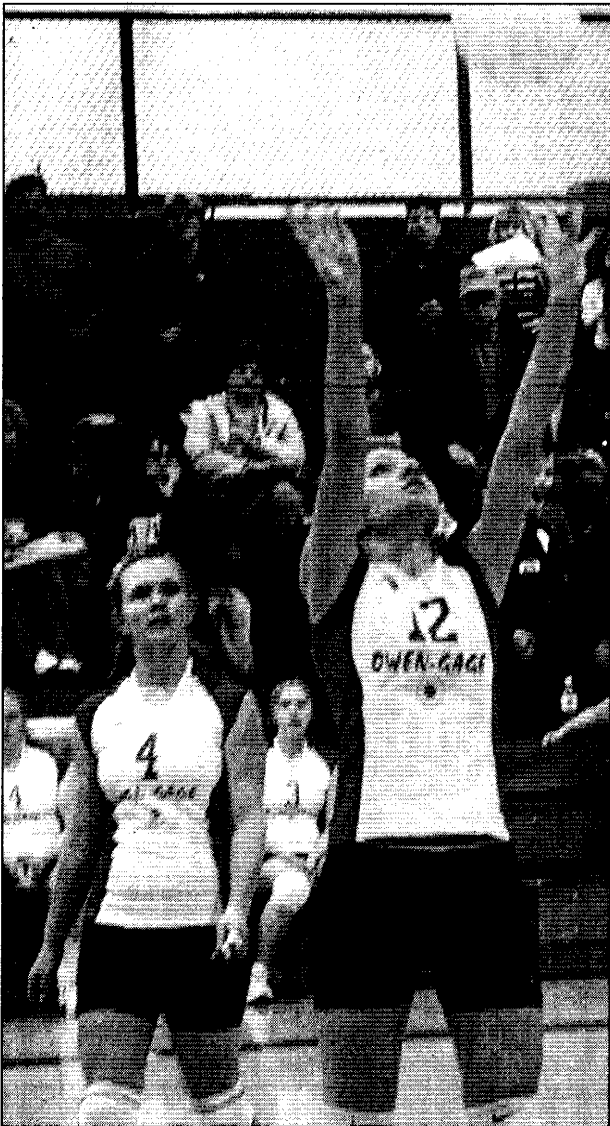
Still, Pawlak says her squad needs to improve on the service line if they hope to challenge for the NCTL crown. "Becky (Schmidt) has been our most consistent server and Amanda (Faist) is probably our best server when she is on."

Individually for the Bulldogs, April Nowaczyk had 13 digs, 5 kills, 5 assists; Schmidt, 7 assists, 6 digs, 5 kills; Faist, 4 blocks, 7 kills; Bethany Kovach, 6 digs, 2 blocks; and Samantha Radabaugh, 6 digs.

Owen-Gage is scheduled to compete in the Carsonville-Port Sanilac Tournament on Saturday.



CASS CITY'S Emily Schinnerer reaches back for a spike against visiting Reese. The Red Hawks improved to 2-0 in GTW play with a victory in straight games.



BULLDOG Becky Schmidt sets the ball during Thursday's NCTL battle with guest Akron-Fairgrove. Closing in on the play is Samantha Radabaugh.

# Cass City spikers eyeing important GTW outings with USA and Lakers

Pretenders or contenders.

In less than a week's time, the Cass City volleyball team should know if they have what it takes to earn a Greater Thumb West championship.

Coach Beth Howard's Red Hawk spikers improved to 2-0 in GTW action Thursday with a straight 3-game victory over guest Reese. The scores were 25-15, 25-14 and 25-11.

But after 2 easy conference victories to open their campaign, the Hawks will face USA (1-1) on Thursday and Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port (2-0) on Monday. Both matches are on the Hawks' home court.

Earlier in the year, Cass City defeated USA in the championship of the Caro Invitational, winning 2 of 3 games. If Cass City can triumph over the Patriots, again, it would set the stage for a critical outing with the Hatchets, who handed USA its first GTW defeat in straight games last week.

"If we want our success to continue, we need to put the ball away better," Howard said.

Individually for Cass City, Amanda Langenburg had 20 assists, 3 aces, 8 digs; Sara Meeker, 11 kills, 6 blocks; Sarah Howard, 6 kills, 2 blocks; Carly Howard, 4 aces, 6 digs; Ashleigh Rabideau, 8 digs, 3 aces; Emily Schinnerer, 10 digs; and Megan

VanVliet, 7 digs.

## BIRCHRUN TOURNAMENT

Cass City bowed in the semifinals of the Birch Run Invitational Saturday when Saginaw Nouvel ended the Hawk's tourney run with identical wins of 25-19.

The Hawks posted a 4-1 mark on the day which included a flawless showing in the pool play where Tawas fell, 25-11 12-12, Roscommon 25-14 25-9, and host Birch Run 25-20 25-10.

In the quarterfinals, Cass City defeated New Lothrop 25-17 and 26-24,

before bowing to Nouvel.

Langenburg had a big day for the Hawks and earned a spot on the all-tournament team. The sophomore setter recorded 81 assists, 13 aces and 20 digs. Cass City also had Meeker with 50 kills, 9 blocks, 7 aces; Sarah Howard, 17 kills, 8 blocks, 5 aces; Carly Howard, 16 kills, 17 digs, 7 aces; Schinnerer, 14 kills, 10 aces, 24 digs; Rabideau, 20 digs, 7 aces; and VanVliet, 24 digs.

"We blocked the ball well," said Howard. Adding, "Sara Meeker and Sara Howard are really shutting people down."

Cass City is now 15-2-1 overall.

# Kingston stomps guests Owen-Gage in NCTL meeting

Just like an old lazy river, the Kingston basketball team keeps on rolling.

The North Central Thumb League - South Cardinals remained the Thumb's only unbeaten team Friday with a 75-19 victory over guests Owen-Gage.

The hosts used a big offensive first half to take a 56-14 edge into the intermission and then held the NCTL-North leading Bulldogs to just 5 points in the final half.

Kingston led 30-7 after the opening 8 minutes as Tristin Pennington and Nathan Harnack split a dozen points in the early going.

Period 2 was more of the same for the winners as they outscored Owen-Gage 26-7.

Pennington led the Cardinals with 15 points, 10 rebounds and 3 blocks, while Seth Flikke chipped in 11 points and 4 assists. Brian Stine with 10 points was the only other Cardinal to reach double figures.

The Cardinals, who probably won't be seriously tested during the regular season, connected on 6 triples in

the game, but managed to connect on just 11 of 20 free throw attempts.

The Bulldogs, who suffered their first NCTL defeat, had Eric Zaleski with a team-high 5 points as the Kingston defense held its third straight opponent to under 20 points.

Owen-Gage (5-2) will entertain Carsonville-Port Sanilac (5-2) this Friday in Owendale for its annual Snowball contest.

## Box Scores

**OWEN-GAGE** -Dubs 1-0 (1-2) 3; Dronsella 1-0 (0-0) 2; Howard 0-1 (0-0) 3; Zaleski 1-0 (3-8) 5; Champagne 1-0 (1-2) 3; Gaeth 0-0 (3-4) 3.  
**TOTALS - 4-1 (8-16) 19.**

**KINGSTON** - Flikke 1-3 (0-0) 11; Dawson 0-0 (1-3) 1; Campbell 0-1 (1-3) 4; Stine 3-1 (1-2) 10; Hill 2-0 (1-3) 5; Jones 4-0 (0-1) 8; Pierce 0-0 (1-2) 1; Pennington 6-0 (1-1) 13; Neumann 0-1 (0-0) 3; Harnack 3-0 (0-0) 6; Werth 0-0 (4-4) 4; Brzezinski 4-0 (1-1) 9.  
**TOTALS - 23-6 (11-20) 75.**

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# CC wrestlers prep for lone home match Wednesday

Today is the day. The only day, in fact, for Cass City fans to watch the Red Hawk wrestling team in action at home.

The Hawks' lone home match of the year starts at 6 p.m. (Wednesday) against teams from Saginaw Nouvel and Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port.

Coach Don Markel's grapplers will enter the Parent's Night contest fresh off a 5th place finish at Saturday's Blue Water Classic in Port Huron.

Capac captured the 12-team tourney with 224 points. The complete order of finish saw Marysville with 217 points, Port Huron, 198.5, Yale, 178.5, Cass City, 158, Port Huron Northern, 112.5, Brown City, 83, Richmond, 78.5, Cros-Lex, 76, New Baltimore, 71.5, Sandusky, 50, and New Haven, 34.5.

"Ten of the 12 Hawks who competed in the meet placed and earned medals," Markel said.

Dennis Bowen captured the 189-pound division to lead Cass City, while Travis Mabe (112) and Ken Grady (135) bowed to the championship match.

Also earning top 5 finishes for the Red Hawks were Andrew Peruski (130) third place, Kevven Dorland (119), Kyle Sieradzki (160), Preston Stec (215), Ryan King (285) fourth place and Jeremy Farr (125) and Kyle Reif (140) fifth place.

**BROWN CITY**

On Wednesday, the Hawks improved to 12-8 for the season with a 57-21 decision over hosts Brown City in Greater Thumb West action.

Leading the Hawks to their opening conference win were Dorland, Farr, Sieradzki, Bowen and Stec, who all earned victory by pins.

Cass City actually defeated the Green Devils twice on the day as the Red Hawk B team recorded a 45-30 victory.

"We put together a B team because USA, who was scheduled to be there, dropped their program earlier in the season. The non-league contest gave a lot of our back-up wrestlers a chance to get in some varsity competition, which should help them build some confidence for the future," said Markel.

**Individual High Games & Series:** J. Mathewson 277 (682); T. Lis 246 (635); D. Miller 225 (621); M. Albin (595); D. Doerr 216 (577); T. Furness 229; G. Vanderstelt 224; E. Bullock 223; R. Hull 211.

**Awards:** J. Mathewson - 75 Pins Over Average (Game) (277-183=94); M. Albin - 200 Game (160 Avg. or Less) 206; E. Bullock - 200 Game (160 Avg. or Less) 223.

**Team High Game & Series:** Curtis Chrysler 616 (1759).

**Thursday Nite Trio as of Jan. 11**

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**Individual High Games & Series:** E. Schmaltz 267-244 (711); W. Laming 226 (632); G. Robinson 255-213 (625); M. Frappart 267 (602); J. Baker 235 (596); T. Lis (590); R. Doerr 210 (580); D. Miller 236.

**Awards:** E. Schmaltz - 700 Series (210 Avg. or Less) 711; M. Frappart - 75 Pins Over Average (Game) (267-181=86); T. Sweeney - 180 Game (140 Avg. or Less) 189.

**Team High Game & Series:** Martin Electric 659 (1860).

**Merchanettes as of Jan. 11**

Osentoski Reality 12  
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All Season Video 5  
Thumb Octagon Barn 2

**Individual High Games & Series:** D. Zdrojewski 223 (498); C. Brown 199 (494); L. Pabst 184-191 (518); B. Watson 187-185 (524).

**Splits:** D. Zdrojewski 5-10

**Team High Game & Series:** Gagetown C. Corners 718 (1880).

## BASKETBALL • VOLLEYBALL • WRESTLING • GYMNASTICS

### 2006-2007 Boys' Basketball

Dec. 5	Vassar 48, Cass City 60	
Dec. 8	Ubyly 62, Cass City 39	
Dec. 12	Sandusky 38, Cass City 41	
Dec. 15	Mayville 50, Cass City 56	
Dec. 19	Bad Axe 64, Cass City 67	
Dec. 29	Imlay City 63, Cass City 67	
Jan. 5	Lakers 50, Cass City 56	
Jan. 9	Caro 58, Cass City 66	
Jan. 12	USA 45, Cass City 51	
Jan. 16	Harbor Beach	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 19	Reese	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 23	Deckerville	5:00 p.m.
Jan. 26	BCAS	5:00 p.m.
Feb. 6	Bad Axe	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 9	Lakers	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 13	USA	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 16	Reese	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 23	BCAS	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 27	John Glenn	6:00 p.m.
Mar. 2	Saginaw Nouvel	6:00 p.m.

\*Home games are in bold

### 2006-2007 Wrestling

Nov. 30	Imlay City	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 2	Cros-Lex	9:00 a.m.
Dec. 9	Marlette Invite	8:00 a.m.
Dec. 13	Marlette/Lakers	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 21	Caro	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 3	Almont/Imlay City	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 6	North Branch Invite	9:00 a.m.
Jan. 10	Brown City/USA	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 13	Port Huron Northern	8:00 a.m.
Jan. 17	Lakers/Nouvel	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 20	Imlay City Invite	8:30 a.m.
Jan. 24	Marlette/Bad Axe	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 27	Marysville Invite	9:00 a.m.
Jan. 31	Mayville/Sandusky	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 3	Standish/Sterling Invite	8:00 a.m.
Feb. 10	League Tourney	10:00 a.m.

\*Home matches are in bold

## Follow the Hawks At Home BASKETBALL

February 6  
Cass City vs. Bad Axe  
VOLLEYBALL

January 18  
Cass City vs. USA  
WRESTLING

January 17  
Cass City vs. Lakers/Nouvel  
GYMNASTICS

January 30  
Cass City vs. Midland

### 2006-2007 Volleyball

Dec. 9	Lakers Invite (JV/F)	9:00 a.m.
Dec. 13	Caro (V)	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 13	Caro/BC (JV)	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 13	Caro/BC (F)	6:00 p.m.
Dec. 15	Caro Invite (JV)	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 16	Caro Invite (V)	8:30 a.m.
Dec. 22	Essexville-Garber	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 5	Bad Axe Invite (JV/F)	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 8	Bad Axe	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 11	Reese	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 13	Birch Run Invite (V)	8:30 a.m.
Jan. 15	Sandusky	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 18	USA	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 22	Lakers	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 25	BCAS	6:00 p.m.
Jan. 27	Birch Run Invite (JV)	8:30 a.m.
Jan. 27	Yale Invite	TBA
Feb. 1	Bad Axe	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 5	Reese	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 8	USA	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 10	SVSU Tourney (V)	9:00 a.m.
Feb. 15	Lakers	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 17	Northwood Invite (V)	8:00 a.m.
Feb. 17	SVSU Invite (JV)	9:00 a.m.
Feb. 22	BCAS	6:00 p.m.

\*Home matches are in bold

### 2006-2007 Gymnastics

Dec. 20	Vassar	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 8	Midland	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Vassar	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	Midland	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	Vassar Invite	12:00 p.m.
Feb. 13	Midland Invite	6:00 p.m.

\*Home matches are in bold

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## Obituaries

### Frank Ciaramitaro

Frank Ciaramitaro, 93, of Walnut Creek, Calif., formerly of Michigan, died Sunday, Jan. 14, 2007 in Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, Walnut Creek, Calif.

He was born Feb. 18, 1913 in Detroit.

He married Dorothy Wentworth Sept. 7, 1940 in Detroit. She died June 12, 1988.

Ciaramitaro served in the U.S. Army. He worked for Del Monte as a sales executive, retiring after 37 years.

Ciaramitaro is survived by his sons: Dr. David Ciaramitaro, Dr. Michael Ciaramitaro and Thomas Ciaramitaro.

Funeral services will be held either Saturday or Sunday, Jan. 20 or 21, at Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

Military honors will be under the direction of the Cass City VFW Post #3644 and the U.S. Army.

Interment will be in the Novesta Township Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

### Alvin Pogel

Alvin W. Pogel, 89, of Unionville, died Friday, Jan. 12, 2007.

He was born Jan. 4, 1918 in Detroit, the son of Arthur and Ida (Schulz) Pogel.

He married Eva Hare Oct. 22, 1938.

Pogel served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was employed with Bay City Shovels. He retired from the Caro State Hospital in 1977 where he was a nurse attendant. He was a member of the Unionville Moravian Church.

Pogel is survived by his wife, Eva; children: Ricky (Patricia) Pogel of Franklin, Tenn., June (Richard) Dehmel of Caro, Nancy Smith of Midland, and Marilyn (Karl) Desimpelare of Unionville; and 12 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Irvin Pogel.

Funeral and committal services were held Monday, Jan. 15, at Moravian Church, Unionville, with the Rev. Glenn Heintzelman officiating.

Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the church or the American Kidney Foundation.

Arrangements were made by Unionville Funeral Chapel, Unionville.

### Mary Rexin

Mary O. Rexin, 87, of Burt, formerly of Cass City, died Thursday, Jan. 11, 2007 at her daughter's home.

She was born May 24, 1919 in Marlette, the daughter of the late Lloyd and Ruby (Funk) Osburn.

She married Howard Rexin Nov. 28, 1943 in Detroit. He died Aug. 10, 1998. Rexin was a member of the Cass City United Methodist Church, Chico United Methodist Church in Florida, woman's society, and Library Club.

She is survived by a son, Wayne (Barbara) Rexin of Hermiston, Ore.; a daughter, Mary (Mac) McAnany of Burt; a brother, Lee Osburn of Vero, Fla.; sisters: Marian Meredith and Iva (Ivan) Harneck, all of Marlette; 5 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Grant Osburn.

Funeral services were held Monday, Jan. 15, with Pastor Daniel Bowman of the Marlette United Methodist Church officiating.

Burial was in the Christian Memorial Cultural Center Cemetery, Peck.

Memorials may be made to the donor's choice.

Arrangements were made by Marsh Funeral Chapel, Inc., Marlette.

## Kildee votes for minimum wage bill

Rep. Dale E. Kildee (D-Flint) last week voted for bipartisan legislation increasing the minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour over 2 years benefiting nearly 13 million American workers and their families.

The House passed the bill recently by a vote of 315 to 115.

"The critical needs of America's working families have been ignored for far too long," said Rep. Kildee. "That is why the House Democratic leadership brought H.R. 2, a bill to increase the federal minimum wage, to the floor during the first full week of the 110th Congress."

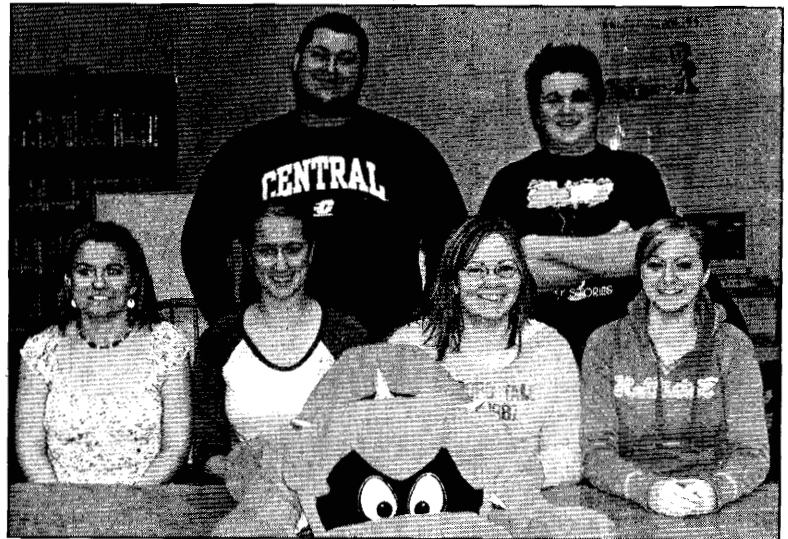
The H.R. 2 will increase the minimum wage by \$2.10 - from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour over 2 years. The bipartisan bill raises the minimum wage to \$5.85 60 days after enactment; to \$6.55 one year later; and to \$7.25 one year after that. This would mean an additional \$4,400 per year for a family of 3, equaling 15 months of groceries, or over 2 years of health care - helping them to keep up with rising costs.

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# Bridal Guide

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Wedding and Anniversary pictures of  
couples married 25 years or more

## Discuss finances before marriage

## -25 years-

Once all the decision making with regards to their big day has been put to rest, couples taking the plunge of-

ten must make financial decisions before or shortly after walking down the aisle. After deciding on every-

thing from the guest list to music to menus, couples may not be in the mood to do any more planning once everything has been put in place for their wedding day. But financial planning is best done as soon as possible.

Perhaps the best place for you to start when discussing finances is your respective thoughts toward money. Discussing your resources and your financial goals is imperative to establishing a relationship where each of you becomes more responsible or more flexible with your finances. It's also a good thing to discuss if you'd like to combine bank accounts, or if you'd just like to continue on with your own personal accounts. Joint accounts can give you both easy access to funds, while also increasing the likelihood that you'll avoid fees, as your joint account will boast a higher balance and earn more interest on the combined savings.

Keeping your own personal accounts can be beneficial, too. Along with continuing what has become a comfort level with respect to your own personal finances, by keeping your own accounts, you're also maintaining some level of independence as well.

For those couples who have already walked down the aisle, it is important to consider the tax ramifications of marriage. While the standard deduction for married couples filing jointly in 2004 (\$9,700) was equal to the combined deductions of two people filing separately, filing jointly and itemizing your tax returns could be a great option for newlyweds, as two people are likely to have more deductions than just one person filing alone.

Keep track of any deductible expenses, including anything from charitable contributions to state and local taxes. And if you're among the legions of newlyweds who have purchased a first home together shortly after getting married, you can also deduct certain mortgage expenses and your mortgage interest.

It might not be a bad idea, either, to adjust your W-4 form at work to withhold more from your paycheck each week. By increasing the amount of money withheld from your paycheck, you can avoid the pitfall of a big tax bill come April 15.

Health insurance is also a decision most newlyweds have to make once they've officially tied the knot. Since most people are covered by employer-sponsored plans, combining policies can often be a less expensive way to go without sacrificing any health benefits. Typically, one policy that adds a spouse as a dependent is less expensive than two separate policies with no dependents. For instance, those who are self-employed and paying for their own policy will most assuredly find it cheaper to join their spouse's employer-sponsored plan.

While health insurance is a chief concern, newlyweds also need to consider whether or not life insurance is an avenue they want to travel down. Particularly for newlyweds who have recently purchased a house together, life insurance could be a necessity to ensure that one spouse can still afford to make the mortgage payments should the other pass away. If you already have children, life insurance is a necessity. Also, if either spouse has any pre-existing policies, they should be updated as soon as possible after the wedding to list the spouse as a beneficiary.

Examining the things you own is also something couples need to consider, particularly if you already own a home. If you have expensive jewelry, for instance, increase your homeowner's insurance to add extra protection. Also, with respect to auto insurance, oftentimes combining policies is the most cost-effective way to go. Typically, insurance companies lower premiums with each car added onto the policy. Many auto insurance companies also view married couples as safer drivers, which also leads to lower premiums.

Finally, the last and perhaps most difficult financial decision to make is whether or not to get a prenuptial agreement. For many couples, prenups are irrelevant. But for couples who already have substantial assets or children from a previous marriage, a prenup can be the best way to protect their children and money should they pass away prematurely or end up divorced.



Kelli and Chuck Hendrick Oct. 3, 1981.



Kelli and Chuck Hendrick today.

The Hendricks were married at the Salem United Methodist Church in Cass City. The Hendricks have 3 daughters. Lindsey and Ashley are students at Saginaw Valley State University and Carley is a student at Cass City Middle School.

Kelli is the daughter of the Marvin Winters and Chuck is the son of the Earl Hendricks.



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# Brides • Brides • Brides

Look out for hurricanes

## Decide on a honeymoon budget

Each year the list of top honeymoon destinations for U.S. travelers has remained fairly stable, but the biggest trend this year will be couples planning their honeymoons around the hurricane season. This means that Atlantic and Caribbean destinations will

be on the receiving end of more deliberate and cautious honeymoon planning. Couples insistent on honeymooning at a destination inside the hurricane belt may even alter their wedding dates to reduce or eliminate the possibility of getting caught by Mother Nature. According to Neal

Kraemer, President of The Honeymoon (www.thehoneymoon.com) "couples are definitely more concerned about hurricanes than at any time in my 20 years in the travel business and I expect these recent storms to affect couples' destination choices the next couple of years."

and you know where you want to go, you need to decide whether you want an all-inclusive package or whether you would prefer to be on your own a little more. For those with tight budgets, an all-inclusive honeymoon has the advantage of one all-inclusive package price. This includes food, drink, entertainment and most activities at both all-inclusive resorts and on cruises. However, there are usually things that are not included for which you will need to pay, such as motorized water sports and shore excursions. Again, these make great gift items for your honeymoon registry. If the idea of an all-inclusive honeymoon with multiple destinations excites you, then a cruise may be the dream honeymoon for you as the typical seven-day cruise will include four ports-of-call. Furthermore, cruise ships can steer around hurricanes, an added benefit for couples honeymooning during the June–September hurricane season.

Now you need to book and pay for this trip. Many honeymoon suppliers offer specials for early booking, which may or may not include airfare. Many packages that include a flight can offer significant savings because these suppliers buy airline seats in bulk, at a discount and then package hotel and sometimes car rental to give you significant value.

Usually these packages need to be purchased from a travel agent or from businesses like the thehoneymoon.com, which combine travel agent referral services, the convenience of the Internet, honeymoon registry, personal wedding Web pages, and honeymoon information at your fingertips — all from the convenience of your home or office.

For many couples, planning a honeymoon is just as important as planning the wedding itself. Regardless of where you plan to go on your honeymoon, there are some things you should do and some new ideas of which you need to be aware in order to make it the kind of experience you want it to be.

First, you must decide on a budget. If money is not an issue for you, bon voyage! However, if you're like most couples getting married, you're already paying for more than you anticipated. Establish a budget and use it as a guide. You may also want to consider using a honeymoon bridal registry like the free one provided by The Honeymoon. Honeymoon registries are gift registries that allow wedding guests to buy specific components of your honeymoon as wedding gifts. Things like shore excursions, parasailing, spa services, and tours all make great wedding gifts. These are becoming more popular as couples getting married these days often have many of the basic household necessities that comprise a traditional gift registry.

Of course, honeymoon budget takes on a whole new meaning when you decide to do a "destination wedding." These are becoming very popular as more couples decide to forego the average \$20,000 wedding price tag in addition to the honeymoon expense. These are especially popular with second marriages. Once a budget has been established

## What to wear at the wedding

There is a good chance that you've been invited to a wedding - or will be - where the expected attire was a mystery. Unless the invitation specifically mentions "black tie" or another dress code, you could be taking a guess as to what is appropriate to wear. No one wants to be the odd person out, wearing an outfit that is inconsistent with the scope of the wedding. Usually there are hints that will offer you ideas

about the formality of the wedding. Act as a super sleuth and follow the clues.

1. Look at the invitation. Does it have all of the markers of a formal wedding: thick card stock, engraved typeset, calligraphy on the envelope? Or does it casually invite you to watch the couple tie the knot? Typically the invitation will set the tone of the wedding.
  2. Consider the location of the ceremony and reception. Chances are if the couple is being married on the beach and having a clam bake as their party they won't expect women to wear an evening gown and gents to wear tails. But if you recognize the reception hall to be a formal or semi-formal venue, the dress code is likely similar.
  3. Take your cues from the bride and her wedding party. If you've heard the bride will be wearing a cathedral-length veil and elaborate wedding gown, chances are she's going for a formal wedding. If you know the bridesmaids are wearing sarongs and flip flops, it's probably a casual affair.
  4. Don't be afraid to ask. Ring the bride or groom, or their parents, and inquire as to what type of atmosphere it will be. If you're mortified by this idea, err on the side of caution by choosing something that is conservative. Ladies usually can't go wrong with a black cocktail dress and men can play it safe in a dark-colored suit and tie.
- Follow these guidelines:

### BLACKTIE

Her: A formal dress, usually to the floor. Coordinate with a beaded purse and elegant wrap. Expect to dance, so don't wear anything too revealing or constricting.  
Him: A tuxedo is the only appropriate thing to wear.

### EVENING WEDDING

Her: Dress as if you were going to the theater or a fancy restaurant. Cocktail dresses are appropriate, or dressy suits. Avoid anything with sequins or too flashy. Suits shouldn't be too stuffy or "corporate."  
Him: A dark suit is always a safe bet. If you suspect it is semi-formal, you may be able to wear a blazer, slacks and a tie.

### DAYTIME WEDDING

Her: A conservative but fun floral dress or light-colored suit.  
Him: A light-colored suit if it is a summer wedding. For winter, dress warmer in a blazer and slacks with either a dress shirt or sweater underneath. Tuxedos should not be worn before 6 p.m.

## -50 Years-



Harry and Mabel Lenda June 9, 1956.



Harry and Mabel Lenda today.

The Lendas were married at St. Felix Catholic Church in Kinde. They make their home in Owendale, but were in business in Cass City for 40 years. The Lendas owned and operated the Cass City IGA store from 1958 to 1996.

Harry Lenda worked at the store for 2 years prior to buying the business. The couple has 2 children - Gregory (Cathy) Lenda and Deborah (Kevin) Israelson.

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Duties outlined

# Obligations of wedding party

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A wedding can be a wonderful and memorable experience for all of those involved. That's why you ask friends or relatives to share in the event and serve in your wedding party. Your offer is a wonderful honor, one that goes with it varying degrees of responsibility depending on the role each person will be playing. To help you decide who to ask to be in your wedding party, here is a list of titles and responsibilities for each participant's role.

### Maid of Honor

The maid of honor is a role typically filled by a sister or a very close friend. It is the equivalent of the groom's best man. The maid of honor's role, therefore, is typically very involved. Among her many responsibilities, the maid of honor accompanies the bride on shopping trips for her wedding dress while also planning the bridal shower, bachelorette party and coordinating the bridal party gift for the bride. Also, the maid of honor helps the bride get dressed on her wedding day, holds the groom's wedding ring during the wedding and may also help in the writing of invitations. The maid of honor will also typically act as a witness to the wedding and dance with the best man at the reception. If the woman you're asking is married, her title will be matron of honor.

### Best Man

Perhaps the most well-known responsibilities of the best man are organizing the bachelor party and giving the toast at the reception. But the best man, who is typically a brother or best friend of the groom, also has a slew of other responsibilities. In addition to helping the groom choose his tuxedo and get dressed

before the wedding, the best man coordinates the couple's gift from the groomsmen and takes care of the newlyweds' transportation to the airport after the reception or the next morning. The best man may also hold onto any payment that's due to the reception site or the donation for the house of worship, and take care of any final financial details. He also holds the bride's wedding ring during the ceremony.

### Bridesmaids

Along with walking in the wedding procession, bridesmaids attend the shower and contribute to the bridal gifts. Bridesmaids, who are typically sisters or friends of the bride or groom, also dance with the groomsmen during the reception. To be further involved, each can be given specific roles, like reading a religious passage at the ceremony, providing assistance with choosing wedding vendors, or helping to address wedding invitations.

### Groomsmen

Groomsmen are the male equivalent of the bridesmaids, typically having nearly identical responsibilities. Sometimes, groomsmen can act as ushers for guests arriving at the ceremony, groomsmen walk in the wedding procession and attend and help organize the bachelor party as well.

### Flower Girl

If the bride has a sister who is especially young, that sister typically fills the role of flower girl. Since most flower girls are very young, their responsibilities are generally limited to carrying a basket of flowers during the processional and, depending on the bride's preference, tossing flower petals on the ground to mark the bride's entrance.

### Ring Bearer

Like the flower girl, the ring bearer is a very young member of the family, only the ring bearer is a male. The ring bearer's role is to carry a pillow with the rings sewn on it during the processional. Some couples choose to have the ring bearer and the flower girl walk next to one another during the processional.

### Parents of the Bride

The bride's parents may be responsible for hosting the wedding, if they will be completely financially responsible for the event. In some cases, the father of the bride escorts his daughter down the aisle alone, but in other instances or in religious ceremonies, both parents may accompany the bride. In all cases, it's her preference. The mother of the bride may help fund or contribute to the planning of the bridal shower if the Maid of Honor needs assistance. These parents may also foot the cost of an engagement party or dinner to meet the groom's family.

### Parents of the Groom

The groom's parents should host a rehearsal dinner prior to the wedding. They may also choose to contribute to the wedding if they desire. In most cases, the groom's parents have limited responsibilities, but can be involved as much as the wedding couple would like. Traditionally, the groom's mother confers with the bride's mother on what color gown she is wearing, so as not to go with the same shade. The groom's parents may walk down the aisle in advance of the rest of the wedding procession and take their seats.

# Bridal Guide

## -50 years-



Mike and Marilyn Stec Nov. 24, 1956.



Mike and Marilyn Stec today.

The Stecs were married in Bad Axe. He retired from Wal-Mart in 2006. A 50th anniversary party was held Nov. 12 at the home of their son. Children and grandchildren from as far away as Texas and Maryland participated in the party.

The couple has 5 children: Bonnie Marker, Kim Stec, Debra Hansen, Mike Stec Jr. and Sherry Smith. There are 10 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

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# Brides • Brides • Brides

## How to avoid pre-marriage stress

## -50 years-

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Getting married can be one of the most memorable and lovely times of your life. But, it can also be one of the most stressful. With so many decisions to make, high-priced expenses and working on a tight deadline, it's easy to see how even the most put-together person could get frazzled.

However, stress is not healthy for a bride-to-be. It is commonly known that stress can affect both physical and mental health, but it can also wreak havoc on one's appearance. Stress-induced headaches can contribute to wrinkling around the brow line and eyes from scrunching the face in pain. Additionally, it can cause a person to over- or under-eat, resulting in weight gain and other cosmetic factors like dull hair, which won't be complementary to your pre-wedding beauty plan.

\* Schedule time for non-wedding-related activities. From dress fittings to consultations with your makeup artist, a bride's calendar is packed with appointments all related to her big day. Don't forget to schedule some downtime for yourself, whether that be a day spent entirely watching chick flicks or enjoying an at-home indulgence.

\* Don't be afraid to delegate. Understandably, you want to have control over your wedding planning along with your fiancé. But taking on too many responsibilities can quickly wear at your nerves. You chose a bridal party for good reason, so enlist them to help out with as much as they can. Reserve the big decisions for yourself, such as picking out bouquet blooms, but let them work through the drama of deciding on a bridesmaid dress or ideas on wedding favors. If anyone offers help, be it a relative or friend, take them up on it.

\* Make the most of your hair type and style. Bridal styles are often intricate up-dos or cascading curls — styles you don't do every day that require more effort than simply shampooing and a blowout. Set up an appointment with your stylist to discuss options that will work with your face and the style of your dress. Don't forget to schedule a trial run to make sure you are happy with the look.

\* Treat your body right. Exercise can do wonders for mood and appearance. Aim for 30 minutes of moderate exercise a day. This gets the blood pumping, fueling the entire body with energy. Your skin will glow and your hair will be revived. Although you want to be an ideal weight for your wedding day, avoid drastic diets and choose well-balanced, portion-controlled meals instead. Remember, you need to keep your energy up before your wedding day.

\* Follow your budget. Some wedding stress is money-related. Talk about what you plan to budget for the wedding with your fiancé so you know what you can afford, and comparison shop for vendors. This way there will be few surprises when you're writing out checks or swiping your credit card.

Keep stress levels to a minimum so that your wedding day can be the happy occasion you deserve.

After months (or years) of planning the wedding ceremony and reception and paying attention to numerous details, newlyweds deserve a relaxing, stress-free, romantic first-time trip as husband and wife.

When deciding upon a honeymoon destination, pick a location that both of you will enjoy visiting. If you have a wide range of interests, choose a spot that offers a variety of activities to appeal to you both.

Meet with a travel agent to discuss possible locales that will suit your budget and tastes. Discuss a few alternative locations prior to seeing your travel agent so you'll have a few options from which to choose. Your travel agent can give you some suggestions and offer ways to meet your budget and plan for the season in which you will be traveling. Remember, many countries have seasonal climates different from what you are used to. Once you have decided upon the perfect honeymoon spot, your travel agent can make all of the necessary arrangements and reservations.

According to most travel agents, Hawaii, the Poconos, Niagara Falls, the Caribbean Islands and Florida are among the most popular spots for honeymooners. Cruises of any type are also favorites. Wherever you choose to go, remember to relax, enjoy each other's company and have fun.



Thomas and Norajen Little Nov. 17, 1956.



Thomas and Norajen Little today.

The Littles were married at the Kingston Methodist Church by Rev. Wilbur Traver. The couple was honored at a dinner/dance at the Cass City VFW in November. It was arranged by their children and grandchildren. He retired from Saginaw Steering Gear in 1995. They enjoy camping and riding their motorcycle. They have visited 45 of the 50 United States.

The couple has 5 children: Sherri Little, Michael Little, Cindy (Dan) Shaw, Sandy (Bernie) Walmsley and Lori (Jim) Jensen. There are 11 grandchildren and 2 great-granddaughters.

## Choosing jewelry

(MS) — Beautiful jewelry can be the crowning glory of a wedding day ensemble. The perfect earrings, necklace and other accessories can work in conjunction with the bride's gown to help her become a vision to behold. Unique pieces can also be given as gifts to bridesmaids and other key people in the wedding party as a token of thanks for being a part of the special day.

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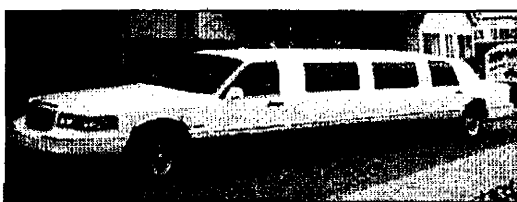
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ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Donald Yeager, a/k/a Donald M. Yeager, a married man, and Georgina Yeager, his wife, original mortgagors, to Long Beach Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated February 21, 2006 and recorded on February 23, 2006 in Liber 1072 on Page 0593 in instrument 2006-00877809, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand One Hundred Fifty-One and 15/100 Dollars (\$132,151.15), including interest at 9.6% 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 January 25, 2007.

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

Commencing at the East quarter corner of Section 22, Town 14 North, Range 7 East, thence South 03 degrees 44 minutes East, 454.3 feet along the East Section line to the point of beginning; running thence South 56 degrees 39 minutes East, 288.0 feet; thence South 03 degrees 44 minutes East 90.0 feet; thence North 71 degrees 12 minutes 55 seconds East, 259.27 feet; thence North 03 degrees 44 minutes West, 165.0 feet along the East Section line to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: December 27, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: FC R (248) 593-1305  
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MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by STEPHANIE L. EDWARDS, A SINGLE WOMAN, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC., ACTING SOLELY AS NOMINEE FOR LENDER, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, LENDER IS FIRST FRANKLIN A DIVISION OF NAT. CITY BANK OF IN, Mortgagee, dated December 16, 2005 and recorded on January 05, 2006 in Liber 1067, on Page 827 in TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST CO. AS TRUSTEE FOR FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-FF4, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATE SERIES 2006-FF4, by an assignment dated December 08, 2006, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ninety five thousand nine hundred eighty nine and 41/100 Dollars (\$95,989.41), including interest at 7.250% per annum WITH AN ADJUSTABLE RATE RIDER.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola, MI, at 10:00 AM on January 25, 2007.

Said premises are situated in CITY OF MILLINGTON, TUSCOLA County, Michigan and are described as:

PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 10 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION; THENCE NORTH 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST, 511.66 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH SECTION LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST, 355.91 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH-SOUTH QUARTER LINE; THENCE NORTH 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST, 148.34 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST 355.91 FEET TO THE SOUTH SECTION LINE; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 148.34 FEET; SAID SECTION LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING RIGHT OF WAY FOR ARBELA ROAD OVER THE SOUTH SIDE THEREOF.

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

DATED: December 27, 2006

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

ATTORNEY FOR: DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST CO. AS TRUSTEE FOR FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-FF4, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATE SERIES 2006-FF4 Assignee of Mortgage  
For More Information Call:  
(248) 540-7701

12-27-4

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 Shawn Ruhle and Laura Ruhle, husband and wife, original mortgagors, to Chemical Bank and Trust Company, Mortgagee, dated September 2, 2005 and recorded on September 9, 2005 in Liber 1053 on Page 661, and assigned by mesne assignments to U.S. Bank, N.A. 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 One Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fifteen and 37/100 Dollars (\$148,915.37), 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 February 8, 2007.

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

PARCEL II: A part of the Southeast quarter of Section 9, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, beginning at a point on the South line of said Section 9 that is 500.00 feet, North 88 degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds West, from the Southeast corner of said Section 9; thence continuing North 88 degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds West on the South line of said Section 9, 350.00 feet; thence North 1 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds East, 948.63 feet; thence South 88 degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds East, 350.00 feet; thence South 1 degree 28 minutes 59 seconds West, 948.63 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: January 10, 2007

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: FC F (248) 593-1313  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #121927F01

1-10-4

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN THE MILITARY, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER LISTED BELOW.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Debra Grow, a single woman, to H&R Block Mortgage Corporation Mortgagee, dated August 18, 2005 and recorded September 9, 2005 in Liber 1053, Page 796, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage was assigned through mesne assignments to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company as Trustee for HSI Asset Securitization Corporation 2006-OPT2 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-OPT2, by assignment dated November 15, 2006 and recorded December 21, 2006 in Liber 1106, Page 232, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars and Fifty-Five Cents (\$52,598.55), including interest 8.65% 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, front entrance of the Circuit Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI at 10:00AM on Thursday, February 8, 2007.

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

Commencing 2 Rods South of the Southwest corner of Lot 3, Block 1, L. Fox's Second Addition; thence West 100 feet; thence South 75 feet, East on an angle 108 feet, North 104 feet to the point of beginning, being a part of Section 25, Town 11 North, Range 9 East. Commonly known as 31 North St, Mayville MI 48744.

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

Dated: JANUARY 4, 2007

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company as Trustee for HSI Asset Securitization Corporation 2006-OPT2 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-OPT2  
Assignee of Mortgagee

Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C.  
811 South Blvd. Suite 100  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
(248) 844-5123  
Our File No: 07-61989

1-10-5

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 Mark E. Lynn, a married man, and Ida Lynn, his wife, original mortgagors, to Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated March 30, 2005 and recorded on April 1, 2005 in Liber 1033 on Page 375, and assigned by said Mortgagee to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. 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 Seventy-One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Six and 68/100 Dollars (\$71,656.68), including interest at 6.125% 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 February 8, 2007.

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

Parcel 1: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 22, Town 11 North, Range 11 East, thence North 0 Degrees 30 Minutes West 1203.33 Feet along the West Section line to the point of beginning. Running thence North 00 Degrees 30 Minutes West 120.00 Feet along the West Section line; thence North 87 Degrees 46 Minutes 16 Seconds East 363.00 Feet along an existing fence line (apparent North line of South half, Southwest Quarter); thence South 00 Degrees 30 Minutes East 120.00 Feet; thence South 87 Degrees 46 Minutes 16 Seconds West 363.00 Feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel 2: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 22, Town 11 North, Range 11 East, thence North 00 Degrees 30 Minutes West 1083.33 Feet along the West Section line to the point of beginning. Running thence North 00 Degrees 30 Minutes West 120.00 Feet along the West Section line; thence North 87 Degrees 46 Minutes 16 Seconds East 363.00 Feet; thence South 00 Degrees 30 Minutes East 120.00 Feet; thence South 87 Degrees 46 Minutes 16 Seconds West 363.00 Feet to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: January 10, 2007

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 #121847F01

1-10-4

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 Christa M. Evans, original mortgagor, to Washington Mutual Bank, F.A., a federal association, Mortgagee, dated January 21, 2003 and recorded on February 25, 2003 in Liber 917 on Page 619 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-One Thousand Three Hundred Five and 19/100 Dollars (\$91,305.19), including interest at 5.875% 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 January 25, 2007.

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

Land commencing at a point that is 602.4 feet North-east along the centerline of M-81 and 218 feet South 47 degrees 26 feet, from where the West line of the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 35, Town 13 North, Range 9 East, intersects the centerline of M-81; a distance of 127.15 feet; thence South 47 degrees 26 minutes East, 99 feet; thence North 45 degrees, East parallel with the center line of M-81 a distance of 127.15 feet; thence North 47 degrees 26 minutes West, 99 feet to the place of beginning.

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

Dated: December 27, 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 #118781F01

12-27-4

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 Rodney W. Withers, Sr. and Corina A. Withers, husband and wife, to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., Mortgagee, dated August 2, 2000 and recorded August 7, 2000 in Liber 807, Page 1152, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-One and 81/100 Dollars (\$52,291.81), including interest at 11.5% 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 of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on JANUARY 25, 2007.

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

Part of the Northwest one-quarter of Section 28, Town 13 North, Range 9 East, described as: Beginning at a point on the North line of Section 28, which is South 89 degrees 49 minutes 10 East, 252.5 feet from the Northwest corner of said Section 28; thence continuing along said North line, South 89 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds East, 118.00 feet; thence parallel to the West line of Section 28 South 313.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 49 minutes 10 seconds West 118.00 feet; thence North 313.00 feet to the North line of Section 28 and 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: December 27, 2006

Orlans Associates, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007-5041  
(248) 457-1000  
File No. 326.0349

12-27-4

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 Robert J. Plouffe and Sandra Plouffe, a/k/a Sandra J. Plouffe, as husband and wife, original mortgagors, to MOFC, Inc., a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated November 10, 1998 and recorded on November 12, 1998 in Liber 755 on Page 1062 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by mesne assignments to LaSalle Bank National Association, formerly known as LaSalle National Bank, in its capacity as indenture trustee under that certain Sale and Servicing Agreement dated November 1, 1998 among AFC Trust Series 1998-4, as Issuer, Superior Bank FSB, as Seller and Servicer, and LaSalle Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee, AFC Mortgage Loan Asset Backed Notes, Series 1998-4, and any amendments thereto as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Fifty and 55/100 Dollars (\$65,050.55), including interest at 11.45% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 25, 2007.

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

Parcel 1: Commencing 1219.56 feet North of the

Southwest corner of Section 32, Town 12 North, Range 11 East; thence North 100 feet; thence East 435.6 feet; thence South 100 feet; thence West 435.6 feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel 2: Commencing 1219.56 feet North of the Southwest corner of Section 32, Town 12 North, Range 11 East, thence North 100 feet; thence East 435.6 feet; thence North 100 feet; thence West 435.6 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: December 27, 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 #038470F05

12-27-4

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 Keith E. Feeney, a married person, original mortgagor, to Cendant Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated November 9, 2000 and recorded on November 14, 2000 in Liber 815 on Page 833 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Nine and 49/100 Dollars (\$110,599.49), 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 February 8, 2007.

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

Lot 15 of Davidson Subdivision, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, page 10.

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: January 10, 2007

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: FC F (248) 593-1313  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #081602F02

1-10-4

PETER M. SCNEIDERMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (248) 539-7400 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by STEPHEN M. KRUEGER and MICHELLE KRUEGER BY STEPHEN M. KRUEGER HER ATTORNEY-IN-FACT, HUSBAND AND WIFE, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated January 30, 2004 and recorded on March 2, 2004, in Liber 982, on Page 712, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and Ninety-Five Cents (\$112,425.95), including interest at 6.575% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, front entrance of the Courthouse Building in the Village of Caro, Michigan, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM o'clock, on January 25, 2007.

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

COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWN 11 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, TOWNSHIP OF DAYTON, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN; THENCE ALONG THE NORTH, EAST AND WEST ONE EIGHTH LINE OF SECTION 15, EASTERLY 242 FEET; THENCE PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 15, SOUTHERLY 175 FEET; THENCE PARALLEL NORTH, EAST AND WEST ONE EIGHTH LINE OF SAID SECTION, WESTERLY 242 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE ALONG SAID WEST LINE, NORTHERLY 175 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND; COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWN 11 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, TOWNSHIP OF DAYTON, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ALONG THE NORTH, EAST-WEST ONE EIGHTH LINE OF SECTION 15, EASTERLY 242 FEET FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING EASTERLY 242 FEET; THENCE PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 15, SOUTHERLY 205 FEET; THENCE PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH, EAST-WEST ONE EIGHTH LINE OF SECTION 15, WESTERLY 484 FEET; THENCE NORTHERLY ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 15, 30 FEET; THENCE PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH, EAST-WEST ONE EIGHTH LINE OF SECTION 15, EASTERLY 242 FEET; THENCE PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 15, NORTHERLY 175 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TAX ID NO. 005-015-000-1200-01

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

Dated: December 21, 2006

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns  
Mortgagee/Assignee

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C.  
23100 Province Drive, Suite 450  
Southfield, MI 48075

12-27-4

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 N. Sansote and Bridgett A. Sansote, husband and wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated October 24, 2005 and recorded on November 16, 2005 in Liber 1061 on Page 900 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Eighteen and 19/100 Dollars (\$69,418.19), including interest at 6.75% 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 February 15, 2007.

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

A parcel of land located in the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 14, Town 10 North, Range 8 East, described as follows: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 14, thence South 89 degrees 33 minutes 05 seconds West along the North line of said Section 14, a distance of 690.00 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence South 00 degrees 26 minutes 55 seconds East 160.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 33 minutes 05 seconds East, parallel with said North line, 55.00 feet, thence South 00 degrees 26 minutes 55 seconds 125.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 33 minutes 05 seconds West 235.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 26 minutes 55 seconds West, 285.00 feet to a point on said North line of Section 14; thence North 89 degrees 33 minutes 05 seconds East, along said North line, 180.00 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: January 17, 2007

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 #124358F01

1-17-4

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 Robert





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### Questions, problems?

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## General Merchandise

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## General Merchandise

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US - STATE - WORLD MILITARY - POW Aluminum Poles Commercial/Residential Sectional or One Piece 1-800-369-8882 Bill Ehrlich, Sr. 665-2568 Bill Ehrlich, Jr. 665-2503 2-4-16-ff

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## Real Estate For Rent

DOWNSTAIRS 1-BEDROOM apartment for rent at Hillside North Apartments. \$325/month. Call 550-8608. 4-12-20-ff

WE ARE NOW taking applications for 1, 2 & 3 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. 4-8-16-ff

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

FOR RENT - Upstairs 2-bedroom apartment. \$375/month. First and last month's required. 872-4785. 4-1-3-3

3+ BEDROOM HOUSE for rent - \$650/month plus security. 872-2791 or 586-242-3428. 4-1-3-3

## Real Estate For Rent

NEW MINI STORAGE in Hemans - Special one month free. Call for details, 989-635-7391. Monday-Saturday, 9-5 p.m. 4-9-20-ff

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

FOR RENT - Clean, small 2-bedroom house in nice neighborhood. \$425/month, first and \$300 security deposit. No pets. Call after 4 p.m., 872-5586. 4-1-17-2

FOR RENT - 14x80 mobile home, furnished. Southeast of Cass City. For information, call 872-4113. 4-1-17-2

OWENDALE - 2-bedroom ranch home on paved road 1 mile south of town. Appliances, no pets, non-smoking. References required. \$425/month plus security. 872-2858, after 5 p.m. 4-1-17-2

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

## Services

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

## Notices

MISSING ON 1-13-07 - Male, black lab. Blue collar. Van Dyke and Seeger Road area. 872-5782. 5-1-17-1

WANTED - ORDINANCE Enforcement Officer, Novesta Township. Must be a certified police officer and be deputized by the county sheriff. Part-time position. Send resumes by Jan. 30, 2007 to the Novesta Township Clerk, 6192 Deckerville Rd., Deford, MI 48729. 5-1-17-2

## Spaghetti Dinner

Thursday, Jan. 18

V.F.W. Hall

Veterans Drive, Cass City

4-7 p.m.

Donations

5-1-17-1

## Notices

SACHELL'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. 5-2-15-ff

WANTED TO RENT - Farmland for 2007 season and beyond. 989-674-2768. 5-1-3-4

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## Services

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

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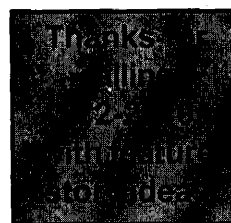
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## Work Wanted

WORK WANTED - Mother of 1 willing to baby-sit in my home. Non-smoking, no pets. Call 989-872-5011. 12-1-17-1

## Help Wanted

## Harbor Beach Community Hospital

### Vice President of Acute Care Services

Major Thumb area hospital has an opening for a VP of Acute Care Services. Position reports directly to the President and is responsible for all Acute Care Services related to nursing, quality, laboratory, cardiopulmonary and risk management.

A Bachelors or Masters Degree in Nursing or related field desired. Three to 5 years of management experience in a clinical nursing setting is preferred.

We offer a competitive wage and benefit package. If you are interested in a rewarding career in a small town atmosphere, please send your resume and salary requirements to Harbor Beach Community Hospital, Attn: Human Resources, 210 South First Street, Harbor Beach, MI 48441; fax to: (989) 479-5003; or email to: tstenenson@hbch.org. 11-1-10-2



### FINANCIAL AID OFFICER

Baker College of Cass City and West Branch are searching for a full-time, Financial Aid Officer. Bachelor's degree in a business related field required, with 1 year of financial aid officer experience preferred. Must have excellent written and oral communication skills. Must have excellent math skills. Must be computer literate and able to work in a Windows environment. Must be customer service and detail oriented. Must be able to work as part of a team.

#### Duties will include, but are not limited to:

- Review and award student financial aid
- Assist and counsel students in completing financial aid forms
- Present high school workshops
- Work all student orientations and registrations
- Work other college functions as needed

Position is currently open. Work schedule is 52 weeks per year; 40 hours per week. Typical work hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Some weekend hours may be required. One evening per week is required. Some travel (expense reimbursed) to the West Branch extension site quarterly. Full benefit package. Please send resume and cover letter by January 29, 2007 to:

Human Resources Department-FLINT  
Baker College of Flint  
1050 W. Bristol Road  
Flint, MI 48507  
Fax: (810) 766-4049  
Email: hr-fl@baker.edu  
AA/EOE 11-1-17-1

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## Work Wanted

WORK WANTED - House-keeping or babysitting in Cass City area. Contact Tammy at 989-912-9097. 12-1-17-2

## Help Wanted

SATCHELL'S CHRISTIAN Retirement Home - Looking for part-time help. First & second shifts, and weekends. Must be able to fill-in. Please call 989-673-3329. 11-1-17-11

TELEMARKETERS WANTED! Full and part-time, day and evening hours. Must be outgoing and enthusiastic. Hourly pay plus bonuses. For more information, 872-5584. 11-1-10-2

## Help Wanted

BASIC BOOKKEEPING for a business - Some typing required. Knowledge of Excel, Power Point and Quick Books. Pay based on experience. Send resume to: Box J, c/o Cass City Chronicle, PO Box 115, Cass City, MI 48726. 11-1-3-3

HELP WANTED - website developer. This is a part-time, flexible hours position. You can work from home or your choice of locations. You must have video experience. Jim, 989-872-4848. 11-1-3-3

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### Nursing Student Loan Payment Assistance! New Competitive Wage Scale!

Harbor Beach Community Hospital has RN openings in the Acute Care and Extended Care and Rehabilitation Unit. If you are an RN searching for a rewarding career as part of a high-quality patient care team, Harbor Beach Community Hospital would like to hear from you.

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210 S. First Street  
Harbor Beach, MI 48441  
Fax: (989) 479-5003  
Email: tstenenson@hbch.org 11-1-10-2

## Help Wanted

## Harbor Beach Community Hospital

Are you looking for an organization that encourages team work and believes in providing the highest quality patient care available? Harbor Beach Community Hospital is a patient focused acute care and long-term care facility offering state-of-the-art equipment.

Harbor Beach Community Hospital currently has the following openings:

### Extended Care and Rehab Unit

Certified Nursing Assistant (part-time)  
• Restorative care experience preferred

### Physical Therapy Department

Physical Therapist Assistant (part-time)  
• Physical Therapist Assistant degree required  
• Experience preferred

We offer a competitive wage and benefit package. If you are interested in a rewarding career in a small town atmosphere, please send your resume to Harbor Beach Community Hospital, Attn: Human Resources, 210 South First Street, Harbor Beach, MI 48441; fax to: (989) 479-5003; or email to: tstenenson@hbch.org. 11-1-17-3

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"It Doesn't Get Any Better!" Spacious stick built home so adorably decorated! This seller just has a knack for putting decor together and so updated. Enjoy this 3 bedroom, one bath home with newly finished family room. Full basement and added storage out back with the 1 car garage. Call on CCT-367 @ only \$58,900!



NEW! Surrounded by land, rests up on a hill. 10 acres to enjoy for the wildlife enthusiast. Home offers plenty of bedrooms. Has many updates that include a new furnace/AC, well, roof, 30'x40' pole building. Call for a personal showing today! CC-584



Setting on Top of the Hill! Don't miss out on this 4 bedroom, 1 bath home with a full-unfinished basement. The main floor is completely remodeled. There are handmade solid oak kitchen and bathroom cupboards, new roof, and a bonus room that has 576 sq. ft. Property includes a 32'x40' pole building and a 20'x30' horse barn with loft. This is a must see. Call and ask for more details about CC-579



Reduced Price! Mobile on over 3 acres, with an addition for the 3rd bedroom. Has a new well house for outdoor storage as well as a 12'x17' shed for outer storage. Property offers fruit trees and grapes. Call to set up a showing. CC-576



SOLD! Country view with the convenience of in-town living. This 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom condominium has a finished walk-out basement and is priced to sell. Don't miss out. Call today for a personal showing of CCT-375

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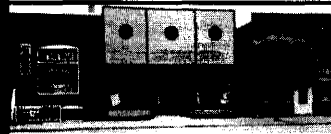
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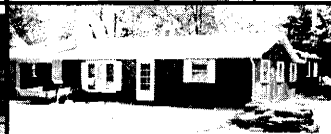
New Listing! 6700 Germania Rd., Uby. This one-of-a-kind custom built chalet sets on 5 wooded acres. A beautiful interior w/hardwood, carpeting and tiled floors. Open stairway to 2nd level, and balcony overlooking large living room w/vaulted ceiling. 18'x28' L-shaped deck and a 12'x20' storage shed w/cement floor. \$189,900. Cy2531



Storefront Cass City - 2 story storefront in downtown 1,160 sq. ft. display area plus an 11'x12' office on main level plus a 20'x28' attached garage. New wiring, carpeting, drywall, handicap accessible rest room, central air, furnace on 1st floor within the past seven years. Exterior has steel siding on the sides and back. Vinyl on the front within the last 7 yrs. COM1107. Reduced \$58,500.



Cass City Country - 2,500 sq. ft. ranch, 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, custom built home. Full finished lower level walk-out to cement patio. Woodburning fireplace in basement, gas log fireplace in the great room. Central air, 3 separate heat-air zones. Bonus room above the garage, pond in backyard, plus a 20'x16' storage shed. Built in 2000. All this and more on 2 acres with more acreage available. Cy2941.



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



Harbor Beach - 415 N. Lytle Ave. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1,200 sq. ft. home with recent updates. Has a heated attached garage and 12'x12' storage shed in backyard. TO701. \$71,900



Cass City - 1,200 sq. ft., 2 bedroom condo, 3 baths. Full finished walk-out basement. 1st floor laundry. New carpeting in 2005. Sellers are motivated. TCC1476



Cass City - 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1,200 sq. ft. condo, hardwood floors. Full finished walk-out basement with 3/4 bath, family room and 2 other rooms with plenty of closets. \$98,000. TCC1468



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**NEW 84TH DISTRICT STATE Rep. Terry Brown** was sworn in last week by Assistant Clerk Gary Randall. Pictured above (left to right) are Brown's daughter, Teresa, Brown, son Bryan, wife Carol, son Christopher, mother Doris, and Randall. Brown was the first Democrat elected to represent Tuscola and Huron counties.

## Decker office now in Hemans

Continued from page one.

nient," Chisholm said, adding truck drivers passing through on M-53 are utilizing the branch office to pick up their mail.

Of course, the office also serves local customers.

"We have one route and Russ Smith - he's the carrier, and Jason Zimmerman is the RCA (rural carrier assistant)," Chisholm said. He explained that the Decker route covers about 83 miles and serves nearly 400 postal patrons.

Chisholm, who typically mans the Decker Post Office alone, has a temporary replacement when needed in

Angie Krauth. "I'm a clerk out of Marlette and still have to go back and help them out when they need it, so I'm actually working out of 2 offices right now. It keeps me busy," he said.

"I'd probably say we get 30 to 50 people in here a day. Some days it will be dead, but some days it stays busy right up to 5 o'clock."

"We provide just about everything any other post office provides except

passports," added Chisholm, who said the new location is working out well. "We've got a lot more room and the utilities are better. We're happy with it."

*Editor's note: The Decker Post Office, 1624 Van Dyke Rd., will be hosting an open house Monday, Jan. 29. There will be free give-aways and drawings for framed art. Refreshments will be served.*

## Sheriffs announce police academy for area seniors

Senior citizens in Tuscola and Huron counties are being invited to enroll in a special police academy of their own this year.

Tuscola County Sheriff Tom Kern and Huron County Sheriff Kent Tibbitts recently announced that they along with the TRIAD organizations and the councils on aging will be sponsoring a Senior Citizen Police Academy.

The academy will be one day a week, 2 hours each day, for a 9-week period. The classes are slated to begin Tuesday, March 6, from 10 a.m. to noon, and most of the training sessions will be held at the Huron County Expo Center in Bad Axe. The classes are open to Huron and Tuscola seniors ages 60 and older.

"Graduation" is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1.

A variety of topics will be covered during the training, including civil and criminal law, traffic laws and procedures, accident investigation, marine patrol, emergency management, probation and parole, use of force, victim services, hospice care, vulnerable adult abuse, senior exploitation, jail ministry, civil process, identity theft and Internet crimes.

For a better understanding and realistic overview, a mock crime scene and mock criminal trial have been added to the curriculum.

Guest speakers will include Huron County Prosecutor Mark Gaertner, Huron County Circuit Judge M. Richard Knoblock, Emergency Management/911 Director Steve Lee, officers from the Bad Axe Police Department and Huron County Sheriff's Department, the Huron County Victim Advocate coordinators, and a representative from Huron Behavioral Health.

Tibbitts and Kern noted that the curriculum is geared to heighten seniors' awareness about crime prevention programs established to benefit their age group. The training, they said,

offers specific information to empower seniors to feel confident about their personal safety.

Seniors interested in participating may pick up and complete a pre-application form from either of the sheriff's departments. The deadline to register is Feb. 28.

More information is available by calling (989) 269-9910 in Huron County, or (989) 673-8164 in Tuscola County.

## Barcia pro tempore in the Senate

Sen. Jim Barcia (D-Bay City) was last week elected associate president pro tempore in a unanimous vote by his Senate colleagues.

The associate president pro tempore presides over the Senate in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor and the president pro tempore. Barcia was nominated for this post by Senate Minority Leader Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek).

"It is with great honor and pride that I nominate Sen. Jim Barcia of the 31st District as associate president pro tempore of the Michigan Senate," said Schauer. "Sen. Barcia truly embodies the spirit of public service, having represented his constituents with distinction, both in this Capitol and in the United States Capitol."

Barcia, who served in this same position in the last legislative session, said he's pleased that he will be able to continue to serve in this leadership position.

"The next 4 years will be full of challenges and opportunities for our state. I am honored to be able to help provide leadership in the Senate as we work together to help shape Michigan's future," he added.

## Brown

Continued from page one.

After the swearing-in ceremony, Brown and his colleagues wasted no time getting to work, introducing measures that will end drug industry immunity and reduce the influx of Canadian and out-of-state trash flowing into Michigan.

Brown threw his support behind a proposal to repeal a 1996 law that gives big drug companies immunity when their products harm or kill someone. The repeal would be retroactive to 1996 and also adds drug companies to the Consumer Protection Act, from which they currently are exempt. "For far too long, the big drug companies have gotten off scot-free when their products cause harm or even death," Brown said. "When any company sells a product that harms or kills our residents, it must be held accountable. I will fight to ensure that our residents are protected."

Brown also supported a plan to ban landfills from expanding until the year 2011. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) officials say Michigan took in 6.2 million tons of Canadian and out-of-state trash in 2005, 100,000 tons more than in 2004.

"The Thumb is full of natural beauty that makes it a great place to hunt, fish and enjoy the outdoors," Brown said. "Trash from Canada and other states is threatening to destroy our natural heritage. I will fight to keep other people's trash out of Michigan and to protect our way of life for generations to come."

State Rep. John Espinoza (D-Crosswell) was also sworn-in last week. He is serving his second term as the state representative for the neighboring 83rd House District.

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