

Measure could allow ATVs on Thumb area roadsides

Page 3

Deford's Ruth Rushlow's art focuses on nature

Page 5

Middle school band earns top marks at festival

Photo page 12

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 51

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2009

FIFTY CENTS

12 PAGES, ONE SUPPLEMENT

Union: threat of a strike didn't happen in Cass City

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The Muskegon-based Education Action Group (EAG) has thrown its support behind the Cass City Public Schools' bargaining team over the district's stalled teacher contract talks.

The EAG Thursday issued a statewide news release in support of the district's refusal to bend on the issue of health insurance.

Union officials, meanwhile, say EAG is an anti-union organization, and they disputed claims of a threat-

ened strike among local teachers.

The EAG describes itself as "a non-profit, non-partisan organization supported by concerned citizens, parents, school board members and public school advocates, working in communities to communicate the situation school boards across Michigan face, ways to ease the financial pain, and how to implement sensible solutions."

In their news release, EAG officials pointed to the only public school district in Michigan (outside of Detroit) to experience a strike since 1993 - the Wayne-Westland district in western

Wayne County, where teachers staged a 4-day walkout last fall.

"Now, it appears the teaching staff in the Cass City School District is prepared to follow the Wayne-Westland model and walk off the job, perhaps before the end of the current school year or some time next fall," said Steve Gunn, EAG communications manager.

According to Cass City School Supt. Ron Wilson, John Folsom, the area Michigan Education Association Uniserv director, told him that the teaching staff will strike before agreeing to surrender its MESSA health insurance coverage.

"Mr. Folsom and I discussed the differences in the board proposed insurance plan and the teachers' preferred MESSA plan," he told EAG officials. "I responded by asking, 'why should the board pay \$200,000 more than it has to for MEA-owned health insurance'."

"Mr. Folsom's response was, 'The teachers will strike before they will give up MESSA insurance'," Wilson said. "I reminded Mr. Folsom that teacher strikes are an illegal activity. He said, 'Detroit got away with it'."

"A work stoppage would have a detrimental impact on our community and would be a poor reflection on the teachers," Wilson said. "Our community has done a wonderful job supporting our school and staff. Many members of our community have lost their jobs or taken cuts in wages and benefits. I believe our community would not be sympathetic to teachers striking because they want the district to pay \$200,000 more than necessary for health insurance."

Cass City Board of Education President Doug Lautner agreed.

"While involved in collective bargaining, it is very disturbing to me that there would be the threat of an illegal strike by the teaching staff," he said. "Such an action would do nothing but endanger their jobs, damage the Cass City School District, and do harm to the students we care so much about. It is my hope that the CCEA Please turn to page 12.



RAWSON MEMORIAL District Library held its "Read Around the World" craft wrap-up activity Thursday. Among those attending were (from left) Alexis Mazure, Kenna Nye and Skyler Jager. Also pictured is library volunteer Val Kemp.

Trooper faces charges in assault investigation

Prosecutors have charged a veteran Michigan State Police trooper assigned to the Caro post with striking an 8-year-old child with a belt while on duty last fall.

The incident allegedly took place at a home in Ellington Township and involved Trooper Patrick L. Sharkey, 56. He was arraigned Thursday in Tuscola County District Court in front of Judge Kim D. Glaspie on charges of assault and battery and misconduct in office.

The charges are the result of arrest warrants issued by the Michigan Attorney General's Office following an internal investigation conducted by the Michigan State Police, according to First Lt. Doug Lautner, commander of the Caro post.

The charge of assault and battery is a misdemeanor that carries a maximum penalty of 93 days in jail and/or a \$500 fine. Misconduct in office is a felony punishable by up to 5 years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine.

The charges stem from an alleged incident Nov. 12 in Tuscola County's Ellington Township.

Sharkey has been a trooper for 24 years, according to Lautner, who declined to release specific details regarding the investigation.

"The MSP has a long-standing tradition of demanding the highest possible standards of professional conduct from its enlisted and civilian members. To that end, all allegations of misconduct are aggressively investigated," Lautner said.

"Regardless of whether a criminal charges result in a conviction, employees can still be subject to administrative penalties resulting from violations of department policy. All policy violations are investigated thoroughly and acted upon in a manner consistent with current labor relations law and bargaining unit agreements.

"The process used to investigate allegations of misconduct is clearly established in department policy," he added. "Oversight of the investigation process is the responsibility of the (MSP) Internal Affairs Section."

Lautner said Sharkey was suspended from duty when the charges were issued, and that he will remain off duty pending disposition of the criminal offenses and MSP administrative proceedings.

Federal funds coming to Thumb

Tuscola and Sanilac county law enforcement agencies will share in more than \$67 million awarded to Michigan in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars.

U.S. senators Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Carl Levin (D-MI) announced the funding awards Friday, saying they were approved through the Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. The funding will be distributed at both the state and community levels to prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system.

Tuscola is slated to receive \$16,614, while Sanilac County will receive \$10,908.

"I am pleased this economic recovery funding will help provide our communities with the resources they need to protect the people of Michigan," Stabenow said. "With our state and local governments facing tough budget decisions, this recovery package continues our strong commitment to work in partnership with Michigan

communities to help them meet these challenges and keep officers on the streets."

"Byrne grants are a critical source of funding for Michigan's law enforcement agencies, helping them modern-

and secure."

Under the funding package, local and municipal governments will receive roughly \$25.8 million, while the state will receive \$41.2 million.

The JAG Program allows states and

Tuscola County is slated to receive \$16,614 in ARRA dollars, while Sanilac County will receive \$10,908. The money is earmarked for law enforcement.



DOG DAYS OF...spring? These canines, along with another in the back seat, appeared to be ready to take off on their own for a drive recently in the parking lot of Erla's Food Center, where they were patiently awaiting their owner's return from the Cass City store.

Monthly Revive food pantries slated

Revive Ministries in Cass City is gearing up for its first monthly food pantry.

The first food distribution will take place Saturday, March 21, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the organization's headquarters in the former Millennium building, located next to the McDonald's restaurant on Main Street.

Subsequent pantries will also be held on the third Saturday of each month. "This type of pantry has financial guidelines to follow and is for residents of the Cass City School District," explained Jaime Fritz of Revive Ministries, referring to the rules governing the group's partnership with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan.

A chart outlining the financial guidelines accompanies this story. The rules require participants to produce personal identification for themselves and each family member (birth certificate, shot record, report card, etc.), and proof of income (bridge card/food stamps, check stubs, etc.). Participants must also be present to receive their food.

The Revive Ministries regular hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday.

Fritz noted that the Feinstein March Against Hunger Fund Raiser is now underway, meaning donations received in March and April only for the food pantry will receive an additional 10 percent credit at the Food Bank of

Eastern Michigan. Anyone interested in donating should make checks payable to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, with the "Feinstein Program" written in the memo. Donations may be dropped off at the Revive building or mailed to: P.O. Please turn to page 12.

Financial Guidelines

Household Size	Monthly Income Limit
1	\$1,430
2	\$1,925
3	\$2,420
4	\$2,915
5	\$3,410
6	\$3,905
7	\$4,400
8	\$4,895



Meet Our Physicians...

Dr. Francis Ozim, M.D., General Surgeon
Cass City General Surgery
(989) 872-5582

Mon.-Fri., 5-9 p.m.; Sat., 9-2 p.m.; Sun., 2-6 p.m.

- Howard University College of Medicine, Washington, D.C.
- Fellow of American College of Surgeons
- Board certified with the American Board of Surgery
- Member of the American College of Surgeons
- Member of the National Medical Association
- Michigan State Medical Society
- Been on staff with Hills & Dales since 2002

At Hills & Dales General Hospital, our physicians and staff bring the highest quality of care, as well as experience and compassion to every patient. Make Hills & Dales your hospital of choice.

Hills & Dales
General Hospital

An Affiliate of Covenant HealthCare

6190 Hospital Dr., Ste. 104, Cass City ~ (989) 912-6114

Calendar of Events

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

Thursday, March 12
AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 872-4816.

Friday, March 13
Al-anon meeting for family and friends of alcoholics, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, Elkton. For more information, call (989) 872-4042.

Sunday, March 15
Gagetown AA meeting, 8-9 p.m., Gagetown fire hall. For more information, call (989) 665-2361.

Monday, March 16
Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubyly. For more information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.
Art Show Opening Reception, 6-8 p.m., Rawson Memorial District Library. The public is welcome to meet the artists who have works on display. Live entertainment by Gary Brandt.
Spring into Art Exhibit, during regular business hours, Rawson Memorial District Library. (March 16-28)

Tuesday, March 17
Thumb Area Parkinson's Support Group meeting, 1 p.m., Northwood Meadows.
Library Board meeting, 9 a.m., Rawson Memorial District Library.
Heartland Hospice Grief Group Lunch, 1 p.m., Gilligan's. For more information, contact Laura Johannes at 1-877-486-6671.

Thrivent Financial recognized

The Regional Financial Office (RFO) of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans announced the Tuscola County Chapter has earned a Chapter of Excellence award for its volunteer contributions to the local community in 2008.

The award acknowledges the chapter's leadership and members for organizing and implementing fund-raisers and service projects to address area needs.

"Thrivent Financial members show their care and compassion for others every day by participating in outreach projects through their chapter," said Mike Redford, manager of Lutheran community relations for the Michigan RFO of Thrivent Financial. "The Chapter of Excellence award is one way to recognize and thank the Tuscola County Chapter for its service in 2008."

Twenty-five out of 37 Thrivent Financial chapters in the region earned the excellence award in 2008.

As a faith-based membership organization, Thrivent Financial creates, manages and funds outreach programs that support congregations, schools, nonprofits and individuals in need. Each Thrivent Financial member is a member of one of 1,364 local chapters though which the member may join a variety of volunteer efforts, fund-raising activities and educational programs.

In order to earn the Thrivent Financial Chapter of Excellence status in 2008, a chapter had to meet ten key hallmarks including conducting youth-adult volunteer programs and utilizing 100 percent of the funding available to support service projects through the chapter's Care Abounds in Communities program.



THE FRIENDS of Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City recently presented a \$1,000 donation to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Tuscola County. Pictured above (from left) are Dot Knight, Marilyn Peters and Carol Rutkoski, all members of the "friends". Peters is also a member of the county Imagination Library board. The Imagination Library is a program in which children ages up to 5 years receive a free book each month. The goal is to promote literacy and improve educational opportunities for area youngsters.

"Spring into Art Exhibit" March 16-28

The annual "Spring into Art Exhibit", hosted and sponsored by Rawson Memorial District Library and the Cass City Arts Council, will be held March 16-28.

Featured will be artwork in all media including fiber art, painting, jewelry, photography, sculpture, stained glass, woodcarving and pottery. Cash prizes will be awarded by a panel of judges in photography, 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional art along with 2 "people's choice" awards, one for high school art submissions and the other for general artist submissions.

An opening night reception is planned for March 16 at 6 p.m., and will include live entertainment by Gary Brandt, and refreshments provided by the Friends of Rawson Library and the Cass City Arts Council.

Awards and prizes, except the People's Choice, will be presented during the opening night reception. The People's Choice awards will be announced at the end of the 2-week show so all votes from those viewing the show may be tallied.

More information is available by calling Rawson Memorial District Library at (989) 872-2856.

JOIN US FOR AN
OLD-FASHIONED HOME STYLE TURKEY DINNER
SERVED FAMILY STYLE
SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND
NOON - 2:30 P.M.
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
6820 E. MAIN STREET, CASS CITY
ADULTS \$8.00
CHILDREN 5-12 \$4.00
CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE
TAKE OUTS AVAILABLE

VELMA M. MAR. 5, 1915
C. THOMAS MAY 23, 1913
JAN. 2, 2000

Shouldn't a memorial reflect the beauty of life?

Our monuments combine the finest granites in an assortment of colors, exquisite craftsmanship and gracious design to express the sentiment and joys of life.

Come talk to us. We are people you already know and trust. We'll help you select a memorial to be cherished

Place maker orders before April 23, 2009
for
Memorial Day delivery.
(earlier for special orders)

FUNERAL HOME
Debra L. Kranz, Manager/Director
6850 Main Street, Cass City
989-872-2195 or 989-683-2210

SUDOKU

1			8					
	5							4
9			6	4				5
				7			9	
								3
5	3	2						
	6					7		
	4		9		2	8		
		3	1					

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

Thabet Funeral Home, Inc.
(989) 872-9700
6255 Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
Pre-Arrangements - Monuments - Markers

ANSWERS TO MAR. 4, 2009

6	4	9	8	7	5	3	2	1
7	2	3	4	1	6	9	8	5
5	1	8	9	2	3	7	6	4
1	9	4	2	3	7	8	5	6
8	7	5	1	6	9	4	3	2
3	6	2	5	4	8	1	9	7
2	3	6	7	9	4	5	1	8
4	8	1	3	5	2	6	7	9
9	5	7	6	8	1	2	4	3

72 donate blood

Seventy-two area residents donated blood at a drive sponsored by the Hills and Dales General Hospital Auxiliary and VFW Post #3644, Cass City.

Receiving one-gallon donor pins were Amanda Williams and Thomas Szcpanski. Michael Keesling, Kathy Droski and Reuben Kempf were all first-time donors.

The next blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14.

Caregivers invited to workshop

Color, contrast, lighting and clutter all have an impact on how someone with dementia relates to his/her environment.

Area residents are invited to attend an informative session about the issues that caregivers should be aware of when caring for someone with memory loss.

The Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group will meet Thursday, March 19, at 5:30 p.m. at the Human Development Commission (HDC) Adult Day Services Building, 227 N. Elk St., Sandusky.

For more information or to RSVP, call (810) 648-4497.

Working Hand in Hand for the Sake of Your Heart

Hills & Dales General Hospital and the Covenant Heart Specialists are working together to help you lower your risk of heart disease.

Meet Dr. Sanghi in Cass City.

Dr. Sanghi is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. He is fellowship trained in cardiology and interventional cardiology from the University of Texas and is board certified in interventional cardiology, internal medicine and cardiovascular disease.

As a dedicated Covenant Heart Specialist, Dr. Sanghi brings cardiovascular services to Cass City, including:

- Cardiovascular consults
- Office visits
- Stress testing
- Arterial dopplers
- Echocardiograms
- EKG monitoring

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Sanghi in Cass City, call 989.583.4700 or 1.866.800.0995

Medical Arts & Rehabilitation Center
6190 Hospital Drive, Suite 107
Cass City, MI 48726



COVENANT
Heart Specialists

Hills & Dales
General Hospital

Covenant Heart Specialist
Pramod Sanghi, MD, and
Hills and Dales General Hospital

For more information, visit covenantheartspecialists.com

Find the Service or Product You Need in This....

Action Guide SERVICE DIRECTORY

APPLIANCE SERVICE

JOHNSON APPLIANCE & REFRIGERATION SERVICE

Cass City, Michigan

Over 20 Years Experience
Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Dishwashers, Microwaves, Refrigerators, All Brands

(989) 872-1101

PRINTING SERVICE

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

- Business Cards
- Invitations • Flyers
- Brochures • Booklets

6550 Main St.
Cass City, MI 48726

(989) 872-2010

Professional and Business

DIRECTORY

ACCOUNTANTS

Anderson, Tuckey, Bernhardt & Doran, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants
Gary Anderson, CPA
Robert Tuckey, CPA
Jerry Bernhardt, CPA
Thomas Doran, CPA
Valerie Hartel, CPA
Jamie Peasley, CPA
Terry Haske, CPA
715 E. Frank St., Caro
Phone 673-3137
6261 Church St., Cass City
Phone 872-3730
2956 Main St., Marlette
Phone 635-7545

OPTOMETRISTS

EYECARE & EYEWEAR FOR EVERYONE

- Professional eye exams
- Prescriptions filled
- Large selection of frames
- All types of contacts
- No-line bifocals
- Glasses repaired
- Blue Cross & VSP participant

DAVID C. BATZER II, O.D.

Professional Eye Care
4672 Hill St., Cass City
872-3404
Bad Axe 269-7263

CHIROPRACTORS

Health Care You Can Feel Great About

Crowley Chiropractic

4452 Doerr Rd.
Cass City, Michigan
(989) 872-4241

PHYSICIANS

S.H. Raythatha, M.D.

Dr. Ray

Board Certified Family Medicine
4672 Hill St.
Cass City
Phone 872-5010
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8-5

INSURANCE

Thumb Insurance Group, Inc

Your hometown independent insurance agent for:
• Term & Universal Life
• Auto • Home
• Business • Health

INSURANCE PROTECTION IS OUR BUSINESS

"We want to be your agent"

Agents:
Mark Wiese Jim Ceranski
Cathy Stacer Pat Stecker
6240 W. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-4351

VETERINARIANS

ALL PETS VETERINARY CLINIC P.C.

Susan Hoppe D.V.M.
4438 S. Seeger St.
Phone 872-2255

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY, CALL 872-2010



Rabbit Tracks

by John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Without revealing the name, over the last 2.5 years or so there has been speculation about the house on Oak Street that previously was condemned by the village.

It's accurate to say that the renovation of the house has been completed in spurts. The first stage was the installation of a new roof. It was in sharp contrast with the rest of the house that was a boarded up shack. Was that 2 years ago? Or more?

The next step visible as I walked by was completing part of the exterior with gleaming white siding. It seems to me it was about a year later that the remainder of the building was sided.

About a year or so ago I talked to one of the Amish carpenters and he said that the interior of the building is also being revamped. Last week as I made one of my regular jaunts to home from work I noticed equipment placed in the rear of the building and concluded that the repair goes on.

I can't help but think how unlucky the owner is. If the work was completed with resale in mind or as a new home for the owner, it has to be a loser because of current economic conditions.

The only winners are the owners of homes in the area and the village of Cass City.

It's getting rarer and rarer to see drivers on the road not wearing seat belts. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has confirmed that Michigan's 97.2 percent seat belt use rate was the highest in the nation in 2008.

That's up from about 70 percent in the state before the law changed in 2000 making the non-use of seatbelts a primary instead of a secondary offense, making it possible for a police officer to stop a motorist solely for not wearing a belt.

Bottom line is that after the change in the law traffic fatalities declined. In 1999 there were 1,386 traffic deaths. In 2007, the most recent year that figures are available for, there were 1,084 fatalities.

Monday morning confirmed my firm belief that switching to Daylight Saving Time in early March was at least a month too soon. Getting up in the dark can't be that great a savings on electricity. Yes, I know that on the east coast it may not apply and it probably is daylight there an hour or so earlier than in Michigan.

Oh well, take solace in the fact that on the fall change we will have more daylight than the eastern seaboard.

Spring into Art Exhibit

*Hosted and Sponsored by
Rawson Memorial District Library and*

Join us as we celebrate Art in Cass City with an
Opening Night Reception
March 16 from 6-8 pm

- * Meet the artists
- * Juried show with cash prizes awarded during Reception
- * Entertainment provided by Gary Brandt
- * Art from all media will be on display from March 16-28
- * Refreshments provided by Friends of the Library & the Arts Council

Location:
Rawson Memorial District Library
6495 Pine Street, Cass City, MI 48726
(One block south of M-81 Traffic Light)

*For all your ceramic, tile,
linoleum & carpet needs...*

Call
Scott Hendrian
20 years experience
at Schneeberger's
in Cass City.
872-3315 or 670-0824

Equipment breakdown coverage for your farm!

Now our Farmowners policy gives you more protection than ever before: equipment breakdown coverage for mechanical failures, electronic systems, short circuits, motor burnouts... and spoilage and lost income that may result. It's a big new coverage added to every policy, and there are a lot of details you'll want to know, so call your agent today.



Reggie Ignash
6392 Main St.
Cass City
989-872-4432
www.ReggieIgnashAgency.com



HCI FUNDRAISING

\$6 JEWELRY SALE

Friday, March 20 ~ 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Hills & Dales General Hospital West Wing Hallway

"Show Spectals" Provided
Watches ~ Rings ~ Chains ~ Earrings
Bracelets ~ Wallets ~ Key Chains ~ Charms
For men, women & children

Cash, checks, credit cards & payroll deductions accepted!
Sponsored by the Hills & Dales Hospital Auxiliary

Measure could allow ATVs on roadsides

In a move to increase tourism and make it easier for residents to get around, State Rep. John Espinoza (D-Crosswell) has introduced legislation adding Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac and St. Clair to the counties that are allowed to make it legal for ORVs to travel on the shoulders or sides of the road.

"The Thumb is a great place to explore the outdoors, and we want to attract as many people as possible from around the state," Espinoza said. "Letting off-road vehicle riders drive from trail to trail on the road instead of having to haul their ORVs will encourage more folks to come and spend money in our communities. By increasing the sale of off-road vehicles, we can also boost our local economy and help create jobs."

Espinoza's plan changes a law enacted last year that allowed certain counties to open their roads to ORV traffic if they choose to. It currently applies only to Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin and Arenac counties, and Bay or a county lying north thereof, including all of the counties

of the Upper Peninsula. That left Thumb counties under the old restrictions of allowing ORVs only on private property, the state's designated trail system or at one of several public "scramble areas."

Under the law, each county can decide if and how it will allow ORV use on local roads. Townships and smaller municipalities can opt in or out of their county's program.

The 2008 law sets a 25 mph speed limit for ORVs on roads, holds municipalities immune from liability for accidents involving off-road vehicles unless there is proof of gross negligence and establishes fines and penalties for ORV riders who damage roads or trespass on private property.

"Local counties should have the right to decide what's best for their roads and residents," Espinoza said. "As members of rural communities, we know what it's like to need to make short trips to the store or a neighbor's house, and using an ORV could be a convenient option that many residents may want to have available."

Ubly student part of study trip to Greece

History students and choir performers at Saginaw Valley State University, including Nicole Klee, an accounting major from Ubly, embarked together on a 9-day study abroad trip to Greece, Thursday.

As part of a biannual international trip with the Bay Chorale, students in the SVSU choir will perform 3 concerts with members of the local choral group, singing at the Mikis Theodorakis Amphitheater, the Peristeri Cultural Center Theater and the Geitonas Educational Institution.

The history students will study ancient Greek civilization, and both groups of students will explore the cities of Thessaloniki and Athens, and monuments such as the Acropolis, the Parthenon and the Temple of Athena.

The trip is led by two SVSU faculty, Eric Nisula, professor of music, and Thomas Renna, professor of history.

The Haire Net

*Saving Tiger Stadium
has to be one of them*



There are surely few of us remaining that revered Tiger Stadium because it was there that we went to see the Detroit Tigers play baseball for over a half century and briefly Detroit Lions play football.

If there were anyone who were odds-on favorites to support keeping the stadium, I was one of them.

The Detroit Tigers at Tiger Stadium were inextricably bound with my recreational activities since before I was 13 years old and spent all night waiting near the head of the line for the box office to open and buy a ticket to the 1935 World Series against the Chicago Cubs.

Heading to the ball park was easy no matter if it was called Navan Field, Brigg's Stadium or Tiger Stadium. There was a sort of smug pride in knowing a quick way to the park by exiting from the expressway (earlier from second street) to Fort Street and then to Trumbull. Easy as pie.

That's background, and I was against using taxpayer funds to prepare the area for the downtown site. In comparison it was a better deal than the cities that not only prepared a new site but paid much of the cost of building a new park. For the fans who for years could park free if they were willing to walk a bit, paying for parking is virtually impossible to avoid.

I'm also against \$3.8 million for renovating what is left of Tiger Stadium. It's one of the 8,570 earmarks (sometimes called pork) that is included in the House-passed spending bill. The earmarks total \$7.7 billion with Michigan's share estimated at \$187 million.

President Obama is expected to sign the bill, earmarks and all, because it is necessary to get the major projects underway. He promises that the pork

provided in the bill will be analyzed before next year's bill is presented.

Yeah. Excuse me, but it looks like some things never change and it's hard not to think that "next year" will never come.

With unemployment now over 11 percent and climbing, it is hard, no, it's impossible, not to feel discomfort or real anger when our money is spent on frivolous projects that do nothing for the families trying to figure how to pay the rent or buy dinner.

Saving Tiger Stadium has to be one of them high on that list.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE
USPS 002-700
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT CASS CITY, MICHIGAN
6600 Main Street
Periodical postage paid at
Cass City, Michigan 48726
POSTMASTER: Send all address
changes to
CASS CITY CHRONICLE, P.O. BOX 116,
CASS CITY, MI 48726

John Haire, publisher
National Advertising Representative, Michigan
Weekly Newspapers, Inc., 257 Michigan Avenue,
East Lansing, Michigan
Subscription Prices: Post office in Toledo,
Huron and Sanilac counties - \$20.00 a year or 2
years for \$32.00, 3 years for \$44.00.
In Michigan - \$24.00 a year, 2 years for \$36.00,
3 years for \$48.00.
In other parts of the United States - \$25.00 a year,
2 years for \$43.00, 3 years for \$55.00. Payment
in advance.
For information regarding newspaper advertising
and commercial advertising, telephone 872-
2010.

The back forty

by Roger Pond

I don't know what causes it, but we've all gotten bigger. Not all of us. Just the majority.

Ohio freelance writer, Jackie Briskey, does an excellent job of explaining how this can happen and why it comes about. One of her stories appeared in Farmland News from Archbold, Ohio, this February.

Jackie mentions this year's Super Bowl and the tendency of people to celebrate such events. She chooses to portray a different bowl instead — and writes about traditional family meals and nutritional common sense.

"I'd like to look at America's up-sizing of food servings and the super amount of food many people are consuming, especially young children who've never known anything other than, 'Supersize it!'" Jackie says.

Then she describes her life as a child in the mountains of Virginia — where the family grew their own vegetables, made biscuits, jams and jellies, apple butter, fried eggs, drank fresh milk and cleaned everything up after dinner.

"When we were done, we worked off the calories by doing chores that were required by our parents," she says.

"We didn't worry about taking in too many calories. Work and play took care of that."

"While these foods weren't the healthiest in terms of the way they were prepared, we had other food fresh from the garden to supply our daily vitamins and other nutrients."

Briskey suggests those nutritious

foods are being pushed aside by super bowls and Americans are sacrificing their health by eating too much.

I see this for myself, too, and others I know. We don't get the exercise we used to have, so we need to cut back on the food.

A story sent to daily newspapers by The Associated Press suggests the same thing. This piece implies that American cookbooks are part of the super-sizing problem.

The news report says cookbooks have increased their calories per serving about 40 percent over the past 70 years. They've done this by increasing portion sizes as well as caloric density.

Comments from the study's director, Brian Wansink of Cornell University, indicate folks have learned to serve or select larger helpings at home, as well as eating out more. "So much finger pointing is going on at away-from-home dining it really takes the focus off where we could probably have the most immediate influence," Wansink says.

This study reports that a popular cookbook increased the listed serving size for "chicken gumbo" from 228 calories in the 1936 edition to 576 calories in the 2006 edition.

I know some folks don't eat chicken gumbo and wouldn't follow this recipe; so they won't be directly affected by these numbers.

We need to remember, though, "It doesn't matter how much they put in front of us. We can always send some of it back!"

A European Pheasant Hunt
MARCH 15, 2009
Rooster Ranch, 7480 Germania Rd., Ubly

Cost is \$700, \$50 deposit holds your spot.
*For more information, contact Dave Weiler at (989) 872-2688
or Ken Martin at (989) 670-1115.*

Sponsored by The Cass City Lions Club


Crossroads Restaurant
8510 Van Dyke Rd. • Cass City
Corner of M-53 & Bay City-Forestville Roads
(989) 872-2681

Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat., Sun. 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
Friday 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. ~ Closed Tuesdays
~EVERY FRIDAY~
Fish Fry & Surf-n-Turf
Featuring Home Cooked Meals and Desserts
BREAKFAST SERVED ANYTIME EVERYDAY
Now Smoke-Free Environment & Air Conditioning

SHAME
CRAZY
DIFFERENT
sadness
character
flaw
Stigma
unpredictable

discrimination

embarrassment



In many ways the stigma of mental illness is more disabling than the illness itself.
Recovery is possible.

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems
989.673.6191 or 1.800.462.6814
www.tbhsonline.com
Services are confidential.

Funded through a grant from Michigan Department of Community Health



Everyday Stories
Cass City Public Schools
"Assignment America"
By Emily Martin

In a life where freedom rings and choice rules, juniors at Cass City High School cannot experience these American luxuries this week.

The Class of 2010 embarked on a 3-day journey Tuesday that has the road markers of American College Testing (ACT) and the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).

The school has been buzzing for months. Hostility arises when seniors, sophomores and freshmen gloat that they do not have to be in school while the juniors are taxing their brains. Pressure is just around the corner waiting to pounce.

The teachers have prepared lessons to incorporate ACT and MME concepts. The students have completed everything from simple apostrophe worksheets to online practice tests. Polls have been taken for the preferred lunch menu for the 3 days of testing agony. Just in time for the final pep talk, Monday was the last day of freedom. The doors are closed and the timers are ticking.

The reality of the matter is that students, for 3 days, do not have any freedom. They are not free to choose as they normal could choose. They have no choice but to sharpen their No. 2 pencil and start bubbling in the answer circles.

"There is a lot of pressure leading up to the 3 days," commented junior Ashleigh Stoeckle. "There is just a lot riding on these tests, like our future. Of course there is added pressure when the three letters A-C-T are said aloud."

Dreams of becoming a Spartan are so close to becoming a reality for Stoeckle. With a tough class schedule continually challenging her, she sincerely cares how she does on this grand-daddy of all standardized tests. "I plan on taking it again no matter what I score. Actually, if I do amazing, I might not take it again," she said with a smile.

College-bound students just like Stoeckle will go to bed early and eat their pancakes in the morning, just as instructed to do. They will do their work well in hopes of landing a score reflective of their personal best. On the other side of the road stand students that aren't really sure. They are as unsure of their future educational plans as they are of their lunch plans. Most have no idea how to answer the questions, "So, what do you want to be? And at what school can you find that major?"

However, in order to be in a position to someday answer those questions with assurance and a belief in their answers, many will go to bed early and eat their pancakes. Striving to do their very best on 2 super-tests that may make or break an entrance into a particular college is an overwhelming thought for many juniors.

Although ACT is an aid for colleges and their acceptance policies, it is also a help for students to determine which college to attend and what program to study. Secondly, this knowledge and our test results are being evaluated by the state of Michigan. This is tied to Michigan Merit scholarship money, which students can receive when attending an in-state college. No pressure.

Three days. Three long days. The Class of 2010 is challenged to perform in the classroom like they have never performed before. Teachers may be just as exhausted as students are at the conclusion of this week. But when the fourth day dawns and the sun rises over the horizon, freedom will ring again, the high school will be renewed and, hopefully, from the results of these tests, choices will be more than we could ever imagine.

Several appear on charges last week

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

- Shane M. Auernhammer, 22, Reese, pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance, subsequent offense, Nov. 1 in Millington Township, and possession of marijuana Nov. 16 in Vassar. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction). The plea was taken under advisement by the court, which continued bond at a combined \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Kevin E. Bigelow, 28, Southfield, received a one-year delayed sentence for his plea of no contest to carrying a dangerous weapon with unlawful intent July 18 in Fremont Township. He was ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,320.
- Steven J. Schluckbier, 21, Frankenmuth, pleaded guilty to larceny of property valued at \$1,000 to \$20,000 May 4-15 in Vassar Township. A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case and bond was continued at \$20,000. Sentencing is to be set.
- Ryan A. Mead, 24, Caro, pleaded guilty to first degree home invasion and 2 counts of breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny Sept. 8-9 in Indianfields Township. A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$5,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Steven E. Crosby, 19, Caro, was sentenced to 60 days in the county jail and 36 months probation for his pleas of guilty to larceny from a motor vehicle and larceny in a building June 1 in Fairgrove Township. He was also ordered to pay \$2,380 in costs and fines plus restitution of \$176.
- Shaun C. Parker, 46, Mayville, was sentenced to 120 days in jail for his plea of guilty to domestic violence, third offense, Sept. 6 in Kingston Township. He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$320.
- Kenneth L. Wood, 47, Kingston, pleaded guilty to possession of a narcotic/cocaine (less than 25 grams) June 10 in Vassar Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (3 or more prior felony convictions). A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be set.
- Russell A. Powell, 24, Caro, was sentenced to 18 months to 15 years in prison for his plea of guilty to carrying a dangerous weapon with unlawful intent and bribing/intimidating/interfering with a witness Sept. 16-17 in Caro. He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$180.
- William C. Leiner II, 27, Vassar, stood mute to a charge of failure to comply with the Sex Offenders Registration Act last October-November in Vassar Township. Bond was continued at \$10,000 and the case was ordered scheduled for a jury trial.
- Demarko Antonio-Jumar Plain, 29, Mayville, was sentenced to 180 days in jail, with worksite privileges, for his plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, subsequent offense, Nov. 7 in Juniata Township. He was also ordered to pay \$1,120 in costs and fines.
- Gary R. Piccolo Jr., 39, Mayville, was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$640 for his pleas of guilty to attempted interfering with electronic communications and domestic violence Oct. 25 in Mayville.
- Jimmie M. Allen, 18, Caro, stood mute to charges of larceny in a building and larceny of property valued at less than \$200 Dec. 10 in Caro. A pre-trial hearing was ordered scheduled in the case.
- Scott J. Meersseman, 24, Cass City, pleaded guilty to 2 counts of assaulting a police officer Jan. 1 in Cass City. A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$3,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- David R. Field, 24, Cass City, was sentenced to 365 days in jail (90 days deferred) and 48 months probation for his plea of guilty to fleeing and eluding a police officer Sept. 28 in Cass City. He was also ordered to pay \$1,370 in costs and fines.
- Mark A. Helmbold, 19, Vassar, stood mute to a charge of larceny in a building Jan. 21 in Arbel Township. He is also charged with being an habitual offender (3 or more prior felony convictions). A pre-trial hearing was ordered scheduled.
- Joshua A. Cleland, 21, Hadley, pleaded guilty to larceny from a motor vehicle, being an accessory to a crime after the fact, and breaking and entering a vehicle with intent to commit larceny of property valued at less than \$200, and no contest to breaking and entering a vehicle with intent to commit larceny of property valued at less than \$200 June 1 in Fairgrove Township. A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$2,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

Letters to the Editor

Board tries to clarify insurance misunderstanding

We, the Cass City Board of Education, have become aware of what we consider a misunderstanding of the proposal that has been offered by Cass City Schools to the Tri-County Bargaining Association, which represents the teachers of our school system, concerning health care coverage. We are not attempting to "cut" their insurance coverage. On the contrary, we are offering to give them coverage that has no deductibles for the teacher. This insurance, which currently covers our support staff, secretaries and administrators, is a high deductible policy where the deductibles are paid by the district, not the employee. There would be a couple of minor changes in coverage. The teachers would go from 36 chiropractic visits to 24, and there would no longer be any coverage for therapeutic massage. The school district can save in the neighborhood of \$200,000 annually by switching to this type of policy for the teachers. When a savings of this magnitude becomes available, we are obligated to attempt to recoup these dollars if the benefits of the change are clear and reasonable. In fact, the state of Michigan now encourages school boards to look specifically at insurance benefits to determine if the school district is taking advantage of the most reasonable programs available to them. In effect, we must now "shop" our insurance policies, and that is exactly what our own board has done.

The only alternative to changing policies would be to have each of our teachers pay the premium difference, between the cost of keeping their current insurance provided by MESSA and the cost of the new insurance described above. This would be significantly more costly to the teachers but is what many people throughout our community are currently having to do.

We would like to make it very clear to the community that Michigan school boards are required to work within a balanced budget and to manage the limited resources available to the schools with the utmost responsibility and care while providing the best possible education for their students. With this in mind, we do not consider the minor changes in insurance coverage for our teachers significant enough, especially in today's environment, to reject the proposed new insurance plan.

The Cass City Board of Education greatly values and appreciates the teachers of the Cass City Public Schools and wants to make sure that they, and the public who pays for these benefits, understand the proposal that will help us to get through these difficult economic times.

Sincerely,
Cass City Board of Education

Thought God gave everyone common sense

Some congressmen and senators were mad they didn't have time to read the bailout package that President Obama signed, and there were some that didn't seem to care that they didn't have time to read it.

It doesn't really matter that they didn't read it because would they have been able to comprehend what they were reading? For instance, after years of studying the second amendment of the constitution of the United States, they have not figured out what it means. Over the years, a lot of the politicians keep bringing the second amendment back for discussion.

If you do bring it back for discussions, make sure Attorney General Eric Holder is present. Then go to the nearest high school and have an eighth grader read it to you idiots, and he or she can explain to you what it means.

To all the elected politicians out there, here is what the second amendment really means: it gives the American people the right to protect ourselves from your stupid policies. If they can't get the meaning from one page (second amendment), can anyone imagine these idiots trying to figure out an 1,100 page bailout package?

And this illiteracy extends all the way up to the Supreme Court because the last time they discussed the second amendment, it only passed by one vote (5-4).

The second amendment is the most sought-after amendment by our politicians from all the rest of them. It seems like the rest of the amendments are impenetrable because you never seem to hear too much about them.

We have about 18 terrorist camps on United States soil and the first amendment is the one that gives them the right to be there. One would think that one of the idiot politicians in Washington would try to take a second look at our first amendment to see if something could be done.

At least some good will come out of the first amendment because President Obama can hire more federal agents to track them and see what they're up to. And that's what you call creating jobs.

It's a shame with the economy in major trouble we have politicians wasting their time trying to pass new gun control bills at this time. I thought God gave everyone a brain and common sense, how did you idiots miss out?

And someone should tell President Obama to stop campaigning and tell him he won the election for the Presidency already.

Robert Peruski Uby

What happens to one affects everyone

That corner at Crawford and Kelly roads is just one more example of global warming. Drowning my car in it gives me a forum to speak to people about what they can help do about it.

If just one person quits putting up chlorofluorocarbon switches to a greener alternative like wind, solar or hydropower, we will all be a step closer.

Mr. Chips at Village Service Center is doing his part in a big way. Switching from petroleum products to ethanol products that America is abundant with. He is a man of vision and is hard at work on it. Not like the greedy sharks on Wall Street who take the meat out of our freezers - and abscond to Bermuda for lunch.

I must have taken that same corner a thousand times, and when I first noticed the water up to a foot or so from the road level, I thought to myself that "man that water's rising pretty quick." I could have made that corner at 20 mph. After visiting my farm, I returned the same way, about an hour and 20 minutes later.

My neighbor, Debbie, went that way in her truck and I followed shortly thereafter. She made it through, just as I have a dozen times in the past. Seeing her tire tracks, I followed braving the dilemma. I had the door open, and said to myself "when the water reaches the bottom of the undercarriage, I'm stopping and turning back." The second it did though, the car conked out.

Bartnik's Towing Service has the now relic car - a reminder that what happens to one of us, also affects the rest of us.

Thanks,
Ed Fleming
Cass City

EDC to host workshop targeting manufacturers

The Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), in cooperation with EDCs from Lapeer, Sanilac and Huron counties, has announced a workshop targeting local manufacturing companies.

The focus of the workshop, Aerospace Manufacturing, will allow local companies to gain an understanding of what it takes to supply the aerospace industry.

"Boeing will be outsourcing approximately 70 percent of all parts in its new aircraft," said Craig Wolf, vice president of the Michigan Aerospace Manufacturers Association. "As the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM), begin to outsource 50 to 70 percent of their manufacturing needs, the potential market for aerospace suppliers could approach \$60 billion annually," he added.

"The region's EDC are focused on working with our local companies to help them move into new markets," Tuscola County EDC Executive Director Jim McLoskey said about the workshop. "If there is a good response from this effort, we hope to offer similar workshops in alternative energy, medical equipment, and government and defense contracting. It is our hope that we can support our local manufacturing companies so that we retain jobs in the community and even help the companies grow."

The first workshop will be held March 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Rawson Memorial District Library, 6495 Pine St., Cass City. There is no registration fee for this workshop. The workshop has a seating capacity of 70, so register early. To register, call the Huron County EDC at (989) 269-6431, or e-mail info@huroncounty.com with the subject line Aerospace Workshop. More information is available by calling the Tuscola County EDC office at (989) 673-2849.

Large family farms

Large family farms (sales between \$250,000 and \$500,000) and very large family farms (sales over \$500,000) made up only 9 percent of all farms. Yet they produced more than 63 percent of the value of all agricultural products sold.

ELKLAND TOWNSHIP CEMETERY
Rules and Regulations

Planting of trees or shrubs is prohibited unless permission is given by sexton.

No decorative stones around markers or monuments.

One arrangement per grave site.

All flowers must be in containers.

All glass jars or bottles used for arrangements are prohibited.

Monuments and markers are to be installed by sexton.

All lots will be cleaned off on April 1st, and remain clean until May 1st.

The township shall not be financially responsible for damage to flowers, shrubs, lots, stones, objects or articles removed from any grave in this cemetery.

Elkland Township Board
Effective Since: April 12, 1946

Village of Gagetown
Ordinance #122 – Free-Standing Fuel-burning Furnaces

Purpose: An ordinance to prohibit free-standing fuel-burning furnaces in the Village of Gagetown, Tuscola County, Michigan

The Village of Gagetown ordains:

- Definitions: The term "free-standing fuel-burning furnace" shall mean any device or structure that:
 - Is designed, intended, or used to provide heat and/or water to any residence or other structure;
 - Operates by the burning of wood or other fuel; and
 - Is not located within a residential or other structure for which it provides heat, unless the structure is designed solely to house the furnace. Excluded from the definition of a free-standing fuel-burning furnace is any device which is not designed or used to heat a structure other than the structure in which it is located.
- It shall be unlawful to install or operate a free-standing fuel-burning furnace, within the Village.
- This section shall not be construed as an exemption or exception to any other provision of the Village Code of Ordinances, including the Building Code, Property Maintenance Code, Fire Prevention Codes, Zoning Ordinance or any other Code of Ordinance. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this action and any other ordinance or other provision of law, the more restrictive provision shall apply.
- This section shall not apply to any free-standing fuel-burning furnace that was installed, connected, and operating as of the effective date of this section. However, this section shall not be deemed as specific authorization for the use of any preexisting free-standing fuel-burning furnace and shall not be deemed to bar, limit, or otherwise affect the rights of any person to take private legal action regarding damage to nuisance caused by the use of a free-standing fuel-burning furnace. If a preexisting free-standing fuel-burning furnace is converted, moved to a new location within the same property or is adapted to service additional structures, it will be construed to be a newly installed furnace and this ordinance shall apply in its entirety.
- Any free-standing fuel-burning furnace installed or operated in violation of this section is hereby declared to be a nuisance per se.
- Penalty: Whoever violated any provision of this section is responsible for a municipal civil infraction in the amount of \$100.00. Each day that a violation exists or continues shall constitute a separate and additional violation.
- Severability: Should any provisions of this ordinance or any part thereof be held unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining provisions hereof or of any other provisions of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Gagetown.
- Effective Date: This ordinance shall be effective 20 days after publication.

Passed and adopted by the Village Council of Gagetown, Tuscola County, Michigan, on this 2nd day of March, 2009.

Charles Wright, Village President

Members Present:
Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Ordinance Passed

Attest:
Maggie Root, Clerk

Letters to the Editor

The Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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

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

We will not publish thank you letters of a specific nature, for instance, from a club thanking merchants who donated prizes for a raffle.

Internet

Limited Hours. No Contracts!

\$9.95 per hour

- FREE 24/7 Technical Support
- Instant Accessing. No need to wait!
- 100% Satisfaction Guarantee
- 24-hour Email Support - 7 days a week

Sign Up Online: www.LocalNet.com

269-7540
1-888-488-7265

Reliable Internet Access Since 1994

Deford's Ruth Rushlow

Area artist embraces nature

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

When inspiration hits and Ruth Rushlow feels her artistic juices flow-

ing, you won't find her in any art supply store or specialty shop; you'll find her out in the woods. "I do a lot of basket weaving, I'm a hand spinner, I make paper, I make

beads. I don't make a living at it. I'd like to," commented the Deford resident, laughing. "I do a few shows a year and I do a little teaching."

Rushlow is among more than 40 Thumb area artists scheduled to exhibit their talent and skills during the Spring into Art Exhibit, slated for March 16-28 at Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City. The event is being hosted by the library and the Cass City Arts Council (see related story, page 2).

Rushlow's artistic tastes definitely lean towards nature, not to mention recycling. For example, she produced examples of paper she's created using pieces of brown grocery bags and coffee grounds, laundry lint, milkweed pods — even the Yellow Pages, which she places in a blender, then forms into screen-type molds.

Her custom baskets are also unique. She collects branches and pieces of deer antler that she fashions into handles, and also utilizes fiber — wool and alpaca hair — tree bark, roots and butternuts into the weaving process. Rushlow, who also fashions sections of bone into needles, much like those used by Native Americans years ago, has honed her skills over the past 30 years.

"I like being out in nature and collecting the various things. Most of my artwork is gathered," said the lifelong Tuscola County resident, who for the past 3 years has worked at Delphi, Saginaw, following a 16-year stint at Walbro. "They're (baskets) functional. People can use them. They can also use them for art."

When asked about her art, Rushlow typically produces examples rather than offer an explanation.

"Usually, I just tell them I weave baskets and use the branches and antlers for handles, and they usually want to see them because they can't visualize what I'm doing," she said. For Rushlow, much of the joy of being an artist lies in finding ways to create something from what might appear to have little artistic value.

"I guess taking something from nature — taking what God provides — just the creation when it's done. It's peaceful," she said, adding she utilizes few modern luxuries — a drill and some glue here and there — into her hobby.

Luckily, the lifestyle she and her family embrace offers plenty of opportunities to go "shopping" for what she needs.

"We cut 20 cords of firewood a year," said Rushlow, referring to herself and husband, Rodney. The couple has 2 children, Rochelle, 16, and Remington, 15. "I love nature," she added. "I'm always outside."



DEFORD RESIDENT Ruth Rushlow displays a few examples of her artwork, which includes basketweaving. Rushlow adds a unique touch by incorporating bits and pieces of tree branches, bark, deer antlers and bone she collects in the woods. She's also an accomplished hand spinner, a skill area residents can see first-hand when they attend the upcoming "Spring into Art Exhibit" March 16-28 at Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City.

Down Memory Lane

By Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO

A group of Thumb coyote hunters will be hard pressed to top the trophy they bagged - with a camera - while chasing game near Ubyly last week. The area residents, all part of a group known as the Thumb Area Coyote Hunters, found themselves hot on the trail of what turned out to be a wolverine - the first-ever documented sighting of the animal that gave Michigan its nickname and mascot. "It's pretty exciting. It's quite an adrenaline rush," said Cass City area resident John Boland III, one of 7 or 8 hunters who were enjoying a day outdoors Feb. 24 when the group's dogs caught scent and started chasing down the mystery animal.

A near-capacity crowd witnessed why Kingston is on top of the North Central Thumb League-South standings Friday, as the Cardinals easily disposed of visiting Owen-Gage during its annual Snowcoming celebration. With the 72-34 victory, Coach Mike Rea's cagers ran their season mark to a lofty 17-2 overall and 15-2 in NCTL play. The Cardinals can claim an undisputed NCTL-S title this Friday with a win over visiting Port Hope (2-13 NCTL-S, 2-15 overall) in their regular season finale.

10 YEARS AGO

A gang of sophomores dominated play Saturday during the Class D volleyball district in Owendale. And although it's unusual for 10th graders to rule a varsity event, the outcome was far from strange. Host Owen-Gage captured its 8th consecutive district crown with a surprisingly hard fought win over North Central Thumb League foe Caseville by the scores of 15-13 and 15-11.

Vandals broke into the Cass City Wastewater Treatment Plant Monday night, causing extensive damage. Few details were available Tuesday morning as police began their investigation, but it was clear those responsible helped themselves to a village-owned pickup truck, then took a joy ride on the plant grounds, smashing into a storage building, a light pole and the front gate. They apparently then placed a fire extinguisher on the accelerator and jumped out, causing the totaled truck to ram a section of fencing.

25 YEARS AGO

Joe Langenburg went out in a blaze of glory in the last half of the opening round of the district tourney at Cass City Tuesday, but his heroic last half efforts weren't enough as the Hawks lost to Marlette, 68-54. For the first time in memory Cass City played a full 8 minutes without scoring a single field goal. The entire point production in the second quarter was a pair

of free throws. Things didn't change much until two and a half minutes were going in the third quarter and the Hawks were behind 41-17. That's when Langenburg opened up. Shooting 20-foot bombers that found nothing but the bottom of the net, Langenburg whipped in five buckets by the end of the quarter. Langenburg finished with 22 points, 20 of them scored in the last half.

The Piqua (Ohio) Fastballers have announced the signing of 24-year-old Brian Helwig for the 1984 fastpitch softball season. The righthanded Helwig, a native of Cass City, has compiled a record of 62 wins and 23 losses during the past three seasons while notching an earned-run-average of just 1.05. He hurled for the Columbus (Ohio) Metros in 1983 and in Cass City (same team, different sponsors) for Croft-Clara in 1982 and Osetoski Realty in 1981. The 6-foot, 175-pound Helwig will graduate from Cedarville (Ohio) College in June, and will be using his undergraduate degree in communications and a career interest in sales as he launches his career in the Piqua area. Brian is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Helwig of Cass City.

Top spellers from the Cass City schools who competed in the Tuscola County fourth grade spelling bee last week were: Tonya Miller, Jodi Hillaker, Alex Pakonen, Grace Barriger and John Koepf. Jodi finished second and Grace third. The county champion is Nanette Peterson of Millington, who spelled "deceive" and "embarrassment."

35 YEARS AGO

The Cass overflowed its banks near Cemetery Road, a mile south of Cass City but all the damage recorded came when drain water escaped into the wastewater treatment plant and overloaded facilities.

No-fault auto insurance has been the law in Michigan since Oct. 1, and so far, local insurance firms agree that the law has worked in reducing the size of claims and in speeding up settlements. Confusion over the law,

they also agree, has been minimal. Under the no-fault system, each driver is responsible for damage done to his own car and collects from his own insurance companies. This contrasts with the old tort liability system which had to establish who was at fault, often through long litigation in courts.

What can you do with an old five-gallon glass jug once its contents are gone? If you don't happen to have a still in your basement, you could always make a terrarium. What's a terrarium? A terrarium is an enclosure designed for raising plants in which the plants produce their own balanced environment. Mrs. Robert Chisholm of Cass City is fast becoming an expert in the art of making terrariums, thanks to a large supply of glass jugs, dirt and plants. Mrs. Chisholm began making terrariums before Christmas and has turned out seven to-date. Her fascination for the art began while she watched her niece make one for her sister. "It's really not as hard to do as it might look," she said, demonstrating the tools of her trade — spoons and knives on long handles, a metal funnel and basic ingredients — dirt, sand, charcoal and plants.

Caregiver workshop set today

Area residents who are caring for a family member or friend and would like to learn more about aging, memory loss and resources available to help may be interested in a workshop slated for today (Wednesday).

"Caregiving 101" will be held at Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City today at 6 p.m.

More information is available by calling the Human Development Commission in Caro at (989) 673-4121.

Obituaries

Philip Guza

Philip G. Guza, 89, of Cass City, passed away Wednesday, March 4, 2009.

He was born May 2, 1919 in Smith Corners, the son of John and Emma (Kapler) Guza.

He married Honora Mary Markie Nov. 16, 1963 in Warren. Philip served in the U.S. Army and was a master sergeant during World War II in the European Theater. He was a member of St. Pancratius Catholic Church and the Cass City VFW Post 3644. His hobbies included restoring vintage autos. Philip was a member of the Model A Club and of the Gas Engine Club. He retired from Rinke Chevrolet in Centerline, where he was an auto body specialist.



Philip is survived by his wife of 45 years, Mary; a daughter, Catherine (Timothy) Dingman of Holly; grandchildren: Philip William and Timothy John Dingman; brothers: Raymond Guza of Oak Beach, John (Joy) Guza of Verona and Robert (Patricia) Guza of Gageton; sisters: Emma Howard of Caseville and Mary (Paul) Grab of Cape Coral, Fla.; and a sister-in-law, Theresa Guza of Rapson.

He was preceded in death by 4 brothers: Thomas (in infancy), Jerome, Clair and Frank Guza; a sister, Virginia Craciola; and a brother-in-law, Robert Howard.

A memorial service will take place at a later date. Memorials may be made to the Cass City VFW Post 3644.

Arrangements were made by Gageton Funeral Chapel, Gageton.

Delbert Rawson

Delbert "Del" Rawson, DDS, 89, of Naples, Fla., died Sunday, March 8, 2009 in his home.

He was born Feb. 11, 1920 in Cass City, the son of Audley and Lina (Day) Rawson.

He married Doris Park Oct. 15, 1955 in Caro. Del graduated from Cass City High School and Central Michigan University. He received his dental degree from the University of Michigan. Del served in the South Pacific during World War II in the Navy and with the Marines. After his service, he returned to Cass City and set up his dental practice. During these years, he was very active in the village of Cass City. He was a member of the United Methodist Church and served on many of the boards and committees. Del was secretary of the Rawson Foundation. He also served on the Cass City School Board and Village Council for many years. Del was a director for the Pinney State Bank, now Chemical Financial Corp of Midland. He was a past president and member of the Cass City Rotary Club and past president and member of the Torch Club of Saginaw. He was a member of the Saginaw Valley Dental Society and the Michigan State Dental Society. Del retired from his practice in 1985 and went to Bonita Springs, Fla. While in Bonita Springs, he belonged to the First Presbyterian Church and served on many committees. In 1999, he moved to Bentley Village.

Del is survived by his loving wife, Doris; a son, James (Penny) Rawson of Bellevue, Wash.; a grandson, James (Alisa) Rawson of Lake Oswego, OR; a sister, Elsie Fessler of Naples, Fla.; a sister-in-law, Julie Rawson of Atlantic Beach, Fla.; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 12 at Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City, and noon to 1 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Cass City United Methodist Church.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, March 13, at the Cass City United Methodist Church, Cass City, with the Rev. Paul Donelson officiating.

Interment will be in Elkland Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Memorials may be made to Rawson Memorial Library, Cass City United Methodist Church, or First Presbyterian Church, Bonita Springs, Fla.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

Main Street Bookkeeping Services

6436 Main Street, Cass City, MI 48726

• Experienced tax preparation services

• Reasonable rates

(989) 872-8439

Denise Guinther

Cyndi Martin

Cass City Area Church Directory

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

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

Cass City Church of the Nazarene
6538 Third St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2604 or (989) 912-2077
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study & Children's Activities 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Judy A. Eskilsen

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.
Sunday Night Impact 7:00 p.m.
Midweek Bible Studies
Biblical Counseling
Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould



First Baptist Church
(Independent, Fundamental)
6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-3155
Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
AWANA Clubs 6:45 p.m. During School Year
Pastor: David G. Hill
Website: www.fbccc.us

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

Fraser Presbyterian Church
3006 Huron Line Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
872-5400
Sunday School - Sept.-May 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dave Blackburn

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

Living Word Worship Center
(Where the Word is Life)
6536 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-4637
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wed. (Family Training Hour) 7:00 p.m.
Pastor: Steve Totten

Novesta Church of Christ
2896 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
872-3658 or 872-1195
Bible School 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Youth Group & Sunday Evening Services 6:00 p.m.
Youth Minister: Brad Speirs
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

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

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

Pat Curtis
Chevrolet - Cadillac

Susan Kay Walsh
New & Used Sales Consultant

(989) 872-2184
Toll Free 1-888-ANY-DODGE

Curtis
Chrysler - Dodge - Jeep

6617 Main Street
Cass City, MI 48726

Visitors
always welcomed
Please join us today

Red Hawks win season finale over John Glenn

Cass City traded wins in their final 2 regular season outings and, fittingly, will enter this week's district play with a 10-10 overall record.

The Red Hawks recorded a lopsided 67-49 non-conference victory Thursday over visiting Bay City John Glenn in their final tune-up before tournament play, but couldn't deter Unionville-Sebewaing 2 days earlier on its path to the outright Greater Thumb West title.

Behind Austin Babich and Chris Summersett, the hosts grabbed a double-digit first quarter advantage against John Glenn and never looked back.

Seniors Babich and Summersett each had their way offensively from the opening whistle and split 16 points for Cass City during the period that ended 20-8.

Summersett, who recorded 2 treys in the game's opening 8 minutes, was too much for the visitors to handle on the night. Forced to foul in an effort to stop the high scoring Red Hawk center, Summersett made good on his first 6 free throw attempts en route to a game-high 27 points.

With a 38-18 margin at the break, Cass City traded baskets for the remainder of the contest to earn the easy decision.

Despite the Red Hawks' solid victory to end the regular season on a positive note, Tuesday's contest with the Patriots told a different story.

The Patriots jetted out to a quick 6-2 lead that expanded to 14-3 before Red Hawk Cole Miller connected on his first of 3 treys to close the scoring after 8 minutes.

The pace of the game quickened before the intermission and the Patriots' physical style of play resulted in a 33-21 edge at the break.

The Patriots held Summersett in check for most of the night, especially in the initial half where he was limited to just 2 free throws that came with just under 2 minutes remaining on the clock.

Despite trailing from start to finish, Cass City closed to within 37-31 midway through the third, but a timely 7-0 run by the Patriots helped regain a double-digit difference entering the final quarter.

Unionville-Sebewaing's balanced attack had Jake Holland with 15 points, Brandon Bitzer, 14 points, Ryan Zimmer, 9, and Clinton Krueger, 8.

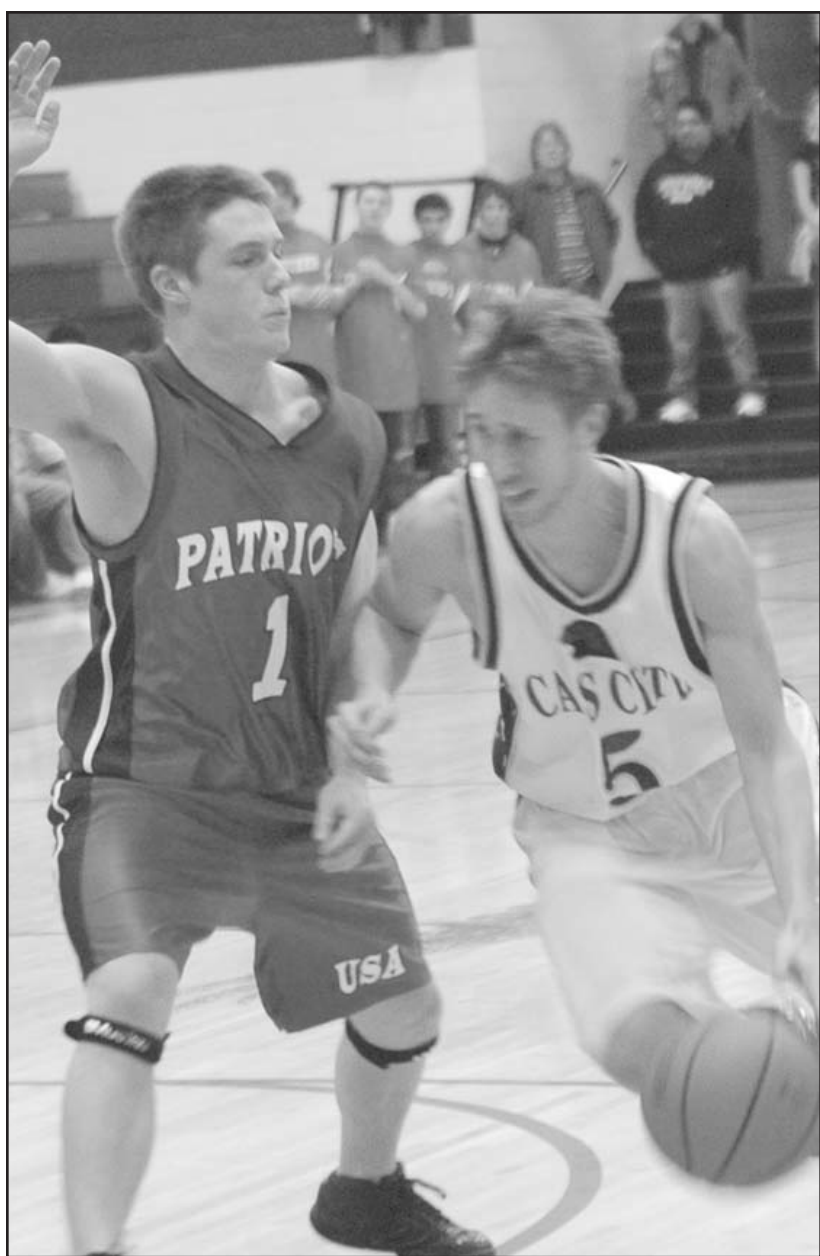
For Cass City, Babich recorded game scoring honors with 18 points.

CASS CITY - A. Varney 1-1 (1-4) 6; Babich 5-2 (2-2) 18; Mulrath 1-0 (0-0) 2; Doerr 3-0 (1-2) 7; Miller 0-3 (0-0) 9; Summersett 3-0 (2-3) 8; Messing 0-0 (2-2) 2
TOTALS - 13-6 (8-13) 52

USA - Schmidt 1-0 (2-5) 4; Bitzer 4-0 (6-7) 14; Zimmer 3-0 (3-4) 9; Fletcher 2-1 (0-0) 7; Lakie 1-0 (0-0) 2; Krueger 4-0 (0-0) 8; Willard 1-0 (0-0) 2; Holland 6-0 (3-4) 15
TOTALS - 22-1 (14-20) 61

CASS CITY - L. Varney 1-0 (0-0) 2; A. Varney 3-0 (3-4) 9; Babich 5-0 (4-5) 14; Doerr 4-0 (0-0) 8; Miller 0-1 (1-2) 4; Ketterer 0-1 (0-0) 3; Summersett 7-2 (7-8) 27
TOTALS - 20-4 (15-19) 67

JOHN GLENN - Kain 2-1 (0-0) 7; Wesenick 9-0 (7-7) 25; Schisler 0-0 (3-4) 3; Schumann 1-0 (4-5) 6; Kudrow 2-0 (0-0) 4; Sasiela 1-0 (0-0) 2; Schaefer 1-0 (0-1) 2
TOTALS - 16-1 (14-17) 49



CASS CITY'S Austin Babich dribbles towards the lane against Unionville-Sebewaing defender Heath Schmidt in Thursday's Greater Thumb West contest.



BULLDOG NICK Zaleski secures a rebound in Thursday's NCTL finale at Akron. The host Vikings, who finished the regular season with just one win, bowed 45-43.

North Huron completes perfect season at Owendale

North Huron completed a perfect regular season over the weekend in Owendale, but not without a struggle, as the Owen-Gage Bulldogs surrendered 72-65 in a hard-fought North Central Thumb League makeup game.

Bulldog Brent Reil and Warrior John Iseler traded baskets Saturday throughout the opening quarter and when the smoke cleared the hosts claimed a 24-16 advantage.

Reil hit for 12 of his game-high 27 points in the stanza while Iseler, who paced the Warriors with 23 points, scored all but 2 of his team's first quarter total.

Owen-Gage, however, put 6 of their 7-man roster into the scorebook in the early going, including triples from Devin Prich and Nick Zaleski, to put the Bulldogs in front.

Prich continued to hit from the perimeter during the first half and connected on 2 shots from behind the 3-point arc that helped the Bulldogs to a shocking 40-29 bulge at the break.

Owen-Gage's halftime spread could have been much larger, but the Warriors, who were limited to a pair of Justin Ventline field goals in the second quarter, converted 9 of 10 free throws to limit the deficit.

North Huron rallied behind a 22-11 run to open the third quarter that had the 2 teams deadlocked at 51 with 8 minutes remaining.

The Warriors used 9 free throws in the final quarter to help outscore the Bulldogs 21-14 to the final whistle. On the night, the North Central Thumb League champs made 21 of 32 attempts at the stripe, while Owen-Gage made 8 of 11.

For the Bulldogs, Prich scored 12 points.

North Huron had Ventline with 17 points and Anthony Irvine chipped in 10.

AKRON-FAIRGROVE

The Akron-Fairgrove Vikings battled visiting Owen-Gage for 4 quarters Thursday but couldn't pull off the upset, bowing 45-43 in North Central Thumb League play.

Owen-Gage trailed 12-11 after one

OWEN-GAGE - Reil 3-0 (1-4) 7; Teske 1-0 (0-0) 2; Prich 0-3 (0-0) 9; Zaleski 3-1 (1-7) 10; Harris 1-1 (0-2) 5; Francis 11-0 (2-4) 24; Bucholtz 4-0 (0-0) 8
TOTALS - 23-5 (4-17) 65

PORT HOPE - Oeschger 1-0 (3-4) 5; Pleiness 3-0 (2-2) 8; Smith 2-0 (3-4) 7; Heidt 1-0 (1-5) 3; Phillips 2-1 (0-0) 7
TOTALS - 9-1 (9-15) 30

OWEN-GAGE - Reil 10-0 (7-9) 27; Prich 0-4 (0-0) 12; Zaleski 1-1 (0-0) 5; Harris 4-0 (1-2) 9; Francis 4-0 (0-0) 8; Bucholtz 2-0 (0-0) 4
TOTALS - 21-5 (8-11) 65

NORTH HURON - Rice 2-0 (1-2) 5; Clancy 3-1 (0-2) 9; Ventline 4-0 (9-10) 17; Schramski 1-0 (2-2) 4; Dhyse 1-0 (2-2) 4; Iseler 9-0 (5-7) 23; Irvine 4-0 (2-3) 10; Nienaltowski 0-0 (0-4) 0
TOTALS - 24-1 (21-32) 72

OWEN-GAGE - Reil 8-0 (10-15) 18; Prich 0-2 (0-0) 6; Zaleski 1-0 (2-4) 4; Harris 2-0 (2-2) 6; Francis 3-0 (1-3) 7; Bucholtz 2-0 (0-2) 4
TOTALS - 16-2 (15-26) 45

AKRON-FAIRGROVE - K. Winnie 0-1 (0-0) 3; Repkie 6-0 (0-0) 12; Chorba 6-0 (1-2) 13; Knepfler 1-0 (0-0) 2; 4-0 (1-2) 9; Rodrigues 4-0 (1-2) 9; T. Winnie 2-0 (0-0) 4
TOTALS - 19-1 (2-4) 43

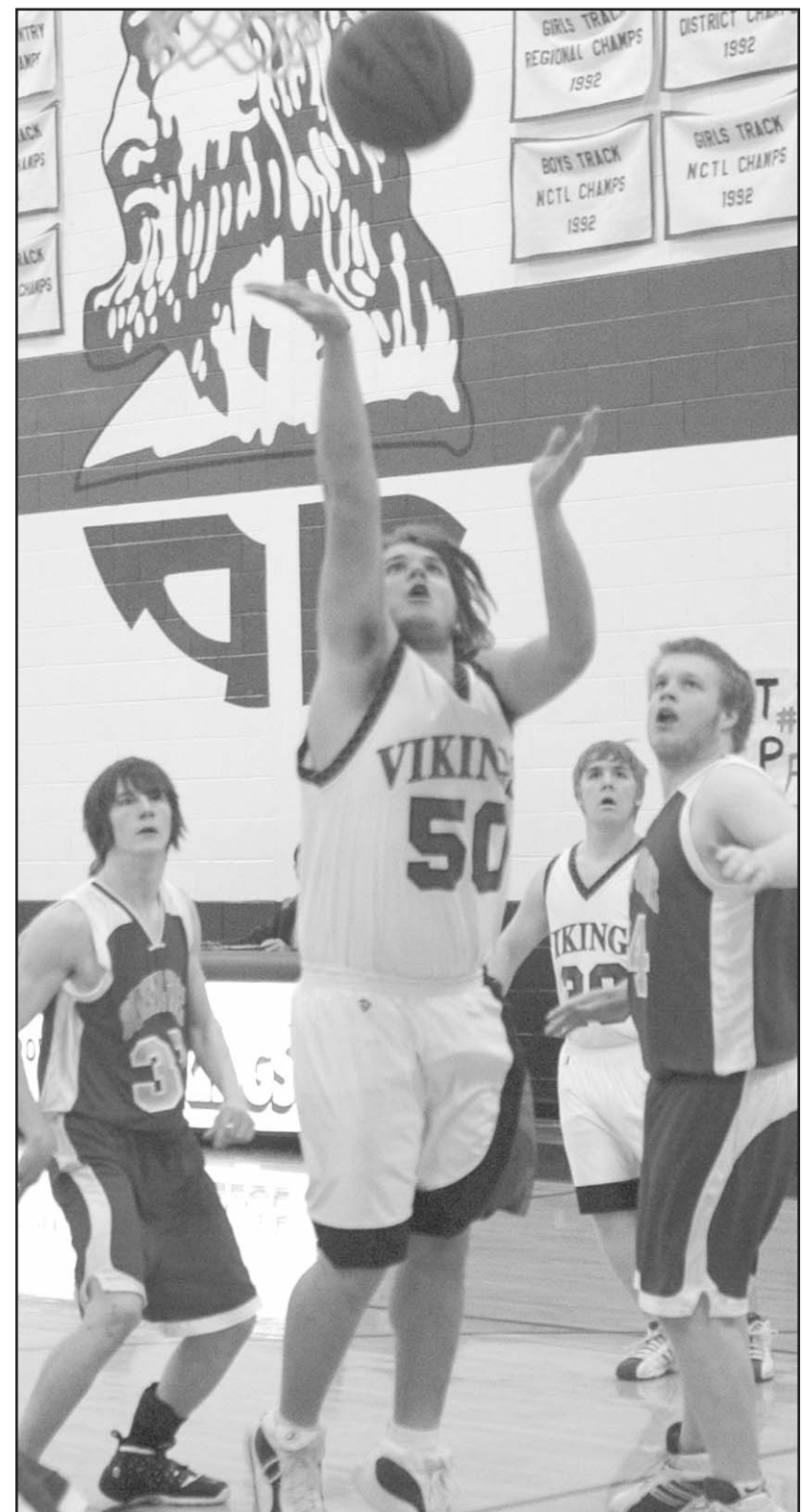
and 26-24 at the intermission. Despite not scoring from the floor, the Bulldogs were 8-8 in the third quarter from the foul line and knotted the contest at 32-32 entering the final quarter.

There Reil and James Harris com-

bined for 13 points to turn back the Vikings.

Reil paced the Bulldogs with 18 points.

Matt Chorba and Josh Repkie led Akron-Fairgrove with 13 and 12 points, respectively.



TREVOR WINNIE puts up a shot for Akron-Fairgrove in the opening half against the visiting Owen-Gage Bulldogs.

Tying the knot?

We can help!

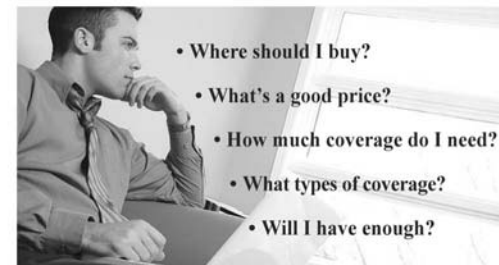
Come in and browse through our large selection of:

*wedding Invitations,
Announcements
& Accessories*

**Cass City Chronicle
Phone 872-2010**

Buying Insurance?!

There are so many choices and decisions.



- Where should I buy?
- What's a good price?
- How much coverage do I need?
- What types of coverage?
- Will I have enough?

It can be overwhelming.

Some companies want you to believe that the only thing you should consider is cost, but insurance is much more than just premiums. Insurance is about loyalty and teamwork and community relationships. It's about stability and consistency, and finding the right coverage at the best price.

As your local independent Auto-Owners Agent we'll look at all your insurance needs. Ask us about Safe. Sound. Secure.™ protection from Auto-Owners Insurance Company.

Because coverage for what took a lifetime to build, shouldn't be decided by the latest fad.

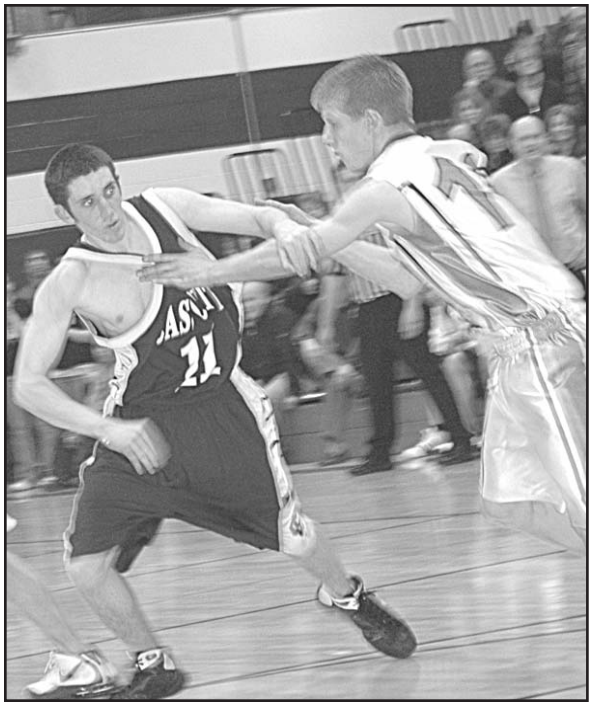
Auto-Owners Insurance
Your Insurance Professionals
Knight Insurance Agency
6468 Main Street
Cass City, Michigan
Phone: (989) 872-5114

LOOKING FOR WOOD PELLETS?

We have them!

**\$5⁴⁹ per 40 lb. bag
OR
\$265 per ton**

HOWARD'S HEATING & COOLING, LLC
6475 Main St. • Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-2030



THE LAKERS had a hard time handling Cass City's Jeffery Mulrath in Monday's district opener.



UBLY'S Jordan Kaufman scored 12 points in the Bearcats' opening night district win.

Hawk gymnasts end season at regional competition

Although none of Cass City's 3 regional qualifiers advanced from Saturday's competition in Farmington, Red Hawk gymnastic Coach Kathy Bouverette was delighted with the efforts handed in by Lindsey Bliss, Vanessa Scasny and Haley Wynn.

The season-ending meet was especially gratifying for Bliss, who turned in a score of 8.4 on the vault and finished tied for 19th overall.

"Lindsey recorded her best score on the year. That's a good way to end the season and I am so happy for her," Bouverette said.

The Red Hawk trio each advanced into the weekend's individual regional by recording at least 4 scores during the regular season above the qualifying standard, set at 7.9 or better on the vault.

Vanessa recorded a score of 8.1 and Haley recorded a score of 7.65.

"They had terrific days," said Bouverette. Adding, "They weren't their highest scores of the year, but it is always interesting competing against the state's best."



Lindsey Bliss



Vanessa Scasny



Haley Wynn

Cass City, Uby move into semis

Sometimes one person's pain can lead to another person's gain.

With starting senior guard Cole Miller hooked up to an IV, battling the flu and unable to go Monday, Coach Aaron Fernald inserted junior reserve Jeffery Mulrath into the Cass City lineup to open Class C district action on the Red Hawk's own floor.

Mulrath responded by hitting 4 long-range treys that helped propel the hosts past Greater Thumb West rival Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port, 56-46, in convincing fashion.

The Red Hawks, who avenged a pair of regular season losses to the Lakers, will now face fellow GTW foe Bad Axe Wednesday in one semifinal outing, while Uby takes on Unionville-Sebewaing in the late semifinal contest. The first tip is slated for 6 p.m., with the 2 winners advancing into Friday championship tilt.

The Red Hawks should have little trouble moving into the district title game for the second straight year as they crushed the rebuilding Hatchets 66-45 and 61-25 during conference play.

For Cass City to earn district gold, however, they may need another gutsy performance from Mulrath.

Trailing 7-2, Mulrath connected on his first triple of the night that started

a 12-4 run for the winners. Mulrath's second trey of the opening stanza spotted Cass City its first advantage, 12-11, with 1:04 left on the clock.

Cass City extended its first-half advantage to 23-15 on 3 consecutive shots from behind the 3-point arc by Brent Doerr, Mulrath and Chris Summersett early in the second stanza, and with 4 minutes remaining forced Laker Coach Bill McLellan to call time out and settle his chargers.

Luke Voelker emerged from the break in action and scored on back-to-back possessions moments later that helped the Lakers to close the gap to 29-23 at the break.

While Cass City would lead the entire final half, Shay Wruble's trey had the visitors within striking range at 31-28 midway through the third.

But Mulrath, who has a picture perfect shot, started an 8-0 run with his third trey from deep in the corner and Summersett scored on 2 pretty passes from playmaker Austin Babich that gave Cass City a double-digit margin with less than 2 minutes remaining until the final quarter.

Summersett continued to attack the basket over the final 8 minutes, and 4 early field goals, plus another Doerr trey, gave Cass City its biggest spread on the night at 50-35.

From there, with 4:12 remaining, Cass City withstood the Lakers' full court pressure to come out on top.

Summersett had a game-high 22 points to pace Cass City, but it was his defensive presence that proved to be the difference. Summersett controlled the paint all night long, limiting the Lakers to few second chance points and added 4 timely blocked shots.

For Cass City, Mulrath finished with 12 points in his best showing of the year, while Doerr chipped in 10.

For the Lakers, Chris Rowe and Kevin Dubs scored 18 and 16 points, respectively.

UBLY - Harbor Beach

In Monday's late game, Uby race to a quick 9-0 advantage and held on to post a 62-49 decision over Harbor Beach.

The Bearcats lead 11-7 after one and 33-23 at the break. Uby then outscored the Pirates 29-26 in the final half to move into tonight's semifinal match-up with the Patriots.

The Bearcats' big men were the story for the winners. Tyler Kubacki recorded a game-high 21 points, while Steven Weber added 19 and Jordan Kaufman, 12.

Jacob Muravské paced Harbor Beach with 15 points.

Uby bows in district final

Anyone who would consider leaving Uby's Alicia Leipprandt off the Class C all state girls' basketball team

should think again. The Bearcat senior put on an impressive clinic during a 3-game span in

last week's district action at Bad Axe, where she averaged over 29 points per game.



UBLY'S ALICIA Leipprandt goes hard to the basket in Friday's Class C district final against Harbor Beach.

Still, Leipprandt's antics weren't enough Friday to prevent Harbor Beach from swiping the Class C district crown as they rolled to a 54-46 upset win.

After scoring 30 points in Monday's 76-71 overtime victory against the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Lakers, Leipprandt scored 28 to help rally the Bearcats past Greater Thumb West foe Unionville-Sebewaing in the semis.

The high-scoring lefty was at it again in Friday's championship, where she ended her career with 31 points, including 15 in the final frame.

Harbor Beach trailed 11-7 after one, but was able to close to within 22-20 at the break.

They took the lead for good by outscoring the Bearcats 18-8 in the third.

Harbor Beach, which advances to meet Greater Thumb East foe Sandusky at the Montrose regional, was led by Kaylee Lockrie with 15 points and Heidi Grekovic with 12.

CASS CITY BOWLING

Merchanettes as of March 5

All or Nothing	38
Thumb Octagon Barn	31
Just One More	18
Northstar Allstars	11

Individual High Games & Series: Krista Maurer 204-181 (560).
Team High Game & Series: Thumb Octagon Barn 615 (1787).
Splits: Leah Pabst 2-7-10.

Fabulous Five's Fearless Forecast

D. Hyatt Forecast Winner					
Last Week's Results	16-3 211-71 (75%)	14-5 222-60 (79%)	16-3 219-63 (78%)	16-3 211-71 (75%)	15-4 224-58 (79%)
Season's Results					

Chrysler ~ Dodge ~ Jeep
(M-81) Downtown Cass City

Curtis

Visit us online at... www.curtischrysler.com
989-872-2184 • Toll free 1-888-269-3634

8 yr./80,000 mile Powertrain Limited Warranty***
3 month/3,000 mile Maximum Care Warranty
TOWING/ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

Chrysler Certified 2007 Chrysler 300 Touring \$286/mo	Chrysler Certified 2005 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT \$207/mo	Chrysler Certified 2007 Chrysler Sebring \$241/mo
--	---	--

2004 GMC Canyon Reg. Cab, 2 WD \$174/mo***	2005 Mercury Montego AWD, clean, 46,000 miles \$211/mo*	2004 Dodge Dakota SLT 2 WD, Ext. Cab, Clean \$150/mo***	2000 Chevrolet Impala 48,000 miles, Excellent Condition \$7,495
---	--	--	--

March is Truck Month

"FREE HEMI"

2009 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT

MSRP	\$35,340.00
Employee Plus Price	\$30,535.00
Consumer Cash	-\$1,000.00
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash	-\$1,000.00
Farm Bureau or FFA Bonus Cash	-\$500.00
"FREE HEMI"	-\$1,153.00

\$26,882.00

Plus Tax, Title, Plate transfer & Doc Fee

SAVE OVER \$8,458.00

Expires March 31, 2009

*Payments based on 66 months, plus Tax, Title, Plate transfer & Doc Fee with 10% down payment.
**Payments based on 60 months, plus Tax, Title, Plate transfer & Doc Fee with 10% down payment.
***Payments based on 54 months, plus Tax, Title, Plate transfer & Doc Fee with 10% down payment.

Two Great Product Lines To Choose From, One Name You Can Trust!

PAT CURTIS CHEVROLET - CADILLAC

425 ELLINGTON STREET, CARO • 989-673-2171

www.patcurtischevrolet.com
OPEN 'TIL 8 P.M. MON. & THURS.; T, W, F 9-6;
Sat. 9-3; SERVICE HOURS: M-F 8-5; Sat. 9-3
989-673-2171

0% financing

is back at Pat Curtis Chevrolet Cadillac in Caro!
Choose from the best selection of Aveos, Malibus, Impalas, Cobalts, Traverses and HHRs in the Thumb - all eligible for 0% financing!

<h3>2009 Chevrolet Aveo LS</h3> <p>Buy it for only \$159 per month ^{12 to choose from!}</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>MSRP</td> <td>\$12,170.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GMS</td> <td>\$11,338.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lease to Buy</td> <td>-1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bonus</td> <td>-1,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <h2 style="font-size: 1.2em;">\$9,338.40</h2> <p><small>plus tax, title & lic.</small></p>	MSRP	\$12,170.00	GMS	\$11,338.40	Lease to Buy	-1,000.00	Bonus	-1,000.00	<h3>2009 Chevrolet Cobalt LS</h3> <p>Buy it for only \$192 per month ^{10 to choose from!}</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>MSRP</td> <td>\$15,925.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GMS</td> <td>\$14,760.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bonus</td> <td>-\$1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rebate</td> <td>-\$1,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lease to Buy</td> <td>-\$1,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <h2 style="font-size: 1.2em;">\$11,260.90</h2> <p><small>plus tax, title & lic.</small></p>	MSRP	\$15,925.00	GMS	\$14,760.90	Bonus	-\$1,000.00	Rebate	-\$1,500.00	Lease to Buy	-\$1,000.00
MSRP	\$12,170.00																		
GMS	\$11,338.40																		
Lease to Buy	-1,000.00																		
Bonus	-1,000.00																		
MSRP	\$15,925.00																		
GMS	\$14,760.90																		
Bonus	-\$1,000.00																		
Rebate	-\$1,500.00																		
Lease to Buy	-\$1,000.00																		

<h3>2009 Chevrolet Traverse</h3> <p>Rear back up camera, LT package</p> <p>Buy it for only \$399 per month ^{8 to choose from!}</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>MSRP</td> <td>\$31,995.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GMS</td> <td>\$29,128.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rebate</td> <td>-\$750.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bonus</td> <td>-\$1,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lease to Buy</td> <td>-\$2,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <h2 style="font-size: 1.5em;">\$24,878.05</h2> <p><small>plus tax, title & lic.</small></p>	MSRP	\$31,995.00	GMS	\$29,128.05	Rebate	-\$750.00	Bonus	-\$1,500.00	Lease to Buy	-\$2,000.00	<h3>2009 Chevrolet Silverado W/T</h3> <p>Auto, Air, Tilt & Cruise, CD - AM/FM</p> <p>Buy it for only \$265 per month</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td>MSRP</td> <td>\$21,860.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GMS</td> <td>\$20,150.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rebate</td> <td>-\$1,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lease to Buy</td> <td>-\$3,000.00</td> </tr> </table> <h2 style="font-size: 1.5em;">\$15,650.98</h2> <p><small>plus tax, title & lic.</small></p>	MSRP	\$21,860.00	GMS	\$20,150.98	Rebate	-\$1,500.00	Lease to Buy	-\$3,000.00
MSRP	\$31,995.00																		
GMS	\$29,128.05																		
Rebate	-\$750.00																		
Bonus	-\$1,500.00																		
Lease to Buy	-\$2,000.00																		
MSRP	\$21,860.00																		
GMS	\$20,150.98																		
Rebate	-\$1,500.00																		
Lease to Buy	-\$3,000.00																		

*All prices and payments are plus tax, title and lic. fees. Payments are assumed at 6.75% for 72 months and customer must qualify for lease to buy rebate. Traverse is figured at 1.9% for 72 months.

Contact the Chronicle for:

Feature Ideas
Advertising Placement
Social News

Phone: (989) 872-2010 ~ Fax: (989) 872-3810 ~ Email: chronicle@cass-city.net ~ Editor: tom@ccchronicle.net

CALL 872-2010 TO PLACE AN ACTION AD

Household Sales

HUGE COMMUNITY Garage Sale - Deford Community Church, 1392 N. Kingston Rd. (1/4 mile south of Deckerville Rd.). Saturday, March 21, 9-3 p.m. 14-3-11-2

Real Estate For Sale

FOR SALE BY OWNER or willing to trade house in town for house in country. Nice 2-bedroom, ranch-style starter or retiree home. Spacious layout with central air and 2-car unattached garage. \$57,900. 4318 West St., Cass City. 989-872-9816, after 5 p.m. 3-3-11-3

Real Estate For Rent

2-BEDROOM DUPLEX - Garage, laundry, deck, water, sewer & yard care. No pets! \$500/month. 3 miles east of Cass City. 989-872-5628. 4-1-7-1f

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

FOR RENT - 2-bedroom house in Cass City with garage. Newer windows and doors, furnace, water heater, vinyl siding. Convenient to schools, downtown and hospital. \$550/month. Deposit and lease required. Call Kevin or Peter, 989-872-2911. 4-2-25-4

1-BEDROOM APARTMENT - \$450/month. Heat and electric included. No pets, no smoking. \$300 deposit with references. 872-1837. 4-3-11-4

FOR RENT - Cass City Mini Storage. Call 872-3917. 4-12-10-1f

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

10'x14' STORAGE UNIT - Only \$45/month. Taking reservations for spring. 989-551-7352. 4-2-25-3

1-BEDROOM APARTMENT located at Hillside North Apartments. Conveniently located near hospital, grocery store & doctors offices. \$350/month with security deposit the same. Call for appointment of show at 872-4654 after 6 p.m. 4-2-11-1f

CASEVILLE BEACH HOUSE - Family rental only for summer of 2009. Located between Sleeper State Park and Caseville village limits on lake side of M-25. 100 feet of private sugar sand beach to water's edge. 3-bedrooms, 3 baths, hot tub, air conditioning. \$1,500 per week. For details, call 989-325-1270. 4-1-14-1f

FOR RENT - Spacious 1-bedroom apartment with appliances. Close to downtown. No pets! 872-2012. 4-3-4-3

FOR RENT - 2-bedroom Ranch with attached garage with new appliances plus A/C. \$575/month. 989-550-8030. 4-3-4-2

Notices

WANTED - FARMLAND to rent. Cash up front. 989-670-9088. 5-1-28-1f

Knights of Columbus CHICKEN & FISH DINNERS
ALL YOU CAN EAT
Friday, Mar. 20
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
K of C Hall
6106 Beechwood Dr., Cass City
Adults \$8.00 Students \$4.00
10 & under Free 5-2-25-4

ORGANIC or CRP farmland wanted to raise feed for dairy. South of Cass City. Top rates paid. Call Dana Shirk, 989-550-4045. 5-3-11-6

Notices

LOST - GERMAN short-hair. Has shock collar & vest. Lost at the Rooster Ranch, corner of Leslie and Cumber. Name: Chase. 269-720-1679. 5-2-25-3

Italian Dinner

March 14
4:30-7:00 p.m.
Shabbona United Methodist Church
COST: DONATION
Chicken Alfredo, Lasagna, Spaghetti, Salad & Desserts 5-3-11-1f

Services

John's Small Engine Repair
6426 E. Cass City Rd.
Reasonable Rates
Lawnmowers, Riders, Trimmers, Rototillers, Chainsaws & Snowthrowers

Solo Chainsaws with a 2 yr. warranty
All Makes & Models
24 Years of Experience
All Work Guaranteed
Hours:
Monday-Friday 8-5 p.m.
Call ahead for Saturday Appointments
872-3866 8-7-16-1f

KIRBY VACUUMS authorized factory service center - doing business since 1977. We carry genuine Kirby factory parts. If repair and service are important to you, have your Kirby checked over at a reasonable price. Even if your Kirby is 30 years old, we can still repair it to run for many more years! Call 989-269-7562, 989-479-6543 or 989-551-7562. 8-12-3-52

Honda • Kawasaki • Husavarna
Kurtz Small Engine Repair
All Makes & Models
• Tractors • Trimmers • Chainsaws
Certified Service Center for Kohler, Kawasaki, Honda & Husavarna
8410 Hadley Rd.
Cass City, MI 48726
(989) 872-5684 8-6-25-1f

Kappen Tree Service, LLC
Cass City
• Tree Trimming or Removals
• Stump Grinding
• Brush Mowing / Chipping
• Lot Clearing • Tree Moving
• Experienced Arborists
• Fully Insured
• Equipped Bucket Trucks
Call (989) 673-5313
or (800) 322-5684
for a FREE ESTIMATE 8-6-25-1f

Services

de Beaubien Lawn Service
Residential & Commercial
FREE Estimates
Brush Hog Service Available
Mow • Trim • Edge • Shrubs
Lawn Rolling • De-thatch
Insured
Call (989) 670-6700! 8-2-11-1f

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. 8-12-13-1f

ProTemp Heating & Cooling
• Central A/C
• Gas & Oil Furnaces
• Mobile Home Furnace Sales & Service

HEATING and AIR CONDITIONING
Paul L. Brown
Owner
State Licensed
24 Hour Emergency Service
CALL
989-872-2734 8-5-3-1f

Dave Nye Builder
* New Construction
* Additions
* Remodeling
* Pole Buildings
* Roofing
* Siding
* State Licensed *
(989) 872-4670 8--8-10-1f

SALT FREE iron conditioners and water softeners, 24,000 grain, \$750. In-home service on all brands. Credit cards accepted. Call Paul's Pump Repair, 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 for free analysis. 8-9-25-1f

Smith Refrigeration and Appliance Repair
All makes and models
Call 872-3092 8-3-15-1f

PAUL'S PUMP REPAIR - Water pump and water tank sales. In-home service. Credit cards accepted. Call 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 anytime. 8-9-25-1f

LEE MORGAN PAINTING
20 Years Experience
Services:
Interiors, Exteriors, Texturing, Wood Graining, Power Washing
• Residential/Commercial • Insured
(989) 872-3840 8-8-17-1f

Services

Ken Martin Electric, Inc.
Homes - Farms
Commercial
Industrial
STATE LICENSED
Phone 872-4114
4180 Hurds Corner Rd. 8-8-10-1f

Mike deBeaubien Tech Support
• Computer Troubleshooting & Repair
• Computer Security
• Virus & Spyware Removal
• Wireless Network Installation
• Competitive Rates
Call: 989-670-5606 or 989-872-5606 8-1-16-1f

STEVE WRIGHT PAINTING
30 Years Experience • Insured
Interior / Exterior
FREE ESTIMATES
• Wallpaper
• Drywall Repair
• New Construction
(989) 872-4654
(989) 550-8608 8-12-17-1f

Real Estate For Sale

KELLY & CO. REALTY
6451 Main St., Cass City
"RELAX - READY TO LIVE IN!!"
JEAN BOARD
(989) 872-8520
(989) 233-5882
E-Mail: board@midmich.net
• NEWER HOME ON 4.54 ACRES
• 3 BDRMS, 2 1/2 BATHS
• FULL BASEMENT
• CASS CITY SCHOOLS
\$169,900!

Help Wanted

WANTED - Full-time legal assistant or paralegal for Cass City law office. Compensation commensurate with experience and/or qualifications. General practice of law. Excellent computer skills are required. Send letter of interest with resume to: Biddinger & Bitzer, PLLC, P.O. Box 122, Cass City, MI 48726. 11-3-4-2

Work Wanted

WILL DO odd jobs, babysitting, house cleaning. 989-553-4011. 12-3-11-1

Things We Print

Cass City Chronicle
Phone 872-2010
• Tickets • Business Cards
• Menus • Accounting Forms
• Letterheads • Programs
• Vouchers • Statements
• Brochures • Envelopes
• Booklets

Notice

Earn up to \$55,000.

6 reasons to choose the Baker College Center for Truck Driving

- Financial aid is available to those who qualify (includes State/Federal grants and student loans).
- Convenient scheduling with multiple start dates.
- Baker students are trained for every imaginable situation on the road with the state-of-the-art **TranSim VS III Simulator**.
- Requirements for the Commercial Drivers License Class A can be met within the first 20 weeks.
- Baker grads have achieved a 100% pass rate on the CDL.
- 98% of Baker's available graduates are employed.

Call for information. Classes start soon.
(989) 755-2756 or **(800) 964-4299**

This program is operated in association with Davis Carriage Co. of Corunna, MI and Causley Trucking, Inc. of Saginaw, MI. Entities provide equipment, personnel and facilities via lease arrangements to the program.
An Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Institution.

Baker College
Since 1911

Real Estate For Sale

Call Barbara Osentoski
Associate Broker/Owner, Multi-Million Dollar Producer
www.barbosentoski.com
528 N. State St. Caro, MI 48723
(989) 672-7777

"Extra Storage"
Featuring two lots plus pole building 24'x40' with 14' ceilings. Includes water, sewer, electric and cement floor. L-582
Only \$19,900
OSENTOSKI
Realty & Auctioneering

OSENTOSKI REALTY AND AUCTIONEERING
6501 Main St., Cass City, Michigan 48726
"Worldly Known, Locally Owned"

Website: www.osentoskirealestate.com
You may also view our auctions at: www.osentoskiauction.com
Cass City.....989-872-4377
Caro.....989-673-7777
Kingston.....989-683-8888
E-mail: osentosk@avci.net

David Osentoski Associate Broker Now Booking Auctions
Barb Osentoski Associate Broker 672-7777
Martin Osentoski Sales Associate 872-3252 or 550-3400
Lola Osentoski Flores Sales Associate 989-551-3577

NEW
5 bedroom, 2 story home on 2 acres. Nice location with a lot of potential: large sq. ft., nice garage, black top road, minutes from Caro and Cass City and no close neighbors. C-1157

SOLD!
Why rent when you can own? This house has a good structure. With a little cosmetic work this 2 bedroom, 1 bath house could easily become a cozy little home. It also includes a 1 1/2 car detached garage. PRICED TO SELL!!! CT-852

SOLD!
Cute and comfortable. Move in ready. Great space for your family, over 1,400 sq. ft. All you need: 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, full basement, 2 car garage and kitchen with updated cabinets in medium oak. Keys at closing. Call your lender today and get qualified, easy as that to own your own home. Take note, taxes not homestead. USA-180

PRICE REDUCED
Comfortable 3 bedroom BI-level. This home has a partially finished basement with a nice sized storage room. The upstairs has an open floor plan, hardwood floors and oak kitchen cabinets. Storage shed in rear. Immediate occupancy. Call for showing. NB-234

Tavis Osentoski Associate Broker 989-551-2010
Lee LaFave Sales Associate 665-2295
Roger Pohlod Sales Associate 872-2747

KELLY & CO. REALTY
• Cass City 989-872-2248
• Caro 989-673-2555
• Caseville 989-856-8999
• Bad Axe 989-269-6977
kellyco@avci.net
kellyco@avci.net
tdibble@echoicemi.com
WEBSITE: www.realestate-mls.com

SELLER IS MOTIVATED & READY TO SELL!
This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home has been updated within the last few years - new carpet, etc. New roof is one year old. This home is neat & clean and ready to move in to. TCC1522

Updated and newer addition in the past 5 years. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, full basement with 2 car garage on fenced lot close to downtown. Move in condition. TCC1557

HUNTING LODGE! Year round home or cottage - your choice. 950 sq. ft. - finish to your taste. 5 acres partially wooded and close to state land. Well and septic. A609

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,475 sq. ft. Ranch home on 1 acre, 2 1/2 car attached garage plus a 26'x23' heated addition, full basement with fireplace, 1st floor laundry and close to town. CY2592

GREAT FAMILY HOME
PRICE REDUCED!!!
• LOTS OF CURB APPEAL
• 5 LARGE BEDROOMS
• FAMILY KITCHEN/CANNING KITCHEN
• FIREPLACE IN LIVING ROOM
• LOTS OF NATURAL WOODWORK
• OWNER RELOCATING TCC1508

2 bedroom home on a paved road. Set amongst the trees for a private setting. CY2548

RMLS Equal Housing Opportunity



THE CASS CITY Middle School Band recently participated in the Michigan State Band and Orchestra Association District 3 Festival at Lakers and came away with straight "1" ratings (the highest mark possible). "The band has been working really hard with after-school rehearsals, extra sectionals on their lunch recesses, and extra practice time," said band Director Jonelle Tichnell, who noted the high school band also participated and earned ratings of 1, 2 and 2 from the judges for an overall 2 rating.

Suicide prevention focus of special program at schools

The Cass City Public Schools will be hosting "Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program" assemblies Monday at the middle school (9 to 10 a.m.) and at the high school (12:30 to 1:30 p.m.).

The assemblies are being sponsored by the school district's Coordinated Health Team and the Cass City Rotary Club.

"The Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program began in 1994 in Colorado, when 17-year-old Mike Emme took his life. His story can be found in the teen edition of 'Chicken Soup for the Soul,'" explained Jill Rowland, high school counselor.

"Mike's family and student friends started the national proactive outreach program. It is presented to help pre-

vent youth suicide. The program gives students a means to communicate when words may be too hard to say. It emphasizes these vital life skills: Stay-Listen-Get Help."

Two presenters who have lost a loved one to suicide and/or suffered from depression will share their stories," Rowland noted. "(The) presenters will talk about their loved one's life, which helps familiarize the students with this person's life and the hopelessness they may have felt."

"This very simple program helps students to become more aware of friends and family members who need their support and their help."

Parents are invited to attend the presentations. More information is available by calling the high school at 872-2148.

Union: no strike threat

Continued from page one.

(Cass City Education Association) would denounce such tactics and seek a quick end to these negotiations by following the established legal bargaining procedures.

"As an employer, our district has always valued the staff and routinely rewarded them with some of the highest pay and benefit packages around," Lautner added. "The cost of these health benefits has now skyrocketed at the same time the income to the school has dropped off. MESSA insurance is no longer affordable and there are alternatives available that provide virtually the same benefits at a much lower cost."

"The Cass City Board of Education is charged with making sure that the taxpayers' money is wisely spent. I see no justification for pushing the district to the financial brink to fund an overpriced, union-sponsored insurance carrier."

CONTRACT TALKS

School and union negotiators began meeting a year ago in an effort to hammer out a contract. The teachers' latest pact expired last August, and

subsequent mediation yielded no results in the negotiations.

Both sides are scheduled to embark on 2 days of fact-finding hearings July 23.

However, Wilson said, "The threat of an illegal strike is harmful to the on-going effort to negotiate a teachers' contract. "I believe the union is bargaining in bad faith by threatening to walk out if they don't get their way. The school board has entertained the thought of filing an unfair labor practice complaint against the MEA, but that would require the district to spend funds that are already in short supply."

Folsom categorically denies having ever threatened a strike by Cass City teachers.

"First of all, there was no threat to Mr. Wilson or anybody else. The teachers have not discussed a strike or taken a strike vote," said Folsom, who added he has no intention of trying to negotiate a new contract on the pages of area newspapers.

"There isn't a strike being considered. There isn't a recall of board members being considered," Folsom said. "That's all fantasy made up by Ron Wilson."

If there is no resolution in the con-

tract talks, fact-finding will be followed by a 45-day period in which a recommendation will be made to both sides. After that, school officials will be obligated to spend another 60 days attempting to settle the contract.

If there is still no contract at that point, the school board can impose its "last, best offer" on the union, which would have no legal recourse.

The MESSA insurance issue has continued to be the major roadblock in talks between the local school district and union.

The school board, faced with rising costs and dropping enrollment, recently slashed 5 teaching positions, but is still looking at ways to eliminate an estimated \$500,000 budget deficit in the coming year.

The board has proposed replacing the current MESSA insurance with a similar quality, but significantly less expensive plan. The MESSA coverage costs the district \$1,041,357 annually, compared to the proposed plan, which carries a price tag of \$838,161 per year.

The union has rejected that proposal, and school negotiators have countered with an offer to keep the MESSA coverage if the teachers agree to pay the difference in cost.

Society seeking local historical homes

If you live in an older house in or near Cass City, do you know how old it is? Do you know who else has lived in the house and when?

If you know some or all of these answers, then you may be one of the people that members of the Cass City Area Historical and Genealogy Soci-

ety would like to talk to, or even interview.

The historical society is now starting a survey of many of the older homes in the area. But members need help from homeowners so they can do a thorough job.

The goal is to produce a written volume with pictures of each of the older houses (built prior to 1940), the address, and a story of the house that answers and further develops questions.

Society members want to interview each present homeowner or occupant to expand an accurate picture of the house since its beginning, using any

information or documents they may be willing to share. Volunteer help from those persons who know about these historic homes would be helpful. Copies of the final product will ultimately be available to the public. Privacy will be respected by anyone not wanting their home included in the project.

Anyone interested in this aspect of the town's history is welcome to volunteer.

Call Jim Ware at 872-3028, Gil Schwaderer at 872-2315 or Katie Jackson at 872-3109 before April 1 to participate.

Food pantries

Continued from page one.

Box 57, Cass City, MI 48726.

All other donations - checks made payable to Revive Ministries - will be used for future activities and expenses, Fritz said, adding donations of clothing and non-perishable food items may be dropped off at the Revive building on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are always welcome and can learn more by stopping in at the building on Fridays or by calling (989) 551-7803.

U-M women air recent meeting

Fifteen members and guest Mary Wheeler attended the United Methodist Women's meeting March 2, for a noon luncheon. Shirley Wisenbach and Connie Schwaderer, along with group one, prepared and served the luncheon.

Correspondence was read from Forgotten Man Ministries, thanking the unit for the donations received.

The Rev. Linda Donelson gave the program on Lent and suggested ways on developing spiritual life.



GREAT LAKES EYE
Institute
Eye Clinic & Surgery Center
www.greatlakeseyeinst.com

INTRODUCING
BRIAN D. DUDENHOEFER, M.D.

- ◆ Undergraduate:
Duke University
- ◆ Medical School:
Jefferson Medical College
- ◆ Residency:
Wills Eye Hospital
- ◆ Board Certified

Accepting new patients at the
Cass City and Saginaw offices.
www.greatlakeseyeinst.com
4624 Hill Street, Cass City
(989) 872-3800




Great Lakes Eye Institute Eye Clinic & Surgery Center has been serving mid-Michigan area residents with the highest quality of clinical and surgical care for more than three decades.

We provide state-of-the-art clinical and surgical treatment for cataract, cornea, glaucoma, pediatrics, macular degeneration, retina, uveitis, oculoplastics and aesthetic conditions.

 FARHAD Shokoohi M.D.	 JOHN O'Grady M.D.	 KAMRAN Shokoohi M.D., Ph.D.	 MAJED Sahouri M.D.	 RICHARD Kaiserman M.D.
 DAVID Blodgett M.D.	 BRIAN Dudenhofer M.D.	 MOONYOUNG Chung M.D.	 MICHAEL Mesaros M.D.	 FREDERICK Cady M.D.
 PATRICK Bell O.D.	 BART Darnell O.D.	 JAY Bosco O.D.	 KRISTINE VanLaan O.D.	

GREAT LAKES EYE
Institute
Eye Clinic & Surgery Center
www.greatlakeseyeinst.com

www.greatlakeseyeinst.com • 2393 Schust, Saginaw • 989.793.2820

YOU DESERVE CREDIT!!

0% FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS!

 2009 IMPALA WAS \$24,215 NOW \$16,072* SAVE \$8,143	 2009 VIBE WAS \$17,785 NOW \$13,949* SAVE \$3,836	 2009 ACADIA WAS \$33,170 NOW \$25,849* SAVE \$7,321
NOW Is The Time To Buy!!		
 2009 SILVERADO CREW WAS \$36,810 NOW \$25,640* SAVE \$11,170	 2009 PONTIAC G6 WAS \$22,410 NOW \$15,733* SAVE \$6,677	 2009 GMC SIERRA WAS \$22,560 NOW \$16,471* SAVE \$6,089

*GMS pricing with rebates applied for a current qualified lessee. 0% financing in lieu of select rebates.



FLANNERY
AUTO MALL

Just 1 Mile East of Downtown Bad Axe
Call 989-269-9781 or toll free 866-383-6644