

Snowmobilers safe after taking dip in the bay

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Red Hawk grapplers fall to Caro in districts

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 103, NUMBER 48

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010

FIFTY CENTS

20 PAGES

Committees eye busing, staffing, fees for athletics

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Three ad hoc committees charged with finding ways to cut expenses in the Cass City School District reported on their suggestions for the first time during a work session Monday night in the Cass City High School cafeteria.

Those ideas ranged from leasing instead of purchasing school buses, to reducing staff, to charging athletes for sports-related transportation.

About 55 residents attended the hour-long session, designed to begin the process of determining how the

Cass City Board of Education will reduce the district's 2010-11 budget by more than a half-million dollars.

The committees, composed of school officials, board members and other citizens in the community, will present their final recommendations prior to the school board's Monday, March 22, regular meeting, at 6 p.m. Later, the board's finance committee will recommend a list of cuts based on the committee's proposals in the areas of transportation, staffing and extracurricular activities, including athletics.

School board Trustee Jim Please turn to page 8.

Village set to "go green" with grant

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The village of Cass City is taking a \$90,000 step towards "going green", and the federal government is paying for the effort.

The local project will involve installation of solar panels at the village municipal building to save on electricity costs.

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm recently announced that the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) had awarded \$17.4 million in grants to 125 cities, villages, townships and counties throughout the state to support local energy efficiency projects.

The state Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) are being funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

DELEG's Bureau of Energy Savings awarded the grants to projects that will create and retain jobs, save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In the Thumb, municipalities in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties, including Cass City, were awarded a combined \$489,990.

Jim McLoskey, executive director of the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), noted Tuscola County was the lead applicant in the Thumb for the federal dollars, but that the EDCs in Huron and Sanilac counties also helped to spearhead the project.

McLoskey said much of the credit for landing the dollars goes to a Saginaw firm, AKT Peerless Environment and Energy, which donated its services in writing the grant application.

Cass City officials will be placing solar electric panels on the roof of the municipal building, located at 6506 Main St. In all, 48 215-watt solar panels will be installed on the roof area and utilized to offset electrical costs at the municipal building and reduce greenhouse gas production.

The solar panels are referred to as a grid connected system, meaning they will utilize the electricity generated by the panels first and supplement the rest from the conventional utility company. Based on design estimates, the panels are expected to generate 14,713 kWh per year.

"I know, over the course of the year,

it (will save) several thousand dollars in electrical costs," said Sam Moore, who serves as Parks and Recreation director for the village of Cass City, but has also been involved in a variety of village projects.

"Over the life of the panels — 20 to 30 years — you're supposed to see a 10-percent return on your investment, which isn't that much, but being we're not putting money into it, it's win-win. Plus, we're going 'green,'" he added.

Moore estimated the monthly electrical service savings at the municipal building should add up to \$100 to \$300, depending on the time of year. Village officials say their electricity bill for each of the past 2 months has totaled around \$350.

Moore said installation of the solar panels should get underway later this year.



SANILAC COUNTY Sheriff's deputies responded to a 2-vehicle crash Friday morning on M-53, just south of M-81. According to reports, a pickup truck driven by Frank Hatcher, 21, of Deford, rear-ended a commercial delivery truck that had stopped to make a left turn into a driveway. Hatcher was transported to Hills and Dales General Hospital with unspecified injuries. The driver of the other vehicle, Darryl Wehner, 47, of Harbor Beach, sought his own treatment for minor injuries. Elkland Township fire fighters and MMR personnel assisted at the scene.

COUNT DOWN

Cass City loses 14 more students in pupil tally

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The numbers could have been worse, but they could have been a lot better.

Cass City School officials, like their counterparts across Michigan, conducted their bi-annual state enrollment tally last week. And they came up short by 14 more students compared to last fall.

The total enrollment was 1,196 students — 434 at Campbell Elementary School, 339 at the mid-

dle school and 423 at the high school.

The loss of 14 students translates into a loss of more than \$100,000 in state revenue based on this year's per-pupil funding level.

In other area school districts, Uby Community School officials reported an unofficial total enrollment of 795 students, 5 fewer than last fall, and the Kingston Community Schools counted a total of 623 students, 5 more than last fall.

The enrollment count in the Owen-Gage Schools was not available

before the Chronicle's press time.

Michigan schools receive a majority of their revenue each year in the form of a state foundation allowance, a funding amount that is applied to

Please turn to page 9.

Races set in Uby, Cass City

Voters in the Cass City and Uby Community school districts will decide races for school board seats in the spring, while Owen-Gage School officials have more available seats than candidates.

The deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions and affidavits of identity was Tuesday, Feb. 9, at 4 p.m. The last day to register for the election is Monday, April 5, and the elections are slated for Tuesday, May 4.

In the Cass City Public Schools, a pair of newcomers are vying for a single 4-year term on the board. They are Dan Manwell of Cass City and Alice Zaleski, Gaagetown.

Incumbent Randy Severance opted not to seek another term after serving 16 years on the board.

In the Uby Community School District, incumbents Jeanette Hagen and Renee T. Morell are both seeking reelection to 4-year terms. They are being challenged by newcomer Kevin Gracey.

Owen-Gage Board of Education Kathy Champagne, Owendale, is seeking her second 4-year term on the board. The district, however, lacks for another 4-year term and a one-year term.

Not seeking reelection are Jeff Leinweber, who has served as board president for the past several years, and Trustee Brenda Kretzscher, a former board member who accepted an appointment to temporarily fill a vacancy left by the resignation of

Please turn to page 9.

Tour to celebrate 100th year of Boy Scouts of America

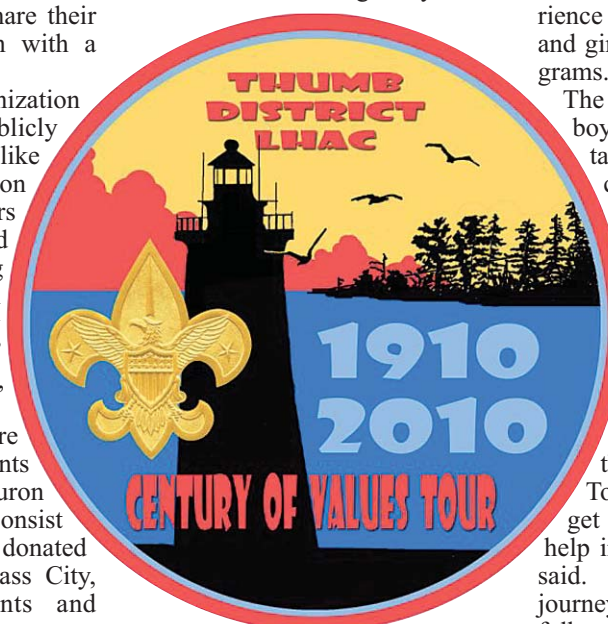
The Boy Scouts of America is gearing up for a big celebration this year — its 100th birthday — and Thumb area volunteers, leaders and alumni are planning to share their pride in the organization with a special tour this summer.

"As the scouting organization prepares to celebrate publicly its anniversary, it's much like how we look at our lives on our birthday. Scout leaders and youth in Tuscola and Huron counties are going to take it on the road with what they call a 'Century of Values Tour'," announced Bill Jackson, chairman of the tour.

The tour will visit more than a dozen festivals, events and fairs in Tuscola and Huron counties this year. It will consist of a 53-foot semi-trailer, donated by Bartnik Service of Cass City, along with several tents and canopies.

"We want the tour to tell our story of the past 100 years and much more," said Mike Herrington, senior district executive, Thumb District, Boy Scouts of America

(BSA). "Scouting is about doing, and this tour will show children and adults alike some of the things they can do



in scouting," commented Kim Glaspie, a volunteer who serves as chairman of the Thumb District.

The tour will set up for one day visits in various communities, from the

Tuscola and Huron county fairs to the annual Freedom Festival in Cass City. Youth of all ages will be invited to have some fun and experience some of the activities boys and girls get to do in scouting programs.

The tour will give Cub Scout-age boys an opportunity to make and take home a wood or leather craft; play a fishing game and run a pinewood derby race. Older youth, including teenage boys and girls, will be able to experience a rope bridge and a climbing wall.

"With 100 years of adventure behind it, scouting has a tremendous alumni, so one thing the Century of Values Tour wants to accomplish is to get some of its former scouts to help in the next century," Jackson said. "We want to continue the journey of scouting with help from folks — men and women who participated in scouting's programs as youth — and/or who, now as adults, share in the idea of the BSA value and of shaping young lives." Please turn to page 9.



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VOLUNTEERS work on a home in Tuscola County last year during the Rebuilding Together Tuscola County, Inc., project. The organization is looking for houses to repair this year, and the work date has been scheduled for Saturday, July 10.

Rebuilding Together in search of houses

Rebuilding Together Tuscola County, Inc. is looking for homes to work on this year. To be eligible for consideration, a home must be occupied by the owner, property taxes and insurance must be up-to-date, and the owner must meet certain income eligibility guidelines.

Typical work done on selected homes include painting, cleaning, minor window/door upgrades, minor plumbing work, and yard clean up. There is no charge to the homeowner for the work done on their house.

The 2010 work date is set for Saturday, July 10, when volunteers from across the county will pull together to tackle the chores lined up for the day. Some major tasks may be started beforehand, or may be completed after the project date, but most of the work will be completed in one day. To apply for assistance, to refer someone else's home for repairs, or to volunteer your time and talents, contact board member Rick Tuckey at (989) 673-0687. Applications need to be turned in by April 1 to be considered for this year's projects.

Several appear on charges last week

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

- Lyle R. Ackler II, 36, Flint, pleaded guilty to 3 counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years between June 1, 2001 and Feb. 20, 2004, in Arabela Township.
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case and bond was continued at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Ryan N. Olds, 39, Millington, stood mute to a charge of absconding or forfeiting bond Oct. 13 in Caro.
- A pre-trial hearing was ordered scheduled and bond was continued at \$10,000.
- Steven W. Gere, 18, Caro, pleaded guilty to third degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years last July in Indianfields Township.
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$5,000. Sentencing is to be set.
- William C. Down, 28, Ithaca, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny July 21, 2008, in Koylton Township.
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$15,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Edward D. Middaugh, 23, Cass City, pleaded guilty to charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, and assaulting or obstructing a police officer Nov. 19 in Cass City; possession of child sexually abusive materials last October in Cass City; and domestic violence Nov. 16 in Cass City. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at a combined \$30,000. Sentencing is to be set.
- Rodney K. West, 40, Caro, pleaded guilty to delivery of a controlled substance (marijuana) to a minor between March and October in Indianfields Township, and to possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony Oct. 26 in Indianfields Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (2 prior felony convictions).
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at a combined \$20,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Galen A. Bellman, 35, Vassar, was sentenced to 18 months to 15 years

- in prison for his plea of guilty to possession of a controlled substance Sept. 5 in Fairgrove Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (3 or more prior felony convictions).
- In addition to prison time, he was ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,128.
- Inmate Zimoney S. Crossett, 32, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny April 23-24, 2007, in Arabela Township.
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered. Sentencing is to be set.
- Keith R. Carvey, 31, Caro, pleaded no contest to 2 counts of third degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim under the age of 13 years last September in Caro.
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Donald M. Kanyak, 55, Cass City, received a one-year delayed sentence following his plea of no contest to writing a non-sufficient fund check of \$500 or more Feb. 14, 2007, in Caro.

- He was also ordered to pay \$1,928 in costs and fines.
- Timothy J. Barden, 50, Kingston, received a one-year delayed sentence following his pleas of no contest to third degree home invasion, carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, 2 counts of indecent exposure, and brandishing a firearm in public Aug. 16 in Kingston.
- He was ordered to complete 15 hours of community and service and pay costs and fines totaling \$2,935.
- David C. Scott, 48, Fostoria, pleaded guilty to domestic violence Oct. 18 in Watertown 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 \$5,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.
- Mac L. Irwin, 34, Bridgeport, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor - causing serious injury Sept. 18 in Tuscola Township.
- A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$25,000. Sentencing is to be set.

Snowmobilers safe after dip in the bay; sheriff says beware

Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson repeated his warnings to ice fishermen over the weekend after some snowmobilers rescued themselves after breaking through the ice off of Sand Point.

The incident occurred during the late morning hours Saturday. The Caseville Fire Department and Scheurer Ambulance Service were both called to respond along with Huron County Sheriff's deputies. "The location was a channel at the end of Sand Point, which is in Caseville Township," Hanson said. "While emergency crews were arriving, they were advised that all of the snowmobile riders had managed to get themselves out of the water." The snowmobile operator was identified as Christopher J. Marcus, 36, of Lake Orion, who had 2 passengers, ages 6 and 12. "(He) advised that they and another snowmobile team were attempting to cross the channel when they broke

through the ice," Hanson reported. "He said they were able to get themselves out of the water right away, but his snowmobile sunk to the bottom in approximately 5 feet of water. He stated no one was injured. Arrangements were being made with a salvager to recover the snowmobile." Four weeks earlier, a Dryden resident lost his life in a similar accident on Wild Fowl Bay, which is located on the south side of Sand Point. "I asked all media outlets at that time to tell people to stay off the ice because of poor ice conditions," Hanson said. "I received criticism from some ice goers because they claimed only certain areas of the ice were unsafe. They were, in part, correct, but the ice was deteriorating. "Three weeks ago I surveyed the ice by helicopter and found several areas had appeared to have thawed and refroze, and it was clear that no one should be venturing onto those areas," the sheriff continued. "The fact remains that this winter, the ice never formed to real safe standards," he said. "Fortunately, (Saturday's) incident had a happy ending. With that said, once again I'm asking that the media warn the public to stay off the ice. This includes the channels of Sand Point."

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Budget Public Hearing (Truth in Budgeting) Notice

The Village of Gagetown Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed village budget for fiscal year April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 at the Elmwood Township Gagetown Municipal Building located at 6437 Lincoln Street, Gagetown on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. *The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. Copies of the budget will be available the night of the meeting.

Also open for discussion will be the Water Rate Increase.

Notice complies with MCL 141.436 & MCL 211.24c

Prepared by: Joan Koch
Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Gagetown
February 17, 2010

Notice of BOARD OF REVIEW

for Novesta Township will be held

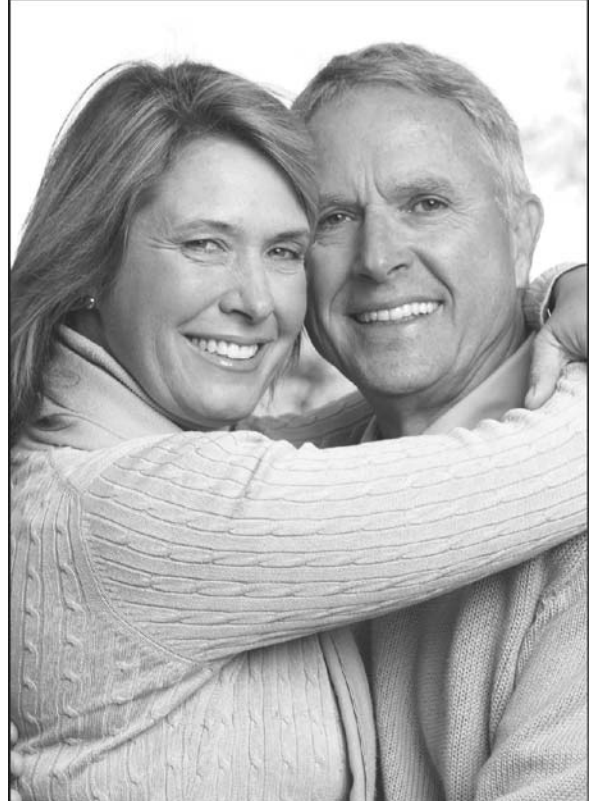
March 8, 2010 9 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m.
March 9, 2010 1-4 p.m. & 6-9 p.m.

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Commercial	1.00020	49.99
Personal	1.00000	50.00

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Joann Tauber, Clerk

Workshops to target childcare providers

Winter workshops for childcare providers are being offered through MSU Extension in Tuscola County. "Better Kid Care" workshops are part of a statewide childcare provider training series presented by MSU Extension county offices. These workshops are designed to enhance the skills of child care providers by giving them the knowledge they need about appropriate child care practices. Workshop hours can be used to meet licensing training requirements. Three workshops will be held in Caro at MSU Extension, 362 Green St. On Thursday, March 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. the topic will explore: "Activities to Promote Social Emotional Health". A workshop Thursday, April 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. will discuss "Parents and Providers as Partners". The final workshop in the spring series is titled, "Let's Talk Discipline", and will be held Tuesday, April 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. Each workshop has a fee. Advance registration with payment is required, and registration forms are available at Tuscola MSU Extension. An introductory offer for the workshop series is being provided for the first 6 months of the new program year. Participants who register and pay for 2 classes will receive a third class for free. Questions about the workshops can be directed to Sanilac County Extension Educator Gail Innis, at (810) 648-2515.



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Thumb Area Dialysis Center has been providing a full range of dialysis services to patients throughout Tuscola, Sanilac and Huron counties for over 10 years. Our multidisciplinary team approach, led by medical director, Carlos Marchena, M.D., includes both medical and nursing staff, as well as a social worker, vascular access coordinator and renal dietitian. Together, this team works closely with each patient to develop a customized plan of care based on each patient's individual needs. This approach not only creates an environment of care and support, it also results in better patient outcomes. Thumb Area Dialysis Center is managed by Gratiot Medical Center, located in Alma, Michigan. It is a joint venture of MidMichigan Health, Bay Regional Medical Center, Scheurer Hospital, Hills and Dales General Hospital and Huron Medical Center. Our goal is to help our patients manage their disease so that they can live life to the fullest. **To learn more about Thumb Area Dialysis Center, call (989) 872-5544 or visit www.midmichigan.org/dialysis.**

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*Based on independent data from the Renal Network Eleven of the Upper Midwest

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Wednesday, February 17

Trip to Toledo Museum Glass Pavilion, 7:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Friends of Rawson Memorial District Library.

Cass City Boys' & Girls' Baseball & Softball Sign-up, 3:30-6 p.m., Cass City Middle School. Includes: T-Ball, Minor, Little & Junior Leagues. For more information, call Matt at 872-5033 or Dan at 872-5425.

Ash Wednesday Service, 7 p.m., Owendale United Methodist Church.

Thursday, February 18

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

Cass City Boys' & Girls' Baseball & Softball Sign-up, 3:30-6 p.m., Cass City Middle School. Includes: T-Ball, Minor, Little & Junior Leagues. For more information, call Matt at 872-5033 or Dan at 872-5425.

Friday, February 19

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

St. John Fish Fry, 4-8 p.m., St. John Parish Center, Ubyly. All you can eat fish dinner w/beverage & dessert. Take outs available. Adults: \$8, children 5 to 12: \$5, children under 5: free. Sponsored by St. Columbkille Parish.

Senior Citizen Movies, 1:30 p.m., Rawson Memorial District Library.

Saturday, February 20

Quilt Demo Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Rawson Memorial District Library.

Sunday, February 21

Gagetown AA meeting, 8-9 p.m., Gagetown fire hall. For more information, call (989) 665-0086.

Hymn Sing, 6 p.m., Gagetown United Methodist Church.

Monday, February 22

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

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

Cass City School Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Owen-Gage School Board meeting, 7 p.m.

Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gilligans.

Tuscola County Right to Life meeting, 6:30-8 p.m., Caro Area District Library, 840 W. Frank St., Caro. For more information, call (989) 872-3259.

Cass City Village Council meeting, 7 p.m., municipal building.
Young Adult Book Club, 6-7 p.m., Rawson Memorial District Library.

Wednesday, February 24

Ravenous Readers Book Club, noon, Rawson Memorial District Library.

Huron County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, Huron Behavioral Health, Bad Axe. For more information, contact Rhonda Quinn at (989) 269-9293.



THE OWENDALE Lions Club recently welcomed 3 new members and one associate member. District Governor Robert Ryan installed the newest members and also welcomed Bob Wylin, past district governor, as an associate member of the club. Pictured above are (from left) Owendale Lions Club President Jack Laurie, Wylin, Ed Slavin, Leonard Metzger, Jeff Faist and Ryan.

Cass City High School Honor Roll

Cass City High School officials announce the second marking period honor roll.

Grade 9 (all A's)

Shelby Abell, Meri Dzielinski, Larissa King, Jacob Kittle, Alan Leslie, Katelyn Michalski, Andrea Mikolon, Lauren Perry, Mishelle Powell, Jake Quinn and Lukas Schenk.

Grade 9 (B or better)

John Ballard, Shannon Bardwell, Theron Bogart, Nicole Boland, Misha Clark, Zachary Deitering, Stephanie Heckroth, Patrick Home, Cole Israelson, Erica Kolacz, Emily Kuenzli, Kassandra LaPonsie, Ryan Larson, Stacey McArthur, Rianna McConnell, Nicholas McCoy, Brian Mohr, Erin Moore, Cody Orban, Karley Peters, Jocelynn Venema, Paul Verhines, Victoria Walsh, Alexander Williams and Ian Woodward.

Grade 10 (all A's)

Alison Blattner, Morgan Erla, Rebecca Hacker, Kristen Kawecki, Stephanie Leeson, Ethan Nicol, Zachary Potrykus, Morgan Potter, Jessica Prieskorn, Jordyn Rasmussen, Rachael Rule, Alexandria Smith, Shannon Stec, Heather Sweeney, Cortney Thompson, Jared Weidman, Travis Wright, Alexander Zaleski and Sarah Zmierski.

Grade 10 (B or better)

Angela Braun, Austin Conley, Joshua Farkas, Corey Hool, Anthony

House, Nicole Kelley, Drew King, Tessa Kus, James Merchant, Macey Messing, Josie Moore, Megan Parrish, Kurt Reif, Logan Rowell, Megan Schoel, Krystal Stanley, Hayley Thorp, Alyse Timko, Cassandra Tomlinson, Michael Wills, Ronald Wolschleger and Haley Wynn.

Grade 11 (all A's)

Amanda Clifton, Krista Guinther, Justin Ketterer, Michael Lange, Anthony McArthur, McKensie Parrish, Caitlin Reed, Alexander Varney, Dallas Woodward and Jeremy Wright.

Grade 11 (B or better)

Mark Alfini, Mandi Bartnik, Jonathan Crouch, Cody Crouch, Zachary Deering, Chelsea Green, Brooke Hartwick, Angela Janssen, Rebecca Leslie, Jeffery Leslie, Thomas LeValley, Elizabeth Lintner, Michael Milligan, Candace Myers, Michael Potrykus II, Cody Pringle, Mary Rivest, Michael Skiles,

Victoria Spencer, Mariah Tabar, Robert VanAuken, Lauren Walther, Amber Warju and Lauren Zdrojewski.

Grade 12 (all A's)

Rachel Auten, Jacob Ballard, Josiah Battel, Lindsey Bliss, Kevven Dorland, Renae Janssen, Amanda Kaake, Andrew Leslie, Paige Lester, Thomas Marker, Emily Martin, Paul Martin, Ashleigh Moore, Elise Nicol, Dillon Peruski, Kelsey Rudy, Steven Rychlewski, Jenna Sattelberg, Stephanie Steely and Samantha Swiderski.

Grade 12 (B or better)

Zachary Abell, Breeanna Burns, Cansu Cabucak, Jalen Ferris, Nichole Guigar, Lindsay Jamieson, Amber LaPonsie, Erin McFadzear, Stacie Mitchem, Dylan Murphy, Tyler Nicholas, Tyler Perry, Trevor Phillips, Bridgette Putnam, Dean Rabideau, Eric Reif, Rochelle Rushlow, Vanessa Scasny, Ashleigh Stoeckle and Megan Zawilinski.

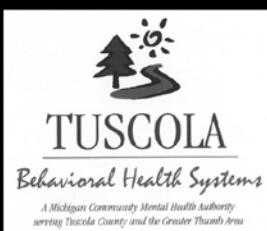
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LOWER PAYMENTS



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Church to host concerts

The Owendale United Methodist Church is sponsoring 2 evenings of special music during the Lenten season.

The first event will feature The Joyful Sounds Quartet, a Gospel singing group from Port Huron. The quartet has been spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ since 1989 through music and personal testimony. They will be in concert at the church Sunday, Feb. 28, at 6 p.m.

The second special musical evening will feature Living Truth 2, which is primarily an acoustical group whose diverse musical style is difficult to categorize. They will be in concert at the church Sunday, March 14, at 6 p.m.

Both concerts are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. A free will offering will be collected. The church is located at 7370 Main St. in Owendale.

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Cass City sends 4 to regionals

Four members of Cass City's Greater Thumb Conference championship wrestling squad have qualified for this weekend's Division 3 individual regional competition at Richmond.

Highlighting the action over the weekend for the Red Hawks at Standish-Sterling High School, the site of individual district play, was sophomore Josh Jensen who became Coach Don Markel's lone district champion when he defeated Freeland's Danny Laatsch, 10-6, in the final of the 171-pound weight class.

Also advancing into regional play for Cass City were runners up Eric Reif and Mike Milligan, both who recorded 2-1 marks on the day.

Reif was defeated in the championship bout of the 189-pound weight class by Standish-Sterling's Jesse Bashore, 10-5, while Milligan, 215-pound weight class, fell to Caro's Jordan Decker by pin in 1:37.

Placing third in the 285-pound weight class, and completing the list of Cass City regional qualifiers, was Nick Adkins. Adkins compiled a 3-1 showing on the afternoon, including a pin of Bridgeport's Mike Rincher in the consolation finals.

"I am really proud of our regional qualifiers," said Markel, noting that last year Cass City competed in Division 4.

"Josh will carry a 44-4 record into the regionals, Eric's record is 47-10, Mike's is 40-9 and Nick's is 31-16," said Markel.

A trio of seniors, Kevven Dorland, Dean Rabideau and T.J. Marker,

ended their Cass City careers Saturday when they failed to finish in the top 4, required to move into regional action.

Dorland finished with a lofty 132-73 career record, while Rabideau was 105-71 and Marker, 74-63.

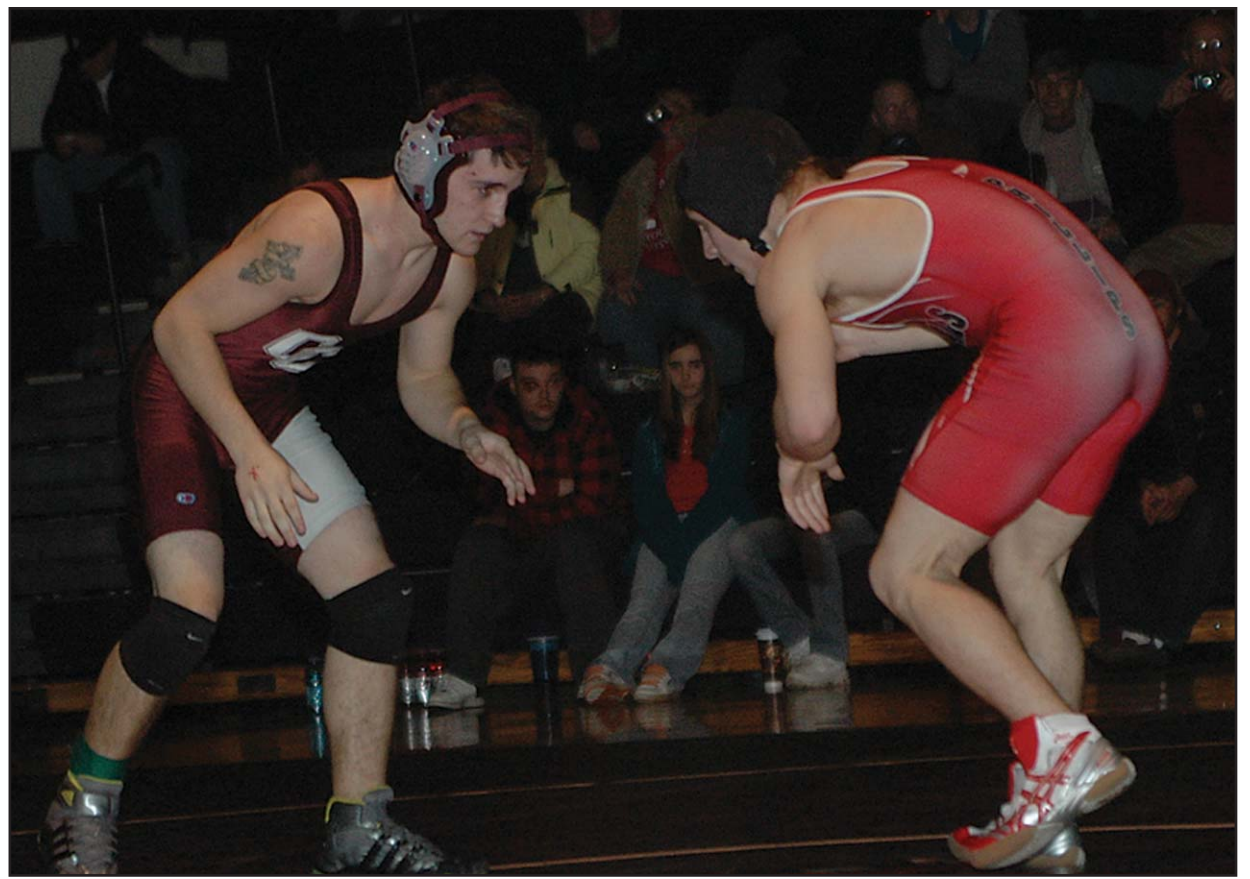
"Those 3 guys have been outstanding leaders since their sophomore year. They will be missed come next year," said Markel.

TEAM DISTRICTS

Earlier in the week, Cass City traveled to Caro Wednesday and fell in the district finals to the 6th ranked Tigers, 58-21. However, in the opening match of district action Cass City avenged a loss to Millington, 42-41, collecting the Red Hawks' 32nd dual meet victory and establishing a new team record surpassing the old record of 28 wins, which was set last season.

"This team has been one of the hardest working teams that I have coached and the group really came together as the season progressed. The result of the great work ethic was a league championship and a new team record for victories in a season," said Markel. Double winners on the day for Cass City included Jon Crouch, 119-pound weight class, Cody Crouch, 125/130-pound weight classes, Jensen, 171-pound weight class, and Reif, 189/215-pound weight classes.

"Eric achieved a career milestone when he pinned Caro's Mark McNett for his 100th victory," said Markel.



RED HAWK T.J. Marker, left, sizes up his Millington opponent during Team District action in Caro. Cass City avenged an early season setback to the Cardinals to advance into the Division 3 final, but fell to host Caro, who captured their 17th consecutive district crown.



SENIOR Kevven Dorland, top, battles with Millington's Rob Geiger in Team District play Wednesday night in Caro. Dorland, who competed with a knee injury, ended his Red Hawk career with 132 wins, the 6th all-time high for Cass City.



PRETTY IN PINK!

Coach Doug Hyatt's Owen-Gage Bulldogs donned new uniforms for their NCTL outing against Caseville and the proceeds from a bake sale, raffle and silent auction will benefit cancer awareness. The team members are, from left, Lacie Prich, Amanda Muntz, Erika Mroz, Holly Errer, Christy Schmidt, Ashley Rockefeller, Christin Harris, Megan McLaren and Kayla Montreuil.

CC loses heartbreaker

For the second time this season, Cass City gave Greater Thumb West leader Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port all they could handle Friday before bowing 54-53 on the Lakers' home court.

With the win, the Green and White remain unblemished in GTW action, while the Red Hawks slip to 2-6 in conference play entering Friday's contest at Vassar.

If Coach Jim Green's cagers are going to make any noise in the post season, his young Red Hawk squad will need to learn how to close out their opponents.

"We had Lakers on the ropes, but to their credit they made both ends of one on ones twice in the game's last minute," said Green.

After the Lakers took a 48-39 cushion early in the final quarter, the visitors bounced back with a 10-0 run and when guard Jeff Mulrath found a cutting Nick Brown near the basket with a pretty no look pass, Cass City was on top with just over 3 minutes remaining on the clock.

From there the 2 teams exchanged leads 5 times and it appeared that whoever had the ball last would earn

the hard fought victory.

Laker forward Luke Voelker put the hosts back on top with a 12' jumper, but Cass City used a clutch 15' jumper by Mulrath to take a 51-50 edge, leaving just over one minute left in regulation.

First to the foul line in the closing second was Laker standout Chris Rowe. Rowe calmly sank both tosses to give his team a one point edge that was erased moments later when Cameron Dunnuck connected on a turn around jumper after posting up in the lane for a 53-52 Cass City advantage.

Once again the Lakers were sent to the foul line and with just 21 ticks left Josh Goins sank 2 freebies to

Please turn to page 13.

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

Varsity Basketball



BOYS' BASKETBALL

Wednesday, February 17

Lakers at BCAS	BCAS	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
Caro at Cass City	Cass City	Caro	Caro	Cass City
Saginaw Nouvel at USA	Saginaw Nouvel	Saginaw Nouvel	Saginaw Nouvel	Saginaw Nouvel
Vassar at Birch Run	Vassar	Vassar	Vassar	Vassar

Friday, February 19

BCAS at Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
USA at Reese	Reese	Reese	USA	Reese
Cass City at Vassar	Vassar	Vassar	Vassar	Vassar
Marlette at Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach
Mayville at Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville
Sandusky at Brown City	Brown City	Sandusky	Brown City	Brown City
Caseville at Peck	Peck	Peck	Peck	Peck
North Huron at CPS	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron
Owen-Gage at Dryden	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
Port Hope at Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
A-Fairgrove at Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis

Saturday, February 20

Reese at Bad Axe	Reese	Reese	Reese	Reese
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GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Thursday, February 18

Bad Axe at Ubyly	Bad Axe	Bad Axe	Bad Axe	Bad Axe
BCAS at Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
Reese at USA	Reese	Reese	Reese	Reese
Vassar at Cass City	Vassar	Vassar	Vassar	Vassar
Harbor Beach at Marlette	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Marlette
Brown City at Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky
Deckerville at Mayville	Mayville	Deckerville	Mayville	Deckerville
Port Hope at Caseville	Port Hope	Port Hope	Port Hope	Port Hope
N. Huron at A-Fairgrove	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron	North Huron
Dryden at Peck	Dryden	Peck	Dryden	Peck
Kingston at CPS	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston

Saturday, February 20

Reese at Bad Axe	Reese	Reese	Reese	Reese
Last Week's Results	17-6	20-3	17-6	12-11
Season's Results	132-51 (72%)	134-49 (73%)	137-46 (75%)	122-61 (67)



CASS CITY'S Alex Varney draws the attention of a pair of Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port defenders in Friday's Greater Thumb West meeting. The Lakers squeaked out a 54-53 decision.

Owen-Gage boys can't overcome slow start

A slow start proved too much for the Owen-Gage boys' basketball team to overcome Friday against visiting Carsonville-Port Sanilac in North Central Thumb League action.

During a defensive struggle, the Bulldogs actually took a 6-5 advantage into the second period against the NCTL - South leaders, only to be outscored 12-2 to the break.

The Bulldogs, however, sliced 4 points from the Tiger advantage entering the final period as Nick

Zaleski and Ryan Francis combined for 10 points, while the host defense held the Tigers to solo field goals from Hayden Adams and Eric Taylor in the period after the intermission.

After 3 quarters of sloppy play, both teams heated up in the final period, where the Tigers outscored their hosts 20-14 to earn the 43-32 win.

For Owen-Gage, Francis recorded game scoring honors with 14 points, while Zaleski chipped in 10.

For Carsonville-Port Sanilac, Ryan

Davis netted 10 points as the winners entered 8 players into the scorebook.

Owen-Gage, 8-6 overall, is scheduled to hit the road this week for games at Port Hope and Dryden.

OWEN-GAGE - Rhodes 1-0 (0-0) 2; Prich 1-1 (1-2) 6; Zaleski 5-0 (0-4) 10; Francis 7-0 (0-0) 14.
TOTALS - 14-1 (1-6) 32.

CPS - Connor Amey 1-0 (0-0) 2; Falls 1-0 (0-0) 2; Hughes 3-0 (0-0) 6; Adams 2-0 (3-4) 7; Koehler 1-0 (0-0) 2; Calvin Amey 3-0 (0-0) 6; Taylor 1-0 (6-6) 8; Davis 2-2 (0-0) 10.
TOTALS - 14-2 (9-10) 43.

Coaches call in your scores to (989) 872-2010 or fax (989) 872-3810

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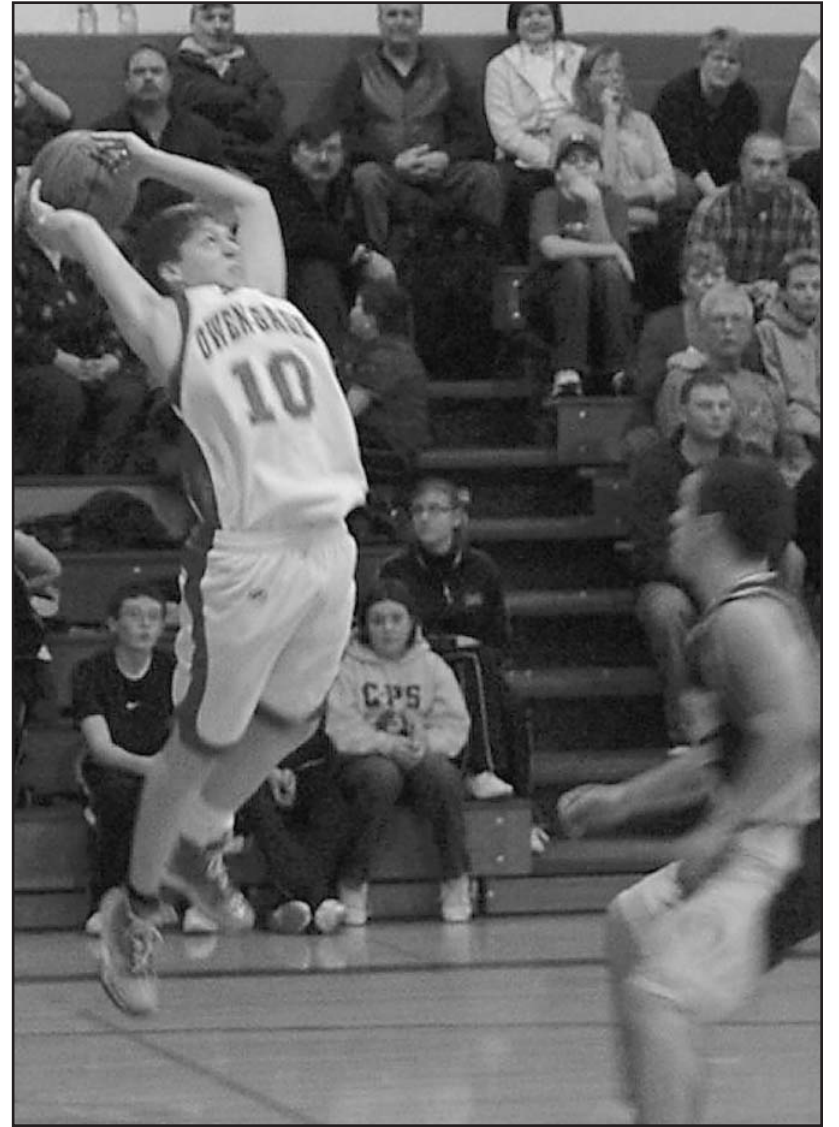
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BULLDOG Clyde Rhodes leaps to haul in an errant pass in Friday's North Central Thumb League contest with Carsonville-Port Sanilac in Owendale. Owen-Gage suffered a 43-32 setback.

Lady Bulldogs win pair of NCTL tilts

The Owen-Gage Lady Bulldogs picked up a pair of much needed North Central Thumb League basketball victories last week over visiting Caseville and host Dryden.

With the wins, Coach Doug Hyatt's Bulldogs improve to 6-12 overall and will now have a week off before facing Saginaw Arts and Science Academy on Feb. 22.

"Our week off came at a good time," said Hyatt. "We are a little banged up right now, (Christin) Harris and (Christy) Schmidt are both nursing knee injuries and the rest should get them back to full strength."

On Thursday, the Bulldogs traveled to face the Cardinals and returned home with a hard fought 45-42 win during a NCTL crossover meeting.

"Neither team led by more than 5 points all night," said Hyatt.

The visitors led 26-25 at the half and 37-35 entering the final 8 minutes thanks to Mandy Muntz's trey that beat the buzzer to end action in the third quarter.

Schmidt had a monster game for the Bulldogs, including a season-high 21 points, 15 rebounds and 10 steals.

Maddy Couch paced Dryden with 15 points.

Monday and came out on top of a 42-36 decision.

The hosts actually trailed 7-3 early, before Harris converted a pair of third quarter triples to help even the score at 26-26 with one quarter of action remaining.

Schmidt, who led all scorers with 17 tallies, poured in 4 field goals down the stretch to help put Owen-Gage over the top.

Rebecca Janke led the Eagles, who converted just 5 of 14 free throw attempts on the night, with a dozen markers.

OWEN-GAGE - Montreuil 1-1 (0-1) 5; Harris 1-2 (1-2) 9; Prich 2-0 (1-3) 5; Schmidt 6-0 (9-17) 21; Muntz 0-1 (0-0) 3; McLaren 0-0 (2-4) 2.
TOTALS - 10-4 (13-27) 45.

DRYDEN - Couch 3-1 (6-12) 15; Wood 2-0 (1-2) 5; Savarino 3-0 (0-0) 6; Warner 0-0 (0-3) 0; Worley 2-0 (0-0) 4; Kopas 6-0 (0-0) 12.
TOTALS - 16-1 (7-17) 42.

OWEN-GAGE - Montreuil 1-0 (0-0) 2; Harris 1-2 (0-0) 8; Prich 2-0 (1-3) 5; Schmidt 6-0 (5-7) 17; Muntz 3-0 (3-5) 9; McLaren 0-0 (1-2) 1.
TOTALS - 13-2 (10-17) 42.

CASEVILLE - Dorfman 1-0 (1-4) 3; Redwanz 2-0 (0-0) 4; Fields 3-0 (0-0) 6; King 2-0 (0-0) 4; Fortsch 1-1 (2-4) 7; Janke 2-2 (2-6) 12.
TOTALS - 11-3 (5-14) 36.

Schneeberger's ATHLETES of the WEEK

This week's Schneeberger's Athletes of the Week award winners are Cass City's Josh Jensen, Eric Reif, Mike Milligan and Nick Adkins.

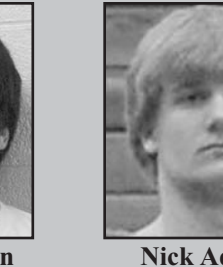
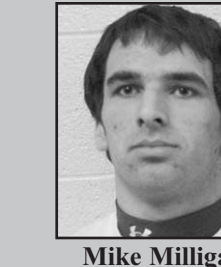
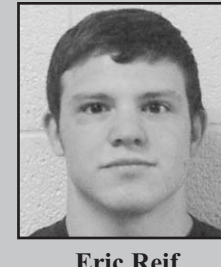
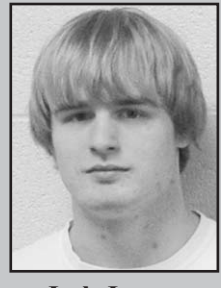
The 4 Cass City wrestlers finished in the top 4 in their respective weight classes during Saturday's individual districts held at Standish-Sterling. They now advance to the individual regionals to be held at Richmond this Saturday, Feb. 20.

Jensen, a sophomore, placed first at 171 and posted 3 victories, including a 10-6 victory over Freeland's Danny Laatsch. He will carry a 44-4 record into the regionals.

Placing second at 189, Reif, a senior, went 2-1 for the day, falling to Standish-Sterling's Jesse Bashore with a final score of 10-5. His record is 47-10 going into the regionals.

Also placing second was Milligan, a junior. He went 2-1 for the day in the 215 weight class, falling to Caro's Jordan Decker by a pin in 1:37. He takes a 40-9 record into the regionals.

Sophomore Adkins placed third at 285. He went 3-1 for the day, including a pin over Bridgeport's Mike Rincher in the consolation finals. He will carry a 31-16 record into the regionals.



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Local Curves gears up for food drive

Curves of Cass City is encouraging women in the area to show their philanthropic strength by participating in the annual Curves Food Drive. And even though donating food to families in need is its own reward, the club is offering compelling incentives for both existing and potential members who participate.

From March 1 to 31, Curves of Cass City will collect non-perishable items and monetary donations for food banks in the local area.

The goal, according to Denise Geiger of Curves of Cass City, is for the community to come together to help families in need. "At the core of our business is the message that women are stronger when they rally together, and that is the point we hope to bring home with our food drive," said Geiger. "We want to show our community just how powerful the generosity of our members can be."

According to Geiger, members who donate a bag of groceries or make a minimum donation of \$30 during the month of March will receive a reusable Curves grocery freezer bag for free. Non-members who do likewise between March 8 and 20 can join Curves for free. Curves will waive the cost to join.

Geiger says that as part of this effort, Curves of Cass City will be participating in a company-wide contest for the most food drive donations collected by Curves locations across the nation. Winners will receive one of several cash prizes to be donated to their local food bank. Each year, Curves locations collectively donate millions of pounds of food to feed the hungry.

"We hope women in the Cass City area will come together and participate in this initiative," added Geiger. "Even if you're not thinking about joining a gym, you can still drop off your donations. There are so many families - right here in our own community - who need our help."



Ubly conferences scheduled

Winter parent-teacher conferences will be held Wednesday, Feb. 24, in the Ubly Community Schools. progress reports are encouraged to attend.

Conferences will be held between 12:30 and 4 p.m. Parents with students receiving deficient/failing grades on report cards and/or The conferences will follow a walk-in, non-scheduled format. Lunch will be served for students before the noon dismissal.

Driver escapes injury...

TUSCOLA COUNTY Sheriff's deputies investigated a property damage accident involving a propane truck on Chambers Road near Wells Road last Wednesday at about 2:20 p.m. Investigators said the driver, Ed Bates, 38, of Caro, lost control on a curve, left the road and struck a tree. The roads were reported snowy at the time. Bates was not injured.

Spring Home & Garden Guide

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